

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (Autonomous), AHMEDABAD-9.

63<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL REPORT (March 2017-18)

Our Chief Guest for the function Shri Milan Dalal, Managing Director of Bluetex Pvt Ltd, Mrs. Pinky Dalal, Fr. Lancelot D'Cruz, Rector of St. Xavier's College and Vice Principal for Science, Dr Nirmal Desai, CoE, Fr Fernando Franco, Research Coordinator, Dr Sebastian, Vice Principal for Research and Quality, Fr. David Roy, Vice Principal for Computer Sciences, Mr Krishnakumar Vijh, World Union of Jesuit Alumni Governing Council Member, Mr Shapat Shah, President of Jesuit Alumni Association of India, Governing Council Members of St. Xavier's College, members of Alumni Association, HoDs, members of teaching and non-teaching staff, Students, Parents, invited guests, benefactors, recipients of various awards, and all the members of Xavier's Parivar. Welcome to the 63rd Annual Day and Prize Distribution Function.

I will be retiring at the end of October 2018, since I will be 62 years old in September 2018, and therefore, this will be the last time that I will be presenting the Annual Report. I am grateful to all our staff and students for having supported me in this journey to shape Xaviers into one of the most sought after college of UG and PG education in Gujarat. India Today's rating of our College has improved from last year's Rank of 16th to 9th position in the country in Science, while we have maintained almost the same rank in Humanities at 16th position. NAAC bestowed A grade with a CGPA of 3.41, the highest in Gujarat. We were conferred with Academic Autonomous status in 2014, and our first batch of UG students graduated in 2017. We have remained the Champions at GU Sports Meet, consistently, for the past many decades, which is an affirmation of our focus on All Round Development. My congratulations to each one of you, who have built up Xavier's to what it is today.

Among those who contributed to the glory of our institution, some have left us for heavenly abode. We remember several of our retired staff members, students as well as near and dear ones who are no more with us, today. We have lost Prof. S.S. Bhow, former Head, dept of Chemistry, Mr Philip Macwan, former Plant Collector of the Department of Botany, Mr Fidens Lawrence, our old OS, Siddhi, Kushboo and Aakanksha Khatri, our students, Mother of Prof. Anilbhai Parmar, Fathers of Dr. Arefa Mansuri, Dr Sebastian, Dr Maulik Gadani, sons of Dr Clement Chammacheril and Mr Viren Makwana. May I request all of you to observe 1 minute silence as a mark of respect to the departed souls.

