

7.2.1 - BEST PRACTICES

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE:

Short Term Courses

The context that require the institution of the Practice:

- Lack of versatility among the students with reference to subject knowledge
- Bridging the learning levels between two classes to students. The students could be from non commerce background needing a bridge to understand the curriculum which is provided in the form of these courses. There could be students who may need an additional support to understand content within the syllabus, these courses are even meant for them. There are some other kind of students who need information more than wanted by the curriculum. So the autonomous courses offered by the college are to serve the purposes of all types of students.
- As a matter of CBCS requirement .The SPPU offers some value added courses to ensure the students complete their additional non CGPA credits. These courses touch upon various aspects of students' overall development. The college ensures that the delivery of these courses is carried out through internal and external faculty.

Objectives:

- Improve the understanding of the students in a particular subject and subject area.
- Build and improve upon the students' understanding of the subject.
- Enhance the students' confidence levels and information spread.
- Improve their selection field of postgraduate courses.
- To train the students in such areas of development that they feel educated.

The Practice:

Short term courses are a phenomenon that is carried not only as a mandatory University requirement but also the ones that are designed and developed by the college faculty. The year 2017-18 had only 4 autonomous courses and were developed on very topical issues such as the GST, Cyber crime and Cyber security, fostering scientific temper and tally. They were initially confined to first and second year students. They added value to the students' qualification whether in terms of their understanding or in terms of the add on.

In the subsequent years autonomous courses such as advanced excel, Yoga and short term courses such as the one in 'Sindhi Language', 'Indian Stock Market', 'Banking and Finance' contributed to an all round development of the students hence we identify it to be a '*Best Practice*.' Some more courses were added to the existing ones and the number finally reached 21 in the academic year 2021-22.

Obstacles:

- The basic obstacle in carrying these courses is generating students for these courses because of their lack of reading and awareness about the necessity of these courses.
- Retaining the students in the class. Retaining their focus amidst so many distractions.

TITLE OF THE PRACTICE

Counselling

"Psychological, Social and Career counselling for integrated development"

Context that require the institution of the Practice:

The rising indifference of the students towards education.

- **The rising financial and psychological stress among the students on account of a number of family issues.**
- **The need of the time wherein a lot of distractions are created by the exposure. These students have to a varied content on social media that they should not have.**

Objective:

- **To bring about their integrated development.**
- **To reduce the level of confusion in their minds created due to too much noise (distractions) around them.**
- **To settle them down on psychological and career front.**

The Practice:

- The college started with an informal mentor mentee interaction of the teachers with students
- This was supplemented with an invite to a professional psychologist on campus Ms (Dr) Himani Chapekar. This was initially intermittent but later it became a monthly phenomenon.
- Identifying the seriousness of students' suicides, the management of the college invited an expert psychologist to train the faculty from each of the institutes.
- The management has employed full time Counsellor on the campus who are available for their guidance on a real time basis.

A number of our students, 60 % of them if we take the 2021-22 data, are girls students. They come from families that are socially not so liberal. In such cases these girls are married at a pretty early age. Pre-marriage counselling through a professional counsellor is a novel practice that our college has instituted. This year in fact we had gotten counsellors from "NARI SAMATA MANCH" to talk not only to the students but even to their parents.

Obstacles:

- Identifying the beneficiaries.
- Non acceptance of the need of counselling even if that person may need it.
- Non acceptance of need to discuss sensitive topic such as marriage, with children together with counsellors

Impact of the practice:

- The college has created an all inclusive environment where students feel comfortable to express themselves.

- The number of students getting their issues resolved is on the rise & they feel relieved on being counselled.

Resources Required

Full time Counsellor