

**Sir P T Sarvajanik College of Science  
Surat  
Best Practices 2022-2023  
Two institutional best practices**

**Best Practice 1.                 Bicycle Club**

**Title:**   **Bicycle Club**

**Objective of the Practice**     Sensitizing the students on the importance of sustaining environment.

**Need Addressed and the Context**

- Involvement of the students and inclusion of various stakeholders for a collective awareness and implementation of the sustainable environment practice.
- Need to convey a message on carbon footprint, reduction in use of fossil fuel and also health management.
- Riding a bicycle is a visual message that reminds not only the user but also the people observing the rider about their valuable contribution to an eco-friendly approach to environment consciousness and it hints at the possible solution to the current environmental catastrophe.

**The Practice**     In 2016, a one of its kind, the Bicycle Club was setup by the college with 24 cycles purchased from the support of the alumni and well-wishers from the society at large. After successfully running the activity for a year, in 2017-18, the demand for additional bicycles was received by the college office. As a result, 6 new bicycles were procured bringing the total to 30.

The Bicycle Club rents a bicycle to the students for their daily use and commuting from their home at a nominal rent of Rs. 50/-. The student has to deposit (fully refundable) Rs. 1000/- as a guarantee to the college office. Normally, the bicycle is rented to the student for a period of one semester. At the end of the semester, the student has to either return the rented bicycle or ask for an extension into the next semester. The desirous students are screened via parents' permission, the distance of their place of stay from the college, undertaking to care for and use the bicycle daily.

As per the college rules it is mandatory for all the students coming to the college on their personal vehicles to park them in the parking area outside the college premises. To motivate the students coming on bicycle, an exception to the rule has been created allowing the students coming on bicycle to park inside the campus. For parking the bicycles, a separate, dedicated "privileged parking" has been created inside the campus. As a result, when the student brings

bicycle inside the campus, he becomes cynosure of all eyes giving rise to excellent optics. This motivates other students to follow suit.

**Evidence of Success**

- A total of 30 bicycles were issued to the students of BSc and MSc course.
- Created awareness amongst the students and staff as a result of which some members of the staff and students, too, started to use their own bicycles for commuting to the college.
- The Principal of the college is an ardent cyclist and is often seen coming to the college on his bicycle.
- The bicycle club has been a regular feature in the local dailies.
- Other colleges have got motivated to start their own bicycle club.

**Resources**

- Involvement of the institute 's Alumni and society at large.
- Motivation from college staff.
- Rs. 50.00 per month rent.

**The Institution**

The Principal  
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## Best Practice 2.

## Nobel Lecture Series

### Title:

### Nobel Lecture Series

### Objective of the Practice

- Expose students to the cutting-edge developments in the field of sciences.
- Inculcate research culture amongst students
- Develop scientific temper
- Acquire research skills
- Motivation to opt for higher education in research institutes

### Need Addressed and the Context

It was long felt that mere bookish knowledge was not sufficient for the overall development of graduating students. It was imperative that they be motivated to take up higher studies, acquire research skills and develop scientific temper which may motivate them to opt for career as scientists.

It was thus decided to provide an ideal platform for the students to interact with eminent scientists from the premier institutes of the country. The speakers would be invited every year to visit the college and give a talk on the Nobel prize given for that year in the fields of Physics, Chemistry and Physiology/ Medicine.

The live talk and one to one interaction with the resource person would be a morale booster for the students and motivate them for further research-oriented studies.

### The Practice

“The world is facing severe threats such as climate change, war and conflicts, lack of human rights, inequalities, science denial and extremism. But the Nobel Prize shows that brilliant ideas, science, compassion and hard work can improve the world. Teachers, and the profession of teaching, are crucial to promoting this.” (Text excerpt from: <https://www.nobelprize.org/education-network-nobel-prize-teacher-summit/> )

The above paragraph aptly describes the motivational aspect of Nobel Prize. Taking a cue from this it was decided to start a series of lectures on the topic of Nobel Prizes awarded.

The Nobel Prize is usually announced in the month of October every year. After the announcement, the respective departments in the college take up the task of identifying the appropriate speaker from the premier institutes who has the expertise to deliver a talk on the Nobel Prize. The speakers are then approached and dates taken up for their lecture. The

institute bears the travel expenses of the speaker and their hotel expenses too.

The discovery for which the Nobel Prize was awarded is at times, not directly covered in the UG/PG syllabus. To make it convenient and give an overall idea about the discovery, a prelude to the invited talk is arranged. The Principal of the college gives a talk on the Nobel Prize in Physics. Thus, the students are introduced to the topic and have a sufficient knowledge to comprehend the lecture delivered by the guest speaker.

The speaker usually interacts with the faculty and students after the lecture. The initial interaction is in the form of question-and-answer session. Once the session is over the speaker comes down from the stage and it is an encouraging view to see the speaker surrounded by students. This interaction lasts a long time and students ask questions on topics other than the Nobel Prize also. The students freely discuss research options, names of institutes, research areas and other research career related topics.

**Evidence of Success**

- The post session interaction of students with the speaker is a pleasant view for an academician.
- The students are elated to talk with research scientist at such a close distance. For them it is a once in a life time opportunity.
- The increase in number of students opting for competitive examinations of research institutes is also an indicator of the success.

**Resources**

- Identification and subsequent appointment with the proposed speakers.
- Travel and accommodation expenses borne by the institute
- Motivation and involvement of faculty and students together to host the events.

**The Institution**

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