



SHRI SHIVAJI COLLEGE OF ARTS, COMMERCE AND SCIENCE, AKOLA

Best Practices

1. Title of the Practice

Community Outreach

Objectives of the Practice

Students joining various courses in our college came from different strata of the society. Community services as a part of social life is rare at school and college level and few opportunities of volunteering come to student's way with graduating curriculum. Servicing the society teaches more about it and builds valuable skills that come in handy in future. Developing strong moral values and strong character push people to tackle problems reasonably on their own without depending on the government or organisations. With this view, the objectives of the practice were decided as-

1. To offer social, educational and supportive activities to community.
2. To meet someone in need of an outreach service
3. To inculcate the awareness of taking moral responsibility to give back to the society.

The context

Being a small city, it is easier for outreach to conduct at personal level, meet people, listen to them, and build trust and healthy relationships. By assessing the needs and resources available the community activities were planned. The active involvement of the NSS unit helped to strengthen the outreach activities.

The Practice

Students and staff were actively engaged in several community activities. It was decided to whom to reach specifically and strategies were chosen according to available resources. Method to involve and get involved was different for different activities, such as-word of mouth, social media, posters, visits, etc. The activities performed were-

1. Swachha Bharat Abhiyan in college premises and villages (Dattak Gram)
2. Andhashradhdha Nirmulan (Superstition eradication) and awareness campaigns.
3. Service to community was provided through Anganwadi centers and Pre-school centres during Nutrition week by the Department of Home Science.
4. Knowledge sharing and distribution of nutritive food packets to lactating mothers was done in the Government hospital during Breast Feeding week.
5. Blood donation camps were organised by the Department of Biochemistry with the help of local hospitals..
6. Value based programmes undertaken in the memory of national leaders and influential historic personalities was a good practice.
7. Activities for differently abled people were regularly done.
8. Skill demonstration workshop for Self Help Groups was organised.
9. Help to Kolhapur flood affected regions were rendered by collecting donations in the form of clothes, stationery and food packets.
10. Grain bank concept was developed to collect staple food grains and provided to needy peoples in malnutrition affected areas.

Evidence of success

A sense of responsibility was cultivated and nurtured in students. Students and NSS units regularly worked with Government and NGOs. Community engagement enriched the overall experience. Realizing the value of things we take for granted. Learning experience was gained by working with differently abled people improving community responsibility. Building listening capacity, connecting to people and enabling volunteerism was the outcome of the practice.

Problems Encountered and Resources required to implement the Practice

The people's participation is difficult unless they are informed well in advance. Before participating they need to be heard about several times. This is difficult due to time constraints and so is personal rapport difficult. The requirement of funds is another obstacle particularly for skill based training activities.

2. Title of the Practice

Entrepreneurship cell

Objective of the Practice

After graduation, each student is looking for mostly governmental or private jobs. The teachers are experiencing that this tendency is increasing among students of traditional colleges. But this is an impossible task that every graduate secure a job. On the other hand. Maximum students being from the weaker sections of the society were looking for minimum wages for their livelihood. The experience of the 'Earn and Learn' scheme gave an insight to establish the Entrepreneurship cell. To inculcate the values of self employment through their abilities and skills, the objectives of the practice are-

1. To promote entrepreneurial inclination.
2. To impart entrepreneurial education and skills.
3. To provide training and exercises to students.
4. To provide necessary assistance and resources.
5. To study the collaborative employment opportunities

The context

Many students are from agriculture background having agricultural resources for a start; but the fear of risk stops the students to indulge in entrepreneurship. Students are readily willing to work under 'Earn and learn' scheme, but not beyond that .Opportunities, training, awareness of the Government schemes and other things had to be explored. . Motivation off and on is done by the faculty formally and informally for entrepreneurial practices, but a channelized way could be sorted through the Entrepreneurship cell.

The Practice

Entrepreneurship cell was started at the college campus. A separate infrastructure was built with glass windows to access the interior display by the people, staff and students moving around. Entrepreneurship awareness workshop was organised with visits to nearby industries. Marketing of products made by Self help groups was done by the Commerce students. Fabrication of low cost kits was done by Department of Physics. Skill development workshops were organised in Bonsai preparation, plant nurturing by Department of Botany. A project named 'Retex' (Repurposing textiles through recycling) for handling of textile waste and its utilisation was carried out by the students of Textiles, Department of Home science.

Evidence of success

An insight to develop opportunities of self employment with the available resources and skills was developed. The marketing of the products made the students aware about the quality, packing and image development of the products. The project about the waste management of textiles enabled students to gain confidence and participate in two Start-Up Fests held by two different Universities. Potted saplings were used for all the programmes held at the institute throughout the year and generated income source for students.

Problems Encountered and Resources required to implement the Practice

Choosing the activity for employment generation was a major issue .The skills enhancement for quality product development needed training with time and financial resources. The trust of the students was the initial thing which had to be gained by the customer. Sustaining student's involvement, hard work, patience, continuity of the task taken were a few things to be worked out.

Photo Gallery- Community Outreach Activities



Community outreach events



Celebration of National Nutrition Week



Gynaecologist addressing on 'Attitude of teen agers towards relationship'

Photo Gallery-Entrepreneurship Cell



Skill Development Workshop



A project on Textile waste management for employment generation



Entrepreneurship Awareness Workshop



Mr. Toshima tajima, Japan. Guest of startup competition in amaravati.

Student's participation in Start Up Fest held by SJB Amravati University, Amravati.