

CROSS-MENTORSHIP OBSERVATIONS BASED ON MENTORS' REPORTS

Date of Mentoring – 15.09.2022

Report Prepared by – Student Welfare Sub-Committee

A Cross-mentoring session was held on 15.9.2022 across all the departments.

Analysis of responses reveals the following:

- It is observed that there are two categories of student responses -
 - 1) Those that appear free flowing and frank
 - 2) Those that appear formal, non-reactive or aimed to please.
- There are some areas in which most students appear to agree in general –
 - 1) Basic satisfaction with classroom teaching
 - 2) Space crunch
 - 3) Canteen
 - 4) Library for which there is no major grievance but where student state that there is scope for improvement
 - 5) Office is accessible but communication via Notices/website needs improvement
 - 6) Staff and infrastructural shortage in laboratories exist

The above opinions regarding the college were of a general nature and not sharp enough to merit serious concern. However, almost all students admitted to having difficulties coping with life skills, career and personality development.

Mentors have the following general observations regarding their mentees.

➤ *Mentees' Strengths:*

- 1) Clear goals, most of them want a career. A large number opted for teaching profession proving despite occasional complaints, they value their teachers.
- 2) Understanding problem areas i.e financial constraints, time constraints, their vulnerabilities like shyness, anger, anxiety and peer pressure.
- 3) Parent support - as most joined this English medium college because parents wanted a good education for them.
- 4) Competitive and ambitious

➤ ***Mentees' Weaknesses:***

- 1) Anxiety - regarding academic performance
- 2) Anxiety - regarding career prospects
- 3) Anxiety - regarding acceptance in peer group
- 4) Anxiety - regarding approval of parents and teachers.
- 5) Overthinking and too conscious of the image they project.
- 6) Relationship issues, no one said anything about marriage and family.

➤ ***Mentees' threat perceptions:***

Threat perception quite high - from diseases like Corona, lack of money and jobs, peer groups. Basic insecurities of young adults.

➤ ***Mentees' understanding about opportunities:***

- 1) They seek guidance from teachers. They want teachers to have interactions with them, not only for academics but personality issues.
- 2) They are satisfied with the Mentoring system and find it helpful as stress buster.
- 3) They want more Career Counselling and job fairs more competitions, PPT presentations, internships.
- 4) Some appreciate the cultural activities organized in the college as academics prevent them from pursuing hobbies.

Recommendations of the Student Welfare Sub-Committee

- More mentoring - cross and direct necessary
- Stress on general counselling and career counselling necessary
- More stress to be placed on students' seminars - interdepartmental seminars and individual student presentations
- Awareness lectures and sessions on gender identity
- Mentees having abandonment issues because of a parent deceased or divorced be counselled
- Teachers need to function as role models
- Students require motivational speeches teachers and directions as parents do not have the time/knowledge/finances.

Opinion of the Student Welfare Sub-Committee

- Both cross and direct mentoring have positive outcomes and therefore necessary
- Mentorship Questionnaire if provided to the mentee should be simply worded as students in the under-graduate stage are not mature enough to handle the questions if they are difficult for them to understand.