

Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting No.4, held on September 17, 2016

The fourth meeting of the Governing Body of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) was held on September 17, 2016 at 11.00 a.m. in the board room of St Xavier's College. All the members were present at the meeting except Fr Francis Parmar SJ and Fr Lancelot D'Cruz SJ. The meeting was conducted by Dr (Fr) Robert Arockiasamy S.J., Principal, Member Secretary of the Governing Body.

Agenda 1: Welcoming the members and Passing the Minutes of the GC meeting No.3.

- 1.1. Fr Principal welcomed the members to the GB meeting.
- 1.2. Passing the minutes of GB meeting 3: Since the minutes of the previous GB meeting were passed around prior to sending it to UGC (WRO), Pune, the minutes were treated as read.
- 1.3. Principal sought the approval of two new members incorporated into the Examination Committee, namely Dr Shuchita Mehta, HoD, Dept. of Sanskrit, St Xavier's College and Dr Pinky Desai, Associate Prof. of Economics, on account of retirement of two members, namely Dr Sarvar Cherrychand and Fr. Vincent Saldanha, and the same was approved.

Agenda 2: Examination reforms

- 2.1. The CoE explained the various examination reforms which had been implemented by the institute. They included: barcoded answer sheets, masking of answer sheets to maintain anonymity of candidates, issuing of security features enabled mark sheets, use of ERP in examination system etc.,

Agenda 3: Some Concerns

- 3.1. The concerns of some students of St. Xavier's College about getting equal opportunity in admission to various PG courses offered by GU were discussed. It was pointed out that St. Xavier's College follows the same grading system and examination format as that of Gujarat University. However, the evaluation system is much made stricter, and hence it is a little different from that of the University. It was recommended that a letter should be sent to the University expressing these concerns; the College was assured that these concerns would be addressed.

- 3.2. The problem of GU officials not issuing provisional eligibility to BCom BPS and MSc BDA, as well as the recognition of these courses were discussed. Both the Hon. VC, Dr. M.N. Patel as well as Dr Baldevbhai Patel assured the College that these issues would be addressed at the earliest.
- 3.3. As per the UGC guidelines for autonomous colleges, the term of a member in the BoS, AC and GB is only for two years. Hence, a question was raised if GU would like to nominate/ change its nominees. It was decided that the same members nominated as University representatives, would continue for one more term.
- 3.4. It was pointed out that GU has removed the names of St. Xavier's College staff from the BoS of GU, and examination-related work, probably because St. Xavier's College is autonomous. It was clarified that becoming a member of BoS at GU is through an election process. However, St. Xavier's College faculty will be included in the examination related work.
- 3.5. It was agreed that a soft copy of the Office Report would be submitted to the Gujarat University as soon as the results are declared, for the purpose of granting degrees to students of St. Xavier's College.
- 3.6. The Principal raised the concern that some of our best teachers are opting for teaching posts at GU. At the same time, it becomes very difficult to obtain NOC from the Education Department to recruit new staff and fill in the vacant posts in the College. The Hon. Vice Chancellor offered his support to negotiate with the Education Department of Gujarat in sanctioning posts, and suggested that the College sends him a copy of the letters sent to the Education Department in this regard, so that he could follow it up with the Education Department, and ensure that the College gets NOC without much hassles.
- 3.7. The Principal raised the concern about the autonomy grant not being released to the College by the UGC (WRO), Pune. The UGC nominee, Prof Rajpal Singh, assured the Governing Body that he would take up this issue with the UGC officials and do the needful.
- 3.8. The Admission policy of St. Xavier's College was discussed. The GB suggested that the policy should be clear and transparent to the public, and the best way forward is to stick to the merit system based on HSC results.

Agenda 4: To approve new course in MSc Mathematics

- 4.1. The GB approved the proposal of the College to introduce MSc programme in Mathematics from June 2017. It was suggested that computer-based practicals should be given importance in the new syllabus.
- 5.0. The next Governing Body meeting is scheduled for Saturday, March 18, 2017.
- 6.0. The Principal thanked all the Governing Body members for their continued help and support in numerous ways. He also acknowledged with grateful heart the academic, administrative and legal support given to the College by the Hon. VC, Dr. M.N. Patel, Dr Baldev Patel and Adv. Rakesh Gupta.

CC

1. Fr Francis Parmar, Chairperson
2. Dr. Rajpalsinh (UGC Nominee)
3. Dr M.N. Patel, State Govt. Nominee
4. Dr Baldev Patel, Gujarat University Nominee
5. Adv. Rakesh Gupta, Management Nominee
6. Dr (Fr.) Lancelot D'Cruz, Management Representative
7. Fr Vincent Saldanha, Management Representative
8. Fr Fernando Franco, Management Representative
9. Dr U.B. Gothi, Senior Faculty
10. Dr Nirmal Desai, Senior Faculty
11. Dr Sebastian Vadakan, Management Representative
12. Dr (Fr.) Robert Arockiasamy, Principal, Member Secretary