Annexure - III(i) Best practice-I

1. Title of the Practice: Skill Development through Students' Forum

2. Goal: To prepare students to be the responsible citizens of knowledgeable society. It is to provide a platform and opportunity to students to become responsible human beings of the society.

It is observed that students became proficient in curriculum in the normal course of study. However, the key to survive in this knowledge society is to develop interdisciplinary approach. Right decisions can only be possible if one acquires sufficient knowledge in the field of sociology, politics, law, economics, philosophy and other streams.

The practice is initiated with the aim that each student shall become efficient enough to take right place in the society. This requires reading, writing, and observations skills supported by analytical and logical thinking.

3. The Context:

In this technology dominated world to get information is not the challenge but getting right information is a challenging task. In this context Generation Z is busy in using internet. It is accepted to an extent but to survive in this society other skills are also equally important. Soft skills like listening, reading, public speaking are also required.

In addition to that, the objectives of higher education are to inculcate habits of aspiring knowledge and wisdom. The purpose of education is also to guide students towards social order to develop respect for right interests, attitude, morals and intellectual values. Students with higher education should be able to reflect without any prejudices on critical, social, economic, cultural, moral and spiritual issues affecting humanity.

Thus, this practice is an initiative by the college since 2012-13 to develop socio-political thinking amongst students. In furtherance of this, various such programs are organized in college.

4. The Practice

For effective implementation of the practice a committee named 'Students' Forum' was formed consisting teachers and students. One of the Vice-Principals functions as an advisor. The programs are finalized with the consultations of Principal and Vice-principals.

To achieve the goal regular discussions, debates, workshops, guest lectures are organized on the contemporary issues. College tries to invite experts to interact with the students. Students are also motivated to participate in activities and competitions in other colleges.

LIST OF ACTIVITIES   2012-13 TO 2017-18

Sr. No.	Date	Programme	Speaker/Trainer	No. of Students
**Academic Year 2012-13**
1	3/8/2012	Panel Discussion Live-in-relationship-Legal and social perspective	Asst. Prof. Adv. Hetal Misheri Asst. Prof. Suchitra Naik	86
2	15/9/2012	Lecture-Reading Skills	Prof. Dr S. K. Savanur	20
3	18/9/2012	Book Review Competition for student members	Judges-Asst. Prof. Madhavi Arekar, Asst. Prof. Radhika Gupte	9 groups consisting 5 to 7 members
4	1/12/2012	Discussion- Topic Social Responsibility of Media	Asst. Prof. Journalist Ravindra Manjarekar	10
5	18/1/2013	Book Review II	Judges- Asst. Prof. Mrs. Tanuja Shah, Asst. Prof. Ms Tanvi Raut	11 groups consisting of 2 to 3 students
6	21/1/2013	Lecture- Effective Communication skills	Asst. Prof. Ms. Tanvi Raut	15
7	24/1/2013	Activity- Campaign in college, Ban on use of plastic National Flags and clean environment		All FY, SY and TY classes
**Academic Year 2013-14**
8	28/8/2014	Discussion-Celebration of Indian Festivals- Past and Present.		60
9	31/8/2013	Celebration of Janmashatami- A Philosophical view	Principal Dr Shakuntala A. Singh	24
10	17/9/2013	Debate- Whether College elections to be held?		06
011	7/1/2014	Discussion– Human Rights Related to Women		13
12	5/2/2014 and 12/2/2014	Discussion-Projection of Women in Media		11 and 20
13	15/2/2014	Debate- Is AAP type politics a suitable model?		54
14	18/2/2014	Lecture –Effective Book Review	Asst. Prof. Mrs. Urmila Gawade	05
15	11/3/2014 and 13/3/2014	Book Review Competition and Prize Distribution		18 and 14
**Academic Year 2014-15**

16	10/7/2014	Discussion-Impact of social networking sites on generation-Y		25
17	21/7/2014	Discussion- Modi Government- Challenges and expectations		21
18	2/8/2014	Lecture- Human Rights perspectives and challenges	Dr Arvind Tiwari	125
19	7/8/2014	Debate- 75-25 Examination pattern		28
20	20/8/2014	Model Youth Parliament		19
21	20/11/2014 and 27/11/2014	Debate- *Swachata Abhiyan*- Dream or Reality		20 and 23
22	4/12/2014	Magazine Review-Political, social and literary magazine		18
23	10/12/2014	Lecture- Human Rights	Asst. Prof. Sachidananda Singh	10
24	12/2/2014	Book Review		14
		Academic Year 2015-16		
25	8/7/2015	Debate- How safe is the Instant and Packaged Food?		120
26	22/7/2015	Debate-Impact of Bollywood on Youth or Society		24
27	5/8/2015	Debate-Is waiving off Loans only solution for farmers' suicide		16
28	12/8/2015	Understanding soft skills	Prin. N. M. Rajadhyakshya, Mr. Prasad Tokekar	120
29	19/7/2015	Visit to State Legislature to observe live Session and Visit to Mumbai *Marathi Patrakar Sangh*, Press Club of India, Mumbai Branch		45
30	10/12/2015	Human Rights Day Celebration PPT Competition Topics:1) Tolerant to Intolerant India, Are We? 2)Right to live in Clean and Healthy Environment: An Analysis with respect to Swachha Bharat Abhiyan	Judge for the Competition Dr Sharada Niwate.	19
31	14/12/15	Discussion	E- Governance issues and challenges	19
32	13/01/16	Interaction with North East Students		11

