Best Practice: I

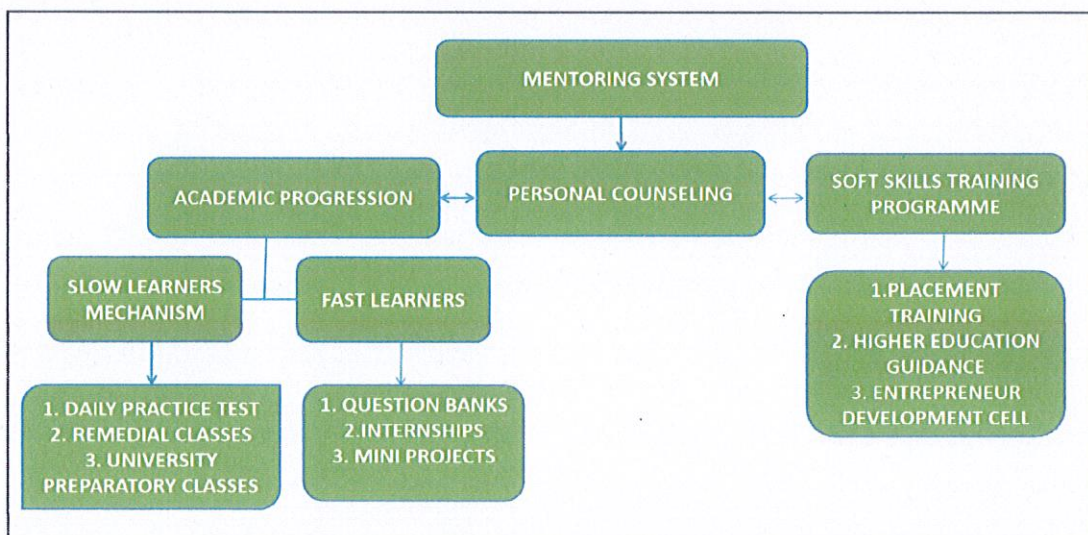**Title of the Practice**:   Design and development of Mentoring System to groom students.

Objectives:

- To support the students in achieving personal, academic and social progress.
- To establish a lively relationship between students and Faculty members, understanding the crucial role of faculty in student development.
- To provide a continuous Teaching-learning process.
- To give guidance for career development.
- To encourage the students to develop their life's eminence and make them as responsible citizens.

The Context:

The students come from various backgrounds. They may come from rural, semi-urban and urban areas, the family backgrounds vary from poor, middle and rich. The medium of instruction mostly would have been the local language. The college has a well-built student mentoring system in enabling student to succeed in both college and career.

The Practice:

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Figure: Mentoring system

A well-built mentoring system exists in the institution. Student counselling starts when they enter   the institute in the 1st year of B.E/ B.Tech and continues throughout their studies. Faculty members are appointed as Counselors to take care of the students. Each counsellor is allotted for **20** students. Counselling hours are incorporated into the timetables and every student will get one counselling hour per week. During the counselling hour, the counsellor sits with the students and interacts with them. Every minute aspect of students' academics and career is brought into notice of the counsellor. Extra care will be taken for the slow learners. By the suggestion they attend remedial classes without fail, and the counsellor will also monitor the same. Before the counselling process begins, the counsellors insist the students to set their goals in the first year. The students are advised to set short-term, mid-term, and long-term goals. At the end of the counselling hour, the minutes of the counselling are noted down in the counselling book, which is exclusively meant for mentoring. The counselling books subsequently follow the students when they are promoted to the next level, i.e., from the first to the second year. The same counsellor will counsel the student until the fourth year. In this way, the counselling book consists of every student's month-wise attendance, internal marks, external marks, etc. These counselling books are kept with the respective HoDs permanently, even after the completion of their studies. During counselling, students' marks, attendance, behavior and so on are brought to the notice of their parents. The college conducts **Daily Practice Tests (DPTs)** and **Soft Skills Training Programs (SSTPs)** for all the classes to improve their academic performance and personality development. **University Preparatory Classes (UPC)** and remedial courses are conducted for late bloomers to enhance their grade in University Examinations. For the Toppers, question banks are given to increase the Cumulative Grade point average (CGPA). Sending Students for Internships and suggesting to do mini projects. This mechanism helps a lot in developing Teacher-Parent relationships. In consultation with the parents, the teachers establish solid grounds for the holistic development of the students. The college guides the students to excel in academics and career. Students are made to learn a goal-oriented approach and devote their valuable time to professional development. The mentors perform academic and career counselling tasks, particularly for students aspiring to pursue higher studies.

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Evidence of Success

A strong Triangular bond is cemented day by day among the students, parents and Mentors. This is the major reason for increase of attendance of students from **75% to 90%** resulting in alleviation of the number of dropouts.

