

## The Development of Soft skills: The focus on Students in Rural Colleges.

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## Devchand College, Arjunnagar A grade College by NAAC LEAD COLLEGE



### Introduction:

- Liberalization and globalization of economic activities, the need to develop human resources of a high caliber.
- The demand for higher education at nationally comparable and internationally acceptable standards.
- Increasing access to higher education and ensuring social justice will continue to be important objectives of national development, developing internationally and inter-culturally competent human resources is of equal importance.
- The developments in the global scenario make it imperative to develop the skills of students in India such that their skills are on par with those of their counterparts abroad.

### Introduction:

- This requires the HEIs to be innovative, creative and entrepreneurial in their approach to skill development among students. HEIs have the responsibility of inculcating a desirable value system in students along with the skills.
- In a country like India with cultural pluralities and diversities, it is essential that students imbibe values commensurate with social, cultural, economic and environmental realities at the local, national and universal levels.

### Introduction:

- Most of the significant developments that one can observe today can be attributed to the impact of science and technology. An institution has to provide necessary assistance to students to acquire healthy and helpful experiences in the campus and to facilitate their holistic progression. Every institution has constituted an IQAC which has evolved mechanisms and procedures to serve as a powerful tool for efficient administration in the institution<sup>1</sup>.

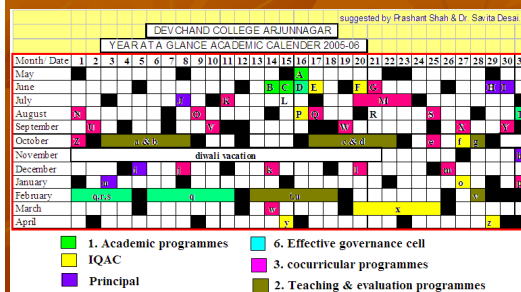
### Extended activities the IQAC

- Via extended activities the IQAC is made effective which may serve as a powerful tool for efficient administration in the institution
- Ref. 1: "Effective IQAC for Efficient administration": Prashant Shah and Savita Desai. Paper presented in the State Level seminar at Ratnagiri(Mah.) 23-24th March, 2005.

## Academic calendar

- The effectiveness is brought in by coordinating the activities of each committee via academic calendar<sup>2</sup>
- Ref. 2: "Innovative Programme experimented by IQAC: Academic Calendar": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented in the National Seminar at Nanded (Mah.) 28th-30th Dec.2005.

## Academic calendar:



## Academic Newsletter

- The activities covered in the calendar were suggested to be published in the form of academic Newsletter<sup>3</sup>
- Ref. 3: "Innovative Programme Experimented by IQAC: Academic Newsletter" Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the National Seminar at RL Science Institute, Belgaum, India, 14th and 15th February, 2007.

<p><b>NEWSLETTER</b> Dr. Savita Desai, Devchand College Arjunnagar, 2005-2006</p> <p>Selected as a teacher participant in the IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) of Devchand College, Arjunnagar. Taking into consideration excellence in teaching and research and commitment to improving the quality of teaching and learning.</p> <p>Elected as a senate member from teacher's constituency on the senate of Shri Jagadgurji, Kolhapur.</p> <p>National conference on Innovative teaching Methods in Science faculty in Tune with Globalisation of Raja Lakhagouda Science Institute, Belgaum 28th-30th Dec.2005</p> <p>Presented a paper Innovative mode of New Learning with special reference to Rural Institutions</p> <p>ICOPR 2006 International Conference on Drug Discovery &amp; Pharma Research being held at R.L.E.V. Pharmacy College, Belgaum, in February, 2006.</p> <p>Proposed 2 papers: 1. Synthesis of Biologically Active <math>\alpha</math>-Tocopherol Derivatives of Coniferol 2. Synthesis of New Hybrid Analgesic 3. Synthesis of Pyrazole Substituted Quinazolinone Dihydro</p> <p>Consultancy Services: An Avenue to Revenue Paper presented in the National Seminar on "Prospects Services in Colleges" held at Sri. Shahaji Chha. Mah. Kolhapur on 4th March 2006.</p>	<p>State level seminar on "The implementation of healthy practices and reflective use of IQAC for quality enhancement." Managed by IQAC on 22nd March 2006</p> <p>Presented a paper Effective IQAC for Efficient Administration</p> <p>National Seminar on "The Role of IQAC in Quality Enhancement" held at Yashwantrao Chavan College, Nanded, 28-30 Dec. 2005 (Presented a paper Innovative Mode of New Learning Experimented by IQAC)</p> <p>Presented a paper Innovative Mode of New Learning with special reference to Rural Institutions</p> <p>Consultancy Services: An Avenue to Revenue Paper presented in the National Seminar on "Prospects Services in Colleges" held at Sri. Shahaji Chha. Mah. Kolhapur on 4th March 2006.</p>	<p>National seminar "Quality in Higher Education: Rural Empowerment-Challenges &amp; Opportunities" IQAC, Organized by B. S. ABC College, Chikodi, Karnataka, 04-10 March, 2006 (Participation)</p> <p>"Coordinator's Training" Workshop conducted by Center for Women's Studies, Shivaji University, Kolhapur, 21-22nd March, 2005 (Participation)</p> <p>State Level Workshop on IQAC As a tool for Quality Enhancement- Quality Assurance Measures" held at SGM College, Karwad 18-19th Feb, 2006 (Student Participation in Quality Assurance (IPQA) in Devchand College)</p> <p>Abstracts Published: 1. "Synthesis, X-ray diffraction study and biological activity of Fagopyrum A-emulgin. 1H NMR spectra" M.S. &amp; S.S. Chavan 2. Synthesis of New Hybrid Analgesic 3. Synthesis of Pyrazole Substituted Quinazolinone Dihydro</p> <p>Papers Published: 1. "Synthesis, X-ray diffraction study and biological activity of Fagopyrum A-emulgin. 1H NMR spectra" M.S. &amp; S.S. Chavan 2. Synthesis of New Hybrid Analgesic 3. Synthesis of Pyrazole Substituted Quinazolinone Dihydro</p> <p>Other activities of IQAC: 1. "Innovative Mode of New Learning with special reference to rural institutions: Savita Desai, Prashant Shah, Paper Presented in the National conference at Raja Lakhagouda Science Institute, Belgaum. 28th-29th October 2005</p>
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## Other activities of IQAC:

