



ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

Accredited at A++ Grade (Cycle IV) by NAAC | Special Heritage Status Awarded by UGC
College with Potential for Excellence by UGC | DBT-STAR & DST-FIST Sponsored College
TIRUCHIRAPPALLI 620 002, INDIA

MINUTES OF THE 63rd GOVERNING BODY MEETING HELD ON 23.10.2024

The 63rd Governing Body Meeting started with a prayer by Rev. Dr. L. John Peter Arulanandam SJ, Vice Principal, in Rev. Fr. P. Carty Boardroom on 23.10.2024 at 10.30 am. Twenty members were present.

Members Present

Rev. Dr. Pavulraj SJ, Rector & Vice-Chairperson
Rev. Dr. S. Mariadoss SJ, *Principal, St. Joseph's College & Member Secretary*
Rev. Dr. K. Amal SJ, *Secretary, St. Joseph's College*
Rev. Dr. K. Arockiam SJ, *Province Coordinator for Higher Education*
Rev. Fr. A.M. Jayapathy Francis SJ, *Campus Treasurer*
Dr. P. Ponnuthuramalingam, *Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, Tiruchirappalli Region, Tiruchirappalli.*
Dr. R. Ramesh, *Coordinator, Centre for Organometallic Chemistry (COMC), Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli.*
CA. Dr. Pannai M.Karthikeyan, *Chairman, Pannai Group of Institutions & Companies, Dindigul*
Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai, *Associate Professor of Commerce*
Dr. S.R. Senthilkumar, *Associate Professor of Botany*
Mr. N.M. Pushparaj, *Superintendent*
Dr. P. Rajendran, *Deputy Principal*
Rev. Dr. L. John Peter Arulanandam SJ, *Vice Principal*
Dr. A. Rose Venis, *Director, IQAC*
Dr. K. Alex, *Controller of Examinations*
Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, *Dean – School of Biological Sciences*
Dr. A. Anthony Eldred, *Dean – School of Computing Sciences*
Dr. J. John Love Joy, *Dean – School of Languages & Culture*
Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, *Dean – School of Management Studies*
Dr. J. Charles, *Dean – School of Physical Sciences*

Rev. Dr. A. Thomas SJ, *Provincial & Chairperson* and Rev. Dr. P. Paulraj SJ, *Director, JIM* could not attend the meeting.

Agenda

1. Approval and Passing of the Minutes
2. Recording of Matters Pertaining to Academic Activities
3. Approval of the Financial Expenditure
4. Approval of Matters Related to Administration and General Interest
5. Alumni/ae Association
6. Achievements and Recent Happenings
7. New Initiatives
8. Proposal for Starting New Programmes – 2025-26
9. Any Other Matter

After the prayer, the Vice-Chairperson invited Fr. Principal, Member Secretary of the Governing Body, to welcome the members. Rev. Fr. Principal welcomed the members and thanked former principal, Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ, for his contributions, especially for helping the college scale greater heights. Rev. Fr. Rector, the Vice-Chairperson of the Governing Body, initiated the proceedings with Rev. Fr. Pedro Arrupe's belief that the prime educational objective must be *to form men-and-women-for-others*. In addition, he appreciated

- contribution of Rev. Dr. M. Arockiasamy Xavier SJ
- expansion of infrastructure,
- publications by the staff, and the book published by Fr. Principal titled "Teaching: Profession and Vocation"
- Dr. K. Alex, the Controller of Examinations, and the Deans for their hard work.

Agenda 1. Approval and Passing of the Minutes

Fr. Principal presented the minutes of the 62nd Governing Body Meeting and the Action Taken Report, both of which were subsequently approved and passed. Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose, Dean, School of Biological Sciences presented the minutes of the 49th Academic Council Meeting. The minutes was approved and passed.

Agenda 2. Recording of Matters Pertaining to Academic Activities

The admission particulars of the students were presented by Dr. M. Julias Ceasar, Dean, School of Management Studies and passed.

Dr. K. Alex, Controller of Examinations discussed the results at length with the members. He brought to the attention of the house the improved performance of the final-year students; and low pass percentage by the departments of Chemistry, English (UG students), Economics, History, and Counselling Psychology. Fr. Principal said that the college had been admitting poor students and overall performance, especially of the first- and second-

year students, was a matter of concern and required effective and more student accompaniment. He also suggested the following:

- the student particulars regarding the number of First-generation, Rural/Urban and Dalit/Non-Dalit could be provided by MBA-JIM in the result analysis;
- year of admission and completion could be included as separate columns in the consolidated report on examination results; and
- a column on 'Students Appeared' could be included in the tabular column on result analysis to get a better picture of student performance.

Dr. R. Ramesh, the university representative, observed that the pass percentage of PG was better compared with that of their UG counterparts. He suggested forming a team to devise preventive measures aimed at addressing the students' below-average performance. Dr. P. Ponmuthuramalingam, Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education, enquired about the follow-up to the concerns raised. He stated that the performance of the students did not reflect their schooling, viz-a-viz urban and rural, since the rural students had outperformed the urban students in some programmes. Dr. P. Rajendran, Deputy Principal, said that students, undergraduates particularly, lacked motivation which resulted in absenteeism. Fr. Rector suggested that the reason for students performing badly in exams had to be studied.

