

BEST PRACTICES - 2019-2020

Best Practice 1

Title: Open Forum and Focused Group Discussions

Open Forum:

The College Management always has a view to run the institution keeping the views of all stakeholders in mind. With this objective, the IQAC of the college comes up with different ways to hear the voices of different stakeholder groups. As our primary stakeholders are students, the IQAC decided to run the practice of holding a Forum where students' opinions could be heard and addressed.

Before the model examinations and the culmination of a semester, an Open Forum was launched. Student participants for the same were invited to register their names through an online portal. On 11th October, the Open Forum was conducted with the IQAC team and the members of the Management. This initiative creates confidence and fairplay between the two important stakeholders – the faculty and the students. The registration for the forum was made available online for a particular time window and all students were informed of it. Around 100 students had registered for the forum. The students came up with good appreciation and innovative ideas for improvement on campus.

The panel for the Open Forum consisted of the Director cum Secretary, The Academic Director, The Principal, Vice principal, Academic Affairs Coordinator, Student Affairs Advisor, and the facilitating IQAC team. After the students gave their views, the panel divided the views into domain areas and addressed the students on the same.

It was very encouraging to see the students give appreciations and suggestions as it established their confidence in the Institution and the management to take up their views and act on them.

Focussed Group Discussion:

Even though the College tries to promote an atmosphere of holistic development, it ensures to pay increased attention to the primary focus of academics.

In the past, the college had a method of coaching the arrear candidates through remedial coaching to ensure their graduation in time. However the College faced a bottleneck of understanding students' mindsets when it came to the efforts that they took to clear arrears and ensure timely graduation.

It was with this motive that the College decided to do a crackdown initiative on the arrear students to understand their psychological condition in their attempt to clear arrears. Toward this end, on 24th October, a focussed group discussion was arranged for the final year students in association with the Mentoring and Counselling Cell.

Students with a history of arrears were invited to attend. The students were given an opportunity to discuss freely and in confidence. This initiative was to help him rethink his own life and identify the setbacks that may have arisen without him/her conscious about it. The initiative was quite a success, considering that the students were not hesitant to discuss their learning abilities and their efforts to clear arrears. The facilitators of the Mentoring and Counseling cell guided the students through group discussions where the factors hindering the students were noted down and addressed.

Feedback was collected and revealed that the students were welcoming of such an initiative and were appreciative of the college management for addressing their academic situation in such a creative manner. At the publication of semester exam results, it was found that arrears had reduced.

Best Practice 2:

Title: Charity Day

We live in a world where the culture of excess has inhabited the minds of the younger generation. In order to make the students of this generation more responsible towards the needs of the society and in particular, their immediate environment of fellow students, The Student Council of Patrician College of Arts and Science had decided to initiate an effort to promote a culture of charity replacing the culture of excess.

Through a monthly Drive, on every first Friday the members of the student Council would go around to different classes and encourage students to provide funds for charitable purposes. This particular day was denoted as Charity day.

Initially the general student population was not able to fathom the motive behind the initiative, and was quite skeptical of the same. However upon repeated information and the continual carrying out of the initiative the student population slowly opened up towards this initiative and ensured to contribute their mite in the promotion of charitable acts on campus.

It was only a joyful occasion when the students began to learn the outcome of the initiative in that the funds collected would go towards the educational support students on campus in the form of scholarships.

Through the charity day initiative, many students were benefited with some form of financial support towards payment of fees.

Another outcome of the initiative was that the general attitude of students tended to be more supportive and facilitative towards their fellow students on campus.

The institution, through the initiative of Charity Day, was also able to make the student population responsible to address the needs of their fellow students and play some part in meeting the same.

