

Annual Report for the Academic Year 2019 – 2020

The 2019-2020 academic year was one of growth and optimism for both the students as well as the faculty members. It has been an unusual year – something none of us at KKCE had experienced before or was prepared for, something humanity was not prepared for! As the COVID-19 pandemic spread its wings, everything came to a sudden halt in mid March. Fear and chaos engulfed the world. But not for long. It soon had to make way for resilience, adaptation and hope. With positive spiralling effect, we too managed to complete all the requirements of the course and much more. Here is a glimpse of the year gone by starting with the some highlights.

Our major achievements in terms of our objectives are as follows:

- Shift to online mode. Not only lectures and assessments, club activities too went online.
- Teachers and students showed immense resilience and adapted spectacularly to the new normal. The learning curves for all have been steep.
- Gordon Academic College of Education faculty visited KKCE in September 2019, with the objective of mutual familiarization and understanding to take MOU ahead.
- Global-ITE meeting for KKCE alumni who participated in this project two decades back. This was also attended by Mr. Greig Whitehead, the pioneer of the idea.
- The college continues being a Linguistic Minority (Gujarati) institute.
- College website was upgraded during this year.
- University results were encouraging with more than 50% students securing A+ or A grade.
- Biometric devices were installed for students this year.
- The average batch attendance for both the batches continues to be much more than the mandatory University requirements.
- A two day State level Seminar “Readjusting the Inclusion Lens – Transcending the Exclusion Mindset” was organized in January for the teaching fraternity.
- This year, student-teachers were engaged in Extension Work Programme which ran for the entire year with various non-profit and non-government organizations.
- College moved in tandem with its overall objective of sustainability by setting up Ground Water Harvesting System and Waste Management Plant on the campus.
- Week long activities marked the celebration of International Women’s Day.

A detailed description of different departmental activities conducted during the year is as under.

School Internship

The purpose of School Internship is to provide real life experience that enables each student-teacher to put her/his teaching plans and ambitions into action. It is an extremely important part of B.Ed curriculum. FY student-teachers were prepared comprehensively through an Initial Preparation Workshop and Lesson Planning Workshop. Demonstration lessons were given by

S.Y. students in different pedagogies. The S.Y. batch completed an 11 and 5 week internship during Semester III and IV respectively. During the internship period, students practiced teaching using concepts of Constructivism, ALM, CAM, Theme-Based learning, Nai-Talim and Co-teaching. Students were trained in Peer Assessment through an orientation followed by practice. Evaluation Workshop was organized to orient the students to Year Plan, Unit Plan and Blue Print. They were also taught analysis and interpretation of scores.

The FY batch completed their 3 week internship which included observation of school activities, observation of peer lessons and shadowing of school teachers, apart from the mandatory lessons in pedagogy 1. To make their lessons more effective students received guidance and constructive feedback from guiding professors.

Theory Lectures and Evaluation

Theory lectures for SY and FY batch began in the month of July and November respectively. The academic inputs on different courses built up on student participation, interaction and co-operation. Multifarious experiences and opportunities were provided. These included role-plays, theatre, panel discussion, paper presentations, poster-making, workshops, guest lectures, flipped classrooms, use of educational films and videos, visits; all of which were followed by reflections. Evaluation was carried out using different strategies such as content tests, essays, class tests, assignments, presentations, quiz, reviews and report writing. A Content Enrichment workshop was also organized for FY batch to enhance their subject knowledge in the month of November, 2019. SY students completed their Action Research Projects by scientifically formulating and exploring research problems in education.

Students' Council

The Student Council is a very active body at KKCE. Like every year, new members were added from the F.Y. batch to complete the Student Council for the year 2019 – 2020 as per the guidelines laid down by the University. The Students' Council continued its tradition of organizing cultural events to celebrate important days and festivals. Graduation ceremony for the batch of 2017 – 2019 was organized on 18th January, 2020. Dr. Sunita Magre, Incharge Director, Thane sub-campus, University of Mumbai handed out the degrees to the graduates. More than 40 students of the said batch turned up for the event. Many students participated in inter-college activities during the year. A virtual farewell to SY students 'Memories and Moving Ahead' was organised on 21st July, 2020. Mrs. Vinita Malik, a KKCE alumnus and Principal of Delhi Public School, Bhopal was the Chief Guest. The annual prizes were announced the same day by Principal Dr. Jayashree Inbaraj.



