



ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE

(AUTONOMOUS)

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

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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

(2015 - 2020)



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PRINCIPAL'S ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

It gives me great pleasure to present the annual report of the college for the academic year 2019-20. The new academic year started on 10th June 2019.

MOU With TCS for a New Course

The MSc Course in Big Data Analytics was launched with a Memorandum of Understanding signed between St Xavier's College, Mumbai and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) on 14th June 2019. The signatories were the Principal, Dr Rajendra Shinde and Mr. Ranjan Bandopadhyaya, Vice-President, HR, TCS.

OnLine Entrance Test across the Country

For the first time, the college conducted an Online Entrance Test for the self-financing courses BMS, BMM and MPP in Kolkata, Delhi, Jaipur, Bangaluru and Mumbai on 15th and 16th June 2019.

Graduation Ceremony

The student graduation ceremony was conducted over three days, 20th - 22nd June 2019. On 20th June was the ceremony for BSc and BSc IT students, with Prof. K. Subramaniam, Director of the Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education presiding as the Chief Guest. Students of the BA had their ceremony on 21st June and the Chief Guest was Mrs. Usha Thorat, Former Deputy Governor of Reserve bank of India. Graduation ceremony for all Self Financed Courses, PG students and PhD Scholars was on 22nd June with Prof. Uday Salunkhe, the Director of Welingkar Institute of Management Development and Research as the Chief Guest. An orientation to college for the first year UG students with their parents was held between 26th and 29th of June. The PG students had the orientation at the end of July. The theme of the year was 'Holistic Integration'.

New Programmes Started in 2019-20

The college started several new programmes in 2019-2020. These include M.Sc. Physics with the support from TIFR and Ayuka, Pune; M.Sc. Big Data Analytics in collaboration with TCS; M.A. in Psychology (Lifespan Counselling); Post graduate Diploma in Expressive Arts Therapy; Certificate Course in Personal Counselling; Diploma in Bioinformatics and a Certificate Course in Applied Philosophy and Professional Ethics. A Diploma in Ancient Indian Culture and Heritage was approved by the Academic council in 2017-18 but actually started only in the year 2019-20. This academic year, The Xavier Institute of Communications (XIC) was merged with St. Xavier's College and all their courses are now affiliated to St. Xavier's College.



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Programme Under 150 years Celebration

To commemorate the college's sesquicentennial anniversary during the 2019-20 academic year several activities and programs across areas, i.e., academic, social, cultural, and sports were organized. The first event on 13th July 2019 was the 'Leadership Summit 2019-Inflexion Point'. The keynote address was delivered by our alumnus and industrialist, Mr. Adi Godrej. Students also had the opportunity to listen to stalwarts like Mr. Narayan Murthy, Smt. Sudha Murthy, Dr. Anu Aga, Ms. Shaheen Mistry, Mr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Mr. Ashish Basin, and several others. Mr. Murthy's comments urging the country's youth to stand up and speak against "what is happening in different parts of the country" left a long-lasting mark on many young students who attended this Summit.

St. Xavier's is known for its various events that foster students' academic excellence and build multiple soft skills. On 14th - 15th August, 'Malhar - The Multiverse' was one such event, successfully managed by a team of more than 1000 students under the supervision of dedicated and passionate faculty members.

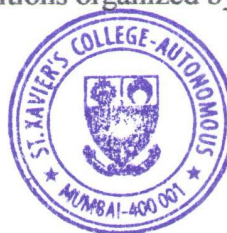
A National Seminar titled "Jesuit Initiatives in Higher Education in South Asia" was organized as a part of the sesquicentennial celebrations on 20th - 21st November. Fourteen papers were presented, highlighting the contribution of Jesuits to higher education since the 16th century in the subcontinent.

A Heritage Hunt was organized on December 1st by some of the faculty as a fun filled edutainment activity celebrating the multicultural heritage of Mumbai. Twenty teams participated in the treasure hunt which was spread from Colaba in South Mumbai to Mahim on the Western line to Sion on the Eastern line.

The concluding ceremony of this Sesquicentennial was held on December 7th, with several alumni visiting the college and their old departments. It was quite a nostalgic evening for all the alumni who attended the program.

Research Activities

On the research front, ten of our faculty received the "University Teachers Research Grant" for the year 2019-20 (Total Rs. 4,75,000). Dr. Avkash Jadhav received Rs. 400,000/- (for 2019-21) from the Indian Council of Historical Research for the project "Jobbers - The Transitional and Intermediary Component of the Textile Mills in Bombay in Pre-Independent India." In June 2020, a DBT Builder grant of approximately Rs. 30,000,000/- was awarded to our postgraduate departments in Science (Botany, Biotechnology, Microbiology, Life Science, Physics, and IT) for research and infrastructure development. Under the DBT Star College Scheme Recurring grant of 600,000/- was given to college. Furthermore, 25 of our undergraduate students are involved in Collaborative Undergraduate Biology Education (CUBE) under the guidance of Dr. Seema Das. Both faculty and students have won several awards for their projects in various national level competitions organized by CUBE and Homi Bhabha Center for Science Education (HBCSE).



