

First Best Practice:

A. Career Counseling Program:

1. Title of the Practice

Chilarai College offers career guidance on all aspects of career planning, job opportunities and options of 12th and under graduate students to help them choose the right career path based on their interests and capabilities. The Institute works towards enhancing the individual and institutional culture to better turn out graduating students with appropriate attitude, capability and temperament to serve the needs of an ever-changing and dynamic need of the community.

2. Objectives of the Practice

- i. To broadly explore various career options.
- ii. To enable students to select appropriate higher education program after completing the undergraduate program.
- iii. To identify and facilitate the students (with a desire to explore entrepreneurship) in making them aware of the necessary resources (Process, Technology and Enterprises) needed to explore entrepreneurship as a career path.
- iv. To impart oral and written communication skills and knowledge essential to successfully navigate the placement process.

3. The Context

The school students (Class X) who are entering into HS (10+2) and HS students, have different levels of school experiences. These range from Vernacular medium, urban and rural schools etc. This is in addition to the universal facet of varying Socio-Economic, Educational and Gender factors. Thus it is very challenging to develop a sense of leveling and level playing field to all students by the time they graduate.

The major challenges we faced and had to be addressed in designing and implementation are,

- i. Getting the students through In-house faculty members to emphasize the importance of attending the career guidance programs so that they are regular in attending career guidance sessions.
- ii. The management members, head of the institution and heads of various branches also had to improve on their Perception and Awareness on increasing diversity, challenges and implications of these important career guidance activities. This also imposed extra resources (Financial, Infrastructure, and Academic Space) to be provisioned.

4. The Practice

4.1 Practice

These goals are achieved through the following activities of Career Counseling

1. Career Guidance programs are conducted for students to help them explore various career options.
2. Students are trained on communication skills, soft skills, personality development, aptitude skills and technical skills in order to make them confident to face the challenges of the future.
3. Numerous Technical activities (FDP, Workshops, etc. for faculty and students) on specific skills, tools and technology supplementary to formal curriculum needed to enhance career prospects.

4.2 Uniqueness in the context of India higher Education.

The career counseling offered at CRC not only includes various career options but also includes the following,

1. Career Counseling program are conducted to bring a better understanding of career, so that they are more successful and actively capable to participate in professional life.
2. Career Guidance activities is not just a routine program but a highly focused activity. It has desirable feature of continuous improvement, based on regular feedback from the stake holders.

5. Evidence of Success

1. The number of students attending the career guidance programs willingly has increased over the years.
2. Alumni feedback indicates that the students who have undergone career counseling programs are really helpful in choosing their career.
3. The students have progressively gained confidence in managing the placement interviews better.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

A lot of home work had to be done before, during and after organizing career counseling program. These included identifying appropriate topics, Features or Skill needed to be imparted. This led to appropriate resource person to be identified to handle this, followed by Technical, Financial and Physical resources needed to conduct the activity. Developing industry linkage was essential for developing and delivering the training programs on a customized basis. The experts from the industry having a good network with other organizations were a critical factor in enhancing the placement opportunities for students.

7. Notes (Optional)

The other activities which facilities the graduates to enhance the professional skills of students are listed below.

1. Continuous Assessment Meetings
2. Industry Visit
3. Peer tutoring, Mentoring
4. Effective Feedback mechanism

Second Best Practice:

B: NCC for Youth Development

Objectives of the Practice:

1. To train NCC Cadets by developing the qualities of confidence, commitment to become competent leaders in all walks of life.
2. To make them responsible citizens of the country.
3. To provide opportunities and encourage cadets to enrich their knowledge, awareness on life, learning skills, character building etc.
4. Development of leadership qualities and risk-taking abilities.

5. To motivate cadets to join the defense service as a career.

The Context:

In 2004, The National Cadet Corps (NCC) was introduced to the students, by our college. The strength of the NCC Army wing is 30 for three different NCC training years. The number of new recruits for the first year of NCC training depends upon the strength of the second-and third-year cadets. The Second year NCC cadets are to appear for 'B' certificate exams with a minimum one training camp and the third year NCC cadets are eligible to appear for 'C' certificate exams on passing 'B' certificate exams and are required to attend minimum two training camps organized by the NCC Directorate of India and minimum 75% NCC parade attendance is required.

The Practice: The NCC unit of our college joins various training camps. In Camps, the young cadets get the thrill and joy of outdoor and community living. These camps also help in developing teamwork, leadership qualities, self-confidence, self-reliance, and dignity of labor among cadets. This contributes greatly towards promoting national integration. The various programs joined by the NCC are as follows: -

Republic Day Parade Competition

NCC Troop participated in Republic Day Parade on 26 January every year at Jagamohan Vidyapith, Golakganj. The main focus in this parade is on the drill. The best troops of the parade competition are rewarded.

Independence Day Parade Competition

NCC Troop participated in Republic Day Parade on 15 August every year at Jagamohan Vidyapith, Golakganj. The main focus in this parade is on the drill. The best troops of the parade competition are rewarded.

Annual Training Camps (ATC)

This Camp is conducted at the battalion level to impart practical training in weapons, map reading, communications, and firing. The emphasis is given to community living. Through these camps, cadets get an opportunity to develop and expose their hidden qualities.

NCC Certificates and Examination: The NCC Cadets have to write the examinations to earn the certificates as given below describes from lower value to higher value: -

1. Certificate B: It can be written by SD / SW cadets of NCC, those studying for +2, +3 (degree). In the second year of training, they can appear for the same.
2. Certificate C: It is the Most important certificate for NCC cadets. Now it can be written in the 3rd year of training, in the 3rd year of degree course / those having B certificate can write it in the first year after his +2 and in the 1st year of degree by SD / SW cadets only.

5.Evidence of Success: Our NCC Cadets frequently represent our college at the Republic Day Parade. Apart from regular parades and camps, cadets participate in annual social service activities like Voluntary Service and Traffic Control in Manasha Puja Festival, Tree Plantation Programme, Republic Day Celebration, Independence Day Celebration, Environment Rally,

Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, NCC Day Celebration, Yoga practice and International Yoga Day celebration etc.

6.Problems encountered and Resources required: The NCC Unit of our college faces a shortage of space where the NCC Cadets can frequently organize get together for further improvements in carrying out social activities and also face a shortage of funds to manage with many more activities. The college always tries its best to fulfill many of the requirements of the NCC Unit for smooth functioning. Moreover, our NCC Cadets all the time are full of enthusiasm, motivation, vigor, and ready to volunteer for learning and go through hardships if any. It is only their energy and will power which encourage us to carry out all the activities without any hurdles and keep us moving along with our energetic cadets and we feel proud in considering this as one of our best practice as this activity is carried out by the college without any interruption since its inception.