



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE
(AUTONOMOUS)
5, Mahapalika Marg, Mumbai - 400 001,
INDIA.
☎ 2262 0661/65

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING ON 21.04.2014

AGENDA:

- 1) To pass the Minutes.
- 2) Approval for two Diploma Courses.
- 3) Increase of Exam Fees by 20%.
- 4) Syllabi and other academic changes proposed by Board of Studies.
- 5) Considering the Bachelor's of Vocation Degree.
- 6) Working on a Common Syllabus Pattern
- 7) Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

The members present were:

1. Dr. Frazer Mascarenhas S.J, Chairperson & Principal
2. Dr. Avadhoot Nadkarni, 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 Havaldar, 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. Periyannayagi, 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 2.00 p.m. in the SCAVI.



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1. The Principal read the minutes of the last meeting. A resolution to pass the Minutes was proposed by Dr. Anita Rane and Dr. Nandita Mangalore seconded the Resolution.
2. The Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law is run by the Department of Zoology and some ex-students and others are involved in teaching the course. The department has formed a Board of Studies for the course and Dr. Pushpa Sinkar is the Co-ordinator of this Course.

The College has started a new course called Counselling Psychology, which was initially held in St. Xavier's High School. This Course was started by Fr. Berkey. The Jesuit Management has decided to continue with this Course at St. Xavier's College. A Board of Studies will be formed for this course, which will consider any changes in the syllabi. The draft syllabus is already up on the website. These two Diploma Courses will be run by the College.

The Principal said that the College also has proposed a 3rd Course, a Diploma in Clinical Research. All the three courses meet a felt need. The Diploma in Forensic Science and Criminal Law is an Undergraduate Diploma Course, whereas the Diplomas in Counselling Psychology and Clinical Research are Postgraduate Diploma Courses. These courses will be open to all those who qualify for them. The UGC Statutes state that an Autonomous College can design its own Diploma Courses which will have UGC sanction. Only if the College wants to introduce any degree courses then it has to take prior permission from the University of Mumbai. The Principal said that the Counselling Psychology course will be linked with Fr. Anthony D'Souza's Course in Vasai which is strong in practicum. The internships for this course will be worked out and will be discussed by the Board of Studies. The approval for the two Diploma Courses was proposed by Dr. Shefali Balsari-Shah and seconded by Fr. Roy Pereira.

3. A proposal for an increase in the fees of Self-Financing Courses by 20% has being passed by the Finance Board of the College and was earlier also recommended by the Management Board. The Management Board will ratify it in its next meeting. The Principal said that it was earlier proposed to increase the fees by 10%, but then it was realised that this will not be enough to cover the expenses and salaries of these Self Financing Courses. Therefore it would be advisable to increase the fees by atleast 20%. It will amount to about Rs.3000 more per course and a couple of 100 more for the exam fees. The Principal said that the College already has a lot of expenditure for the exams. As per the statutes an Autonomous College has a right to determine the fees. The College had proposed the raise to



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the University two years ago but the University has not acted on it. The Self-Financing Courses of the College are working at a loss. The Principal also clarified that Autonomy applies to Undergraduate and Postgraduate Courses right upto M.Phil.

4. Some departments have amended their syllabi for the first and second semesters and this has been approved by their Board of Studies. The following are the departments whose syllabus is amended.

French, Political Science, Hindi, Statistics, Mass Media and Sociology. A Resolution to pass these syllabi for the Arts Departments was proposed by Dr. Asha Dayama and seconded by Dr. Shyamala Bodhane.

The Department Anthropology and Sociology has proposed that in the spirit of promoting inter-disciplinary study and given the complementary nature of Sociology & Anthropology, all students who have taken Anthropology at the first and second year but not Sociology, be eligible to opt for the Anthropology-Sociology double major at the 3rd year and all students who have taken Sociology at the first two years but not Anthropology, be eligible to opt for the Sociology-Anthropology double major. Dr. Fleur said that ours is an integrated degree system, therefore the students should have taken the subjects in the first and second years if they want to take it up in the third year. She also said that History and Anthropology are in the same group, and so this will affect a subject like History. There was a general discussion on this. The Principal stated that this is a major policy decision and therefore it cannot be decided at one meeting. Dr. Avadhoot Nadkarni said that we may be required to formulate separate Board of Studies for Anthropology, since our Board of Studies is a composite Board of Sociology & Anthropology. It was stated that since Sociology and Anthropology are closely related they are considered to be one subject and they have one Department also at the University level. The proposal of the Department could be considered again as we need to see how we could optimise the choice based credit system.

A Resolution to pass the syllabi for the Science Departments was proposed by Dr. Jyoti Singh and seconded by Dr. Shyamala Bodhane.

A Resolution to pass the syllabi for the M.Sc. Departments was proposed by Dr. Smita Krishnan and seconded by Dr. Rajendra Shinde.

5. Vocational Courses were conducted only by community Colleges earlier, but now the UGC has now introduced the Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc) degrees. Two months ago the UGC came up with this proposal for Colleges across the country to apply for these courses. This was proposed to us by Dr. Shakeel Ahmad at the Management Board Meeting. This is a 3 year degree programme. The First Year is a Diploma programme, the



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Second Year is an Advanced Diploma programme and the Third Year will result in a Bachelors Degree. We had approached the Geology Department for Jewellery Designing but they were not in favour of it. We have therefore applied for the B.Voc Degree Courses in Tourism and Software Development and we have to finalize the syllabi for the courses. The Management Board as well as the Governing Body was in favour of this proposal. The UGC is considering our proposal for these courses. The College has the required infrastructure for the Software Development Course and for the Tourism course.

The courses have 40% of General Education which would be common for both the streams and 60% will be done separately by each department. We need to appoint one full-time Associate Professor and one Assistant Professor for each of these courses with student strength of 50 each. These courses would cater to a different type of students. It would be basically for skill-based students who do not want heavy academic work. We think that these courses will bring a new dimension to our College like our Commerce Section did. A Resolution was passed sanctioning the Application.

6. Common Syllabus Pattern: this pattern already exists among the Science Departments. The Arts departments do not have this pattern, therefore it is required to see if we could work at a Common Syllabus Pattern on the number of units. The Science departments have in common, 3 units in the second year and 4 units in the third year. Each Arts department has a different number of units. We could have a pattern where there could be 4 units or 6 units for each Course. Based on the number of lectures there could be common modules so that it can become easier to monitor. Since the level of study is higher at the Third Year the number of modules could be more. It was also said that we could have two different systems instead of one. The Language departments may need a different pattern of modules based on the number of lectures. Three Heads of the Arts Departments could be asked to work out some modular system and get feedback from other departments.
7. Other Issues:

Ms. Maureen suggested that the College track changes in the syllabi to ensure that they are not diluted. Dr. Asha explained that syllabi upgradation is being done by Boards of Study. Dr. Shefali suggested that each department present the changes they have made at a Faculty Seminar. The Principal explained the system we have already in place and the safeguards incorporated. The system puts the responsibility on the HOD and the Board of Study. The progression of our students into good post-graduate courses across the country and abroad also gives confidence.



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The Meeting ended with a Vote of thanks to the Chair.



Fraj Moscaraha S.P.

PRINCIPAL
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