

# **Best Practice 1**

## **Celebrating Student Success**





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### **BEST PRACTICE 1**

#### 1. <u>Title of the Practice</u>

#### **Celebrating Student Success**

#### 2. Objectives of the Practice

- To recognize and appreciate student accomplishments in academics, co-curricular and extracurricular activities and enhance student success.
- To make students feel accepted and valued for their talents and abilities and stimulate their interest and motivation.
- To enhance students' self-esteem, deepen faith in their abilities and reach their potential.

#### 3. The Context

The institution is committed to providing holistic and value-based education to its student community, the majority of whom are first generation college learners. The first-generation college learners face several barriers. In addition to the financial challenges, they face lack of motivation, self-esteem, and social preparation for college studies. The first-generation college students are more likely to leave higher educational institutions without a degree when compared to their counterparts. Additionally, in many cases, the entry level marks are average or below average. Analysing the student profile and sensing the motivational needs, the institution introduced several student appreciation strategies. As a result, the students are motivated, gain self-confidence and perform well both in academic and non-academic areas. The institution gains recognition and the students are reinforced to strive for greater achievements.



#### 4. The Practice

The student achievers are appreciated on social media such as Facebook, Instagram and college website by displaying the achievers' picture and the achievement. There is an exclusive notice board to display achievers' details. The details of the student achievements at inter-collegiate and intra-collegiate events are also announced during the morning assembly through the public address system. Once a month, a common assembly is conducted in the college quadrangle, where the achievers' awards are given away. At the college entrance, there is a display of the university rank holders, winners of cultural and sports events at the state, national and international level. In every semester, the subject toppers from the University examinations are recognized and awarded. Apart from these, the institution also has special awards in various categories given away during two important events: Thanksgiving Day and Graduation Day.





#### **Thanksgiving Day Awards**

Towards the end of every academic year, the institution celebrates Thanksgiving Day, to wind up the activities on a note of gratitude and thanks. A big component of the event is awarding student achievers for academic and non-academic achievements. The awards are as follows:

- Academic Proficiency Prizes awarded to program and subject toppers.
- *Excellence in Attendance* awarded to students with attendance above 98%.
- *Encouragement Awards* awards instituted by faculty members.
- *NSS University Certificate* awarded to NSS Volunteers.
- Alumni Sponsored Awards awarded to an all-rounder from each department.
- *Library Award* awarded to students who made the best use of Library resources.
- *Ruffin Memorial Award* awarded to the best photographer in memory of SCC's late student, Mr. Ruffin Jose, an exceptional photographer who died in a fire accident.
- *NSS Best Outgoing Student* awarded to an outgoing student for her/his outstanding works in NSS.
- **Best Class Award** awarded to the best class from each department.
- *Wall Space Award* awarded to the club that has made the best use of the wall space provided.
- *Outstanding Volunteer Award* awarded to the best volunteer at the various events organised by the department and the college.

#### **Student Awards during Graduation Day**

The institution recognizes and awards the academic toppers and outstanding performers in cultural events, arts, literature, music and sports from the graduating batches during the graduation ceremony. A committee of faculty members headed by the principal scrutinizes the nominations for these awards. The winners are presented with a citation and a cash award. The following are the awards:



#### **Undergraduate Programs**

- *Academic Proficiency Awards*: The academic topper from every program, at the completion of the program, receives a citation and a cash award during the graduation.
- *The Best outgoing student award*: The criteria for choosing the best outgoing student award include the academic performance, active participation in co-curricular and extracurricular activities, contributions to the department and the college, and involvement in the extension and outreach activity.
- *Principal's Best Student award from II-year UG Students*: Every year, Principal's best student award is presented to a second-year student who best represents the values of the college. Academic performance, active participation in the various activities of the college and community engagement is major criteria that determine the winner of this award.
- *Kalaprathibha Award*: Kalaprathibha award is presented to the best performer in cultural and arts events, at the college, university, state, and national levels.
- *Kreedarathna Award*: The best sports performers (a boy and a girl) from the final year undergraduate batches at the college, university; state, and national levels receive the Kreedarathna award.

#### **Postgraduate Programs**

- *Academic Proficiency Awards*: The academic topper from every program, at the completion of the program, receives a citation and a cash award during graduation.
- *The Best Outgoing Student Award*: The all-around performance- in academics, cocurricular and extracurricular activities, extension activities, and other contributions to the department and the college - are considered to determine the Best Outgoing student.



#### 5. Evidence of Success

The practice of award and appreciation has shown positive outcomes:



- Over the past five years, the students of the institution won 13 Bangalore University ranks.
- A lot more students are participating in several inter-collegiate and intra-collegiate events. Over the years, there is an immense increase in prizes and awards won by the students in various categories like cultural, arts, and sports, at inter-collegiate, university, and national levels.
- Students' motivational levels, self-esteem, and confidence have increased. They are not only participating actively in the events conducted by the institution but are taking initiatives to organize events themselves. There is a significant increase in the number of programs led by students and conducted by departments and clubs and associations.
- Students' appreciation for the institution and the sense of belonging has increased. The alumni continue to be actively part of the institutional events.



#### 6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

In appreciating and celebrating student success, there are no serious problems encountered. However, the institution has over 30 clubs and associations, giving students several options to choose from, for their involvement in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities. In the beginning, it can be overwhelming and confusing to some students to decide on which areas to choose and which activities to concentrate on. To overcome this challenge, the institution has put in place a robust mentoring system.

#### Link to the Power Point Presentation

https://claretcollege.edu.in/pdf/Criteria7/721/721\_Best\_Practice1\_PPT.pdf

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