

## **Best Practice 2: Evening Presentation (EP)**

EP can be defined as a collaborative exercise in developing self-confidence by applying the principles of communication and broadening of horizon.

**Objectives.** The objectives of this initiative are:

1. Enhancing communication skill.
2. Reduce stage fear and enhance self-confidence.
3. Learn to research a topic collaboratively with others and present the findings.
4. Increase general awareness.

### **The Context**

The student community that we serve come with language and communication handicap and more importantly suffer from lack of self-confidence and also general awareness. However, they have reasonable competency in written communication. Constant practice and collaborative learning helps to mitigate this handicap. Since the students are in full residential campus, it is possible to take advantage of the interactive time they have to research and prepare collaboratively and develop communication through practice. Experience shows that though there is presentation in the SOP groups and classes the audience is comparatively smaller and addressing a larger audience is necessary.

### **The Practice**

Students are grouped at random keeping gender equality in mind for the EP. The groups are told of various topics. Each week is dedicated for a subject. The subjects covered are business issues, sustainability issues and social issues. They prepare a talk for 30 minutes and each person is required to speak on the topic for at least 4 minutes. The group researches the topic, prepares a draft, get it vetted by a faculty of their choice or one of the mentors. On the nominated day which is usually two times a week, all students and evaluating faculty gather in the auditorium.

The group that is nominated to present the topic is dressed in formals and one of them act as the coordinator for the presentation. This exercise is done at 7 p.m and hence the name EP or evening presentation. An advanced version of it called Midnight presentation which has been put in place in this academic year with a view to familiarize students with late night working. This commences at 10 p.m and goes on till midnight.

After the presentation is completed by the group, audience are expected to ask questions. If no one asks a question voluntarily, then there is a random selection of the individual to ask questions. It is our experience that the student, even if they do not ask questions proactively, prepares questions as the presentation progresses and usually ask thoughtful questions when their name figures. The question is usually directed towards one of the speakers. However the group has the option of consulting one another and nominating a person to answer the question.

The process is summed up by the faculty evaluators who also ask questions. Feedback, both individual and collective feedback is given. These pertain to preparation, body language, dressing and posture, diction, pauses, confidence, and content.

Regular opportunity for presenting to a wide audience is a unique feature and the practice has several salutary effect on the student’s confidence. The EP covers every student at least a couple of times in a year. EP is different from a class presentation because of the width of subject coverage, larger audience, need to research collaboratively and identify parts for each, compulsion to answer questions, dynamic feedback, both oral and written and because this is a student initiative planned and executed by the student team coordinators.

**Evidence of Success.** There are several anecdotal evidence of success of the process. Alumni, in general, consider the EP as a tool that made them confident and become professionals.

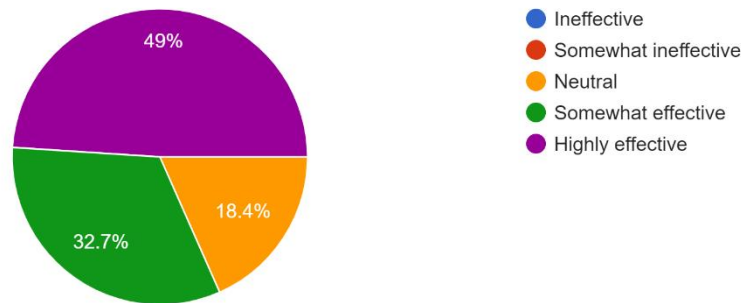
### Students Feedback on EP

#### EP program in increasing confidence level

Opinion	Percentage
Ineffective	0
Somewhat ineffective	0
Neutral	18
Somewhat effective	33
Highly effective	49
Total	100

Rate the effectiveness of the Evening presentation program in increasing your confidence level

