

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

Re-accredited with 'A' (CGPA 3.41 out of 4) by NAAC (3rd Cycle) | Affiliated to Gujarat University

ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) INTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT OF THE COLLEGE Academic Year: 2016-17

Internal Evaluation carried out by the College for the Academic Year 2016-17 observes the following progress made under the autonomous system in the Third Year of conferment of autonomous status.

The academic process in our institution entails curriculum development, knowledge dissemination, assessment processes, building faculty competency, and supporting administrative policies. The main focus has been to move towards academic excellence, promote research culture, cater to overall development of students, upgrade infrastructure and build collaborations.

1.0. Academic Administrative Reforms

The Board of Studies (BoS) constituted by each department has given a profound foundation to the curriculum development. The recommendations and suggestions made by the BoS members have been instrumental in shaping up good syllabi in all the subjects. Every academic year, the BoS convenes meetings twice to review existing systems and bring in new curriculum and courses. The BoS is constituted for two – three years and has subject experts and University nominations. In several departments, the tenure of several BoS members coming to an end, the college administration has taken measures to reconstitute the BoS of several departments.

The following are the changes that have been made in this academic year.

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.

Dr K H Chikalia, Chemistry BoS, Subject expert, Dr Nalini Patel, Subject expert, Zoology, Dr Dhawal Mehta, Alumnus, Zoology dept., Dr. D J Karia, Mathematics, have opted out or retired from their official posts. Fr Vincent Saldanha, member, BoS of English as well as Academic Council has also retired.

The following members are newly inducted: Mr Jay Metha: Industry Rep, Sun Pharma,



BoS, Zoology, Dr Kaid Johar, Subject expert, Asst. Prof at GU, BoS, Zoology, Ms Zeba Siddiqui, Alumnus, BoS, Zoology, Prof. R. L. Bhila of K K Shah Jarodvala Maninagar Science College, BoS, Mathematics dept., Dr. S. K. Patel of Dept. of Mathematics dept, BoS, Mathematics.

2.0. Upgrading of Syllabus

Syllabus of all subjects were reviewed, revised to suit the local requirement and to match up with global standards. This academic year, the department of Biochemistry-Biotechnology initiated a PG programme in Biochemistry with its syllabus and credit total being approved by the Exam department, Academic Council and Governing Council. Moreover, proposal was made by the BoS for BA in Journalism and Mass Communication and MSc with Mathematics. Minor corrections were made in one of the papers of Psychology (PS 5503). College is interested in starting courses in MSc Analytical Chemistry and in MSc Biotechnology.

3.0. Examination Reforms

Examination committee was constituted and a Controller of Examinations is appointed. As per UGC guidelines, several examination reforms such as masking the answer sheet, barcoding, dummy numbering, random shuffling in seating allotment, implementation of ERP system were carried out.

SOPs were implemented for practical examinations as well as theory examinations. In the case of those subjects that did not follow the uniform pattern of syllabus, distribution had flexible guidelines for setting question papers. Appropriate corrections were made for subjects such as Computer Methods, Functional English and in those subjects that has projects to be evaluated.

Students with dyslexia is given extra time to write the exam and students who take part in NCC and RDC camps and participation in national sports are given special provision so that they do not miss an year.

4.0. Course Evaluation

College recommended an evaluation of the syllabus and programme that has been in effect since 2014. The evaluation process was initiated by most departments keeping in minds specific criteria (Fig 1)



Evaluation of the Programmes...initializing the process!

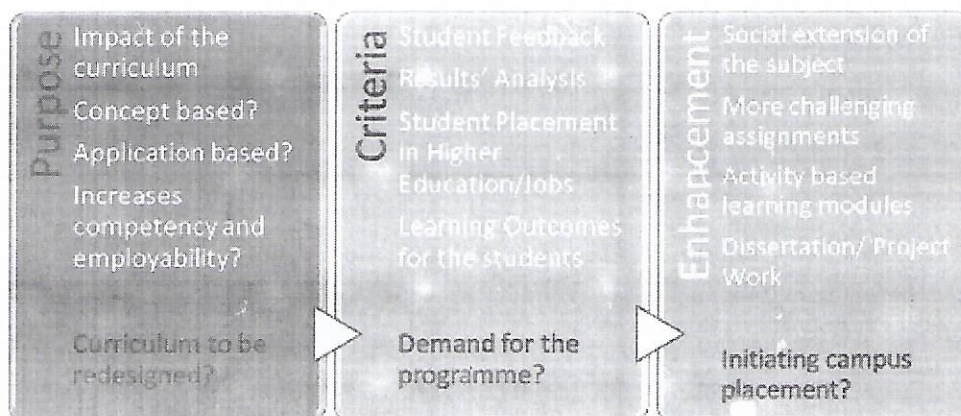


Fig 1: The schematic process of evaluation

This exercise has helped several departments to modify, make corrections, and fine tune their programmes. Thrust of the institution is in designing programmes which develop not only skills but also knowledge that enables students to be globally competitive. Emphasis has been given to project works and experiential learning. Syllabus has also been focusing on creating conscientious citizens, concerned men & women for others.

