

**Title of the practice:****1. Entrepreneurship development and skill development activities****‘Ruia Cell for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship’ (RCIIE)****Goal:**

Skill development in the youth of India is one of the flagship initiatives of Government of India. Provide an immersive environment to introduce and familiarize students with a community of successful entrepreneurs, Provide visible examples of success, develop reference experiences for learning, build entrepreneurial confidence

Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College, too, has made conscious efforts towards aligning its objectives of the higher education and training with the national initiatives of skill development in youth. The College has already initiated three skill-based initiatives under the DDU-KAUSHAL Kendra; BVoc programs in Green House Management, Pharma Analytical sciences and Tourism and Travel Management. These programs have been designed to enhance students’ skills for employability, to develop soft skills and specific technical skills so that the students can adapt to the changing circumstances, to foster and nurture their creative competencies. The KAUSHAL Kendra of the College primarily focuses on “Perform, Practice and Perfect” for developing various technical and soft skills.

**The context:**

To supplement the efforts in skill-based education the College has established the ‘**Ruia Cell for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship**’ (RCIIE) to encourage enquiry, sustain inquisitiveness, promote innovation, and nurture entrepreneurial skills among the students. Considering that the students at College are pursuing conventional degree course in Arts and Science faculties, the establishment of the Cell is a milestone in the Institution’s quest for excellence in teaching in training. The College also has an Intellectual Property Cell which has been sensitizing students about the importance of Intellectual Property.

The RCIIE undertakes the planning, coordination and implementation of various programs to meet the objectives of sensitizing students and encouraging entrepreneurial spirit amongst them. The RUSA grant that the College received with special focus on Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub will significantly boost the Institution’s efforts in this direction.

**The practice:****Entrepreneurship cell and skill hub**

The College has setup an Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub with the grants sanctioned under the RashtriyaUchhetarShikshanAbhityaan (RUSA). The activities under this initiative will be targeted mainly to sensitize and encourage the entrepreneurial spirit among the students of Arts and Science faculties. In its initial phase the students will be made more open to think as entrepreneurs and become future employers rather than employment seekers. This can be considered a paradigm shift for the students of the College who are conventionally trained only to completing their academic programs to earn a degree.

**Evidence of success:**

The College conducted following activities to sensitize and encourage entrepreneurship spirit amongst its students;

- Orientation programs for ideation and conceptualization of business plans
- Workshops to train students in making business plans and pitching them
- One to one mentorship sessions with domain experts
- Entrepreneurship based competitions and showcasing platforms for students
- Regular induction programs for new entrants and recruiting them to the entrepreneurship circuit

03<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2019, Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College has been identified as one of the centres for the digital launch of Entrepreneurship Cell and Skill Hub by the Hon. Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi. Various Entrepreneurship Development activities like Entrepreneurship awareness camp, Skill development programme, Expert talks are conducted through Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EAC).

### **Title of the practice:**

#### **2. To sensitize the students on human values**

**Goal:** Education plays a vital role in the episteme of human existence. It incites a comprehensive approach towards what one would want to demarcate as human being and what are the values this being carries. In the contemporary scenario, when competition takes first position in the overall graph of sustenance as well as higher education, it is important to nourish the values that keep reminding us of our humanness and the significance of being human in the society. Therefore, concomitant to knowledge acquisition there is a need to inculcate human values on the campus. Considering this, Ruia College endeavors to execute various methods to nurture these human values both through curricula and the ambiance on the campus. The college takes several initiatives to enhance awareness about the same.

The aim of these activities is to:

- To create working and studying environment that promotes respect for human values
- To sensitize students about the significance of these values
- To provide students with a suitable ambiance that would inculcate such values
- Bridge the curricula and the notion of happiness in general
- Motivate students as well as faculties to endorse the human values through their work, study or way of living.
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**The context:** The modern human is beset with many problems; the chief among them is the feeling of alienation and rootless. Questions about the meaning of life and one's purpose in this world remain unanswered for a majority of the people. In the absence of correct understanding of one's aim people face problems at the individual level, and at the level of family, society and nature. Ruia college aims at imparting skill sets that help students transforming into rational, responsible and thinking human beings who can take policy decisions for the welfare of masses without harming the coexistence with nature. Various lectures by the experts, workshops in

association with NGOs and session focusing on the above mentioned values help students to get sensitized and inculcate them in their real life.

**The practice:** Numerous activities were organized by different departments to achieve the above mentioned goals.

- Promotion of mental health, happiness and overall wellbeing – Ruia’s Centre for mindfulness and Wellbeing In collaboration with Samaritans, Mumbai (an NGO working in the field of suicide prevention) organized two expert sessions and one workshop.
- Ruia College with Samaritans, Mumbai organized a successful workshop on the 21st July, 2018 on the objective of building sensitivity. The topic for the workshop was ‘How to recognize signs for suicide and its prevention methods’.
- In this global world stress and conflicts have become an indivisible part of students life as well and they affect the overall academic performance of the students. To deal effectively with stress and conflicts, two different meditation techniques were taught to the students. One technique of guided meditation was taught by Ms. PoojaTidke. She also spoke about the benefits of the technique.
- Another meditation session on Jaina technique of Meditation was conducted by Mr. Jigesh Seth and Ms. Sangeeta. They explained the students the technique of ‘PrekshaDhyan’.
- Ruia College not only believes in the importance of inculcation of human values amongst their own students but also helps in promoting these values amongst other sections of the society whenever possible. A workshop on ‘Emotional Literacy and relationships’ was conducted by Dr. HimaniChaukar from Philosophy department on the 29th July, 2018 for the volunteers of the NGO - MaitriSamvad which works for school children in the rural area of Talasari, Maharashtra.
- Ruia College understands that in today’s world along with academics ‘out of box thinking’, critical thinking are equally important values for the overall development of students. So two separate sessions were organized On the 23rd and the 24th January, on ‘Critical Thinking’ and ‘Lateral Thinking and Mindfulness’.

• **Evidence of success:**

All the above mentioned activities conducted by the college with students initiative and efforts, not only build group cohesiveness and develop a sense of satisfaction amongst students, but also helps students understand and appreciate the value of collective efforts. It also develops and enhances intra-departmental bonds and opens up new opportunities, as well as facilitates knowledge of newer concepts and approaches through group interaction.

Sessions by organizations like the Samaritans, highlighted the importance of mental health and that one must seek emotional well-being. It was explained that, need for help must be realised and one must seek help from the right person at the right time. At the same time, they appealed to students that; it’s important that one is empathetic towards the other person and develops listening skills, and such a person, must surely join hands in working towards mental health. Sessions on meditation helped in soothing emotional

turmoil, negative thoughts and in helping each individual seek connect to his real self, at least for few moments. These moments away from one's chaotic life, take one to a different realm.

These activities were very much appreciated by the student community and it resulted in many students opting to do volunteering with Samaritas, Mumbai.

Mindfulness is living in the moment and not in the past or present unlike the tendency of human mind. It is crucial to ensure efficiency in words, thoughts and actions. Students understood the importance of inculcating these values and insisted that the college should start a formal course in these areas. In response to the demand of students, the college agreed to start a certificate course in 'Critical Thinking' from next academic year