49 responses

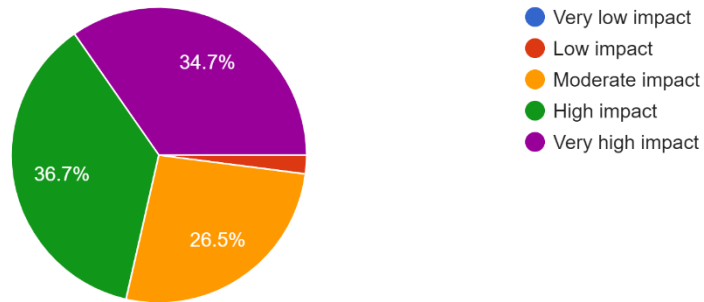


#### EP program in enhancing your knowledge and awareness

Opinion	Percentage
Very low impact	0
Low impact	1
Moderate impact	27
High impact	37
Very high impact	35
Total	100

Rate the impact of the Evening presentation program in enhancing your practical knowledge and awareness about your field of study

49 responses

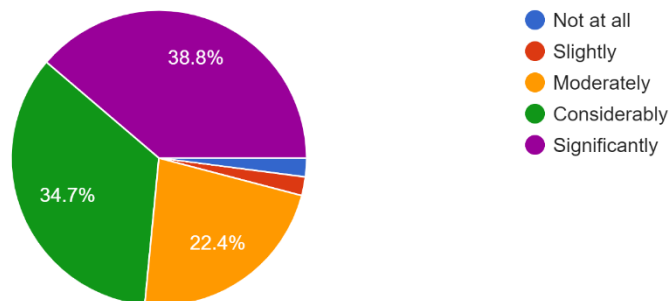


### EP program has helped to overcome stage fear

Opinion	Percentage
Not at all	2
Slightly	2
Moderately	22
Considerably	35
Significantly	39
Total	100

To what extent do you believe that participating in the Evening presentation program has influenced you to overcome stage fear

49 responses

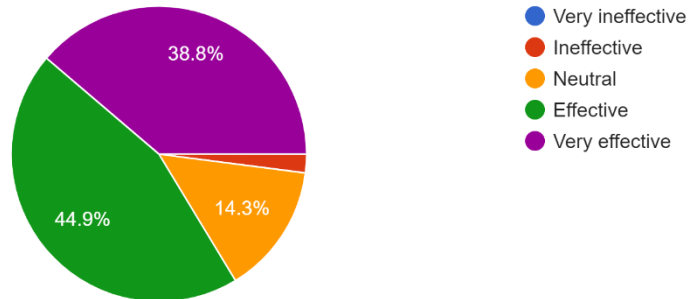


### EP program enriched communication skills

Opinion	Percentage
Ineffective	0
Somewhat ineffective	2
Neutral	14
Somewhat effective	45
Highly effective	39
Total	100

Rate the effectiveness of the Evening Presentation program in providing opportunities for the enrichment of communication skills that have been beneficial for your career

49 responses

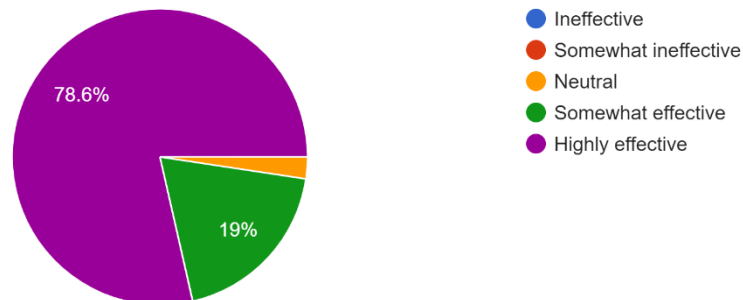


## Alumni Feedback on EP

### EP program in increasing confidence level

Opinion	Percentage
Ineffective	0
Somewhat ineffective	0
Neutral	2
Somewhat effective	19
Highly effective	79
Total	100

Rate the effectiveness of the Evening presentation program in increasing your confidence level  
42 responses