33	13/02/16	Book Review and Magazine Review		15
34	18/2/16	Lecture	Dr Sudhakar Aagarkar India's Achievement in Scientific and Technological Development	41
		Academic Year 2016-17		
35	4/7/16	Lecture	Prof. Narayan Barse Library Orientation and Visit	35
36	16/7/2016	Discussion	Censorship and Piracy in Indian Cinema	24
37	20/7/16	Visit to State Legislature	To observe Live Session	23
38	21/7/16 30/7/16 04/8/16	Oral Health Campaign	Lecture and Check up by Dr Ulhas Wagh	15,16,10
39	29/8/16	Debate	Kashmir Issues and Challenges	20
40	20/9/16	Essay Competition and a Lecture	Adv. Yatin Pandit S.138 0f Negotiable Instruments Act: Issues and Challenges	22
41	1/10/16	Discussion and Celebration of Gandhi Jayanti	Relevance of Mahatma Gandhi in Current Scenario	21
		Academic Year 2017-18		
42	31/07/17	Visit to State Legislature	To observe Live Session	15
43	8/8/17	Discussion	Compulsion of National Anthem	16
44	14/8/17	Discussion	Agriculture and Indian Economy	6
45	22/8/17	Discussion	Is there need for Reconstruction of Reservation Policy	7
46	27/9/17	Workshop	Sensitizing Youth towards Human Rights Rights of an Undertrials: Retired Dist. Judge Sadashiv Deshmukh Public Interest Litigation Adv. Arvind Panchakshari Rights of Women: Adv. Galdy Parira	75 Students
47	18/12/17	Model Youth Parliament	Judges Dr Harshad Bhosale and Prof. Chandramohan Joshi	75 Students
48	7/3/18	Workshop on Craft of Paper Bags	*Paryavaran Dakshata Mandal*	70 students

5. Evidence of Success

It is observed that activities undertaken boosted the confidence of the students. As a result of encouragement and motivation students not only participated in college activities but also participated in activities outside. They marked their presence in various competitions like, essay, debate, elocution and won prizes. Some students participated in Research activity '*Avishkar*' organized by University of Mumbai, Youth Parliament Competitions. Students also attended '*Bhartiya Chharta Sansad*'. Students also awarded with College Best Students Award.

As per the guidelines of the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Department of Students' Welfare University of Mumbai. University Level Model Youth Parliament was organized on 18th December 2017. Total 75 students participated in the same. Seven best speakers were selected and they were the part of Zonal Team of University of Mumbai.

Our three students were selected as the best speakers at National Level Model Youth Parliament.

6. Problems:

Due to increasing number of courses college lectures are conducted throughout the day. As a result, many students missed the programs as the timing clashes with the regular lecture timings.

It is difficult to motivate Generation Z students for such activities. Many students do not turn up as they feel they lack the skill of public speaking.

Difficulty in getting Well-equipped College auditorium, as it is always occupied for some or the other College activity.

7. Notes

Any institution interested to implement this practice would be advised to form such a committee or any such committee already existing reform its objective. Teachers have to take efforts to motivate students even through personal dialogue.

Annexure: III (ii)   Best Practice –II

1. Title of the Practice: Role of Pre- conference workshops in Development of Research culture

2. Goal: To orient students and researchers towards the overall deliberations of the National and International conference organized by the College every year.

The College organizes a National or International conference every year. The speciality of these conferences is that the theme of the conference is declared one year in advance. This helps researchers, students, experts to deliberate on the theme of the conference. The participants of proposed conference are oriented for the theme of the conference in pre-conference workshops. These workshops have been proved as a crucial tool to widen the horizons of understanding of the participants. Two pre-conference workshops are organized before the conference on the allied and preliminary concepts to be discussed in the conference. The topics like; Writing an effective research paper, Recent trends in the field of humanities, commerce, and related subjects of the theme of the proposed conference are deliberated upon in per-conference workshops.

Apart from studying the theoretical aspects of the theme of the conference, students and researchers get a platform to understand the practical nuances through these workshops.