- 3. Innovative methods of teaching<sup>4</sup>
- Ref.3: "Innovative Mode of New Learning with special reference to rural institutions: Savita Desai, Prashant Shah, Paper Presented in the National conference at Raja Lakhagouda Science Institute, Belgaum. 28th-29th October 2005

## Other activities of IQAC:

- 4. Consultancy services<sup>5</sup>
- Ref.5: "Consultancy Services: An Avenue to Revenue"; Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented in the State Level Workshop at Sri. Shahaji Cha. Mah. Kolhapur on 4th March 2006.

## Other activities of IQAC:

### ■ 5. Participation of the students<sup>6</sup>

- Ref. 6: "Student participation in Quality Assurance (SPQA) in Colleges"; Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **State Level Workshop** at S.G.M. College, Karad 18th-19th February 2006.

## Other activities of IQAC:

### ■ 6. Lead college<sup>7</sup>

- Ref. 7: "Team Work through Lead College"; Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **National Seminar** at Gondia, Maharashtra, 28-January-2006 to 29-January-2006.

## The Role of Principal and Coordinator<sup>8</sup>:

- The principal and coordinator should work proactively with full democratic and open approach towards execution and implementation of the evolved innovative mechanisms. Quality and excellence are results of team work led by the leaders like Principal and Coordinator of IQAC. However the leaders should work on the guidelines of IQAC with proper realization of the democratic role of IQAC and accountability of their own role.
- Ref. 8: "Performance Evaluation Of IQAC: The Role of Principal and Coordinator"; Prashant Shah and Savita Desai. presented in the **National Seminar** at A. S. College, Bijapur. ( 7-8 march 2008)

## Role of ICT in HEI<sup>9</sup>

### ■ Administration

1. Online admissions;
  2. One window-one minute service;
  3. Recording of student attendance
  4. Library;
  5. Musters
  6. Security of the campus
  7. Feedback from students;
  8. Record keeping;
  9. Circulars and GRs
  10. Alumni association
- Use of office automation software  
Institutional website.

### ICT in teaching, learning

- Power point presentations and animations,
- Modelling and simulations,
- Video clips and using AV aids, LCD projectors etc.
- Seminars of the students
- Online courses of the foreign Universities in collaboration with the Universities.

### ICT in Evaluation:

- Exercises and MCQs on the institutional websites with increasing level of difficulty.
- The online examination process
- The progress can be monitored
- Use of video conferencing.
- Institutional website: syllabus, notes, practical sheets, study material, the results of the exams

Ref. 9: "The role of ICT in Administration, Teaching, Learning, Evaluation and Research in Higher Education"; Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Presented in the **National Conference** at B.K. Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Chikodi. ( 23 and 24 January, 2009)

## The present work

- Proposes levels with priorities to introduce and improve the quite essential soft skills in the students with rural background specially, such as
- Building of competency level,
  - Developing communication skills,
    - Improving self confidence,
    - Inculcating professionalism and
    - Acquiring skills for paramount placements.

## Building of competency level

- **Subject expertise:** Use of reference books, internet, learning experiences, notes, seminars, exams, tests etc.
- **General knowledge:** Print media, news channels, seminars, workshops, conferences, lectures etc.
- **Computer literacy and mastery in ICT:** Software skills.
- **Strong Work Ethic:** Are you motivated and dedicated to getting the job done, no matter what? Will you be conscientious and do your best work?

