



## 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

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### MINUTES OF THE 62<sup>nd</sup> GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 01<sup>st</sup> APRIL 2024

The 62<sup>nd</sup> Governing Body Meeting (GBM) of St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli, was held on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024 at 11:10 a.m. in Rev. Fr. P. Carty Boardroom.

#### Members Present

Rev. Dr. Pavulraj Michael SJ, *Rector and Vice-Chairperson*

Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, *Principal and Member Secretary*

Rev. Dr. K. Amal SJ, *Secretary*

Dr. P. Ponnuthuramalingam (State Government Representative),  
*Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, Tiruchirappalli*

Dr. T. Senthil Kumar (University Representative)  
*Professor, Department of Botany, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli*

Mr. C. Selvam (Industry Expert), *Associate Vice - President, KPIT Technologies, Pune*

Rev. Dr. K. Arockiam SJ

*Province Coordinator for Higher Education, St. Joseph's College (Autonomous), Tiruchirappalli*

Rev. Fr. A. M. Jayapathy Francis SJ, *Treasurer, Society of St. Joseph's College*

Dr. P. Rajendran, *Deputy Principal*

Rev. Dr. L. John Peter Arulanandam SJ, *Vice - Principal*

Rev. Dr. P. Paulraj SJ, *Director, St. Joseph's Institute of Management/ MBA*

Dr. F. R. Alexander Pravin Durai (Staff Representative), *Head, Department of Commerce*

Dr. S. R. Senthilkumar (Staff Representative), *Head, Department of Botany*

Mr. N. M. Pushparaj, *Superintendent*

Dr. A. Rose Venis, *Dean - IQAC*

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

Dr. A. Anthony Eldred, *Dean - School of Computing Sciences*

Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, *Dean - School of Management Studies*

Dr. J. John Love Joy, *Dean - School of Languages and Culture*

Dr. J. Charles, *Dean - School of Physical Sciences*

Dr. K. Alex - *Controller of Examinations*

Rev. Dr. A. Thomas SJ, (Chairperson) Provincial - Jesuit Madurai Province, Dindigul and  
Prof. P. P. Mathur (UGC Representative), Vice - Chancellor, Birla Global University,  
Bhubaneswar, Odisha were unable to attend the meeting.

## AGENDA

### 1. Approval and Passing of the Minutes

- 1.1. 61<sup>st</sup> Governing Body Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023
- 1.2. Action Taken Report
- 1.3. 48<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2024

### 2. Recording of Matters on Academic Activities

- 2.1. Consolidated Report on Examination Results – November 2023
- 2.2. Report of MBA – JIM

### 3. Approval of the Financial Expenditure

- 3.1. Funds Received
- 3.2. Endowments/Scholarships Instituted
- 3.3. Jesuit Educational Support (JES)

### 4. Achievements & Recent Happenings

### 5. Alumni/ae Association

### 6. New Initiatives & Future Directions

### 7. Any Other Matter

#### Prayer and Welcome

The meeting began with a prayer by Rev. Dr. L. John Peter Arulanandam SJ, Vice Principal. Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, Member Secretary of the Governing Body and Principal of St. Joseph's College introduced Dr. P. Ponmuthuramalingam (State Government Representative), the new Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, Tiruchirappalli and thanked the outgoing former Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, Dr. A. Gunasekaran. As per the latest directive from the UGC, Mr. N.M. Pushparaj was included as the nominee for the Senior Administrative Staff. Fr. Principal expressed his gratitude to all the members for their constructive feedback and thanked Dr. J. John Love Joy for preparing the proceedings.

#### Introduction and Initiation

Rev Dr. Pavulraj Michael SJ, Rector, St. Joseph's College, chaired the meeting. He initiated the proceedings by highlighting *Ratio Studiorum*, considered the basis for Jesuit Education, since it catered to the individual, collective and intellectual growth of an individual. He called upon the members of the Governing Body to reflect on the idea and appreciated the follow-up on the suggestions given in the Governing Body proceedings by Rev. Fr. Provincial on providing a separate section for research.

### 1. Approval and Passing of the Minutes

#### 1.1. Passing of the Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Governing Body Meeting and Action Taken Report

Dr. J. Charles, Dean - School of Physical Sciences informed that the minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Governing Body Meeting was sent to all the members through email and also the hard copy of the same was given to the members present. He, therefore, requested the

members to go through it and suggest any corrections if needed. The Action Taken Report followed the presentation of the Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Governing Body Meeting.

The following suggestions were given by the members:

- Uploading the college's research profile in the college website
- Policy on Artificial Intelligence to be drafted and presented in the Academic Council Meeting.

The minutes and the report were approved by all the members and passed.

#### *1.2. Passing of the Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting*

Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, Dean - School of Biological Sciences presented the Minutes of the 48<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting. The minutes was approved and passed.

