

Best Practice II (AQAR 2022-23)

Innovative Educational Programs: A New Edge of Education

In light of the Vision and Mission, to maintain a competitive edge in the industry, and to provide quality education to the students, the college has introduced several new-age programs.

Objectives of the Practice

- Introduction of programs/courses to meet the industry needs.
- Fostering collaborative and interdisciplinary skills.
- Execution of the national vision for skilled human resource development.
- Industry-academia collaboration to understand changing job profiles.

Context

The landscape of higher education is changing rapidly for better tomorrow. Job opportunities in the fields such as Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, and Finance are immense. Certain routine/office jobs are on the verge of becoming obsolete soon. Recognizing this paradigm shift, the management, IQAC, students, alumni, etc., have realized the need to review and revise their conventional approach, and after due deliberations with experts, introduced several new-age programs/courses. The College has developed a Perspective Plan which includes introduction of cutting-edge programs that align with the future job market under the autonomous status. These programs enrich the academic experience, prepare students for the advancements in the professional landscape, and contribute to nation-building.

Practice

Identification of the Social and Commercial Needs:

The IQAC and Faculty members have been identifying the cross-cutting areas of students' employability in the changing job market. The ABET and other ABG corporates have provided an added advantage to the college in comprehending the changing job markets. The disruptive technologies are changing traditional job roles, and the needs and interests of the upcoming generation are pushing educational institutions to implement innovative programs.

To address the evolutionary necessity, the participative College management has decided to meet the contemporary educational needs by offering various new-age programs.

Delineating the Way Forward:

Faculty members, in conjunction with the IQAC and management, have defined carefully the way forward. They envisioned the essential requirements such as physical and digital infrastructure, additional human resources, training, and, leading to the formulation of a detailed plan (short-term and long-term plans) after due deliberations.

Designing of the New- age Programs:

Duly deliberated new- age programs have been introduced in a phased manner. The industry / corporate requirements have been kept in mind while designing new-age programs, wherein the skills and conceptual knowledge align with contemporary needs ensuring graduates are well-prepared.

Requirements have been outlined in the curriculum designing by the BoS, which include the faculty members, industry and academia experts, alumni- with domain- specific expertise, and University nominated faculty expert. The draft

curriculum is presented to Academic Council, Governing Council and Governing Body for approval and implementation.

Conception of Industry Collaboration:

After the syllabus has been approved to be implemented, the Departments seek collaborative assistance in delivering the attributes of skill and conceptual knowledge to the students. Several industry-academia tie-ups are sought to provide technical expertise, internships, projects/ assignments, etc. to enhance the outcome-based learning of the novel domain.

The College has 04 Professors of Practice and 01 Adjunct Professor who impart their expertise, provide real world exposure and guide in arranging hands-on experience opportunity. They serve as valuable mentors to provide insights into industry trends and strengthen the curriculum.

Holistic Upskilling:

The faculty members and experts constantly strive to deliver conceptual knowledge and skills. The students have been equipped with soft skills, leadership and team building skills through diverse pedagogies of blended, experiential, and enquiry-based learning.

The values of Simplicity, Humility, and Humanity set by our founder patrons are ingrained into the young minds through social outreach and extension activities.

Evidence of Success

- The College has consistently introduced several new-age programs from A.Y. 2018-19 to A.Y. 2022-23.
- The College has introduced 03 new programs - M. A. (Geography), B. M. S. (Retail Management) in collaboration with Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. and M. Sc. (Food Science and Nutraceuticals) from A. Y. 2022-2023.

- 04 B. Voc. programs (Medical Laboratory Technology, Cyber Security and Forensics, Business Management and Entrepreneurial Development, and Financial Market and Trading Operations) have been introduced to meet the urgent market needs during the current times.
- The College intends to introduce Bachelor's in Computer Applications (BCA) in the year A. Y. 2023-24.
- Group Data and Analytics, Aditya Birla Group, TCS iON, Maruti Suzuki India Ltd., Intelligent Quotient Security System, NASSCOM/IT-ITES Sector Skills Council, BFSI Sector Skill Council of India, Management and Entrepreneurship and Professional Skills Council (MEPSC), Cloud Counselage Pvt. Ltd., NAEMD EDUCON LLP's, provides assistance in integrated teaching-learning/ internships/ workshops, etc. Fin X, TNS India Foundation, MKCL provide certificate courses for additional skill development/professional certification, etc.
- Various programs have an Internship / On the job training component, supplementing core disciplinary knowledge and fostering skill development.

Problems Encountered

The pandemic left the world feeling stressed and uncertain, with psychological and financial pressures, and increased feelings of isolation. This has resulted in the slowdown of economy and other spheres of life. To overcome these challenges, counselling about the health issues, wellbeing, and preparedness for the jobs in the current market had to be provided. Challenges such as funding, access to educational technology, and assessment methodologies needed to be overcome for the successful implementation of innovative programs.

Notes

The commitment of the College to provide quality higher education is evident in the single-minded focus on achieving excellence through the introduction of cutting-edge programs and provide a learning environment that promotes holistic development and takes the legacy forward.