

7.2.1 Institutional Best Practices

BEST PRACTICE – I

Title of the practice: Training & Placement

Goals:

- To empower students with sound technical knowledge in their respective areas of study.
- To improve the programming skills of students.
- To train the students for aptitude tests.
- To prepare the students for different stages of the selection process like group discussions and one-to-one interviews.
- To boost the students' confidence level through organizing soft skills training sessions.
- To teach them understand the importance of projecting a smart personality.
- To groom the students for the corporate market.
- To ensure that all eligible students are employed by the end of the final year of their study.

The Context: Following the trends across India, our state Punjab has also witnessed a massive inclination towards Technical/Engineering Education in the past years and the trend continues. The driving force behind this trend is the employment opportunities (with attractive pay packages) that IT and other corporate sectors have to offer to fresh graduates. Given the increasing number of Government and private Engineering colleges and deemed to be universities offering professional education, an institution striving for excellence must stand out in terms of academics and in terms of the training it offers to warrant the students graduate successfully with a job offer in hand. Unless this goal is achieved, the very survival of the institution would become difficult.

In this context, it has become imperative for a reputed institution like ours to ensure to our level best, that its primary stake holders are satisfied with respect to their expectations.

Our college keeps this aspect in consideration, and thus, we are focused on training the students for campus placements. A placement cell has been established with an experienced Placement Officer in charge. Since the establishment of the placement cell, the college has made many achievements towards successful placement of students in reputed firms.

The Practice: The campus recruitment comes under the purview of the placement officer. The placement officer is assisted by a team of Placement coordinators drawn from each department. This team plans and coordinates the activities related to placement training. Towards the end of the final year of their degree, the students are given the choice to opt for campus placement, the

other choices being moving on to higher studies or an attempt at entrepreneurship. This choice determines the students' future Course of action. The college arranges Intensive placement training for those students who opted for campus recruitment. A systematic and scientific approach has been developed for effective training of the students towards campus recruitment.

In addition to the training given by the faculty of the college, resource persons of national and international recognition are also invited on frequent basis to enhance the skills of the students.

- Experts are provided to render soft skill training to the students.
- Special sessions for General aptitude training are handled by the faculty.
- The college emphasizes on the dress code of students as part of grooming the students.

The students should strictly adhere to the dress code on the day of campus placement.

Boy's formals: Trousers with shirts neatly tucked in, formal belts, formal blackshoes with black socks. They should not support a beard and hair should be neatly cut.

Girls formals: Shirt with trousers/ formal kameez-salwar/churidars, with hair neatly tied, black shoes and black socks.

The placement cell takes all the pains to place students in core companies; and if the companies do not come down to Abohar, arrangements are made to take the students to the places where interviews are scheduled.

Evidence of Success:

All the efforts of the college bear fruit and the college has registered a note-worthy placement record. 5 and 9 students were placed in on-campus placement events by Pizone Technologies and Teleperformance, DIBS respectively. A total of 44 students were hired at off-campus placement events by Capegemini, Infosys, HSBC, Wipro Technologies, Deloitte and Concentrix. It is a matter of immense pride for the college that despite the COVID lockdowns and difficulties faced last year, the number of placements have not gone down.

Problems Encountered and Resources required:-

- Although certain companies are willing to offer week-end internships spreading over two or three months , due to tight academic schedule, financial constraint on the part of the students, unviable commuting distance etc., students cannot avail such opportunities
- Personnel with expertise in aptitude tests training and soft skills training can permanently be employed for continuous training of the students.

BEST PRACTICE – II

Title of the Practice: Maintaining maximum number of university positions in academics.

Goal: Since its inception in 1960, the college has a rich history of obtaining a number of merit positions in Panjab University examinations. The college aims to uplift its number of university merit positions by laying more stress on quality teaching through extra classes, tutorials, regular class tests, seminars etc.

Context: The College is a premiere educational institution of the region and offers many UG and PG degree courses. The parents look up to the institution for high quality education for their wards. The college has well-qualified staff who leave no stone unturned to guide the students in their respective subjects.

The practice: The College ensures that the students attend their classes regularly. Attendance in the classes is mandatory and the teachers apply the best teaching tools to make the learning process easy. A conducive environment for the teaching-learning process enables the students to stay abreast with their course curriculum. The college also organizes educational seminars/workshops/Guest Lectures with the following objectives:

- To upgrade the students' knowledge and skills
- To give them wider perspective on their subject areas
- To open their minds to new areas of enquiry apart from those covered in their syllabi
- To make them aware of the interdisciplinarity of areas of education
- To discipline them morally and ethically as a part of their holistic development.

