



KALIMPONG COLLEGE

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(Govt. Aided)

ACCREDITED BY NAAC WITH GRADE 'B++' (CYCLE 2)

RINKINPONG ROAD, P.O. & DIST. KALIMPONG, WEST BENGAL, PIN-734301

Email: principalkalimpongcollege@gmail.com

03552-351002

Website: www.kalimpongcollege.org.in

Kalimpong College Best Practices

A. Students' Seminar

1. Title – Department-wise Students' Seminar
2. Objectives and Goals

The basic objectives and goals of organizing departmental seminar are:

- To inculcate reading habit among the students
- To encourage the use of library and internet facilities for preparing seminar papers
- To train students to face the audience, interviews and group discussions
- To acquaint students with the use of Power Point Presentation, OHPs etc. for seminar presentation
- To enhance students' interest in curriculum

3. The Context:

- Holding such seminars is primarily aimed at generating the students' interest in library studies and how to use social media for learning purposes. It is also aimed at teaching them group work/ participation and some working and ethical skills as well which they can learn, imbibe and nurture for their future use. It is also aimed at improving the public speaking skills of the students. The planning for the students' seminar is done at the beginning of the year and is carried out by the respective department as per schedule.

4. The Practice:

- a. The practice of the Departmental Students' Seminar is conceived as a group activity where groups are formed based on different topics. The students' seminar being

mandatory, all the students are required to participate actively and therefore get ready with their presentation by visiting libraries and using internet resources to find relevant materials on the topic. The papers are presented by an individual student or jointly by two or three but the group participation help them during interactions.

b. The practice helps students to specialize in their respective topic which helps them for the examination. The overall effect of the seminar is that the groups follow these interactions which results in peer learning. One group helps the other group to understand the topic for the preparation of examination. The practice creates a sense of inquisitiveness amongst the students which is the basis for developing research questions. It has become a platform for understanding the mind, interest and skill of the students by the teachers. It is thus, a two-way learning process.

c. On the eventful day, the judges give marks and decide the 1st, 2nd and 3rd by adhering to the overall presentation by the group and taking into consideration the relevancy of the materials used and also the involvement of the group during question-answer session. They get some nominal prizes along with some refreshments as well.

5. Evidence of Success:

Evidently the faculty members feel that the students are taking keen interest in academic matters and there is a demand to increase the number of such seminars. Some of the alumni members regretted that no such practice existed during their time otherwise they could have actively engaged and bettered themselves. One thing that could be inferred in terms of success level is that it has helped the students to improve their performance in the university examination.

6. Problems:

Some of the problems faced while conducting the students' seminar are:

a. There is a lot of burden on the College to sponsor all the departments for the seminar. In spite of that the College sanctions a fixed amount to every department to hold such seminars.

b. The faculty members sometimes find it difficult to manage time amidst their busy schedule.

- c. It is difficult to accommodate all the students from Programme and therefore only a few of them participate in the seminar.

B. Singing Contest

1. **Title of the practice – ‘Geet Pratiyogita’ (Singing Contest)**

2. **Objectives and Goals** – The objective of this practice is to add variety to the Freshers’ Welcome Programme by selecting, nurturing and honing the skills of the participants with the aid of experts (established musicians and singers who are the judges of the competition) and thereby transforming these participants to own better singing skills than before.

3. **The Context:**

The Cultural Committee consisting of the Principal, Teachers and support staff and students designs Freshers’ Welcome Programme every year in such a way that it contributes to the overall development of the participants along with minimizing the costs incurred and also to control the student crowd during the course of the programme. The practice gives a direction, discipline and the goal to the programme.

4. **The practice:**

An open audition is kept on a particular day for the singing contestants who need to sing two types of songs one of Bollywood and other one being Nepali song. The practice gives fair opportunity to all the students as there are at least three rounds of auditions. This practice of having a singing contest is a forum, an opportunity, a stage for the students to manifest their art and maneuver their skills to perfection. On the eventful day, 10 participants are chosen to perform on the stage. The winners are selected by professional singers and musicians and the students receive some cash prizes along with trophies and certificates.

5. **Evidence of success:**

a. A few participants from the Freshers' Welcome Programme have gone on to become successful professional singers and radio jockeys. For example, Mr Pranoy Lama has become an anchor and singer in Radio Misthi, Mr Arbind Dahal, a professional singer, Ms Pinky Rai runs a music school in Pedong.

b. The practice has created a platform where students get the opportunity to learn their art from the professionals.

c. It has become a platform for peer learning with the aid of their seniors.

6. Problems:

a. One of the major problems encountered is obviously that of finance.

b. The College does not have a trained music teacher or an acoustics room. Students have to manage with track singing.

c. As the practice generally takes place after the classes are over, the College has to ensure the safety of the girl students coming from distant places.

d. Geet Pratiyogita is limited to singing only and therefore many of the students interested in dance, acting and other art forms do not get such opportunity for competition like singing.