



RAGHU ENGINEERING COLLEGE

AUTONOMOUS

(Approved by AICTE, Accredited by NBA, New Delhi & Permanently Affiliated to JNTU, Kakinada)
Dakamari, Bheemunipatnam (Mandal), Visakhapatnam Dist.-531 162. (A.P.), India
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7.2 INSTITUTIONAL BEST PRACTICES

Best Practice 1:

Title: Student Centric Learning

At the core, the holistic development of a student includes physical, social, psychological and emotional wellbeing. Holistic learning methods focus on flexibility and are light structured. This method doesn't focus on one-size fits all kinds of strategies. The institute focuses on the holistic development of students while designing any course, students are also given flexibility to explore new skills and also master the existing ones engaging them with activities.

Objectives:

- To provide support for student's all-round development
- To inculcate experiential learning
- To promote self-guided study
- To focus on team building through IEEE events, clubs activities, sports
- To make the students future ready with extensive training and provide employment opportunities

Context:

The institute being in a rural area, has attracted students mainly from poor/average income households. Such students were deprived of essential technical, non-technical and communication skills. They also have no/limited access to modern technology such as computers, tablets etc.



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aimed at providing holistic development, which promotes social awareness, sense of responsibility with confidence among the students. Such initiatives allow students to develop critical thinking, exceptional problem solving abilities, strong internal values, confidence, strong sense of identity, connect with and contribute to the world among others.

Practice:

Induction: Students along with their parents, undergoes an induction program, where they learn various aspects of the program they are joining viz., total credits, course structures, courses they are supposed to take (both optional and elective), internship, projects, campus recruitment training, extension activities (clubs, sports, IEEE, NCC, NSS), technical/cultural activities that the institute organizes and importantly the institute's code of conduct. Students and parents are provided with all the contact information that they might require in any scenario.

Counseling: Every student is provided with a counselor who takes care of that student's wellbeing within the institution. Counselors interact with the students regularly and try to understand and address their regular/special needs. These counselors keep in touch with the students' parents from time to time and inform them of their academic performance, performance in other extracurricular activities, any cases of indiscipline, regular absenteeism, involvement in illegal activity, ragging etc.

Social Interactions: The institute provides opportunity for students to express their hobbies/skills by joining in one of the several registered technical and non-technical clubs in the campus. The clubs viz., IEEE, IETE, CSI, CodeChef, IEI, SAE, IoT, Robotics, cultural, photography, yoga impart a great sense of togetherness and belongingness in the student community. Such extension activities help in building their social interactions, boost their confidence, bring discipline, help in team building/being part of a team. Students are to benefit immensely from such social interactions even in their life after college.

IEEE: The institute is proud of its IEEE student branch which gives students a community of like minded people as well as get to meet experts in their field of technology. This branch organises several technical programs where the students can



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submit their ideas, research abstracts, listen to expert lectures etc. As student members of the IEEE club, students have access to the same privileges as professional members, including communication mediums and community activities. As such, participating in this unique opportunity allows students to learn while being exposed to current cutting-edge technological innovations.

Projects: The institute encompasses several laboratories for every discipline of science and engineering where the students undergo hands on training on the concepts they learn in theoretical classes. These laboratories are equipped with all the necessary equipment for the needs of their curricula. The institute also boasts of 4 research centers, a few centers of excellence (Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, BSNL Incubation Center) where students are also involved in research related activities for their final year projects.

Internships: Institute helps students in securing internships through a wide range of MoU's with industry. An intern's goal is to gain work experience, gain credits and an overall feel for the industry they're interning in. These internships benefit both the student and the institute by way of strengthening the bond between institute and industry. On-the-job learning reinforces what they see in the classroom and teaches invaluable skills like time management, communication, working with others, problem-solving and willingness to learn.

Self-Study: Self-study encourages learners to go beyond what is available to them in their text-books and that is taught by their instructors. Learners who engage in self-study have the opportunity to enhance their skills. The institute made self-study mandatory by introducing credits for online certificate courses provided by reputed organizations such as MOOCs and NPTEL.

Training and Placement: The institute has a hugely successful CRT (campus recruitment training) program which starts right from the first semester. The CRT program is offered to students along with their regular curriculum. Training is provided in various areas viz., communication, analytical skills, problem solving, critical thinking, coding etc. Trainers along with inhouse placement coordinators play a very important



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role in keeping a tab on the training. Students are given tasks, challenges, mock interviews to make them ready to face the company representatives during placement. Various industry experts are invited to the campus from time to time, to deliver lectures and conduct workshops in such fields that are in demand in the industries. All the top multi-national companies (MNC's) visit the campus to hire students. The institute strives to facilitate placement offers to each and every student in the CRT program. These efforts by the institute have been widely appreciated by both students and parents.