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Publications

Our faculty members have published several research papers in national and international journals. Since 2010, the college publishes a research journal XPLORE with ISSN No. 2249-1878. The journal is listed in the UGC-CARE group D list. This year, we published two volumes - Vol. 10, Issue 1, Dec 2019 ISSN 2249 – 1878 and Vol. 11, Issue 1, March 5 2020 ISSN 2249 - 1878. Vol. 11 was dedicated to DISHA 2020. These issues are now available on our college website.

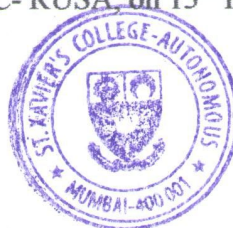
External Courses for Faculty

Nine faculty completed their Refresher courses, one did an Orientation programme, four were successful in finishing Short term courses, three completed Online Certificate Courses and as many as 25 were able to complete Online FDP/Short term courses.

National and International Conferences

In the academic year 2019-2020, the college hosted several seminars, workshops, and conferences both at the national and international level. These include:

1. IQAC seminar for college faculty on 'Planning, Documentation, and Feedback' on 3rd July 2019.
2. Seminar on 'Inclusion' on 4th July 2019.
3. Young Teacher's seminar 'Paper setting- Expectations and Outcomes' on 10th July 2019.
4. Staff Seminar – talk by Dr. Vasudha Kamat, former Vice-Chancellor of SNDT University and one of the authors of the National Education Policy on 12th July 2019.
5. DBT-CTEP sponsored the 'Science Fair - Popularization of Science' (An outreach to inspire young minds) on 29th November 2019.
6. RUSA sponsored exhibition 'Xynergy 2019' on 30th November 2019.
7. International Conference – 'The Politics of Environment in Asia: People, Policies and Development' XPSA and SXC – RUSA on 29th January 2020.
8. Workshop on 'Gender Sensitization' on 31st January 2020.
9. Workshop for new teachers on 'Orientation to Apple Apps' on 5th February 2020.
10. Workshop for other faculty on 'Orientation to Apple Apps' on 6th February 2020.
11. National conference 'Cinema Through the Lens of History', under the RUSA programme on 11th February 2020.
12. Open Forum Discussion : 'Multiple views on the CAA, NRC & NPR' on 11th February 2020.
13. National Seminar on 'Tree Ecology and Urban Forest Management' by the National Society of the Friends of the Trees, (FOT), and SXC- RUSA, on 13th February 2020.



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14. Faculty Development program under Human Research and Development, Khandala, Seminar on 'Aspects of Development: Institutional, Communitarian and Personal' at Loyola Social Welfare Centre, Kune on 18th - 20th February 2020.

15. The Economic Times - 'The New Age Education Symposium 2020' in conjunction with the Times Group on 25th - 26th February 2020.

16. National Workshop on 'Leadership Development for Senior Mid-Level Faculty' by IACHE Secretariat, New Delhi on 5th -8th March 2020.

17. The Xavier's Psychology Symposium on - 'School Counselling - Perspective from the Field' sponsored by RUSA on 7th March 2020.

18. A pre-conference workshop by Prof. Bart McGettrick on 'Faculty Development - Common Strategic Issues' on 11th March 2020.

19. DISHA 2020 - International Conference on 'Evolving Trends in Higher Education' on 12th - 13th March 2020.

DISHA 2020 - International Conference on 'Evolving Trends in Higher Education' deserves a special mention here. The reason is that it was the second edition of this conference organized after 14 years since the first conference in 2006. DISHA also successfully adopted all the physical distancing and sanitation rules as it coincided with the onset of the pandemic in Mumbai and India. The challenges it had to face while ensuring success made it a noteworthy event.

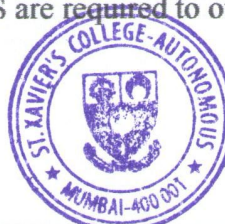
Social Involvement Programme (SIP) 2019-20

St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, has always endeavored to change the paradigms of education. Since 1996, it has been providing students with beyond the classroom and campus learning opportunities through the Social Involvement Programme (SIP). It has been one of our best practices. This programme fundamentally aspires towards a holistic education by focusing on:

1. Creating social awareness and sensitization, both among students and citizens at large.
2. Increasing student motivation to explore and engage with India's socio-economic realities so as to raise vital questions and make meaningful interventions.

In the academic year 2019-20, 869 students completed obligatory component of the SIP. The class-wise distribution of the students' participation is mentioned herewith.

