Message

Education has to be holistic, covering all aspects of living. Universal Human Values is a very important initiative in this context. It is seen to help students develop a holistic perspective, clear humane goals and the commitment to learn the skills required to achieve these goals. We have asked IRMA to do an Impact Study of the initial efforts made so far.

Clarity on reality of Nature and humane goals is essential to give direction to one’s effort. It fosters creativity and innovation in the true sense. True innovation produces sustainable and long-lasting solutions. Innovation without clarity of humane goals may produce exciting short-term solutions, but these may have undesirable side effects in the long term. Problems that we see all around us today are an indicator of effort for goals that are not humane, not consistent with the existential reality and well-being of all.

Also, theory and practice have to go hand in hand. Theory has to lead to practice and practice has to be backed by theory. I am happy to note that the courses described in this document seem well balanced in this regard. For instance, the UHV-II course (Understanding Harmony and Ethical Human Conduct) consists of 28 lectures and 14 practice sessions; it helps one to clearly understand prosperity, distinguish between needs and wants, therefore make effort in the right direction in their day-to-day living.

Personally, I am sold on the idea of UHV and holistic, value-based education. It has my full support and AICTE will make effort to take it forward to all AICTE affiliated colleges. We will make judicious use of technology in this endeavour.

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