

7.2.1 Best Practice

1. Inculcating Critical Thinking among students through Creative Writing:

Objective:

The objective of this best practice is to inculcate critical thinking among students through creative writing. Creative writing helps in broadening the critical thinking of student community in particular. In order to promote the critical thinking in various writings, Goreswar college family takes several programmes. It is a necessity with regards to students that students must have the capability to think and judge reasonably. To achieve such target, our students are engaged in various writing platforms such as departmental yearly magazine including wall magazines, annual college magazine etc.

Context: It is known to all that language is the medium of expressing one's feeling, thoughts etc. By this quality culture, students excel themselves in the field of language and literature. They are benefitted not only in language and literature but also to gather knowledge in various fields. It is also expected that it helps students to engage in research work by following various methodologies. This writing culture helps students to find out so many historical facts which are very much significant for the coming generations. The students are very much enthusiastic to express their way of life, culture, values etc, through this noble creation.

Practice:

Goreswar College has a rich creative writing platform, such as yearly departmental magazine 'Educare' under Department of education, Khasipat, the departmental magazine of history, 'Kushilaba' the departmental magazine of Assamese etc. play an important role in creating writing culture among students and faculties which is running for years. The students from Bodo department also are interested to express their hidden creative talents through writing in 'Airakhi' the department's yearly magazine. The Department of English is interested to create writing skill through various platforms. The 'Dawn', an annual departmental magazine from English department is a source of different creative writing. All the faculties including students practice on various writing skills which are reflected in 'Dawn'.

The teaching faculties are actively engaged in influencing student community to express their feelings, thoughts with the help of self-funded magazines and wall magazines. Teaching faculties are engaged in moulding students by various departmental activities. Annual magazines/ Journals and Wall magazines play important role to encourage students for writing in various segments. Teachers guide them to write articles, poems, and fictions etc. through the medium of yearly magazines and wall-magazines which are published on various occasions. These noble practices are important because it creates writers foundation during college period. This foundation may take them to the higher level such as the creation of Journalist forum and National/State writers' forum. Cultural and linguistic exchange is noticed through the publication of these journals. These are appropriate medium to make linguistic and cultural exchange among different students belonging to different departments. Another outcome of this practice is the development of various folklore elements. Goreswar region is a mixture of different cultural and folklore elements. It helps us to mingle with one another that follow various culture and folklore elements. This naturally creates unity and integrity among the student community and prevails a healthy social atmosphere in the institution.

2. Student Mentoring System:

Objectives:

The goal of student mentoring is to help all students involved in the mentoring programme to gain the skills and confidence to be responsible for their own futures and develop their academic and personal potentiality.

Context:

Beyond classroom teaching, students also need support to tackle physical, mental and spiritual development. In order to face the challenges in life they need to take preparation in their early stage. Therefore, it is necessary to counsel and guide them in their vulnerable period of their lives

Practice:

The student mentoring system is introduced in the institution. In this process, all the teachers are involved. At the beginning of the session, the students of Major programmes of all three

semester are divided into groups and they are allotted under the guidance of teachers of the respective department to look after the overall activities of the students of their allotted group. The mentor has a chalked out responsibilities to take care of all the mentees such as to provide them career counselling, to provide them personal counselling, to support them for any kind of difficulty in their curriculum to make provision of remedial coaching for them and to always support them as and when required.

Effective mentoring begins with the faculty and depends on the healthy relationships between faculty and students. Therefore, every department assigns faculties for providing guidance for each year from admission till the graduation for the same batch. The mentor also works for finding out hidden talent of the students in various aspects of academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities so that they can be promoted to do various activities in the concerned area for their holistic development.

Evidence of Success: The mentor-mentee system was started in the year 2016. The evidences of success of this practice are a follows.

1. Every year students are shining in different events of sports and culture that are organised in National/ State Level and able to snatch Bronze, Silver and Gold medal.
2. Moreover, every year students also able to win Medals in different events specially in Group Cultural Procession in Inter-College Youth Festival under the affiliated University, Gauhati University.
3. It has been observed that students are progressing academically in comparison to previous years. The curve of first class holder is gradually rising.

Obstacle faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them:

Till now only Major students are covered in this Mentor-Mentee system. General students are yet to be included which will be done in coming session. Though the system is a fruitful one, yet challenges are always there while handling the students. It has come to notice that some students are very reluctant to follow the guidelines and they are

unwilling to cope up with the mentors. But number of such students are very less. Strategies have been taken to motivate such students to bring them in track.
