7.3   Best Practices

Best Practice 1 – PRAYAAS – A Women Education Initiative

PRAYAAS – A practice that the institute undertakes to strengthen the homemaker (women) of the society by aiding them with basic technology education.

1. **Title of the practice** – PRAYAAS: a concept developed by the institute to ensure that women of our society who are busy in their routine at home get to be acquainted with the basic technical Know-hows so that a greater society can benefit with their knowledge.

2. **Goal-**The goal is to develop the women in a holistic manner whilst making them a part of the bigger system, by encouraging them to learn technology and use them to make their lives a bit easy. It serves to address the outcomes of a privileged and learned society. It also ensures maximum participation from women of the society and thus enhances the learning experience envisaged by the institute.

3. **The Context-** The practice is an outcome of a thorough scrutiny and analysis of as to how technical education can benefit a large strata of the society, through computer studies. The courseware of the workshop prescribes a good exposure to fundamentals of computers, and its issues and challenges. Hence it was conceptualized in such a manner to cover fundamental areas of technology and put them in manner so as to work practically in a compatible environment. This also improves the confidence levels of the women participants and the technology they learn helps them in competing with their male counterparts to a certain extent.

4. **The Practice-**

   a. The institute has good relations with women-centric organizations like LokamatSakhiManch, Inner Wheel Club, and Rotary's Women Cell, to whom the institute contacts for participating in the Workshop.
   b. The Women's on day one come to the institute's campus, and there is a brief inauguration to give them an idea about the contents of the workshop. Then after they are taken to the computer Laboratory where trainer's from the institute and others give the m training on the fundamentals of using computers and the internet.
   c. Day Two the participants are given training on Do's & Don'ts about using the Social Media on all types of mobile and fixed devices .

d. Finally the Workshop ends with giving participation certificates to all the Women participants and also encouraging them by giving gifts to the Top three performing participants.

5. **Evidence of success:** Women play a very important role in developing the society. They are an insuperable gesture in every child's life as a mother. If a child finds his/her mother using technology easily, it influences his/her mind a lot. Also we have seen that the confidence of the women boosts, to a great extent at the end of the workshop. Sheer pleasure can be seen amongst them, saying that the workshop to some extent will certainly help them to overcome some challenges regarding technology that they faced earlier. Thus the outcome of the workshop is certainly a positive one.

6. **Problems encountered and Resources required:** The Institute encounters very little problem in   organizing such workshops, thanks chiefly to the faculty members, management and the support staff who are always positive towards student development activity. Minor problems occur when the workshop is organized at the time of any festive occasion.
    The resource allocation is done at the start of the academic year covering the expenses for the workshop. A part of the budget includes acceptance of participation fee from the women which is nominal. The students of Computer Department also help in managing the workshop. All shortfalls are always supplemented by the Institute.

Best Practice 2 -*Abhyas*

Abhyas:A knowledge based practice to improve the students' quest for answers to their overall development.

1. **TitleofthePractice -** Abhyas:The practice comprises of five major activities namely- GranthPradarshan, Book Review, Readers Club, Writers Club, A display shelf on 'Books- Must Read'

2. **Goal**
   The goal of the project is to ensure students to refer to the traditional means of learning in place of the current trend of finding everything on google and the cell phones. To acquaint all the students with the new arrivals of books in the market and cultivate the habit of reading, reviewing and writing among the students.

3. **TheContext**
   It is observed that the student community have almost forgotten the need to refer the hard copies of books either for general reading or for their academic reference.

   Therefore, the institute has devised an alternative to ensure that students get an opportunity to see, perceive, identify the importance, read, acquire knowledge and present it to the community in the form of individual writings. This is ensured by bringing out an annual magazine 'Vyavastapan'.

   The challenging issue however is to specifically identify books that would be worthwhile for our students keeping in view the courses offered and the quality of students admitted.

4. **ThePractice**
   a.*GranthPradarshan:*This is an annual event preferably in the month of February during the annual celebration 'Synergy'. Reputed publishers and distributors of the region are encouraged to display copies of latest arrivals, bestselling titles (fiction and non- fiction), and academic books. Facility is also given to the students to purchase at discounted prices during the exhibition. The institute simultaneously conducts guest lectures by eminent librarians/ experts from the region who stress on latest developments in academics, e-resources, and its relevance for research activities and publications.
   b. *Book Reviews:* this is an exercise given to the management students wherein the students are given books on both fiction and non-fiction including autobiographies. The students are expected to read, review and prepare a presentation based on their understanding which is duly assessed by a panel of faculty members.
   c.*Readers club:* Students are encouraged to form a group of members who are interested

in reading and their common interests are shared in the forum. This exercise also develops skill to face competition. .

d.*Writers Club:* this activity is an extension to the readers club, some of the students who believe in expressing their ideas and feelings are encouraged to put them in the form of comprehensions, short stories, articles and poems.

e. *Books-Must Read:* A huge display shelf is created in the lobby of the institute to high light on the latest arrivals, motivational books, inspirational books, spiritual books and Autobiographies of eminent personalities. The cover pages are regularly updated for the benefit of the students.

5. EvidenceofSuccess

The Students who are actively involved in initiating and participating in above activities have developed an inclination towards academics and its importance it has also led to significant contributions to our annual publications 'Vyavasthapan' It has also been observed that the number of students using the library facility has increased over a period of time. It may not be out of place to mention here that significant performances in the cultural activities has been inspired by the literary works and the institute has won prizes in many contest not only in the region but also at national level.

The students have also improved in understanding the concepts in the right perspective which is reflected in the quality of presentations made.

6. ProblemsEncounteredandResourcesRequired

The activity does not involve huge budgetary requirements as it is voluntary in nature and students participate with a lot of enthusiasm. In case Of 'GranthPradarshan' the institute provides sufficient place to display the range of books without any financial liability. The manpower required in organizing this event is also available without a hitch.