



# **St Mary's College, Thrissur-680020**

## **Best Practices**

**2016-2017**

### **1. Title of the Practice: Feedback from Stakeholders- Review and Reassure Goal**

To have an assessment of the institution by examining its performance in curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular spheres and the role in holistic development of student community and service to society

#### **Context**

Success of the stakeholders are the hallmark of any institution. A multifaceted, comprehensive and well defined curriculum and the student support academic initiatives need to be updated with regular feedback from stakeholders. College has undertaken this appraisal to improve itself, undertake new initiatives and to strengthen its performance.

#### **Practice**

Feedback is collected from all the stakeholders of the institution during each academic year and performance appraisal is carried out and innovative measures are undertaken for holistic development. As a benchmarking measure six feedbacks are collected- Students feedback on Regular Programme, Value added Programmes and faculty, Parents feedback, Alumnae feedback and Employer feedback.

## Students' feedback on Course

Overall feedback on the institution, courses and facilities, student support programmes, internal assessment schedule, teacher student interaction are collected from the final year PG and U G students. The feedback is consolidated by the heads of the departments and the data collected is assessed using Likert scale methodology and graded to best (100-66.66), moderate (66.66-33.33) and poor (0-33.33). The best measures are continued and upgraded to a higher level by introducing next level programmes and improvements are done in case of necessary parameters.

## Feedbacks on each faculty

To ensure the academic quality of various programmes the effort of the faculty is instrumental. To evaluate the efficiency and commitment of the faculty towards the teaching learning process and for student upliftment, feedbacks on each faculty were taken from all the students. Principal takes the confidential feedback from the students and data is analysed and the performance is ranked as excellent, very good, good, average and poor. Suggestions and recommendations are given to the faculty by the Principal confidentially.

## Students' feedback on Student Capability Enhancement Programmes

Feedbacks are designed to identify the strengths and weakness of different Skill Enhancement Programmes and Certificate Courses. The feedback is taken on a four-point scale -excellent, very good, good and satisfactory and tabulated to bring in a correct evaluation and to identify the effectiveness of the programme. Courses with below average ratings are changed or redesigned.

## Feedback from parents

Feedbacks from parents are collected from parents all the Ilyear U G and PG students and selected parents of different classes on the institution, programmes, facilities, career guidance activities and so on. The feedback is taken confidentially on a four-point scale excellent, very good, good and satisfactory. The Heads of the departments consolidates the feedback using Likert scale methodology and graded to best (100-66.66), moderate (66.66-33.33) and poor (0-33.33). The data is consolidated at the departmental level and at the College level. Discussions are carried out in the PTA Executive committee, PTA general Body and Departmental PTA meetings. Suggestions and recommendations of the PTA are taken into consideration and necessary corrective measures are ensured by the College authorities.

#### Alumnae Feedback

College maintains a close bond with her Alumnae. Formal and informal feedback is collected from them. Feedback is tabulated in the interval of 5 years. Formal feedback forms are tabulated by the Alumnae Executive Committee. Various changes and new activities and programmes are executed in the college on the recommendation and support of the Alumnae.

#### Employers Feedback

Feedbacks from the employers are collected and the college is really proud of the performance of her students in their work arena. The data collected on a four-point scale points out the areas that the institution needs to strengthen their academic performance and at the same time improve the potential of the youth to become competent to meet the challenges of the modern times. College has initiated a set of skill enhancement and certificate programmes to face this global challenge.

Discussions are carried out by the IQAC and College Council to improve the moderate level and below moderate level variables by adopting various innovative and enriching programmes to cater the requirements of the students in a better manner. IQAC also discusses the issue with the students forum for a better academic initiative.

### **Evidence of success**

There is overwhelming response from all stakeholders which is noted in the interactions with them. The College has been able to get an assessment and take corrective and supportive measures wherever necessary. Innovations could be taken in dissemination of curriculum and student support measures including infrastructure. College has initiated a set of Skill Enhancement, Certificate and Diploma programmes to responses of the alumnae and employer. The excellent rapport with the PTA indicates the satisfaction levels of the parents.

### **Problems encountered and resources required**

Collection and Consolidation of feedback of all students is a big task but College has planned to go online in case of Student and Alumnae feedbacks. The difficulty in collecting and tabulating Alumnae feedback annually is to be overcome.

## **2. Title of the Practice: Butterfly Conservation and Habitat Restoration**

### **Goal**

The program was envisioned as an institution goal to conserve butterflies and spread the pulse of environmental conservation

### **Context**

Habitat loss poses the greatest threat to species in the current scenario. India possess rich butterfly diversity but, Butterflies are sensitive creatures which are subjected to colossal environmental fluctuations in changing eco-scenario. They are an essential part of the food chain of numerous organisms and are considered as indicator species as their richness indicates a well set eco-unit. Butterflies and their life stages are dependent on specific host plants for food, and their survival ensures habitat conservation.

Conservation programs aimed for a particular purpose has positive effects on a multitude of organisms for any programs concentrates on enhancement of the ecosystem thereby creating home for umpteen species. Attempting activities and enrichment strategy by providing awareness programme for schools and colleges ensures promotion for conservation of the habitat and protection of rare endemic endangered species of plants and animals.

### **Practice**

This endeavour creates a culture that infuses values of conservation and contribute to transformation of society to an Eco-friendly stature through inculcation of socially conscious. The activities include conduction of awareness campaigns, Training programs and seminars, conduction of Exhibition and competitions for School and college students, field visits, activities oriented towards restoration of habitat by developing butterfly gardens. Publication of Booklet on conservation of habitat, generating interest and knowledge about locally found butterflies in students and protective rearing and release of butterflies to the nature.

### **Evidence of success**

1. With the cooperative volunteering of students, we could contribute more than 600 plants to schools aiding them in the ‘watch and observe butterfly in your garden’ program for visualizing, understanding and learning about importance of butterfly plants.

2. Establishment of Butterfly Gardens in 20 Institutions as a part of Watch and Observe Butterflies in Your Garden.
3. Initiation for establishment of Butterfly Garden in State Museum And Zoo. Release Of Book Shalabodhyana Nirmaanathinu Oru Maargaekha on butterfly conservation.
4. The training programme to the teachers and students delivered resources at school and college level who could transfer the knowledge about butterfly garden at their own institutions.
5. Skill acquired for butterfly gardening by students who attended Hands on training workshop.
6. Release of book on butterfly conservation.
7. Pioneers in developing a Certificate Course in Butterfly gardening in India.

#### **Problems encountered and resources required**

Although through the program butterfly garden has been established in many institutions maintenance of the garden in summer is a problem due to scarcity of water.