SADHU VASWANI INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES FOR GIRLS
(Status: Linguistic Minority) (Unaided- Private)
Approved by A.I.C.T.E. Certified under ISO 9001:2015
Affiliated to Savitribai Phule Pune University, NAAC Accredited with "B+" Grade
Institute Codes: SPPU: IMMP016030, D.T.E.: 6614, AISHE: C-44578, AICTE: 1-21641511

SVIMS
Sadhu Vaswani Institute
of Management Studies

Dr. B. H. Nanwani
Director

Best Practice-1

1.Title-.Arohana: Rising Higher Through Strong Industry Connect

2. Objectives of the Practice
- Establish strong, ongoing industry-academia relations, providing students with consistent professional exposure.
- Enhance employability skills by bridging academic knowledge with industry requirements through experiential learning.
- Offer structured pathways for practical exposure via internships, guest sessions, value-added courses, and industry-sponsored resources.
- Promote networking opportunities to help students build essential connections for future career growth.
-

3. The Context
In today's rapidly evolving job market, there is an increasing demand for professionals who not only have academic knowledge but also possess relevant, practical industry skills. Many students in Indian higher education struggle with employability due to limited practical exposure and the absence of industry-specific skills. "Arohana" was designed to address this gap by establishing a robust industry-academia interface. Implementing such initiatives required overcoming challenges like sourcing dedicated industry partners, securing approvals for relevant courses, and aligning the curriculum to industry needs.

4.The Practice
The Arohana initiative stands out with its industry-focused approach, offering a comprehensive range of opportunities for students. Its unique selling point is the multi-dimensional, holistic strategy it employs to enhance employability, aligning closely with the demands of Indian industry sectors.
1. Guest Sessions by Industry Experts
- Seventeen industry experts were invited to share real-world insights, making the curriculum more industry relevant.
  2. Value-Added Courses
    - Six University-approved courses were introduced to complement core academics with specialized topics, such as "Understanding Gender Equity," "Spirituality for Leadership and Wellbeing," and "IT Skills for Managers," providing students with a unique and competitive skill set.
3. Industry Professionals as Examiners
    - Engaging seven industry experts as external examiners for project evaluations brought practical perspectives and constructive feedback to enhance students' project quality.
4. Student Memberships in Professional Bodies
    - Professional memberships with bodies like NIPM and The American Finance Association facilitated networking and industry exposure for 117 students, promoting a professional mindset.

5. Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and Collaborations

- Eight MoUs and 42 ongoing collaborations were established to create learning and collaboration opportunities, enhancing the industry-academia interface.

6. Industry Visits
- Organized industry visits to companies like Kisanveer Satara Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana and Aiotor Labs, allowing students to understand operations and processes directly within an industry environment.

7. Industry Sponsorship
- JET SYNTHESYS sponsored machines worth ₹4,48,400, providing students with critical hands-on resources and enhancing practical learning facilities.

8. Summer Internship Program
- Sixty students completed internships across 39 companies, with 35 gaining paid internships and 12 securing pre-placement offers, thereby reinforcing their career readiness.

9. Placement Outcomes
- Out of 53 students, 27 achieved placements, 4 chose self-employment, leading to a commendable placement rate of 54.39%.

Despite its success, the Arohana initiative faced several challenges. These included finding sufficient, suitable industry partners, aligning academic schedules with industry calendars, and adapting internal policies to support enhanced industry collaboration.

5. Evidence of Success
The success of "Arohana" is reflected in multiple outcomes:
- 117 students becoming active members of professional bodies, increasing industry exposure and networking.
- Practical skill enhancement through internships and value-added courses, with 12 students receiving pre-placement offers.
- Students have consistently provided positive feedback on the guest sessions and industry visits, rating them as valuable learning experiences. This reassures us of the program's effectiveness and its impact on student learning.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required
Key challenges included:
- Industry Alignment: Synchronizing academic calendars with industry schedules and meeting industry standards required extensive planning.
- Resource Availability: Sourcing funds and industry partners willing to support and participate in this extensive program was challenging, particularly for sponsorships and MoU finalizations.
- Faculty Training: Faculty required training to integrate industry standards into their teaching methods effectively.

Resources Required included:
- A dedicated team to maintain and expand industry contacts.
- Financial resources for arranging industry visits, honorariums for guest speakers, and technology to facilitate virtual interactions.
- Administrative support to manage student memberships, MoUs, and course approvals.