In the period December 2018 to July 2019, the SYBSc, SYBSc (IT) and the TYBVoc are required to offer voluntary service via the SIP. A total of 299 SYBSc students had registered for the programme, and 279 completed successfully whereas 20 were left pending. A total of 60 SYBSc (IT) students had registered for the programme. Of these 54 completed successfully and 6 were left pending. A total of 79 TYBVoc students had registered for the programme. Of these 67 completed successfully and 12 were left pending. In the period August 2019 to December 2019, the FYBA, FYBMM and FYBMS are required to offer voluntary service via



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the SIP. A total of 389 FYBA students had registered for the programme. Of these 340 completed successfully and 49 were left pending. A total of 68 FYBMM students had registered for the programme. Of these 64 completed successfully and 4 were left pending. A total of 69 FYBMS students had registered for the programme, and of these 65 completed successfully and 4 were left pending. The various focus areas under which the students carry out the SIP activities were:

1. Education: 77% of the students enrolled either taught in footpath schools, or in adult education, or teaching nearby slum/poor students.
2. Support to Differently-Abled students: 15% of the students volunteered support to specially-abled children of the college by being examination-writers for them, or reading for them.
3. Gender sensitization: 1% of students were involved in sensitizing the community regarding gender issues eg domestic abuse of women.
4. Elderly, old-age homes: 2% of the students gave support to the elderly by talking, and spending time with them.
5. Health issues: 2% of the students participated in bringing awareness about infectious diseases and ways of preventing them.
6. Awareness on Social issues: 3% of the students were involved in spreading awareness on substance abuse (drugs, alcohol) and other relevant social issues.

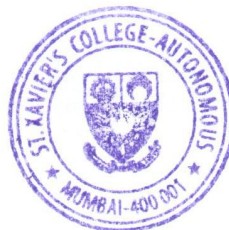
Voluntary Stationery Contributions: Throughout the year, individuals donated stationery materials which were forwarded to NGOs in urban and rural areas by the SIP Department.

International Programs 2019-20

Internationalization has been a part of St. Xavier's since 1869. It has grown over the years and continues to manifest itself in the seamless collaborations forged over time. The Council of International Programs (CIP) started in 2005, has been steadily providing new opportunities to our students through our international exchange programs. In the last academic year (2019-2020), we observed 66 students from universities abroad entering St. Xavier's portals for educational interventions of varying durations, and 31 Xavierites successfully participating in a variety of foreign programs in different capacities.

International Exchange Programmes

1. Twelve in-house students participated in the 2-credit Summer Programme at the University of California, Berkeley, USA, and 8 students of the University of California, Berkeley participated in the 3-credit course entitled 'Economics and Development in India' at St. Xavier's College.



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2. One student from Sciences Po, France spent an entire year in Xavier's studying various courses in Arts while three of our students spent their academic year at Sciences Po University.
3. Four students from IESEG School of Management, France took courses in Bachelor of Management Studies however, one of them left Xavier's after the first semester.
4. Two students from Soka University, Japan studied for two semesters while, five students from the same University were in Xavier's for one semester. Six students from Soka University participated in a two-week Intensive English Language Course in the Language Lab.
5. In January 2020, ten Xavierites participated in the Leadership Conference called 'Breaking Boundaries: Tech and Media' held at Harvard University, USA under the aegis of the Harvard College in Asia Program (HCAP). The Mumbai chapter of HCAP which was scheduled in March 2020 was cancelled due to the pandemic. St. Xavier's College is the only institution from India participating in HCAP for the last 16 years.
6. As part of the Australian Summer Programme, eight students from the University of Sydney, Australia participated in the course called 'India Past and Present: Art, History and Culture of India.'
7. The online course called 'In Conversation with Globalization' was held from October 2019 to February 2020. Two students from University of Bergamo, Italy; two from University of Stuttgart, Germany; four from Stellenbosch University, South Africa and five from St. Xavier's College participated in the online course. The practicum component of the course was held in February 2020 at St. Xavier's. Three faculty members, each representing the aforesaid universities accompanied their students. Students from Xavier's could not make the scheduled-visit to the University of Stuttgart in May 2020 due to the pandemic.
8. Twenty three graduate students from The Steinhardt Institute for Higher Education Policy, New York University, USA along with two of the faculty members visited Xavier's to study the autonomous set-up of the college. Many of our in-house Faculty members provided insight into the growth and challenges of the autonomous system.

Xavier's students had the advantage of listening to select lectures by foreign faculty from different Universities such as University of Sydney, Australia; University of Auckland, New Zealand; and Sciences Po, France. Further, **Dr. Alexandra Sussmann, Mayor of Social Issues and Social Integration, City of Stuttgart, Germany** was one of the foreign officials who addressed the students.

MOUs signed with International Universities

This year, St. Xavier's signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the following universities: Temple University, Philadelphia, USA; Creighton University, Omaha, USA and with the International Association of Jesuit Universities.

Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell)



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Our newly started E-Cell organized various programs to train students in entrepreneurship. 219 students benefited from these training sessions.

