

Guru Nanak Khalsa College for Women
Gujarkhan Campus, Ludhiana
Session (2020-2021)

Best Practices

PRACTICE 1

1. TITLE OF THE PRACTICE:

Promotion of Research Culture

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE (100 words)

The objective was to expand the existing body of knowledge by providing opportunities to teachers for research activities particularly aiming towards enhancement of their skill required for online pedagogies. Only through research, the attainment of new knowledge is possible. New knowledge, formed through new research, contributes back to the knowledge community. In this manner, the teachers would keep up-to-date with critical findings about current methods of teaching and learning. These educational researchers would seek answers to questions like learner motivation, development, and classroom management during the challenging times of COVID.

3. THE CONTEXT (150 WORDS)

In the wake of COVID-19, when all businesses were switched to the online mode, solutions to different problems in pedagogy while improving teaching and learning practices were much required. To know what the world was doing, how the education sector was coping with the crisis, to keep abreast of new methodologies of disseminating knowledge in the era of lockdown and virtual classrooms; it was imperative for the teaching fraternity to attend courses, FDPs, Webinars on current topics in education and technology. Also, constructive ideas would be generated in such forums about maintaining the mental health and extending guidance/ counseling to the students. The unprecedented situation caused much confusion and raised queries in the minds of the teachers and students alike. Technical knowhow became the new mandate and skill enhancement, the new focus. The answer was in the capital use of time and optimal access to the online platforms made available.

4. THE PRACTICE (400 WORDS)

- Research Activities of the faculty were multifarious. Research papers were published in e-journals, webinars and workshops were attended, MOOC courses were completed, and

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Faculty Development Programs were attended by many members of our faculty. The details of the same are given in the Annual Report of the college.

- The college organized various activities and training programs for the promotion of Research Culture among the students and teachers:
 - ✓ **Post Graduate Department of English** organized a **3-Day Online Training workshop on 3 T's of Translation: Training Technique Tales** from June 09-11, 2021.
 - ✓ **Department of Computer Science and Applications** organized a **seven day Faculty Development Program on “Effective Online Facilitation”** on July 16-24, 2020. The resource persons for this training program were **Ms. Daisy Wadhwa and Mrs. Satwant Kaur** from the **Department of Computer Science and Applications**.
 - ✓ **Department of Psychology** organized an activity based extension lecture on the topic **“Fostering Positive Mental Health and a Strong Heart”** to mark **World Heart Day** on September 29, 2020. On this occasion **Dr. Nayanika Singh** was the resource person. She exposed the students to learning new techniques of relaxation and mindful listening while emphasizing on the importance of a healthy diet to maintain a healthy heart.
 - ✓ **12 Cadets** submitted articles to **NCC Digital Forum** on topics like **Aatamnirbhar Bharat, Fit India Movement, NCC Yogdan, Skill Development, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** on October 28, 2020.
 - ✓ **Placement Cell** in collaboration with **TIME Institute** organized a **Webinar on “Time Management”** for first year students of all streams on December 05, 2020. **Ms. Fatema Abbas, a Senior Trainer, Consultant and HOD (Business Communication, Pune Institute of Business Management)** was the resource person.
 - ✓ In collaboration with **GNIMT**, the **Placement Cell** organized an **Online Skill Development Programme** on the theme **“Enhancing Communication Skills”** on January 21, 2021. Final year students of all streams participated in this event.
 - ✓ **NSS Unit in collaboration with Women’s Cell** celebrated **International Women’s Day** on March 08, 2021 in **virtual mode**. **Mrs Shikha Kalra (Department of Home Science)** also gave a talk on the theme **“Anemia Advice Nutrition Advice and Importance of Exercise.”**

5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS (200 WORDS)

- Many new pedagogical strategies and methodologies were picked up by the teachers
- Up-dation of knowledge and skill
- Increase in Technical know how
- More ICT tools were used while imparting knowledge

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- Learner-centric approach became the key to success. Students became the centre of attention. They were encouraged to view content available on the internet, to make use of YouTube material, and to attend course and workshops.
- Stimulated interest about research among the students. They got introduced to a new world of knowledge
- The second Lockdown

6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED (150 WORDS)

Among the existing circumstantial barriers, the limited access to information sources and initial hesitation about research made it difficult for the students to join in the endeavor. The phobia triggered by the pandemic also caused slow transition to normalcy. It was difficult to access physical libraries. Team spirit was difficult to maintain in the absence of physical interaction. Though video conferencing and con calls were the available alternatives but it was not easy to maintain the spirit and motivational levels of those involved in the activity (ies). In view of the pandemic, our institution carried out most of the programs pertaining to the above-mentioned practices in an online mode. Various awareness programs and workshops were organized in order to foster a skill-oriented ecosystem in the institution.

PRACTICE 2

1. TITLE OF THE PRACTICE:

Foster a Sense of Community among students through staff and NCC initiatives

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE PRACTICE (100 words)

Holding aloft the vision of harmonious growth and development, our institution believes in the holistic education of young women so that they become catalysts of change in the contemporary social framework. Education being an amalgamation of the best of Indian and Western values for us, we inculcate critical temper in our students so that they are empowered and enlightened individuals who believe in an inclusive society, free from

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any prejudices and stereotypes. Community development was our motto during the time of intermittent lockdowns and social distancing.

