



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

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College with Potential for Excellence by UGC | DBT-STAR & DST-FIST Sponsored College

TIRUCHIRAPPALLI 620 002, INDIA

MINUTES OF THE 48th ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON 27th March 2024

The 48th Academic Council Meeting was held on 27th March 2024 at 10:10 am in Toulouse Hall and 53 members were present. The meeting began with a prayer song.

The Agenda

- 48.1. Welcome and introductory remarks by the Chairperson
- 48.2. Reading of the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting held on 8th August 2023
- 48.3. To consider and approve the recommendations of various Boards of Studies
- 48.4. To consider and ratify the recommendations of the Curriculum Development Cell
- 48.5. Any other Academic Matter

Members Present

Chairperson

Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ

Secretary

Rev. Dr. K. Amal, SJ

University Representatives

Dr. U. Alibava, Professor & Head, Dept. of Tamil Studies, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli - 620024

External Experts

Dr. R. John Bosco Balaguru, Dean, Sponsored Research, SASTRA University, Thanjavur 620015

Administrators

Dr. P. Rajendran, Deputy Principal

Dr. D. Ravindran, Vice Principal (Academic)

Dr. G. Iruthayaraj, Vice Principal

Mr. S. Dominique, Vice Principal (Infrastructure)

Dr. B Augustine Arockiaraj, Vice Principal, Shift II

Ms. S. Backya Selva Rathi, Vice Principal, Shift II

Deans

Dr. A. Rose Venis, Dean – IQAC

Dr. R. Qurshid Begum, Additional Dean – IQAC

Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, Dean – School of Biological Sciences

Dr. A. Anthony Eldred, Dean – School of Computing Sciences

Dr. J. John Love Joy, Member Secretary & Dean – School of Languages & Culture

Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, Dean – School of Management Studies

Dr. J. Charles, Dean – School of Physical Sciences

Officials

Dr. K. Alex, Controller of Examinations

Rev. Fr. M. Berchmans, Director, Sports and Games

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Arockiam, SJ, Director, Library

Dr. A. Joseph Sahayaraj, President, Teaching Staff Association

Mr. N.M. Pushparaj, Superintendent

Department Representatives

Mr. Benno Susai Vijayakumar

Dr. S.R. Senthil Kumar

Dr. S. Joseph Selvaraj

Dr. N. Maheswari

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Arockiam, SJ

Dr. M. Suvakkin

Dr. V. L. Jayapal

Dr. S. Sreedevi

Mr. J. Aaron Joe Edwin

Dr. P. Joseph Charles

Dr. M. Thiagarajan

Dr. I. Johnson

Dr. R. Vijayakumar

Dr. B. Kanickairaj

Dr. A. Edward

Ms. C. F. Octovia Antony Sessammal

Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai

Mr. A. Charles

Dr. L. Arockiam

Dr. B. Kanickairaj

Mr. S. Bryan Richard

Dr. J. Santhosh Kumar

Dr. G. Louis Victor

Dr. Albin D Robert Lawrence

Dr. A. Prem Edwin

Dr. M.S. Madhavachari

Dr. G. Beschi

Dr. George Gabriel Richard Roy

Staff Representatives

Dr. K. Rajan

Dr. J. Wilfred Angello Gerald

Dr. V. S. Joe Irudayaraj

Dr. P. Lawrence Rozario Raj

Agenda 48.1: Welcome and introductory remarks by the Chairperson

Fr. Principal, the chairperson of the academic council, welcomed all the officials, special invitees, and staff representatives. He briefed the gathering on the new composition of the Academic Council wherein the State Nominee was excluded citing the UGC Notification on 3.04.2023, Item 12.4). He thanked Mr. Gunasekaran, the Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education for his contributions and appreciated Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, Dean, School of Biological Sciences for his meticulous work. He also added that the Academic Council Meeting focused on the curriculum revision from the 2nd Semester onwards taking into consideration TANSCHÉ's relaxation. Overall, 17 UG and PG courses had been revised since the previous meeting.

Agenda 48.2: Reading of the minutes of the previous Academic Council Meeting held on 8th August 2023

Dr. A. Anthony Eldred, Dean, School of Computing Science was invited to present the Minutes of the 47th Academic Council Meeting. After his presentation, the forum was left open for observations and suggestions by the Principal. It was approved and passed by the members. Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, Dean, School of Biological Sciences briefed the members about (i) making a concise presentation; (ii) the availability of three sets of annexures for reference in case any clarification arises.

