

## **Patkai Christian College (Autonomous)**

### **Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**

#### **Two Institutional Best Practices (2019 – 2020)**

##### **1. Resilience of the College Faculty and Staff**

Patkai Christian College was established in the year 1974 with the motto "Light and Truth". Over the years, many faculty and staff have made an indelible mark on the growth and achievements of the college. The college has grown from strength to strength, and today, it is recognised as PG College with a potential for excellence. Being situated in a rural setting as a private institution, one can understand that it requires a lot of 'giving' on the part of the faculty and staff to nurture and bring the college to the stature as it stands today.

The college promotes its vision of academic and moral standards in all the fields that it undertakes by a careful selection and recruitment process of its faculty and staff as per UGC norms. In this light, the college has highly efficient and committed faculty and staff who are inspired and guided by the founding principles of the college that stands for wholesome development of man within the motto of the college. The resilience of the college faculty and staff is being exhibited prominently at all trying times and circumstances. During the year 2019 – 2020, the commitment and dedication of the faculty and staff was proved to the core that qualified for a special mention.

The year 2019 to 2020 is a remarkable one for academic institutions all over the world. The Even Semester (January – June) of the 2019-20 academic year was disrupted by the Covid-19- induced lockdown beginning from the month of March 2019. The teaching-learning process shifted from physical to online mode, including assessments for internal and end-semester components of examinations. Soon after the Covid19-induced closure of the college, the entire college students, faculty and staff were given orientation on the process of online teaching-evaluation and the examination system by the college. Based on the UGC guidelines, detailed college-specific teaching and evaluation strategy were put in place. ICT enabled classrooms with LCS were set up to enable the teachers take the classes from the designated classrooms.

All faculty and staff were called back to the college so that meaningful teaching-learning exercise could take place. Class routines were remade keeping in mind the need for proper syllabus coverage with proper monitoring by the Academic Deans. Examination pattern was restructured. By 22<sup>nd</sup> July, 2020, all faculty and staff of the college returned to the campus enduring all hardships to take on their role in the unprecedented Covid19 pandemic situation. The teachers rigorously carried out their duties even when some of them were at the quarantine centre.

Apart from the responsibility of teaching-evaluation, each faculty has been trained to double-up as mentor as well as trouble-shooter of problems and difficulties raised by their respective students. The problems of students were compounded with the internet problems and, especially for students from interior areas, the online classes and examination became a big challenge. In all these trying circumstances, the role of the teacher multiplied. Teachers had to constantly stay in touch with the students to ease their fears and doubts, and also to assure them of better days that are to come. By the end of July 2020, all examinations of the Even Semester were conducted. While many of the educational institutions across the country remained stranded and unsure of the direction to go, the college could successfully end the teaching- learning and evaluation process, including result declaration despite the hurdles that were being encountered. In this way, all the academic activities of the college could be seamlessly realised due to the efforts and resilience of the faculty and staff to a great extent.

## **2. Remarkable Extension (Community) Activities**


Patkai Christian College is remarkably known for the high standard of human ethics and values it strives to uphold in all circumstances. That the college firmly adheres to imparting valuable human values and ethics to its students is also testified by the college's untiring involvement in community/extension activities through its students and employees. It believes in the wholesome development of man with the motto of the college '*Lux et Veritas: Light and Truth*' which stands for truth, righteousness and beauty thereby giving meaning to the ideal of a Biblical Christian faith and practice along with academic excellence.

During the year (2019 - 2020), when the world was grappling with extreme hardships due to the Covid19 pandemic, the college did not waste any time in taking up the responsibility of helping humanity to its best ability. Amidst fear and panic, when the state government requested the college to set up a community quarantine centre to accommodate the returnees

from several parts of India, the college did not only agree to provide its infrastructural facilities but also deputed officials and workers to assist the government in running the Centre. Prior to that, as soon as the Covid19 situation started in the country, and the lockdown announced, the college formed its own taskforce named Patkai Against Covid19 (PAC). This group of dedicated faculty and staff led by the Vice-Principal produced hand sanitizer in the college laboratories and gave away to frontline workers such as healthcare givers, police, sanitation workers, various government offices, media houses etc. The fund for the production of hand sanitizers was raised through voluntary donations by the faculty and staff of the college. The gesture of the college faculty and staff is worthy of mention more so because during this time, the college was also going through a financial crunch and unable to pay its employees their full salary due to reduction of college fees necessitated by the countrywide lockdown.

The pandemic has brought out the real face of the college which is human and gentle. When the need for quarantining its own employees who were returning back to the campus arose, the college also set up its own quarantine centre to accommodate its employees. The members of the PAC worked day and night to ease the stay of the employees in the centres. Side by side, the online classes were rigorously carried out with some of the faculty taking classes even while at the quarantine centre.

The community-life at Patkai Christian College is one of the best practices that one cannot fail to notice. It is this ingredient that makes Patkai unique and admirable. At Patkai, the need and suffering of one member is shared by everybody, and this spirit was found in abundance during the year at a time when the whole world suffered due to the Covid19 pandemic. During this year, the helping hand was extended farther than the college's boundaries despite its own circumstances.

  
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