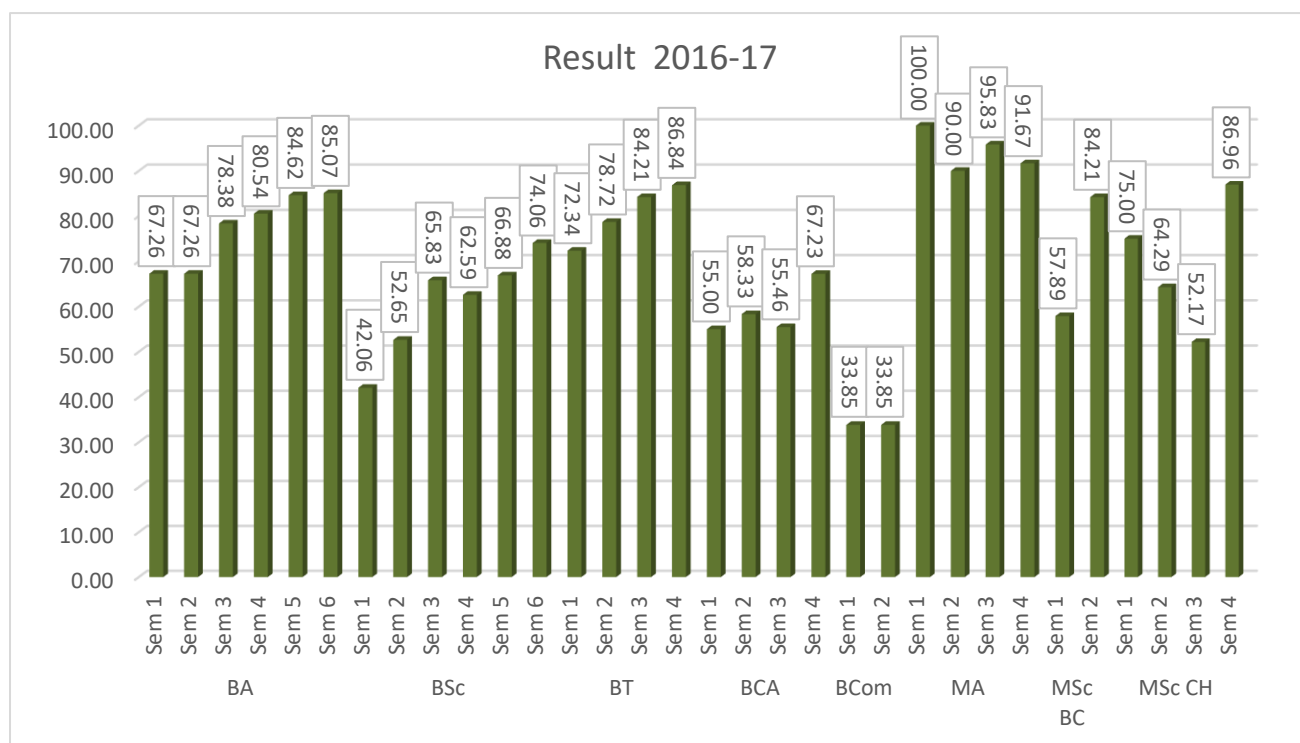
Some of our staff members appointed by the management to take care of the extra load, but resigned, recently, to pursue opportunities elsewhere include Dr Kinjal Desai, Prof. Susan George, Mr Fulesh Kokni and Ms Ancy Joseph.

This year several teaching positions were approved by the Education Department. Dr Rashmi Yadav, Yogeshbahi Baravalia, Mr Dhawal Bhatt, Mr Savan Patel, Ms Annaashirvadita Sacha have been appointed to various departments and a few more appointments are in process. The Management too has made a few appointments: Ms Kushboo Shah, Ms. Cecil Johny, Ms. Mitali Ghotikar, Ms. Kinjal Mistry, Ms. Jill Metha, Mr Tatpar Joshipura, Mr Shrijit Nair, Ms Jalpa Patel, Mr Vinod Makwan have been appointed to different departments. We welcome them all to the Xaviers Parivar!

## Academic

Academically 2017-18 has been an excellent year for Xavier's. An overwhelming 5,893 students applied to Xavier's for 850 seats. As of now, Xavier's has become a big family of over 2500 students. In June 2017, we initiated MSc programme in Mathematics; and that makes a total of 16 UG and 5 PG programmes at St. Xavier's College. We continue to offer many value added hand holding programmes, such as NET examination training, GSBTM workshop, Advanced BSc Physics programme, advanced Mathematical workshops, besides working with neighbouring schools. Indeed, These are our humble efforts to improve the level of education in our Gujarat state. I want to thank each one of you who are part of this 'mission education' to move forward into an explorative experience of quality.

Let me highlight our academic progress during 2016-17: At the undergraduate level, in BA 85.07% passed, and among them 43% with distinction. In BSc, 74% passed, and 25.6% with distinction. At the Post graduate levels, in MA 91.67% passed, and 29% with distinction, and in MSc Chemistry 86.96% passed with 21.7% distinction. The list of students who have excelled in the examinations include Patel Jyoti (Psy), Shah Kavisha (Psy) Shaktawat Divyanshi (Eng), Lunia Rashi (Maths), Shah Kareeshaa (Stats), Shah Vishwa (Stats), Narmawala Ayesha (Stats).



