

LINKAGE AND NETWORKING

Insight into Institution-Industry Interface in Home-Science

Preface

Home-Science is an applied science that derives its contents from pure sciences, social sciences and humanities. The nature of its specializations is interdisciplinary. Home Science has 5 specializations: 1. Clothing & Textiles; 2. Child Development; 3. Extension Education; 4. Foods & Nutrition; 5. Home Management. Besides these 5, some colleges have a combination of all subjects called Composite home-science. These specializations are known by different names in colleges depending on the focus. Many technical and educational departments have grown and more will grow out of it as time goes by. It is not a single specialty. As a result, Home-Science education prepares students for many professions.

The scope and responsibilities of educational institutes have increased many folds. University Grants Commission (UGC) has realized the importance of University-Industry (U-I) collaboration and proposed multi-layered policy interventions to facilitate U-I synergism. The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) have emphasized importance of collaboration with industry or other agencies of professional and social relevance. Personnel associated with educational institutes are expected to follow norms and regulations with respect to syllabus, infrastructural facilities, and qualification of teachers, eligibility of students and other related areas.

Thus, to fulfil requirement of funding and accrediting bodies and in the context of changing global economic scenario there is a need to establish interaction between educational institutions and corporations – industry. This linkage is important to make education more relevant and offer support in research to industry for sustaining and promoting faster industrial growth. However, in the field of engineering, technology, pharmacy and management there are a few initiatives taken in mega cities. In the field of Home-Science availability of published literature on linkages is limited. It is a test for educational institutes to prepare and train students to work in industry and for industry to mould graduates as per their needs. In order to have a network, linkages have to be established.

An attempt is made through this book to throw light on the potential of Home-Science as discipline; sensitize educationists to the innumerable possibilities of careers in various industries and share practices with all.

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