



Loreto College, Kolkata

Best Practices

2023-2024

Best Practices

Best Practice 1

Title of the Practice: Fostering Research Initiatives

Objective:

Loreto College aims to cultivate a research-oriented mindset, empower students with critical thinking skills, and prepare them for future academic, professional, and societal challenges and foster innovation by integrating knowledge from diverse disciplines and thereby enhance employability.

Context:

Research promotion is essential for students as it plays a crucial role in their personal, academic, and professional development. As research nurtures innovation, engaging in research fosters creativity by challenging students to explore novel solutions to problems. Keeping in mind the Vision and Mission of the institution, the institution promoted research to achieve academic excellence, boost self-confidence and communication skills and enable students to apply theoretical knowledge to practical problems and develop ethical values.

The Practice:

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the institution had organised a five -day workshop on Research Methodology in Social Science for Advanced learners during October 9-13, 2023 to encourage students to write research papers in various disciplines. The workshop was sponsored by Indian Council of Social Science Research- Eastern Regional Centre. The session on the first day was meant for advanced learners of all disciplines. Prof. Saibal Kar, Honorary Director, ICSSR-ERC, Prof. Shibasish Chatterjee of Jadavpur University and Prof. Subrata Sankar Bagchi of University of Calcutta were the speakers for the first day. From the second day, the workshop was held simultaneously for every discipline Every department had designed a module to impart methodologies and skills for strengthening the research foundation of students to think critically, analyse data, evaluate sources and draw logical conclusions. Experts from different disciplines were invited to deliver according to the needs of the discipline. The students gained knowledge on methodologies and had hands-on experience in many cases to develop interest and engage in research.

Sessions on Research Methodology in English for undergraduate and post graduate students were also organised on April 19 and May 11, 2024 respectively.

Evidence of Success:

The sessions were highly engaging and enriching. The students actively participated in all the sessions and showed interest in finding a research area and designing a research question. Students from different disciplines presented well-researched papers for Research Cell presentation.

- Students from Department of Psychology carried out two studies under the supervision of Dr. Dinaz Jeejeebhoy and Ms. Shankhabela Mukherjee respectively. Two papers, one titled **A Study on Help-Seeking Behaviour in Adults in Kolkata, India** and the other **Emerging Practices in Online Therapy: Perspectives of Online Therapy** were presented on June 18, 2024 and was highly appreciated.
- Another research paper titled **In the Vanguard of Freedom: Unveiling the Women Revolutionaries in Bengal (1905–1947)** was done by the students of Department of History under the supervision of Dr. Suparna Bhattacharya and presented on June 18, 2024.
- The third presentation was titled as **An Analysis of Hindu Bengali Marriages: A Historical Case Study** by a student of the Department of History.
- A student from the Department of Education under the supervision of Dr. Ranjita Dawn and Dr. Mainak Bhattacharjee presented a paper titled **Self-Esteem and Social Identity: A Gendered Perspective**.

All the papers were highly appreciated.

- Students from the Department of Economics presented a paper for the inter-college academic fest **Ecolore** on May 28, 2024 titled **Economic Growth and Distributive Justice: Some Perspectives Based on Economic Reforms in India**. The judges considered the paper to be of a very high level and appreciated the students for their effort.
- Students from the Department of Political Science presented a paper titled **Analysing India'S Strategic Approach To Counter China'S Cartographic And Military Expansion In The Border Areas** for the inter-college academic fest **Dialogo** on April 5, 2024. The paper was highly appreciated and received accolades.
- A student from the Department of History presented a paper titled **The Roots of Patriarchy in the Naxalbari Movement** for the inter-college academic fest **Historia** on May 16, 2024. She obtained the second prize for her paper.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

No problems were encountered in organising these workshops. The students were highly enthusiastic and were very eager to join these workshops. The resource for the five-day workshop was provided by ICSSR-ERC. The college provided resources for the workshops in English. The students also submitted the feedback form on time.

Best Practice 2

Title of the Practice: Sustainability Awareness

Objectives

Loreto College aims at instilling an environmentally responsible mindset among students for protecting and preserving natural resources and cultivate a long- term vision for sustainability by promoting actions that mitigate the negative effects of urbanisation and industrialisation.

Context:

The need of the hour is to advocate for reduced waste, conservation of energy, and sustainable consumption habits. Keeping in mind the Sustainable Development Goals, the institution had organised several events and has made significant changes within the campus and beyond. Attempts have been made to educate individuals about pressing environmental challenges.

The Practice

The institution has celebrated National Pollution Prevention Day, World Environment Day, Earth Day, International Biodiversity Day and World Clean-up Day. These events have encouraged students to act as care takers of the planet for the future generation. Several sessions were organised to raise awareness and help students to make eco-friendly choices. Sessions were organised on Energy Conservation and Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Cities and Communities. A session By Dr. Vandana Shiva on Earth Democracy and the Rights of Nature was organised by IQAC. A workshop on Vermicomposting was organised. Photography and Reel-making competition was organised to commemorate International Biodiversity Day. Poster-making competition was organised to observe National Pollution Prevention Day. Students attended a workshop on the looming threats of climate change organised by SwitchOn.

Evidence of Success

The different activities undertaken by the institution to promote environmental awareness were highly appreciated and our institution was chosen by West Bengal Pollution Control Board for installation of Air and Sound Quality Sensor Device with display unit.

- NSS volunteers organized one hour of Shramdaan for Swacchata on October 1, 2023 as part of a nationwide effort towards a “Garbage Free India.”
- Greenovation Club of the college conducted a **plant distribution event** on January 9 and 10, 2024

- On April 22, 2024, the W.E. Nature Society of Loreto College, Kolkata invited the undergraduate students of Semester IV and Semester VI to take a **green pledge** in order to foster a sense of commitment to environmental sustainability within the student community.
- A **Kitchen Garden Project** was undertaken as a green initiative by the W.E. Nature Society of Loreto College, Kolkata on May 14, 2024 to reduce the carbon footprint of the college and promoting local food production.
- In June 2024, the project of attaching laminated QR codes to the trees in the Loreto College campus was initiated by the W.E. Nature Society. The QR codes are linked to information about the tree, such as its height, carbon sequestration, cultural significance, and medicinal value. The first four QR codes were installed on June 6, 2024.
- Solar panels continue to generate renewable energy for the institution.
- A MOU has been signed with Vital Waste on May 3, 2024 for recycling bio degradable waste and to dispose the non-degradable waste as per the guidelines.

Problems encountered and Resources Required:

The students were highly enthusiastic in engaging themselves in such endeavours. The students were deeply involved in all activities organised by the institution to environmental wareness both within and outside the campus. The college provided resources to organise events. The funds for installing the Air and Sound Quality Sensor Device was provided by West Pollution Control Board. No problems were faced while organising these events.

