



**SOMAIYA**  
VIDYAVIHAR

K J Somaiya College of Science & Commerce



## **Criteria VII: Institutional Values and Best Practices**

### 7.2 Best Practices

- 1. Learn from Stalwarts**
- 2. Enriching Expressions**

## Best Practices

The institute would like to promulgate the following two best practices, "Learn from stalwarts" and "Enriching expressions," which encourages active learning from renowned speakers from top universities and institute alumni of eminence, respectively.

### Best Practice-1

#### 1. Title of the Practice

LEARN FROM STALWARTS

#### 2. Objectives of the Practice

- Fostering participation in learning among students
- Enables the students to discuss significant issues from a variety of angles, raising students' interest in and engagement with the course material.
- Actively engage Students in a variety of experiences while furthering the objectives of a certain curriculum.

#### 3. The Context

Education is moving away from a teacher-centred setting towards a learner-centred where students investigate subjects in greater depth and design engaging learning opportunities. The "Learn from Stalwarts" exercise in the classroom allows students and teachers to share their theoretical background knowledge on a variety of current, recent advances in the respective fields.

#### 4. The Practice

Numerous distinguished academicians and researchers from premier institutes, including BARC, IISER, Pune and IIT, Mumbai have delivered talks during the sessions and inspired the students to undertake research projects and gain an understanding of multidisciplinary subjects. To instil appreciation for Basic Natural sciences, career counselling is also included as a part of the lecture series.



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## 5. Evidence of Success

### Learner's Testimonial

I am Kushal Surana third year B.Com Student of KJSSC. Everyone grows from their experiences, as is sagely said. Every KJSSC student wants to learn from the best experiences available, and the seminars that are held, the learning programmes, and the mentors who offer their knowledge aid in instilling values in the students and allowing them to learn from the experienced. Each Student is a work in progress who, after receiving instruction from the finest of the best, emerges as a role model.

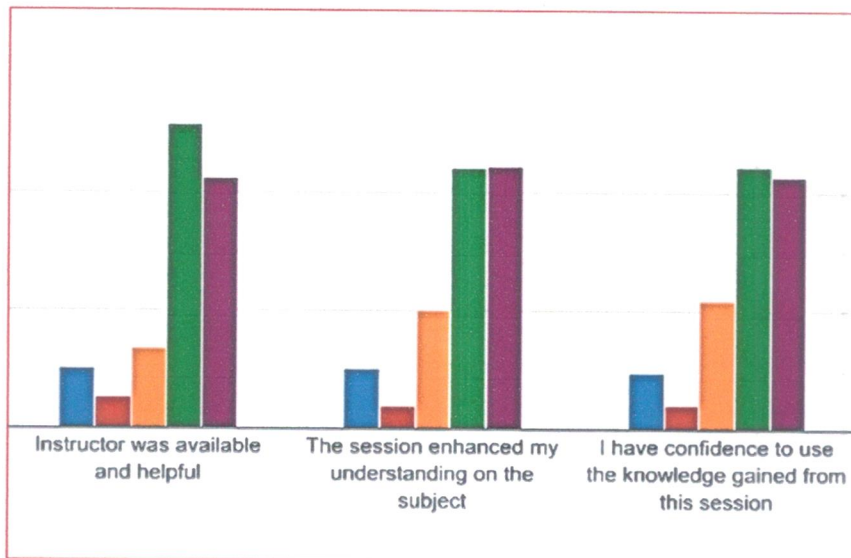
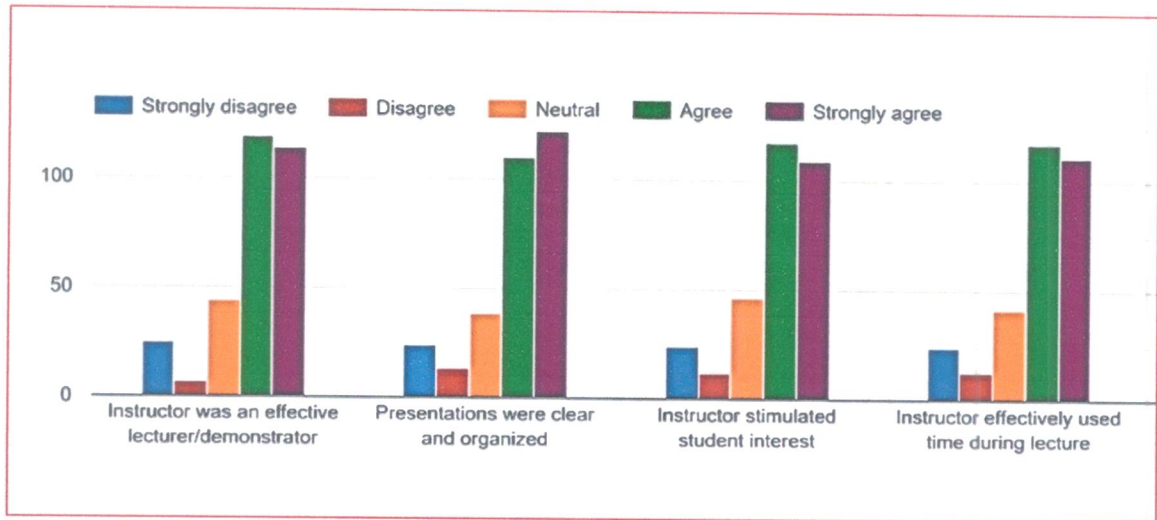
I am Aman Gautam, enrolled in the first year of the B.Com programme at K J Somaiya College in 2019. Every Year College organises seminars and conferences for undergraduate and postgraduate students in order to interact with a variety of knowledgeable resource people working in various fields and industries to inform students about the most recent trends and business requirements. Students who attend these seminars will gain more understanding about current issues affecting the nation's legal, economic, political, and social systems, as well as about personality development and career counselling. Even the annual fests are managed by select students with the help of seniors and professors from the different departments. These events were planned by coordinators and student council members to learn the management of events. Students, who learn from seniors and receive guidance from them, as well as from teachers, are more likely to approach decisions with a decision-making mentality. Students in their final year gain confidence and leadership skills thanks to this system of teaching and planning. Due to the activities I engaged in during my graduation between 2019 and 2022, I have improved my self-assurance and ability to make quick decisions. A student's personality develops overall as a result of these experiences and endeavours.

