



Lekshmipuram College of Arts and Science
Neyyoor-629802
(Affiliated to Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli)
Kanyakumari District, Tamilnadu

Best Practices 2018-19

Best Practice 1: Motivation and Encouragement for Scholastic Achievements through Endowments

The goal of the Practice

The institution provides endowment prizes to create motivation and encouragement among the learners to achieve in their subjects, which leads to their personal and professional achievements in the future.

The Context

Acquiring knowledge in the higher education system is self-paced; proper motivation, assistance, and guidance in the teaching and learning process and encouragement to achieve some titles in their study period will be the turning point in their personal and professional career. So it is the responsibility of the institution to motivate the students to achieve some titles in learning and co-curricular activities. Thus, the institution permitted the philanthropists, shareholders of the college management, and the teaching faculty of both retired and working professionals to constitute endowments in the name of their respected personalities in specific areas, namely toppers in the specific subjects, toppers in the departments, achievers in sports and games, best usage of library resources, best students in terms of conduct, character, education, cultural activities, participation in co-curricular activities, and leadership qualities. So far, 51 endowments have been constituted to cover all areas of subjects, including languages, major subjects, ancillary subjects, sports events, library usage, and the best students in terms of conduct, character, co-curricular activities, and leadership qualities.

The Practice

A person who wants to constitute endowments in the institution has to approach the head of the institution, sign the agreement with the secretary of the institution, and deposit the amount in a bank. The interest earned by the deposit annually is withdrawn from the bank by the secretary, and it will be handed over to the identified individual on College Day by the Chief Guest in the form of a cash award and certificate. The details of endowments available to the students and their eligibility criteria are well informed to them on various platforms, like the first day of their college, orientation classes, and their respective departments. The details of endowments available, their eligibility, and those sponsored by whom or constituted by whom are available in the College Handbook published every year. The members of the faculty motivate the students to earn the title at appropriate times in their class, during the mentoring session, and on special occasions. The head

of the institution constitutes a committee to identify the eligible students based on the criteria mentioned in the respective endowments.

Evidence of Success

The endowments of the institution are increasing year by year; at present, it has 51 endowments in different areas, namely subjects, library usage, co-curricular activities, and similar, which is evidence of the success of the initiative. The titles earned by the students as toppers in the class, topper in the subjects, best library user, achievers in sports, and best students in conduct and character motivate the learners to achieve more in their higher education and personal and professional careers.

Resources

The generosity of the members of the college management and the members of the faculty who served the institution in various capacities like principal, professor, librarian, etc. for the common cause of motivation and encouragement to students.

Problem Encountered

There is no difficulty with this novel initiative. On certain occasions, the same students may earn more than one endowment based on stated criteria.

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Best Practice 2: Conscientization of Students on the Latest Developments in Subjects

The goal of the Practice

The latest developments in the subjects, approaches, new findings, and applications are missing in the curriculum prescribed for the undergraduate and postgraduate programmes and hence the institution organizes seminars, conferences, and workshops at regular intervals at the department level to inform the learners of the latest developments in their respective subject areas. Informing students, creating interest among the students in the latest developments, and keeping them aware of research trends are the goals of the practice. Creating reflections in the minds of the learners is more expected through this practice.

The Context

Changes are inevitable in all fields, and higher education is no exception. The content matter included in the courses for both undergraduates and postgraduates is more theory-oriented than application-oriented. Also, the latest developments in the subjects, approaches, new findings, and applications are missing from the curriculum prescribed for them. Moreover, due to the exponential growth of scientific literature and the humanities, the knowledge has become obsolete, the content is outdated, and there is only a minimum correlation with the latest developments in the subjects. So the institution make the efforts to conscientize them of the latest developments in their subjects and

areas of interest. Thus, to keep them more aware and competent, every department has to organize seminars, invited talks, workshops, and conferences on emerging areas of their subject.

The Practice

To conscientize the students of the latest developments in the subjects, every major department organized seminars at various levels, invited talks, conferences, and workshops on emerging areas of their subject to abreast of the knowledge of the students, which led to vibrations and reflections in the minds of the learners on a specific area. Every department has to submit the proposal for the same to the head of the institution, namely the proposed title, theme, sub-themes, expected resource persons, and its impact, after discussion with the members of the faculty of the department and experts in the field. Sources for the organization such events are funds from the management, PTA, and other sponsoring agencies for the conduct of such programme in the institution. Students and faculties are also permitted to attend the seminar conducted by the neighbouring institutions. The impact of the seminar, particularly among the students, is also evaluated by the faculty concerned for the conduct of the next-level seminar. Creative proposals prepared by them are also submitted to the funding agency.

Evidence of Success

Every year, all the major departments identify emerging areas in their respective subjects and conduct seminars, invited talks, competitions, conferences, and workshops. Students are using this platform to discuss their creative thoughts and ideas. The reflections and vibrations among the learners lead to select areas for higher education and careers.

Resources

Resources required for the initiative are both human and material. The management has to provide financial assistance for the conduct of the programme. Faculty have to spend their valuable time organizing such events.

Problem Encountered

If funding agencies sanction funds for organizing such seminars and conferences in time, then it helps reduce the financial burden on the management. It consumes the time of the faculty to organize such seminars. Moreover, the identification of appropriate personalities also poses some problems.

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