Agenda 48.3: Passing of the Recommendations of Various Boards of Studies

Fr. Principal asked the department representatives to present the minutes of the Board of Studies of their respective departments. He asked the HoDs to follow the format provided while presenting the major changes or revisions done in the syllabi.

School of Biological Sciences

Mr. A. Benno Susai Vijayakumar, Head of the Department of Biochemistry presented the minutes of the Department of Bio-Chemistry. Dr. A. Edward, Head of the Department of Biotechnology presented the minutes of his department. The Minutes of the Department of Botany were presented by Dr. S. R. Senthil Kumar, Head, Department of Botany. Dr. John Bosco Balaguru, the External Expert suggested utilizing SWAYAM – NPTEL courses and said that the links for these courses could be provided in the syllabus for classroom discussion instead of lectures as it might help flipped classroom practices. Fr. Principal stated that the suggestion be carried out and applied in the forthcoming syllabus revision. The minutes of the School of Biological Sciences were approved and passed.

School of Computing Sciences

The minutes of the Department of Computer Science was presented by its Head, Mr. A. Charles. Fr. Principal congratulated the department for introducing 6 new courses. Dr. Bosco suggested that the department could follow semi-theory and semi-practical courses and need not have an exclusive project-based assessment. He asked if there was any course on Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) for the MCA students. He also suggested that their final semester projects could be based on open-source software. Mr. A. Charles responded that the students were already doing such projects. Dr. Ravindran appended that since the syllabus had only two units on AR and VR, making it mandatory was difficult. Dr. L. Arockiam presented the minutes of the Department of Data Science. Fr. Principal congratulated the department for having introduced 11 new courses and also raised concerns about the challenges the department would face due to the quantum of work expected. Dr. P. Joseph Charles, Head, Department of Information Technology presented the minutes of his department. Fr. Principal noted that the department introduced 15 new courses. Dr. M. Thiagarajan, Head, Department of Mathematics presented the minutes of the Department of Mathematics. Mr. R. Vijayakumar, Head of the Department of Statistics, presented

the minutes of the Statistics department. The minutes of the School of Computing Sciences were approved and passed.

School of Languages and Culture

Dr. V. L. Jayapaul, Head of the Department of English presented the minutes of his department. Mr. Bryan Richard, Assistant Professor, Department of French presented the minutes of Department of French. Minutes of the Department of Hindi was presented by Dr. S. Sreedevi, Head, Department of Hindi. Fr. Principal inquired if the present syllabus would be sufficient to meet the academic demands of the students. Dr. J. Santhosh Kumar presented the minutes of the Department of History. Dr. Alexander Praveen Durai suggested that instead of 'Plastic Money', a topic like 'Digital Banking' could be included. Fr. Secretary noted that for the Core Course coded 23UHS63CC13, contributions of other faiths could be included keeping in mind the secular credentials of the country. Dr. M.S. Madhavachari, Head, Department of Sanskrit presented the minutes of his department and Dr. G. Beschi, Head, Department of Tamil presented the minutes the Tamil department. Dr. U. Alibava, the University Representative noted that '*Thanmunaipu*' could mean 'Ego', so he suggested that it be changed to '*Thanaga padithal*'. The minutes of the School of Languages and Culture were approved and passed.

School of Management Studies

Prof. C. F. Octovia Antony Sessammal, Head of the Department of BBA presented the minutes of the department of BBA. Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, Dean, School of Management Studies enquired whether GST and TDS were included in the Tally Prime course and noted that 'Nine Habits of Highly Effective People' could be added to the course on 'Emotional Intelligence'. The Minutes of B.Com. and B.Com. (Hons) were presented by Dr. F. R. Alexander Pravin Durai, Head, Department of Commerce. With regard to B.Com (Hons), Fr. Principal enquired whether it would be feasible for the staff to complete the syllabi as there were many new courses introduced in semesters V and VI. Fr. Principal congratulated Dr. F.R. Pravin for successfully obtaining a nine-paper exemption from ISDC-ACCA, UK. Dr. N. Maheshwari, Head of the Department of Commerce Computer Application presented the minutes of the Department of Commerce Computer Application. Fr. Dr Emmanuel Arockiam, Head, Department of Counselling Psychology presented the minutes of the Department of Counselling Psychology. Dr. M. Suvakkin, Head of the Department of Economics presented the minutes of the Department of Economics. Minutes of the Department of Human Resource Management was presented by its Head, Mr. G. Louis Victor. The minutes of various BoS of the School of Management Studies were approved by the members.

