

St Xavier's College (Autonomous) Ahmedabad-9

Minutes of the Academic Council meeting No. 2 held on 28/2/2015 in the board room of SXCA 11.00 am onwards

The second meeting of the academic council was held on February 28, 2015 in the board room of St Xavier's College, Ahmedabad. A few members could not attend owing to other seminars/conventions held across Gujarat on the same day. Fr Principal conducted the meeting.

Welcome extended to the members attending the meeting by the Chair

The Chair welcomed all the members especially a new member Ms Aditi Vyas and introduced her.

Approval of the minutes of earlier meeting

The members approved of the minutes of earlier meet and Dr Sebastian was asked to forward the recommended modifications incorporated, in the proposal, as suggested at that meet held on 19/10/2014 to all council member.

Agenda 1: Ms Aditi Vyas was appointed as a new member to the Academic Council

Agenda 2: Approval of the proposals of BoS, with regard to curricula, academic regulations, and various courses of study that are to be introduced in the college in the coming academic year 2015-16

Suggestions for changes to the proposed syllabi, by the respective BoS members for the Semester 3&4, for UG courses both in Arts and Science faculties were scrutinized and approved. The various subjects included Economics, English, Gujarati, Hindi, Psychology, Sanskrit of Arts and Biochemistry, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Electronics, Statistics, Zoology, Voc. Biotechnology and Voc. Industrial chemistry were taken up for consideration and approved. It was suggested that a soft copy of the syllabus be sent to the various experts for their perusal and feedback.

- The same was discussed for Post Graduate Sem-3&4 for English (MA) and Chemistry (MSc)
- New courses to be started like the (self-financed) BSc Biotechnology and the MSc in Biochemistry and Physics were taken up for discussion. The proposed syllabus along with the credit points, the hours of both theory and practical, and the number of students were brought up for discussion. Prof. N.K. Shah's query was answered by Dr Sebastian

that the system followed will be the same as that followed and implemented at the Gujarat University for the MSc Biochemistry course.

- The BCA syllabus would be sent to the Academic Council members by the following Tuesday March 3, 2015

Suggestions regarding mentioning the objectives of the designed syllabi were given by Fr. Lancelot D’Cruz and all departments were asked to do the same and incorporate them in the prescribed syllabi. Also it was put forward by him that practical syllabi also needs to be looked at and studied. Some suggestions which he had for Zoology and Biochemistry, he would mail them separately.

It was also proposed by Fr. Lancelot that a small component of project work could be incorporated in the syllabus at the Semester 5&6 level.

Other suggestions by the Academic Council members include the following

Psychology should look into introducing a module on HR and Dr Khushnuma Banaji agreed that it would be done at the TY level under Industrial Psychology paper.

Certain new courses such as BA in Journalism with new age concepts could be started.

Dr Ernesto Noronha suggested that session wise unitized plan should be made available to the students.

Dr NK Shah suggested of their being some kind of feedback system from staff and the students about the changes already incorporated in the syllabi of Semester 1&2. Fr. Robert endorsed the suggestion and validation in terms of completion/justification of time and number of lectures would be undertaken.

Certain modules on Carbon Credits could also be incorporated in the syllabus probably as an elective in the Semester 3&4.

Placement of students was also taken up by Mr Pankaj Mudholkar especially the self financed post-graduate ones.

Regarding Electives

A discussion followed, on whether electives should be in additional entity to the same subject or whether it could be about introducing students to an entirely new subject such as a science student studying about literature as suggested by Fr. Vincent Saldanha.

Also more number of electives specially taking into account the important, relevant topics of recent times so that students can have more options.

Probably some sort of criteria could also be mentioned for the students taking up a specific elective.

Fr. Lancelot D'Cruz emphasized the need for introducing certain basics of different subjects that students of another branch could benefit from and it could help in their all-round formation.

It was decided by the members that some more work needed to be done in this regard and the best way forward could be the formation of an Academic Advancement Committee which could interact with both Arts and Science faculties and decide on something concrete. Dr Sebastian will at a later date bring out a circular to that effect.

The deadline for sending to the committee members the suggested/ corrected versions of the syllabi etc was to be before the March 10, 2015.

Date for next meeting

It was decided that the next meeting was to be held on August 22, 2015 at 11:00 am onwards.

1. **Fr. Robert Arockiasamy**, S.J., Principal, St. Xavier's College
2. **Dr Nisha Shah**, Dept of Chemistry, Gujarat University
3. **Dr Hyacinth Highland**, Dept. of Zoology, Gujarat University
4. **Dr Manubhai Makwana**, Dept. of Sociology, Gujarat University
5. **Dr Sudhir K Jain**, Director, IIT Gandhinagar
6. **Dr Alok Dhawan**, Director, Institute of Life Sciences
7. **Dr Ernesto Noronha**, Professor, IIMA
8. **Dr Malay Mahadevia**, Whole Time Director, Adani Infrastructure
9. **Mr Pankaj Mudholkar**, Director, Aakriti Promotions and Media Ltd., Alumnus
10. **Dr Abhijit Sen**, Ex-Director, Plasma Research,
11. **Mr Janmejay Vyas**, Managing Director, Dishman Pharma
12. **Ms Aditi Vyas**, MD, Azafragroup, Alumnus & Industry Rep
13. **Fr. Vincent Saldanha**, Management Representative
14. **Dr Lancelot D'Cruz**, Dept of Botany, St Xavier's College
15. **Dr Sebastian V**, IQAC Coordinator, St Xavier's College
16. **Dr Nirmal Desai** (CoE), Dept of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
17. **Prof Ami Shah**, Dept of Economics, St Xavier's College
18. **Dr Sarvar Sherry Chand**, Dept of English, St Xavier's College
19. **Prof Puransinh Makwana**, Dept of Gujarati-Hindi, St Xavier's College
20. **Dr Khushnuma Banaji**, Dept of Psychology, St Xavier's College
21. **Dr Shuchita Mehta**, Dept of Sanskrit, St Xavier's College
22. **Dr Sudeshna Menon**, Dept of Biochemistry, St Xavier's College
23. **Dr Atul Makwana**, Dept of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
24. **Dr Rajesh Iyer**, Dept of Physics-Electronics St Xavier's College
25. **Dr Udayan Prajapati**, Dept of Mathematics, St Xavier's College
26. **Dr UB Goti**, Dept of Statistics, St Xavier's College
27. **Prof. Bhadauria**, Dept of Statistics, St Xavier's College
28. **Prof. M.C. Patel**, Dept of Physics, St Xavier's College
29. **Dr Sharad Sondarva**, Dept of Zoology, St Xavier's College
30. **Dr Mallika Sanyal**, member Secretary, St Xavier's College