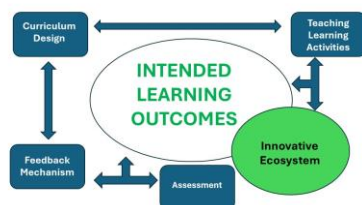


BEST PRACTICES

-GAUHATI UNIVERSITY TEACHING LEARNING ECOSYSTEM



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GAUHATI UNIVERSITY

A NAAC 'A' GRADE INSTITUTION

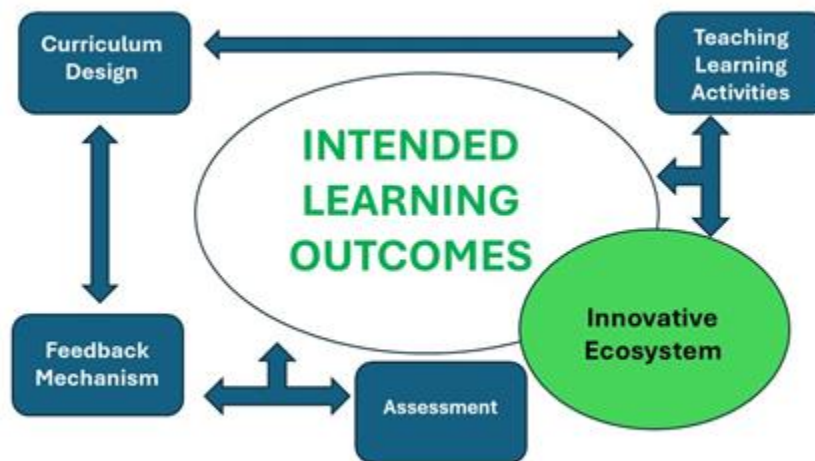


Best Practice 1

Outcome Based Teaching Learning Ecosystem (OBTL)

Title of the practice

Creating and implementing an Outcome-based Teaching Learning Ecosystem (OBTL) aligning SDGs ensuring impact, inclusivity and social responsibility.



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Objectives of the practice

1. To design and implement an Outcome Based Teaching Learning Ecosystem (OBTL).

2. To assess the impact of the OBTL and improvise as and where needed.
3. To ensure inclusivity and social responsibility in OBTL-based curriculum and activities.

The context

Gauhati University, known for its long-standing history and esteemed status as the oldest institution in the Northeast India, has consistently played a vital role in the development of the region through its stakeholders. This commitment is deeply rooted in its mission aligning with vision. Going beyond the traditional practices, in order to include the interests and aspirations of all its stakeholders, a comprehensive feedback system has been established, leading us to OBTL, industry-academic collaborations and many other innovative practices. This feedback mechanism enhances the university's accountability to its students and society. It also enables the university to develop a multidimensional and dynamic curriculum, fostering an ecosystem for collaborative action research. This approach equips students not only to survive but to thrive in a competitive and demanding professional world.

The Practices

- i. Syllabus and Course Content Revision after a comparative analysis of the feedback received with the existing gaps in the skill sets of the outgoing students resulted in an NEP 2020 compatible curriculum for all the 302 Colleges, and twenty-seven (27) in- campus integrated (5 yr) master's program.
- ii. The feedback system of the University is firmly grounded on a democratic and inclusive principle of considering all the stakeholders irrespective of caste, class, gender, region, ethnicity, and so on. Feedback received from various stakeholders such as students, alumni, faculty members, officers, College Principals, and employers for need assessment over a period of the last 4-5 years is taken as the input for devising a roadmap.
- iii. The Industry Institute Partnership Cell (IIPC), formed after several rounds of meetings and a series of communications, and constituted by twenty-eight (28) experts from various industries, Mr. Satish Rao, Chairman and Managing Director, Firmenich India, agreeing to chair the Cell, has been engaged in mobilizing resources to ensure meaningful interventions from the industry partners in order to enhance the employability of the students and help the faculty members deliver Outcome education.
- iv. The ongoing Gap analysis between the requirements of the industry and the skill sets acquired by the outgoing students is conducted and corrective measures in the form of Employability Skill Testing and Training are implemented in different sectors.
- v. Further, taking a cue from the feedback received from the alumni, they are encouraged and supported to use the available resources in the GU campus to train and provide internship opportunities. This had previously resulted in as good as six (06) products developed during and after the Covid pandemic.
- vi. As far as Internship, Consultancy and Research Collaborations are concerned, Gauhati University has successfully created a strong industry-academia partnership through tie-ups and internship programmes. Several departments of the university have been sending students and/or faculty for internships, consultancy, and other training activities to organizations like IOCL, OIL, Mondelez, Airports Authority of India, NEDFI, PTI, SCERT, etc.
- vii. More e-resources and ERP modules are incorporated to meet academic and administrative requirements, resulting in a fully operational state-of-the-art online counseling platform and other e-governance resources.
- viii. SWAYAM Local chapter was initiated to facilitate outcome-based education through the inclusion of MOOCs.
- ix. Around 80% of the beneficiaries of Gauhati university belong to rural background and/or various ethnic and linguistic groups.
- x. A separate and well-publicized women protection cell (IIPC) within the university is maintained to ensure a safe and harmonious work environment for women staff and students.
- xi. Workshops and seminars related to women's legal rights, empowerment etc. are conducted regularly to sensitize the stakeholders regarding issues and concerns related to women.

