



University of Mumbai



Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan's

SARDAR PATEL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

(An Empowered Autonomous Institute Affiliated to University of Mumbai)

Munshi Nagar, Andheri (W), Mumbai – 400 058.

NEW BEGINNINGS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM 2024-25

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Objective:

In the academic year 2024-25, the New Beginnings Mentorship Program was introduced for the students who have entered the 1st year and are making a new beginning in the college ecosystem. As the environment is new, there are a lot of questions running in the mind of these students for which they need guidance. Through the New Beginnings Mentorship Program, seniors from 3rd and 4th year volunteer to provide the much needed hand holding required by their fellow first year juniors, offering them support and guidance whenever they need. It's a great way to bond and build a sense of community and ensure that these new students feel supported by someone who has already been through similar experiences and navigated his/her way ahead.

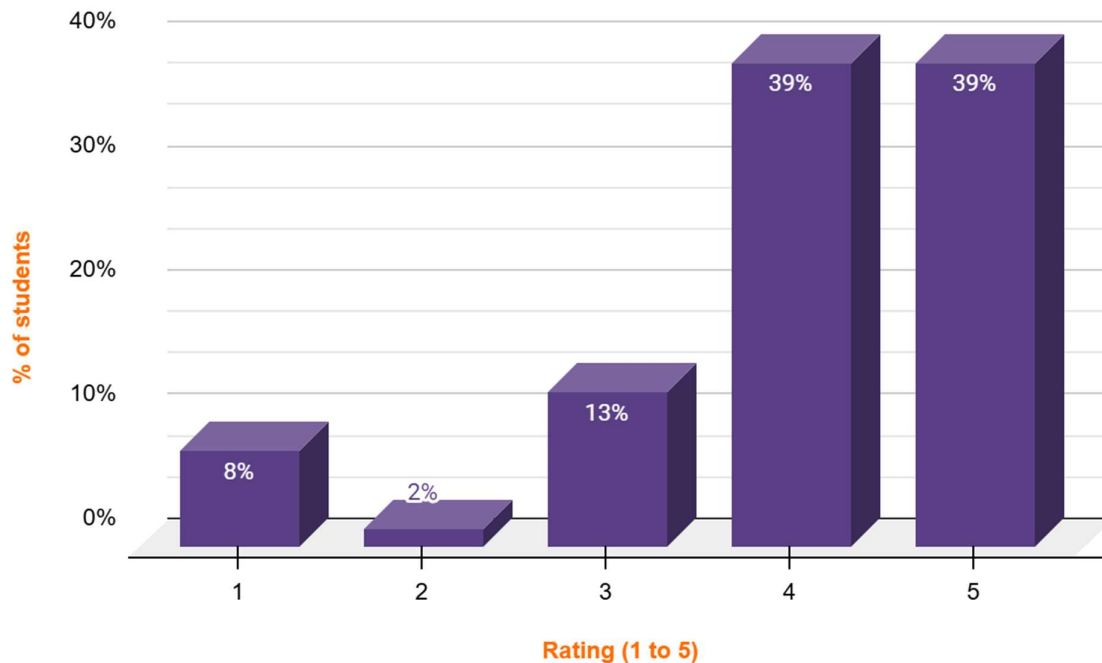
Below are a list of objectives for this initiative:

- To help 1st year students get familiar with the new ecosystem
- To help them with the personal, academic or any other challenges
- To help them get guidance on studies, assignments, projects, committees, clubs among other things
- To help the students bond and build a sense of community among themselves
- To help students with disabilities cope with the pace of studies

Methodology:

- A form was floated to take interest of 3rd and 4th year students who were interested to become mentors
- 2 mentors were allotted to a group of 13 to 14 students as per their batch
- Each batch also has a Class teacher mapped
- Mentors are supposed to take at least 1 meeting per month (Either in person or online)
- After every meeting they are supposed to fill a Mentoring Log with details of the meeting , photo proof of the meeting, highlights of the meetings and issues/concerns if any (Mentoring Log: <https://forms.gle/hN1WZbYTxx8Lq6d347>)
- A report is generated monthly which highlights the number of meetings conducted by the mentors
- In the end, a feedback was taken from the mentees regarding their mentors and the mentees rated how helpful their mentors have been on a scale of 5
- All mentors were given a Certificate of Excellence, Outstanding, Appreciation depending on their quality of mentoring and impact

New Beginnings Mentoring Program Benefit Rating (1 to 5: Lowest to highest)



78% students said that the mentorship initiative was beneficial (Rating 4 and above)

Outcome of the Program

- Mentees got a roadmap of how things pan out in the first year from their mentors which helped them to quickly settle in their first year
- Mentees received academic guidance from their Mentors
- Mentees also received guidance on exam preparation, understanding the grading system and about committees and extra curricular activities in college
- Many 1st year students hesitate to reach out to faculty members for guidance, through this they got an active engagement avenue to reach out to

Suggestions/Improvements:

- Students can be grouped as per EWS, Physically disabled, students with Vernacular background and rest of the students
- Within 1st week of joining, mentors should meet their mentees and engage with them
- Mentors should reach out at least once every week initially to understand mentees' progress and report roadblocks if any

Some student testimonials

“This was quite great, the mentors helped me navigate through my first year ,gave really useful tips and were there for me whenever I needed any sort of help” - **Clark Fernandes, First Year Student**

“My Mentor helped me a lot by giving general guidance, helping me in solving the problems I faced adjusting especially in the first semester, giving career guidance, giving some important insights about college and much more.” - **Swastik Shivane, First Year Student**

“This mentorship initiative helped me understand how to optimize my college time for better opportunities in the future. I also had a glimpse and a quite clear idea what challenges lie ahead and how I can be prepared for them.” - **Aryan Mayekar, First Year Student**

“I was new in college I wasn't knowing anything about how to study for exams or which books we should refer for exams but due to my mentors I was easily passed my exams” - **Anay Patil, First Year Student**

“It helped us regarding various doubts about the college initially, helped us adapt with college rules and regulations. They also helped us regarding any doubts we had about internships, electives or anything. This actually was helpful” - **Pallav Deshmukh, First Year Student**

“By explaining how things work here in SPIT . What to focus on during these 4 years of engineering. Also gave us an idea about whom to contact for any academic issues and all.” - **Abhimanyu Sah, First Year Student**

Photos and Memories



Jagdish Aade with his mentees



Aditi Rao with her mentees



Allen Andrew and Abhimanyu Kapoor with their mentees



Prathamesh Mane with his mentees



Manavi Jhalani with her mentees



Stephen Vaz with his mentees