

## **BEST PRACTICE - I**

### **1. Title of the Practice Enhancing Research and Skill Development Initiatives in Higher Education**

### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

The primary objective of this best practice is to foster a culture of research and skill development among students and faculty members in higher education institutions. By organizing various activities such as webinars, seminars, research projects, and skill development workshops, the practice aims to:

- Promote research culture among students and faculty members.
- Enhance students' knowledge and skills in diverse fields.
- Provide a platform for interaction with experts and industry professionals.
- Encourage innovation and critical thinking.
- Bridge the gap between academia and industry.
- Facilitate personal and professional growth of students and faculty.

The underlying principles of this practice include promoting lifelong learning, fostering collaboration and interdisciplinary approach, and ensuring relevance to societal needs and industry requirements.

### **3. The Context**

In the past, amidst the evolving landscape of higher education, institutions recognized the need to transcend traditional teaching methodologies and prioritize the holistic development of students. Embracing the principles outlined in the National Education Policy (NEP), institutions implemented best practices aimed at integrating research-oriented and skill-focused education into their curriculum. They facilitated student engagement in research and skill development activities, fostering critical thinking and innovation. Leveraging technological advancements, institutions introduced innovative teaching methods and online learning platforms to cater to diverse learning needs. Furthermore, they established multidisciplinary educational programs and vocational training initiatives to equip students with practical skills essential for the modern workforce. By adopting these practices, institutions aimed to create a dynamic learning environment conducive to student growth and success. These efforts not only enhanced the quality of higher education but also contributed to the holistic development of students, preparing them for the challenges of the future job market.

#### 4. The Practice

- Webinar on Investment & Depository: An enlightening session featuring Dr. Shikha Gupta from CDSL, educating students on financial independence through prudent investment decision-making, with a focus on the significance of understanding investments and depository systems.
- Aditi Mahavidyalaya has a longstanding commitment to maintaining high standards of quality in all its endeavors. In line with this dedication, the college proactively responded to the advisory issued by the NAAC on May 26, 2022. Embracing a culture of continuous improvement, Aditi Mahavidyalaya redirected its focus towards becoming a hub for quality research. This dedication culminated in the college achieving compliance with ISO 9001:2015 standards, a testament to its unwavering commitment to excellence. The certification, awarded on March 14, 2023, highlights Aditi Mahavidyalaya's relentless pursuit of quality across all aspects of its operations. Its first surveillance audit was conducted on 13th March 2024. This quality assurance by Aditi Mahavidyalaya was recognised in women empowerment initiatives, short term and add on courses, departmental excellence and disaster management.
- Aligned ISO requirements with those of accreditation and quality ranking frameworks.
- Webinar on Unlocking the Potential of Intellectual Property Rights: A thought-provoking panel discussion led by industry experts Mr. Ajay Singh Rajawat and Mr. Shailendra Singh, moderated by Dr. Shikha Gupta, highlighting the importance of intellectual property rights in fostering innovation and economic growth, with a focus on patent protection and its role in incentivizing research and development.
- Webinar on Entrepreneurship Mindset & Action: An inspiring lecture series featuring Mr. Piyush Singhal and Mr. Khet Singh, providing valuable insights into entrepreneurship, including the importance of mindset and actions, challenges faced by entrepreneurs, and strategies for building confidence and resilience in the face of adversity.
- Add-On Course on Chartered Financial Expert: An orientation session conducted by Ms. Nisha Shah from FinX, introducing students to the Chartered Financial Expert course, designed to equip them with specialized skills in financial markets and prepare them for

certification examinations, emphasizing excellence and values in the field of capital markets.

- Webinar on How to Crack Government Exams: An interactive session with HR expert Ms. Perna Chauhan, guiding students on effective exam preparation strategies for government exams, including maximizing study resources, understanding syllabus and eligibility criteria, and enhancing aptitude test performance through practice and guidance.
- Seminar on Education Abroad: An informative session with Shri. Sunil Dua from TIME EDUCATION, discussing study opportunities abroad and exam preparation strategies for exams like GMAT and CAT, empowering students to pursue their academic goals with confidence and determination.
- Emerging Trends of Corporate Governance in India: An insightful online session with Prof. Anil Kumar from Delhi School of Economics, exploring the evolving landscape of corporate governance, its role in directing and controlling companies, and the importance of shareholders' engagement in ensuring effective governance structures.
- UG Research Projects 2022-23: A showcase of approved research projects, spanning diverse fields such as renewable energy, finance, education, nutrition, geography, and psychology, aimed at fostering a research-oriented outlook among students and faculty members to address contemporary societal challenges.
- Skill Development Committee Activities:
- Inventory Management Workshop: A workshop aimed at enhancing inventory management skills among staff members to ensure efficient stock management and distribution.
- Short-Term Course on Yoga and Sports Nutrition: A course designed to train students for careers in yoga teaching, personal training, and nutrition counseling, in alignment with industry demands and government schemes.
- Online Talks on Digital Marketing, Career Prospects in Skill Enhancement Courses, and Careers in Special Education: Informative sessions aimed at sensitizing students about career opportunities in emerging fields like digital marketing, skill enhancement courses, and special education, delivered by industry experts and professionals.

