



St. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

Accredited at A++ Grade (4th Cycle) by NAAC, Special Heritage Status awarded by UGC, College with Potential for Excellence by UGC

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI – 620 002

Minutes of the 54th Governing Body Meeting

The 54th Governing Body meeting of St. Joseph's College was held in Toulouse Hall on 1st October, 2019 at 10.30 am.

The following members were present:

Rev Dr Leonard Fernando SJ – Vice Chairman & Rector

Rev Dr Arockiasamy Xavier M SJ – Secretary & Principal

Rev Dr Peter S SJ – Secretary

Dr Mathur P P – UGC Representative

Dr Babu Rajendran R – University Representative

Dr Sujatha V – Eminent Expert

Rev Dr Thomas Alexander SJ – Province Coordinator for Higher Education

Dr Alex Ramani V – Deputy Principal

Rev Dr Aruldoss S SJ – Vice Principal

Rev Fr Royappan K SJ - Treasurer

Rev Dr Casimir Raj SJ – Executive Director MBA

Dr Arul Rayappan I – Staff Representative

Dr Joseph Arul Jayraj S – Staff Representative

Rev Dr Gilbert Camilus SJ, Controller of Examinations

Dr Rose Venis A – Dean, IQAC

Dr Sahaya Sathish Dean, School of Biological Sciences

Dr Arockiam L, Dean, School of Computing Sciences

Dr Beschi G, School of Languages & Culture

Rev Dr Arockiam K SJ, Dean, School of Management Studies

Dr Ravi N, Dean, School of Physical Sciences

Rev Dr Danis Ponniah SJ, Provincial, Jesuit Madurai Province and Dr (Tmt) S Usha, Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, Tiruchirappalli, were unable to attend it due to their prior commitments.

Prayer and Welcome

The meeting commenced with a prayer led by Rev Dr S Aruldoss SJ, Vice Principal. Rev Dr M Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, Principal, and Secretary of Governing Body welcomed the members present with profound gratitude. He specially welcomed Rev Dr S Peter SJ, Secretary of the college, Rev Dr N Casimir Raj SJ, Director, St. Joseph's Institute of Management and Rev Dr V Gilbert Camilus SJ, Controller of Examinations, Dr. A. Rose Venis, Dean-IQAC and Dr. S Sahaya Sathish, Dean, School of Biological Sciences who were the new members of the Governing Body.

Introductory Remarks

Rev Dr Leonard Fernando SJ, Rector and Vice Chairman of Governing Body called the meeting to order. He initiated the proceedings by elaborating the 175th year celebrations that were organised successfully on 27th and 28th of September 2019. He said that the college recollected the past to get strengthened in order to move forward, and the college wished to continue its service in nation building. The Vice Chairman also officially informed the body that the college was accredited at A++ grade in the fourth cycle of NAAC accreditation, and he appreciated all specially the teams and principal for their hard work to get the rank. Further, the college was willing to serve as mentor for six colleges. He concluded his introductory remarks with the need for sustaining the quality of education and invited deliberations and suggestions that would help the college towards excellence.

Approval of the passing of the minutes

Dr N Ravi, Dean, School of Physical Sciences presented the minutes of 53rd Governing Body meeting held on 27th February 2019 and the minutes were passed. Dr A Rose Venis proposed and Dr V Sujatha, Principal, Cauvery College for Women, Tiruchirappalli seconded.

Dr G Beschi, Dean, School of Languages and Culture presented the minutes of 43rd Academic Council meeting held on 11th April 2019. Dr V Sujatha, Principal, Cauvery College for Women suggested that MOOC online courses should be made compulsory. Dr Joseph Arul Jayraj, Head, Department of English responded that the students from academically and economically poor background already struggled with the academics and

finance was also a problem for them. Dr R Babu Rajendran, Department of Environmental Biotechnology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli expressed that the enrolment of MOOC courses could be encouraged gradually. Dr V Sujatha and Dr V Alex Ramani, Deputy Principal recommended that MOOC courses could be made compulsory for staff members. Both Rev Fr Rector and Fr Principal made a note on the importance of Online learning which was a part of digital trend.