## **2. Matters Pertaining to Academic Activities**

#### *2.1. Consolidated Report on Examination Results – November 2023*

Dr. K. Alex, Controller of Examinations, presented a consolidated report on the Semester examinations - November 2023. He made the following observations.

- In 7 programmes the pass percentage was less than 40%.
- Among the 42 PG courses, only 2 courses belonging to I MSc Chemistry and I MSc Counselling Psychology were below 40%.
- The results of the other courses among the PG students were encouraging.

While highlighting department-wise and programme-wise student performance for the even semester, he noted that of the 52 programmes, 52 courses had pass percentage below 40%. Of the 24 UG programmes, the pass percentage for 22 programmes was on the decline.

Dr. K. Alex mentioned that in Shift I, the pass percentage was low for the courses 'English Literary Forms and Terms' and 'Mechanics'. The two courses were offered during the first year for UG English and UG Electronics respectively. He also noted that in the UG programmes there was a low pass percentage among the Tamil students and at the postgraduation level, Chemistry and Counselling Psychology students had the lowest pass percentage. Fr. Principal suggested that the data on the student's performance could be sent to the Heads of the respective departments so that they could focus on remedial measures. Dr. T. Senthil Kumar, University Representative, suggested conducting remedial classes on weekends to counter the issue. The Deputy Principal mentioned that the outcome of the students was the impact of First-Generation learners and that most of them were from rural and semi-urban backgrounds. Fr. Principal also noted that most of the students who failed were part-time workers or those admitted on sports quota. Dr. K. Alex, CoE, opined that the performance of the students was poor because of repercussions from the COVID-19 pandemic where the students had passed without taking examinations. Rev. Fr. Secretary said that a conscious effort to help students from their long-drawn struggle must be made by providing more attention and more counselling. However, the members were happy with the improvement of the students towards the end of the programme. The

Deputy Principal reiterated that the attendance had to be monitored seriously. Rev. Fr. Rector thanked and appreciated Dr. K. Alex for his efforts. The minutes was approved and passed.

## 2.2. *Report of MBA – JIM*

Rev. Dr. P. Paulraj SJ, the Director of JIM, presented the minutes. Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai suggested that the MBA department could help in the seamless integration of the Common Career Development Cell and that this should be included in the action taken report. Rev. Fr. Secretary noted that 'non- catholic' be replaced with 'students of other faiths' during announcements and in other forms of communication. Rev. Fr. Rector appreciated the research publications of the MBA by both the students and the staff. The minutes was approved and passed.

## 3. **Approval of the Financial Expenditure**

### 3.1. *Funds Received*

Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, Dean - School of Management Studies detailed the funds received from various agencies. Rev. Fr. Rector suggested that more effort was required to procure funds from the government and private organisations since only 6 lakhs were received.

### 3.2. *Endowments Instituted*

Rev. Fr. Secretary was happy about the encouraging phenomenon of the institution receiving more endowments which could reflect in the academic upliftment of the students. Rev. Fr. Principal noted that after COVID - 19, over 1.40 Crores from various quarters was received as donation for various purposes.

### 3.3. *Jesuit Educational Support (JES)*

Rev. Fr. A. M. Jayapathy Francis SJ, Treasurer, Society of St. Joseph's College presented the report on the Jesuit Educational Support.

All the reports on financial expenditure were approved and passed.

## 4. **Achievements & Recent Happenings**

Some of the achievements that featured since the previous Governing Body included the introduction of financial support for the teaching faculty to file Indian Patents; an increase in the incentives granted to the faculty members for publishing articles in indexed journals; the establishment of Joseph's Hub for Languages and the introduction of the SPSS consultancy services by the Statistics Department through the Joseph Startup Centre.

## 5. **New Initiatives/Future Directions**

Fr. Principal mentioned that Dr. Napoleon, our esteemed alumnus had consented to donate Rs. 25 Lakhs towards the construction of a Block for the School of Commerce. With regard to publishing articles in Scopus/Web of Science and SCI indexed journals, Rs. 2000 for the former and Rs. 4000 for the latter could be given as incentives for the staff. Dr. T. Senthil suggested that the policy pertaining to receiving financial assistance from SERB could also include the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR).

## 6. Resolutions

- Industry-related, industry-accumulative and industry-ready initiatives require more attention from the college,
- The use of online facilities should be strengthened as the college has to work towards reaching the unreachable,
- The college also has to work towards integrating different departments for better placement opportunities, and
- An attempt to address the academic needs of first-generation rural students has to be given impetus as various reparative measures such as weekend classes could be arranged to help first-generation learners enter the mainstream workforce.

Dr. P. Rajendran, the Deputy Principal proposed the vote of thanks and the Governing Body Meeting concluded at 1:10 p.m.

Prepared by:



**Dr. J. John Love Joy**

Approved by:



**Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ**  
Principal

