

7.2 BEST PRACTICES

Best Practice -I

1. Title of the Practice

Appraisal of Research Scholars' progress through Timeline Presentation and Annual Research Congress.

2. Objectives

The objective of this assessment is to ensure that the research work is progressing as planned by reviewing the status at defined intervals over and above the regular Doctoral Committee Meetings.

3. The Context

It is not practically possible to foresee all the problems that will hamper the progress of the research work without regular follow up. The outcome envisaged at each stage may not happen all the times. The timely availability of the advice of Experts over and above official Research Guide plays a significant role in scientific and systematic way of completion of the research work. Hence, Timeline Presentation and Annual Research Congress.

4. The Practice

Every year in the month of June/July a Time Line Presentation is organized by the Research section. The meeting is attended by the HoDs and respective guides. The research scholar presents the status of his research and future plans to complete it with time frame for each activity/stage. The observers will provide necessary feedback and suggestions.

In the month of December, an Annual Research Congress is organized in which Research Scholars are expected to present details of the work done. HoDs, Guides and External Experts attend the meeting. It is organized as a conference in which feedback, guidance and suggestions are given to the Research Scholars by the External Experts to fine tune their research work.

5. Evidence of Success

The positive feed-back received from the Research Scholars and Research Guides are clear testimony for the success of this practice. Further, the positive comments given by the External Examiners who evaluate the thesis confirm the success of the practice.

6. Problem Encountered and Resources Required

The small problem encountered, is sometimes, a few Experts cancel their visit during the last minute alternatively, Vice chancellor is permitting an internal or nearby external expert to conduct the meeting.

7. Concluding Notes

Considering the evidence of success, "Appraisal of Annual Research Congress" proved to be a best practice and this could be a best Quality Research Initiative of Karpagam

Academy of Higher Education, which other higher educational institution may also emulate.

Best Practice -II

1. Title of the Practice

Conducting Arrear Examinations during weekends in the subsequent semester instead of conducting examinations along with End Semester Examination.

2. Objectives

To facilitate the students to clear their Arrear Examinations before the Regular End Semester Examination (Usually arrear examinations is conducted along with Regular papers by all Universities), thereby reducing the over burden of students to write Arrear Examination along with End Semester Examinations.

3. Context

The aim of the teaching process is to enable all the students in a class to successfully complete all the courses in the very first attempt itself. But unfortunately it is not happening in the case of a few students.

In the next semester, they find it difficult to study and write the arrear examination along with regular End Semester Examinations as they have to focus on the current courses also. Hence, this is unique practice.

4. The Practice

After the publication of the results of the ESE, the list of students in various course are prepared who have failed in various courses. The faculty concerned will be available in the Departments till evening and the students can get their doubts clarified and can also get necessary advise and guidance from them.

5. Evidence of Success

On an average 75% of the students are able to clear their arrear examinations successfully. It maximizes the number of Graduates coming out successfully at the end of the programme and also provides an opportunity for them to take part in the placement offer(s).

6. Problems encountered and resources required

Practically no serious problems are encountered.

The resources required such as class rooms, labs and faculty members are available at the institution

7. Concluding remarks

The students find this practice extremely useful as they complete all Arrear Examinations well before the End Semester Examinations and they can concentrate only on the courses prescribed in that particular semester. In addition students get guidance from faculty

before they take up arrear exam. The outcome in terms of pass percentage is significant. Hence, this best practice could be adopted by any Higher Education institutions.