

St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad-9
Minutes of the Academic Council meeting No.3 held on August 22, 2015

A meeting of the Academic Council was held on August 22, 2015 from 11.00am onwards in the board room of St Xavier's College. The meeting was attended by most members.

The Chair welcomed the members and read out the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting held on February 28, 2015. It was suggested that from the next meeting onwards, the minutes can be taken as 'read' with the permission of present members provided the minutes are mailed to each member prior to the meeting.

The Chair sought permission to induct Fr David Roy SJ to the Academic Council as representative of the Computer Sciences. The Department of Computer Sciences was created newly in the College on account of XICA merging with SXCA with the approval of Gujarat University.

Agenda: 1. Scrutinize and approve the proposals with or without modification of the Boards of Studies with regard to courses of study, academic regulations, curricula, syllabi and modifications for: Sem 5 and 6 for UG Arts and Science; Sem 3 and 4 for BSc. Biotechnology/Elective

Syllabi for the following subjects were presented to the Academic Council: (Arts: Economics, English, Gujarati, Psychology, Sanskrit; Science: Biochemistry, Botany, Chemistry, Statistics, Voc. Biotechnology, Voc. Industrial Chemistry, and Zoology). Syllabus for Hindi, BCA, and Journalism will be mailed to all members within a few days. Members agreed to scrutinize the syllabus and write back with necessary modifications within a specified period. It was also suggested that syllabus should be send to members at least 3-4 days before the meeting.

Council discussed the possibilities of initiating new courses/combinations on account of creating the Department of Computer applications.

- ✓ Possibility of Mathematics-Statistics-Computer Sciences, Economics- Mathematics, Computers- Commerce, Mass communication, were suggested for follow up.
- ✓ The possibility of introducing Commerce stream in the College (grant-in aid/ self financed) was also discussed. Members suggested the following:
 - Honours programme in Commerce is more relevant than a graduate programme
 - Self financed is more viable than a grant-in-aid programme
 - The model proposed by SRCC, Delhi could be adopted in implementing commerce programmes

The Chair informed the Council members that the College is in the process of offering a TCS designed 'Commerce with Management' course which has greater employability.

It was also suggested that:

- ✓ College need to make statistically significant progress after getting autonomous

status.

- ✓ The need for linking courses with employability was highlighted
- ✓ It was suggested that the courses which we design should be broader at UG level and specialization should only be at the PG level with a pyramidal orientation rather than a tunnel model with limited vision.
- ✓ The need for including HR in Psychology course was also highlighted
- ✓ The courses which we design should be based on market need
- ✓ The possibility of dual degree programmes also should be explored in future
- ✓ Library should be air conditioned to facilitate a learning environment

Agenda: 2. Academic and Administrative Developments

The Chair informed the members about certain academic and administrative developments during the academic year.

- ✓ Online admission process and online payment option was functional
- ✓ Introduction of BSc Biotechnology course
- ✓ Slowly shifting to an ERP mode for administration
- ✓ Converting campus to a green campus by switching over to solar power
- ✓ Plan to initiate an e-library with visual/ conference facilities
- ✓ Developing a gymnasium
- ✓ Plan to introduce MSc Physics and BA Journalism from next Academic year.
- ✓ A discussion followed on the proposal for a PG centre for Physics under the grant-in-aid module. Many members felt that an MSc grant-in aid does not give any benefit to the institution. Therefore all new courses introduced as part of autonomous status should be self financed.

The Council also posed the following challenges under the autonomous status

- ✓ Need to tie up with companies like TCS for development of the institute
- ✓ Pharmaceutical companies should be approached for supporting the Biotechnology course with an offer of trained students in future
- ✓ Developing a professional sports academy on the campus with a view to offering the facility to the city of Ahmedabad.

Agenda: 3. Date for the next meeting

Date for the next meeting was tentatively fixed to February 27, Saturday 2016

The Chair thanked all the members present for their invaluable support, suggestions and time.

CC

1. Fr. Robert Arockiasamy, S.J., Principal, St. Xavier's College
2. Dr Nisha Shah, Department of Chemistry, Gujarat University
3. Dr Hyacinth Highland, Department of Zoology, Gujarat University
4. Dr Manubhai Makwana, Department 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
10. Dr Abhijit Sen, Ex-Director, Plasma Research,
11. Mr Janmejy Vyas, Managing Director, Dishman Pharma
12. Ms. Aditi Vyas, MD, Azafragroup,
13. Fr. Vincent Saldanha, Management Representative
14. Dr Lancelot D'Cruz, Department of Botany, St Xavier's College
15. Dr Nirmal Desai (CoE), Department of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
16. Prof Ami Shah, Department of Economics, St Xavier's College
17. Dr Sarvar Sherry Chand, Department of English, St Xavier's College
18. Prof Puransinh Makwana, Department of Gujarati-Hindi, St Xavier's College
19. Dr Khushnuma Banaji, Department of Psychology, St Xavier's College
20. Dr Shuchita Mehta, Department of Sanskrit, St Xavier's College
21. Dr Sudeshna Menon, Department of Biochemistry, St Xavier's College
22. Dr Atul Makwana, Department of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
23. Fr David K Roy, Department of Computer Sciences, St Xavier's College
24. Dr Rajesh Iyer, Department of Physics-Electronics St Xavier's College
25. Dr Udayan Prajapati, Department of Mathematics, St Xavier's College
26. Dr UB Gothi, Department of Statistics, St Xavier's College
27. Prof. Bhadauria, Department of Statistics, St Xavier's College
28. Prof. M.C. Patel, Department of Physics, St Xavier's College
29. Dr Sharad Sondarva, Department of Biology, St Xavier's College
30. Dr Mallika Sanyal, Member Secretary, St Xavier's College
31. Dr Sebastian V, IQAC Coordinator, St Xavier's College