The Two Best Practice followed for the Academic Year 2019-2020 are:

Best Practice: 1

1. Title: Certificate Course: Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching for the professional development of students

2. Objectives of the Practice

The College offers Certificate Course on Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching for the professional development of students

- To enhance the skills needed to perform in the teaching career,
- To identify and improve students' aptitude and attitude towards TET,
- To acquaint them with knowledge on educational psychology of teaching and learning to understand test items on Child Development and Pedagogy,
- To improve functional language proficiency of students in order to clear test items in Language chosen by the candidate,
- To understand the elements of language, communication and comprehension abilities to pass the test items in Language II,
- To provide the students with knowledge of concepts, problem solving abilities, and pedagogical understanding of the subjects, namely Mathematics, Science/ Social Science to help in preparation of TET,
- To practice previous years' sample papers within the time limit.
- To have an idea of the syllabus, exam pattern and weightage to prepare for the exam accordingly, and
- To help them qualify TET for a sense of achievement and contentment.

3. The Context

The Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) was introduced by the Government of India in 2011 to improve standards in teaching. It is an entrance examination for teachers, which is mandatory for getting teaching jobs in government schools from class 1 to class 8. Level I is meant for class 1 to 5 and Level II for class 6 to 8. It is conducted by both Central government and State governments in India. Most states conduct their own TET. The test is conducted in order to fulfil and achieve the goals of the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act. The exam is based on National Curriculum Framework. The people who have the professional qualification to Teacher Training such as B.T.C (D.El.Ed), B.Ed, B.El.Ed are eligible to take part in the test. It's a mandatory qualification for one who wants to be a teacher from class I to class VIII. A candidate has to score over 60% to clear the Eligibility Test. National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) maintains the database and guides the government bodies about conducting the test.

The rationale for including TET as a minimum qualification for a person to be eligible for appointment as a teacher is as under:

- It brings national standards and benchmark of teacher quality in the recruitment process;
- It induces teacher education institutions and students from such institutions to further improve their performance standards; and
- It sends positive signals to all stakeholders that the Government lays special emphasis on teacher quality.

4. The Practice

Since Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) and the Central Teacher Eligibility Test (CTET), refer to the mandatory qualification of teachers to pursue a career in schools as a teacher, the College offers Certificate Course on Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching for the professional development of second year student-teachers to clear the TET Examination with a good score and it is a 90 hour Course.

During the academic year 2015-2016, in the meeting of IQAC it was decided to offer a training programme for clearing TET in the denomination of Competitive Examination Coaching Programme for the second year students and it was

implemented during the academic year 2016-2017 for the benefit of students belonging to 2015-2017 batch. And, during the academic year 2018-2019, the College decided to offer the training programme as a Certificate Course from 2019-2020 onwards as Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching for the professional development of students to help students clear the TET Examination with a good score. The Certificate Course for TET Coaching is a 90 hr.

5. Evidence of Success

The College supports teacher development by enhancing the professional expertises of students through its Certificate Course on Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching for the professional development of students. Through the Course, it provides sharing of knowledge with the help of resource experts and the benefitted students are able to appear for TET and CTET. In the recent past, seven student-teachers of the College were successful in clearing the Tamil Nadu Teachers Eligibility Test. Having understood the fact that they must clear TET in order to teach in a government or private school, the students show interest in attending TET coaching. The feedback obtained from students regarding curricular aspects reveal the fact that most of them are highly satisfied with TET coaching offered by the College.

6. Problem Encountered

Teacher Eligibility Test Coaching is implemented effectively, efficiently, and sustainably; however, the resource experts find it difficult to give practice sessions to all the students and for all the areas and concepts found in the pattern of the question paper. Similarly, there is no adequate time for repeated practice and to concentrate on the curriculum. Another drawback faced by students is that they are unable to attend some of the classes as they are conducted on Saturdays. As the syllabus is vast, students find it difficult to study for TET due to lack of time.