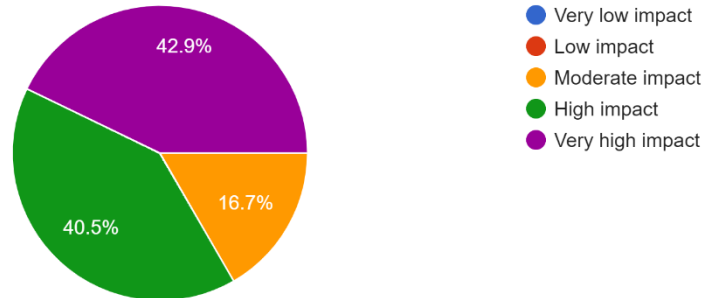


### EP program's role in enhancing your knowledge and awareness

Opinion	Percentage
Very low impact	0
Low impact	0
Moderate impact	16
High impact	41
Very high impact	43
Total	100

Rate the impact of the Evening presentation program in enhancing your practical knowledge and awareness about your field of study

42 responses

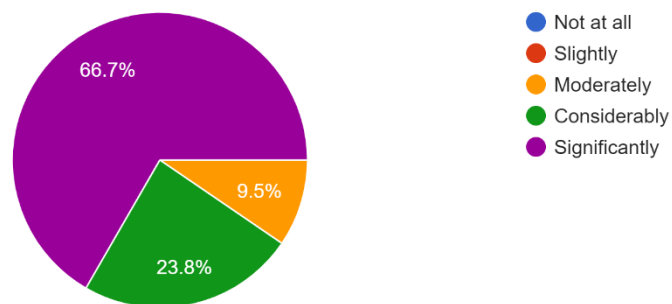


### EP program has influenced you to overcome stage fear

Opinion	Percentage
Not at all	0
Slightly	0
Moderately	9
Considerably	24
Significantly	67
Total	100

To what extent do you believe that participating in the Evening presentation program has influenced you to overcome stage fear

42 responses

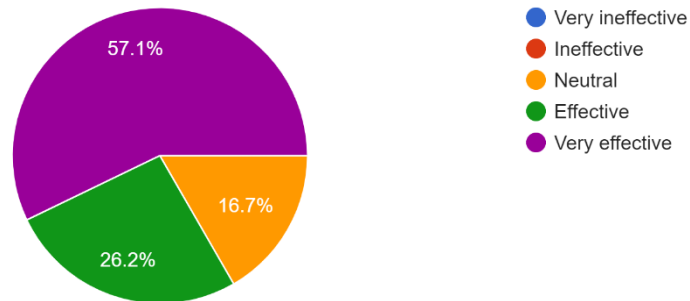


### EP program enriched communication skills

Opinion	Percentage
Very Ineffective	0
Ineffective	0
Neutral	17
Effective	26
Very effective	57
Total	100

Rate the effectiveness of the Evening Presentation program in providing opportunities for the enrichment of communication skills that have been beneficial for your career

42 responses

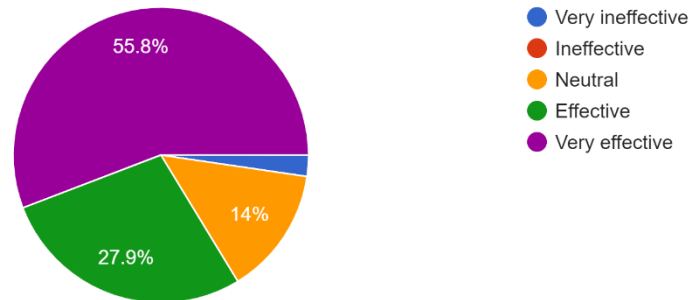


### EP program has beneficial effect on your current job

Opinion	Percentage
Very Ineffective	2
Ineffective	0
Neutral	14
Effective	28
Very effective	56
Total	100

Rate the effectiveness of the Evening Presentation program in the enrichment of communication skills that have been beneficial for your current job

43 responses



**Problems Encountered and Resources Required.** There are no major problems encountered in the residential school since time of the day, returning home etc. do not pose a problem to the students or the faculty. However, due caution is necessary if the same is implemented in non-residential school though this can be overcome to a great extent using online mode of interaction.