

SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS) THEVARA, KOCHI, KERALA

ANNUAL REPORT 2020-21

As Sacred Heart College bid goodbye to the first two decades of 21st century, Sacred Heart College, is both grateful and glad to have completed 77 years in higher education – being one of the oldest colleges in the aided sector of the state, which has more than 500 affiliated colleges.

Sacred Heart College saw the previous year ending and this academic year emerging and evolving in the grip of lockdown times of the pandemic. The college which closed almost exactly a year ago, reopened with the unlocking process and at the very outset accomplished the task of completing the pending exams, reaching out to students in their localities and conducting exams in around 25 centres across the state and in Lakshadweep.

Initiatives by Sacred Heart College to counter the impact of COVID-19:

1. Initially continuous awareness by way of PA announcements, notices, campaigns on SMS etc.
2. Initiative to provide sanitiser at affordable cost.
3. On-line mentoring
4. Assessments were made to know how the students were coping, and to provide support regarding learning – especially by way of providing equipment for learning online.
5. Promoting home-based activities for learning, creative engagement with oneself, the community and the planet
6. Reaching out to stranded population, and helping out with a community kitchen for almost a month, feeding almost 300 people every day.
7. Mental and intellectual preparation for the paradigm shift of online learning and teaching.
8. Technical preparation by way of training faculty members, coaching them, and equipping the infrastructure like LMS – MOODLE make over, dedicated server,

increased data speed and back up for the same, involving investment of time, human resources and money.

9. COVID times saw two important developments – more of national and international seminars/workshops taking place and students and faculty members attaining the flexibility to stride through the dual mode of teaching learning, and experiencing in reality blended learning.
10. It also saw a record in the faculty and student attaining additional certifications, through COURSERA and NPTEL .
11. Converting environment friendly and agri-ventures with concurrence and proper documentation as a substitute for service learning.
12. Collection of COVID based documents – translation of relevant information in Malayalam in the initial phase, by Dr. Pius.
13. Encouraging research and projects based on COVID. Chemistry department could produce an indexed article related to drug design in this context.

AUTONOMOUS STATUS

- Completing 6 years. Sacred Heart College had applied for its extension.
- A high level expert committee from UGC had visited the college in this connection and they have recommended the extension for another 5 years.
- Sacred Heart College have been successful in establishing several good practices in this connection and in spite of the severe constraints on account a near-hostile environment. Several of our initiatives have been appreciated and replicated by others.

ADMINISTRATION

- New Manager – Rev. Fr. Poullose Kidengan CMI took charge as the manager after a break of 6 years.
- New Vice Principal – Dr. C.S. Francis, former HoD English and former Controller of Examination, was appointed as the Vice Principal for the new campus and for self-financing programmes.
- Dr. Siby Mathew served as the senior most tutor on the campus.
- Rev. Dr. Jose John as the Controller of Examination

New Deans and HoDs

Dr. Joseph George – Commerce & Management

Dr. Jinu George – Science faculty

Dr. Tom C Thomas – Arts and Humanities

Dr. Didimos K V – Student Services

New HoDs

Botany – Dr. Giby Kuriakose

Chemistry – Dr. Jorphin Joseph

Commerce – Ms Tessa Mary

Sociology – Prof. Siby K.I.

Dr. Johnson and Prof. Sebastian were the members on the governing body.

NEW FACILITIES – NEW MILESTONES

- The main campus has attained full green power status – the process initiated way back in 2011 has attained almost full coverage with 155 Kwh solar power on-grid system installed producing on an average 600 units per day.
- The new campus – Riverside Campus on the shores of Konthuruthypuzha has become a reality. Though the ambitious 240000 sq feet BSE GREEN project is not complete, with more than 40000 sq feet all set, the dream of the third campus is becoming a reality.
- The water body lost in the process of construction has been substituted by a similar sized pond.
- An incubation centre with provisions for 10 start ups has been developed in about 4000 sq feet.
- New toilet facilities with automated systems for hygienic maintenance and water conservation has been established.
- 500000 liter capacity sump has been completed under RUSA, with plumbing works and conversion into play courts remaining to be completed.

- A plan for the development of the Media-Communication Campus (after the legacy of St. Chavara), combining the thrust on the word and CMI Carmelite tradition, has already been prepared.

RETIREMENT:

Teaching:

Prof. M.P. Sebastian – HoD Mathematics - 32 years of teaching. A teacher through and through, with his loud booming voice and with thrill of a new explorer to daily discover mathematical principles anew. He has contributed 15 books for making learning maths easy for the students.

Prof. Siby K.I. retires as the HoD of Sociology, leaving the department with just one faculty member remaining on board. With his natural talents as a trainer, he has guided many youngsters to lead a fulfilling life. He has contributed Sacred Heart Collegell to transform our NSS unit into its present glorious stature. He has also served the campus community as the staff secretary and staff representative.

Dr. Ima Neerakkal has had just 6 years on the college campus as she joined the campus in 2015 after a longer stint with Assumption College, Changanachery. She has contributed as research guide and the secretary to the Academic Council and chairperson of the Internal Complaints committee.