My name is Krusha Shah, and I'm a second-year student in the master's degree in Science. I previously served as president of the Institutions Innovation Council. The opportunities that were offered to me in my academic and extracurricular pursuits have shaped who I am. Along my journey, I was given a variety of opportunities, such as a number of lectures, seminars, symposiums, competitions, fests, councils, exchange programmes, etc. Later in my post-graduate career, our college introduced me to The Somaiya Institute of Research and Consultancy. My life turned around at this point because I got to attend a symposium and learn about the agricultural sector. In addition to learning about Somaiya's research centre in Sameerwadi, Karnataka, I also learned about the possibilities of soil science. I've had a lot of luck, and I'm grateful to KJSSC for helping to develop my profession, giving me so many possibilities, and guiding the course of my career.

I'm Shreya M. Nair, a BSc graduate of the K. J. Somaiya College of Science and Commerce's and a fellow at the SIB ShInE IITK-KGMU Bidesign Program at the moment. The Learn From Stalwarts series not only shaped my personality but also my practical and theoretical knowledge. I had been interested in conducting my own small research projects ever since I started the bachelor's programme, and the institution welcomed me to do so and even encouraged me to demonstrate my abilities by planning various workshops for curricular purposes (like the hands on molecular biology and IPR workshops).



**Feedback of Some of the lectures organised under Learn from Stalwarts**



**6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required**

- Raising funds for activities
- Matching the availability of the speakers



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## Best Practice-2

### 1. Title of the Practice

Enriching Expressions

### 2. Objective of the Practice

- Encourage, cultivate and promote strong relationships between K J Somaiya College of Science and Commerce and its Alumni for the advancement of the institution in the areas of industry contact, admissions, internships and placement.
- Alumni make excellent mentors for current students since they can impart knowledge on the competitive job market to help them choose better options.

### 3. The Context

The idea of Enriching Expressions emerged in response to demands from academicians and professionals, i.e., with the intention of bridging college life and career life and empowering recent graduates to take charge of the problems of the competitive professional world. Both sides must cooperate with one another to advance the objective. Thus, the Best Practice-Enriching Expressions came to be and the concept took shape.