3. The context:

It has been observed that the conferences, seminars and symposium are organized by institutions of higher education annually. A lot of financial allocation is also undertaken by the management and UGC. The real motive behind any such academic endeavour is to attract illustrious groups of experts in the proposed field of the conference. Considering the paucity of time, it is difficult to achieve this motive in two or three days of the conference. The maximum time of the conference goes in the plenary sessions and paper presentations. Although it is a very important part of research gatherings, sufficient time is not deliberated upon the theme of the conference.

Keeping this in mind, the College had decided to arrange a series of pre-conference workshops in tandem with the theme of the conference. It grooms the future researchers and students to understand the scope of the conference. It enables them to select a research topic and after a thoughtful rumination they can excel the topics of the conference. It is also noteworthy that all the annual events like 'Navrang', 'Chrysalis' and all the inter and intra-collegiate competitions are in accordance with the theme of the conference. It generates interest

about the theme of the conference among students. They get one year to prepare for the conference so they relish the conference to fullest.

4. The practice:

The College has organized 12 National and International conferences from the year 2006-07. As a part of the conference, The College has organized around 24 per-conference workshops. It helped immensely to give justice to the topics of the conferences. 1. In the year 2006-07, the College has organized a national seminar on Bioethics. The subject was relatively new back then, two pre-conference workshops were organized in November and December 2006. Eminent doctors and professors addressed the audience on different aspects of bioethics, so as to familiarize the students and faculty to the theme of the seminar. The National Seminar was organized on 24th and 25th January 2007.

2. In 2007-08, the College organized two-day National Seminar on Indian Philosophy: Its Relevance in the 21st century on 18th and 19th January 2008. As part of the seminar, two pre-conference workshops were held November and December 2007. 14 members of teaching faculty presented their papers on various aspects related to the theme of the seminar.

3. In 2008-09, the College hosted a National seminar on Post Independence Indian Literature. The seminar was organized by Sanskrit, Marathi, Hindi and English Departments of the College. Two pre-seminar workshops were conducted on 22nd August and 20th November 2008 on the theme of the seminar. 14 teaching faculty members presented their papers along with other resource persons on various aspects related to the theme of the seminar.

4. In 2009-10, the College organized an International Seminar on Mind, Brain and Consciousness on 14th and 15th January 2010. The seminar was co-sponsored by three nationally and internationally acclaimed bodies like Mens Sana Monographs, World Psychiatrist Association and Indian Council of Philosophical Research. Scholars from prestigious Institutions like Oxford, Iowa, Harvard, New York and Sao Paolo attended and presented the papers. Two pre-conference workshops were organized in November and December 2009. One of the salient features of per-conference workshops was students were given an opportunity to give poster presentation.

5. In 2010-11, the College organized a National Seminar of Development of India through Micro-Financing on 7th January 2011. Two successive preparatory Workshops on the topic of 'Development of India through Micro-Financing' were conducted on 30th July and 30th November 2010. Topics like, NGO and Micro-financing, SHG and Micro-financing, Women Empowerment through Miro-financing, Micro-financing throughout the world, Economic

Development and Micro-Financing, Banks and Micro-financing and NBFC's and Micro-financing were covered in the workshop. Seventeen papers were read by the faculty and students of the College along with participants from other colleges.

6. In 2011-12, the college organized a National Seminar on Post-Modernization of Libraries: Challenges and Opportunities' on 25th November 2011. As part of the conference the College hosted an International Conference on Koha Open Source library Software, Kochan'11 from 31st October to 6th November 2011. Kochan11 saw participation of various Software Developers, librarians across the world. Around 150 delegates from 25 countries shared their experiences of using Koha Integrated library Software and how it has benefited library science in the world.

Hackfest was scheduled from 4th to 9th November 2011 to discuss the problems of Koha and solve with the team of developers and Integrate new features, functions and technology into the software.

To mark the 150th Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, a National Seminar on 'Dimensions of Philosophy of Swami Vivekananda and its Contemporary Relevance was organized on 25th and 26th August 2011.

7. In 2012-13, the College has organized an International Conference on 'Geography of Change: Contemporary Issues in Environment, Development and Society' on 11th and 12th January 2013. As part of that a pre-conference workshop for under-graduate and post-graduate students was organized on 23rd August 2012. Students from 6 colleges participated and presented research papers. A workshop-cum-Meeting for Secondary and Junior College Teachers on 'Innovative Techniques in Geography Teaching and Learning' was organized on 15th September 2012. 92 teachers participated in the same. Another per-conference workshop for teachers was organised wherein 10 research papers were presented on 29th November 2012. Two documentaries titled 'Monkeys' and 'Topi' were screened.