We congratulate each one of them, and we are very confident that the present batch of outgoing students will excel even better.

We have set up two Entrepreneurship training centres, namely Developing Entrepreneurs of Xavier Industrial Chemistry (DEXIC), and In-XITU, and they have already come up with innovative products. The academicians who visited us from Harrisburg University and IQS Barcelona were highly impressed by this experiential

learning module that we have introduced in our curriculum. Congratulations to the vision of the coordinators and the hard working students who value experiential learning.

A large number of our UG students prefer to go for higher studies. Most of our PG students are either pursuing a doctoral degree or are employed. Our placement record has been encouraging, though many pursue family business or prefer to be entrepreneurs. Our education modules, such as personality development programmes, skill development programmes, which are initiated for creating global competency, have already proved their metal. I want to thank each one of you, faculty members, for taking initiative to revamp the syllabus, and systematise evaluation system, after conferment of academic autonomous status. What we witness today is the fruit of your commitment and dedication.

### **Staff Achievements:**

Two of our faculty members continue to be syndicate members at GU. Amit Khosti and Dr Atul Makwana have cleared GSET examinations. Dr Sanjeev Gupta was awarded Researcher of the year 2017 by the College. Dr Nandita Ganguly was honoured when one of her scientific images was selected by Giovanni Imae Hall of Fame. Dr Prashant Patel, Ms Shital Doshi, Mr Dhawal Patel, Mr Shrijit Nair, won academic awards. 57 student were awarded medals / certificates / prizes for UG and PG research by the institute.

80% of our faculty are Ph.D holders. The latest additions are Dr Sanjay Patel, Dr Prashant Patel, Dr Kirtan Parmar, and Dr Dhara Bhatt. Ms Annaashirvadita, Ms Steffi Mac have submitted their synopsis and Ms Shital Doshi her thesis to earn a Ph.D degree. Ms Nitya Nadar and Ms Manali Brahmabhatt have registered themselves for PhD.

Many of our staff members have publications in refereed journals. 55 research publications, 3 in proceedings and 4 books were published during this year. There were 30 presentations, 9 of our students presented papers/ posters, 31 of our faculty delivered guest lectures, 19 faculty attended seminars and 79 faculty underwent Faculty Development Programmes. 81 of our students also underwent training in various workshops.

17 of our students have also won prizes in several academic competitions. In Minaxi Lalit State level Science Test , 47 students participated from SXCA and won 3 meritorious prizes.

Our research funding is growing. Dr Sanjeev Gupta received Rs. 48 Lakhs research funding from DST, Dr Rajesh Iyer received 40 Lakhs from ISRO, Dr Sudeshna Menon 7.65 Lakhs (2nd year) from GSBTM, and Prof. DV Khatara, 3.3 Lakhs from the UGC.

This year a total of 67 students have been selected to do their research, and they are being guided by our faculty.

Four students were awarded Ph.D. degree under supervision of Dr. Malika Sanyal, one student under Supervision of Dr. Nirmal Desai, one under Dr Ushakar Goti, and one under Dr Shuchita Mehta. Three students have registred for PhD under Dr Udayan Prajapati.

Our campus has been very active this year. About eight workshops were conducted by a

number of departments, namely Chemistry, Biochemistry-Biotechnology, Botany, Mathematics and Statistics departments. Moreover, 2 field trips, 8 seminars and 4 talks were also conducted by various departments. A national level competition by the department of Economics and a state level competition by department Biochemistry-Biotechnology were also conducted.

Dr Nirmal Desi, Dr Atul Makwana, Fr Lancy D'Cruz, and Fr Vinayak Jadav, Dr TC Pandya, Dr Rajesh Iyer and Fr Robert are in the boards of various organizations.

Various innovative teaching methods such as group discussion, field trips, workshops, guest lectures, discussions, tests, seminars, quizzes, projects, use of smart boards, films, best journal presenter award, mentoring, and peer learning are being adopted. College has also explored student exchange programme with St Xavier's College Jaipur, towards enhanced learning.

