



The American College, Madurai

## 7.2 – Best Practices

### 7.2.1 – Describe at least two institutional best practices

#### 1. **Title of Practice:** International Exposure and Orientation

**Objective:** To give International Exposure and Orientation.

**Context:** Majority of our students hail from semi urban and urban areas whom are underprivileged. Many students are first generation learners and they are given priority in admissions. The vision for our institution is to train students for international standards.

**Practice:** Every department organises International Symposia, International Conference and Workshop and International Exchange Programmes. Our college premise is continuously being crowded with such activities. Delegates and Resource Persons all over the world take part in such programmes. Our students are provided special coaching to crack TOEFL and IELTS examination. In addition, the students are taken up to foreign countries as field tours. The faculty accompanied trips include an Institution Visit, Industrial Visit and excursion. To facilitate international trips, the DPM library looks after Passport Melas. Around 1,600 students got their passports with the help of DPM Library. In 2018 to 2019, 55 students were taken to Malaysia and another batch of 50 students to Dubai.

**Evidence of Success:** MOUs were signed with Concordia College, Burnsville, United States, St. Clair College, Canada and Binary University, Malaysia for Credit Transfer Programmes. The academic and administrative officers frequently visit our college and deliver career counselling.

During 2018 to 2019, 55 students were taken up to Malaysia for university visit and industrial visit. Another batch of 50 students were taken up to Dubai on Institutional visit. Among those visited these institutions, seven students are now continuing their higher education.

#### 2. **Title of Practice:** Fee Waiver to sports students

**Objective:** To motivate the students excel in sports and represent college.

**Context:** A good physique makes a sanity mind. The Physical Education Department, trains more than 1,000 students in various sport activities every year.

**Practice:** College offers concessions and waivers in fees to those students excel in sports and games. This assistance is provided from Principal's Discretionary Fund.

**Evidence of Success:** During 2018 to 2019, the students who represent college in various sports and games viz., Athletics, Basketball, Swimming, Handball, Chess, Football, Hockey, Table Tennis, Volleyball, Badminton, KhoKho, Handball Kabaddi are being honored well by the college. During this year, 100 percent tuition fee was waived for 44 students.

56 students were given with Free Hostel Accommodation along with mess. Among them 51 students were given Tuition Fees Waiver too.

As a result, the college achieves highest number of University Blues, i.e., 52 during the year on various sports.

**Problem Encountered/ Resources Required:** If government join hands in this programme, by tapping up funds for promoting sport activities, the younger ones represent state or country in national and international tournaments.

### 3. **Title of Practice:** The Student Run Programmes

**Objective:** To train students to lead.

**Context:** "Leaders are not born, They are made". To witness the truth of this quote, The American College trains the students to lead and organise the course of activities in NSS, Service Learning Programme, Students Services Committee and Department Associations. They are given freedom to construct the work plan and budgets. Whenever assistance needed, there the faculty interferes.

**Practice:** The Students Leaders in NSS and SLP identifies various avenues of services to the society. They go for field visits and pilot studies to organise the social activities. Student Services Committee volunteers receive invitations from other colleges to take part in cultural competitions. The devoted volunteers find the talented students in our college and train them to excel in extracurricular and cultural competitions.

**Evidence of Success:** Association secretaries are the senior class students organise state level competitions for their respective department students from other colleges all over Tamil Nadu with their and their junior class students are deputies. The students themselves elect Secretaries and other office bearers to their association. Our college has more than 15 associations viz. Kurinji for Tamil, Pegasus for English, OIKOS for Economics, COMMAS for Commerce, REPHISO for RPS, ANALGEOCA for Math, PHOBAS for Physics, CHEMFEST for Chemistry, BOT, ZOOFEEST for zoology and BYTES for computer science departments. They fix the dates, design and print invitations, flyers and handouts. They also find chief guests, sponsors and media partners themselves. The faculty members are the onlookers. Such independent ventures build a good leadership skill among the students. This could not be found in any other institutions.

**Problem Encountered/ Resources Required:** As many of our students are from underprivileged background, they need financial assistance to fulfil their dreams. College management arranges financial assistance for those students from HDFC bank, ICICI bank and Canara bank.

### 4. **Title of Practice:** Student Induction Programme

**Objective:** To prepare the school pass outs for college education.

**Context:** The American College is conducting SIP for the past 5 decades in the most successful manner under the Name of "FRESHMEN ORIENTATION".

**Practice:** The days before admission, the candidates are entertained inside the campus for acquiring and filling applications. During the year 2018 to 2019, more than 25,000 applications were being bought for 3,500 seats. The stay inside the campus during the period, the candidates and their parents were guided by the volunteers of Students Services Committee accompanied by a group of faculty members, in opting for a course, student parent counselling, application filling, application tracking

and downloading admission call letters. The volunteers of SSC stay over a period of 21 days on entire admission process.

Induction Programme is run for a week by the college through SSC. The Programme included, conducting Orientation for freshers, Parent Teacher Meeting, Parent Warden Meeting, meeting with College Officio, Campus Tour, visit to departments, CBCS course orientation and course registration, Part V courses orientation and selection viz., NSS, SLP, PED NCC, Dean – Students Meet and Talent Tapping.

**Evidence of Success:** The entire college faculty, nonteaching staff and student volunteers take care of the new students. The parental care shown on the new kids, soothes parents on the chaos of their ward's future. On the first day of college all new students were provided with good vegetarian lunch. The students were given with college calendar and handbook titled "Know Your College" to adopt for the new atmosphere.