### 4. The Practice

Speaking of engagements, seminars and workshops on career options, soft-skill development, competitive exam preparation, and advanced studies in science are organised as a part of the "Enriching Expressions" series by eminent alumni in their respective fields of expertise. Several college departments have created new courses as a result of alumni engagement. The Department of Chemistry has launched one such programme, a skill-enhancement course titled "Business skills for Chemists." This course is intended for T.Y.B.Sc Chemistry



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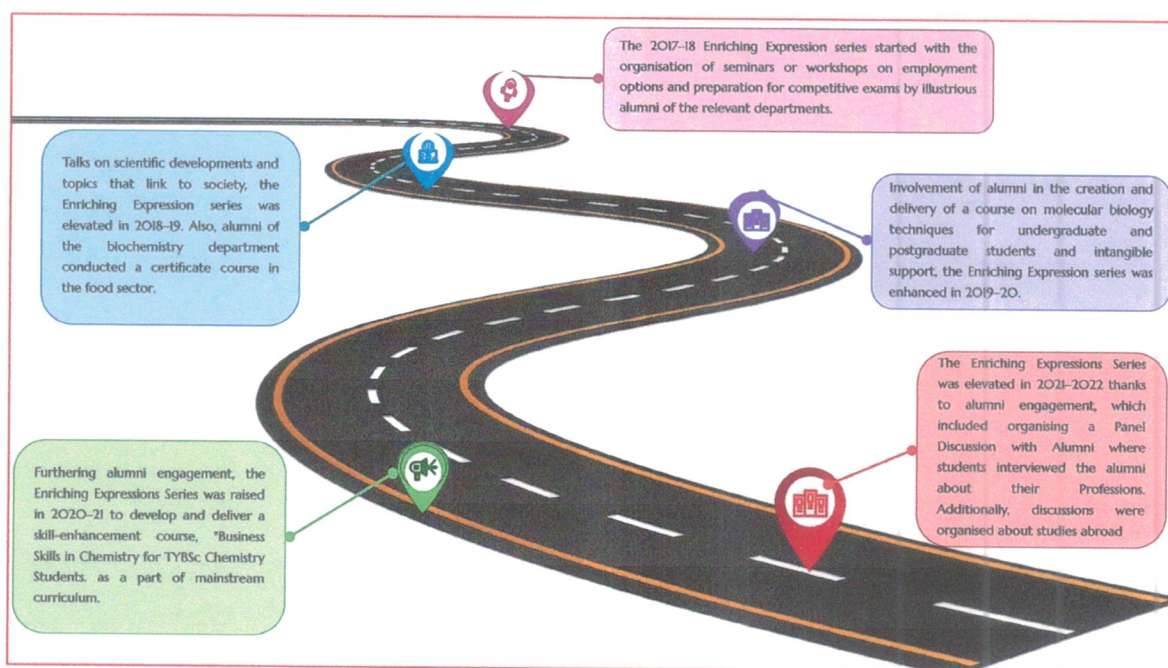
Semester V and is taught by alumni of the chemistry department who have been employed in their fields for 10 to 15 years and are experts in their own fields.

Alumni from the Department of Biochemistry created and led a certificate programme in the food sector for T.Y.B.Sc Biochemistry students.

Two more one credit certificate courses—Basic Molecular Biology Techniques for Undergraduate Students and Molecular Biology: Fundamentals of Gene Cloning for Post Graduate Students—had been designed and delivered by alumni of the Department of Microbiology.

Alumni frequently serve as judges and sponsors at Biochemistry and Microbiology departmental festivals, respectively. Department of Chemistry and Physics organised Panel Discussion in which students interviewed alumni about their professional paths.

## 5. Evidence of Success



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- The 2017–18 Enriching Expression series started with the organisation of seminars or workshops on employment options and preparation for competitive exams by illustrious alumni of the relevant departments.
- Talks on scientific developments and topics that link to society, the Enriching Expression series was elevated in 2018–19. Also, alumni of the biochemistry department conducted a certificate course in the food sector.
- Involvement of alumni in the creation and delivery of a course on molecular biology techniques for undergraduate and postgraduate students and intangible support, the Enriching Expression series was enhanced in 2019–20.
- Furthering alumni engagement, the Enriching Expressions Series was raised in 2020–21 to develop and deliver a skill-enhancement course, "Business Skills in Chemistry for TYBSc Chemistry Students. as a part of mainstream curriculum.
- The Enriching Expressions Series was elevated in 2021–2022 thanks to alumni engagement, which included organising a Panel Discussion with Alumni where students interviewed the alumni about their Professions. Additionally, discussions were organised about studies abroad

## 6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required

- Registration of alumni



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