

## **Best Practice**

### **1. Title of the Practice:**

Avishkar to Aakar- Total transformation of students

### **2. Goal:**

Every individual student possesses unique set of skills. To identify such skills should be prime motto of the teaching learning process. This makes the education more joyful and meaningful. Considering capabilities of students, various programs and activities should be offered to them. Every individual should get equal opportunity to expose his/her talent. Nurturing of leadership is possible if the campus is student centric and not mere examination centric or degree centric.

Identifying the hidden talent among students and by providing proper support exposing them at various levels is the prime objective of Avishkar to Aakar.

### **3. The context:**

Institute receives the inflow of students having heterogeneous back ground. Lack of motivation to achieve something, fear of competition, inferiority complex arises because of weak soft skills and not aware about individual strength are the common features of the students.

Teaching-Learning process restricted to four walls of class room is not adequate to overcome these complex feelings. If not addressed, these feelings lead towards more and more isolation, lack of interest in academics and in worst case drop out from the course of study.

The concept of Avishkar to Aakar is helping students to gain the confidence, to improve the skills and finally bringing absolute clarity in their thought process.

### **4. The Practice:**

Avishkar to Aakar is a set of variety of academic and extracurricular activities which start with Avishkar – The skill of presentation at first year and end with Aakar- The show casing of talent at final year. The practice started way back in 2008-2009.

Avishkar is a presentation competition held exclusively for the first B. Tech students. Every year it is conducted on 25th January (primary round) and 26th January (final round). About 70 to 80 % of the admitted intake (600-700 students) participates in this event and presents various technical and non technical topics in various groups depending upon their subject. IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers) student branch of the institute hosts this event. Senior students play the role of mentors for freshers and help them in various areas like selection of topic, gathering of information and presentation. The event takes place simultaneously at various places and finally cultivates in emerging of top ten teams. The attention is given to communicate constructive feed back to the participants from assessors immediately after the presentation.

On 26<sup>th</sup> January immediately after flag hoisting ceremony students and teachers gathers at a central conference hall where selected teams present their topics. The jury panel involves experts from within and outside the campus. The awards are given to top five teams.

Generally academic year of fresher's start in the month of august-september of respective academic year. After making them to undergo a well designed orientation program students are given enough time to settle in the professional campus and hence they were disturbed by any activity or events till the end of January. Avishkar is the first entry point of the students in the world of campus activities.

Institute subsequently offers them various clubs and forums once Avishkar is over. A wide range of domains are available to show case their talent. It includes ten academic and ten non academic student clubs or chapters. IEEE student branch which established in 2006 is a matter of pride for the institute. Through its five affinity groups it covers wide spectrum of domains. It engages maximum number of students through its consistent activities. IETE, SAEINDIA & AICRA are the other professional bodies nurturing technical skills and leadership qualities together of the students. Aashay ( Film club), Harith (Eco Club), Ganith (Mathematics club), Vibha ( cultural club), Virinchi ( Music club), Dyuthi (NSS unit), Street cause (Social service club), TEDx VBIT group, Stutalk (Campus news letter) and Shodh (Innovation center) are few more significant platforms available for students. Students choose their body and design their programs.

At the commencement of academic year, each club presents their planning and budget to the college academic council.

Aakar is the exhibition cum competition of the projects and working models designed and developed by final year students. This is the concluding activity in this series which exposes the final outcome of the skill attend by the students during their course time. The important stake holders like parents, industrialists, academicians, recruiters and public in surrounding areas are invited to this exhibition

**5. Evidence of success:**

Our sincere and continuous efforts for conducting this event of Avishkar at entry level of students the institute was appreciated by IEEE at international level and awarded IEEE- VBIT SB with **Darrel Chong student activity award (Gold Prize) at Asia Pacific region R-10 level** which is one of the prestigious awards of IEEE. The most vibrant forum of the institute IEEE student branch has received 27 national and international awards like Upsilon Pi Epsilon student scholarship award , Larry K Wilson award, High Performing student Branch Chapter award, Richard E. Merwin Scholarship award, Exemplary Student Branch award, WIE Student Branch Affinity Group of the Year Award and other awards at asia pacific region R 10 level for its consistency and innovation in activities.

**6. Problems Encountered and resources required:**

Hectic academic schedule prescribed by affiliated university is the major hurdle in implementation of this concept. Lack of adequate time is the reason preventing many students from participation in activities focused on various sets of soft and technical skills. Lack of encouragement from teachers is another reason works as a challenge. Institute has decided to utilize 36 hours for academic schedule and 6 hours for activity schedule out of 42 hours available in a week. Special lectures and workshops are organized for teachers to take them on board.

**7. Contact details:**

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