

**Mahatma Education Society's**  
**Pillai College of Education and Research**  
**Chembur Naka**  
**Chembur, Mumbai-400 071**  
**Annual Report 2013-14**

Pillai College of Education and Research has since its inception endeavored towards achieving academic excellence and has left no stone unturned in this regard. Over the years the institution has accentuated its belief in anchoring the academic and non academic activities in values. 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 2013-14 has been a year of several achievements and successes. The institution renewed and reaffirmed its quest for quality in transactions with the A-Grade accreditation by NAAC. The institution's multifarious activities and accomplishments have set new benchmarks in terms of range and quality.

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.

## 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
- Continuous Comprehensive Evaluation
- Teaching through Puppetry
- ICSSR sponsored Workshop on Research Methodology
- Community Service
- Action Research
- Teacher as a Leader
- Innovative Ways to Introduce a Lesson
- Year Plan
- Unit Plan
- Blue Print
- Know Your Learning Style
- Conflict and Stress Management
- Facing an Interview and Resume Writing
- Personality Development

## INTER- COLLEGIATE FESTIVAL-VALEUR:

- To develop the competence and confidence of student teachers.

An inter-collegiate festival was conducted which showcased 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.

### CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

- To augment the 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, Vaisakhi, Diwali, Christmas, Republic Day, International Women's Day, Annual Day, Valedictory etc.

Our students participated and won laurels in various intercollegiate competitions. We participated in the community service day programme of MES by taking the underprivileged children from Smiling Faces an NGO from Panjrapole, Chembur run by Fr. Robin to the programme at Dr. Vasudevan Pillai Campus, Panvel and organizing various activities for them and spending an enjoyable day with them.

### 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. The various programmes conducted by them in this regard includes-

- Panel Discussion on 'Beyond the Horizons of B. Ed'
- Workshop on 'Innovative ways to introduce a lesson'

### 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.

### Add-on Courses:

- To prepare the student teachers to meet the challenges of the modern day classroom.

#### ➤ Effective Communication and the Teacher:

In order to prepare the student teachers to carry out effective teaching learning transactions it is essential to develop superior communication skills. Divided into easy modules, the add-on course encompasses various skills such as speaking, reading and writing, along with modules on personality development and ICT, this course aims to hone those aspects of a teacher which are reflected in her ability to communicate effectively.

#### ➤ Computer Literacy Programme:

Today's teachers need to be computer savvy. This add on course was begun to ensure that all the student teachers have some working knowledge of how to use the computer in their teaching learning experiences. Through the mentor-mentee approach the students who were well versed in using computers taught the others the basics of computer.

### Extension Work:

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

To facilitate the sensitization of the student to the socio-cultural realities students carried out extension work projects encompassing social issues. To realize this objective the following projects were undertaken by the institute –Anna Poorna Yojana, Population Education Club, Survey of Status of Women in Society. Various activities such as essay writing, song composing, skit, expert talk, poster competition, food mela, debate etc were conducted.

### Community Work:

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

Our student teachers worked in collaboration with several NGOs like the National Society for Equal Opportunities for the Handicapped (NASEOH), Snehasadan and Adult Literacy Drive for parents of students belonging to Chembur Madhyamik Shala.

### 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 of Schools, Avalon Heights, Arya Vidya Mandir, Universal Group, The Akanksha Foundation and Teach India.

### 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Oct to observe World Peace Day at the Gateway of India.
- Participation in Yuva Diwas on 12<sup>th</sup> January, Mumbai University.
- Talk by experts on awareness of illnesses like AIDS and Cancer.

- Our research journal Transacademia and the annual college magazine DAWN was published.

### Feathers in our cap:

- PCER Chembur organized an ICSSR sponsored 5 day workshop on Research Methodology. Ms. Vani Achari was the programme co-ordinator for the same.
- Dr. Mary George Varghese received a grant for conducting research under the Mumbai University Minor Research Project.
- Dr. Reni Francis and Ms. Jaya Cherian received a grant for conducting research under the University Minor Research Project.
- Dr. Reni Francis authored a book 'Blooming with Multiple Intelligences-A Teacher's Handbook'.
- Dr. Brij Bala Suri authored her second book 'Dr. Harivansh Rai- Halavaad aur unki Samvednaye.'
- Dr. Reni Francis and Ms. Jaya Cherian contributed in a edited book titled ' Education-Philosophy, Sociology and Economics'.
- Dr. Mary Devakumar and Dr. Sneha Raikar completed their doctoral studies.
- Ms. Sunita Jain completed her M.Com course successfully.
- Ms. Swasti Dhar completed her M.A (Eng) course successfully.
- Ms. Jaya Cherian cleared her NET exam.
- Ms. Vinita Desai cleared her SET exam.
- PCER initiated Add-on Courses:
  - Effective Communication and the Teacher
  - Computer Literacy Programme.
- 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.

### Projects ready to take-off:

- PCER is providing a course in Basic Computer Skills and Personality Development to underprivileged girl students and Functional Literacy in English and Personality Development for their mothers who are working as domestic helps.
- PCER is collaborating with reputed schools like Poddar Group of schools in Mumbai with regard to practice teaching.

### 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.

The remarkable achievements are the result of team effort and the credit for putting our institution on this amazing growth trajectory goes 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.

To sum it up the year 2013-14 has been an extremely fruitful and successful one for PCER, firmly set on travelling the path towards excellence.

*'Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection we can catch excellence'*

*-Vince Lombardi*

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