

Best Practice I

Title of the Best Practice – A STEP TOWARDS COLLABORATIVE ACTIVITIES

The Context:

Back in 2015 there was an industrial collaboration of the Dept. of Geography with ESRI India for the starting of course on GIS, the first such agreement in Bengal. As with time collaborative ventures gained popularity, our institution lagged behind due to many persisting administrative problems. The present IQAC for the last few months have worked on finding areas of interest and building association with several industry and NGOs with an aim to collaborate with the best suitable organisations.

The Practice

Sarsuna College organised a number of collaborative lectures and programmes with different industrial and specialised NGOs. The positive feedback from each programme paved the path towards signing of 5 agreements (MOU). IEMA Research & Development Pvt. Ltd. & Sarsuna College MOU aimed at providing courses on Cyber Security-Ethical Hacking, a field extremely popular in job world. MOU with ANAHAT For Change Foundation aims at building awareness of hygiene and health among women and conduct programmes in the community to enhance women wellbeing. Uttarayana signed MOU with us with aim to develop cultural dimension and conduct music and dance workshops for students to boost talent. The college entered into MOU with Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Society of India (ARDSI), Calcutta Chapter aiming to build awareness on Dementia and conduct memory screening in the community to improve brain health. Department of Geography signed MOU with Softa Geotechnical Pvt. Ltd. to give training to students on modern surveying methods, autocad training and intership to students for working on GIS projects. On the other hand the faculty will share knowledge with SOFTA as honorary consultant.

Problems Encountered:

Scheduling programmes in Semester system of teaching-learning is challenging. Normal classes and syllabus completion should not be sacrificed. Again the peripheral location of the college and poor economic background of many students make popularising and participation in programmes also challenging.

Evidence of Success:

Nevertheless the participation we saw in different collaborative programmes was very impressive. Interaction proved that students have immense interest in the said aspects given stress on for formal collaboration. Students expressed interest and suggestions were also given regarding such career, culture oriented programs along with interest in awareness building among community.

Best Practice II

Title of the Practice – EMPHASISING AWARENESS BUILDING & ENVIRONMENTAL ETHICS ALONG WITH CELEBRATING RELEVANT DAYS

Context

COVID 19 taught us that nature is beyond human control and environment needs to be taken care of from grass root level. It was necessary for organising programmes related to environment with maximum participation of students beyond the classroom and curriculum based teaching on the same.

The Practice

On important internationally acclaimed days related to environment when there was no university exam around the corner, celebration was done with relevant activities like planting saplings in campus and in locality, street corner environment awareness play, gifting common men with plants, organising Webinar with experts in the field, organising poster painting, essay writing competitions. Knowing the value of endemic species, preserving our habitat have been addressed in varied ways by renowned experts to imbibe knowledge among students. Student research at post graduation level emphasise environmental issues like human wildlife conflict, forest fire, pollution, urban encroachment of wetlands, vulnerability assessments of hazards, viz. landslide, cyclone, coastal erosion, flood, bank erosion.

Problems Encountered

It was still difficult to motivate so called technocentric urban people in environment friendly tasks which are by many spelt as silly or waste of time, a disturbance of normal class schedule. It was challenging in arranging specialised experts to guide us in the ventures.

Evidence of Success

More number of students started taking an interest in painting and other competitions related to environmental issues. Participation and interactions of students in Biodiversity Day webinar, Earth day sapling planting, Environment Day programmes on road to influence local people the class studies. There was a surge of interest in such activities.