

BEST PRACTICE I

Title of the Practice

Promoting a culture of Research through publication of the College Research Journal QUEST

Objectives of the Practice

1. To contribute to the process of developing knowledge in different fields of study.
2. To provide an opportunity to teachers and research scholars to get their research findings published
3. To disseminate information and knowledge to readers of the journal.
4. To promote an interest in research among in-house faculty.

The Context

One of the laudable achievements of the College is its unbridled efforts at initiating and promoting a research culture in the institution and beyond. The college has framed a College Research Policy towards this goal. In pursuit of excellence and in keeping with the goal of promoting research and dissemination of research findings to the community, the college takes pride in publishing ‘QUEST – The GCCE Peer Reviewed Journal of Multidisciplinary Research’

The Journal bears an ISSN (2395-2768) and till date five volumes of the journal have been published. The publishers strictly adopt ethical publication practices. The papers received are in the initial instance filtered for plagiarism and then submitted for peer review.

The College invites academicians, research scholars, and students to contribute research papers for publication in the journal.

While research has become an integral component of a teacher’s career, publication of research inputs also facilitates in the career advancement (CAS).

The Practice

The first issue of the journal was published in 2014. It was purely an in-house initiative comprising of research papers penned by faculty of the college. Due to financial constraints, this volume of the journal was a bound volume of photocopies of papers written by the teachers.

The next volume of the journal was printed encompassing the research findings of academicians and research scholars from across educational institutions in the State. The papers received were screened for plagiarism using the services of the Librarian of the Goa University.

In the third volume of the journal the papers were not just filtered for similarity at the University using the URKUND Software but were then sent for peer review. Selected papers were published in the journal volume.

Over the years, the College Journal has journeyed from being an in-house initiative to a peer reviewed journal attracting research inputs from academicians and research scholars. In the fifth volume of the journal, a cash prize for the best research paper was also awarded.

Invites for research papers are sent out to all colleges in the State. The rules and norms for submission of the paper are also specified.

Once the papers are received the same are checked for plagiarism.

Papers with a relatively high percentage of similarity are rejected and the selected papers are then sent for peer review. The Reviewers of the journal include academicians with decades of experience in teaching and research and are drawn from within and outside the State.

Reviewers' comments are taken note of and communicated to the concerned researcher to make requisite modifications in the paper and resubmit the same.

The Journal is then sent for publication.

Evidence of Success

A Total of five volumes of the Journal have since been published.

Volume I:2014

Volume II: 2015

Volume III: 2016

Volume IV: 2019

Volume V: 2020

A total of 51 research papers have been published in the five volumes.

While 39% (20) of the total research papers published are of in-house faculty, academicians/researchers from other educational institutions from across the State and the Goa University have contributed to 61% of the total papers published in the journal.

Publication in Peer Reviewed Journals was/is a mandatory requirement for award of a doctoral degree. Two of the research scholars whose papers have been published in the college journal viz. Ms. Aida Dourado and Ms. Kajal Rivankar submitted their research papers published in the QUEST as evidence for award of their Doctoral Degrees by the Goa University which accepted the same. The papers published by them in our College Journal have since been uploaded on the Goa University Portal.

Problems encountered and Resources required

The journal basically has an ISSN number. With the growing demand for Scopus and WoS indexed journals, sourcing quality papers for publication in the journal has become an arduous task. The journal could not be published in the years 2017 and 2018 due to the lack of response from researchers/academicians.

Another problem encountered is the escalating cost of publication.

Resources Required

Quality research inputs from academicians and research scholars and financial assistance to meet the increasing publication costs.

BEST PRACTICE II

Title of the Practice

Book Bank: Enabling Access to Learning Resources

Objectives of the Practice

1. To provide informational and educational assistance to students.
2. To help needy students procure books at no cost.
3. To provide access to learning resources.
4. To develop the student's learning ability.

The Context

Book Bank facility for ‘Needy and Deserving Students’ is one of the laudable facilities rendered by Government College, Borda, Library. This novel venture has facilitated the economically weaker sections. This facility helps the students to pursue higher education in a cost-effective manner, without imposing much of economic burden on their families.

