Best Practice – II - Activity Based Learning - Thank God it's Friday (TGIF)

1. Title of the Practice:

Activity Based Learning - Thank God it's Friday (TGIF)

2. Objectives of the Practice:

a. To promote learning as an exhilarating, motivating and transformative experience for student community

b. To promote intradepartmental activities with the objective of developing communication skills and improved resilience among students

c. To build on the overall skill sets which would enhance the placement opportunities of the students

d. To foster overall well-being of students and educators

3. The context that required the initiation of the practice:

The Department of Business Studies in the year 2015 conceptualized "Thank God it's Friday" as a pedagogical solution to discover the joy of learning and build the skill ecosystem at the Institution for their students. As an outcome of sensitization effort, the department under the guidance of faculty coordinator commence industry relevant pursuit. The activities undertaken by the forum attempts to bridge the gap between industry requirement and traditional teaching methodology. The activities are collaborative, induces cooperative learning, co-working in a symbiotic manner that leverages collective wisdom.

4. The Practice:

TGIF is a forum which organises series of events throughout the year. The events conducted each year is based on a theme relevant to the current business condition/requirement. For example the theme for a session could be time management, team building, macroeconomic policies etc. The forum provides an opportunity to all the students in the department to participate in the events that is marked by fun, laughter and joyful environment while also enabling students to enhance their skills and abilities to comprehend and solve complexity of life. TGIF is incredibly powerful as it drives passion, fuels curiosity, fosters creativity and encourages fun and innovative ways of learning.

5. Evidence of Success:

TGIF is "Learning by Fun" experiment that has helped students to pick new skills and knowledge through their interaction with industry experts and activities. The student's involvement and the enriching experience has helped them to make a smooth transition at workplace. The additional knowledge, creative know - how and skill sets have proved to enhance their abilities to perform their jobs more effectively. The core team members of TGIF have been successfully placed in companies like JP Morgan, Accenture, McKinsey etc.

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

The practice does have potential limitations. With the popularity soaring the TGIF fun events among the students, it slowly showed the signs of competitive pressure to get the class points. The class prefects filtered the performers for their events and chose the best performers of the class rather than give opportunity to someone who is naïve. These changes were underplaying at the informal channels of communication of the class. However, this required active intervention of the faculty who ensured opportunity for all the students and assured healthy competition.