Practice I: Environmental Accountability

1. Title of the Practice

Environmental Accountability

2. Goal of the Practice

To work towards implementing and sustaining integrative practices that combine green initiatives and other humanitarian acts aimed at helping the larger community.

3. The Context that required the initiation of the Practice (100-120 words)

In the Anthropocene era, All Saints' has made commendable inroads in empowering the environment by adopting manifold strategies, action plans and projects that promulgate our commitment to this cause. As an educational institution that is situated at the heart of the ecologically, economically, socially vulnerable zone of South Kerala, we remain committed to the cause of ensuring a sustainable environment for us and our various stakeholders. While nurturing the ideal of preserving our environment, we also persist in humanitarian acts that uphold our motto of giving back to the society.

4. Objectives of the Practice (50-60 words)

- 1) To instil in our students a profound awareness of how our environment determines the quality of our life.
- 2) To nurture and nourish the fragile ecological balance of the locality that has been considerably altered by human interference.
- 3) To inspire stakeholders to participate in the possibility of an equitable society and create an interface between social and academic agencies towards an enlightened understanding of sustenance

5. The Practice (250-300 words)

Today, All Saints' is hailed as one of the greenest campuses in the State. The lush greenery of the campus is further enhanced by an extensive coconut plantation and

mango orchards with several species of mango trees. The College has at its disposal several clubs like Biodiversity Club, Bhoomitrasena Club, Environment Club, Science Club, Kuruvi Club and Planeteers' Club that actively engage with the environment.

The 150 species of trees present in the campus have been assigned QR codes. All data regarding the plants have been uploaded in the blog of the Department of Botany. The data related to the Botanical Name, Common name, Vernacular name, Family and other relevant details about all the trees have been documented for the digitalization process.

No effort is spared to further the ideals of recycling and resource management. Students have taken the initiate to create a special garden in the campus by reusing plastic bottles. Various programmes have been organised to accentuate the importance of waste management and alternate energy resources. The college has installed a Bio Gas plant and a Vermicomposting Unit within the campus where the leftover slurry is treated with mild chemicals and then used as organic fertilizer for the various gardens maintained by the College. Waste collected from the canteen is also recycled in the unit and converted into fertilizer. The College has installed extensive solar panelling that not only meets the energy requirements of the campus but also distributes excess energy to the grid.

The Communities of Practice is an initiative by the institution that promotes research and outreach towards sustainable habitat building and medical research. The institution distributed 50 pulse oximeters to the neighbouring Primary Health Centres –Veli, Vettucaud, Kadakampalli and Divya Shanthi Ashram, Vettucaud (Akasaparavakal) as part of the grant received from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers(IEEE) - Humanitarian Activities (HAC)/SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology) to support grassroots humanitarian technology that address the COVID-19 situation by IEEE members in their local communities.

6. Obstacles faced if any and strategies adopted to overcome them

Our initiatives have received tremendous support from our stakeholders but we are often beset with minor obstacles in terms of procuring skilled labour in the implementation and maintenance of alternate energy sources. We have initiated talks with governmental organisations to rectify and regulate the situation.

7. Impact of the Practice (100-120 words)

All Saints' is hailed as one of the most eco-friendly campuses in the State. Our students are taking the message of developing sustainable ecological models to the larger society and we are extremely happy that this initiative has found a powerful resonance in our immediate locality. Government and non-governmental organisations have extended their whole-hearted support for our vision. We hope to convert this initiative into a significant ecological drive within the State.

8. <u>Resources Required</u>

Financial assistance for the maintenance and upkeep of the various projects

Details

Green Campus: All Saints' College is located between 8^o 29' North and 8^o 32' North latitude and between 76^o 53' East and 76^o 55' East Longitude in the coastal region of Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala. The college campus covers approximately 36 acres of land The area was a bare sandy barren land with no vegetation, when the college was established in 1967. That was a great hindrance for the establishment of biodiversity. In order to overcome this problem, red soil was introduced and gradually thick vegetation was established. There are about 300 species (both in open grounds and under glass) in the campus.

Pictures of the Campus in the initial years





Present Pictures





The impact of the Green cover change can be studied by the two images sourced via Remote Sensing. The vast change wrought by the greenery can be effectively seen by comparing the two images.

All Saints Campus in 2011



All Saints' Campus in 2021



Documenting the Green Wealth of the Campus

For launching any policies and programmes on conservation and sustainable utilization of resources it is necessary that proper assessment is made on floristic diversity prevailing in the areas. Thus, any awareness on conservation of plants starts with documentation of diversity. In view of this thought, an attempt has been made to compile an informative hand-book on the diversity of plants in All Saints' campus. The compilations are, 'Campus Flora' and 'Trees of All Saints' Campus'. The details of the plant along with excellent photographs are provided in these books. The plants are properly labelled and documented and details like the binomials, family, common name etc are included. These books are freely available for all the students to read and refer and also for the identification of the local flora.



Tree Register

The 'Tree Register' is a permanent document containing the family, scientific name and local name of each tree. The trees present in different gardens and unspecified areas within the campus are listed in this booklet. The first register listed 100 tree species belonging to 41 families which was the highest number reported among all the surveyed campuses by Friends of Trees. In the present survey, there is a total of 168 tree species belonging to 55 families present in the campus. Tree Register preparation is a step in promoting consciousness of conservation and promotion of biodiversity which are absolutely essential for the healthy survival of human beings. The campus tree flora contains some rare and endangered tree species such as *Hippocrateaovata*, *Phoebe wightii*and *Garciniaimberti* etc.



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Know Our Plants Campaign: The daily display of local plants with their vernacular name, binomial, family and uses is done by the students of Botany department. This helps to bring awareness among students about the common plants of our college.





QR Coding of Trees

The 150 species of trees present in the campus have been assigned QR codes. All data regarding the plants have been uploaded in the blog of the Department of Botany. The data related to the Botanical Name, Common name, Vernacular name, Family and other relevant details about all the trees have been documented for the digitalization process.



Communities of Practice: Community of Practice Initiative aims to reach out to the larger community around us and work towards its holistic development employing sustainable measures.

POSTMA: The institution distributed 50 pulse oximeters to the neighbouring Primary Health Centres –Veli, Vettucaud, Kadakampalli and Divya Shanthi Ashram, Vettucaud (Akasaparavakal) as part of the grant received from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers(IEEE) - Humanitarian Activities (HAC)/SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology) to support grassroots humanitarian technology that address the COVID-19 situation by IEEE members in their local communities.



ALL SAINTS' COLLEGE

Re-accredited with 'A'- Grade by NAAC Thiruvananthapuram - 695 007, Kerala - South Indie Phone:0471-2501153, 8281334337 E-mail atsaintscolegeasc@gmail.com, www.atsaintscolege.com

13/08/2021

All Saints' College. Thiruvananthapuram received a grant from Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers(IEEE) - Humanitarian Activities (HAC)/SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology) to support grassrootshumanitarian technology that address the COVID-19 crisis by IEEE members in their local communities. The project entitled 'Pulse-Oxygen Saturation-Temperature Monitoring Appliance' (POSTMA) is undertaken by the Departments of Physics, Humanities and NSS Unit of All Saints' College. The project seeks to helpthe geriatric artected by silent hypoxia due to Covid-19. Consultation with the AdditionalDistrict Medical Officer of Thiruvananthapuram by the project team inMay 2020 on the user needs during the covid pandentic revealed thatpulse oximeters were the need of the hour. As part of this project, we are distributing50 Oximeters to three coastal areaprimary health centres at Vettucaud, Veli and Kadakampally as well as to an old age home at Vettucadu- AakashaParavakal.

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