3. THE CONTEXT (150 words)

GNKCW has always participated in community development. Rallies, awareness programs, slogan writing, poster-making, nukkad nataks etc. have been organized on the campus from time to time. Volunteers of Eco Club, Youth Club, Red Ribbon Club, Legal Literacy Club, NSS Unit and NCC Wing have always stepped forward to help out fellow beings during important happenings. In fact, the staff of the college has always set an example in matters of serving the community. COVID brought us together in many ways. It also taught us to value our environment and take measures to safeguard it. Many steps were taken for its improvement. Awareness regarding physical and mental health became primary.

Simultaneously, 2020–2021 also witnessed Indian farmers' protest against three farm acts that were passed by the Parliament of India in September 2020. The college stepped forward and extended support to the farmers and their families for the duration.

4. THE PRACTICE (400 words)

- The staff of the college offered aid during the farmers strike. Significant contribution was made for the protestors at the protest sites around Delhi who were also battling the second wave of the COVID-19 pandemic. A truck laden with blankets, grocery items, clothing, and basic medicines was sent by the college to the Delhi borders to offer relief to the families, elders, and children camping there as a part of the protest.
- The **NCC Wing** participated in many social service activities during the session 2020-21:
 - On **6th International Yoga Day, the Hon'ble PM of India** had announced a **video blog contest regarding yoga**. Cadet Neha Kaushik posted a video blog regarding yoga asana to **Ayush Ministry Website** on June 21, 2020.
 - Cadets participated in **tree plantation Pakhwada (tree plantation drive)** in July 2020 organized by **NCC HQ**.
 - Cadets participated in **Online Awareness Campaign of Fit India** during August, 2020. Cadets also posted pictures on social media platforms.
 - **4 Cadets** participated in **Poem Recitation Competition** on the topic “**COVID Warriors**” conducted by **GCG, Ludhiana** in collaboration with **3 Pb. Girls Bn.** on September 30, 2020.
 - **12 Cadets** submitted articles to **NCC Digital Forum** on topics like **Aatamnirbhar Bharat, Fit India Movement, NCC Yogdan, Skill Development, and Swachh Bharat Abhiyan** on October 28, 2020.

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- **23 Cadets** took pledge on **Central Vigilance Commission Website** on November 19, 2020.
- To mark **the NCC Day**, a **Tree Plantation Drive** was held in the **virtual mode** from November 25-29, 2020.
- On November 29, 2020 Cadets spread awareness about **SWACHHTA** through online mode.
- NCC wing conducted **online activity under Swachhta Pakhwara** on December 14, 2020. Cadets created awareness through **hand wash activity** and also organized an **online Essay writing competition**.
- **33 Cadets** participated in **24th National Youth Festival** through **LIVE Webcast** on January 12, 2021 on the occasion of **National Youth Day**.
- On April 5, 2021, NCC wing organized an **online Poster-making competition** on the theme **“Anti drug.”**
- On April 7, 2021, **21 Cadets** participated in **“Pariksha pe Charcha 2021”** organized by **Government of India. Honorable PM of India Sh. Narendra Modi** interacted with Cadets through **online mode**.
- In order to commemorate **Jallianwala Bagh Remembrance Day**, NCC cadets presented a **Nukkad Natak** on the theme **“No to Single Use Plastic”** through online mode on April 13, 2021. A **Webinar** was conducted and **Power Point Presentations** were made.

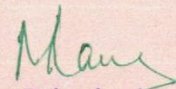
5. EVIDENCE OF SUCCESS (200 WORDS)

The activities conducted online instilled confidence among the student volunteers. They learnt new ways of imbibing knowledge and became self reliant. Values of discipline and co-operation were upheld during these activities. In times when physical and mental fitness became requisites, these activities spread awareness regarding the same during the stressful and isolating lockdowns. Interaction with Honorable PM of India Sh. Narendra Modi during **“Pariksha pe Charcha 2021”** was an experience that motivated the students and guided them towards the right path. Because volunteers experienced different activities and challenges, they got a broader picture of the society and learnt new aspects of social relations, menaces, and dynamics. The students involved in the activities also shared their experiences with other students, thereby, forming a chain of diffusion of knowledge. In this manner, the relevant information spread to a larger percentage of students, who, in turn, felt inspired to participate in similar activities. The number of participants began to increase over a period of time, shaking off the earlier inhibitions and hesitations.

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6. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED AND RESOURCES REQUIRED (150 WORDS)

Volunteers played wide and diverse roles in the above mentioned and were able to provide various types of support to general public in various ways, but due to the special circumstances of the COVID-19 epidemic, they also experienced many challenges at the same time. During face-to-face activities, there was a fear and worry of getting infected. Social distancing and sanitization had to be religiously observed. Experience of failure and helplessness was also a concern in the early phase, which was gradually overcome with adequate guidance and counseling by the teachers.



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