The E-cell Activities in academic year 2019-20 were:

1. 'Artificial Intelligence Immersion Workshop' with Retail, Marketing and HR Analytics, organized by Stratahive (Mumbai). Twenty students participated in this course.
2. 'Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence (Non-Finance)' organized by aCubeIT (Mumbai). Twenty five students registered for it.
3. 'Internet Of Things: Uses of Internet for Business' by Xavier's institute of Engineering had 20 students opting for this course.
4. 'Entrepreneurship: To develop entrepreneur thinking' coordinated by Navyuvak. Twenty students participated in this course.
5. 'Train the Trainer: Course on dog trainers' organized by Canines Can Care, saw 15 students participating.
6. 'Taxidermy is the Preserving of an Animal's' by a Wildlife Taxidermist had 17 students taking this course.
7. Lecture on 'Entrepreneurship' by Chatur Idea's, a workshop on how to start business and approach Funding agencies had 102 participants.

Placement Cell

The placement cell on campus has successfully placed 133 students out of the 439 who registered with the placement cell. A.T. Kearney offered the highest package of Rs.15.7L/annum, whereas Zilingo offered Rs.14 L /annum and Citibank Rs.13 L /annum.

Sports Activities

In sports, our Senior College students participated in various team and individual tournaments organized by the University of Mumbai.

The college teams results were as follows: Women's category: 6th in Football; 2nd Runner's-Up in Basketball, Chess and Hockey; Pre-Quarter Finalist in Volleyball and Badminton; and 1st Runners-Up in Table Tennis. Men's category: 6th in Table Tennis; and Pre-Quarter Finalist in Football, Basketball and Badminton.

The college individual results were as follows: In Shooting, Bewli Sukhman (SYBA) won a GOLD; in Athletics, Rosalin Lewis (SYBA) 400 meters won the Silver; and Sumer Misbah (MA-I) was placed 6th in Table Tennis.



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At the state and national level, our students represented the college in Hockey (Women) Kelley John (TYBA); Table Tennis (Women) Sumer Misbah (TYBA); Football (Women) Florian Pereira (FYBA); Air Rifle Shooting (Women) Sukhman Bewli (SYBA).

The Annual Sports Day of college was conducted on 5th and 6th of December 2019 at the Mumbai University Grounds. Rolling Trophies were awarded to the following students:

Senior College Men's Individual Championship: Neele Ujerekar (FYBSc); Senior College Women's Individual Championship: Florian Pereira (FYBA); Senior College Inter-Faculty Rolling Trophy: Bachelors in Arts, Tian D'souza (TYBA) and Jay Rao (SYBA).

During Lockdown: COVID19 Initiatives taken by College

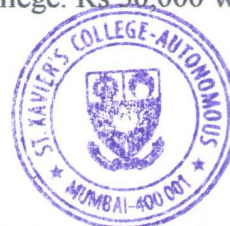
On March 17th 2020, college was asked by the government authorities to postpone the final examinations for the academic year, which had begun the previous day. The national lockdown implemented on March 22nd 2020 made everyone retreat to their respective homes for the next few months. Though the pandemic put the entire world on a standstill, Xavierites converted this national challenge into opportunities. Under normal circumstances, it would have taken at least two years to adopt the online approach for teaching and learning but COVID-19 allowed the faculty and students to adapt to the situation faster. It is commendable how the entire faculty took responsibility and trained for this new venture of online teaching. Several webinars were organized by the management and faculty to understand and learn these new norms. The training was so effective that the college did not face any difficulty in beginning the new academic year in July 2020. The students and faculty also registered for the online courses offered by Coursera for Campus. 1484 students registered for free Coursera courses. About 600 students registered for Swayam Courses.

Student Help Line

To help students frazzled by being stuck at home, confused about when exams may be conducted, and how the admission process would be carried out, Xavier's started a Corona Helpline with 35 members ready to guide and provide counselling by phone. The guiding staff included 6 professional counsellors, 23 faculty, and 6 Jesuits from college and outside. The Times of India (dated April 15th) highlighted this, including information on how to access the helpline (visit wellness.xaviers.edu and click on "Corona HELPLINE").

Reaching out to the Needy

St Xavier's is known for its work with marginalized people. The outbreak of COVID-19 witnessed many people migrating to their hometowns barefoot and without any financial resources. In the desperate no-work-no-food situation of millions, the Xavier's community sent 1000 food bags to Dharavi (each bag contained provisions sufficient for a family of 5 for 10 days), amounting to around five lakhs. This was distributed through the local Asst. Municipal Commissioner, Mr Kiran Dighavkar, an alumnus of college. Rs 30,000 was also sent through



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MPSM Nashik for aid work with migrants there in collaboration with an NGO called Chhatra Bharati. Via the Urja Foundation, food rations to 500 families and medicines totally worth more than two lakhs were distributed. Another project "Meals for the Needy", provided assistance of around a lakh. 3000 Sanitary napkins, 2000 face masks and 2000 pieces of washing soap were supplied to slum areas via Pehchaan, a local NGO, amounting to about half a lakh. Medical equipment was also supplied, 2000 plastic face visors for the police and 100 PPE's (Personal Protective Equipment), totally amounting to more than a lakh. Medical supplies of over a lakh were donated to the Kasturba Hospital and neighbouring areas, through the Urja Foundation. The College AICUF helped out an NGO called MUSE, and paid for the Covid testing of 10 people and supplied 5000 Oral Rehydration Therapy kits, totally more than a lakh.