Best Practice: 2

1. Title: Initiation of the Centre for Skill Development & Work Experience

2. Objectives of the Practice

- To identify the skills gap in students in order to provide skill training for employment,
- To cultivate the requisite skills required for teaching career,
- To enhance the skills of aspiring teachers through education and training,
- To extend support to students by serving them with proper guidance, infrastructure, opportunities and encouragement,
- To conduct workshops and seminars for skill development,
- To develop communication skills of students,
- To provide basic knowledge of computers and online teaching tools,
- To promote independence, creativity, teamwork, social skills, fast, etc.,
- To help students discover their interests, aptitudes and potentialities,
- To maximize their potentialities and boost self-confidence,
- To enhance all-round expertise of students to perform well in their career.

3. The Context

Skill infusion is crucial for today's education system as just theoretical knowledge, or degree won't help students get a job. Skill development is imperative to adapt, survive and succeed. We work in an era where dealing with ambiguity and disruptive trends are pivotal to success. While maintaining academic awareness in one's field, one has to review the career eco-system, too, and adapting skills and attitude is inevitable to succeed in the years to come. Education and Experience alone will not help one if one is working with outdated technologies. Hence, having relevant skills with experience is equally important. Basic knowledge of computers, online teaching tools and techniques help student-teachers to acquire better skill sets needed for a successful career and for engaging students in research and internship experiences.

Work Experience complements academic studies by providing another way of learning and an opportunity to put theory into practice. It is crucial to step into one's

field or teaching career. Work Experience gives understanding of the work environment and what employers expect of their employees. It provides with crucial knowledge, skills and personal attributes like increased self-understanding, maturity, independence and self-confidence. Work Experience provides motivation to continue study and/ or to undertake further training. Opportunities to develop work-related competencies and skills help students to understand their field.

Work Experience is important to help them gain a highly sought-after experience. The Centre for Skill Development and Work Experience equips students with the knowledge, skill and motivation to succeed which will in turn pave way for Formal Work Experience Placement.

4. The Practice

The Centre for Skill Development & Work Experience was initiated on 7th January 2019 by the Secretary of the College, Dr. M. Arumugam, to cultivate the requisite knowledge, skills and motivation to perform in one's career. The Centre provides opportunities for the students to develop their skills and requisites required for their teaching profession. It chisels the professional attributes of students by organising workshops, seminars and training programmes. The Centre invites resource experts to provide knowledge and training to students on crucial areas like communication skills, basic computer skills, online tools, etc. Students are trained in life skills and soft skills, too, for personality development. During the academic year 2019-2020, some of the programmes organized were:

- A Two-Day Workshop on Management Strategies for Leadership on 4th and 5th December 2019
- A One-Day UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Enhancing Life Skills on 6th December 2019
- A One-Day UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Power of Positive Thinking on 6th December 2019
- A One-Day Training Programme on Effective Use of Smart Interactive Boards for Student-Teacher Educators on 20th January 2020
- UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Positive Communication Techniques on 24th January 2020

- UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Guidance for Professional Resume Writing on 19th and 20th February 2020
- UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Managing Emotions in the Classroom on 19th and 20th February 2020
- UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Self-Management Skills for Teachers on 20th February 2020
- UGC Autonomous Grant Guest Lecture on Facing Interview with Confidence on 19th and 20th February 2020

5. Evidence of Success

The real learning happens through the Centre for Skill Development & Work Experience, wherein students get opportunities to think about what they saw and experienced. Reflecting back about the experiences is a key to learning and teaching, which the students experience because of the Centre for Development and Work Experience Centre. The Centre provides real time experiences in learning and illuminates the importance of active engagement. The Centre provides improved performance, communication skills, recruitment and career opportunities, and improved accuracy and quality. Student feedback showed that they were highly satisfied and benefitted by the programmes organized by the Centre for Skill Development & Work Experience. Employer feedback showed that the students were able to perform well during the School Internship period, both in their teaching and in conducting various practical activities and outreach programmes.

6. Problem Encountered

The Centre for Skill Development & Work Experience endeavours to provide opportunities to students in order to gain proficiency in various skills and competencies through conduct of workshops seminars and training programmes. Most of the students participate in such programmes with interest and dedication, however some of them are reluctant to indulge themselves in practical activities and find it difficult to cope up with the proceedings. It was found that the resource experts were unable to give individual attention to students for practical and technical sessions.