

TWO BEST PRACTICES OF THE COLLEGE

1. Title of the Practice: Implementation of CBCS

Objectives of the Practice: Patkai Christian College as an autonomous institution adheres to the UGC- NAAC requirement of updating itself to keep pace with the ever- changing landscape of academia in a quest to maintain academic excellence. The college is the first in the region (North East India) to achieve the status of Autonomous; first to be assessed and accredited by NAAC in the state; first with CPE status in the state and; the first affiliated autonomous college to introduce PG programme; first in the state to introduce the CBCS syllabus at UG level for Arts and Commerce streams.

The Context: The college introduced grading system in 2011 and has been making incremental progress ever since. In this light, the IQAC took the initiative of adopting the CBCS and started working towards it from 2015 onwards. The IQAC held several rounds of meetings with the faculties, students and Alumni, and the members of the Senatus. After much deliberation and careful analysis on the whole implication of the CBCS, it was decided that it would be implemented only in the Under Graduate level. Within the permissible 30% modification of the syllabus for each course, the academic departments incorporated regional and state-specific course contents in some of the courses.

The Practice: The implementation of the CBCS with the UGC designed syllabus is a laudable practice of the college. Being a private college, the requirement for more faculties on implementation was a big challenge. To solve this problem, for most of the academic departments, the Core and Generic Subjects were kept common with an aim to reduce the workload of the faculties. After much deliberation and careful analysis on the whole implication of the CBCS, it was decided that it would be implemented only in the Under Graduate level. Upon adoption of CBCS, the standard of the courses to be delivered to students opting for Generic Courses (GE) was carefully considered with the understanding that if their score is good and; provided that they opt for the same GE in all the- four semesters, they can progress to the study of Masters in the same subject.

The class routine is prepared in such a way that it overburdens neither the faculty nor the students.

In keeping up with the quality assurance initiatives of the institution as an autonomous College, the IQAC undertook the initiative of revising the syllabus in 2018. In the academic

year 2019, the syllabus was revised following all the protocols laid down by UGC involving the Departmental Board (Board of Studies) and the Academic Council.

Evidence of Success: With the implementation of the CBCS and restructuring of the syllabus, the college is equipping the students with knowledge and skills that are comparable with the ones offered in the best colleges and universities across the country. For a college in a rural area with limited resources, this achievement is not a small feat.

The CBCS puts an emphasis on project works in most of the departments. Few departments have incorporated dissertation writing in their syllabus too. This has increased students' awareness and interest in research activities. The Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC) are contributing to the much required experiential and praxis-oriented learning for preparing our students to face the world after graduation. There are also commendable number of courses aimed at enhancing the employability and entrepreneurial skills of students.

With the CBCS, students have the choice for courses that can be tailor-made to suit their career-interests. There is intra-disciplinary and inter-disciplinary exchange of discourses which is the need of the day. The success of the CBCS is evident as students are exposed to varied methodologies and tools of learning making the knowledge that they gain more life-oriented to face challenges and enhance their problem-solving skills.

Problems Encountered and resources required: The requirement for more faculties on implementation of the CBCS was faced as a big challenge. This is an issue beyond the reach of the college because of the financial implications it incurs. However, the college carefully analysed the requirements of the CBCs and implemented it with the conviction it does not overwhelm the college in the long run.

The other challenge came by way of unavailability of books and reading materials. The college library and IT facilities are not fully updated like the colleges and universities in other parts of the country. Moreover, with a very minimal amount of fees collected from students, the desire of the college to have an all round development has not seen the light. However, with the immense dedication and resilience of the faculty, those issues are resolved to a great extent by the use of e-resources.

2 Title of the Practice: Remarkable Extension (Community) Activities vis-a-vis Covid-19 Pandemic Situation

Objectives of the Practice: 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. **The college** 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.

The Context: 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, the lockdown was 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 Practice: 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 among the many educational institutions that stand today. 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.

The college has a commendable record of extension activities which are carried out throughout the year by its students, faculty and staff. During the report period, the college has carried out extensive extension activities. As mentioned above, during the Covid-19 situation, amid 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. 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 also snatched away the earning opportunities of many affected families the brunt of which was felt most by women. The college in spite of the situation also conducted a training programme for unemployed women in Mushroom cultivation.

Evidence of Success: 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. Upon the arrival of the college employees, the PAC members allocated rooms and wash-rooms in the classroom complex. Filtered water was provided, essential commodities and utilities like dry ration, fresh vegetables, cooking items, toiletries, first aid and personal-care items were made readily available at retail rate. The college vehicle was put in use for ferrying the college employees for medical check-ups and testing free of cost. The members of the PAC worked day and night to ease the stay of the employees in the centres. As for the online classes, the faculty rigorously carried out with some of the faculty taking class even while at the quarantine centre. All these initiatives undertaken by the college during the pandemic had gone a long way reposing confidence in the employees and students.

Problems Encountered and resources required: When the college gave a positive nod to the state government to utilise its infrastructure and human resources for/in the quarantine centre, there was fear and panic among the people residing in the vicinity of the college. There was particularly a locality that gathered for a community meeting, and decided not to allow any Patkain to come to their locality. There was some amount of fear among few of the college community members too. A situation such as this has never happened before, and therefore, the fear and panic among the people was understandable.