- xii. The University strives to make the institution gender neutral, which is evidenced, for example, in application forms.
- xiii. The students are made members of department and university level committees to project issues related to transport, canteen, hostels, sports, games, and library etc.
- xiv. Apart from regular departmental and institutional activities, special drives for ensuring social responsibility have been undertaken engaging various stakeholders.
- xv. Activity based social responsibility through vaccination camps, sensitization programmes on various socially relevant issues such as gender neutrality, tolerance, cultural assimilation etc., apart from regular NSS activities.

Evidence of Success

The feedback collected from the students, alumni, employee/staff, employers, and administrators of affiliated colleges highlighted gaps in the course content and pedagogical practices. It was identified that more effort was required to make students employable. The university was able to effectively identify those gaps and bring necessary changes in the course content through OBTL (make them more industry focused reflecting current technological advances and industry needs). Swift and adequate action was taken on the feedback which subsequently reduced the gaps significantly. The smooth transition from the traditional pedagogy to NEP 2020, being one of the pioneers even in the country reflects the commitment.

The industry academia partnership has become stronger over the years, and several MoUs have been signed between the university and various national organizations thus opening various career opportunities for the students beyond training and internship.

The outreach and extension activities witnessed active community engagement, participation, and response as evident from elaborate documentation over the years.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Need for more avenues and structured framework for funding from external agencies.
- Need for more technological interventions in administrative coordination and liaising.
- Need for mobilizing a more active alumni engagement.



Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan in the 1st Convocation with founder Vice Chancellor Padma Bhusan Krishna Kanta Handique



The BKB auditorium - an iconic structure in the campus named after Dr Birinchi Kumar Barua, one of the founders of Gauhati University

Best Practice 2

Title of the Practice

Sustainable Campus through Green Initiatives

Objectives of the practice

1. To integrate sustainability into the curriculum and foster a culture of environmental stewardship.
2. To enhance waste management practices aiming at zero waste campus.
3. To implement renewable energy systems through and by promoting eco-friendly infrastructure.

The context

Gauhati University is home to various plants and animals, and it has continued to undertake initiatives towards maintaining and enhancing the ecosystem. The green cover of the university includes small forest areas, marshy land and a beautiful botanical garden. The university campus is situated very close to the Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary, which is a Ramsar site, and, also placed adjacent to the Jalukbari Reserve Forest, is itself a biodiversity hotspot, surrounded by urban settlements.

The Practice

Realizing the importance of maintaining the rich diversity of flora and fauna in such an area, the university has given maximum importance to green initiatives, both centrally and departmentally. Departments and organizations help in maintaining the green campus. Plantation drives undertaken by different departments and organizations have helped in maintaining the green cover of the campus.

Apart from regular activities for environmental conservation, waste management, pollution control etc., an aquaculture park within the campus contains various endemic species of fish, while many water bodies in the campus also give shelter to various aquatic creatures such as fish, amphibians, reptiles and insects. Besides, a botanical garden has an interesting variety of plant species while a water body inside the garden enhances its beauty. A separate natural forest patch is also attached to this botanical garden supporting many birds, mammalian, and other wildlife species. There are ongoing initiatives to conserve Natural Biodiversity by the University's Habitat Biodiversity and Aquaculture Centre and to restore and conserve the wetlands in and around the university. A campus survey on birds, small and big mammals and other vertebrate species was also made in order to assess the ecological impact of the university on its surroundings.

Evidence of success

1. Green and Environmental Audit is conducted yearly,
2. Significant increase in the generation of solar energy and installation of LED streetlights in the campus.
3. Gauhati University was awarded the District Green Champion 2021-22 for the exemplary work carried out by the institution in preserving and fostering the growth of a green campus.
4. Waste management system has ensured proper disposal of waste from the hostels, residential quarters, and offices and departments.

5. Curriculum integration using green infrastructure such as aquaculture facilities and botanical garden.
6. Skill courses

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

1. Lack of adequate awareness amongst the students regarding preservation and conservation of environment-based resources.
2. Need for resource mobilization for the maintenance of the green campus.
3. Need for a formal and centralized system for landfilling and composting to be adopted the University.
4. Recycling of waste
5. Need for funds to pay for an outside handler and on-site coordinator to manage the waste management program.

Any other information regarding Institutional Values and Best Practices which the institution would like to include.

Even as the University is undertaking construction and development projects, it is doing so with care, so that the rich biodiversity of the area is not destroyed. Felling of trees is strictly prohibited, and adequate plantation is done around new buildings. Biomass burning is prohibited inside the campus, which is also a no smoking area. Attempts are being made to make the university plastic free, and many departments have strict rules against the use of single use plastic. Official notices and letters are sent through email with a view to make communication as paperless as possible. Organizations like the Gauhati University Teachers' Association also function in a paperless manner, maintaining their communications through email. A dedicated bicycle lane on the campus has been set up to encourage cycling as a relatively pollution free environment in the university. The university actively participates in Swachh Bharat Abhiyan programs to keep the environment clean and clutter free.