Dr. A. Anthony Eldred, Dean, School of Computing Sciences, presented the PhD Programme details. Fr. Principal asked whether the registration had declined, to which Dr. Eldred stated that while registration had increased, completion had declined.

Rev. Dr. K. Arockiam, SJ, Province Coordinator for Higher Education, presented the report of MBA – JIM. Fr. Principal suggested that the report could henceforth be given as curricular, co-curricular and extracurricular activities. He added that the staff orientation could also be included in the report.

Agenda 3. Approval of the Financial Expenditure

Mr. N. M. Pushparaj, Office Superintendent, presented the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting. The minutes was approved and passed. Details regarding the funds received from central government agencies were presented by Dr. J. John Love Joy, Dean, School of Languages and Culture. Dr R. Ramesh observed that the agenda item heading could be changed to state and central since the particulars were inclusive of state funds. Fr. Principal shared that the college might receive more funds the following year since many staff had applied for projects. Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai, staff representative, presented the details on Endowments/Scholarships instituted. In this regard, Fr. Principal said that a minimum of one lakh rupees was required for instituting an endowment. Dr. J. Charles, Dean, School of Physical Sciences presented the details of scholarships received by the students. The difficulties faced by the college in entering the data for the student

scholarship was expressed by Fr. Principal. He said that the application process was tedious as well as time-consuming. With regard to the suggestion to increase the honorarium of PhD guides, both Shift I and Shift II, for successfully guiding PhD scholars from Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 10,000/-, Fr. Rector assured that it would be taken up for discussion in the appropriate body. The main financial statement for the Year 2023–24 was presented by Rev. Fr. A.M. Jayapathy Francis, Campus Treasurer and reviewed. Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai suggested that instead of presenting only the receipts, it would be ideal to include in the statement the income and audited statements. The campus treasurer agreed to add the two documents from the next governing body meeting and the financial statement was approved.

4. Approval of Matters Related to Administration and General Interest

Fr. Secretary presented the new assignments and appointments. Dr. R. Ramesh recommended that the college encourage young staff members to apply for projects with the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF). Dr. S.R. Senthilkumar, staff representative, proposed the list of various committees for approval and the committees were unanimously approved.

5. Report of the Alumni Association

CA. Dr. Pannai M. Karthikeyan, Chairman, Pannai Group of Institutions & Companies presented the report on Alumni/ae Association. Fr. Principal announced that the Alumni would contribute ₹10 crore towards the construction of the new commerce block. The report was approved.

6. Achievements and Recent Happenings

Dr. A. Rose Venis, Director, IQAC presented the achievements and recent happenings of the college. Dr. R. Ramesh inquired about FIST, and the Principal replied that the college had applied for the funding and was optimistic about receiving the funds.

7. New Initiatives

The list of new initiatives was presented by Fr. Principal. Dr. R. Ramesh raised concerns about a possible overlap of the functions of the Documentation Centre with the IQAC office. Dr. A. Egbert Selwin Rose noted that 'Integration of MOOC into the curriculum' be rephrased as 'Integration of SWAYAM/MOOC into the curriculum' to indicate that only courses offered in SWAYAM portal would be considered by the college.

8. Proposal for Starting New Programmes 2025-26

Rev. Dr. L. John Peter Arulanandam SJ, Vice-Principal, presented the proposal for starting new programmes in the next academic year. Introduction of new programmes such as B.Sc. Biotechnology, B.Sc. Physical Education and B.Sc. Psychology was discussed. That was followed by a discussion on the revival of programmes namely M.A. History, M.A. Human

Resource Management and M.A. Tamil in the following academic year. The proposal was discussed and unanimously approved.

Any Other Matter

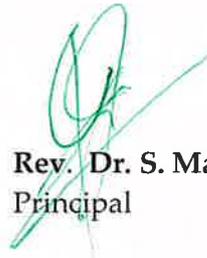
- Dr. R. Ramesh appreciated the incentives given to the staff for research publications.
- Fr. Principal suggested that, starting from the next governing body meeting, reports on sports & games activities, endowment lectures, and training and placement cell activities could be included in the agenda.
- Dr. F.R. Alexander Pravin Durai proposed that the H-index and i-10 index of the staff be made available on the college website.

In his concluding remarks, Fr. Rector expressed the following concerns:

- The teaching methods of the staff had to be updated, and he suggested that they should be encouraged to adopt more innovative approaches.
- With the fifth cycle of NAAC accreditation process approaching, all stakeholders were expected to contribute to quality enhancement and collaboration.
- The young staff should be motivated to publish articles and apply for government-funded projects.
- Efforts should be taken to increase the number of patents, as currently only two patents were granted in 2024-25.
- Strenuous efforts were required to improve student performance in exams.

Dr. P. Rajendran proposed the Vote of Thanks, and the meeting concluded at 1.15 pm.

Prepared by:  Dr. J. John Love Joy

Approved by:  Rev. Dr. S. Mariadoss SJ
Principal

