

IQAC 2019-20

7.2 Best Practices

1. Empowering Alumni Engagement: A success story

Maintaining good relationships with alumni over time is crucial to the success of higher education institutions. Alumni serve many valuable roles, such as helping to build and grow an institution's brand through word-of-mouth marketing. For instance, positive posts on social media can create buzz and increase application rates. Colleges also rely on alumni to provide mentoring, internships, and career opportunities to students. These are just a few of the reasons why alumni are important to the success of higher education institution, which are becoming more accountable for job placement rates.

Further, alumni bring in needed revenue through donations, attendance at sports events, etc., which can help institution weather the "perfect storm" of financial issues that many currently face. Their add-on services beyond educational content. These include advising, academic support, campus-based activities, and alumni career networks. In short, a sense of belonging to a supportive community.

Our College IQAC team is closely working to strengthen the alumni association since last three years. Alumni members were invited to attend regular IQAC meetings to discuss the academic progress of the students and share their experiences. The coordinator of IQAC is also an invitee member of alumni association who regularly interact with alumni association members at their meetings. So the relationship bonding grew very strong and finally, a mega project to build an auditorium was decided.

The alumni members agreed to build a large auditorium for the students with a seating capacity of 700. A delegation of members of IQAC and alumni association had a meeting with the governing body of Petlad Education Trust to represent the auditorium project details. An overwhelming response was received and the land of 1122 sq. mts. required for this project was allotted by the management of Petlad Education Trust. The working committee was formed to carryout necessary documentation, permissions from various government agencies like Petlad Municipality. A special committee for technical assistance was formed to carryout land survey, soil testing, appointing the architect, contractors and tendering process. The donations and financial requirements for this project will be fulfilled by the alumni association members.

The stone laying ceremony was held on 19th February 2020 in the divine presence of Swami Shri Sachichidanandji, Shri Vrajeshbhai Parikh (President, Petlad Education Trust), Shri Devangbhai Patel (Trustee, Petlad Education Trust), Shri Kamleshbhai Patel (President, Alumni Association), members of alumni association, eminent alumni, social leaders, staff and students. The major donation of Rs. 21 lacs was declared by Swami Shri Sachichidanandji for this noble cause. The commitment of more than 30 lacs was announced.

The colleges are to reap the financial and other benefits that alumni can provide, they must focus on building deep relationships with students while they are enrolled. Then, they must maintain those connections over time. This project is the upshot of student-teacher continued relationship. The college need to view students as lifelong commitments that do not end at graduation. Alumni are resources that can provide meaningful and mutually beneficial relationships over time. Thus, the alumni served as major revenue contributor to the college and a mega project of student auditorium is realised.

2. Social Service from Campus to Community

The stakeholders should be sensitive towards their social responsibilities. The college provide exposure to the students of lifestyles of people hailing from diverse socio-economic culture background. The NSS is part of our academic, social and personal life as it is the third dimension of education. It allows the students to actively contribute their services for the cause of community and the nation, thus helping them develop their personality. As such, the NSS is the right platform, where the student- youth of the nation may get to involve with real life social activities, and thereby become responsible citizen of India. To meet these objectives our college N.S.S. unit is actively working to carryout social services from campus to the community.

NSS activities are selected keeping in mind the rural population to make the illiterate/semiliterate/underprivileged community people aware of the demands of society at the state/national level and reap the benefits of the facilities offered by the state/nation. The students find a platform to serve community and planned activities are aligned with the motto of the N.S.S. **“Not Me But You”**.

The NSS unit had started its activities in the beginning of the academic session with the full support of our NSS volunteers under the leadership of programme officer. The following activities were successfully carried out throughout the academic year.

- Celebration of International Yoga Day.
- Celebration of International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.
- Blood Donation camp.
- Organized Guest lecture on “Hygiene and health”, Speaker: Dr. Kantibhai Vankar.
- On campus Tree Plantation.
- Organized Guest lecture on “Develop the spirit of world-brotherhood”
- Organized Guest lecture on “World Tribal Day”. Speaker: Dr. Girishbhai Chaudhary
- The students joined 15th August, flag hosting program.
- Guest lecture by Dr. Kalpesh Anjaria, Gir Foundation, on biology and pollution.
- Three students selected as campus ambassador in the youth voter registration campaign program and joined the voter awareness and reform program organized by the Anand Collectorate.
- Plastic free society campaign during Ganesh Mahotsav in nearby villages and oath taking during Aarti.

- Celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda's Historic Chicago Lecture Discourse given at the Chicago World Council of Religions (September-27-1883) Speaker : Dr. Alpesh Prajapati.
- On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti, NSS students participated in the plastic free society campaign from Sainath Chokdi to Lakkadpura village road jointly with Petlad Municipality.
- About 50 students participated in the inauguration and tree-planting program of the 'Solid Waste Processing' project STF plant of Petlad Municipality under Swachh Bharat Mission. Honorable Environment Minister, MPs and MLAs, ministers were present in this program.
- Voting awareness : A public awareness program was organized by the students of the college at Jantral village informing the people about new voter card and name correction.
- “Celebration of Indian Constitution Day” - Speaker: Dr. Girish Chaudhary.
- Organized Guest lecture on the subject of single use plastics. Speaker: Dr. Kalpesh Anjariya, Department of Biology.
- Celebration of "International Women's Day" in presence of Shri Maheshbhai Yagnik, Local Management Committee, Petlad Education Trust.
- Visited Nadiad Observation Home.
- Organized one-day camp on college campus cleanliness and hygiene.
- Child Health Competition (Anganwadi, Shahpur Village).

Annual Camp at Shahpur Village:

- A rally was organized about Voter Awareness and Save girl Child.
- “Swachhta Tya Prabhuta”, village cleaning was done by the campers in the public places of the village through village cleaning and labour. Various competitions like Wall Slogans, painting, mehndi, home decoration, and handicrafts were organized.
- Drama and cultural program were organized.
- Animal diagnosis camp was organized.
- Self-defence classes of judo-karate techniques for girls.
- A program was organized for the villagers regarding Animal Husbandry and Milk Production Awareness Program. Mr. Kalpesh Patel and Team Amul (Amul Dairy) as

speakers. Milk Production Competition (Cooperative Dairy Shahpur Village) was organized.

- After reading their favourite book, the campers presented their ideas on the topic “My favourite book”.
- Organized Medical Camp at Shahpur Village. In collaboration with Jalaraam Jan seva Trust, Dharmaj, an eye check-up and dental camp.
- The crematorium of Shahpur village was cleaned by the students.
- Women Empowerment: A one-day workshop was organized on the theme 'Good Touch Bad Touch and Women's Safety'. Guest speaker: Patel Alpbhen (Granus Organization, Structure Officer, Gujarat)
- Cricket competition.

The following evidences of success were observed.

- A change in villagers’ attitude towards cleanliness was clearly evident.
- Calls and invitations were received from the villagers to the college to organize more training and guidance sessions on self-defence and Medical Camp.
- The participated students appeared more concerned and motivated as their participation in other social activities, conducted by college enhanced.
- The organizational skill among the students appeared to be enhanced while organizing various programmes in the college.