

Minutes of the Academic Council meeting No.8 held on August 4, 2018

Academic council meeting No.8 was held on August 4, 2018 at the board room of SXCA. Principal conducted the meeting. He welcomed all members to the meeting. There are two new members inducted in the Academic Council: Dr Raghavan Rangarajana, Scientist and Dr Lancy Lobo, Scientist.

1. The minutes of meeting No. 7 which was conducted on February 24, 2018 was approved.
2. Conducting BoS:
 - 2.1. Principal informed that the following departments conducted the BoS: Sanskrit, Gujarati-Hindi, Botany, Biochemistry-Biotechnology, Chemistry, Physics-Electronics, Statistics and Zoology.
 - 2.2. And the following depts. could not conduct BoS meeting: Economics, Psychology, English, Computer Sciences, Commerce, BDA, and Mathematics.
3. New courses initiated:
 - 3.1. Principal informed about the new courses that were initiated this academic year: MSc Biotechnology, MSc Chemistry (Analytical Chemistry) and MSc Physics.
 - 3.2. College also plan to initiate the following programmes: MA Psychology, MA Economics and MA Sanskrit. With regard to Sanskrit, it was proposed that there is a need to promote this programme at school level.
4. Initiating new courses:
 - 4.1. There was a suggestion to initiate Political Science at UG level. It was assured that the Management will take it up for further discussion.
 - 4.2. The possibility of initiating BA in Journalism and Mass communication was also taken up. It was left to the Management to decide as to offer this prg for print media or for both print and visual media after considering the employability.
5. The response to the newly introduced courses were discussed: response has been very encouraging with large number of applications in all the courses. It was observed that success of every course depends on how well it was launched.
6. College will begin M.Phil and Ph.D programmes after clarifying from the Governing Body.
 - 6.1. BA Statistics Sem 1 and 2; BSc Statistics Sem 1 and 2
 - 6.2. Zoology Sem 3, ZO 3501 and ZO 3502
7. The possibility of revisiting learning objectives and redesigning curriculum was discussed.
 - 7.1. There is a need for growth oriented assignments of students
 - 7.2. Social extension with respect to academics in each subject
 - 7.3. Need for more footfall in the library and need to automate library was also discussed. It was suggested that departments should set up their own departmental libraries to encourage reading habit
 - 7.4. Departments should also offer library period to encourage students to use library.
8. Academic innovations / good practices:
 - 8.1. Remedial classes by Chemistry for Botany students
 - 8.2. Students participating in seminars/ workshops of TCS/ Research projects
 - 8.3. Working with NGOs
 - 8.4. Preparing 'Glossary of scientific terminology' for overcoming academic barrier by dept. of Botany

- 8.5. Career oriented seminars to motivate students
- 8.6. Setting up awards for topper in Botany
- 8.7. Initiating department library for Chemistry to develop reading culture
9. Upcoming seminars/events were announced
 - 9.1. International seminar by the Dept. of Biochemistry-Biotechnology
 - 9.2. National seminar by IQAC
 - 9.3. Workshop for faculty with less than 10 years of experience in Xavier's
 - 9.4. External team visiting College to evaluate autonomous system
10. Results analysis
 - 10.1. The result of past semester was presented. It was observed that most subjects are doing well. With regard to B.Com, it was suggested that since the course has been designed for TCS, it would be appropriate to involve TCS in selecting the students. The possibility of a different timing for BPS was also suggested. It was also suggested that while giving advertisement for the course, the criteria such as timing and attendance etc. should be highlighted.
 - 10.2. The need for promoting peer learning was discussed. Senior students should be encouraged with remuneration, or certificates as incentives.
 - 10.3. The NSC that looks into remedial classes proposed that correction must be done from sem 1. Do not wait for a student to fail to offer remedial classes. Identify the weak students and ensure they are doing well in sem 1 examination. If failure is low in sem 1, it boost their self confidence, and students are likely to do well in other semesters.
 - 10.4. The need for preparing students to write in examination was discussed. Since many of them do not know how to write in examinations
 - 10.5. Faculty feedback and correlate with result/ course
 - 10.6. Need to boost self-confidence of students with ATKTKT
 - 10.7. Result comparison from Sem 1 to 4/6 for a particular student to see the growth and correlating with teaching/ student intentions/
 - 10.8. Mentoring for consistently poor performers / Students performing better in research and project work /Students doing well in co-curricular activities /Summer training and industry visit helps. The extension activity of CWDC was appreciated. CWDC works and interacts with the nearly slum children.
 - 10.9. The environmental study conducted by the dept of physics was highlighted as a way of giving back to the society.
11. Admission policy and issues: 75% attendance. It was also suggested that many faculty do not know the rules regarding detention. So it is important to organize a session for staff as well.
12. It was pointed out that many staff have a casual approach to examination and result. SXCA is publishing result on behalf of Gujarat University. So the sanctity has to be maintained. Once a result is declared, it cannot be republished. No staff should directly approach staff to alter marks, including internal marks.

13. Research Medal ceremony will be on August 25. All departments were encouraged to raise research medal fund.
14. Biometric system to be installed
15. Date for the next meeting: *March 9, Saturday 2019*
16. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair
17. Vote of thanks

CC

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 Ernesto Noronha, Professor, IIMA
7. Dr Malay Mahadevia, Whole Time Director, Adani Infrastructure
8. Mr Pankaj Mudholkar , Director, Aakruti promotions & Media Ltd
9. Dr Abhijit Sen, Ex-Dean, Plasma Research,
10. Mr Janmejy Vyas, Managing Director, Dishman Pharma
11. Ms Aditi Vyas, MD, Azafran group
12. Dr Manikam K, TCS, Bangalore/ abhay.chauhan@tcs.com
13. Dr Lancy Lobo SJ. Director, Centre for Culture and Development, Baroda
14. Dr Raghavan Rangarajan, Dean of the Undergraduate College, Ahmedabad University, Ahmedabad
15. Dr Lancelot D'Cruz, Dept of Botany, 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. Prof Saurabh Vaishnav, 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. Fr David K Roy, Department of Computer Sciences, St Xavier's College
25. Dr Rajesh Iyer, Dept of Physics-Electronics St Xavier's College
26. Dr Udayan Prajapati, Dept of Mathematics, St Xavier's College
27. Dr UB Gothi, Dept of Statistics, St Xavier's College
28. Prof Bhadauria, St Xavier's College
29. Prof M.C. Patel, St Xavier's College
30. Dr Sharad Sondarva, Dept of Biology, St Xavier's College
31. Dr Mallika Sanyal, Member Secretary, St Xavier's College
32. Dr Sebastian V, IQAC Coordinator, St Xavier's College