8. In 2013-14, the College organized two-day International Conference on 'Money, Finance and Economic Growth: Emerging Issues' on 10th and 11th January 2014. Two pre-conference workshops were organized on 24th August and 30th November 2013. Teachers and students of the College and neighbouring colleges presented papers in the same.

9. In 2014-15, Women Development Cell of the College organized two-day National conference on 'Women's Quest for Equality in India' on 9th and 10th January 2015. As part of the conference WDC organized a pre-conference workshop for teachers on 26th November

2014. It covered a guest lecture by Supriya Kubal, a Noted Academic, on Empowerment towards Financial Management.

10. In 2015-16 the VPM's Joshi Bedekar College Film Society and Department of Mass Media of the College organized Two-day National Conference on 'Indian Cinema- Past, Present and Future' on 8th and 9th January 2016.As part of that two Pre-conference workshops were organized in November and December 2015. It studied all the allied subjects to be discussed in the National conference.

11. In 2015-16, the College organized two-day national conference on 'Revisiting Shakespeare 400 years after' on 13th and 14th January 2017. As part of that a Pre-conference workshop for students was organized on 13th August 2016. 20 students from different colleges under Mumbai University had participated. As part of per-conference activity the department of English screened Bollywood movies based on Shakespeare's plays viz. Maqbool, Haider, Omkara and Angoor in the Language Laboratory of the College. Two issues of wallpaper named 'Fragrance' were also released.

12. In 2017-18, the Self Finance Courses of the College organised two-day National Conference on 'Smart Cities in India: The Road Ahead' on 19th and 20th January 2018. A pre-conference workshop for teachers was conducted on 12th August. Two talks on 'Best Practices for Smart City Transformation' by Mr. Anand Menon and How to Write a Quality Research Paper by Dr. Kinnary Thakkar had been organized. As the next leg of event for the students a per-conference Intercollegiate students' competition was held on 14th December 2017. It covered Power point presentation competition, Poster Making competition and Model Making Competition. 89 students from 8 colleges competed at various events.

The implementation of the practice involves the following stages

    1. Appointment of teacher in charge as an Organising Secretary

    2. Appointment of Student leader and student in charge of various committees for workshop

    3.To enroll the students and teachers for the workshop

    4. To invite industry-based experts as resource persons

    6. To make necessary technical arrangements for the presentations.

    7. To encourage students and researchers to raise doubts during workshop

5. Evidence of Success:

       The students and teachers have imbibed the skill of making technically furnished and creatively brilliant presentations after attending the workshop. The results were perceived in the students when they have started understating the themes of the conferences well in advance.

Following are the benchmarks of the success of the workshop:

1.The Self Finance Courses of the College organized two-day National Conference on 'Smart Cities in India: The Road Ahead' on 19th and 20th January 2018. Mr. Anand Menon, Senior Associate President, Darashaw and Co. Ltd. deliberated on his experience of preparing presentation of Surat City in the Smart Cities competition organized by the Government of India. He discussed all the necessary criteria shortlisted by the Government to judge a Smart City. This lecture set the stage for all the future deliberations in the conference in advance. The benchmark of the conference lies in the fact that all the research papers and deliberations undertaken in the conferences have been published in an ISBN numbered Conference Proceedings and has been given to the Government of Maharashtra. The District Collector Dr Mahendra Kalyankar, Mr. Sudhir Gaikwad Chief Executive Officer, Smart City Corporation Thane, shared their valuable insights with the participants of the conference. The concepts dealt in the conference were part of the road map of the future planning of Thane City is itself a great achievement.

2. Hackfest was scheduled from 4th to 9th November 2011 to discuss the problems of Koha and solve with the team of developers and Integrate new features, functions and technology into the software. Around 150 delegates from 25 countries shared their experiences of using Koha Integrated library Software and how it has benefited library science in the world.

6. Problems encountered and resources required:

All students and researchers are not naturally inclined towards new topic of conferences. They have to be groomed and oriented towards the theme of the conference. The experts in the industry are rare to find in academic field. It becomes difficult to attract students, researches and experts from industry for this kind of workshop.

Some problems encountered:

1. It becomes little hectic to organize these Pre- conference workshops by balancing the regular academic and college works.

2. Difficulties in motivating large number of students

3. It is difficult to handle the large group of students in limited span of time and with availability of limited resources.

Resources required:

The funding authorities should allocate sumptuous amount for organizing such pre-conference workshops as the funds are granted to the conferences only. The funds for pre-conference workshops are bore by the management.

7. Notes:

It is advised that the colleges should sensitize students towards the changing trends in higher education in India. The relevant topics to be selected for the conferences. An interface of public, researchers, policymakers, industry experts and government officials should also be invited to deliberate on the topics of the conferences. The idea of pre-conference workshop uniquely helps students, researchers and teachers to deal with the subjects of the conference. Active participation of all the stakeholders will make wonders in the parlance of higher education.

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