AISSMS
COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
IMPARTING EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION & RESEARCH

Approved by AICTE & PCI New Delhi, Recognized by the Government of Maharashtra,
2F,12B recognition by UGC, Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University
Accredited by NAAC with A Grade

INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICES (2020-2021)

A. PROJECT BASED LEARNING (IN-HOUSE RESEARCH PROJECTS)

1. Title of the Practice
Project Based Learning (In house research projects)

2. Objectives of the Practice

What are the objectives / intended outcomes of this "best practice" and what are the underlying principles or concepts of this practice (in about 100 words)?

The intended outcomes of this best practice were honing the research skills in students for ease of correlating the theoretical concepts to practical application.

The concept of "In-house short term research projects" is based on fact that curriculum of Pharmacy involves a lot of theoretical concepts and the experiments can be designed to give students, an opportunity to verify these with experiential learning.

Also inculcating spirit of scientific enquiry through literature survey and online tools is also achieved. Students get an opportunity to present their work at conferences and seminars.

3. The Context
What were the contextual features or challenging issues that needed to be addressed in designing and implementing this practice (in about 150 words)?

The concept is well accepted by the students and they proactively approach the subject teachers.

The challenge we faced this year was due to COVID 19 pandemic all the students were not permitted to attend the college.

Teachers had to motivate them to find some time through too many online activities

Providing platforms to help students to present their work

4. The Practice
Describe the practice and its uniqueness in the context of India higher education. What were the constraints / limitations, if any, faced (in about 400 words)?

- Since practical work not possible we focussed our attention on getting students to do surveys or review articles in the subject areas relevant to current topics.
- Here the students (group of max 05) choose a teacher in subject area of their choice.
- After the approval from Hon. Secretary, students have to complete the work in given time frame without skipping online academic schedule.
- The report/outcome is submitted by Principal Investigator to the coordinators of activity
- The students were encouraged to present/ publish the work at different conferences or journals.
- College organize two research presentation competitions to provide the students a platform to present their work
  1) "Best in-house project competition" an annual event is organised for students of AISSMS college and winner group/team is given cash award
  2) A state level competition "SYNAPSE", which is a biannual event, is organised where students participate along with the students from other pharmacy colleges in Maharashtra.

  These activities will resume as soon as offline academic will begin
- The students can mention the outcomes of these activities in their "Letters of recommendation (LORs)" which help them to seek admissions abroad for further studies.
- The best projects get an opportunity to participate in "Avishkar" the state level competition for innovative research, and represent the University at state level.

Uniqueness in the context of India higher education:

Looking at the focus of government of India on inventions and innovations, the effort is a unique one which prepares the students to work on their ideas and develop them into a tangible product which is further tested by scientific evaluation at various platforms where it is presented.

5. Evidence of Success
Provide evidence of success such as performance against targets and benchmarks, review results. What do these results indicate? Describe in about 200 words.

The evidence of success of practice lies in

- Number of projects done (Research projects 01, Review projects done 31 and Survey projects done 09 = 40) and number of students (113) participated in 2020-21.
- The practice has continued uninterrupted since last 13 years and we could do it in pandemic also.
- Number of publications (26) and number of presentations (02) by students in the academic year 2020-21.
- Many students went for higher education (M Pharm/MBA) and some also went for higher education to countries such as USA, Canada with favorable impression created due to project work and the publication / presentations as an outcome of their research project.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Please identify the problems encountered and resources required to implement the practice (in about 150 words).

Problems encountered are-
1. Initially motivating the students to undertake the projects.
2. The review/ survey has to be selected that will help the undergraduates to clearly understand topics of current interest.
3. Teachers today have to play the role of an educator, motivator and entertainer combined, rather than just a tutor. Most of the faculty members are a part of multiple departments/ committees and it becomes challenging for them to work with optimum efficiency in every department/ committee.

Problems were overcome by carefully planning the activities

The resources required are-
1. Internet facilities at students disposal
2. Time management by the students.

7. Notes

Please add any other information that may be relevant for adopting/ implementing the Best Practice in other institutions (in about 150 words).

The activity is very useful for implementation in other institutions as it encourages students to explore the theoretical concepts learnt, channelize their interest and get experiential learning.

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B. ALUMNI FOR ALMA MATER

1. Title of the Practice
ALUMNI FOR ALMA MATER

2. Objectives of the Practice
What are the objectives / intended outcomes of this "best practice" and what are the underlying principles or concepts of this practice (in about 100 words)?