The Practice

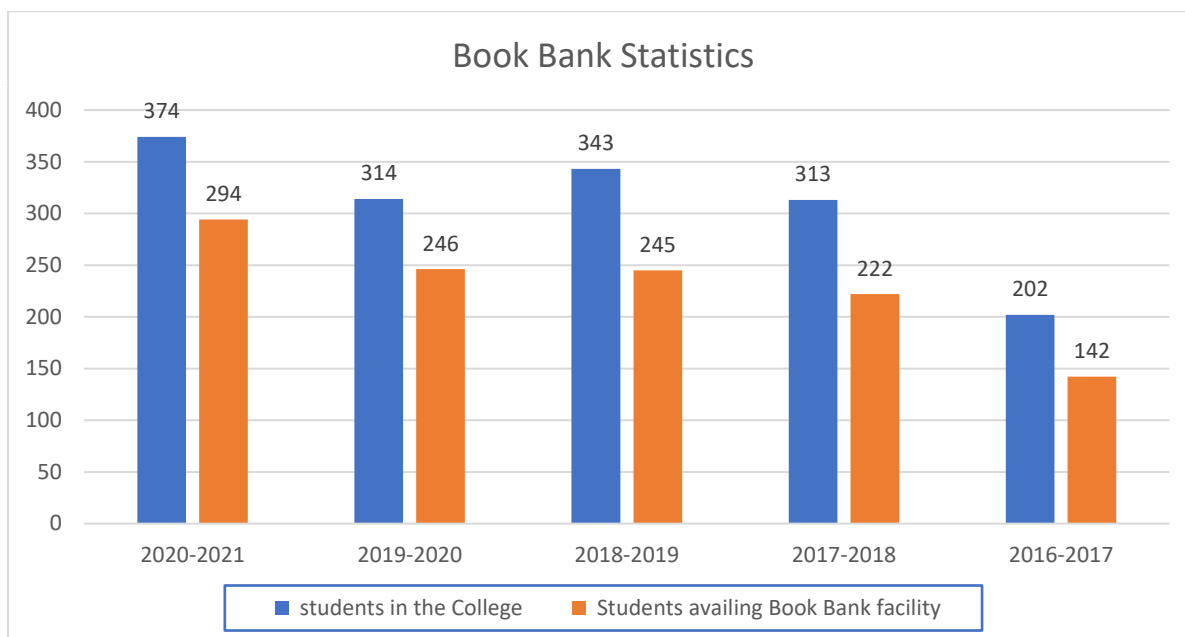
The practice of lending text books to the students for an entire Semester started since the time of inception of the College. The Eligibility criteria for availing this facility is that the student should be a bonafide student of the College; should belong to the economically weaker section; and should have a good academic record; and exhibit good behaviour. While in earlier years, a minimal amount was charged from the student, the fee was dispensed off with later.

A Notice is sent to the students in the beginning of the Academic Year. The application forms received are then scrutinized and the eligible students are provided with the text books. Each student can avail a maximum of eight books for the entire Semester, which have to be returned at the end of the Semester.

Evidence of Success

Year	Total number of the students in the College	Total number of students availing the benefit of Book Bank
2020-2021	374	294
2019-2020	314	246
2018-2019	343	245
2017-2018	313	222
2016-2017	202	142

Source: Compiled from Library Book Bank records.



The above chart shows the number of students availing the Book Bank facility provided by the College Library, through the past few years.

In the Academic year 2016-17, 70% of the students availed of this facility. For the Academic Years of 2017-18, and 2018-19, a total of 71% students benefitted from the scheme. For the Academic year 2019-20, 78% students availed this facility. The Academic year 2020-21 saw 79% students taking the benefit of the Book Bank. This upward trend shows the popularity of the scheme among the students.

Problems encountered and Resources required

A change in syllabus requires new text books to be purchased, along with more book shelves. Apart from that there are many procedural rigidities to procure the books.

Resources required

Both human and material resources are required for the implementation of this practice.