



# ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

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

## ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) EXTERNAL EVALUATION REPORT OF THE COLLEGE

### Academic Year: 2018-19

The external members of College Internal Quality Assessment evaluated the progress of the college. In continuation of the past year's SAP and new agenda, the following are the progress details.

#### INTRODUCTION

2018 – 19 is a year that sees the institution in its fifth year after receiving the Status of Academic Autonomy from the UGC. These five years are the formative years of being envisaged as one of the best institutions in the country. In the recently announced SIRF ranking by the Government of Gujarat, the College has been awarded a five star rating in the state making it the Best College in the State. At the presentation ceremony held on February 27, 2019 at Gandhinagar to announce the results of the SIRF survey, the best moment was when the evaluating committee said that the only College that has got five stars in every category is St. Xavier's College, Ahmedabad. The College also secured the 56<sup>th</sup> position in the NIRF ranking.

#### ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH ACTIVITIES/REFORMS:

This academic year again marked the beginning of a few more new courses with several postgraduate courses being launched. MSc in Analytical Chemistry, MSc in Biotechnology and MSc in Physics are new courses that have been initiated with basic infrastructure but importantly, with a fervour and determination to stabilize these programmes in the coming five years. 15 more Faculty joined the College in different departments.

Every year the departments bring innovations in the teaching – learning methodologies to enhance faculty and students' engagement. The activities range from group discussions, class presentations, Moodle based teaching and evaluations, extension lectures, Audio – video mode of learning including conferencing with alumni, quizzing, film screening of specific topics, project work, surveys, mini projects, field trips, interdisciplinary activities, conducting colloquia, compilation of topics of the syllabi into a book by students, model – making, and many more. What is heartening to see is that we have moved towards incorporating experiential learning modules in our curriculum. This stimulating environment develops the creative side of a persona as well. Various departments have initiated several mentoring programmes.



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## RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

Research activities have always been encouraged and the teaching staff has consistently presented and published papers and undertaken research projects. This is supplemented by the fact that six Professors received their doctoral degrees while four students who have been doing research under the Professors of the College were also awarded their doctorates.

Dr Rajesh Iyer and Dr Sanjeev Gupta received awards and grants to carry out research activities: Dr. Rajesh Iyer was awarded the INSA (Indian National Science Academy) Teacher Award and a research grant of Rs. 30 lakhs and Dr. Sanjeev Gupta received Rs. 7 lakhs in the current academic year. 76 papers were published in indexed journals.

The College's own Student Research program continues with a total of 73 students sharing more than 55 Research awards this year.

The Researcher of the Year award for the year 2017-18 was awarded to Dr. Udayan Prajapati.

Dr. A K Singhvi, renowned Indian physicist from PRL presided over the 15<sup>th</sup> Staff Research Seminar held on April 14, 2019 in the XICA auditorium. One of the highlights of this year's staff research seminar was that the Xavier's Annals published every year had been submitted to the National Science Library CSIR-NISCAIR for obtaining an ISSN number.

## INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

The Introduction of the new MSc Physics program saw the construction of a new MSc Physics laboratory. Renovation of some Departments like the Department of English, Department of Chemistry laboratories as well as the Parking was undertaken. New notice boards and anti-grip laying on staircases, were also provided. Several new instruments have been added to the laboratories. These include a Biosafety Cabinet for Animal cell culture, a Shaking incubator, centrifuges and microscopes. Under the DST FIST Grant, a new laboratory has been set up which houses many high end instruments like the UV-Visible Spectrophotometer, Infra-red Spectrophotometer, the AAS, HPLC, Spectrofluorometer, etc. Renovation of the washrooms on the ground floor of the College building and the College Canteen have been carried out. Water coolers were installed in the College as well as in the sports room. Earth - pits were constructed to enhance safety of Instruments and several LED lights were installed.

## EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

NSS organizes various awareness and motivational camps for students. Some of the camps organized this year are blood donation camps, training in self defence, celebration of Yoga Day and drives (for promotion of voter ID, tree plantation, campus cleanliness) and visits to cancer





patients and to the Blind People's Association and Old age homes. The Rural exposure camp was held after several years. NSS also conducted Thalassemia test for 189 students.

The College continues to send NCC cadets for various National camps for the RDC parade and provides support to those who miss exams for this reason. This 56 students were part of the NCC this year. Mr Narayan Soni of TYBSc received Best Cadet award of Gujarat University. He was also selected for Youth exchange programme at Russia where he represented India.

Jagrat, Tarumitra, College Women Development Cell (CWDC), Utcarsh, and Campus Ministry organised several programmes aimed at staff and student development.

Jagrat continues to take care of the needs of the adivasi and dalit students of the college, through various Workshops aimed at motivating and empowering students from these groups. Workshops on Planning and goal setting, learning styles and study skills as well as a special 100-hours Affirmative action program for the final year students organized in collaboration with TCS were held. 33 students participated in this training. Jagrat students continue to excel in sports and some have completed student research projects.

The CWDC celebrated the International Women's day and organized Seminars sensitizing the students to various issues of interest.

Utcarsh [the cell for the differently abled students of the College] organized the annual 'Snehmilan' where students of various schools and colleges joined. It was attended by 152 differently abled ex – students. Utcarsh students also visited an old age homes and had training programs conducted for them on the campus. The Campus Ministry Cell of the College plans and coordinates all these programs. It also conducted the Personality Growth Oriented Program (PGOP) which was offered to all Xavierites.

### **HIGHLIGHTS OF THIS ACADEMIC YEAR:**

- 1) SIFR ranking by the Government of Gujarat, giving a five star rating to the college, making it the Best College in the State.
- 2) Initiating three more self-finance courses and constant syllabi upgradation.
- 3) Sports fest and Culfest, Arohan was organised.
- 4) Strong and continued commitment to social causes (NSS, Utkarsh, Jagrat)



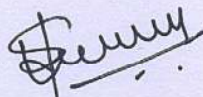


## CHALLENGES FOR THE COMING YEAR

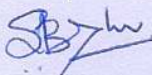
The challenge in the coming year is to prepare for the NAAC accreditation and Autonomous status.

C C.

1. Dr Sudhir Juman



2. Dr Surendra Bakshi,



3. Ms Roopali Vijn

