



St. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

Accredited at A++ Grade (4th Cycle) by NAAC, Special Heritage Status awarded by UGC, College with Potential for Excellence by UGC

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI – 620 002

MINUTES OF THE 55TH GOVERNING BODY MEETING

The 55th Governing Body meeting was held on 22nd of January, 2020 in Toulouse Hall at 11.30 am.

Members Present

Rev Dr Danis Ponniah SJ – Chairman & Provincial, Jesuit Madurai Province.

Rev Dr Leonard Fernando SJ- Vice- Chairman & Rector, SJC

Rev Dr M Arockiasamy Xavier SJ – Secretary of the Governing Body & Principal, SJC

Rev Dr S Peter SJ, Secretary, SJC

Prof P P Mathur, Dean, School of Life Science, Department of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology, Pondichery University, Pondichery 605 014 (UGC Representative)

Dr R Babu Rajendran, Department of Environmental Biotechnology, Bharathidasan University (University Representative)

Dr V Sujatha, Principal, Cauvery College for Women – Eminent Expert

Rev Dr D Thomas Alexandeer SJ, Principal, St. Xavier's College of Education, Palayamkottai (Province Coordinator for Higher Education)

Dr V Alex Ramani, Deputy Principal, SJC

Rev Dr S Aruldoss SJ, Vice Principal, SJC

Rev Fr K Royappan SJ, Treasurer, SJC

Rev Dr N Casimir Raj SJ, Executive Director, MBA, SJC

Dr I Arul Rayappan, Head, Department of Physics, SJC (Staff Representative),

Dr S Joseph Arul Jayraj, Head, Department of English, SJC (Staff Representative)

Rev Dr V Gilbert Camillus SJ, Controller of Examinations, SJC

Dr A Rose Venis, Dean, IQAC, SJC

Dr S Sahaya Sathish, Dean, School of Biological Sciences, SJC

Dr L Arockiam, Dean, School of Physical Sciences, SJC

Dr G Beschi, Dean, School of Languages & Culture, SJC

Rev Dr K Arockiam SJ, Dean, School of Management Studies, SJC

Dr N Ravi, Dean, School of Physical Sciences, SJC

Dr (Tmt) S Usha, Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education was unable to attend the meeting.

Prayer and Welcome

The meeting commenced with the prayer led by Rev. Dr. K. Arockiam SJ. Rev. Fr. Principal welcomed the gathering especially the Provincial Rev. Dr. Danis Ponniah, SJ and the external representatives.

Introduction

As introductory remarks, Rev. Dr. Danis Ponniah SJ shared his appreciations and congratulations to the management for its academic achievements and tremendous contributions for the past one year. He emphasized the importance of the Governing Body meeting as a decision-making forum with the goal of shaping students as socially responsible citizens in order to promote an intercultural way of living and harmony. Hence, he requested the members to actively participate in the proceedings for the growth of the institution.

Approval of the Previous Minutes

Dr. N. Ravi read out the minutes of the 54th Governing Body meeting which was held on 1st of October, 2019. Dr V Alex Ramani listed the actions taken based on the decisions made during the previous meeting. He added that the course on Data Science would get approval soon. Dr. Babu Rajendran suggested that the nomenclature should be used carefully for the new courses and the members approved the minutes. Regarding the approval of the course on Data Science, Rev. Dr Thomas Alexander SJ stated that the proposal will be sent for approval to the province in a newly changed format.

Result Analysis

Rev. Dr. Gilbert Camillus SJ presented the result analysis of the semester exams conducted in the month of November 2019. Rev. Dr. Casimir Raj SJ shared his observation that the pass percentage of students from Shift II of Arts and Commerce stream was decreasing in contrast to the Science streams. Rev. Fr. Provincial said that a study should be made to identify the reason behind this fall. Prof Mathur observed from the overall percentage that the students from rural backgrounds did better than students from urban backgrounds. Everyone agreed to identify the reasons behind the falling pass percentage. Rev. Dr. Thomas Alexander SJ sought clarification regarding the B.Voc course. Fr. Principal responded that the course has multi-entry and multi exit as it is a skill-based course.

