

7.2 Best Practices

Describe at least two institutional best practices.

Best Practice I-

3-H -Head, Heart and Hands for transformative sustainability learning

-strategies for successful, holistic and lifelong learning.

Goal

- *Engaging cognitive (head), psychomotor (hands) and affective (heart) domains of learning that facilitate personal experience for participants resulting in profound changes in knowledge, skills and attitudes*
- *Incorporating learning objectives that exhibit the emergent property termed as Transformative Sustainable Learning(TSL)*
- *To help transform students into fully functional and productive individuals who commiserate with their living and non-living surroundings*

Context

The aim of this program is to pay special attention to formal, informal and non-formal education and apply the holistic, intergraded and experiential approach in education. People learn, think, feel and act differently.

Practice This holistic program is oriented towards satisfying individual's cognitive, affective and practical interests which are also the objective of contemporary education.

"Head" (*Cognitive Domain of learning*) aims at critical reflection.

Towards Transformative Sustainable Learning (TSL) Besides the recommended curriculum, the students are provided an intellectual **exposure through class, college and National level seminars and expert lectures**. Critical thinking is encouraged through extensive use of **power point presentations and group discussions and brain-storming sessions**. The College provides ample opportunities to its students to become aware of themselves and their culture.

"Heart" (*Affective and Relational Domain of Learning*) works towards relational knowing.

Commiserating with their Living And Non-Living Surroundings: It is an attempt towards **value education** where the students are not only passionate about what they do, they feel connected to the learning process and are also aware of how their outcomes affect them and others around them.

The goal of education in KCW is to enlighten the students and empower them with various competencies, yet make them remain connected to their roots and give back to the society that they belong to. **Commitment towards community and Social Responsibility** is a basic value that is inculcated in all students through activities of various cells and clubs.

The **KCW Eco Club** aims to help the students in “*connecting with nature*”. “*My Garden*” is a small garden maintained by the students. Special initiatives are taken to ensure environmental protection through preaching and practice of drives like **Segregation of Waste, Stubble Burning Awareness, Reuse and upcycling, Swatchhta-both of self and one’s surroundings.**

“Hands” (*Psychomotor domain of learning*) is an effort towards the active use of learned concepts. This aspect of the program involves learning by doing, getting a feel for how things actually work. The students are provided with special opportunities to explore themselves and know their capabilities and talents.

Working towards profound changes in knowledge, skills and attitudes:

Committed efforts help us **make a mark in various cultural and heritage events.** Practicing perseverance and disciplined lifestyle has always resulted in our students **staying abreast in sports.** The list of achievements by our students in various **international, national, commonwealth games** and events is illustrious indeed.

Evidence of Success

- Provided well founded congregation of intellectuals and other stakeholders of higher education with the students to promote higher order thinking- A prestigious International Seminar along with a plethora of expert lectures commanded the academic ambience of the institution
- Increased participation in ancillary activities concomitant to overall scholastic enterprise – marked presence in winners list for Youth Festival, Literary and Scientific Activities
- A stalwart in the sports achievements, our college has contributed substantially to the medal tally of the Panjab University leading to the clinching of the prestigious MACCA Trophy by Panjab University after a span of fourteen years.
- Holistic development of personalities is witnessed. A large number of University toppers have won accolades in Extra-Curricular Activities and Youth Festival Items too.
- Positive vibes in the campus due to amicable ambience amongst the stakeholders.
- Fostering of interpersonal relationships among the students; there is no problem of ragging or interpersonal conflict.

Problems Encountered

- These initiatives demand energy, time and resources on part of the faculty as well as the students.
- The time constraints within the academic calendar call for a balance between attaining the academic goals along with various extracurricular and extension activities.
- It is only commitment on part of the faculty and sustained motivation of students that makes these practices a success.

