



**MAR ATHANASIOS COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES TIRUVALLA
(MACFAST)**



**Report on Capacity Building and Skill
Enhancement Programmes**

MAR ATHANASIOS COLLEGE FOR ADVANCED STUDIES TIRUVALLA (MACFAST)

Tiruvalla, Pathanamthitta, Kerala 689 101



REPORT ON CAPACITY BUILDING AND SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMMES

Capacity building and skills enhancement programmes offered by the college include developing **soft skills, communication skills, life skills, information and communication technology (ICT)/computing** skills and value added programmes. The list of programmes offered by the college under each category is given below:

SOFT SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- **MACFAST Industry Interface (MII)**
- **Industry-Academia Innovative Practices**
- **Outbound Experiential Learning (OEL)**
- **Foundation Programme-Cum-Bridge course**
- **Zero semester induction programmes**
- **Mentoring and Personal counselling**
- **Aptitude training (includes soft skills, communication, computing, and life skills programmes)**
- **Business protocol/Grooming and Dining Etiquette training**
- **Techies Corner webinar programme**

The **Soft skills training initiatives** include programmes like **MACFAST Industry Interface (MII), Industry - Academia Innovative Practices** programmes were provided for all batches from 2016-2020 and are conducted to familiarise with the nuances of industry expectations. This programme equips students as industry-ready candidates.

Opportunity to practically apply principles of Organizational behaviour, Crisis Management, Teamwork in real-life situations can be learned from **Outbound Experiential Learning (OEL)**.

Two to three-week-long **Foundation-cum-Bridge** courses were provided for all the batches to familiarise with the needs and want of different industries along with fundamentals of subjects they study in their regular curriculum.

Zero semester induction programmes for all batches from 2016 to 2020 allow familiarising with the nature and prospects of the course they are going to study in the college.



Mentoring and Personal counselling are part of the regular timetable, also additional sessions are conducted as per the requirements of our students. From the 2018 batch onwards mentorship programme are also provided to the students by utilizing the potentials of experienced alumni. In this exceptional mentorship programme, students were able to receive information about various career launches, progression, and personal experiences straight from the horse's mouth. The mentorship programme is offered once in three months.

Aptitude training / Placement training conducted in different phases for all the batches were equipping students for appearing job interviews, group discussion, competitive examinations, etc. which work as the buzzword for their excellent placements. It is designed in a unique way that the programme covers continuous and compulsory training on communication, social, interpersonal, computing skills enhancement and moulds all students to come out as expert professionals.

Business Protocol and Dining Etiquette Training were also given to students by an outside trainer in which students are exposed to the situation in which they were trained. Students are well taught about corporate culture and mannerisms during this session.

Techies Corner Webinar Programmes given by Department of Computer Application equipped students with technical skill beyond their curriculum.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAMMES

- **Business English Certification from British Council**
- **Business Update**
- **Business Intelligence Symposium (BIS)**

Communication Skill Development sessions resulted in building student's confidence, command over business/industry language, personality development etc.

Regular sessions for English communication were given to all batches of students in the college. The business update programme is provided to all batches of students in the college from 8.30 am to 9 am which is scheduled as



part of their regular timetable. The programme is conducted in such a manner that it enhances the analytical capability of all event related to the finance, human resource, technological, marketing and scientific sides of different industries.

Business Intelligence Symposium (BIS) programme is designed to enhance business knowledge on contemporary and non-contemporary aspects. These programmes altogether improve student's capacity to present, negotiate themselves, and for critical thinking, problem-solving, public speaking, professional writing, teamwork, etc.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) / COMPUTING SKILLS

- **Business Analytics Workshops**
- **SPSS Training**
- **SAP training**
- **Training on Website Project**

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) or Computing skills programme include **Business Analytics Workshop** which offers students an excellent opportunity to study about data analytics which is a known part of almost all corporates. Advanced training on 'R' is also given along with a business analytics workshop. This programme was offered to final-semester MBA students. Developing and promoting research attitude among students '**Analysis using SPSS Software**' training programme is conducted. This programme also benefits students who are doing their research projects in various companies / industries. **SAP** was given as an optional programme in which students can decide about opting for any one of their preferences. This training is offered to all students and this will help them to meet industry expectations beyond the syllabus.