- Emerging Trends of Corporate Governance in India: An interactive online session with Prof. Anil Kumar discussed the evolving landscape of corporate governance, emphasizing its significance and defining role in directing and controlling companies, attended by 65 students.
- Library Research Project: Initiated a research project on reading habits during and post-COVID lockdowns to understand gender impacts and improve library services, along with activities like reading circles and a "One Nation Reading Together" campaign, promoting community reading.
- Library Fest 2022-23: Following the success of the Pustakalya Mahotsav in the previous year, the college library expanded its initiatives by establishing outdoor libraries featuring a collection of old Indian/Hindi classics. This innovative approach aimed to revive recreational reading activities and provide open reading spaces beyond the traditional library setting, fostering nostalgia and engaging younger generations. Additionally, a recycled bookshelf was utilized to promote leisure reading.
- Graduate Research Seminar (GRADS2023): As part of the library fest, the college organized the GRADS2023 seminar on April 26, 2023. The seminar received an overwhelming response, with 30 research papers submitted from various colleges and departments within Delhi University, as well as from other universities.
- Collaboration with Research Review Journal for development of high impact research profile for faculty members.

## **5. Evidence of Success**

Graduate and postgraduate students presented papers covering diverse topics such as tourism, women's issues, mental health, and educational practices. The seminar provided a platform for critical discussions and reflections on research findings, with over 100 attendees, including 39 presenters and 7 faculty mentors. Alumna Ms. Rakhi, currently pursuing her master's dissertation on resilience and compassion, was a guest at the event, showcasing the academic achievements and contributions of former students. The success of this practice is evident from the high participation rates in various activities, positive feedback from participants, and tangible outcomes such as research publications, skill certifications, and career advancements. Performance against targets and benchmarks indicates steady growth in research output, skill

acquisition, and industry collaborations. Moreover, review results highlight the effectiveness of the practice in meeting its objectives and fulfilling the needs of students and faculty members. Overall, the results indicate a positive impact on the academic and professional development of individuals involved.

## **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

Despite its success, the practice encounters challenges such as resource constraints, post covid issues, and sustainability concerns. To address these challenges, additional resources such as funding, infrastructure, and administrative support are required. Moreover, continuous evaluation and adaptation of the practice are essential to ensure its relevance and effectiveness in the ever-changing higher education landscape. Collaboration with industry partners, alumni, and funding agencies can also help in leveraging resources and expanding the reach of the practice.

## **BEST PRACTICE - II**

### **1. Title of the Practice : GreenGenesis: Cultivating Sustainable Futures For All**

### **2. Objectives of the Practice:**

1. Promoting Environmental Awareness: Foster a culture of environmental consciousness among students and staff by organizing various activities and events focused on raising awareness about pressing environmental issues such as air and water quality, biodiversity conservation, and sustainable living practices.
2. Encouraging Sustainable Practices: Encourage the adoption of sustainable practices both on campus and in the wider community by organizing workshops, seminars, and campaigns that highlight the importance of eco-friendly alternatives and responsible consumption habits.
3. Empowering Action: Empower students to take meaningful action towards environmental conservation by providing them with opportunities to

participate in hands-on activities such as tree plantation drives, cleanliness campaigns, and waste management initiatives.

4. **Fostering Collaboration:** Facilitate collaboration and partnerships with external organizations, experts, and community groups to leverage resources, expertise, and networks in support of environmental sustainability initiatives.
5. **Cultivating Leadership and Advocacy:** Nurture leadership skills and advocacy abilities among students by encouraging them to take on active roles in planning, organizing, and executing environmental projects and campaigns.