Best Practice II

PETAL-Program for Excellence in Teaching and Learning

Goal

- *To create engaging and inclusive learning environments for the students.*
- *Fostering a community of Scholarly teachers focused on academic success and capacity building.*
- *To integrate pedagogical best practices; design and deliver effective, inclusive information-an amalgamation of excellence in teaching and learning situations*

Context

It is rightly said that since education is both a training of minds and training of souls, it should give both knowledge and wisdom. Thus, it is imperative that a seat of higher education should provide amicable opportunities as well as facilities and tools for the throughput of factual knowledge and exposure so as to enable metamorphosis of these facts into rational action –taking potential.

Practice

The Induction/Orientation Program The College has an elaborate orientation programme for creating a firm foundation for an ideal teaching-learning situation. It aims to introduce the newcomers to the rich traditions of KCW and to create bonding of newcomers with their seniors and teachers. It further aims to accentuate the academic and para academic fervor in the senior students while channelizing them to concrete goal setting and achievement

Customized Orientation Programs are designed by the college IQAC for the students at various levels of UG and PG courses.

Follow up Orientation Programmes are held at departmental level. They are more subject specific and serve as a useful tool in bridging the gap between existing knowledge and upcoming syllabus that they are going to study. The formal induction process culminates with the *Fresher's get-togethers*, the grand and resplendent ceremonies of various departments, organized by the senior students to formally welcome the newcomers to the College.

Curriculum Review- The IQAC of the college is focused on development of a curriculum that is updated and dynamically oriented in order to meet the needs of the ever changing technology and times. The Board of Studies members of Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses of the college are in constant touch with the heads and faculty of their respective departments. They channelize the relevant feedback regarding syllabus review and ensure the recommended corrections needed from time to time.

Capacity Building Workshops For Faculty And Students- This is an attempt to obtain, improve and retain skills, knowledge, tools and other resources needed to do one's job competently-both for the teachers and the taught.

These follow a two pronged strategy: the first aims at training the trainers-helping the faculty spruce up their knowledge according to changing technology and times and needs of the hour. The second aspect consists of Experiential learning situations for the students so as to enable them to have hands on experience at the various work situations that they will encounter in real life.

Observations and Analysis: These are the basic to any developmental process.

Departmental meetings are devoted to observations and discussion of lesson plans and unitization of the syllabi. New staff is given *special information on teaching tools* that can be easily applied in the class along with *latest e-resources*. Productive sessions on the availability and usage of online study materials are ensured.

Besides this, special departmental meetings are held to discuss and *brainstorm various ways to deal with a topic*. The *results of the students are discussed* and *customized teaching strategies* are formulated for under achievers and bright students in order to maximize their potential.

Reviewing and Responding to Feedback-The valuable feedback from various stakeholders is reviewed and specific responses used to enhance academic outcome of the students. The Registrar's Office is constantly supervising the performance, periodic testing and sharing the feedback of results along with attendance of students. The feedback committees collect and prepare analysis of feedback in relevant areas. The IQAC is cognizant of these reports and holds creative discussions on queries and improvement of teaching tools and student engagement.

PAL-Peer Assisted Learning-This program ventures to foster cross-level support between students of various years. PAL leaders are nominated by subject teachers. This aids in creating an engaging and inclusive learning environment for the students on the whole. It aims at encouraging the students to support each other and learn cooperatively under the guidance from their peers and senior students.

Evidence of Success

- Exploring new strategies in pursuit of teaching excellence has resulted in a **large number of university top ten positions by the college students**.
- The **pass percentage** of the college students is commendable and surpasses the average pass percentage of University colleges on the whole. Expanding entrepreneurial adeptness amongst students-formalization of skilful dexterity of pupils through formal and informal ventures.
- Many students have **extended their talents** and abilities cultivated in the campus into full time vocations and have become successful entrepreneurs.

The College pass-outs are not only enlightened with factual knowledge but also empowered with various life skills and display the success of our attempt to —*Transform the teenagers of today into mature and benevolent citizens of tomorrow.*