

Format for Presentation of Best Practices

1. Teaching by seniors to juniors

2. Objectives of the Practice

Teaching is the noblest profession in the world. Teachers bring forth new ideas and plant them in the minds of the budding students. One's personality, in the end, is shaped by the type of teaching one inherits in their student career. In this sense, the college works as a conduit in the germination of ideas. One of the most important criteria in the dissemination of knowledge is the ability of the students to receive the ideas imparted on them. Very often, teachers are not accessible to them because of a number of factors. The distance between the teacher and the students can be minimized if the seniors take the responsibility of training the juniors simultaneously. This is complimentary to the class room teaching given by the teachers.

3. The Context

The essence of teaching is to deliver to the last students of the class. In a class room, it is very often not possible for a teacher to pay equal attention to all the students despite best of efforts put in this direction. The slow learners are generally diffident, and overtime develop an inferiority complex if they are not taken proper care by the tutors. The teaching method adopted by the seniors helps to bridge this difference. It makes the learners more open, attentive and friendly in the process of acquiring knowledge. It also helps them in overcoming inhibitions in asking questions as they belong to the comparable age. The senior students learn the teaching methodology from the teachers and sometimes from their friends. This helps them expanding their resource base; make them feel more confident in the competitive world when they pass out from the college. The juniors also learn to speak in the class, take part in the deliberations and overcome their diffidence in due process of time. This way, it is helpful for both the categories.

4. The Practice

This practice, we believe is unique to this institution. In the current world, knowledge has become a commodity like any other material goods and services. The proliferation of private service providers, with their attractive packaging and advertisement, make the market alluring for the people who can pay hefty sums for them. The poor, deserving students do not get an opportunity to realize these benefits as they lack resources for it. Coaching by private institutions are very costly and beyond the reach of most of the students. Qualitative inputs can be obtained from experienced teachers who are obviously in short supply. This gap is filled by the senior students who are constantly groomed by the teachers to develop their teaching ability.

This practice, though novel in its approach, suffers from certain limitations. First of all, it takes time to groom the students to become teachers. Students differ in their ability, so preferential treatment is given to the aspiring yet late learners. Besides this, there is resource constraint. It is very difficult to rely only on prescribed books of CBCS syllabus. So the net facility is provided both in the college and hostels to the students. Seminars also become helpful for the students to prepare the methods of teaching and presenting ideas clearly and fearlessly before others.

5. Evidence of Success

The practice is continued with resounding success. It is found that this practice helps the students in both ways. The seniors, when they teach their juniors, feel more confident about the subject as teaching is the best method to gain more knowledge in the process. This helps them to come forward in various curricular and co-curricular activities which are reflected in tutorial/practical examinations, debates and discussions and developing leadership qualities. It also develops relationship and better interaction between the juniors and seniors. This helps them make aware of each other's grey areas in the subject and motivate them further to go deep into that area. The juniors also get immense benefit out of it. Instead of going to the coaching institutes which is very often not affordable for the poor, this practice enables the deserving juniors to clear their doubts without paying a single pie for it. This also develops a sense of respect to the seniors which is passed from one class to another.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

The tutoring by the seniors to the juniors is a notable achievement on the part of this institution. However in order to make the programme sustainable some kind of financial incentive must be given to the students. Due to lack of available resources the practice is limited in its application. Moreover collection of materials from the net, photo copy contingencies etc. required finance which needs to be provided.

7. Notes (Optional)

NIL