Dr V Sujatha referred to a programme organised at Cauvery College on Communicative English in collaboration with British Council which included two hours of practical learning every week and practical examination. Rev Fr Principal mentioned the availability of language lab in the college and Rev Fr Rector acknowledged the activity of drama club for the students which focused on communicating in English. The minutes were passed.

Recording Matters Pertaining to the Academic Activities

• Admission Particulars

Rev Dr K Arockiam SJ, Dean of School of Management Studies reported the admission details for the academic year 2019-2020. Dr R Babu Rajendran enquired if there was any part time MPhil admission and Rev Fr Principal replied that there was no part time admission. Rev Dr Thomas Alexander SJ, Higher Education Coordinator congratulated the management for admitting more number of Catholic students. Rev Fr Principal added that nearly 20000 applications received, 52 percent of the admitted students were from rural background and 54 percent of them were first generation learners.

• A consolidated report of Examination Results

Rev Dr V Gilbert Camilus SJ, the new Controller of Examinations presented the result analysis of the even semester of the academic year. Rev Fr Principal stated that 28 UG students and 15 PG students appeared for university rank exams and 24 students secured different ranks.

• PhD Registration during 2018-19

Dr L Arockiam, Dean, School of Computing Sciences gave an overview of PhD registration for the year 2019. It was observed that the enrollment had come down due to the new set of regulations regarding the permissible limit of scholars for each guide enforced by the university. Dr R Babu Rajendran explained that the university had to adopt the UGC pattern. Dr S Sahaya Sathish, Dean of Biological Sciences sought clarification with regard to the guide's registration in the university portal and Dr R Babu Rajendran replied that any clarification with regard to the process could be sorted out with the Director. Dr R Babu Rajendran stated that it was Indian phenomenon in declining trend of the enrollment in PhD. He also insisted that the PhD guides should accommodate more full time scholars and motivate them to publish quality research papers. Professor P P Mathur stressed that even the

NET qualified candidates should be encouraged to pursue PhD and research interests could be inculcated by and to write research projects and publications.

Approval of the Financial Expenditure

- **Receipt of UGC Funds and Approval of Autonomy Grant Budget**

The financial expenditure and autonomy grant budget details were read out by Dr S Sahaya Sathish, Dean of School of Biological Sciences and were approved.

- **Institution of Endowments/Scholarships and details of scholarships received by the students**

Rev Fr K Royappan SJ, the Campus Treasurer, read out the details of endowments and scholarships. He informed the members that the details of other scholarships and noon meal schemes would be provided in the next meeting. Rev Fr Principal shared that Rev Fr Rector allotted 25 lakh rupees for the scholarship of poor students and Dr Vinanchiarachi, from UNIDO presented Rs. One lakh for the welfare of the children of the Non Teaching staff, during the valedictory function of Dodransbicentennial celebrations.

- **Approval of Main Financial Statement for the year 2018-19**

Rev Fr Secretary presented the main financial statement for the year 2018- 2019 and the statement was approved by the members.

Approval of matters relating to Administration and General Interest

- **New Appointments and Legal Proceedings**

The list of new appointments and new assignments were read out by Rev Fr Secretary. Rev Fr Thomas Alexander, Coordinator for Higher Education enquired about the legal proceedings. Rev Fr Secretary replied that he had not heard from the lawyer about the approval of postings for the academic year 2017-18. He added that the university approval for the postings in 2018-19 was in the process. Professor P P Mathur clarified his doubts regarding the approval of Government posts in Tamil Nadu with the Principal.

- **Approval of the various committees**

Dr I. Arul Rayappan, Head of Physics, read out the list of various committees and the members. Dr N Ravi, Dean School of Physical Sciences sought the consent of the committee to include the Examination Reforms Committee.

