

## **Best practices 1**

### **Title: Toastmasters Club for Faculty and Students**

#### **Objectives**

Good communication skill of a teacher is the basic need of academic success of students, and professional success of life. Teacher communicates more instructions orally in classroom to students. Communication skills are important for many professions but are crucial for teachers. Teachers communicate with students, parents, colleagues and administrators every day. Whether communicated face-to-face, on the phone, in print, electronically or through the public address system, the message must be constructed carefully and delivered clearly to be properly received. A Teacher with effective communication skills will alone be able to convey a technical content in a more structured way to the students enabling them to learn and promote their academics. Also all educators take on leadership roles. Teachers are considered as role models and are responsible for moulding the future leaders and are a source of inspiration for sharpening the leadership skills of the wards. Thus to enhance these two skills the toastmasters club was started in the year 2011.

#### **The Context**

Joining Toastmasters allows teachers to build the skills they need to become more confident public speakers and stronger leaders in every area of their lives. Toastmasters offer a proven education program meant for educating teachers through the process of self-improvement, communication and leadership training so that they may increase their confidence and usefulness in professional and community life. The mission of the club is to provide a mutually supportive and positive learning environment in which every individual member has the opportunity to develop oral communication and leadership skills, which in turn foster self-confidence and personal growth.

## The Practice

- KCG TM Club is the first club started exclusively for the teaching fraternity in district 82 of Toastmasters International (TMI) covering Tamilnadu and Srilanka.
- The College sponsored the chartered fee of 125\$ and 45 \$ per head (30 members) for term 1 and 30 \$ per head for term 2 during the year of installation (Approximately 1.6 Lakhs) .
- We meet on every Tuesday between 2.00 pm and 4.00 pm and every meeting will be conducted in a more structured form. We will have three parts namely 1. Prepared Speeches, 2. Table Topics (impromptu speeches) and 3. Evaluation Session. TMI provides a curriculum containing a list of projects, guidelines of executing and evaluating the same.
- Every project given in the curriculum is provided with clear guidelines for content delivery and the speeches are well structured and timed. We have evaluation speech contests, humorous speech contests, table topic speech contests and prepared speech contests conducted at club, area, division, district and international level every year.

## Evidence of Success

1. Have received Golden Gavel Award Twice, the highest recognition for a club in good standing
2. Have been certified as distinguished club continuously for 5 years.
3. We started the students club 'KCG Youthmasters TM's club in 2015-16.
4. We are involved in conducting soft skills programmes and speech craft programmes for our students. It also enables the industry-institute relationship as the members of the corporate clubs are invited as resource persons for guest lectures, seminars, training programmes and conferences. We have hosted three division conferences in our college campus as venue partners.
5. Our members have completed certifications like Competent Communicator, Competent Leader, Advanced Communicator Bronze, Advanced Communicator Silver,

Advanced communicator Gold, Advanced Leader Bronze and awards like ‘Excellence in Leadership’, ‘Best Secretary Award’, ‘Smedly Award’, ‘Rising Star Award’ etc.

6. Two of our members have served as district officers for 2 respective terms (Area Directors)

## **Best Practice 2**

### **Title: Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development Centre (IEDC)**

KCG College of Technology has two wings of operation, namely i-cell (innovation cell) and e-cell (entrepreneurship cell). Keeping in line with the vision mission of the institution, IEDC aimed at excellence in technology facilitating innovation, entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship.

#### Objectives

The aim of IEDC is to guide and encourage the students to convert their ideas into innovations, to create an entrepreneurial eco system on campus, to train the students to analyze the market opportunity through entrepreneurial skills and to convert innovation to commercialization.