School of Physical Sciences

Dr. S. Joseph Selvaraj, Head of the Department of Chemistry presented the minutes of his department. Dr. Bosco suggested that for UG students, courses on 'Polymer Concepts and Compound Semiconductors' could be offered instead of 'Communicative Electronics'. For PG students, he said that they could be sent to other institutions to do their project work which would strengthen institutional collaboration and facilitate joint publication. He also mentioned that the

course on 'Material Science' for PG students was generic and instead 'Techniques for Chemical Preparation' and/or 'Quality Check of Chemicals' could be offered since the government's policy encouraged the preparation of chemicals in the country itself. Fr. Principal suggested offering it as a certificate course in the forthcoming academic year. Dr. B. Kanickairaj, Head of the Department of Electronics presented the minutes of the Department of Electronics. Dr. Bosco appreciated the performance of the students of the Electronics department and stated that the introduction of an elective course on 'Design Mechanics' would enable the students to apply for a programme like VLSI Design. The head of the Department of Physics, Dr. I. Johnson, presented the minutes of his department. Dr. Bosco noted that two courses on 'Mathematical Physics' were offered to UG students, while their PG counterparts had only one such course. A reversal in number, he stated, would ease the strain on the UG students and the PG students would stand to benefit reasonably. Dr. Johnson responded that the two courses are offered at the UG level were meant to help students get into IITs. Regarding the addition of one more course on 'Mathematical Physics' for PG Students, he said that the department might consider it for the next revision. The minutes of the departments belonging to the School of Physical Sciences were approved and passed.

Other Departments

Dr. B. Kanickairaj presented the minutes of B. Sc. Visual Communication and B. Voc. Visual Communication Technology. Dr. Albin D. Robert Lawrence presented the minutes of the Department of Management Studies. The minutes of the departments were approved and passed.

Agenda 48.4: Ratification of Recommendations of Curriculum Development Cell

Dr. J. Charles, Dean, School of Physical Sciences, proposed three ratifications such as (i) Modification of Total Credits in the First Semester in various Programmes; (ii) Inclusion of Bridge Course on "Communicative English" in the first semester; and (iii) Change in course code for Allied Courses offered by the Department of Mathematics. The ratifications were approved and passed.

Agenda 48.5: Any other Academic Matters

Dr. A. Rose Venis, Dean-IQAC, presented the other academic matters of the college. After the presentation, he pointed out that recommending the same external expert to two different boards could be avoided. He also said that two departments did not introduce any new courses in the revised syllabi.

Dr. Bosco enquired whether the college had framed a policy on the use on AI for the projects done by the students. Fr. Principal replied that the Dean-IQAC was working towards it and would be implemented soon. Dr. L. Arockiam suggested that an additional year be given for the next syllabus revision since the current syllabus was a combination of TANSCHÉ and LOCF patterns. Fr. Principal responded to it saying that ratifications had been done wherever necessary to make the curriculum cohesive. Dr. Rajendran, Deputy Principal suggested that in the case of being

unable to attend the BoS in person, provision could be made for the external experts to attend the meeting online.

Concluding Remarks

Fr. Principal thanked Dr. A. Rose Venis and Dr. R. Qurshid Begum for their contributions; Dr. J. John Love Joy for completing the online submission of the Autonomy review process; and the Deans for their tireless service. He congratulated the Physics department for having helped seven students clear the IIT-JAM examinations. He asked all the department heads to carefully proofread the BoS minutes uploading the same on the college website. He stated that the next syllabus revision would be based on government directions and mentioned that the college had officially registered for the Academic Bank of Credits. He thanked the JOSTEL committee for their efforts and shared that the portal would be hosting a few more new courses in the ensuing year. He also thanked all the heads for their efforts taken during their AAA presentations and Dr. J. Charles for his assistance in applying for approval for new Programmes. Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, Dean, School of Management Studies proposed the Vote of Thanks and the meeting came to an end at 12:40 p.m.

Prepared by:



Dr. J. John Love Joy

Approved by:



Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ
Principal

