

Best Practice-II

Title of the Practice: Organizing Inter-Collegiate Student Seminar

Goals:

- To provide an opportunity for students to improve their presentation skills.
- To motivate students engage in research work.
- To provide students a platform to interact with students of other colleges.
- To encourage alumni to support student initiative activities.

Context:

This activity was introduced in our college during academic year 2014-15. The affluent institutions like UGC, NAAC, ISEC provide financial support for carrying research activities in the higher education institutions. This has enhanced the teacher participation in research activities. But there are very limited opportunities for students except seminars & conferences to get involve in research activities. Therefore, to provide platform exclusively for rural background students, this kind of “Inter-Collegiate Student Seminars” programmes started in our college. The students from surrounding colleges have actively participated. So this activity has become the best practice of our college.

Objectives:

- To motivate the students to present research papers.
- To assist the students for their excellent performance with cash prizes.
- To create research environment in the college.
- To identify the ignited minds in the rural areas.

The Practice:

This practice has created an urge in the students to involve in the research activities. This has given a chance to our college to invite student researchers who are studying in both UG and PG. The seminars are conducted in Arts, Science and Commerce subjects. Usually an expert in the subject is invited for the key note and then the students from surrounding colleges present their papers. The experts choose three ‘Best Paper Presenters’ and are awarded with cash prizes of 3000, 2000 and 1000, instituted by our alumni. The college supports with financial assistance to carry out the activity.

It was a booster for all the students. Since then, the practice was made the hall mark of our institution; faculty was consistently guiding the students in that direction. It has motivated many other colleges to conduct such kind of student seminar. This made the students as well as teachers to engage themselves in research activities.

Obstacles:

- Identifying the parameters for the best presentation.
- Low number of student participation.
- Mobilizing the resource.

Strategies adopted to overcome the obstacles:

- Since all the students are engaged in different activities like inter-collegiate competitions, sports and cultural events, most of them achieve success. So, the expert committee of our college developed the parameters to identify the best presenter.
- The faculty took personal interest in inviting the students and alumni.
- Funds for cash prizes are instituted by the alumni and funds for certificates and local hospitality was provided by the college.

Impact of the practice:

This practice has changed the attitudes and they have developed reading habits. Students become more conscious and studious. For the first time in 2014-15 Department of Commerce and English took initiation in organizing inter-collegiate student's seminars. During this academic year the college organizes 09 seminars. The departments are English, Kannada, Political Science, History, Journalism, Commerce, Economics, Physics and Chemistry. More than 650 students' participated and 175 papers are presented. The immediate impact of this is found in the initiation of other departments to organize such a kind of seminars in the respective subjects. This event brought radical changes in learning and research habits of the students. It has given opportunities to the teachers to guide the students.

Resources required:

Our college is practicing this activity from 2014-15. It requires lot of efforts from both the students and the teachers. Students need to attend extra marathon work. It needed extra coaching. Hence, the college arranged for special lecture series, student exchange programmes, field visits, study tours, research reports and competitions. This requires much fund for honorarium and TA/DA for experts and cash prizes.

To continue the practice in the coming days also, the college needs funds. We hope sponsors will provide the resources required.

About the Institution:

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