

**St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Ahmedabad-9**

**Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting held on March 18, 2017**

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The 5<sup>th</sup> Academic Council was held on March 18, 2017. Most members were present as shown in the attached attendance sheet.

- 1.0. Fr Principal welcomed the members and conducted the meeting.
- 2.0. Since the minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council held on February 20, 2016 was circulated as an e-copy, it was treated as read.
- 3.0. Principal informed that about three members have been replaced in the BoS of Sanskrit on account of their term coming to an end. They are: Dr Niranjali Patel, Head, Dept of Sanskrit, SP University Vidyanagar, Dr Yogini Vyas, Head, Dept. of Sanskrit, Umaba & Nathiba Manila Arts and Commerce College, Gandhinagar and Dr Rashmikant Dhruv, Head, Sanskrit Dept, Sadguna Arts College, Ahmedabad.  
Fr Vincent Saldanha has resigned from the BoS of English as well as from Academic Council as he retired and has been transferred to another organization.
- 4.0. Proposed syllabus by BoS for BA in Journalism and Mass Communication was presented by Mr Pankaj Mudholkar. The programme proposes offering 3 different graduation programmes; BA in Journalism, BA in Advertising and Creatives and BA in Public Relation and Corporate Communications. All the three courses will have same syllabus for first year, which would then bifurcate and specialize from second year. It was suggested that Xavier's may opt for slowly introducing the three modules over a period of three years.
  - 4.1. It was felt that there is a need to check if the proposed titles are in the UGC approved nomenclature. It was also felt that unless UGC is informed about new course, UGC may not update its nomenclature.
  - 4.2. It was suggested that there is need to inform public and parents about this course to bring greater awareness.
  - 4.3. MSc Mathematics syllabus was proposed. It is with 96 credits with two practicals per semester each.
- 5.0. Principal briefed about the outcome of course evaluation by various BoS. The methodology followed was to give a common questionnaire to all departments and certain modifications were done to suit departmental need. The evaluation focused on the following:

- *What newness was brought in to the syllabus after autonomy*
- *How has the syllabus helped students to develop skills and knowledge?*
- *What is the direction that the course is taking? How is it contributing towards developing a self-sustainable Master's programme?*
- *Is there an aspect of Research included in each paper (critical thinking, Project management)*
- *Is there an interdisciplinary nature in the course?*
- *How the education module opted by your department is effective and innovative? List some of the new methodologies you have adopted.*
- *There may have been certain components that were taught before the new syllabus was structured but were removed to introduce new components. Do you think the decision to do so has been substantiated or do you feel the need to bring these components back in the syllabus?*
- *Have we created any models for others to follow?*
- *Have you incorporated a global perspective and vision in the course content (self-development leading to global citizenship)?*
- *Has the course been designed towards career orientation? (Ex. Internships/ Training modules etc.)*
- *How has the course been perceived by students?*
- *How has the element of 'excellence' been dealt with in framing your syllabus? How is excellence measured in the context of assignments, class presentations, etc?*
- *Does your syllabus benefit students from all backgrounds? What are the measures taken to ensure that the basic ideology with which the syllabus has been designed is being translated to the students?*
- *Does your syllabus try to build (a) Conscientious citizens (b) concerned men & women for others? How? Give examples, if any.*
- *Are there modules in the syllabus where students go beyond the classroom & the campus to deal with reality in the world around? Give examples.*

- 5.1. Based on the above framework, some departments shuffled, modified syllabus. A detailed account can be obtained from the BoS. The departments of Zoology, statistics, mathematics had no revision of syllabus.
- 5.2. Most departments removed overlapping syllabus and tried to incorporate more laboratory and industry based practicals and experiential learning in the curriculum. It was also suggested that practicals that are environmentally harmful should be avoided.
- 5.3. Role of PGOP in training of students was highlighted. There was a general feeling that students of the present times are more rebellious and they need to be moulded.

It was suggested that a greater interaction of the senior staff members with the freshers could help orient them better. There is a need to be more with students. It was also suggested that response in PGOP is reflection of the vision of the Heads for the department. HoDs were requested to have greater participation in conducting PGOP.

- 5.4. Collaborations with foreign universities / other universities were also shared. Some of the universities are Marquette University, Ottawa faculty visit and XICE, Sophia - Japan, Agriculture University Japan/ Barcelona / Madrid – Spain
- 5.5. Need to tie up with NGOs like ACTI with greater involvement is needed
  
- 6.0. Updates on new courses/ combination  
Principal informed about the status of various courses/ and combinations that were introduced since last two years. These course are Mathematics-Statistics-Computer, MA English, BCom BPS, MSc BDA, BSc Biotechnology and MSc Biochemistry. All these courses and combinations are doing well as expected.
  
- 7.0. Dealing with Soft Skill, Foundation and Elective programmes  
Several issues in conducting the above courses were raised such as lack of attendance, increase in number of students failing, and teachers from outside being employed. In order to deal with these issues, setting up of an academic committee to look after syllabus was proposed.
  
- 8.0. Approval of Academic Calendar for 2017-18
  - June 3-11: Admission Process (tentative)*
  - June 15: College reopens
  - July 1: Research medal ceremony
  - August 10-14: CIA 1**
  - September 13- Sept 25: Internal practicals
  - September 26-Oct 9: Final practicals
  - October 11-16: CIA 2**
  - October 17-November 6 : Diwali Holidays
  - October 26-Nov. 6: End Semester exams**  
(Semester Even: 85 working days approx excluding exam days)
  - November 7: Even semester begins**
  - December 14-16: Culfest and Sportsfest
  - December 17: Maj. Padheria Road Race

**January 16- 21: CIA 1**

March 3: Annual Day

March 5-13: Internal practicals

March 14-24: Final practicals

**March 26-31: CIA 2**

April 2: Staff Research Seminar

**April 19: End Semester exams**

April 26: Last working day

April 30: ATKT Exams

8.1 Some members in the council felt that it can be reworked. Dr Ami Shah and Dr Khushnuma have agreed to rework the timetable.

9.0. It was decided that the next meeting will be on *August 19, Saturday 2017*

The meeting concluded by Fr. Lacelot D’Cruz proposing the vote of thanks.

C.C.

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, Aakruti promotions & Media Ltd
10. Dr Abhijit Sen, Ex-Director, Plasma Research,
11. Mr Janmejy Vyas, Managing Director, Dishman Pharma
12. Ms Aditi Vyas, MD, Azafran group

13. Fr Vincent Saldanha, Management Representative
14. Dr Lancelot D'Cruz, Dept of Botany, St Xavier's College
15. Dr Nirmal Desai (CoE), Dept of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
16. Prof Ami Shah, Dept of Economics, St Xavier's College
17. Dr Sarvar Sherry Chand, Dept of English, St Xavier's College
18. Prof Puransinh Makwana, Dept of Gujarati-Hindi, St Xavier's College
19. Dr Khushnuma Banaji, Dept of Psychology, St Xavier's College
20. Dr Shuchita Mehta, Dept of Sanskrit, St Xavier's College
21. Dr Sudeshna Menon, Dept of Biochemistry, St Xavier's College
22. Dr Atul Makwana, Dept of Chemistry, St Xavier's College
23. Fr David K Roy, Department of Computer Sciences, 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 Gothi, Dept of Statistics, St Xavier's College
27. Prof Bhadauria, St Xavier's College
28. Prof M.C. Patel, St Xavier's College
29. Dr Sharad Sondarva, Dept 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