Website project training is given to students of computer applications, in which students under the guidance of faculty members, design and implements websites.



LIFE SKILLS TRAINING PROGRAMMES

- **Yoga and Meditation exercises**
- **Facilities for Gymnasium training**
- **Training on self-defence**
- **Wednesday Gathering (Session for developing social skills and interpersonal skills)**

Life Skills Training is provided mainly for maintaining and building good health and hygiene among students. All the students have undergone 30 hours workshop on life skills – Youth Empowerment and Skills Plus (YES!+)- conducted by the Art of Living Foundation add value to all aspects of student's life. This programme is also conducted as part of students' weekly schedule in the name 'reconnect'- refresher training which include yoga, meditation, breathing exercises etc. These life skill sessions helped students to build up their social and interpersonal expertise too.

Gymnasium facilities were available in both boys and girls hostels for regular exercises. Training sessions on self-defence were also conducted as part of a life skill enhancement programme.

Wednesday gathering an infotainment programme for the college conducted on almost all Wednesdays. In this, gathering students from each batch perform their talents in the auditorium for one hour in the forenoon session. The programmes include a quiz, skit, drama, presentations, songs, videos, birthday celebrations, honouring winners etc. The meeting aims at fostering a bond between the teacher and the taught, as well as every staff of this institution – a bond that emphasizes the importance of every member of MACFAST.

VALUE ADDED TRAINING PROGRAMMES FOR SKILLS ENHANCEMENT

- **Online certifications programmes**
- **Add on Courses**
- **Entrepreneurship Development programmes**
- **Science awareness programmes**
- **Student-initiated webinar programme on post-covid business management**
- **Industrial visit training**



- **Internship**
- **Training on research paper preparation and presentation**
- **Foundation programme in Capital market**
- **Budget Analysis programme**

Value-added Training for skills enhancement is conducted by providing a platform for various **Online Certification Programmes** from world no.1 universities like Harvard, Yale, London university, etc. to the students through Coursera and Edx platform at free of cost. The programme is offered for all students from 2019-2021 batches and continuing. These certifications enrich their academic and job prospects.

Add-on Courses are also provided as per the requirement of students in each department. These add-on course programmes are generally opted by students based on their future career priorities.

Entrepreneurial Development Programmes are done to build up the logical, analytical, and decision-making capacity of students. The Startup Kendra for You (SKY), which is part college incubation center, is playing a major role in this programme.

Student-Initiated Webinar Programme on post-covid business management in which students under the guidance of faculty members present and discuss various strategies to overcome business slowdowns and the new normal in business management. Thirteen students came up with their article on challenges in the current business scenario and discussed various ways to overcome it.

Industrial Visit Programmes are for all batches from 2016 to 2020, in which the students understand and put theoretical knowledge into practice through interaction, working methods, employment practices, and were exposed to modern technologies. Visiting different companies helps the students in broadening their mindset to have a clearer vision about future goals in his/her entrepreneurial /corporate journey.

Internship Programme provided to all batches of students from 2016-2020, are designed to provide students engaged in a field experience with an opportunity to share their insights, to explore the links between students' academic preparation and their field work, and to assist participants in developing and carrying out the major research project which will serve to



culminate their internship experience. Internships are individualized and tailored to the needs and interests of each student in the program. As part of the internship experience, students are expected to take an active role in finding and doing an appropriate internship for themselves.

Science Awareness Programmes offered by the School of Biosciences aid them in experiencing the advanced techniques and discoveries in the field of Life Sciences. Students get the opportunities to meet and interact with eminent scientists or entrepreneurs in the field. This also helps them to plan and choose their areas of interest for further career development. The programme was conducted for all batches from 2016-2021.

Training on Research Paper Preparation and Presentation build up research attitude towards any topic they were approaching. Due to this training, every year average of 10 to 15 students come up with their research papers for national/international conferences and seminars in and outside the college.

The Budget Analysis programme was conducted as pre and post-budget sessions, in which students were first given training on budget impact in different sectors of the Indian economy like agriculture, industry, and services. On a later date, students were divided into groups and presented their analysis and viewpoints on the current year's budget



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