The success story: It is a matter of pride for us at D.A.V, Abohar that we bag almost 10 percent of the total university positions semester after semester. In the academic year 2019-20 (May 2019 & December 2019) also, we have got 99 university positions which is a landmark in itself. Despite the COVID situation, the number of university positions for the academic year 2020-21 has not been affected.

Problems encountered: No problem encountered yet.

BEST PRACTICE – III

Title of the Practice: PROMOTION OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSCIOUSNESS

Goal: As young citizens and future decision makers in society, students have to be instilled with a sense of commitment and responsibility to protect the environment. A unified approach to the protection of the environment inherent in the country's cultural and religious ethos which emphasizes the symbiotic relationship between the natural environment and the human community will benefit student consciousness and future welfare of the greater population.

Voluntary participation in activities that enable them to nurture environmental consciousness will have a significant effect upon sustainable environment. Environment sensitivity and awareness can create in them a sense of respect towards nature and be conscious of the collective ethical responsibility to appreciate the mutual interdependence of all species on earth.

The Context: In solidarity with the global concerns to equip the young generation to engage themselves with a life-long value-oriented goal to protect the natural environment, our students ought to be empowered to tackle environmental issues. The human beings' right to live in an unpolluted environment depends on his ability to live in harmony with nature; fostering a culture of environmental consciousness among the young generation is the need of the hour. The world-wide endeavours to ensure man's sensible interaction with the biophysical environment have to be carried forward by today's youth enabling them to build a better planet for future generations to live. In a campus sprawling across 25 acres, the need to preserve the fauna and flora, conservation of water, energy, soil etc. will guarantee the foundation for a sustainable environment. To be aware of the conservation of the immediate environment will lead to the safeguarding of the distant environment ensuring an ecologically stable natural environment.

The practice: Some good practices toward preserving a healthy environment are:

Solar Power Plates were installed on top of the Girls Hostel and are in operation since May, 2019. To alleviate carbon footprint, the college maintains a smoke-free campus. To boost clean environment, the Environment & Eco Club of DAV College initiate several programmes to maintain a green campus. The Environment & Eco Club of the College has adopted the policy of 'giving back to nature' in pursuing its goal of conserving nature. The Vermi-composting Unit has been set up by the Environment & Eco Club & Department of Agriculture.

The college organized the following consciousness raising initiatives:

- An environmental Awareness Lecture on "Stubble Burning" was delivered by Prof. Jitesh Soni of DAV College, Abohar on 3rd October, 2019
- NSS Unit of the college visited 6 villages to organize one day Camp cum Awareness Programme to prevent Stubble burning which is a big problem of Northern region of India contributing to environment pollution.
- Plantation Drive was organized by NSS Unit on 27 July, 2019. Various saplings were planted in the campus of DAV College. Another plantation drive was organized by Department of Biology on 1st August, 2019. A number of faculty members, non-teaching staff members, and students participated in the tree plantation drives in the campus. Further, students made inventory of local flora and fauna, and studied diverse ecosystems as per their academic program.

- Department of Chemistry & Life Sciences organized an extension lecture on “Science & Environment” by Dr. Rajiv Khosla, Associate Professor, Doaba College, Jalandhar on 26 August, 2019
- Another extension lecture on topic “Green Chemistry for sustainable development” by Dr. Ganga Ram Chaudhary, Professor, Panjab University, Chandigarh was organized on 28 February, 2020 by Department of Chemistry.
- Department of Chemistry also organized a webinar on topic “Nanotechnology for environmental remediation” by Dr. Ganga Ram Chaudhary, Professor, Panjab University, Chandigarh on 2 June, 2020.

The success story:

64.06 percent of the power requirement of Girls Hostel and 27.13 percent of total power requirement of the campus was met from it as of the months July, 2019 - June, 2020. It has reduced the usage of electricity from PSPCL. In 2019-20, the plant generated 28064.47 units of electricity.

The Vermi-Composting Unit contributes in maintaining the lush green college lawns.

Problems encountered:

Every organisation has certain limitations. Our college is no different. The limitation of resources either in term of finance or in term of human, serve as problem in applicability of this practice. Although, college has done a decent job in reducing the dependency of power consumption on PSPCL yet the chance of higher achievement put to on limit with resource constraints.