Report of MBA- JIM

Rev Dr Casimir Raj SJ presented the report of the MBA programme. He was happy to share that the students of JIM celebrated a meaningful christmas with the lepers. The management had also conducted a national symposium on Indian Economy wherein 77 students published their research articles. Apart from signing 7 MoUs with different companies, the management organised 4 management development programmes. In addition to the professors of the institution, experts and alumni from industries offered input lectures which was a great success. The institution had also installed a Solar Roof Top system and introduced an online portal for admission. Prof. Mathur appreciated the installation of Solar Roof Top and recommended to expand. Fr. Rector stated that it was an initiative of the Province which will be gradually introduced for more purposes.

Approval of Expenditure and Endowment Funds

Dr. S Sahaya Sathish read out the details of expenditure followed by Rev. Fr. Royappan, SJ who presented the endowment details. Prof. Mathur sought clarification regarding the amount fixed for endowments to ensure uniformity for which Fr. Principal replied that there was no amount fixed and he would consider the suggestion in future. Dr. Sujatha enquired if there was any corpus. Fr. Principal explained that funds were allocated depending on the needs of the students every year.

New Initiatives

Dr. G. Beschi presented the list of new initiatives taken. Dr. Sujatha recommended recording the units of electricity used with the help of the LASER. She also insisted to incorporate MOOC online courses into the curriculum. Fr. Principal reminded her that it was already a part of the curriculum but students failed to complete due to financial issues. He assured that he would motivate the students once again and also stated that the faculty members were encouraged to offer online courses.

A Report on Recent Happenings

Dr L Arockiam presented a brief description of the recent happenings in the college premises. Fr Principal informed the committee that publications of a few more books should be added to the report.

A Report on Recent Achievements and Future Directions

Rev. Fr. Principal elaborated on academic achievements and future directions. Rev. Fr. K. Arockiam SJ requested to include missing aspects. Fr. Principal assured that the details would be included. Prof. Mathur suggested that a paper on Human Value and Ethics could be added to the syllabus for all PhD students to which the University representative, Dr. R. Babu Rajendran said that the information would be disseminated through the

University. Dr. S Joseph Arul Jayraj requested Fr. Principal for an orientation to the staff members of Shift II and a separate institution for them to take care of their needs.

Fr. Provincial informed that there was already inception of an academic staff college for the province which would initiate the process soon. Dr. S Sahaya Sathish enquired about the college seeking University status to which Fr. Provincial replied that he would consult with the staff members and consider their genuine concerns in the process of making decisions. Prof. Mathur added that University status would provide a platform for different growth.

Any other matter

Dr. V Alex Ramani suggested that a course on Disaster Management could be introduced.

Dr. L. Arockiam thanked the institution for supporting research and requested the management to create a separate directorate for research and consultancy. He also insisted to promote diversity in admission and appointments, the publication of books and complete autonomy of courses. In addition, he suggested revamping the workshop into a job development centre for the students to improve their skills. In response, Fr. Principal welcomed to the idea of a research centre but stated that finance was a constraint to build a centre. Fr. Rector added that an empowerment centre was created recently.

Dr S Sahaya Sathish made a request to arrange lectures on getting patent rights. He also insisted to build hostels for UG students. Rev. Fr. S Aruldoss SJ recommended that a scientific study should be made in all aspects. The format of the achievements should be organised in terms of categories like students and faculty development.

Rev. Fr. Thomas Alexander SJ appreciated the management for conducting a job fair for differently-abled students. He also advised the staff members to create modules for MOOC Online courses.


Fr. Rector thanked everyone present and thanked Fr. Provincial for his appreciations. The meeting came to a close at 1.30 pm followed by lunch.

Action Taken Report:

A Committee is appointed to study the functioning of Five PG Programmes (M.A. History, M.A. Human Resource Management, M.A. Tamil, M.Sc. Electronics and M.Sc. Information Technology). Based on the recommendations, these five programmes are suspended.

Three new programmes viz M.A. Counselling Psychology, M.Sc. Data Science and B.Com Honours were introduced. Approval letters are received from our university.

Rev. Fr. Provincial & Chairman had appointed a University Committee consisting of Core Committee, Executive Committee and Advisory Committee on 9th March 2020 to work out the possibilities of St. Joseph's to become a University.



Rev. Dr M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ

Principal

