

1. *Edible Landscape Garden*

1. **Title: Edible Landscape Garden**

2. **Goal:**

1. Segregation and utilization of bio degradable waste generated on the campus.
2. Inculcate awareness among the students about the hazards of irresponsible disposal of garbage and use of pesticides.
3. Introduce and promote the concept of sustainable living.

1. **The Context:**

The college is situated on a spacious campus and has ample vacant land around the buildings. The campus has two hostels with mess and a canteen; these generate a large volume of bio degradable waste every day. In view of this, an Edible Landscape Garden was conceptualized. This would serve the purpose of utilization of the bio degradable waste generated on the campus. It would also introduce the concepts of urban farming and sustainable living amongst the young students who would spread the message in the society.

1. **The Practice:**

A live eco project of Edible Landscape Garden has been initiated in collaboration with Eco Factory Foundation of Pravin Masalewale. This gives hands on experience to the students of creating wealth from waste. Biodegradable waste on the campus and hostel, and bio-pesticides are used for developing this organic garden which will lead to sustainable living. Biodegradable and non biodegradable garbage are segregated and disposed or used in the Edible Landscape Garden. The fruits and vegetables produced in the garden are sold to staff and students on the campus at nominal price and the income thus generated is used for the development of the garden.

1. **Evidence of success:**

The students and staff members actively participate in upkeep of the Edible landscape garden. The garden is thriving and there is a steady produce of seasonal vegetables and fruits. There is an increased awareness among the students about the importance of sustainable living and reducing their carbon footprint.

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

It was initially difficult to cultivate the plants and trees as the land was uncultivated. Professional horticulturist and gardener were required to set up the garden. During the vacations the students and staff are not on campus, it is a challenge to sustain the activity during this period. The college has employed a part time gardener to overcome this problem.

2. Alumni Contribution – Motivating Students on the Path to Success

1. Objectives of the Practice

1. To facilitate interactions of present students with the alumni
2. To ensure that present students and staff know about the professional journey of the alumni after graduation
3. To create awareness among present students about the various avenues for higher education and careers after graduation
4. To guide and motivate the present students

2. The Context

The College offers six specializations at undergraduate level. Post graduate degrees and Diploma are offered in the college in one of these specializations. Most of the students move to other colleges and universities for higher education. After completing their education the alumni take up jobs and settle in different cities and many times different countries.

In the past it was difficult to ensure interactions of present students with the illustrious and successful alumina. There were constraints of geographical location and communication. It was always a challenge to have a series of lectures by the Alumina as it was difficult to coordinate their schedule with the Academic calendar of the college.

3. The Practice

The COVID 19 pandemic cast a shadow over many activities of teaching, learning and evaluation. But there was a proverbial silver lining to this cloud. The college organized several online activities for the present students with the Alumina as the resource persons. The rich and varied professional experience of these alumni was a source of knowledge and motivation for the students.

Webinars arranged with alumni of various departments as resource persons. Following is department wise list of alumni who interacted with the present students during the academic year 2020-21:

Textile Science and Apparel Design Department

Mrs. Rakhi Gupta (1996 batch) Head of Design, Needle and Thread, London UK

Mrs. Rasika Bhoj (2013 batch) Assistant professor, Symbiosis Institute of Design, Symbiosis International University, Pune

Mrs. Ashita Mehta (2006 batch) Entrepreneur and textile designer based in Munich, Germany

Mrs. Deepti Talpade (2011 batch) Entrepreneur (Dhavinya – Promoting and sustaining traditional textiles), Mumbai

Mrs. Neha Marathe (2012 batch) Enterprise “The Organic Concept” for natural dyeing and printing, Pune

Mrs. Manini Gurjar (1983 batch) CEO Reindeer Apparel, Pune

Ms Ankita Shroff (2012 batch) PhD scholar, University of Alberta, Canada

Resource Management Department

Mrs. Reeta Desai (1984 batch) Fashion designer, Interior designer, Artist, USA

Mrs. Neela Pote (2006 batch) Interior Designer, Proprietor 'Tectona Designs'

Ms. Shriya Shah (2018 batch) Interior Designer, working at 'Infinity Interiors', Pune.

Food Science and Nutrition Department

Dr Nida Sheikh (2007 batch) Assistant Professor, Department of Nutrition

Georgia State University, USA

Mrs Manasi Ghate (2007 batch) MONACADEMIX EDUCATIONAL AIDS TRADING LLC, Dubai – Manager – Business Development and Operations

Human Development Department

Mrs. Ashwini Godse (1998 batch) Director ECE Lead for Gram mangal.

Ms.Vaidehi Kulkarni (2012 batch) Director 'Mindbricks'

Mrs. Shruti Purandare (1998 batch) Coordinator, 'Tara Mobile Creche'

Mrs. Sandhya Nagarkar (1989 batch) Assistant Commissioner, ICDS

Human Ecology and Consumer Services

Ms Akanksha Desai (2017 batch) Assistant Manager, Decathlon, Munich Germany

Food Science and Nutrition Department alumina also conducted workshops and certificate courses to add to the knowledge and skill set of the students:

Ms. Vaishnavi Jalihal (2015 batch) conducted a workshop for T Y ND students on "Blog Writing for Nutrition Education"

Ms. Nalini Khatwani (2006 batch) conducted a session on "Introduction to Sports Nutrition"

4. Evidence of Success

The webinars, workshops and certificate courses organized for the present students by the alumni were of immense value. The students benefited by participating in them in the following ways

- They got first hand information about the degree and diploma courses available in their area of specialization in India and abroad
- They got information about the opportunities for jobs and entrepreneurships and the preparation required for the same
- Value addition to the prescribed syllabus was done
- Well placed alumni offered internship and placements to students

5. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

There were no major problems encountered while organizing various activities with the alumni of all the departments. The different time zones of the countries where some of the alumni are staying was a small issue which was resolved mutually.

The primary requirement was good connectivity and a platform that would allow a large number of participants. College subscribed for Zoom with provision for 500 participants and unlimited time.