Evidence of success:

- **Industry MoU's:**The institute has functioning MoU's with as many as 27 industries/institutes. Prominent among them are Akrivia, BSNL, NHAI, Robocoupler Pvt Ltd, ATAL Incubation Center, Jyothi Institute of Technology Foundation, Bangalore, ATAL Incubation Center, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, AP, NIT-Warangal etc. These industries and institutes provide internships to students as well research opportunities to faculty.
- **Placements:**CRT Training being given to the students have shown impressive results with job offers from top MNC's in the country and abroad. The placements and offers have been steadily on the rise over the last 4-5 years. More than 2300 offers from 48 different MNC's in the year 2022 is a testament to the fact that that institute is providing its full support to the students.
- **Research and Development:**Over the years the faculty of REC along with students have been successful in building a research ecosystem in the campus. Research in various fields of science, humanities and technology resulted in over 230 publications in peer-reviewed journals in the past five years. The institute received grants from UGC-DAE-CSR, Kolkata, SERB, New Delhi etc. Apart from the publications, there are 3 granted patents and 18 published patents
- **Student Activities:**Student clubs were involved in over 200 different technical competitions, expert talks/seminars, cultural events conducted under IEEE, IETE, CSI, SAE, etc.,
- In the last many years, over 100 students of REC have chosen higher education in India and Abroad.




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Best Practice 2:

Title: Community Service through NCC and NSS

Engaging in community service provides students with the opportunity to become active members of their community and has a lasting, positive impact on society at large. Community service or volunteerism enables students to acquire life skills, problem solving abilities, out of box thinking, knowledge, as well as provide a service to those who need it most. REC has three NSS units with 300 active student members. In addition, the institute comprises three vibrant NCC units under 2(A) Girls Bn Vizianagaram with strength of 72, 2(A) CTR NCC UNIT, Visakhapatnam with strength of 62 and 3(A) Naval Unit, Visakhapatnam with strength of 34. National Cadet Corps (NCC) and National Service Scheme (NSS) are actively involved in the institute's efforts to bring a change in and out of the campus.

Objective

- To bring a sense of discipline and service in students
- To successfully implement institute's developmental programs
- To serve the society by actively involving in solving problems within the community

Context

Through the NCC and NSS schemes, the students stand to benefit psychologically, socially and cognitively. The overall life satisfaction, feeling good about one self by helping others, decrease in stress levels are some of the physiological benefits of these programs.

Volunteering engages students with the community creates humane bonds with the people being served and increase social awareness and responsibility. Volunteering also helps to enhance their personal knowledge, they deem to grow from the experiences, develop civic, social responsibilities and better interpersonal communication skills. .



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Participating in such activities not only makes a difference to the institute and community being served, but also makes a difference to every student's career prospects. They help students to gain work related experiences before graduation, build good references for employers and a forum to showcase their skills.

Practice

Village Adoption: Raghu Engineering College is at the forefront of community service since its inception. The institute in 2019-2020 just before the Covid-19 pandemic, has adopted 5 nearby villages namely, Dakamarri, Bodamettapalem, Amanam villages of Bheemunipatnam Block and B.R. Thalavalasa, Korada villages of Padmanabham Block, Visakhapatnam District, Andhra Pradesh through Unnat Bharat Abhiyan. Many awareness and educational programs were conducted in these villages with the help of village representatives.

Awareness programs: The NSS and NCC units of the institute have organised many awareness programs to promote healthy life style during the pandemic and after. Online awareness programs on COVID precautions, benefits of yoga were organised during the COVID-19 pandemic. Many other programs such as pulse polio campaign in association with GVMC, Visakhapatnam, importance of cleanliness, harmful effects of pollution, plastic free campus, cleaning of beaches, parks, statues were organised. Students of both NSS, NCC and faculty members have actively participated in these events.

Blood Donation, Vaccination Camps: The institutes NCC and NSS branches have organised mega blood donation camps inside and outside the campus. They have actively participated in blood donation awareness programs conducted by Red Cross Society, Vizianagaram. They also have conducted a mega COVID-19 vaccination camp in the institute.



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NCC, NSS cadets are the highlight of Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations in the campus. Cadets are provided with merit certificates for their performance in various activities on the eve of these celebrations.

Evidence of Success

- NSS volunteers have identified the problems in the adopted villages by taking a door to door survey and notified the issues to the relevant authorities.
- NSS volunteers have conducted yoga classes to school students, conducted awareness programs on education, cleanliness to school students, organic farming etc.
- Conducted Grama Sabha meetings in the adopted villages and discussed issues with the stakeholders.
- NCC units have installed public toilets in Bodimetlapalem village funded by the Institute (INR 1,50,000) and NCC units (INR 24,000).
- NCC units have participated in the plantation drive in Andhra University,organised COVID-19 vaccination and mega blood donation camps in the institute.
- NCC cadets have been selected for participate in the Republic Day Parade at JNTU, Kakinada and Vizianagaram.

Problems encountered and resource required:

- NCC and NSS units are facing a problem of abundance as many students are expressing interest to join the units. Strict selection criteria is being implemented for a new batch of interested candidates.
- Lack of time, combined with apathy from the officials is a hindrance the students are facing which is affecting the work by the units.



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