

7.2 Best Practices

Describe at least two institutional best practices

Upload details of two best practices successfully implemented by the institution as per NAAC format in your institution website, provide the link--- The two best practises are discussed as a) and b).

a) Best Practise I

Innovations and best practices in promotion of research on the campus:

In today's globalised world, the role of research in an academic institution is very very significant for its sustainability and development, and it is imperative to have knowledge-driven growth based on innovation. The quest for knowledge is the basic principle behind research. The quality of research work directly translates to the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom, thereby benefiting the students, the society and the country. Our education system faces a number of constraints and challenges—quality research is one of them. The following innovative approaches for promotion of research are being implemented at Nowgong College:

- i. Nowgong College joined MHRD driven programme 'Innovation Cell' with the mandate to work closely with our Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to encourage the creative energy of our student population to work on new ideas and innovation and promote them to create start-ups and entrepreneurial ventures. Institute innovation Council of Nowgong College branch organized many activities amongst students on bringing new ideas about many aspects that delineates the immediate goals, short term goals, long term goals action pathways to be implemented in phased manner to deal different problems that arise within the Nowgong College campus and also outside it, and also encourages initiatives of students fulfil the future vision.
- ii. One of the missions of the Nowgong College is conduction of applied and quality research on the campus. In order to promote the research on the campus the college authority always encourages its faculties by every possible way that gives the mission and framework for best practice processes and solutions that offer a strategic roadmap for quality research. Thrust areas of focus have been identified in faculties of Physical Sciences, Life Sciences, Social Sciences, arts and other faculties. The college authority holds time to time meeting with the faculties to discuss about the strategies to be followed to accomplish the research goals and commitments of faculty members. Creation of good research work culture on the campus by addressing organizational and procedural barriers within the system are envisaged. Teachers are encouraged to write books on issues that are directly related to our overall developments and relate us to basic science ideas. It is also a best practise of the college to publish the significant research works carried by both UG and PG students.
- iii. It is under the best initiative of the college that traditional methods used in weaving as well as dyeing of clothes are now under the subjects that our students are inspired to carry projects on both in UG and PG level. Integrated Eri Silkworm cum Ornamental Fish Farm is constructed under Department

of Science and Technology, SEED Division sponsored project which also highlights the best practises of having a fruitful research atmosphere prevailing in the college.

- iv. Famous personalities are invited to the college to help not only the students and faculty about starting a new research project but also people from the community are also invited to have hands on training on different aspect. Designer, Sanjukta Dutta interacted with rural women eri Silkworm rearers and weavers at Nowgong College.

What were the contextual features or challenging issues that needed to be addressed in designing and implementing this practice

The basic prerequisites for achieving high standards in academic research, as identified by the college, are as follows:

1. Thorough planning and ensure research excellence
2. Integration of graduate and post graduate curricula with research
3. Focus on local based issues
4. Preference for local problem oriented research
5. Interdisciplinary approaches in research
6. Availability of good infrastructural and advanced scientific instrumentation facilities.

Nowgong College utilises the academic expertise of the faculty, natural resources of the region, demands of the society, resources and facilities available in the college to meet the challenges of the researchers.

The following best practices are followed to promote research excellence of the faculty members.

- a. To keep abreast with the advances in their areas of research specialization, the faculty are encouraged to attend conferences organized by Professional Societies, Institutions; workshops on frontiers of science, individual training in National laboratories and premier research organizations.
- b. The college encourages teachers to submit major research projects to National and International public funding agencies.
- iii. **Setting up of Directorate of Research:** A research cell was constituted to inform the faculty on research announcements/notifications of different National and International funding agencies from time to time. The college developed a mechanism to encourage students by rewarding their prime research contributions in the form of a book which contains the significant research works of the UG and PG students.

b) Best practise II

Nowgong College authority always encourage their faculty members and research scholars to work together for benefit our society with a motto "Research Lab to Farmer's Field". An initiative from Nowgong College for development of Scientific Eri Culture, Modern Technology for spinning of Eri Silk, Natural dye and Product Diversification was taken by forming a registered society for weavers. "Campus to Community" – under this initiative a registered society called SAKU is formed with the weavers of neighbouring villages who will not only be guided in dyeing clothes with natural colours and stabilizing cloth colours but also will be helped in marketing their products through cooperation with local entrepreneurs. Nowgong College always tries to discover hidden talents from remote places working silently in any aspect related to life and livelihood.

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

Provide the details of the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its vision, priority and thrust

Provide the web-link of the institution in not more than 500 words

The vision of Nowgong College is “to impart higher education with integral formation, which involves academic excellence, social commitment and value-based leadership.” In order to live up to its living up to its vision, Nowgong College has built a Symbiotic Learning and Developmental Environments for facilitating the overall developments of the student in consonance with the priorities and thrust areas of the institution. Courses and curricula are designed to be more job-oriented and are periodically revised, so as to increase the chances of employment and infuse in students, a zeal for entrepreneurship. Teaching pedagogies are student-centric. Interactions with industry experts are often facilitated with intent to keep the students informed and updated. Additionally, industrial visits and educational tours are conducted by all departments in order to sensitize students about the practical challenges that business organizations face on an operational basis. All departments conduct seminars, conferences, workshops, guest lectures and fests for the benefit of the students.

To achieve the Vision as set by our Institution, every individual in this institution is participating in his or her own capacity in different activities as follows-

- 1) Active counseling cell for all the stake holders
- 2) Language Lab for students with different background for sharpening language skills
- 3) Mentoring for the weak Students
- 4) Special efforts are taken by the faculty members to make the class room more vibrant by promoting and encouraging dialogue and participation amongst the students.
- 5) Strong informal support group for the differently abled students.
6. Adoption of village for help in every aspect: Five villages were adopted for providing support to life and livelihood.
7. Awareness programmes about different social issues are held regularly every year.
8. Tobacco Cessation Program: Nowgong College conducts an annual tobacco cessation awareness program in May. The program involves various activities to promote awareness against tobacco use. An anti tobacco initiative in form of oral cancer screening program was also started.
9. Inclusive Classrooms (Group Activities small research projects, Film Clubs, Discussion Groups, Engagement with other Faculties, exploring new mediums for classroom teaching).