

## Best Practices

### Best Practice – 1

**Title of the Practice:** Nascian Overarching of Outreach Programmes (NOOP).

**The Goal:** The triple functions of the higher education system are teaching, research and outreach/extension. Education means acquisition and development of patriotism, environmental consciousness, sustainability, human values, ethics, habit of discipline etc. To achieve this, mere classroom teaching is not enough. Keeping this in mind, to draw the best in our students and staff, the College practises different activities through three pillars to nurture the above qualities of a citizen. The College believes that this will lead to the formation of the best citizens the country is in need of.

**The Context:** The College is situated in a socially and economically backward district, Kasaragod of Kerala. Most of our catchment area is rural in nature and the students are from families at the lower strata of the community. To bring them into the mainstream and thereby promote inclusiveness in all walks of life, formal classroom education is insufficient. Creating awareness like eradication of superstitious beliefs, environmental protection, biofarming, side effect of excessive use of pesticides, gender equality, human rights among the people is of paramount importance in this context.

**The Practice:** The College has formed three main pillars, comprising N.C.C., N.S.S. and Clubs like Sahithyavedi and Laharivirudhavedi, to impart education other than formal education. All activities are spearheaded by these agencies. Activities include national integration camps, rock climbing camp, parades, trekking camps, cleaning programmes, rehabilitation programmes for victims of Endosulfan, observation of days of national importance, yoga classes, flood relief work, maintaining artificial forest in the campus, planting mangroves, leadership camps, entrepreneurship development programmes, anti-tobacco day observance, gender sensitization programmes etc. These were in regular practice from long back.

The implementation of NOOP is carried out through six levels – Planning, Implementation, Monitoring, Evaluation, Feedback and Documentation. National Cadet Corps (NCC), National Service Scheme (NSS) and Clubs consisting of Sahithya Vedi, Folklore Club, Entrepreneurship Development Club, Lahari Virudha Vedi, Health Club, Tourism Club, Soft Skill Club, Biodiversity Club, Bhoomithra Sena, E-learning Club, Model Parliament Literacy Club, Electoral Literacy Club, Counselling Centre, Committee for Promotion of Ethics and Values, Centre for Career Information and Guidance, Centre for Women Studies and Women's Cell supported by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the College are taking responsibility for implementing NOOP.

**Evidence of Success:** The objectives of NOOP are successfully met. Extension and outreach programmes are included in NOOP. Almost every student is part of one or more programmes in NOOP. This practice popularized the worth of extension and outreach activities and it helped to promote cooperation, collaboration and teamwork among the students. Participating in NOOP gives a direct exposure to the students and most of the programmes illustrate the challenges that our community are facing. Positive feedback about NOOP is a clear evidence for the success. NOOP helped in the dissemination of knowledge and expertise in ways that empower and construct life-long capacities for growth and progress in our students.

**Problems encountered and resources:** Time for planning, implementation and evaluation, leadership from teachers and students At present, the College is following Choice Based Credit Semester System. It is more rapid and therefore we are limiting the number of programmes under NOOP. Funding for the programmes are met by the concerned agencies.

## **Best Practice – 2**

**Title of the Practice:** Harvesting Young Titans from Schools (HYTS)

**The Goal :** To Develop scientific attitude, scientific temper, creative and critical thinking, research aptitude, and to inculcate the approach to eradicate the practices of pseudoscience in the young titans among secondary and higher secondary students in Kasaragod district.

**The Context:** Kasaragod District being one of the least developed districts of Kerala, is in need of a boost in higher education.

The parents of most of the talented students are farmers and labourers and they are not in a position to motivate the students due to lack of higher education. Most of the meritorious students from schools are not opting for higher education in the field of science due to lack of motivation and lack of awareness about the opportunities and applications of different branches of science. Moreover, the effect of various fields of pseudoscience is obstructing their way to higher education in science.

**The Practice:** Outstanding and meritorious students from every batch of IX and XI class of all government schools are selected by conducting aptitude test all over Kasaragod district in collaboration with DHSE, DCE and Samagra Siksha Kerala. Planning, implementation, monitoring, collection of feedback, analysis and documentation of the scheme is carried out by the Science Departments namely Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Computer Science, Botany and Zoology. The College is regularly conducting separate three days residential camps for IX and XI standard students from Government schools annually in collaboration

with the educational agencies - the Department of Higher Education, Government of Kerala, the Directorate of Higher Secondary Education, Kerala and Samagra Shiksha, Kerala. Theoretical and experimental explanations and demonstrations of aspects of basic sciences and its applications, introduction of frontier areas of science and its applications, exposing the distinction between science and pseudoscience, visiting premier institutes of higher education, giving hands-on training in laboratories, familiarization of virtual labs, screening of educational short films and movies, giving training in ICT, providing hands-on training in software for dissection to study the internal anatomy without killing the animals etc., are part of the programme.

**Evidence of Success:** We have received positive feedback from the participants of HYTS and it is overwhelming to know that neighbouring schools are requesting for arranging such programmes for them alone. The authorities of participating institutions are providing evidence of success of the program by observing the excellent performances of the participating students. The objectives of HYTS are successfully met.

**Problems encountered and resources required:**

At present, the College is following Choice Based Credit Semester System. It is more rapid and we are not getting enough time for conducting HYTS for more than three days. Moreover, the participating students are also facing missing of usual classes. For conducting classes and experimental demonstrations, a pool of teachers are formed from our own institutions and from other premier institutions. Funding is received from the Samagra Shiksha Kerala and from College Management and PTA. This year Covid -19 pandemic and related lockdown made the College and the Government to curtail the programme. However, the College took efforts to conduct the programme in online mode.

**Notes:**

Neighbouring schools are requesting for arranging such programmes specially for them. The college is planning to extend HYTS school-wise instead of selecting meritorious students from each batch of several schools.