BEST PRACTICES: TEACHING-LEARNING PRACTICES

BEST PRACTICES 3:

1. Faculty Advisory Programme

With the advancement in technology, the teaching learning process and methods have undergone huge changes. Conventional chalk and talk method now finds minimum place in the teaching learning process. The present generation students, especially at college level, expect a different type of approach from the teachers. With an aim to make the teaching methods student friendly, a new approach, namely, FACULTY ADVISORY PROGRAMME (FAP) is introduced in our college as an alternate to conventional classroom teaching, during the last hour of each day.

2. Objectives of the Practice

The main objectives of this FAP hour are to:

- To break the monotony of conventional classroom teaching and encourage participation of students in planning their learning methodology for selected topics
- 2. To encourage self learning, self development and motivate for the overall development of the students
- 3. To remove fear amongst the students in expressing themselves and prepare them to face the interviews and the society
- 4. To inculcate the habit of knowledge sharing amongst the students by encouraging them to address their classmates, juniors and also seniors on specific topics
- 5. To evolve a new method of learning in a relaxed atmosphere

- 6. To inculcate the habit of lifelong learning which is becoming inevitable for sustenance and growth in the present day industrial scenario
- 7. To ensure overall development of the student

3. The Context

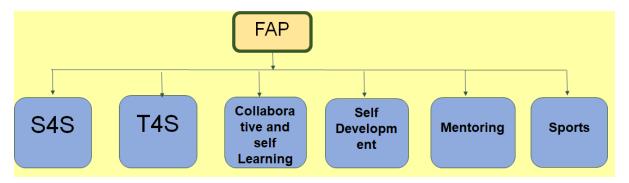
The contextual features of the FAP hour are listed below:

- 1. The role of a teacher is simply an observer to facilitate the students to plan and execute the FAP activities.
- 2. Learning is not restricted to any classroom or a specific place; rather, the learning or discussions can take place anywhere in the campus including canteen, playground, etc.
- 3. Syllabus or topics are not restricted to any predefined document and extends to soft skill and aptitude training which leads to placement, apart from creating awareness on various boundless technical and non-technical topics of interest.
- 4. For a single class room more than one faculty (usually 2 to 3) will be allotted to facilitate the student activities.
- 5. This is incorporated as a part of the regular timetable in the last hour (presently 8th hour) from Monday to Friday.
- 6. Students are given option to choose to participate in an activity planned by other students (peer, senior or junior) or can opt out to complete any backlog work (including record work) or do self learning at library.

4. The Practice

Activities under FAP hour:

Various activities under FAP are shown in the following diagram:



Peer Learning-Students for Students (S4S):

Many times better and quick learning happens by way of interaction with classmates/seniors (Peers). With this in mind, an hour per week is allotted exclusively for S4S, wherein, the topics are allotted, planned and delivered by the students. The topics are delivered by their own classmates or by their senior students. In rare cases, even junior students are permitted to address the seniors on chosen topic of his interest. The topics dealt are not restricted to the syllabus. It can also cover topics on emerging technology.









Teacher for Student (T4S):

The uniqueness of this method is that a student has no boundaries in choosing a faculty of his choice. Many times it so happens that a student is very comfortable with a particular or a few teachers whereas he finds it difficult to follow with other few. In such cases, the student is allowed to choose a faculty of his choice with whom he can informally discuss any subject of any semester. Also, the selection of faculty can be from other disciplines too, depending on the subject.





Collaborative Learning / Self Learning:

Under this approach students of a class are divided into suitable number of groups and one student from each group is designated as group head. The group head will facilitate collaborative learning by involving all the students of the group. This activity aims at enrichment of knowledge and quick learning.





Self Development:

Under this category students are encouraged to participate in activities like technical quiz and group discussion which are designed and conducted by the students themselves. The students will also be encouraged to participate in competitions at different levels (like inter college, etc).

Students are also encouraged to make power point presentations on topics of their choice, with an aim to improve their presentation skills and also to remove the fear element from their minds in making presentations.









Counselling / Mentoring / Back log clearance:

Every week one hour is allotted for these activities. During the hour the students can meet their mentor and discuss about their academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. Apart from this, in cases where special counselling is needed the students will be refer to the student counsellor.

In addition to the above, if any student has got back log in completion of assignment or record work or home work, he/she will be permitted to complete such tasks during the hour.





Sports:

'A sound mind in a sound body' is the English translation of a famous quotation by the pre-Socratic Greek philosopher Thales (Miletus, 624 – 546 BC),

demonstrating the close links between physical exercise, mental equilibrium and the ability to enjoy life.

In line with the above, to ensure that the students are relaxed and at the same time physically fit, an hour is allotted every week for sports, to enable the student to practice any sport of his choice.

Students representing the college teams also get time during this hour to

practice their gan



5. Implementation:

All the above FAP activities are implemented in all the semester (Ex: Odd semester of AY 2018-19) as part of the timetable.

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6. Evidence of Success

With meticulous and consistent implementation of the Faculty Advisory Programme illustrated above, the students will surely feel empowered yet relaxed, which is expected to yield improvement in their academic performance also ensuring the overall development to shape student as knowledgeable and employable Engineer / Manager.

7. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Some of the students from rural backgrounds have fear and hesitate to participate in the FAP
- Mentoring the students other than regular academic sessions is a big challenge for faculties and it needs time to find a solution.

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