Community Work

KKCE aspires to create teachers who will act as catalyst for social change. To realize this, a weeklong community work programme was organized from 16th to 20th December, 2019 as part of Semester I and Semester IV activity. Students worked with various underprivileged and marginalised sections of the society. The main aim of the activities was to spread awareness and educate about various topics like health, finance, self-empowerment etc. The students conducted remedial teaching, student leadership programs and computer literacy programs. They participated whole heartedly and gave it their best shot.

Extension Work

This year, the extension activities were carried out through the year. The key idea was to provide opportunities to student-teachers to engage in extension work for a longer period of time and thus truly make a difference. Students worked in collaboration with the NGOs Clean We Go, India Development Foundation and Mission Green Mumbai and extended their services in various areas relating to creating awareness of Solid Waste



Management at various BMC schools, sapling preparation, conducting Leadership Program, conducting English Language remedial classes, making quilts and cloth bags; and setting up a Rainwater Reserve Drum System on KKCE campus. Students also engaged in Juhu Beach Clean Up activity to promote the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan'.

Annual Sports Meet

The Annual Sports Day was organized on 18th February, 2020. Various events like Shot-put, Tug of War, Dodge Ball, Relay, Lemon and Spoon, Passing the Ball and the three-legged race were conducted. Based on the overall points allotted to winners, Ms. Sarah Pereira (FY) from Red

Avengers was declared Sportswoman of the Year and Mr. Vikas Waghari (SY) from Yellow Squad was declared Sportsman of the Year. Red Avengers, led by Ms. Samira Saheba and Mr. Harsh Shah bagged the rolling trophy with maximum over all points.



Educational Visits and Picnics

Holistic education surpasses the four walls of a classroom. Inside the classroom, a student gains knowledge. But it is only when one steps out, does s/he gets to explore and experience. Various visits were organised during the year. SY students visited Vishwajyot High School, Kharghar on 5th July, 2019. An inclusive school, it is inspired by Waldorf methodology of teaching and follows Gardener's multiple intelligence theory. The student-teachers got an opportunity to observe some innovative teaching practices, understand school's philosophy of constructivism, core values and their ways of catering to diversity. The annual picnic for SY students was organized to Wet n Joy Water Park, Lonavala on 10th February 2020. The annual picnic for FY students was organized to Monteria Resort, Karjat on 11th March, 2020.

Guest Lectures and Workshops

Throughout the course of the year, student-teachers enthusiastically participated in various guest sessions and workshops organised by the college. These covered not only topics/issues related to education, but also several issues vital to the world around.. The areas covered included enhancing skills (Smartboard Training, TET Training), enhancing professional competencies (Utilizing Elements of Performing Arts, Story Telling, Dance in Education, Drama in Education), personality development (Bell the Monkey Mind, Enneagram), inclusion (Understanding the Special Needs of Students) and others. KKCE Alumni, Researchers, faculty from GACE, Israel and prominent people from different fields were invited for these sessions.



Tutorials

Like every year, Tutorials were conducted efficiently by the department in co-ordination with the Essay Department for both the batches. Students were divided into small groups depending upon the number of papers in each semester. The major purpose of conducting tutorials was to foster the art of writing essays and understand the varied elements such as different perspectives, language and order while forming an effective answer. Special sessions were conducted for students who were identified as needing extra help based on their performance in the internal tests. They were given ample writing practice in both the semesters which in their words helped them a lot.

Mentoring

College provides for periodic Mentoring sessions throughout the year. Like every year, this year too student-teachers were divided into small groups and assigned a faculty mentor. Students got an opportunity to communicate, comprehend and resolve their predicaments in these small groups with their mentors. Mentoring provided a safe space for student-teachers to understand their peers' as well as their own difficulties and discuss them with mentors, who in turn provided great insights, newer perspectives or suggestions. The Mentors were open to feedback and suggestions. Mentoring was always more than just another activity; rather it was a haven where one got to foster healthy relationships with oneself as well as with the mentor and other mentees.

Language Laboratory:

The main objective of KKCE's Language Laboratory is to create an encouraging and supportive environment to help student-teachers learn the proper usage, pronunciation and diction of the English language in a more realistic settings. To provide more meaningful and comprehensive training its student-teachers, the college did away with the old software. In its place, the more popular and effective Words Worth software was installed. All the Language method masters, along with a few English pedagogy students of the SY batch participated in Words Worth English Language Lab's Product Orientation Program organized by the sellers on 23rd August, 2019, thus becoming certified developers of English Development Program using this software.

Counselling Cell

The students were oriented to Counselling Cell of the college by Ms. Veena Bose, the college counsellor. The cell provided a comforting, supportive and nurturing environment to all students and helped them deal with all types of stress - personal, emotional, family related, peers related or anything else. Regular counselling sessions were organized in a pre-determined order and/or based on the needs of the students. Anticipating the anxiety and tensions during the lockdown, counselling services were extended to the students over phone from March 2020 onwards. Two online group counselling sessions each for SY and for FY batch were organized to help students feel connected and voice their concerns.

