

(AUTONOMOUS)

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

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MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC BOARD MEETING ON 30.03.2016

AGENDA:

- 1) Passing the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- 2) Passing any new amended syllabi
- 3) Amending the Rules of Passing
- 4) Starting of a M.Sc. Neuroscience Course as part of the Sesqui Centennial Initiatives.
- 5) Mid-term Review of Autonomy
- 6) Beginning of preparations for the Sesqui Centennial Celebrations
- 7) Any other matter

The members present were:

- 1. Dr. Agnelo Menezes, Chairperson & Principal
- 2. Dr. Avadhoot Nadkarni, Professional Expert
- 3. Dr. (Fr.) Roy Pereira, S.J., Convenor
- 4. Dr. (Ms.) Asha Dayama, Head, Dept. of Hindi
- 5. Ms. Pearl Pastakia, Head, Dept. of English
- 6. Ms. Alpana Palkhiwale, Head, Dept. of French
- 7. Dr. (Ms.) Fleur D'Souza, Head, Dept. of History
- 8. Ms. Anita Rane, Head, Dept. of Ancient Indian Culture
- 9. Ms. Pratiba Naitthani, Head, Dept. of Political Science
- 10. Ms. Ruby Pavri, Head, Dept. of Psychology
- 11. Dr. Sam Taraporevala, Head, Dept. of Sociology
- 12. Dr. (Ms.) Aditi Sawant, Head, Dept. of Economics
- 13. Dr. (Ms.) Mangala Gurjar, Head, Dept. of Mathematics
- 14. Dr. (Ms.) Shyamala Bodhane, Head, Dept. of Physics
- 15. Dr. (Ms.) Ujwala Bapat, Head, Dept. of Botany
- 16. Dr. Freddie Havaldar, Head, Dept. of Chemistry
- 17. Ms. Pooja Ochaney, Head, Dept. of Statistics
- 18. Dr. (Ms.) Smita Krishnan, Head, Dept. of Zoology
- 19. Dr. Hrishikesh Samant, Head, Dept. of Geology
- 20. Dr. (Ms.) Vivien Amonkar, Head, Depts. of Microbiology & Biotech
- 21. Ms. Soni George, BMS Coordinator
- 22. Dr. (Ms.) Jyoti Singh, B.Sc. (IT) Coordinator
- 23. Ms. S. Periyanayagi, BMM Coordinator
- 24. Dr.(Ms.) Nandita Mangalore, Head, Dept. of Life Science
- 25. Dr. Rajendra Shinde, Nominated Faculty

The meeting of the Academic Board began with at 2.00 p.m. in the SCAVI.



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1. The minutes of the previous meeting were read and discussed. Points arising out of the Minutes:

Fr. Roy informed that we have formed a Committee for the ERP in December. They have looked at the alternatives and have narrowed down some of the modules, such as Admission, Attendance, Examination modules etc.

A Resolution to pass the Minutes of the Meeting was proposed by Dr.(Ms.) Anita Rane and seconded by Dr. (Ms.) Mangala Gurjar.

2. Fr. Roy said that the soft copies of the syllabi were sent to each member of the Academic Board and hard copies were kept in the Principal's Waiting Room for the last 3 days, so that the members could go through them.

The Syllabi for the Departments of Statistics, Political Science, Sociology, Anthropology, Commerce, Economics, English, French, AIC, Psychology, Biotechnology, Physics, Chemistry, B.Sc.(IT), Geology, Zoology, Mathematics, B.Voc. Software, Botany & BMS, which were passed by the Boards of Studies were presented before the Academic Board. It was suggested that there should be uniformity in the Course Codes with respect to Applied Component Courses, Cross Faculty Courses and Postgraduate Courses. A Resolution to pass the syllabi was proposed by

Dr. (Ms.) Mangala Gurjar and seconded by Dr. (Ms.) Asha Dayama.

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3. Amending the Rules of Passing:

The Principal discussed some of the rules of passing from the College Handbook, which need to be amended in the Handbook for the next academic year.

There were changes suggested on moderation:

- If 30% or more of the moderated papers assessed by a particular examiner of a course have a change of more than 15% of total marks assigned to the paper, a blind moderation will be required by a second moderator.
- If the change is upheld, all the answer papers of that group will have to be re-evaluated blind by the second moderator.
- It was suggested that Marks Settling should be done only in case of students whose marks are very low and this has to be done in consultation with the Head of the Department. This will be done to help a student to pass. It was suggested to delete the write up on Marks Settling in the College Handbook.
- The rules regarding practicals will be discussed later with the Science departments.
- Rules on Attendance were also modified.
- Amendments have been made in the Grace Marks for Sports/Cultural Activities which were also read out by the Pincipal.
- 4. The Sesqui Centennial is coming up and one of the things that we are looking at is to organize a fund raising event for the College. We are planning to conduct various events where ex-students could be involved. We are thinking of targeting a particular group and ask them to sponsor a particular event. We are lacking behind for the database.

The Rector said that we may have to consider whether we can make a social impact out of it. We can organize marathons for the College students to raise funds for the tribals. We can get in touch with the organizers for the marathon for the social cause.

5. Fr. Roy said that as part of the Centennial celebrations one of the initiatives is to start a M.Sc. in Neuroscience. He further said that Neuroscience is a wide subject of interest for students in India. There are not many options available in India for students who are willing to do Neuroscience. Many students are forced to go abroad to pursue this Course. St. Xavier's College has the resources to move into M.Sc. Neuroscience. We are already conducting this course at the undergraduate level for the last 4 years.



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The proposal for starting M.Sc. in Neuroscience was put up before the member of the Management Board. Lot of objections were raised by them. They said that this kind of Course is meant for a College with medical background. We tried to explain to them the difference between Neuroscience and Neurology. The basic equipments, infrastructure and laboratories will be made available for this course. We are planning to charge a fee of Rs.50,000/- for the first year and in the second year the students will be charged a fee of Rs.1 lakh.

- 6. Mid Term Review of Autonomy: the Principal said that the Government Nominee is not yet appointed for the review. We are awaiting the Government's reply on this.
- 7. The Principal said that we are planning to raise the fees for the aided courses with the exam component by 2-3%. For the Self-financing courses the fees will have to be raised drastically. We are running a deficit of over Rs.1 crore a year, since we are paying salaries as per the VI Pay Commission to the Self-financing staff.

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