

Mahatma Education Society's
Pillai College of Education and Research
Chembur Naka
Chembur, Mumbai-400 071
Annual Report 2014-15

'Success is a journey, not a destination'-Arthur Ashe

Pillai College of Education and Research has attained a significant milestone since it embarked on its journey in the field of education as it celebrated 25 years of imparting quality education to the teaching community this academic year. The silver jubilee celebrations were held under the name FELIZIA with a variety of activities organized to mark this momentous milestone in the institution's journey in the world of academics. This year witnessed a variety of activities, achievements and successes.

PCER conducted the following activities:

Assembly:

- To inculcate values and develop cultural awareness of student teachers.

The assembly is conducted daily with the objective of inculcating in the student teachers values and bringing about a qualitative change in their daily living through prayer and value based messages and activities. The assembly is based on different themes like patriotism, pluralism, environment, women empowerment etc. The students begin the assembly with prayer song, read out the daily news headlines, discuss various issues, share personal experiences and anecdotes, present short skits etc.,. The thought for the day is put up by the students. Through the varied assembly activities confidence, communication skills, awareness of issues is promoted among the students.

Festivals, days of national and international importance are celebrated with gusto in the assembly. The students present an array of skits, speeches, songs, dances etc for the various occasions.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- To augment the confidence, intellectual and creative talents of the student teachers.

There were a variety of programmes and celebrations conducted throughout the year which saw the enthusiastic participation of our students. The institution began with the inaugural programme of the B.Ed course and encompassed the celebration of Independence Day, Teacher's day, Vateur, Diwali, Christmas, Republic Day, International Women's Day, Annual Day, Valedictory etc.

Our students participated and won laurels in various intercollegiate competitions. The co-curricular activities also include the inter-collegiate festival –VALEUR. This festival is an opportunity to showcase the talents of students from various B.Ed colleges. The main event was the Principal Mathews Chacko Extempore Elocution Competition which is a tribute to our Late Principal Mathews Chacko who was a person with great oratorical skills. There were other events galore such as poster competition, mehendi competition, rangoli competition, essay writing, bouquet making and wealth from waste. There has been an overwhelming response from various colleges for participation in the various events.

The ICBN Initiative:

- To utilize the alumni resource for the capacity building activities of the institution.

The Intellectual Capacity Building Network is the initiative of our alumni who are actively contributing to the intellectual growth of our institution. As part of the silver jubilee celebrations several alumni were felicitated for their exceptional achievements in the field of education which includes-

Ms. Parveen Shaikh, Head of the Pre-Primary & Primary Section

Mr. Vaibhav Avaghade, Principal-in-Charge, SNTD College of Education

Mr. Sunil Sharma, Author – 'Awaken the Genius within you: Keys to Academic Success.'

The alumni contributed with their valuable insights from their field experience which includes workshops on -

- Raising the Standard in Teaching.
- Innovative ways to introduce a lesson.
- Cognition through Comprehension.
- How to teach like a Champion.

- Changing Landscapes of Teaching, Learning & Assessment.

Practice Teaching and Internship:

- To develop the teaching competencies, methodologies and confidence of the student teachers.

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.

Extension Work:

- To create awareness of the various socio-cultural issues among the student teachers.

As part of the extension activities, PCER has undertaken three projects for this academic year viz., Anna Poorna Yojana (APY), Population Education Club (PEC) and Survey of Women's Status (SWS).

PCER also participated in the street play and poster competition in the annual extension festival UDAAN and won the 3rd prize for the poster competition.

Community Work:

- To inculcate in student teachers the attitude of giving back to society.

There were a variety of activities done in the community work programme with the student teachers contributing in different ways to the various NGO's such as NASEOH, Bal Anand(caters to destitute and street children), Jan Vikas Society(Home for Street children & Rag Pickers). The student teachers also took up an initiative to teach English communication skills to students of Marathi Madhyamik Shala. As part of Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan the student teachers also celebrated the Clean Environment & Aanganwadi Day, Personal Hygiene, Food & Nutrition & Child Care Day, Clean Drinking Water Day and Toilet/Sanitation Day.

