

Mahatma Education Society's
Pillai College of Education and Research
Chembur Naka
Chembur, Mumbai-400 071

Annual Report 2011-12

Vision-To create opportunities for value-based transactions and empower student-teachers to tackle professional and global issues through collaborations in a techno-savvy era.

Mission-To promote academic excellence and create humane, self-reliant teachers to meet the local and global challenges of the society and nation.

“Growth is never by mere chance; it is the result of forces working together”

-James Cash Penney.

Pillai College of Education and Research, Chembur has been scaling new heights in its journey of achieving excellence in the field of education. The institution has come a long way in its endeavor to promote academic excellence and create humane, self reliant teachers to meet the local and global challenges of society.

The academic year 2011-12 has been a year of several achievements and successes for us. The institution renewed and reaffirmed its quest for quality in transactions with the A-Grade accreditation by NAAC. The requisite curricular and co-curricular activities were completed successfully notwithstanding the challenges thrown up by the modified syllabus and the credit based semester system. A dynamic and supportive management and motivated staff that are the backbone of our institution played a crucial role in meeting the goals of our institution.

The past year's abundant activities and achievements have set new benchmarks in terms of range and quality. A sterling achievement among them was when our student Gyana Jenisha Nadar secured the third rank in the B.Ed. Examination, Mumbai University. The following endeavors and accomplishments bears witness to the institution's firm commitment to the noble values enshrined in its vision and mission.

Assembly:

In view of preparing student teachers to cultivate value based transactions and quality in their tasks, the day at the institute commences with the assembly, which includes a prayer and two minute ecologist message along with reading the news headlines of the day, sharing personal

experiences, narrating anecdotes, moral stories etc. Various festivals, national and international days are celebrated and observed with great zest and zeal in the assembly.

Workshops:

Several workshops were conducted on a wide range of topics throughout the year. They are as follows:

- Personality Development
- Mind Mapping Session
- Micro Teaching
- Action Research
- Puppetry
- Teaching Aids
- Year Plan
- Unit Plan
- Blue Print
- Stress Management
- Facing an Interview and Resume Writing

The ICBN Initiative:

The Intellectual Capacity building Network is the initiative of our alumni who are actively contributing to the intellectual growth of our institution. The various programmes conducted by them in this regard includes-

- A Symposium on 'Continuous and Comprehensive Evaluation'
- A talk on 'How can the B.Ed Students Adapt to the International Curricula'
- A Paper Presentation Session on topics from diverse fields.

Practice Teaching and Internship:

The practice teaching and internship programme are vital to the effectiveness of the teacher training programme. It is the whetstone where the student teachers sharpen their skills as teachers and facilitators. Through sessions in various schools in Mumbai the student teachers gained firsthand experience of content and conduct management.

Competency Based Programme:

In order to prepare the student teachers to their changing roles in inclusive classrooms a Competency Based Programme (CBP) in Inclusive Education was planned and organized by Prof. Samita Shetty which consisted of 12 sessions over a period of five days. The students went

for field visits to the National Association for the Blind and Ali Yavar Jung National Institute for Hearing Handicap.

Extension Work:

To sensitize the student teacher to socio-economic realities the following projects were undertaken by the institute –Population Education Club, Survey of Women’s Status and Information and Communication Technology. Various activities such as essay writing, skit, expert talk, poster competition debate etc were conducted. Our students won the first prize in the poster competition and consolation prize in the skit competition in the annual extension festival held at Poddar College, Matunga.

Community Work:

Our student teachers worked in collaboration with several NGOs like the National Society for Equal Opportunities for the Handicapped (NASEOH), Snehasadan and Prem Daan for rendering community services.

Career Cell:

Our active career cell conducted career based workshops and facilitated campus interviews. Some of the schools who visited PCER for campus interviews include-Shishuvan School, Avalon Heights, Arya Vidya Mandir, Dr.Pillai’s Global Academy, Universal Group, and The Akanksha Foundation.

Key Differentiators:

- Tutorial Groups: Various activities are held to improve students overall performance.
- Study Circle: To maximize learning abilities based on the principles of group dynamics.
- Library Reference: 30 hrs compulsory library work to improve reading and vocabulary skills.
- Guiding Professor: To guide the lessons and improve the quality of the lessons to be given.
- Mentoring Session: Student mentors help other students through academic and moral support.

Staff Enrichment:

- Several faculty members participated in national and international seminars/workshops/conferences and presented papers too.
- Our senior staff has been the visiting faculty for M.Ed and M.A in Education at our sister concern in Panvel.

- Regular presentation sessions are conducted in the staff room wherein the faculty shares their knowledge on various topics with their peers.
- A few of the faculty members are pursuing their doctoral studies and several of the teaching staff has undertaken research projects at various levels.
- Four of our faculty members attended refresher courses conducted by the Academic Staff College, University of Mumbai.

The fiesta of activities includes:

- Share and Care Computer Enrichment Programme to enable students to learn basic computer application from their peers.
- Late Principal Mathews Chacko Ex-tempore Competition on an environmental theme – ‘Save Our Mother Earth’- was conducted.
- A Food Festival was organized with the proceeds going to a charitable cause.
- The annual Sports Day was conducted at the RCF ground in Chembur in which all students participated in a variety of events.
- An educational visit to various schools and colleges of Pillai Group of Institutions was organized.
- Participation in Blood Donation and Eye checkup camps held at the college campus.
- Participation in Inter Collegiate competitions and winning prizes in various events.
- Participation in Cancer Awareness Rally.
- Talks by experts on awareness of illnesses like AIDS and Cancer.
- Our literary endeavor the annual college magazine DAWN was published.

Feathers in our cap:

- Dr. Sunita Wadikar’s research article was published in an international Journal.
- Dr. Sunita Wadikar and Asst. Prof. Vani Achari have received a Minor Research Grant from the University of Mumbai.
- Prof. Brijbala Suri’s columns are a regular feature in the Hindi newspaper ‘Shanti Pravah’.
- Asst. Prof. Mary George Varghese won the Best Paper Presentation Award for a Paper presented at an International Science Congress. She also has two articles each published in international and national publications to her credit.
- Asst. Prof. Reni Francis cleared the SET exams and also has three articles published in national journals.
- Asst. Prof. Samita Shetty has an ISBN publication to her credit.

- Asst. Prof. Mary Devakumar has an article published in an international journal.
- Asst. Prof. Sunita Jain and Asst. Prof. Swasti Dhar cleared the SET and NET exams this year.
- Our teaching faculty has also been invited as resource persons for various seminars, workshops, to be on interview panels, as judges at various academic events, and as moderators, examiners, paper setters at the university level.

Our future plans:

- To organize a national seminar sponsored by NAAC.
- To undertake UGC sponsored projects.
- To add to our publications domain.
- To undertake a major project in the area of community work.
- To introduce add-on self financing courses.

The credit for putting our institution on this amazing growth trajectory goes to the support and vision of the management, the leadership and guidance of the principal Dr. Sunita Wadikar, the co-operation and dedication of the teaching and non-teaching staff and the efforts and enthusiasm of our students.

To sum it up the year 2011-12 has been an extremely fruitful and successful one for PCER setting the bar high for the dawning academic year.