

Best Practice- I

Title of the Practice: Green Campus.

The Objectives of the Practice:

The idea of the “*Green Campus*” is a novel idea which has been the product of recent critical thoughts on the ecological imbalance and environmental degradations. The objectives of adorning the college campus with greeneries are namely

- i. The primary goal of a green campus is to conserve natural resources and protect the environment
- ii. the creation of awareness amongst the students about the importance of nature in their personal and spiritual well-being,
- iii. Fostering a Green Culture
- iv. Waste Reduction and Recycling

The Context:

The famous British Romantic poet William Wordsworth wrote "One impulse from a vernal wood/ May teach you more of man, Of moral evil and of good/ Than all the sages can." The need to decorate the campus with trees, woods and flowers arose from the principle that it would enable students to learn directly from nature and grow a symbiotic relationship. Also, it was felt that it was imperative for the college community to address the more urgent issues of climate change and risks arising from this global phenomenon.

The Practice:

On the campus premise, the students enthusiastically participated in the drive for tree plantation and it is they who worked tirelessly month after month to nurture the saplings. These works show that higher education in India is no longer divorced from the immediate socio-cultural discourses around us and students are able to learn from their works and experience. It is this holistic approach that we hope positively contributes to the good health and well-being of the nation.

Evidence of Success:

In comparison to the past, the college campus today looks verdant and appealing to the human mind. It has become plastic-free, dustbins are now in use and automobiles are forbidden to enter the vicinity of the college. Also, the rainwater is preserved and then put to use in various laboratory works and other purposes.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

In the early stage of the green drive, it was challenging to nurture and protect the trees since it's easier to plant than to protect them. Also, it was an arduous task to create awareness amongst students regarding waste management since it required them to identify the degradable and non-degradable objects and compartmentalize them accordingly in the dustbins.

Best Practice: II

Title of the Practice: Library Orientation Programme

The Objectives of the Practice:

The objectives of library orientation programs are to familiarize users with library resources, services, and facilities, promote information literacy skills, demonstrate effective research techniques, and encourage a positive and productive relationship between patrons and the library.

The Context:

The need for the library orientation programme arises every year due to the arrival of new pupils in the college who are hardly familiar with the college environment and are uncomfortable to approach the librarians for borrowing books. The programme also proves vital to keep the students and teaching community informed about the college subscription to N-List and other digital journals.

The Practice:

Students physically arrive at the reading room and learn to operate the computers, access the digital library, and learn about the basic processes of borrowing books from the library. They also gradually learn to come out of the traditional idea of learning from books to take lessons from various digital libraries and e-resources.

Evidence of Success:

The orientation programme has proven fruitful to the students and teachers alike which can be deduced from their presence in the library reading room. While we presently lament the loss of library culture since individuals now love to live a life of seclusion in their home, our library boast of the regular arrival of students who spend ample time reading, writing and searching resources available in the library.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Students' Orientation programmes in the library, though mostly successful, encounter certain problems. On such days, students arrive in huge numbers and it often becomes difficult to accommodate them all at times. Due to the shortage of physical space, the programmes are required to be conducted time and again to cater to the needs and demands of the students. Therefore, what we need at this moment is the extension of the reading room and purchase of the new books.