We participated in the community service day programme of MES by taking the underprivileged children from Gyansathi of Karunya Trust Foundation an NGO to the programme at Dr. Vasudevan Pillai Campus, Panvel and organizing various activities for them and spending an enjoyable day with them.

Career Cell:

- To promote the confidence and career prospects of student teachers.

Our active career and placements cell conducted career based workshops and facilitated campus interviews. Some of the schools who visited PCER for campus interviews include-Poddar Group, Arya Vidya Mandir, Universal Group, Orchid International, Kotak Mahindra, The Akanksha Foundation, ConnectEd and Nayak Tutorials.

Workshops:

- To develop the intellectual skills, understanding, self-awareness and creativity of student teachers.

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

- Micro Teaching
- Teaching through Puppetry
- Action Research
- Year Plan
- Unit Plan
- Blue Print
- Workshop on 'Thinking Your Way'
- Symposium on Paradigm shift in Curriculum
- Workshop on Life Skills
- Workshop on Stress Management
- International Workshop on Changing Landscape
- Facing an Interview and Resume Writing
- Personality Development

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.
- The senior staff have been the visiting faculty for M.Ed and M.A in Education at our sister concern at 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.

The Fiesta of Activities includes:

- A Food Festival and Jumble Sale was organized with the proceeds going to a charitable cause.
- An educational visit to various schools and colleges of Pillai Group of Institutions was organized.
- Participation in Inter Collegiate competitions and winning prizes in various events.
- Participation in Gandhi Jayanti Celebrations held by Mumbai University on 2nd Oct to observe World Peace Day at the Gateway of India.
- Participation in Yuva Diwas on 12th January, Mumbai University.
- Talk by experts on awareness of illnesses like AIDS and Cancer.
- Our bi annual research journal Transacademia and the annual college magazine DAWN were published.
- The peer reviewed ISBN Seminar proceedings of the National Seminar on 'Enabling Education: Equipping Students for Life' was released during the Alumni Day celebration.

Feathers in our cap:

- Principal Dr. Sunita Wadikar received the 'Best Teacher Award'-Outstanding Contribution to Teaching and Education – from the Higher Education Forum Prof. G. S. Rao Memorial Award on the occasion of Teacher's Day Celebration September, 2014.
- PCER Chembur organized an ICSSR sponsored two day National Seminar on Enabling Education: Equipping Students for Life' in collaboration with Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) on the 18th & 19th of July, 2014.
- An ICSSR sponsored One Day International Colloquium was organized on the 21st February, 2015 on the topic of 'Emerging Trends in Education.'
- A National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) sponsored (two) One day Training Programmes on 'Human Rights for Empowerment' on the 18th and 19th March, 2015.
- Dr. Brij Bala Suri authored her third book 'Navin Hindi Adhyapan Shailly'.

- Dr. Reni Francis authored her second book ‘Constructing Creative Minds- A Teacher’s Handbook’.
- Dr. Brij Bala Suri was appointed as the Principal of Pillai HOC College of Education and Research, Rasayani in December 2014.
- Asst. Prof. Samita Shetty and Asst. Prof. Sneha Raikar completed their doctoral studies.
- Dr. Mary George Varghese received a project grant under the University Minor Research Scheme for 2014-15.
- Dr. Mary George Varghese received a Minor Research Project Grant from ICSSR Mumbai for the year 2014-15.
- Dr. Mary George Varghese completed her M.A. (Psychology) successfully.
- P.G recognition was granted to Dr. Reni Francis, Dr. Mary Varghese and Asst. Prof. Vani Achari.
- 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 and conveners for revision of syllabus at the university.

Our future plans:

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

These notable accomplishments are the result of team effort and have been entirely possible due to the support and vision of the management, the co-operation and dedication of the teaching and non-teaching staff and the efforts and enthusiasm of our students.

This silver jubilee year has been a major milestone for PCER as it continues to raise the benchmark of quality performance in the world of education.

Excellence is the gradual result of always striving to do better
-Pat Riley

Dr. Sunita Wadikar
Principal

PCER, Chembur