

BEST PRACTICE – 1

1. Title of the Practice: Biometric Free Computer Training,
2. Goal: Deployment of Biometric attendance system for marking the attendance of students with the underlying objective of significantly reducing the time previously wasted by manual execution of the same. More importantly, it is hoped that the system would promote integrity by disabling students to register proxy attendance for their friends. The overall and the primary goal of the entire endeavour being the ultimate improvement of the quality of education by ensuring that students are physically present to attend the classes for more number of hours and also providing the teachers more time to teach the students.

3. The Context:
Features

Biometric refers to metrics related to human characteristics-Physiological as well as behavioral which can be used to uniquely identify, label or describe individuals. The person to be identified is required to be physically present at the time of identification. These features enable the concept to be made use of in the academic realm to be used as a means of registering attendance of students.

Issues Addressed

- Biometric attendance system requires the students to be physically present at the time of marking the attendance thereby minimizing the chance of cheating and successfully addressing the issue of proxy among students.
- Classes with larger number of students always required the teachers to waste significant amount of time in taking the attendance which could otherwise be utilized for teaching or other useful purpose. With Biometric attendance system, this is no longer an issue.
- The system also eliminates all sorts of error or mistake that can be made in marking the attendance and the calculations involve in finalizing the attendance summary at the end of each semester.

4. The Practice (implementation, uniqueness & constraints)

The institution is the first to implement Biometric attendance system within the state. The Biometric system procured by the institution makes use of the fingerprint of the students for marking the attendance instead of relying on the conventional method of calling out the roll numbers of individual students. The system comprises of a portable unit on which thumb impressions of all students are stored. When students press the button on the system their attendance is automatically marked and stored temporarily which is later printed out and stored.

5. Evidence of Success (targets achieved & reviews)

The use of Biometric attendance system has evidently increase the number of hours for lecturing by greatly reducing or altogether eliminating the significant amount of time once utilized for marking attendance. It is also worth noting that the practice greatly minimizes cheating by rendering impossible the registration of proxy attendance by students. Accuracy is yet another advantage associated with the system which successfully assists the teachers in calculating and finalizing the attendance summary at the end of each semester.

6. Problems Encountered and Resources Required:

Presently, the system is not utilized to its maximum extent owing to the fact that the automation of the college office requires the need for separate interface software to be designed specifically for the Biometric attendance system.

Resources Required:

- 1) Biometric attendance system
- 2) Computer System
- 3) Printer

7. Notes (relevance for adoption in other institutions)

It is felt that the practice of deploying the Biometric attendance system is highly advantageous for the institution and its adoption by other institutions is strongly recommended because issues like proxy, attendance calculation etc. are successfully addressed and solved.

