

6.5.1 Incremental improvements made during the preceding year with regard to quality and post-accreditation quality initiatives (Second and subsequent cycles)

The IQAC Cell of Andhra Loyola College plays a crucial role in preserving the quality of education, by recognizing and categorizing the novel methods in teaching, developing suitable infrastructure, and offering valuable suggestions for new courses. IQAC is an ingenious and insightful cell working towards improving and maintaining the standards on a par in excellence. It does research and analysis on implementing the new policies and procedures and always focuses on quality enhancement measures. The IQAC organizes meetings regularly to revise, review and reinvent the teaching, research, publication activities and so on. The various committees functioning under the guidance of IQAC submit their reports with references and recommendations which further helps them to strengthen their activities. The main objective of the IQAC is to spread quality culture through best practices, innovative techniques and quality enrichment initiatives. The IQAC always strives hard to strengthen the quality of work whether be it Academic Results, Technical Trainings, Soft Skills and Life Skills Development Programmes, Placement Support, Research and Development or Faculty Development Programmes. It lends a helping hand to mentor and monitor the academic and administrative activities.

The institution is evaluated based on a set of established quality standards or criteria.

During the post accreditation cycles, the institution undertook various quality initiatives to make incremental improvements in its operations, programs, and services. These initiatives are guided by the recommendations and feedback received during the accreditation process or by the institution's own IQAC mechanisms.

Updating the curriculum:

The institution reviewed its curriculum and made changes to ensure that it is upto date and relevant to the needs of students and the job market. This involved adding new courses, revising existing courses, and by incorporating new teaching methods or technologies.

Improving faculty development:

The institution invested in professional development programs to help faculty stay upto date with the latest research and teaching methodologies by providing financial support to attend conferences, participating in workshops, or taking online courses.

Strengthening student support services:

The institution improved its support services for students, such as counseling services, career services, and academic advising. This involved by frequent counseling of students by our own faculty and by organizing workshops to the students

Enhancing research capabilities:

The institution developed research infrastructure and resources to support faculty research by upgrading laboratories and equipment, hiring additional research staff, and providing funding for research projects.

Overall, the goal of these incremental improvements is to build upon the institution's existing strengths and address any areas of weakness, with the aim of continuously improving the quality of education and services offered to students.

Apart from the regular activities, IQAC always moves forward with creative ideas. The best practices for the year 2020-2021 are as follows:

PRACTICE 1**REINFORCING TEACHING LEARNING PROCESS USING ICT TOOLS**

Change is inevitable. Certainly, pandemic brought a lot of transformation in the lives of civilians. Digitalization wiped away the traditional modes of teaching. Series of workshops were organized to train the teaching fraternity to cope with the different modes of ICT tools. After the lockdown, when everything was back to normalcy, to make the classrooms more digitalized, they were updated with smart/white boards with high-speed internet connection so that the teachers as well as the students can access videos, live demonstrations and so on. This helped both the teachers and students to visualize complex things with ease and the impact of it remained on the learners' mind for a longer duration.

PRACTICE 2**FURTHERANCE OF RESEARCH**

In the advanced world, research has a domineering status. It is equally important both for the staff as well as students to concentrate on research. To encourage and engage all the members of the staff and students, IQAC started a Research Centre to promote research in college. It runs with the assistance and guidance from the head of the institution and heads of various departments. The staff are motivated to publish paper in reputed journals with high impact

factors. They are provided with necessary details regarding the journals of Scopus, Web of Science or UGC care list. It also organizes workshops for both staff and students on research process, writing project reports and so on.

Apart from the above the IQAC organized an Annual Induction Programme for the new recruits to acquaint them with procedures, policies, practices, philosophy, principles, and most importantly the vision and mission of the Jesuit Education in general and Loyola in particular. One of the IQAC members, were also appointed as a member of the Peer Team to visit government colleges for the extension of its Autonomy status. The same member also visited more than 56 Government Degree Colleges to review the preparedness for Accreditation of NAAC.

When the institution undergoes its next accreditation cycle, it will be evaluated based on its progress in implementing these quality initiatives and in maintaining or improving upon its existing quality standards.