

Dhandaimata Education Society's Arts and Science College, Amalner

NAAC Accredited with B (CGPA 2.17)

www.dmescollege.org

College code : 120068

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Principal Dr. Anil Patil

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Best Practice No 1

- **Title of the Practice:** Dhandai Research and Development Cell
- **Year of Inception :** 2018-19

- **Objectives of the Practice:**

The practice aims to:

1. Promote and facilitate a research culture within the institution.
2. Encourage faculty members to pursue Ph.D. and to complete Minor Research Projects funded by the Vice Chancellor Research Motivation Scheme.
3. Motivate teachers to publish their research findings in UGC-listed or peer-reviewed journals.
4. Establish Research Centers within the college premises.
5. Enhance the research section in the college library.

- **The Context :**

In recent years, research activities in India have gained significant attention. In alignment with this trend, the institution recognizes the importance of fostering research endeavours and has adapted its infrastructure to support such initiatives. With the introduction of undergraduate science programs in 2018-19, the institution recognized the need for well-equipped laboratories to facilitate future research endeavours.

- **The Practice:**

Following a Peer Team visit report after the first cycle of NAAC, the institution devised a Perspective Plan, which included the establishment of the Dhandai Research and Development Cell. This committee convened meetings to outline its objectives and formulate a roadmap to achieve them. The committee also prepared a Research Policy document of the institute. It actively encouraged faculty members to complete their Minor Research Projects. A comprehensive workshop was organized to elucidate the intricate procedures and technical nuances involved in preparing and submitting research reports to the university. The committee also encouraged faculty members to complete their Ph.D. dissertations. It conducted three University level workshops on Research Methodology. Additionally, the committee collaborated with experts from the science faculty to develop state-of-the-art laboratories. The institution procured a high-speed internet connection of 100 Mbps for its new building to facilitate research activities.

- **Evidence of Success:**

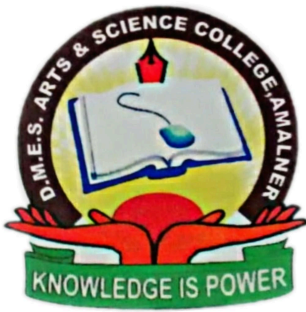
1. Eleven Minor Research Projects were successfully completed and submitted to the University in the past five years.
2. A Non-teaching staff member completed a Minor research project on ‘The Management and Problems faced by Non-teaching Staff with special reference to Jalgaon district.’
3. Six faculty members completed their Ph.D. successfully within the last five years.
4. The IQAC cell organized Workshops on Research Methodology, benefiting faculty members.
5. Faculty members published a total of 26 research papers in UGC-listed journals and 41 papers in peer-reviewed research journals during this period.
6. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, faculty members participated in online Faculty Development Programs and over 125 webinars.
7. Construction of new Science Labs is underway, contributing to the development of research infrastructure.

- **Problems Encountered and Resources:**

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted the construction work and research activities temporarily. However, the committee adapted by organizing online workshops and meetings to sustain momentum. Financial aid from the institution's management facilitated the construction of seven science labs, along with the establishment of a computer lab equipped with 25 computers and high-speed internet connectivity. Despite initial challenges, the institution remains committed to fostering a conducive environment for research and development.

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Best Practice No 2

- **Title of the Practice:** Dhandai Jeshtha Nagrik Mandal
(An initiative for Senior Citizens)
- **Year of Inception :** 2017
- **Objectives of the Practice:**
 - To Create a platform within the college that brings together senior citizens and young college students, fostering meaningful interactions and exchanges of knowledge and experiences.
 - To identify and cater to the physical and psychological needs of senior citizens through health check-up camps and psychological support initiatives.
 - To foster meaningful interactions and dialogue between senior citizens, college faculty, and students to promote understanding and appreciation across different age groups, enriching the college community as a whole.
- **The Context :** With the population of senior citizens steadily increasing across India, the establishment of the Dhandai Jeshtha Nagarik Sangh (Senior Citizen Club) responds to the evolving demographics and societal needs. As longevity increases and medical advancements enhance quality of life, the number of seniors seeking social engagement and community support has grown. Recognizing the importance of catering to the diverse needs of this demographic, the institution initiated the Senior Citizen Club as a proactive measure to provide a platform for social interaction, recreational activities, and support networks tailored specifically for senior citizens. In response to the shifting demographic landscape, the club aims to foster a sense of belonging and well-being among seniors, acknowledging their valuable contributions to society while addressing their unique needs and challenges
- **The Practice :** The Dhandai Jeshtha Nagarik Sangh was established in 2017 under The Society Registration Act, 1860, with the Principal of the institution and Prof. Bhagwan Bhalerao serving as coordinators. Through a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the Sane Guruji Jeshtha Nagrik Sangh, a senior citizen club for retired individuals in the city, the Sangh commenced its activities. Meetings were convened to

identify and address the issues and challenges faced by senior citizens, revealing prevalent physical and psychological concerns arising from aging. To address these needs, the institution organized health check-up camps specifically tailored for senior citizens. Moreover, Prof. Manish Joshi, UGC Secretary from the Department of Adult Education, and other invited experts delivered enlightening lectures on various topics pertinent to senior citizens' well-being. In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, a special vaccination camp was conducted at the college for senior citizens, prioritizing their health and safety. Additionally, the institution initiated a Reading Katta program, offering access to books and magazines from the college library for senior citizens to peruse free of charge, further enhancing their social and intellectual engagement within the community.

- **Evidence of Success : .**

1. A full-day workshop dedicated to senior citizens was organized at the college on 27/01/2020, featuring extensive health check-ups and guidance from medical professionals regarding prevalent health issues among the elderly population. Psychological concerns were also addressed during the workshop. This initiative proved immensely beneficial, with 83 senior citizens actively participating and benefiting from the comprehensive health-related guidance and support provided.

2. 18 Senior citizen were felicitated by 'Mano-Yuva Purskar' (Award) for their valuable contributions in their respective field. They are also invited during flag hoisting ceremony on Republic Day.

3. A Vaccination Camp specifically tailored for senior citizens was successfully organized, facilitating access to COVID-19 vaccinations for 42 elderly individuals. This initiative played a pivotal role in safeguarding the health and well-being of the senior citizen community amidst the ongoing pandemic.

4. The establishment of Reading Katta provided a source of entertainment and intellectual engagement for senior citizens, fostering an environment where they could socialize and engage in meaningful discussions with one another.

5. Lectures and interactive sessions facilitated constructive communication and knowledge exchange between faculty members, senior citizens, and young students, creating a conducive environment for mutual learning and understanding among diverse age groups.

6. The initiatives undertaken by Dhandai Jeshtha Nagrik Sangh garnered heartfelt appreciation and gratitude from the senior citizen community, underscoring the significant impact of the programs implemented by the organization in enhancing the quality of life and well-being of elderly individuals within the community.

- **Problems Encountered and Resources:** The initiative faced challenges due to limited resources, particularly in terms of funding and infrastructure. The organization had to rely on existing facilities and partnerships to conduct health check-ups and vaccination camps, which posed constraints on the scale and scope of the activities. The

onset of the COVID-19 pandemic presented significant obstacles to the smooth implementation of the initiatives. Public health restrictions, including social distancing measures and limitations on gathering sizes, necessitated adjustments in event planning and execution. Collaborations with local healthcare providers, community organizations, and academic institutions served as valuable resources for organizing health-related initiatives and accessing expertise in geriatric care.

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