7.2 Institutional two Best practices

Best Practice 1:

Title of the Practice: Mentor System Mechanism (MSM)

1. Objectives

The objective of the mentor system is to implement a system that helps in the overall development of the student during his/her stay in the college. The system also aims to keep the parents/guardians informed about the academic progress of their children on a regular basis helping them to guide their wards in the right direction.

1. The Context

The mentor system requires continuous interaction of the student and the mentor. The mentor and student should meet at the beginning of the semester to discuss the goals for the semester and analyze the previous year performance. The meeting between the mentor and the student should happen before and after every internal assessment test to discuss his/her performance and any other issue he/she might be having during the semester.

- Every teaching faculty in the department will be a mentor.

- The teaching faculty has been assigned a group of 20 students as their mentor towards counselling.

- To empower student decision making and self-confidence beyond educational transitions and the curriculum.

2. The Practice

 A faculty member is assigned as a mentor to every student as soon as he/she enters the campus. The mentor's rule is to act as a guide, a mentor, a role model and a counselor for the student during his/her stay in the campus. The mentor happens to the first point of contact regarding the student for any issues within the college that he/she with respect to guidance and support. Numerous students from various parts of country enrolled at the college, forcing them to live away from home.. The mentor can help such student in settling down in the campus by acting as a counselor and guiding them in the right direction. The parents who are too anxious at the beginning regarding their wards being away from home can interact with the mentors to find out the performance and well-being of their children. Once the student settles in the college he/she will have numerous decisions to take, like choosing the right elective, choosing the correct company for the placements, attending various extracurricular activities,during the course for all of which the mentor can act as a guide.

3. Evidence of Success

 The mentors guide the students in the college, the feedback from the parents and students have clearly shown that the guidance obtained by students and by mentor system has helped them in completing the course successfully. The parents also have provided positive feedback on receiving regular updates about the performance of their children. The results of this approach includes more regular attendance, better discipline on campus, respectful relationship between teachers and students, 8–10% increase in students' academic achievement and a decrease in dropout rates. This approach has enhanced the student's employability and enrollment in higher education.

4. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

MSM requires continuous updates of the activities of the students, their marks, attendance. Sometimes the students fail to communicate the problem. It takes lot of effort for the mentor to encourage and convince such students to open up and communicate. Still with all the efforts there are cases when the mentor system fails in its objectives and students either drop out of the college or fail in their examination. This clearly indicates thatthe system on the whole can be improved further to achieve greater results.

Best Practice 2:

Title of the Practice: INSTITUTE INNOVATION COUNCIL (VKIT-IIC)

1. Objectives

The main objective of this system is to streamline and strengthen the innovation and start up ecosystem in the campus, so that the students can develop the skill set which enables critical thinking, design thinking and innovative thought process.

2. The context

This IIC system is beneficial to the institute, faculty and students for the following reasons:

➢ Since IIC would leverage the local ecosystem already in place, no significant capital expenditure is needed to build it.

➢ Participate in various events and win exciting Prizes / Certificates.

➢ Opportunity to nurture and prototype new ideas.

➢ Mentoring and Guidance by Industry Professionals.

➢ Visit new places and learn a new culture.

➢ To establish a thriving ecosystem for local innovation.

➢ Start-up supporting mechanism in HEIs.

➢ Establish Function Ecosystem for Scouting Ideas and Pre-incubation of ideas.

➢ Develop better Cognitive Ability for Technology Students.

3. The Practice

The Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India, and MHRD's Innovation Cell (MIC) recognized Vivekananda Institute of Technology to start the Institution's Innovation Council (IIC). MIC's primary objective is to assist young students throughout their formative years by giving them freedom to explore with new
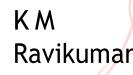
ideas and turn them into working prototypes. They are nourished, inspired, and encouraged.

4. Evidence of Success

It promotes innovation by encouraging students to take up innovative, interdisciplinary technical projects. IIC encourages the creative energy of our student population to work on new ideas and innovation and promote them to create start-ups and entrepreneurial ventures. Diksha Menda of 8th semester ISE student has been rewarded a cash prize of Rs.3.3 lakhs in the event "Innovative Idea for Digital capabilities in Indian Railways" by IIC system.

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

Integrating innovation activities seamlessly with the academic curriculum can be a challenge. Limited budget, facilities or support for innovation initiatives are given. There is difficulty in getting active participation from students and industry partners.

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