

ST. TERESA'S COLLEGE, ERNAKULAM (Autonomous)

College with Potential for Excellence

Re- Accredited by NAAC in the 4th cycle with grade A++

IQAC

Minutes of the Meeting dated 21 October 2020

The IQAC of the College met on 21st October 2020, Wednesday through Google Meet, an Online Platform. The meeting was attended by the Director, Principal and faculty representative of the IQAC, Student wing representatives and administrative officers along with ex officio members and external members.

The meeting commenced at 10.30 am with a silent prayer followed by welcome address by Principal, Dr. Lizzy Mathew. Rev. Dr. Sr. Vinita, the Director of the college delivered the presidential address. Dr. Sajimol Augustine, senior administrator presented the activities and achievements of the college for the last five years in a nutshell.

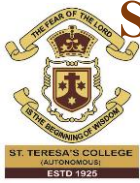
Dr. Kala M S, the IQAC Coordinator briefed through the history of IQAC and its activities in the post accreditation period. The Session was then taken over by Dr. Latha Nair, NAAC Coordinator who presented the recommendations of NAAC peer team.

The External Members acknowledged the efforts of the IQAC Team in attaining highest grade of NAAC and also for being positioned 47th in NIRF Ranking.

The meeting then discussed the agenda in detail

Strategic Perspective Plan for Quality Enhancement in different Areas

- Dr. Jayasankaran made an analysis of the performance of the college based on the scores received for various criteria in the last four cycles of NAAC accreditation. According to this, the college has performed well and improved tremendously in Criteria III- Research, Innovation & Extension, Criteria IV- Infrastructure and Learning resources and Criteria V- Student Support and Progression.
- According to him, the areas of concern which need to be improved are Criteria II- Teaching Learning & Evaluation, Criteria VI- Governance, Leadership & Management and Criteria VII- Institutional Values & Best Practices.
- One of the reasons for not getting improved ranks in NIRF is because of the low scores the college gets in Research Publication & Perception. The fact that only scopus indexed publication is considered in NIRF is really affecting our score.
- Another area which needs improvement is Perception. According to Dr. Jayasankaran, we may be the best in the state, but that is not enough. We should authentically work strenuously to ameliorate our perception by making ourselves visible through public relation campaigns.
- He advised the college to identify a near competitor & a distant competitor and analyze their growth parameters.



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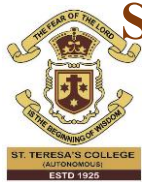
- The former IQAC Coordinator Dr. Usha Nair gave an analysis of NIRF ranking of the college over the last three years and explained how we have improved our scores in NIRF over the years. Regarding research output, she pointed out that, even though lot of quality publications are coming out from Arts & Humanities, they are not counted, while estimating the score for research publications.
- It was suggested by Prof. Dr. N Jayasankaran to maintain a strategic perspective plan in order to attain position among top 25 in NIRF Rankings. He also explained on different strategies that can be followed to attain greater achievements. Some are:
 - AOL – Assurance of Learning
 - Self Evaluation
 - Cross Barring
 - SWOC Analysis mentioning five of each.
 - AAA- Academic Administrative Audit mandatorily to be done internally every year and External audit once in two years.
- Dr. Lathan Nair, pointed out that conscious efforts are being made to improve the research and consultancy areas. A variety of programmes are being planned and implemented on writing good research proposals and on enhancing the consultancy of the faculty.
- Dr. K P Vijayakumar, External member of IQAC also suggested focussing on peer perception aspective to improve NIRF ranking. With a strong PTA and Alumni Associations, it may not be too difficult to increase the score.
- He also urged the college to participate in Atal ranking since the college has many activities towards innovation and creativity. One of the practical steps to increase the number of patents or fellowships is to devote increased attention in the selection of topics for Projects (or dissertations) at the PG Level giving emphasis to topics of social and technical application. The college can take steps to identify the patentability of at least a few projects every year. Awareness about Intellectual Property Rights is to be inculcated in students right from the graduate level.

Based on the comments made by NAAC peer team, Dr. Vijayakumar offered the following suggestions for improvement of Library facilities

➤ **Regular Information Literacy Programmes**

The library has to organize, to introduce the various course materials prepared by different agencies under MHRD of Govt. of India. They include:

- a. Various graduate level course materials prepared by Educational Multimedia Research Centres



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- b. E-PG Pathshala materials meant for postgraduate students
- c. MOOCs available as part of SWAYAM portal
- d. eGyanKosh of IGNOU.

A session on National Digital Library of India (NDLI) and its use for students and teachers can be organized.

➤ Documentation

Proper video records have to be furnished as stipulated by them when the details of programmes are provided.

➤ Current Awareness Service

In the modern era, Current awareness service is offered and made available through the website of the library, the e-mails or through mobile phones of the user community. Instant Messaging (IM) facility can also be made use of for quick communication and Mobile SDI service can also be thought of.