St. Xavier's College as Quarantine Centre

St. Xavier's College has provided its hall, canteen foyer and the XIMR terrace to the BMC to set up a quarantine centre. The BMC officials have informed us that they plan to use the centre in our SXC hall and foyer as a hospital to treat active Covid cases, not just as a quarantine centre. Asymptomatic cases will be lodged in the foyer, while cases with symptoms and other complications like diabetes will be kept in the hall. There will be resident doctors on the campus. As of now, they are not going to use the XIMR terrace. However, a resident doctor may sleep there. Complete cordoning off for the safety of faculty and staff who come here to collect material, to work, etc., has been put in place, by separating the college area (with entrance through the main gate) from the ground floor Covid centre (with entrance through the side gate).

Long-term Reaching Out

A few units on campus (AICUF, DIRS, SIP, SSL, Wellness Centre) have got together to organize a multi-pronged effort to serve the larger community during the coming academic year, tentatively titled "Xavier's Covid-19 Response". Relief work and multiple events will be held throughout the coming year, online and offline. Alumni will be approached to help fund some of these relief projects and activities.

The staff also donated a day's salary to the CM Fund and the PM Care Fund.

Dr. Rajendra Shinde

Principal



July 2020

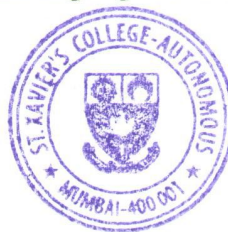


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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2018-2019

After its establishment in the year 1869, St. Xavier's College, an iconic institution of Higher Education has been playing its role in nation-building. True to its vision and its key values, **Innovation, Integration and Inclusion**, the college has always strived to inculcate these principles in our young students' minds. The 150th year of the college is also a time to reflect upon the growth-trajectory of this great institution called St. Xavier's, that was founded by the Jesuits. During the last three academic years, St. Xavier's has been applying for the National Institutional Ranking Framework, Government of India ranking system and for all three years, has been placed among the top 100 institutions of our country. In the year 2018-2019, we have been placed 96th in this all India NIRF ranking. I wish to place on record that St. Xavier's was the only Arts, Science & Commerce College from Mumbai to rank among the top 100 colleges for the last three years. St. Xavier's College has been recognized as the BEST EDUCATION BRAND 2018-19 by the Economic Times. The Inclusion Cell of the College (led by Dr Sam Taraporevala) is to be lauded, for through their efforts the College has been conferred the Nipman Foundation Microsoft Equal Opportunity Awards 2018 in the Enabler Category of Inclusive Schools – Higher Education. On 31st August 2018, Dr Agnelo Menezes retired as the 23rd Principal of the college on 31st August, 2018.

The St. Xavier's College Management took a historic step appointing me as the first non-Catholic member from its own teaching faculty, as Principal. The Inaugural Mass of our Sesquicentennial Celebrations was held in the College Hall on 29 Dec 2018. This solemn ceremony was attended by many former Xavierites (including about 40 priests) as well as many of our current and former teaching and non-teaching colleagues. In his homily, Oswald Cardinal Gracias (the Chief Celebrant along with Fr Keith D'Souza SJ and Fr Arun DeSouza SJ) recalled his days as a student in Xavier's and applauded the 3-I's of our Vision-Mission Statement. This was followed by a fabulous Alumni Fund Raising Dinner on 3rd Jan 2019 at Cooperage. In addition to 800 alumni, this grand function was attended by many renowned ex-Xavierites such as Rajdeep Sardesai, Sunil Gavaskar, Shabana Azmi, Mr. Roger Pereira, Josy Paul, Sabbas Joseph and retired professors from various departments. The visit by the Superior General from the Vatican, Fr. Arturo Sosa, was the highlight of the 150th year programme.



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Nine of our faculty members received University Teachers Research Grant this year. Six departments of St. Xavier's College have been awarded the Star Status by the Department of Biotechnology, Govt. of India since 2016. Two more departments – Mathematics and Statistics have been added to the Star Scheme. This has helped us to implement project based learning and strengthen our Autonomy. In the month of October 2018, the college was awarded Rs. 5 crore grant by RUSA (Rashtriya Uccharat Shiksha Abhiyan), for the development of infrastructure. We were one of the eight colleges selected by the MHRD for this prestigious grant. As a part of Nation-wide programme, we were chosen to be the part of the Hon. Prime Minister's Digital Launch of the Innovation and Skill Hub Centre in the College. Hon. Education Minister of Maharashtra, Shri Vinod Tawde unveiled the curtain of the new Innovation and Skill Hub Centre at Xavier's, immediately after the Hon. Prime Minister digitally launched 200 such centres across India, on 3rd Feb 2019. St. Xavier's organized a National Level Entrepreneur Seminar on the same day during the pre-launch session.