#### The Context

With the support of our management, the college became a member of National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN) who backed the formation of e-cell i-cell in November 2008 May 2009 respectively. This brought an all new buzz of entrepreneurship on campus to develop and support our next generation of entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial leaders – young people who will take India to the next level of development and growth. On the basis of the innovative projects developed by our students, DST selected our institution to establish IEDC with a Grant-in Aid of Rs. 44.45 Lakhs over the period of

Five years. The IEDC Grant-in-aid is a unique initiative by the Government of India to impart knowledge based and innovation driven hands on experience to students while pursuing their graduation studies and to train the students and faculty on entrepreneurship. This led the students to be intrapreneurs and entrepreneurs

## The Practice

### Ideation

1. Students were asked to submit their ideas using a simple 6W (what, why, who,when, where How) format. The submissions were reviewed by a panel of members consisting of faculty Industry experts.
2. Every year on an average 25 to 30 ideas would be submitted by students from which 10 to 12 ideas were short-listed based on the innovation, feasibility, social relevance and cost effectiveness.
3. Each selected team was allocated a faculty coordinator to refine their idea.
4. Each one of the teams was groomed in presenting and validating the ideas.
5. All these teams presented the ideas to an advisory panel consisting of members representing DST, MSME, Industry and Academia.
6. Other short-listed projects were also mentored.

Apart from this, Entrepreneurship Awareness Camps, Entrepreneurship Development Programmes, Faculty Development Programmes are organised for the benefit of Faculty and Students. Interaction and interning with practising entrepreneurs is also facilitated. Also, the awareness regarding IPR, Start-up Registration, Finance, business opportunities, processes, technologies, market, etc. are given.

## **Evidence of success**

### **Learning by Doing**

Having acquired this skill of learning by doing, students showed progress in academic performance and in their project work which forms a part of the curriculum. The shortlisted students and their project work motivated other students to look at i-cell and e-cell as an opportunity to emerge as successful intrapreneur / entrepreneur. The entrepreneurial eco system on campus was building momentum.

### **Students Participation in Competitions**

Students of i-cell and e-cell participated in competition like NASSCOM, Hackathons, GSEA, Google Summer of Code (GSOC), IIT PALS (consecutive winners for the past 3 years), Mozilla FireFox, Yahoo Hackathon, AICTE –Smart India Hackathon(consecutive winners for the past 2 years) and several other events. 36 Patents have been filed in the past 5 years and 10 have been published.

### **Entrepreneurship Trained Faculty**

The management encouraged faculty to get trained by NEN and NSTEDB sponsored EDCs as entrepreneurship educators who in turn trained other faculty and students. This enabled the faculty to intertwine curriculum and entrepreneurship in their class room teaching which helped students see entrepreneurship as another career path.

### **Skill Development**

The participation of students in all these activities developed in them the following skills

- Communication skill
- Presentation skill
- Team building skill
- Negotiation skill
- Decision making skill
- Networking skill
- Time management skills

- Social skill
- Entrepreneurs from IEDC

IEDC has successfully turned about 160 students as entrepreneurs in the Field of technical, Service, Hospitality, Software development etc.

Best Institutional Award for Entrepreneurship: Won the prestigious SEED-2016 award by the Society for Educational and Entrepreneurship Development (SEED) at the India International Centre, New Delhi.

Bagged The Runner-Up Award in National E-Week 2015 16 Conducted By National Entrepreneurship Network (NEN)

### **Funding from DST**

In the year 2010 , the National Science Technology Entrepreneurship Development Board (NSTEDB), DST India, approved the establishment of IEDC with the grant-in-aid of Rs.44.5 Lakhs ( Rs.4.45 Lakhs as Non-recurring budget Rs. 8 Lakhs / year as recurring ) covering a period of five years until 2015.The IEDC Grant-in-aid is a unique initiative by the Government to impart knowledge based and innovation driven hands on experience to students while pursuing their graduation studies.

### **KCG Innovation Incubation and Entrepreneurship Centre (KCGIIEC)**

The experience of operating a campus company has enriched the skills to become their own boss. This achievement of i-cell and e-cell made our management to invest in setting up a Technology Business Incubator- KCGIIEC in 2015. Today, this TBI houses 6 businesses operated by entrepreneurs from the community as well as alumnus of KCG College of Technology. About 7 companies matured from KCGIIEC. It also provides opportunity for students to intern with the incubatees. In 2016-17, KCGIIEC has been approved by MSME as Host Institution / Business Incubator to function in the premise of KCG College of Technology. This grant will nurture the incubatees(to a maximum of 10) with a financial support of Rs.6.25 lakhs for a period of one year.