Placement Cell

Like every year, preparatory sessions on 'Making a Good CV' and 'Facing Interviews' were organized for the benefit of students. Campus Interviews took place as per the year plan on February 4th & 5th, 2020. Around 25 educational institutions from various parts of Mumbai participated across 4 sessions. The schools participating in the two day placement programme belonged to different boards - SSC, ICSE, CBSE and IGCSE. Junior Colleges and various NGOs working in the field of education also engaged themselves in the placement programme. Most students were shortlisted for demo lessons and interviews and many of whom got their appointment letters too. We are proud of the fact that our students continue getting placed despite the pandemic and the shift to online schooling in Mumbai.



Parents Teachers Meet

A Parent-Teacher Meeting was held on 30th November of 2019, with the objective to establish a relationship with the parents of the FY batch, help them understand the demands and challenges of this course and seek support for their wards. The Principal addressed the audience and also shared the vision and mission of the institution while also introducing the vibrant environment of the college. The parents were made familiar with the course demands, the professionalism and level of commitment required during the two years through brief orientation of certain key departments. A question & answer session followed after the meeting which allowed the parents to freely interact with the faculty members.

Method Clubs

The main objective of Method Clubs is to help student-teacher connect with their respective pedagogies at a higher level and indulge in other diverse, stimulating and fun methods of learning a subject. This year, the Economics & Commerce Club kick started the club activities with a Food Fair, the objective being to give member students a first-hand experience of various commerce and economic concepts like accounting, costing, laws of demand, supply, diminishing marginal utility, marketing, cost-benefit analysis, etc. Math Club organized 'Mathemagica' to celebrate the International Mathematics Day on 13th March, 2020. Various fun and innovative activities/games were put up by the members focusing on some important concepts and patterns in Math.



Language Club organised a weeklong event 'Lingua Franca' on various online platforms which included word games, quizzes and many more to create awareness about the distinctive uses of languages (English and Hindi) in a fun way. Language related snippets were shared by club members every day. Science Club organized a beautiful online Science Exhibition on the occasion of Earth Day and demonstrated some amazing gadgets and their uses. Geography Club organized an online event 'Fun with Geography' which not only highlighted some interesting facts about the subject, but also used creative games centring around Geography.

Library

An orientation programme and a library tour was organised by the librarian Ms. Deepali Sarode for the new batch of B.Ed. students, research scholars and faculty members. They were introduced to the library collection, open access catalogue, resources, services, activities and facilities of the library. The college library is fully automated with software 'SLIM 21'. The library provides various services through MOODLE LMS and has also developed an Institutional Repository. A library website has been designed to provide online services like e-resources, open access database, Web OPAC, online question papers, online courses, Webinars, placements, etc. to the students. The subscription and registration of N-List programme of INFLIBNET was continued. Students and teachers had remote login facility to access and download articles. A programme on 'N-List E-Resources: Online Access' was conducted by the librarian for the new batch of students. Library introduced SWAYAM Online Educational Courses in various

backgrounds for the faculty and students. New arrivals were displayed in the library throughout the year. During the year 142 books were added to the library collection. College library also subscribed to 35 journals and 11 magazines. The Library offers computerized Catalogue Search Services through the Web OPAC to all. Book bank scheme was extended for core papers in both semesters during the year. These books could be retained by the students throughout the year.

TET Training

KKCE has been encouraging its student-teachers to get their TET certification for the past few years and has also been providing orientation to this test. This year, apart from the orientation, a full-fledged workshop was organized for trainee-teachers from June 19th to 26th, 2019. Experts in different methods engaged with them to discuss/clarify key content areas. Students were also encouraged to appear for CETA Certification. Many of our students participated and some did us proud. Prominent among them were Ms. Samira Saheba, Ms. Lesha Vakharia, Ms. Priyal Shah, Ms. Dhruva Patwa and Ms. Sejal Chawda.

CET Orientation

To satisfy the anxieties of aspiring students, as has been our practice, a CET Orientation was planned towards the early part of April. However, as the pandemic spread and institutions closed down around mid March, uncertainty set in. When things settled down a bit, it was decided to conduct the CET orientation on 26th June 2020 in the online mode. 28 participants attended the orientation which had interactive sessions on solving different kinds of problems in the CET and ELCT. The numerous concerns of these candidates were patiently addressed by the faculty.