As part of our sesquicentennial celebrations an International Science Conference was held on the theme : "From Health to Well Being: An Interdisciplinary Approach from Fundamental Sciences to Translation Medicine." It was organized in collaboration with Creighton University, Omaha (USA) from 9th-11th Jan 2019. A daylong seminar was held by the Department of Botany, in collaboration with the National Society of the Friends of the Trees conducting a National Conference on Climate, Vegetation and Rivers. The Zoology Dept was the co-host. The Confluence, one-day interdisciplinary seminar, was organized by the Dept. of Statistics, BMM & BMS on the theme 'Statistics in Business & Media – Comprehending the Data Storm. A two-day conference on "Celebrating Mahatma Gandhi" was held on 15-16 Feb 2019. A French Conference was organized by the French Department for the French teachers across the country. The Department of Statistics has offered a skill based and value-added 3-month Certificate Course for TY students of our college on Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI). Besides academic activities, we nurture the talents of our students with festivals like Malhar, Volantus, Lingua, Sitare and Aamod that help to bring out the hidden talents of our students. On the academic front, through XPlore, our research journal, we have been encouraging our faculty to publish some quality research papers. I am happy to state here that quality of this journal has been applauded by the UGC, and recently our journal has been listed on UGC – CARE. Our faculty has also continued to make an effort to enhance their



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academic and professional development, with 9 completing Refresher courses, 4 Orientation programmes, 5 successfully finished Short term courses and 2 completed Online certificate courses.

The footprints of our students in community services are widely seen. As our College is a partner with the CMO programme SAHABHAG, we send our students to help women artisans for purposes like launching their products on the Internet, learning how to use Internet Banking, etc. Our Economics students have participated in the Chief Minister's Mahila Vikas Mandal Program and Sahabhag, Social Responsibility Cell of the Chief Minister's Office, Maharashtra. Our Botany Department students have helped in identifying the flora of the Dahanu Taluka, in collaboration with KASHTAKARI SANGATHANA, Dahanu. This was undertaken to help local Adivasis to prepare the local People's Biodiversity Registers. In addition, the Blatter Herbarium participated in the 58th Vegetable and Flower show organized by the National Society of the Friends of the Trees, at Ruparel College. Rare Books and Herbarium specimens were displayed by the BLAT and about 30-40000 citizens visited the popular exhibition on 9 and 10 Feb 2019. The Caius Research Lab conducted a Workshop on Training of Trainers for 26 BMC school Teachers (7th and 8th Standards) in association with the NGO Muktangan.

Our Sports Day was held at the University of Mumbai Ground: A large number of Junior College students as well as many of the Teaching and Non-Teaching staff attended this programme. We would like to place our gratitude on record towards the Authorities of the University for providing the sport ground to organize this sports day.

The Student Inclusion Cell (under the supervision of Ms. Neha Trivedi from XRCVC) held its 2-day programme, Mosaic 2019. This event aimed at promoting inclusion and accessibility among students on the campus. On behalf of XRCVC, Ms Neha Trivedi conducted an 'I For Inclusion' programme for around 50 B.Ed. students of Thakur Shyamnarayan College of Education & Research as part of their Inclusive School Course.

St. Xavier's acknowledges the role our present students have played in building up our tradition of excellence, with a vibrant Student Council and an Extra-Curricular Committee, backed by Faculty Advisors. Numerous student organizations, many connected with the Departments, organize events which gain the wider participation of students drawn from the whole college and add to the life on campus. The Council of International Programmes, the Social



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Involvement Programme and the Placement Committee of the College have earned their permanent status as crucial elements of the Xavier's tradition.

We have a very active Council for International Programmes. We have student exchange programmes with the University of California, Berkeley, USA; Science Po, Paris; St. Louis University, USA; University of Stuttgart, Germany; SOAS, London; Liverpool Hope University, UK; SOKA University, Japan to name a few. Besides these we have been regularly participating in the Harvard College in Asia Programme (HCAP). Recently our faculty have successfully completed a faculty exchange program with the Farmer School of Business, University of Miami, USA. Our junior college students participate in the exchange program with Astolfo Lunardi School, Brescia, Italy and through EuMind Programme, with Belgium school). At the National level, we have a student exchange programme with St. Xavier's College, Jaipur.

The Collaborative Undergraduate Biology Education (CUBE) has conferred the D. D. Kosambi Award 2019 to Dr Seema Das for cultivating a scientific temper by remodeling the curriculum at the delivery stage. FYBSc students Arjun Udupa, Bivas Nag and Kabeer Nadkarni were awarded the D. D. Kosambi Young Scientist Award 2019.

Our Congratulations to Mr. Anthony Thomas, Lab Assistant, Zoology Dept on being conferred the Best Non- Teaching Staff Award 2018 by Ashashakiya Mahavidyalayeen Shikshaketar Karmachari Sangh.