## Developing communication skills:

Are you both verbally articulate and a good listener?  
Can you make your case and express your needs in a way that builds bridges with colleagues, customers and vendors?

- **Effective and fast reading:**
- **Fluency in English:** communication, lecturing, discussion, abstracting,
- **Presentation skills:** use of AV and ICT

## Body language<sup>10</sup>:

- **Posture and gesture:**
- **Eye contact**
- **Orientation:**
- **Proximity:**
- **Looks**
- **Expression of Emotions:**

Ref 10: One day workshop on "Making Teaching Exciting" at D R. Mane college, Kagal 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb, 2009

## Improving self confidence,

Do you truly believe you can do the job? Will you project a sense of calm and inspire confidence in others?  
Will you have the courage to ask questions that need to be asked and to freely contribute your ideas?

- **Proper temperament:**
- **Positive attitude:** Are you optimistic and upbeat? Will you generate good energy and good will?
- **Presenting personality:** outfit awareness,

## Inculcating Professionalism:

- **Time management:** Do you know how to prioritize tasks and work on a number of different projects at once? Will you use your time on the job wisely?
- **Stress management:** Can you handle the stress that accompanies deadlines and crises? Will you be able to do your best work and come through in a pinch?
- **Problem solving techniques:** Are you resourceful and able to creatively solve problems that will inevitably arise? Will you take ownership of problems or leave them for someone else?
- **Interpersonal relationship:**

## Acquiring skills for paramount placements.

- **Resume writing:**
- **Interview techniques:**
- **Group discussion:**
  - subject knowledge
  - active listening,
  - dealing with group,
  - reviewing & abstracting ability,
  - leading attitude)

## Conclusion:

**It is essential to have following:**

- Student's training programmes.
- Provision of infrastructure.
- Generation, collection and sharing of more e-contents and study material.
- Collaborative, integrated and interdisciplinary approach of teachers and technical experts.
- Less expensive technology/gazettes.
- Motivating, skilled and committed teachers.

### References:

- 1. "Effective IQAC for Efficient administration": Prashant Shah and Savita Desai. Paper presented in the **State level seminar** on "The Implementation of healthy practices and effective use of IQAC for quality enhancement" at **Ratnagiri (Mah.)** 23-24th March, 2005.
- 2. "Innovative Programme experimented by IQAC: Academic Calendar": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented in the **National Seminar** on "The Role of IQAC in Quality Enhancement" at **Nanded (Mah.)** 28th-30th Dec, 2005.

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- 4. "Innovative Programme Experimented by IQAC: Academic Newsletter" Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **National Seminar** on 'Sustenance and Enhancement of Quality in Higher Education' at **RL Science Institute, Belgaum, India,** 14th and 15th February, 2007.

### References:

- 5. "Innovative Mode of New Learning with special reference to rural institutions: Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper Presented in the **National conference** on 'Innovative teaching Methods in Science faculty in Tune with Globalization' at **Raja Lakhamgouda Science Institute, Belgaum.** 28th-29th October 2005
- 6. "Consultancy Services: An Avenue to Revenue": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented in the **State Level Workshop** on "Prospects of Consultancy Services In Colleges" at **Shri. Shahaji Cha. Mah. Kolhapur** on 4th March 2006.

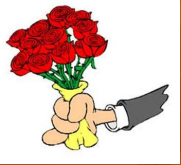
### References:

- 3. "Innovative Programme Experimented by IQAC: Academic Newsletter" Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **National Seminar** at **RL Science Institute, Belgaum, India,** 14th and 15th February, 2007.
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- 5. "Consultancy Services: An Avenue to Revenue": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented in the **State Level Workshop** at **Shri. Shahaji Cha. Mah. Kolhapur** on 4th March 2006.
- 6. "Student participation in Quality Assurance (SPQA) in Colleges": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **State Level Workshop** at **Rayat Shikshan Sanstha's S.G.M. College, Karad** 18th-19th February 2006.

- 7. "Team Work through Lead College": Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Paper presented to the **National Seminar** at **Gondia, Maharashtra,** 28-January-2006 to 29-January-2006
- 8. "Performance Evaluation Of IQAC: The Role of Principal and Coordinator": Prashant Shah and Savita Desai. presented in the **National Seminar** at **A. S. College, Bijapur.** ( 7-8 march 2008)
- 9. "The role of ICT in Administration, Teaching, Learning, Evaluation and Research in Higher Education" Savita Desai and Prashant Shah. Presented in the **National Conference** at **B.K. Arts, Science, and Commerce College, Chikodi.** ( 23 and 24 January, 2009)



**Thanks a lot.**

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