The system helps to create a congenial learning atmosphere in which students successfully complete their courses without backlogs.

The system also helps to develop a good student relationship which ensures a ragging free campus. Students are motivated to take part in conferences, seminars, workshops, symposiums, etc., without hesitation and put out feelers to find new horizons of learning which make them to pursue higher studies and to become an entrepreneur.

Case study:

1. **Siva Balaji S   B.Tech (I.T) Batch 2016-20** had 4 arrears in 1st and 2nd semesters, 2 arrears in 3rd and 4th semesters. Through Motivation and guidance, he was able to clear all arrears at the end of his course completion. At present he is working as a software developer in ZOHO CRM Integrations, Chennai.

2. **Shafeeq Ahamed S B.E (CSE) batch 2019-23** had **2 arrears** in first semester 2019-20 and **2 arrears** in 6th semester. Through motivation and guidance, he was able to clear all arrears at the end of his course completion. Now he is doing Higher education.

Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

The major problem is initially the majority of the students are hesitant to learn because of their backgrounds. Another big problem is that the students try to escape from the mentoring classes on the   pretext of other unnecessary works.

In addition to these, another major problem is establishing the relationship with parents and the students.

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MINI PROJECTS

Proof 1

We enhance the Scientific & Research temper among Students to facilitate projects on specific and beyond Syllabus.
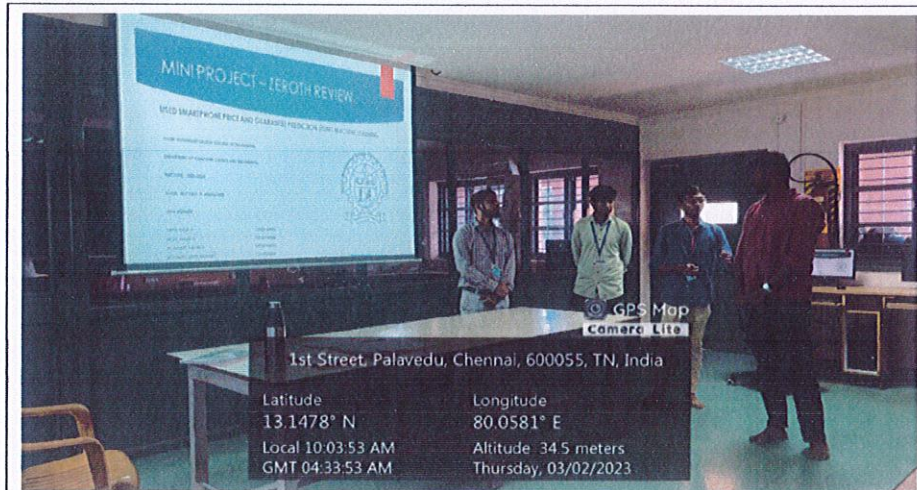

Figure: Mini Project Discussion –III Year Computer Science and Engineering Students Batch (2022-23).

PROOF 2

We encourage the students to improve their Research and Technical skills by providing all necessary provisions to carry out their mini projects.
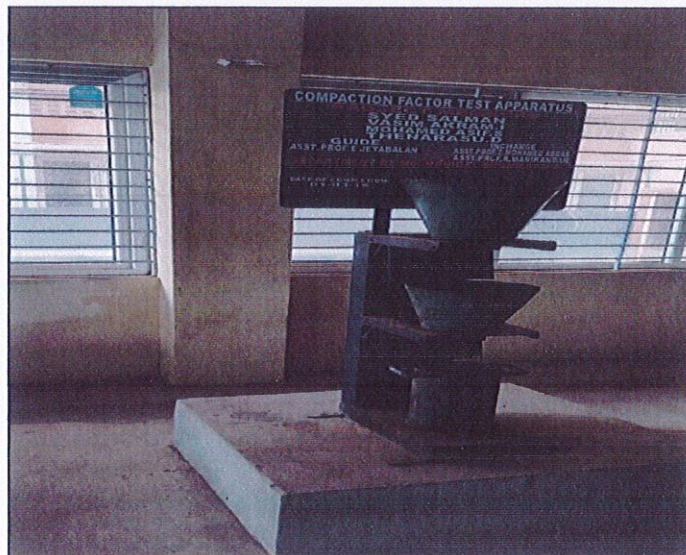

Figure: "Compaction Factor Test Apparatus" Design by Syed Salman, Vasim Akram I, Mohamed Asif S, Thennarasu D of IV Year students of Mech. Engg.

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INTERNSHIPS

Proof

To improve hands-on experience in desired field of studies, Students are encouraged to associate with Internships and In-Plant training in Industry Environment.

Figure: Syed Abu Anwar III year CSE completed Internship on Graduate Rotational Intern at the Sparks Foundation From Nov 2021 to Dec 2021

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