With such foundations, we look forward to marching through the 150th year of the College, with a confidence that St. Xavier's is doing its bit to build a strong and vibrant nation, with justice for all, a high quality of life for the majority and a plural, inclusive and democratic tradition.

Dr. Rajendra D. Shinde

Principal



July 2019



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2017-2018

As we stand at the threshold of a sesquicentenary, there are reasons to feel grateful for the role of St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai, in the realm of Higher Education. The founding Jesuit Fathers pioneered liberal education which has not only stood the test of time but also has gathered momentum in its intense diversification. While we celebrate diversity and let cultures be, we attempted to embrace inclusion to encompass learning disabilities.

St. Xavier's had broken the glass ceiling of gender as early as 1912 when girl students entered the portals for education. In 2003 the Xavier's Resource Centre for Visually Challenged (XRCVC) gave new impetus to making education accessible to the blind and low vision students. In 2017-18, we extended our ambit of inclusion to encompass various disabilities. Thus, this year Antarchakshu organized by the XRCVC, catalogued various learning challenges to create awareness among the people at large. The Life Sciences and Biochemistry Department showcased another awareness campaign-cum-conference to give fresh insights into various developmental disabilities. It would be no exaggeration to state that St. Xavier's decided to problematise learning disabilities in the same breath as it attempted to find solutions. Our teaching, learning, and our examination system made concerted efforts to accommodate students with learning disabilities. Despite teething problems, St. Xavier's rose up to the challenge of this major overhaul.

While consolidating the autonomous status and revelling in the rich legacy of entering the 150th year, the negotiations to achieve University status have commenced. To don the mantle of being a University requires assiduity which is embedded even in the very edifice of St. Xavier's. The heritage status of Xavier's is a constant reminder of the rich legacy that this institution radiates. The march towards University status is a step towards re-enshrining the vision of the Founding Fathers while creating this magnificent institution. The enduring glow of the Blatter Herbarium, the Caius Research Laboratory, the Heras Institute of Indian Culture and History, the Fell Gymkhana continue to motivate us as we take giant strides into the field of Higher Education. While our international exchange programmes reiterate the universal reach of St. Xavier's, it is worthwhile to remind ourselves that this College has always attracted citizens from around the globe to its campus.



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Over the course of the year, with all that was going on, several faculty still managed to complete Refresher courses (4), Orientation programmes (2) Short term courses (1) and Online certificate courses (2). Even as we went about maintaining high academic standards along with innovative pedagogical initiatives, we lost some of our stalwart-educationists. Eunice de Souza, the former Head of the English Department, Edward Rodrigues (Eddie), former Head of the Sociology Department, Fr. Emil D'Cruz S.J the former Principal, Fr. Noel Sheth S.J a renowned Indologist, Ms. Debjani Chavan beloved French teacher in our Junior College and Victor D'Souza the ever reliable support staff member of the Physics Department all passed away during the academic year 2017-18. Faculty members like Eunice de Souza and Eddie were instrumental in revolutionizing education through their meaningful and far-reaching pedagogical methods. We also bid farewell to the humanist-humorist Fr. Terence Quadros SJ, who has been transferred to Nashik.

As St. Xavier's turns 150, I salute the academicians from every stream, the office staff, the librarian and all the non-teaching staff who have constantly supported the College as it went about creating academic footprints for 150 memorable years. Each of us who have passed through the portals of this College matter, as each of us have contributed in making St. Xavier's not just a College but a way of life.

Dr. Agnelo Menezes

Principal



July 2018



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2016-17

St Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai has always been known to meaningfully FORM individuals. At the core of this achievement is the ability of the College to PERFORM while simultaneously REFORMING and CONFORMING. In order to be abreast with the time, the College has never shied away from changing (either as a pioneer or as an adaptor) and it has done so by embracing the time-tested ethical and humane best practices that have been deeply embedded in its long-standing ethos.

The academic year 2016-17 replicated the trajectory described above.

On the intangible academic front, the college continued to ensure that all its syllabi were theoretically up-to-date as well as relevant for the greater good of all. All departments added a social dimension to their functioning by offering 5 hours of discipline-centric social work so as to make our students genuine assets in any community and situation. Every department continued to add value to education by structuring courses that went beyond the classroom, through the Honours Programme (which has been rechristened as the 'Quest for Excellence Programme'). Through lecture series, field trips, presentations and library / laboratory time, students were challenged to tread the less trodden paths by thinking tangentially (and yet cogently), articulating and defending their findings (amicably, even in the face of opposition). The research culture instilled in our students continued to goad them to spend their vacations in short-term internships. Fifteen of our Science students were selected by national research institutes like IAS, IISER, JNCASR, IISc, JCCBS across the country and one of them even interned with NASA. In conforming with the needs of the real world, the college introduced a collateral course in Data Science.