- **Report of the MBA**

The report of MBA, St. Joseph's Institute of Management was presented by Rev. Dr Casimir Raj, Director. The Director notified that the MOOC online courses for the MBA students were made compulsory according to the guidelines of All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE). The future plans of St. Joseph's Institute of Management

included the construction of hostels within the college premises and construction of a dining hall.

New Initiatives / Recent Happenings

Rev Dr M Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, Principal shared new initiatives and presented the recent events. The college had involved itself in the following consultancy works. The creation of website for St Antony's College for women, Dindigul was completed. The college had completed the ERP process in St Xavier's College, Patna and Loyola College, Mettala. The ERP process for Loyola College of Education, Chennai and St Xavier's College of Education, Palayamkottai was on the verge of completion. The Principal stated that value added courses were included in the curriculum and the broadband connectivity was increased from 150 MPBS to 200 MPBS. Rev Dr Casimir Raj SJ suggested offering a course on Data Science which was approved by University Grants Commission. Dr I Arul Rayappan also added that there was a demand for staff in the market of Data Science. The college can offer this course with its good infrastructure and with the help of the staff members of Computer Science and Information Technology departments. Many welcomed the proposal.

Dr V Alex Ramani, Deputy Principal recollected his experience of submitting a proposal for a course on Food Science and recommended that the course can be revisited. Professor P P Mathur proposed that a course related to Artificial Intelligence can be offered since it was the most sought after area of research at present.

Alumni Association

Dr S Joseph Arul Jayraj, Head of English presented the report of the Alumni Association. Dr V Sujatha put forward the idea of organising chapters of Alumni reunion to reach out globally. Rev Fr Principal replied that Alumni meetings were conducted in various places.

New Courses

Rev Fr Principal proposed to the Body for consideration to start three new courses

(1) MSc Counselling Psychology, (2) MSc Data Science and (3) BCom Honours in the forthcoming academic year.

Any Other Matter

Dr S Joseph Arul Jayraj, Head of English proposed that people from any party should not be included in any association of the college. Dr L Arockiam suggested that the college being upgraded to A++ grade should concentrate on quality research and the corpus funds that could support fulltime research scholars. He also proposed that faculty members with PhD, preferably with PDF, should be appointed and retired faculty could be invited to train the juniors ones. The faculty members contributing to research and projects can be encouraged with financial assistance. He also added that the faculty members can be divided into two

groups: Teaching- Learning oriented and Research oriented members. And emphasis could be given to them based on their performance.

Dr V Sujatha referred to the B.Com Honours course of Cauvery College for which industrialists were invited to teach and suggested the similar kind of approach to be followed at St. Joseph's College. Dr N Ravi reminded that Statistics Department had already received university approval for introducing Data Analytics course and also proposed that MSc Statistics and Informatics can be integrated as a course. Dr I Arul Rayappan replied that Data Analytics course was complicated but Data Science would be a better option.

Responding to Dr L Arockiam's opinions, Dr S Sahaya Sathish said that faculty members should equally focus on teaching and research. He also requested to construct an additional hostel for UG boys. Rev Dr D Thomas Alexander, SJ appreciated the institution for the success in the completion of NAAC process and its generosity in extending its support to other institutions by sharing its own resources. Responding to the views on MOOC courses, he consented to make MOOC courses compulsory due to its relevance. There was a discussion on the recognition of the online refresher courses. It is agreed that the permission should be received from University Grants Commission in written form.

Rev Dr D Thomas Alexander, SJ recommended forming a foundation like Xavier Research Foundation that recruited young scientists for research. He also welcomed the idea of bringing back the retired faculty members for lectures. Rev Fr Principal welcomed the idea and informed the body that in a few departments it was already practiced. Rev Fr Secretary put forward three proposals to be concentrated: Increase in the Corpus Funds; Need for a new hostel in the process of developing the college as whole and building sufficient infrastructure facilities for girls.

Vote of Thanks

Dr. V Alex Ramani, Deputy Principal proposed the vote of thanks. The meeting came to a close at 1pm.



Rev. Dr M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ

Principal