### **3. The Context**

In the modern era, the imperative to address environmental challenges has become intertwined with the principles of eco-feminism, advocating for the intersectionality of environmentalism and feminism. The Eco-Club's endeavors along with Green Audit Committee, National Service Scheme (NSS), NCC, Medical and Swachh Bharat Committee are deeply rooted in this context, leveraging collaborative action to address pressing environmental issues through a gender-sensitive lens of '**Mission Meri Life**'. Eco-feminism underscores the interconnectedness between the exploitation of nature and the subjugation of women, recognizing both as products of patriarchal structures. By aligning with eco-feminist principles, the Eco-Club aims to create a platform where environmental awareness and advocacy intersect with gender equality and empowerment. In designing and implementing their practices, all the above committees confronted contextual features that highlight the disproportionate impact of environmental degradation on women and marginalized communities. Furthermore, we recognize the vital role of women in environmental conservation and sustainable development. By integrating eco-feminist perspectives into their initiatives, they seek to amplify the voices of women, empower them as agents of change, and promote gender-inclusive approaches to environmental stewardship. Through collaborative action with NSS, NCC and other community partners like the Eco-Club endeavors to foster a sense of solidarity and collective responsibility towards environmental sustainability and gender justice. By engaging diverse stakeholders in dialogue and action, they strive to cultivate a more equitable and resilient society where environmental protection and gender empowerment go hand in hand.

#### 4. The Practice

- Eco-Club initiated environment awareness with a talk on Solar Energy by Shri Nikesh Kumar, showcasing practical application.
- Eco-Club launched a drive on World Ozone day, urging to close fridges for 2 hours to preserve the Ozone layer.
- Student Photography competition, 'Crystal Sky,' marked World Ozone Day, engaging 40 students.
- Eco-Diwali Week included Cleanliness Drive and waste collection campaigns.
- Anti-cracker sign campaign, "Diwali is for Learning not for Burning," garnered support from students and staff.
- Garden committee participated in the University Annual flower show by putting up a stall encouraging and promoting sustainable and eco friendly handmade garden items made by the student volunteers.
- Best Herbal Decoration competition showcased creativity with herbal colors and plants.
- Eco-Fashion Show and Singing Competition celebrated retro themes with eco-friendly materials.
- Workshop on Air Quality with Dr. Mitali Raja highlighted the need to minimize air pollution.
- Celebration of Lohri, Makar Sankranti, and Pongal included eco-friendly competitions and activities.
- Presentation on 'ESG: Sustainability Assessment and Reporting' emphasized sustainable practices.
- Online Workshop on 'From Green Revolution to Evergreen Revolution' promoted eco-friendly agriculture practices.
- Online Workshop on 'Nadi ko Jano' with resource persons Mr. Mithilesh Kumar Pandey, Dr. Tarun Kumar, and Prof. Ravi Prakash Teekchandani.
- Webinar on World Wetlands Day with resource persons Dr. Arohi Dixit and Sh. Rohit Rattan.
- Webinar on E-Waste Management and Collection drive with resource persons Mr. Deepak and Mr. Tajuddin from Chintan Environmental research and action group.

- Project 'Aashiyana' building nests for birds using recycled waste material.
- Mass Tree Plantation drive in Mathura along with Yamuna Mission.
- Seminar on 'Save The Soil' in association with Isha foundation with resource persons Ms. Jyoti, Mr. Ritvik, and Mr. Ashmit.
- Tree Plantation Drive in association with Udankaar organization.
- Workshop on 'Training On Strategic Waste Management, Reaching The Margins' with Mr. Deepak Gusain from Chintan-Environmental Research and Action Group.
- Workshop on Pottery and Diya Making in collaboration with National Cadet Corps, promoting eco-friendly Diwali Handmade Handicrafts.
- Coordination of NSS volunteers for a workshop on Air Quality with Eco-Club, Lung Care Foundation, and Delhi Effective Education and Pedagogy Cluster.
- Webinar on World Water Day with resource person Sh. Sudeep Shukla.
- Celebration of World Bicycle Day for awareness on using eco-friendly vehicles.
- Linkage with Green-o-tech Organization for promoting eco friendly products in exchange of paper waste from college.
- Coordination of Mass Yamuna Cleanliness Drive with Sh. Raghav from Bhumi NGO.
- Blue Planet Fellowship was given to Four NSS Volunteers - Ms Aditi Tyagi, Ms Pooja, Ms Priyanka and Ms Khushi under SPOC - Dr Mali Devi Sawariya. The Fellowship program, which launched in 2022- 2023 just before COP28 in Dubai, is the first step in a global movement to end the use of carbon-based fuel in India.
- During the program, participants will hear from policy experts, utility executives, community organizers, climate-solution advocates, and many more leaders with extensive knowledge of why renewable energy is the answer — and how we can all do it together. While the program will provide participants with valuable information to share with their community when they return, we want to take this opportunity to begin a deeper dialogue, to help understand each islands’
- Green Audit Committee has actively engaged in various endeavours to foster sustainability and establish an environmentally conscious campus. Here is a summarized overview of green audit committee tasks and achievements: following are the main areas where green audit committee work mainly:



1. Herb Garden: The committee regularly organized plantation drives to enrich the campus greenery, aiming to create a healthier and sustainable environment by increasing the number of trees and plants. Each plant was labelled with its species and significance. Furthermore, established a small herb garden housing medicinal plants.
2. Environmental Awareness Survey: To gauge the level of environmental consciousness among the college community, the committee conducted a comprehensive survey focusing on energy, water, and waste management. The survey helped identify areas for improvement and raise awareness about sustainable practices among students, faculty, and staff.
3. Solar Panel Implementation: The college installed solar panels on campus, reducing reliance on conventional energy sources and promoting clean and sustainable energy usage.
4. Water Harvesting: To conserve water, the committee implemented water harvesting practices by installing broad pipes in the ground to collect rainwater. Utilizing the high groundwater level in the Bawana area, this initiative helped conserve water resources and replenish the groundwater table.

## **5. Evidence of Success**

- The Green Audit Committee's endeavors have significantly impacted the promotion of sustainability and the establishment of an eco-friendly campus environment. These initiatives have not only enhanced the campus aesthetics but also cultivated a sense of responsibility and environmental consciousness among the college students.
- Each of these individuals, enrolled in various courses, has showcased outstanding dedication and achievement in diverse fields, contributing significantly to personal growth and community welfare. Kirti, pursuing the BA Program, has not only earned prestigious awards like the Green Merit Award and National Environmental Education and Awareness Award but has also played a crucial role as a facilitator in remedial classes.
- Shivani Shakya, also enrolled in the BA Program, has been recognized nationally for her contributions to environmental awareness initiatives. Prerna and Bhavna Pathak, both

pursuing the BA Program, have participated in the National Adventure Camp, demonstrating their enthusiasm for outdoor activities and skill development.

- Priyanka, enrolled in the B.El.Ed program, has excelled by winning the 1st Prize in the NYK Youth Day competition, showcasing her excellence in this field. Bhawna Bansal, another student in the BA Program, has organized various awareness drives and events, including nutrition awareness sessions and eco-friendly celebrations.
- Harshita Chauhan, enrolled in the BA Program, has organized educational sessions and community plogging drives, highlighting her leadership and commitment to community welfare. Shreya Baluja, also pursuing the BA Program, has initiated critical reading sessions on global warming to raise awareness among peers.
- Priyanka Pathak, enrolled in the BA Program, has actively participated in distribution drives for essential items, contributing to community environment welfare. Finally, Siddhi, pursuing the BSW program, has organized vocational training programs, demonstrating a commitment to community service and skill-building initiatives. These achievements, coupled with their diverse academic pursuits, serve as compelling evidence of their success in both personal and communal endeavors.
- Prestigious Blue Planet Fellowship awarded to - Ms Aditi Tyagi, Ms Pooja, Ms Priyanka and Ms Khushi under SPOC - Dr Mali Devi Sawariya.

## **6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

### **Problems Encountered:**

- Lack of awareness among college community members about environmental issues and sustainable practices.
- Limited funding and resources for implementing large-scale sustainability projects.
- Challenges in maintaining and managing the herb garden and other green spaces on campus.
- Technical difficulties and expertise required for the installation and maintenance of solar panels.
- Potential obstacles in ensuring the effectiveness of water harvesting practices, such as proper infrastructure and regular maintenance.

**Resources Required:**

- Funding support for organizing awareness campaigns, conducting surveys, and implementing sustainability initiatives.
- Expertise and guidance from environmental professionals or organizations to address technical challenges and ensure the success of sustainability projects.
- Access to sustainable materials and resources for the maintenance of green spaces and implementation of water harvesting practices.
- Collaboration with government agencies or NGOs for training programs and workshops on environmental awareness and sustainable practices.
- Continued support from college administration and stakeholders to prioritize sustainability efforts and allocate necessary resources.