### **Infrastructure**

College has invested in developing infrastructure facilities. The FIST centralized laboratory is under construction. New research Lab has been set up for Physics-Electronics. Computers were provided to the departments of Gujarati, Psychology, Chemistry and SC-ST Cell, and printers to Physics, Psychology, Biochemistry, Gujarati, Economics, English and College office. Renovation of the English department was carried out. 28 computers were added to the computer lab.

This year, 7 class rooms and ladies lounge were renovated, and LCD projectors were installed in 3 class rooms. Internet facility was upgraded from 2 Mbps to 20Mbps. Students and staff wash rooms were also renovated. CCTVs have been installed in all the class rooms. Lift and Parking area for staff were redone. Sprinklers were installed for dousing dust in the foot ball ground. The 400 meters athletic track was renovated. The department of Mathematics was shifted to the new building. After the renovation work in the chemistry department, safety gadgets were also installed. College is slowly switching over to LED lamps: Library and 6 class rooms were fitted with LED lamps. College premise was treated for white-ants, and the compound wall is being strengthened.

Most of the science departments were equipped with instruments. With institutional and Government funding Rs 1728538 was invested in instruments and chemicals. 514 Books worth Rs. 3,02,653 were purchased this year to strengthen academic infrastructure.

College spent over Rs. 24 lakhs towards maintenance and Rs 48 lakhs towards repairs of various facilities on campus. Over Rs. 7.5 lakhs have been spent towards security arrangements of the campus, and over Rs. 9.5 lakhs towards house-keeping. This is to ensure that we have a safe and clean campus. Our Municipal Tax is nearly 9 lakhs, per annum.

### **Co & Extra curricular**

The Youth Fest was a great learning experience for our students, since they were trained to perform on a platform where numerous institutions were participating. Our students represented Gujarat University at Inter State level Western Region of the country in Western Solo Vocal. It is a proud moment when a Xavierite represents Gujarat. Culfest was an occasion for all the departments at Xavier's to showcase their hidden talents, and the participation was wholehearted. A total of 445 students participated in the final round

of cultural events, and 220 students in sports activities. Students of TYBA B were declared the Overall Champions, and the Runners-up went to FYBA B. In cultural activities, students of Functional English were the winners, and the runners-up were awarded to Biochem-Biotech departments. The department of Sanskrit won the Gita Vijay Padma trophy in a state level Competition. Students of Physics-Electronics and Biochemistry participated in various co-curricular competitions held at state level. Congratulations to the staff members who have mentored the students to showcase their talents.

The department of Mathematics organised several academic competitions, and offered CSIR training. The department of Physics-Electronics continue to undertake collaborative UG research with Institute of Plasma Research, Space Application Centre, and participate at the National Science Day Celebrations, and take advantage of workshops on experimental techniques. College has signed an MoU with ACTI and Brihati Foundation. College is also exploring the possibility of collaboration with Harrisburg University in the US, and IQS Barcelona, Spain.

Many of our faculty are also actively engaged in various administrative and social responsibilities of the institution. This has helped the institution to set benchmarks in admission process, skill development programmes, Innovation campaign and digital India campaign. A special mention must be made of Dr Pranav Trivedi, who coordinated the distribution of over 440 tablets to students and 4 start-ups at the college. Dr Prashant Patel is an academic Naval officer, and Ms Shweta Gohil was the campus ambassador for promoting the election enrollment. Prof. Disha Khetani and Dr. Divya Gangal initiated an extension activity of transferring chemical technology to schools. Some of our faculty members and students also offer their services in promoting election enrolment, and as members of NGOs that are engaged with social concerns.

Jagrat is our way of responding to the marginalized students. 7 capacity building programmes were offered to 120 members. Jagrat members render their services in extension activities, and continue to assist in publication of the tribal magazine Aadilok. College continues to provide training programme for SC ST students, with the help of Tata Consultancy.