Research Cell (Shodh Sadhana)

The Research Cell of the college was active throughout the year. Some students from our research centre submitted their Ph.D thesis during the year. The research cell organized a session by international expert Dr. Galit Caduri from Gordon College of Education, Israel on 20th September, 2019 titled “What’s the Story of Narrative Research in Education”? The cell also organized a paper reading session by Dr. Ruchi Mittal on her doctoral research titled “Junior College Students’ Critical Thinking Skills and Dispositions in relation to their Goal Orientation and Learning Strategies” on 30th November, 2019. The session was chaired by Dr. Ashwini Karwande , Assistant Professor Dept. of Education, University of Mumbai. An online session was organized on 1st June, 2020 titled “Navigating the Research Journey” by Dr. Gopal Midha from Virginia University, USA. This was attended by academicians as well as research scholars and helped them gain confidence in conducting research; especially qualitative research.

Women’s Cell

Women’s cell conducts activities centring on empowerment and emancipation of our student-teachers, majority of who are women. Apart from this, Women’s Cell also actively attends to any complaints or any forms of discrimination against women. To empower the women and sensitize

the men, the Women's Development Cell of KKCE organized activities throughout the year. A session titled "Laws Protecting Women in India" was organized on 21st January, 2020 to create awareness of legal rights of women. International Women's Week was celebrated from 2nd – 6th March, 2020. During this period, a variety of activities were organized that included Handwriting Competition on the life of Smt. Indira Gandhi, a Quiz on famous women personalities, speeches on powerful women, poetry recitation explaining the position of women in society. A mMovie screening was also organized based on the theme of women empowerment. An impromptu debate on 'Are we raising sexist men and sons?' provided the grand finale to the celebration.

KKCE'S Alumni Association – Nirantar

KKCE believes that its alumni is a great resource that can help its alma mater grow and blossom. This year, the committee members of NIRANTAR took desired steps in order to reach their goals. New office bearers were appointed. A whatsapp group was created to bring alumni members together on one platform. A 'Lesson Planning competition' was organized where Ms. Krupali Parekh (2014-15) was declared winner and Ms. Nirali Mehta (2016-18) the runner up. Some alumni members were invited to speak to the student-teachers on various issues relevant to them. A reunion meeting of alumni of the Global-ITE project was organized with Mr. Greig Whitehead on 4th January, 2020. A LinkedIn profile of college was created to increase visibility.

State Level Seminar

A two day state level seminar 'Readjusting the Inclusion Lens – Transcending the Exclusion Mind Set' was organized on 21st & 22nd January, 2020, to deliberate on different perspectives on inclusion. The main theme of the seminar was exploring possibilities for inclusion holistically using academic as well as social lens across all levels of education. Chief Guest Prof. Vibhuti Patel delivered a powerful keynote address titled 'Whom to Include and Why?' Panel discussion on 'Readjusting the Inclusion Lens – Voices of the Excluded' aimed to provide a platform for the voice of the excluded communities. The discussion was moderated by Dr. Mythili Ramchand and the panel comprising of Dr. Kalpana Kharade, Dr. Ivan John, Mr Irfan Engineer, Ms Aabha Joshi, and Dr.Subbalakshmi Kumar spoke from their personal experiences of exclusion /inclusion.



Dr. Ranu Jain led a session 'Potential for Research in the area of Inclusion'. Dr. Radhika Misquitta and Ms. Rajani Hiremath enlightened with Strategies for Academic Inclusion. Valedictory session was led by Prof. Neeraj Hatekar with his crisp talk on 'Creating an Inclusive Society – A Myth or a Reality?' Papers were presented on both days. The feedback from participants was very encouraging.

Faculty Growth And Development

The college encourages staff to upskill themselves from time to time. Teaching, non-teaching as well as support staff are encouraged to participate in various programmes and enhance their knowledge or skill set. Individual members of the teaching staff enthusiastically and relentlessly worked on enhancing their professional competencies throughout the year. Dr. Megha D'souza completed her Ph.D by successfully defending her research work at the University level and Ms. Sheetal Zalte submitted her doctoral thesis during this year.

The academic year 2019-2020 ended in a bizarre way. Never in the recent history has humanity struggled for mere survival – physical, emotional as well as economical. We have witnessed unimaginable phenomena like reverse migration and lockdowns. Our vocabulary has changed as has the overall narrative for every economy of the world. Nobody could have anticipated this. Nobody was prepared for this. Nobody still knows when this will end. Nobody would want this to happen again - ever. However, it is said, every cloud has a silver lining. We must keep our hopes alive. Till we meet again.