The objective of the practice is to make the apt use of expertise of alumni in different fields in order to update and upgrade the technical and skill-based attributes in the current students. The practice is aimed to improve overall contribution of Alumni in student and College development.

3. The Context
What were the contextual features or challenging issues that are needed to be addressed in designing and implementing this practice (in about 150 words)?

The practice of Alumni contribution to current student's development was designed in context of:

Improving participation of alumni with faculty and students.
Enlightening the students about current pharmaceutical industry trends and needs.
Personality development of the students.
Career Guidance
Knowing the career opportunities in different fields in pharmaceutical sciences in India and abroad.
Assistance for higher studies in India and abroad.
Making current students aware of their social responsibility as healthcare professionals.

4. The Practice

Describe the practice and its uniqueness in the context of India higher education. What were the constraints / limitations, if any, faced (in about 400 words)?

● The practice is designed in two steps; identifying the various disciplines of pharmaceutical industry.

- Creating the groups as per disciplines on alumni portal.
- Requesting each alumnus to share their views, inputs, upload recorded talk, lecture, video etc.
- Organizing video conferencing interactions with alumni and current students.
- Requesting alumni to write blogs for career guidance, importance of personality grooming etc.
- Creating different staff and student portfolios for the smooth planning and effective implementation of the activities planned.
- Based on needs, allotting the alumni mentors that alumni can guide them how to become self-sufficient, raise funds, do the part time job, online work on weekends, guide about different scholarships etc.
- Collecting regular feedback/testimony .
- Generating action plan for evaluation of long-term progress of each activity.

Many of the activities are run through AISSMS Pharma Graduates Association (APGA), which is registered with Registrar of Societies, Dist. Pune. Every year new **APGA working committee** is formed amongst current students from each class which work in consultation with Core committee members and APGA advisor (Staff member). The web portal https://alumni.aissmscop.com/ has been subscribed through Almashines which acts as bridge between alumni and current students as well as college staff.

Uniqueness in the context of India higher education:

- ❖ UNIQUENESS
  - Registered Association since 2007.
  - Alumni base is 22 years old which makes them experienced and base specialization in their respective fields.
  - Alumni and current students are in contact with each other through various initiatives taken up by APGA:
    1. Alumni portal (Almashines) which facilitates Alumni network along with the current students across the frame.
    2. Coffee and Conversation with Alumni on monthly basis.
    3. Sharing success stories and testimonials lectures, Alumni Achievements, job opportunities, current industrial updates.
  - Involvement in social and college activities.
  - Representation at various college/ admin bodies like IQAC, CDC, Institutional Innovation Council (start-up and incubation cell), APGA.
- ❖ CONSTRAINTS
  - Meagre Monetary contribution by Alumni.
  - Due to COVID-19 p[andemic Limited in person interactions of Alumni with current students.
  - Underutilization of Alumni in Training and Placements.

5. Evidence of Success

Provide evidence of success such as performance against targets and benchmarks, review results. What do these results indicate? Describe in about 200 words.

1. Many students have been benefitted by way of in plant training organised by alumni
2. Alumni has conducted career guidance sessions,
3. Many alumni delivered expert talks on different technical and skill-based topics, which helped them in getting better placements
4. Students have been entered in entrepreneurship due to motivation from alumni
5. Certificate course on Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) has been started by one of our alumni Miss. Asha Hole for postgraduate students
6. Alumni are working on various college bodies like College Development Committee, Internal Quality Assurance Cell, contributing significantly by providing suggestions in syllabus revision to tune with current pharma practices.
7. Increasing Alumni Interaction through social media and Alumni portal of APGA (ALMASHINES) in terms of quality and quantity.
8. Many Alumni working as Faculty at AISSMS COP.
9. Career advancement with reference to higher studies by providing state of that infrastructure and facilities.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Please identify the problems encountered and resources required to implement the practice (in about 150 words).

Problems encountered are-
1. The first-time registration of each student as a member of alumni association.
2. Resources in terms of finance are continuously required to upgrade technology and infrastructure requirements, to organize the training sessions for special technical areas and entrepreneurship and skill development areas. Financial constraints occasionally hamper the rapid implementation of these trainings.

The resources required are-
1. Expect trainers and facilities to handle the responsibilities assigned APGA committee members.
2. Financial resources to update the knowledge, recent trends and industry updates to current standards.

7. Notes -

Please add any other information that may be relevant for adopting/ implementing the Best Practice in other institutions (in about 150 words).

➢ Register Alumni Association
➢ Alumni Engagement to be increased through online portals.