NSS organised several programmes and assisted people in flood rehabilitation in north Gujarat. College women cell was reconstituted. This cell carried out various programmes to address relevant issues of the society, such as nurturing mental health, and dealing with depression. Career cell too organised two training programmes with the help of Gandhi fellowship and Teach India campaign for the benefit of our students.

Xaviers cares for the environment. In collaboration with Brihati Foundation, Fr Lancy organised a workshop on waste management. College also installed a solar water pump and reinstated the 5KW solar power plant. Installation of solar streetlights, and illuminating the basketball court with solar energy is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

Xavier's gives thrust to personal development of individuals. PGOP was conducted for all the students. Four training programmes were also conducted for members of Utkarsh. The All Gujarat Utkarsh Meet was a great success with 182 members participating in it. We thank Sr Mary James, Fr Roland D'Souza and the team of student volunteers for their

commendable work, which is one of the hallmarks of Xavier's.

Sports is an integral part of our training. This year 167 Xavierites took part in different Inter- Collegiate tournaments, and 51 among them were selected for Inter-Zonal competitions, and 32 students participated at the All India Inter University, and at National level. College took part in 26 games conducted by Ahmadabad Zone of Gujarat University. Our College stood first in Football, Cross country, Swimming, Basketball, Chess and Athletics, and second in Tennis doubles and Table Tennis "B" group. We were the champions in Football at inter zonal level, runner up in Reliance Inter-college tournament, and champions in EDI Basketball tournament. In the women section, our girls were the champions in Badminton Double, Volleyball, Basketball, Table Tennis "B" group, athletics and in Adani Volleyball tournament.

Many of our students did well and won awards in athletics, swimming, shooting and in table tennis. At the national level, our students won gold medals in table tennis and in shooting. Ms Sadiya Muzahid Malek won gold medal in Mavlankar all Indian shooting championship in Junior and open category. A number of our students also participated in Khel Maha kumb, and Major Padheria Road race and won medals. College also participated in chess and won accolades.

College has motivated 24 students to join NCC. 18 NCC Cadets participated in different camps, and out of these 8 students attended national camps. Gazala Parvez was selected for NCC youth exchange programme from Indian delegation, and also won a gold medal as the best cadet of Gujarat University. Prutha Shah, Narayan Soni and Ishwar Singh participated in the prestigious Republic Day Parade at New Delhi.

Many of our past students and staff members continue to offer their services to College. The departmental alumni is slowly getting stabilized with annual meeting being held by some departments. Some departments have also taken the initiative to organize departmental career fair, besides the work of the career cell.

Students play a crucial role in running Xavier's. Over 250 student-volunteers were involved in organising various programmes at College, starting from admission to youth festival, culfest, sports fest, NSS activities, waste management, and Utkarsh activities. We recognise the vital role of our student-volunteers, without whom no activity is possible in this College.

All these achievements were possible because of the commitment and dedicated participation of teaching faculty, non-teaching staff and students, the ownership of Management, house keeping staff and security staff. We are indebted to all of you. This college has to sustain its quality, uphold its value system, continue to offer educational services and stand tall as an example for others to follow not only in the state of Gujarat, but also at the national level. And that is possible only with your whole hearted support, accountability and efficiency. You have made Xaviers what it is today. Be a proud Xavierite.

### **Future Plans**

We do have amazing plans for the coming years. A new building to address space crunch, a new hostel with facilities to give academic orientation to the campus, revamping of all



class rooms, innovative faculty development programmes, UG programmes leading to PG, systematising mentoring programmes, and organising more activities executing institutional responsibility. We want to convert the campus to a more clean and green, self sustaining and student friendly place, where education takes the first priority.

Let us thank God almighty, for this rewarding academic year and ask his blessings for accomplishing our future plans .

Jai Xaviers