

Continuing Professional Development Event

Under the Title of

“Flexible Education For All”

Published Special issue

With ISSN 2394-8426 International Impact Factor 3.325

UGC Approved Journal Sr. No. 48455



Published On Date 07.02.2018

Special Issue Online Available At : <http://gurukuljournal.com/>

Organized &
Published By

Chief Editor,
Gurukul International Multidisciplinary Research Journal
Mo. +919273759904 Email: chiefeditor@gurukuljournal.com



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Counsellors Training Of B.Ed. Programme in YCMOU : A Case Study

Dr. Vijaya V. Patil

Ass. Professor

School Of Education

Y.C.M. Open University, Nashik

Abstract

School of Education of Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University,(YCMOU), Nashik 422 222 (INDIA) right from its inception has made structural provision for cell for training (CET) under school. The Training cell has made a modest beginning by organizing a good number of orientation programmes in collaboration with other schools, divisions, centres and external agencies. The immediate major task before the school was to organise a series of orientation programmes for the academic counsellors, study centres co-ordinators of the various programmes launched by the university.

0.1 Introduction

Open University is still an evolving system both conceptually and operationally. It, therefore needs manpower of varied knowledge, expertise and skills – intellectual, managerial, technical and social. It is difficult to visualize an open university without built in mechanism for constant staff development and training of outside personnel associated with the University. Hence Yashwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University,(YCMOU), Nashik 422 222 (INDIA) right from its inception has made structural provision for School of Education Training .

1.1 Counsellors Training of B.E.d. Programme of YCMOU

We present here the details of training programme organized for teacher educators as an illustration. The Teacher education programme is organized through the Distance Education mode. There are thirty-seven study centres all over Maharashtra. Each centre has eight counsellors for the conduct of the programme to be completed in three contact sessions. Previously it was a practice to invite the centre directors and co-ordinators for orientations regarding the organizations of contact sessions. It was expected that they in turn would orient their colleague at their respected study centres. This practices has left certain gaps in the process of transmitting the information. This has adversely affected the effectiveness of contact programmes. Hence there was a constant demand from the teacher educators for direct training. This was further endorsed by the NCTE. In view of this, YCMOU organized counsellors' orientation programmes at four different places in Maharashtra. At least seven counsellors exceeded 175. The programme was of three days duration. Six modules were developed by the YCMOU for this purpose (Joshi and Salunke, 1998). The outline of the training programme is given in tables 1 to 6.