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INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICES (2018-19 A.Y.)

BEST PRACTICE-1

Title of the Practice : Skill Training for Employability Program (STEP)

Objectives:

- To equip students with technical competencies
- To develop students with employability skills
- To create awareness for students on industrial issues
- To understand and resolve real-time problems

The Context:

Students of the current generation require high levels of technical competencies. Academics and skill trainings shall be balanced and the gap between academia and industry shall be as minimal as possible. In an effort to cater to this, the institute has planned to increase the awareness of students on industrial practices, issues and problems faced in the real-time, means and methods to resolve them. Activities such as guest lectures by industry experts, technical talks, expert visits and knowledge sharing, industrial visits, workshops, and seminars by eminent personalities are carefully designed to meet the requirements in filling the gaps between academia and industry.

The Practice:

It is a student driven initiative for all the branches at St. Mary's Women's Engineering College. A team comprising of second, third and final year students and technical experts within and off campus have collaborated to develop students' technical competencies. The purpose of STEP is to update and train students with latest technical developments happening in the industry, through various activities like Workshops, Seminars, Industrial Visits and Certification programs. SMWEC invites experts and consultants from the industry for training, guest lectures and workshops to understand and overcome the current industrial issues and create awareness about new technology and best problem solving practices.

Evidence of Success:

- Industry-Institute Interaction has increased significantly
- Improved number of placements
- Visibility of Institution increased to a greater extent
- Increased number of contacts of industry experts

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Problems Encountered:

- Being an engineering college for women, motivating the girl students and their parents in the initial stages was a setback.
- More number of interactions is required in convincing the students for elaborating on the significance of this program and its aptness in engineering education.

BEST PRACTICE-2

Title of the Practice: Total Quality Management (TQM)

Objectives:

- To establish quality circles in the institute
- To assess the ongoing processes and quality in their implementation
- To undergo periodical checks on the academic and non-academic processes of the institute
- To suggest measures in improving quality of academic and administrative activities

The Context:

Consistent improvement in quality across all sorts of academic and non-academic processes has been considered as a major goal of the institute.

The Practice:

The IQAC has initiated Total Quality Management (TQM) in the current academic year. The members of the TQM shall be nominated by the Head of the Institution, one from each department, in the cadre of Assistant Professor or Associate Professor. TQM team has a TQM lead, who coordinate and consolidate the activities carried out by the TQM members. TQM members will be doing quality check on different departments allotted by the TQM lead. TQM shall conduct internal audits on academic and non-academic activities, and submit the required documents and records to the authorities.

Activities Supported:

- Monitoring classes and reporting the discrepancies (if any) to the higher authorities on a daily basis.
- Weekly verification of master attendance registers and teacher's diary.
- Monitoring attendance of students and display of attendance once in every two weeks.
- Verification of lab registers to ensure the evaluation process is in line with the affiliating university's regulations.
- Verification of final attendance before submission to the affiliating university. Verification of marks, for error free portal entry.
- Verification of Notice board displays periodically to check whether the current circulars have been displayed or not. Old circulars are removed and filed.

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- Verification of stock registers on a regular manner.
- Timetables and workloads verification on a daily basis.
- Annual Central Library audit.

Evidence of Success:

- Improved accountability across all departments and functioning units of the college.
- Records, registers, and documents are appropriately filed and stored.
- Examination Section related works are streamlined and filing process is streamlined.
- Submission of marks, attendances of students are done without any errors and discrepancies.
- Notice boards are well maintained and updated on a daily basis, with relevant information to students and faculty.
- Library registers are well maintained and the response time for issuance of books has improved significantly.
- Student grievances reduced considerably.

Problems encountered:

- Resistance to change in the initial stages of TQM initiation in the college.
- Increased use of registers, files, and folders for storing documents generated.
- Consumption of additional human resources and time for quality improvement in all sections of services of the institute.

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