Moreover, the ERP system has enabled analysis of results subject wise, paper wise, student wise and that has enabled evaluation of each department and faculty (Fig 2). The focus of the departments have therefore shifted to zero detention and zero failures, which is a good move as this will initiate mentoring programme in each department. The institution has been trying to maintain quality and the message to the students is that they will need to ante their performances to pass an examination.\

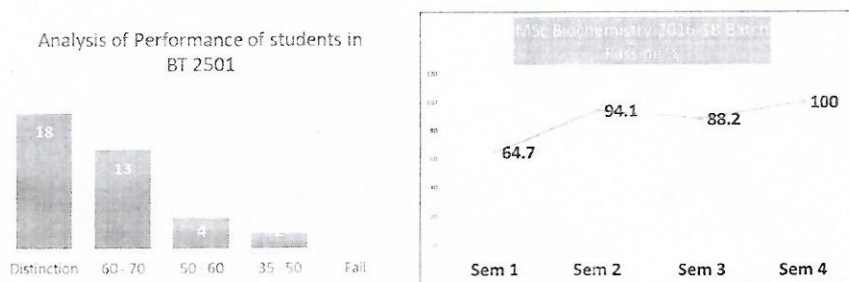


Fig 2: A sample of Result Analysis carried out by departments.



The curriculum of the college has also looked at aspects other than academics. Personal Growth Oriented Programme has been offered by college since 2009. This is a programme that aims at developing self-awareness, confidence and helping in dealing with oneself. PGOP has helped several students to deal with themselves and to look at life differently.

College has also explored the possibility of foreign collaborations. Some of the universities with who talks are going on are Marquette University, Ottawa University faculty who visited for collaboration, Sophia - Japan, Agriculture University Japan/ IQS from Barcelona / and other universities such as Comillas from Spain. College also felt the need to tie up with NGOs like ACTI with greater involvement.

5.0. Soft Skill, Foundation and Elective programmes

College has definite policy with regard to Soft Skill, Foundation and Elective courses. Issues regarding attendance, and students failing in these programmes have been addressed by the institute. To address this issue a coordinator was assigned the responsibility with the view to creating a separate department. The institution is also considering to make PGOP into a soft skill programme with credits. However, more concrete steps are needed to stabilize these programmes.

6.0. Seminars/ Conferences/ Workshops

The departments of Psychology, Biochemistry-Biotechnology, Computer Sciences, and Chemistry have organized National seminars. One of the departments' efforts have culminated to publishing the Proceedings of the Symposium with full length papers from several participants. The manuscripts are being edited for publication. . College organised Staff Research Day and published the 14th issue of Research Annals of Xavier's, Ahmedabad.

Many departments have organized guest lectures and workshops of various natures. IQAC organised a training programme for faculty development. College Woman Cell and the cell for the marginalized groups organize several hand holding and awareness programmes for the students.

7.0. Co and Extra Curricular activities

College has taken adequate steps to develop sports ground (Football and tracks). As it believes in all round development of students. Heads of various departments make provision for accommodating practicals and theory missed by students and encourage them as much as possible.



College regularly participates in University Sports Meets as well as in all city level and state level championships. Boys and girls are represented in most sports.

College also celebrated its annual cultural festival, with the theme of "Pratibimb – The Being Within". A large number of students participated in these events.

Department of Economics, Gujarati, Sanskrit, BCA, B.Com BPS, Physics, Biochemistry- Biotechnology and Chemistry organised guest lectures. The Advanced BSc Programme was organised by the Department of Physics in collaboration with PRL, IPR and CSC. The Department of Botany organised several workshops on Ethnobotany. The department of Mathematics organized two workshops on "Problem Solving and Enrichment in Mathematics". The department of English organized a workshop on "ilm – New Worlds Unbound" with the theme "Fantasy" and a two day workshop on writing skills.



IQAC organised a training programme on 'Teacher Effectiveness' and 'Reaffirming vision, mission and goal' for Staff as part of Organisational Development process. A two-day workshop for all departments were also conducted as part of this process. The entire Management underwent a two-day training in OD process.

Jagrat, Tarumitra, College Women Development Cell, Utkarsh, and Campus Ministry organised several programmes aimed at staff and student development.

College continues to send NCC cadets for the RDC parade and to participate in National camps. NSS organizes various awareness and motivational camps for students.

The experimental learning module of third year Vocational students, Xplant, and XICE are simulated companies. This experiential learning module enhances their hard skills as well as soft skills, which are required for employability and gives them an insight into what entrepreneurs require to set up a small-scale industry. Faculty from the Harrisburg University, Ottawa, visited these facilities. An MoU has been signed between Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Tokyo and St. Xavier's College (Autonomous) for collaboration in Joint Research.

8.0. Research

Research at UG and PG level is given thrust which culminates in a research medal ceremony. College also has constituted best research award to encourage faculty to plunge into research. College has organized various sessions to motivate faculty to apply for Research Proposals and Seminars to funding agencies. Staff Research



Seminar and student research has been implemented. Several staff members publish in reviewed journals and some author books. The publications are in journals with good impact factor. A large number of students also participated and presented papers at conferences. College nurture the UG and PG student research. During this academic year, the Research medal ceremony was held for 57 students from various departments

Two teachers were conferred with the Best Teacher's award, initiated by Gujarat Science Academy (GSA).

9.0. Academic Calendar

There is a well-planned Academic Calendar for 2017-18

10.0. Special Suggestions

It was suggested that languages such as Spanish, Japanese and Chinese should be offered by Xavier's in the future as second language with specialization in legal or medical aspects to increase job prospectus.

Members:

1. Dr Sebastian Vadakan, IQAC coordinator
2. Dr Sudeshna Menon, Assi. Prof. Dept of Biochemistry-Biotechnology
3. Dr Uma Harikrishnan, Assi. Prof. Dept. of Chemistry
4. Dr Clement CJ, Asso. Prof. Dept of Physics-Electronics

