

Best Practices of Sophia College 2018 - 2019

1. Title of the Practice: *Networking with NGO's.*

Goal: To sensitise our students and encourage them to participate in extra-curricular activities involving a concern for the needy and the environment.

Context: In-keeping with our educational goal we endeavour to sensitise to look at the world from the perspective of the less privileged and to respond with concern and a humane manner. Departments and clubs are encouraged to participate in extension activities by collaborating with NGO's.

The Practice: involves both academic activities and club participation. There is a thrust to increase collaboration with NGO's especially those involved in environmental issues and those lending a helping hand to the less privileged. The college has an annual event ANANYA, which provides a platform for such activities and collaborations. Many departments carry out extension activities along with the NSS. collaboration with NGO's something takes the form of helping them to raise funds, for example students of Sociology help ALERT INDIA in their fund-raising campaigns.

Under the DBT Star College Scheme Students collaborated with WWF in their activity Ek Prithvi. Clubs like Students' Social Reform Initiative (SSRI) collaborate with NGOs for various activities, like World for All and Animal Angel's Foundation.

The Sophia Centre for Women's Studies and Development (SCWSD) collaborates with organizations like UNICEF. Their outreach programmes are directed towards economically disadvantaged young girls and women, who have not been able to continue their formal education for a variety of reasons. The participants for these programmes are affiliated to various NGOs whom SCWSD collaborates with.

The Alumni Association has ties with various NGOs and holds events several times a year under the banner SCESA Bazaar – Shop for a Cause. The NGOs put up stalls and sell their products on the campus.

Evidence of Success: the practice of collaborating with NGO's has been a part of our USP, since the establishment of our institution and had survived and thrived through the years.

Problems encountered and resources required: The only problem faced is that sometimes when an NGO's is approached the collaboration does not materialise, for various reasons.

Expenditure are met for the SCWSD activities via a corpus fund. No other expenditure is needed.

2. Title of the Practice: *Annual Theme of the Year*

Goal: to channelize the department activities and programmes towards a concrete objective/goal in a pre-planned, inclusive and democratic manner so that the result is tangible and useful to students.

Context: we believe that Sophia College intentions, ideas and thoughts have to translate into practices. The educational goals are spelt out in our college handbook. These work as guidelines to plan our annual activities and programmes.

Practice: at the beginning of every academic year the Annual Theme is finalized collectively and democratically. Faculties of all the departments, Arts, Science, Information Technology and Mass Media deliberates, discuss and arrive at a theme for the given academic year. The theme agreed upon directs the faculty to think and plan their departmental activities as per the short-listed goals for the department in a given academic year. The theme therefore acts like a departure point for different to ideate, explore and plan activities in the form of workshops, seminars, field visits and lectures in accordance with the overarching theme for the year.

2018 – 2019: The Pursuit of Excellence with Integrity.

2019 – 2020: Fostering Secularism and Social Responsibility.

Evidence of Success: Having the activities in conformity with the theme of the year enables the college to ensure that there is a common thread, thought process in planning and implementing activities. The impact is unitary and holistic.

Problems encountered and resources required: All the activities committed for are sometimes not completely accomplished at the end of the given academic year due to unforeseen hurdles or problems. No extra resources are needed as they fall under the routine departmental activities.