➤ Books, Journals and databases

A check list of new books has to be prepared and the essential ones have to be purchased taking into consideration the courses offered and the availability of funds. Regarding Journals, links to open access journals can be provided in the systems available in the library.

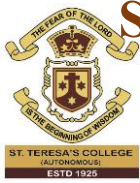
Since databases are costly, it is always better to enter into some sort of an arrangement with nearby university libraries to share information from databases. A decision regarding the subscription to databases can wait for the time being since many discussions are afoot at the state level and national level for consortium -based subscription.

- He also suggested the need for a random survey among students to get the feedback. Another idea is that library can organize joint programmes with Women Study centre in areas like Research methodology, Data analysis softwares etc.
- Sr. Ashritha, Librarian of the College briefed about the added facilities in library and asked for his support in carrying out the infrastructure augmentation of Library.

International Accreditation

The next item on the agenda was the International Accreditation of the college. Dr. Alphonsa Vijaya Joseph raised her doubts about the feasibility of International accreditation, indicating the financial implications.

- The opinions of external members were sought regarding this matter, particularly the recurring expense on attaining such accreditation and as to what gain does the college achieve by attaining International accreditation.



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- The external members were of the opinion that it will be a futile attempt to try for international accreditation as it would not bring in any benefit to the college. Foreign students from developed countries have their reservations in choosing an institution like ours for pursuing higher studies. The college will have to provide world class facilities for their accommodation and above all, a threat to our culture is also to be considered.
- According to Dr. Vijayakumar, good accreditations like Times Higher Education Ranking, Shanghai Ranking etc. gives weightage to percentage of international faculty and students in the institution, for which we have our limitations.

Dr. Jayasankaran was also of the opinion that the college can utilize the money for some useful purpose, like improvement of resources and infrastructure.

- He also suggested giving more attention to raise the college to international standards and trying to attract talents, ie foreign students and faculty leading to internationalization of faculty and students.

University Status

The last item in the agenda was the suggestion to raise the college to the status of university.

- According to the external experts, it is better to give more focus on attaining Deemed University status for the college. The New Education Policy also emphasise on universities and we should focus on evolving into a teaching university as our centenary plan.
- Dr. Jayasankaran suggested a role model to emulate one women university named Vanasthali Vidyapeeth Womens University, Rajasthan
- Dr. Vijayakumar urged that while aspiring for University status, the financial aspects have to be given more attention as the university would be forced to eke out the entire expenses. The impact of NEP 2020 also has to be watched.

A healthy discussion regarding different aspects in each criterion to be focused on was looked into between the criterion heads and experts. Appreciation and suggestions were poured in by external members and student wing representatives. Smt. Neena Unnikrishnan, the parent representative, expressed her concern on the changed pattern of examinations, in the online mode. Ms. Elizabeth Susan Koshy, alumnae representative, offered all her support in the development of the college. The student representative Ms. Malavika Abi and Sneha P. expressed satisfaction on the timely conduct of examinations.

Ms. Teresa Kuncheria concluded the meeting by proposing vote of thanks followed by National Anthem.







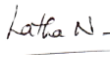



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Read and Approved By:

1. Dr. Sr. Vinitha, Director, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
2. Dr. N. Jayasankaran, Former Vice Chancellor, Kanchi University
3. Dr. Vijayakumar, Former Head & Associate Professor, University of Kerala
4. Dr. S V Sudheer, Director- UGC - Human Resource Centre, Trivandrum
5. Mr. Sudheer Mohan, Director- Wipro Digital
6. Ms. Gracy Babu Jacob, Councillor, Cochin Corporation
7. Dr. Lizzy Mathew, Principal, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
8. Ms. Neena Unnikrishnan, Parent Representative
9. Ms. Elizabeth Susan Koshy, Armed Police Inspector, Govt. of Kerala
10. Dr. Sajimol Augustine M, Former Principal & Senior Administrator, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam
11. Dr. Romilly Margaret Mendez, Controller of Examination, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam
12. Dr. Kala M S, IQAC Coordinator, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
13. Dr. Ushamani M, IQAC Joint Coordinator, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
14. Dr. Mary Liya C. A., IQAC Joint Coordinator, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
15. Dr. Usha Nair, Associate Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
16. Dr. Latha Nair R, Associate Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam 
17. Dr. Alphonsa Vijaya Joseph, Associate Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam. 
18. Ms. Betty Joseph, Associate Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam
19. Ms. Teresa Kuncheria, Associate Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam



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20. Dr. Susan Mathew Panakkal, Assistant Professor, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam *Susan*

21. Sr. Ashritha, Librarian, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam

22. Mr. Jerin K P, Junior Supdt., St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam *Jerin*

23. Ms. Mary C P, Head Accountant, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam *Mary C P*

24. Ms. Sneha P, II DC English, Student Representative, St. Teresa's College, Ernakulam

25. Ms. Malavika Abi, II DC Maths, Student Representative, St. Teresa's College,
Ernakulam