



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

(AUTONOMOUS)

5, Mahapalika Marg, Mumbai - 400 001,
INDIA.

☎ 2262 0661/65

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING ON 25.10.2012

AGENDA:

- 1) To Pass the Syllabii of the Semesters 1 and 2 of the Post-graduate Departments.
- 2) To Consider and pass the Autonomy related Rules.
- 3) To Consider and pass a proposal for the Masters in Public Policy Degree Course.
- 4) Any other matter

The members present were:

1. Dr. Frazer Mascarenhas S.J, Chairperson & Principal
2. Dr. Mustansir Burma, Professional Expert
3. Dr. (Ms.) Asha Dayama, Head, Dept. of Hindi
4. Dr. (Ms.) Shefali Balsari – Shah, Head, Dept. of English
5. Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale, Head, Dept. of French
6. Dr. (Ms.) Fleur D'Souza, Head, Dept. of History
7. Ms. Anita Rane, Head, Dept. of Ancient Indian Culture
8. Ms. Aruna Sundresh, Head, Dept. of Political Science
9. Ms. Maureen Almeida, Head, Dept. of Psychology
10. Dr. Sam Taraporevala, Head, Dept. of Sociology
11. Ms. Hermione Salazar, Head, Dept. of Economics
12. Dr. (Ms.) Mangala Gurjar, Head, Dept. of Mathematics
13. Dr. (Ms.) Shyamala Bodhane, Head, Dept. of Physics
14. Dr. (Ms.) Ujwala Bapat, Head, Dept. of Botany
15. Dr. Freddie Havaladar, Head, Dept. of Chemistry
16. Dr. (Ms.) Smita Krishnan, Head, Dept. of Zoology
17. Dr. Hrishikesh Samant, Head, Dept. of Geology
18. Dr. (Ms.) Vivien Amonkar, Head, Depts. of Microbiology & Biotech
19. Ms. Soni George, BMS Coordinator
20. Dr. (Ms.) Jyoti Singh, B.Sc. (IT) Coordinator
21. Ms. S. Periyayagi, BMM Coordinator
22. Dr. (Ms.) Nandita Mangalore, Nominated Faculty
23. Ms. Ruby Pavri, Nominated Faculty
24. Dr.(Ms.) Nandita Mangalore, Dept. of Life Science
25. Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Nominated Faculty

The meeting of the Academic Board began with a short prayer at 3.00 pm in the M.M.R. The Principal welcomed all to the meeting with a special thanks to Dr. Barma who has attended almost all the meetings and has made important contributions. Also a welcome to Dr. Freddie Havaladar, In-charge Head, Dr. Shyamala Bodhane, Ms. Soni George & Ms. Perrie as new Heads of Departments and to Dr. Rajendra Shinde as Management Representative.



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1. The Principal read the minutes of the last meeting a resolution to pass the Minutes was passed Ms. Pooja Ochaney and Dr. Asha Dayama seconded the Resolution.
2. The first point for the agenda was taken up and the Masters Programme syllabi under the Autonomous arrangement were considered. For this year most departments had adopted the University syllabi with minor changes in some cases. Several Under-graduate Arts & Science syllabi which had been amended by their Boards of Studies were also considered for passing along with Post-graduate syllabi. A Resolution to pass the proposed syllabi to be used in the coming year was proposed by Dr. Shyamala Bodhane and seconded by Ms. Anita Rane.

The Principal also informed the house that the M.Sc. Microbiology has been added to the list of P.G. courses because of the Government's sanction and in spite of the late recruitment of students, they have received their full quota of 20 students. The M.A. in A.I.C. is allowed a capacity of 60 students and 30 students joined at the beginning with 3 drop outs subsequently. It appears that the Autonomous status for these courses has given confidence to people and hence there has been an increase in numbers.

3. The Principal proposed a set of "Norms for Faculty", which has been prepared in consultation with the faculty earlier and a handout was distributed to all. The Principal explained each point. This was a codification of norms that the College had adopted over time including some added on for the Autonomous system. These norms were passed by a show of hands by all present.
4. It was suggested by some members that the Facebook and Google could be used to disseminate academic information and reading material on courses taught. This would provide motivation to students to engage in blended learning.
5. The Principal clarified that the Centralized Corrections of student answer papers was an important quality mechanism and that only if a teacher had too many papers to correct in that session then one bundle of the F.Y. papers could be taken home for correction. If the teacher did not teach at the F.Y. level, one bundle of papers from the S.Y. could be taken home.
6. There was a suggestion made that external examiners at the Third Year level should be allowed to make markings on the answer papers sent to them for evaluation. The Principal said that he would take this up at the start of the next Semester with the faculty.
7. The Principal proposed the start of the Masters in Public Policy from the next academic year. He informed that Dr. Agnelo Menezes would be the Coordinator for the Course. Some College faculty along with External Faculty both full-time



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and visiting would be recruited to teach the Course. A Delhi based NGO, the Centre for Civil Society is also collaborating with St. Xavier's College on the Course. The proposal to start this Masters Course was proposed by Dr. Freddy Havaldar and seconded by Ms. Anita Rane.

8. The need to try and keep track of students and their career paths after leaving St. Xavier's College was mentioned and each department Head was requested to keep such records.
9. The Principal informed the house that the Cross Faculty Courses were running well and that 3 new courses in the Sciences and 2 new courses in the Arts Stream were added in this academic year to give a total of 9 Arts Courses for Science students and 10 Science Courses for Arts students.
10. The Principal informed about change of Nomenclature for the Course Codes of several subjects:
 - C.MMS : changed to C.BMM for BMM Course
 - C.MGT : changed to C.BMS for BMS Course
 - S.LSC.5.05 & 5.06 : changed to S.BCH.5.01 & 5.02
 - MA.AIC.1.01 : 1.04
 - MS.SUB.1.01 : MS.SUB.PR
11. The Principal requested all Heads of Departments to invite at least one member of another Department to draft the Department Syllabi at the Department meetings for the same. Several Heads of Departments explained that they had already begun this and Dr. Barma shared his experience at the TIFR where 2 or 3 members from other departments do sit in for such meetings and they have experienced a healthy interaction. This inter-disciplinary initiative is also expected by the NAAC and over time this system is likely to generate good inter-disciplinary ideas.
12. The Staff Seminar at Khandala for this term was to be on the theme of 'Catering to low achievers among our students'. This is to increase our awareness and sensitivity to the problems of students with dyslexia and other such problems.
13. A member appreciated the pedagogical procedure of allotting 5 minutes of time to students for reading the question paper and reflecting on its contents, before attempting to answer, at the CIA-I test. A suggestion was made to introduce this also for the End Semester Exam and this would have the added benefit of drawing the students into the exam hall on time.
14. The question of teaching values through each subject was then discussed. There was a suggestion to put a value component into each course, perhaps as part of the objective of each course or even as a module. This was to address the



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problems of plagiarism, the lack of cooperative learning, the lack of respect for people and of honesty and cleanliness that is noticed in our daily dealings. The possibility of applying the Ignatian Pedagogical Paradigm was suggested and since the Xavier's Institute of Education has worked on this, Dr. Geeta Shetty could be invited for one of our Seminars. Dr. Barma felt it was a good idea to address this issue of values.

15. Finally the need to encourage research among our faculty and students was discussed. The Centre for Education in Basic Sciences on the Kalina Campus was mentioned as a model that could be studied. Dr. Shyamala said that she had worked with this Centre and so had tried out some ideas at Xavier's. The Indian Institute of Science Education and Research was also mentioned as a model to learn from.

The Principal thanked all the members for their contribution and the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



Frazer Mascarenhas

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