

### **7.3: Institutional Distinctiveness**

#### **7.3.1. Portray the performance of the Institution in one area distinctive to its priority and thrust within 1000 words**

Samata Degree College was established in the year 1992 by the former Education Minister Late Sunkari Alwardas with a sense of providing quality education to the citizen of the City of Destiny, Vishakhapatnam to cater the enormous needs of the increasing demand of the society. The college started with a few students at the inception and it is now providing research facilities through Samata Research Center.

The college is very choosy in selecting the faculty at the time of the interview. The college left no stone unturned in encouraging the faculty in terms of Induction Programs, Faculty Development Programs and also nominating them to attend conference and seminars at various levels. The college even supports faculty members to publish research papers in reputed journals including research.

Students are welcomed into the college through an induction program along with their parents before the commencement of their classwork. The students are encouraged to participate in all academic activities within the campus and in other colleges. Apart from academics' the college instils concept of the social responsibility among the students to make them better citizens of the country. As such the college has two NSS units to serve the society in regular activities throughout the year along with special camps for period of week's stay in the society. This enables the students to understand the societal needs and requirements at different levels of the society.

The college also contributes its part in serving the society through "Helping Hands Program" by involving the students to serve the society at large. As such the college regularly contributes stationary items and conducts various activities at Lebenshilfe school for special children. The students were found very happy to know that their programs cheered up the specially challenged children.

The college is famous for its achievements in sports– chess, ball badminton, cricket, volleyball, swimming, martial arts, body-building, boxing, The college won intercollege hockey tournament for 7 times in a row organized by Andhra University. The College produced a good

number of hockey players to represent in College Level, University and National Level. Students secured jobs in both State and Central Government by their merit in sports.

The college also celebrates festivals like Sankranti Sambaralu, Ugadi, Gurupurnami, Vinayaka Chaturthi, Diwali, Saraswathi Pooja, Dusshera, Christmas Eve etc. As a part of cultural diversity, the college also celebrates Ramzan, Christmas, Good Friday, Holi, Basant Panchami, Bathukamma, and Onam. These activities not only develop the religious tolerance in the students but also make them understand the different religious practices.

Alumni is another strong pillar of Samata Degree College is its Alumni. Till now, 17 Alumni Meets are organized inviting Alumni from different parts of the Country. Alumni settled in abroad convey their respects and regards to their teachers and fellow-alumni through Social Media. It resembles a festival celebrated every year in the College.

In order to improve the student's performance mentor-mentee system in Samata Degree College. Every faculty is assigned 15-20 students as mentees for monitoring. The mentees are carefully monitored by the respective mentors and their progress is informed to their parents on regular basis. Parent teacher meetings are conducted to report the student's performance and the benefit of the counsel them to give their best. The students' performance is evaluated at the end of every semester and necessary inputs are given and are regularly monitored till the performance is improved. The initiative was successful as the students received the mentorship program in developing their personality.

The Institution focuses on offering affordable quality education to a diversified learning community, working on the principles of accessibility, affordability, inclusivity and academic flexibility to nurture young women in an amicable environment with a mission to ensure their "Intellectual, Emotional, Psychological, Physical, Economic, Spiritual and Cultural well-being".

### **Intellectual well-being**

- Offering globally competitive syllabi under all programmers.
- Incorporating Choice Based Credit System for Arts, Commerce, Humanities, Management and Science streams.
- Honing academic proficiency, non-scholastic skills and orientation towards research.
- Offering special courses for high achievers.
- Facilitating compatible learning methodologies for slow learners.

- Training the students through Self-SWOT analysis.
- Grooming the personality and communicational skills through continuous assessment
- and motivation.

### **Emotional well-being**

- Effective mentor-mentee system establishes an amiable and secure learning ambience.
- Constant supervision offered through Grievance and Counselling Committee.
- Regular weekly meetings by the mentor with the ward and monthly interaction with her parent, ensure the emotional well-being of every student.
- Resident scholars welfare is established through the close attention and care offered by mentors, wardens, hostel in-charge, class in-charge and support staff.
- Making the learners competent to break every barrier such as gender, social and cultural etc.

### **Psychological well-being**

- Student's active participation in the events such as the daily prayer assembly, union activities, cultural, sports, academic and extra-curricular programmes bring out their latent talents and helps them identify their skill sets to groom a successful personality.
- Anti-social practices like ragging, discrimination of any kind are thoroughly restricted inside and outside the campus
- A continuous support system is offered to all students.

### **Physical well-being**

- The daily sports and games hour refreshes the students mentally and physically.
- Students develop sportsmanship, imbibe values, and gain physical stamina thereby becoming strong and healthy pillars of the society.
- Special Training at the college gymnasium helps sports students stay fit.
- Participation in Regional and National events secures their future in sports.

### **Economic well-being**

- Employability skills are integrated into the core curriculum.

- Placement training offered in the final semesters to every student warrants employability.
- Students' potential are aptly identified and they are properly channelized by offering effective career guidance.
- Entrepreneurial skills are inculcated in many courses under every programme.
- Vocational programmes and Community College course offered, ensure venues for employability and entrepreneurship.
- Schemes such as "Earn While You Learn" help students to be self-reliant.

### **Cultural well-being**

- The unique legacy of the nation is being carried forward by the institutional practices such as daily prayer and monthly common prayer and by celebrating all festivals.
- Annual cultural, spiritual and music celebrations.
- The holistic development of women students in our institution warrants the well-being of every woman who leaves the portals of this institution as she establishes an empowered status in her family and society.