On the tangible academic front, the college deployed its limited and constrained finances into building or renewing relevant infrastructure and in purchasing state-of-the-art equipment and / or on maintaining its existing equipment. With these assets, the College continued to engage



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with the outside world through research projects, tie-ups, internships or partnerships. As part of the industry-academia partnership, the Caius Research Laboratory of the College signed an MOU with a company to further the commercial value of sandalwood oil by adopting methods of biotechnology. This laboratory also provided internships to students from neighbouring as well as other institute across the country. The College is among one of the few, who have an Institutional Biosafety Committee (under the DBT, Government of India) which is a regulatory body to assess all the research work involving GMOs in the College. In addition, several of the faculty were able to successfully complete their orientation (5) and refresher (9) programmes with 5 faculty even finishing a short term course.

The College signed MoUs with 28 International universities and through these tie-ups student exchange programmes have been undertaken. The Social Involvement Programme of the College has partnered with more than 200 NGOs through which all our students offer their voluntary service for the betterment of those at the fringes of society. The yeoman service that the XRCVC offers to the visually challenged in collaboration with student volunteers was lifted up a few notches, with the XRCVC becoming a model that the Government of Maharashtra desires to replicate across the state.

Productively synchronising curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities has been the bedrock of the Jesuit education philosophy. Hence, multi-faceted programmes like Malhar, Paradigm, talks by eminent speakers, Department Conferences, IMG's music bonanza continued to co-exist with academics.

Every year, the College announces a theme that it follows – for 2016-17 the theme was 'Optimizing Resources on Campus'. The positive outcomes of the College through its oxymoronic stance of reforming while conforming has been acknowledged by the larger society. All but one of the science departments of the College have been awarded the Star College Scheme - the Departments of Mathematics as well as of Statistics were added to this illustrious list. The College secured the 40th rank in the NIRF survey among all colleges in India and stood 3rd among the NIRF ranked institutes in the state of Maharashtra. In the All-





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India College surveys of 'India Today' as well as 'The Week', the college was listed among the top 5 Arts and Science Colleges in the country. The high profile 'Review of Autonomy Committee' that evaluated the performance of the College over its first cycle of autonomy, recommended the continuation of Academic Autonomy since they realised that St Xavier's College, Mumbai is not just a College but a way of life. Given the continuation of autonomy, the College is provoked to fly high but with its feet firmly entrenched in the best traditions of the Ignatian pedagogy.

Dr. Agnelo Menezes.

Principal



July 2017



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PRINCIPAL'S REPORT 2015-16

St Xavier's College is a 148 years Jesuit Institute which has been conferred with academic autonomy since 2010 for both UG and PG courses. The college, with great acumen, has been successfully conducting classes for the XI and XII standards to along with having classes for Undergraduate courses in Arts and Humanities, Science, Commerce and Vocational Studies (Tourism as well as Software Development). We also have classes for Postgraduate courses in Arts and Science. Finally, we have PhD programmes in the Natural Sciences. The self-finance courses that the College conducts are in the spheres of Mass Media, Management studies and Information Technology.

St Xavier's College believes in the all-round development of its students. Hence, we blend well the curricular with the co-curricular. The co-curricular activities include lecture series, conferences, seminars, the Honours Programme, the Learning of Life courses. To ensure that our students develop the skills of meaningful leadership, the College has also supported the cause of extra-curricular activities. The activities conducted under this head are a healthy mix of the cultural (IMG, Malhar, Ithika), the Sporting (from basket-ball to volley-ball) and the Social (SSL, SIP (210 NGOs in health, education, gender and geriatrics) and AICUF)

Around 3500 students and about 250 teaching and non-teaching staff members. Nearly 75% of our teaching staff members hold doctorates. All are involved in various genres of minor and major research projects for the University as well as for corporate, industrial and civil society groups. Nearly every department supports a student association. More than 28 publications (peer reviewed journals, news-letters and magazines). This year, four faculty completed their refresher courses, 5 completed orientation programmes and 7 successfully completed short term courses.

Academic performance is almost impeccable, with nearly 98 % of the students passing, with flying colours, the various exams that we conduct six times in an academic year. Our evaluation modalities require us to get our assessed papers moderated (FYs and SYs) and all the TY papers are corrected twice by two examiners (internal and external).



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We have fared very well in intercollegiate cultural, debating, elocution competitions and sports. Our successes in these areas include, us winning the Women's Basket Ball Tournament of the Mumbai University, getting ranked 1st Runners-Up in Football and 2nd Runners-Up in Handball at the University level. Six of women students represented the Mumbai University Team in various national level tournaments.

The college as a whole, boasts of a slew of laudable achievements. We have been conferred one of the highest CGPAs by NAAC, we have been bestowed with the status of College of Excellence by the UGC, we have been awarded substantial grants from bodies like UGC, DBT and DST as well as a substantial funding of Rs 13 crore from the TATA Foundation.

With so much that we offer and so much that we have been conferred with, it is only right to say that Xavier's is not just a College but a way of life....

Dr Agnelo Menezes

Principal



July 2016