



Mahatma Education Society's

Pillai HOC College of Engineering & Technology, Rasayani

Best Practices

1. Empowered and Structured Work Culture

Objectives

- To create a system and a disciplined work culture that aligns with our institution's goal
- To distribute authority and responsibilities to encourage inclusiveness and shared ownership.
- To encourage students to develop a sense of discipline and belonging
- To inspire dedication among faculty in their profession and foster loyalty to the system.
- To promote transparency and enable quicker decision-making for academic and administrative activities at all levels.
- To create a supportive and respectful environment where everyone is involved in decision-making, maintaining personal dignity and decorum

The Context

Decentralisation at PHCET is a strategy that ensures the system operates efficiently by effectively delegating authority and monitoring processes. This method expedites the decision-making process for all levels of academic and administrative activities. The institution is built upon a disciplined system, which is maintained by a proactive, committed management, Principal, HODs, dedicated faculty, students, and staff.

The Practice

- In classrooms, laboratories, libraries, and other academic areas, student discipline is a top priority and is closely monitored by HODs, faculty and staff
- Cell phones are prohibited in academic environments and classrooms laboratories, libraries.
- Counselling is provided at the departmental TGMS session and college levels by counsellor in instances of severe misconduct.

- In addition to the statutory committees mandated by AICTE, Mumbai University, and the State Government, a variety of functional committees have been established to oversee curricular, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities. Academic activities such as, timetable, students continuous assessment through examination are strictly followed and implemented as per Mumbai University guidelines.
- Activities such as timetables, test coordination, discipline, sports and culture, mentoring, placement coordination, and research are coordinated by committees at the departmental level and institute level. Decisions are made by committee members with the consent of the Principal and Heads of Departments (HoDs).
- In addition with Mumbai University assessment, the performance of students continuously monitored and assessed by conducting modular test (test on each module) and prelim examination.
- Standard and well-defined policies have been followed in most of the activities at all stage and made known to all concerned.
- Monitoring is done at college level and department level by the respective committees.
- The procurement and maintenance of equipment, tools, and software required by various departments are conducted in accordance with decentralised and transparent procedures.
- Various curricular and extracurricular activities are conducted and monitored by student council at institute and department level.

Evidence of Success

- Delegating authority to the Head of the Institution, Department Heads and various functional committees like Time table committee, IA committee, Placement committee, Research committee, WDC and discipline committee has facilitated the seamless execution of academic and administrative responsibilities.
- Establishments of state-of-the-art laboratories ,research facilities and learning resources
- Participation of student and faculty in various initiatives taken by University of Mumbai and AICTE, New Delhi
- Participation of student and faculty in innovation ecosystem through Smart India Hackathon, IIC regional meet, Boot camp etc.
- Student and Faculty have received funding support from Government and Non-Government funding agencies.
- More number of workshops, seminars ,guest lecture industrial visits and project exposure being held for the benefit of students and staff
- Profession society, student chapter and club activities increased.
- More participation of student in research and project competitions like Avishkar, Hackathon at national and state level.
- Various activities are coordinated successfully by student council and NSS unit PHCET.
- Faculty and staff feel more responsible for the outcomes of their work due to the autonomy granted to them leading to better student outcomes

Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Initial resistance due to increased responsibilities
- More documentation need to be maintained by the committee
- More time and effort

2. Hackoverflow 2.0, PHCET

Objective:

- **Innovative Solutions:** Build creative, technology-driven projects to solve real-world problems.
- **Collaboration:** Work in teams to foster teamwork and exchange of ideas.
- **Skill Development:** Learn new tools, technologies, and improve technical abilities.
- **Networking and Competition:** Connect with professionals and compete for prizes or opportunities.

The Context:

HackOverflow 2.0 is a time-limited event where participants come together to create innovative solutions to specific challenges. Typically, it focuses on leveraging technology to address real-world problems in areas like healthcare, education, or sustainability. Teams of developers, designers, and entrepreneurs collaborate to build prototypes or working models, often using new tools or programming languages. The event encourages rapid learning and the development of new skills through hands-on experience. Teams present their projects to judges, competing for prizes and recognition. HackOverflow aims to inspire innovation, foster teamwork, and create impactful technology-driven solutions. It also serves as a platform for participants to explore new ideas and push the boundaries of what's possible in tech. The atmosphere is intense, with a focus on productivity, learning, and experimentation. Ultimately, it's a space for growth, networking, and turning ideas into tangible projects.

The Practice:

In Indian higher education, Hackathon offer a unique, hands-on learning experience that goes beyond traditional classroom education. They foster teamwork across diverse disciplines, encouraging interdisciplinary collaboration. These events bridge the gap between academic knowledge and industry needs, promoting innovation and entrepreneurship. Students work on real-world problems, often addressing local challenges, and gain exposure to cutting-edge technologies. Hackathon also nurture a collaborative culture, helping students build networks and develop skills that are essential for the growing tech-driven job market in India. Since last 2 academic years, Hackathon – HackOverflow is organised every year in the month of March

Evidence of Success:

- Hackathon enhance skills and provide a strong portfolio, boosting opportunities for both higher studies and job placements.
- Improved student skills are frequently reported, especially in areas like coding,
- Improved problem-solving capability of students.

- Feedback surveys typically show high satisfaction rates, with students citing valuable learning experiences.

Problems Encountered and Resources required:

- Completing a project within the limited time frame is often a major challenge, as participants must balance creativity, technical execution, and teamwork under pressure.
- Coordinating a large number of participants can be challenging due to logistical issues.
- Organizing a Hackathon requires careful planning of venue, accommodations (for offline events), food, transportation, and coordination for the smooth execution of the event. Ensuring everything runs smoothly within a limited time frame can be overwhelming.
- Attracting the right participants can be a challenge. There may be difficulty in ensuring diversity in skills and backgrounds, which is essential for fostering creativity.
- Ensuring a fair and transparent judging process can be difficult, particularly with the large number of teams. Establishing clear evaluation criteria and involving experienced judges is essential to avoid bias or confusion.

Resources required

- To cover costs, funding from corporate sponsors, local businesses, or educational institutions is essential. Sponsors can also contribute by providing mentorship, tools, and prizes.
- If the Hackathon is held in person, ensuring that participants are well-fed and comfortable is essential. Catering services and access to basic amenities (restrooms, lounges) are necessary to keep participants focused and energized.
- A suitable venue with adequate seating, power outlets, Wi-Fi, and breakout spaces is required for participants to work comfortably. Ensuring access to the right tools, APIs, and cloud services is crucial. Organizers should also provide technical support staff to resolve any issues that arise with software, hardware, or connectivity.
- Engaging industry experts and experienced professionals as mentors helps participants with technical guidance, while a diverse panel of judges is necessary to evaluate projects fairly and thoroughly.
- To attract participants, effective marketing strategies (social media campaigns, university outreach, etc.) are needed to create awareness and build excitement for the event.