Mr. M.V. Sebastian, also known as Joy, worked as lab assistant for a long time. He has been a silent and steady worker who went about his tasks leaving very minimum opportunity for correction.

Mr. Paul K.A. has is retiring this month after serving the college for over 2 decades, with the last phase of his service being confined to the Botany and Chemistry labs.

Mr. Saju A.J. has grown steadily with the college, after having begun his career as an attendant, lab assistant, managing admissions desk, accounts and finally guiding the college office as its superintendent.

College remembers all of them with great affection and gratitude. Sacred Heart College hope that there will be some effort to perpetuate the memory of their presence and services in a meaningful manner by all concerned.

NEW FACULTY:

The following Teaching staffs were appointed in the respective departments in this academic year.

1	Dr. Ammu Rosin Jose	Chemistry
2	Dr. Deepak D prabhu	Chemistry
3	Dr. Jaison M J	Chemistry
4	Dr. Aparna S	Economics
5	Dr. Ann Rose Abraham	Physics
6	Fr. Jobi Malamel	Zoology
7	Sr. Divya Sebastian	Zoology

Self-Financing Stream: 21 new posts

Commerce - 6

English -5

Management – 3

Languages – 3 (Malayalam -1, Hindi -1 and French – 1)

Sociology – 1

Statistics – 1

Psychology - 1

NEW PROGRAMMES

This year Sacred Heart College introduced 1 new batch of Commerce with finance and Taxation specialisation

- B. A. English
- B. Sc. Psychology
- M.A. English literature

- M. Com
- M. Sc (B. Sc integrated programme) in Computer Science – Machine Learning (aided stream)
- Altogether Sacred Heart College have 19 U.G (21 batches) & 17 PG programmes. (19 batches).
- Student Strength is just around 3000 and faculty strength 170.

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT & PARTICIPATION

The formal student bodies could not be installed this year on account of the inability to come together on the campus. However, student representatives chosen under the guidance of the class teachers functioned to represent the students on issues pertaining them. In the light of such representations action was initiated to:

- Provide exam facilities at their door stop with no student to have to travel beyond their district borders.
- Permission to pay fees at their ease in two or more instalments
- Scholarships to about 100 students as a special COVID provision.
- 15% concession in college related fees in both aided and self financing schemes.
- Shifting of exam dates and rescheduling to provide greater gaps between exams.
- The routine student parliament was substituted by batchwise parliamentary sessions with the Principal, VPs, the Deans and the HoDs.

The club activities still continued with NCC and NSS units managing both on-line and campus based activities to a great extent, whereas clubs like Age Friendly becoming adept at managing their activities with greater vigour online. Music and Dance clubs also took leadership to have both online and offline programmes. Both the clubs could bring laurels to the college by winning championships in prestigious events held within and outside the state. Women Cell also did some innovative steps during the COVID times.

Sacred Heart College have vibrant career guidance and placement cell through which regular orientation programmes and placement initiatives take place.

ACTIVITIES OF Department Associations:

- Some unique initiatives and achievements could be mentioned in this regard:
- Webinar series initiated by the computer department association
- The model induction programme initiated by English Department
- International seminar series by English department
- Prof. K.V. Thomas endowment annual conference being held as an international scholar meet.
- The Drug Design certificate course being accomplished on-line
- An international seminar each by Physics and Commerce departments on-line. A few unique initiatives for student induction, alumni-student interface etc. by Physics department.
- Webinars by Economics and Sociology departments on topical issues
- Magazine – Kuruthi by Sociology department.
- Life long learning opportunities were provided by each of the departments – especially through on-line learning.

AWARDS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Dr. Franklin (chemistry)

The Kairali Gaveshana Puraskaram for teachers undertaking research was secured by Dr Franklin J.,(chemical science) instituted by the State government

Dr Pius Augustine (Physics)

TEACHERS ASSOCIATESHIP FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE (TARE) fellowship Instituted by SERB

Mursal Asisi

Mursal Asisi (student from Afghanistan), MADGA (2018-20) - Best Editing Award in National category for the Documentary, Chinnamma the Story of a Woman Hidden Under Water at Herat International Women's Film Festival (HIWFF) held at Kabul (December 2020)

Dr. Rajesh James – Kerala award for the best documentary film

Ms Ragam – one of the best Programme Officers of Mahatma Gandhi University

PATENTS (Botany)

Dr. M. S. Francis (Associate Professor, Retired) and his Ph.D student Mrs. Tintu Jose Maniketh have got a patent for their discovery of “A Method for producing a Nyctanthes arbor-tristis dye and its applications”.

NSS

Parvathy Sreevalsan (Chemistry) received the ‘certificate of appreciation’ from the University for her Outstanding Contribution as volunteer secretary

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NCC:

Anirudh G Bhasker of B A 4 semester got best cadet NCC award from PM Modi. Several NCC cadets represented the various prestigious national camps and one has been selected for international exchange as Sacred Heart Collegell.

OUTREACH & EXTENSION

- Our outreach and extension activities continued to be coordinated with the effective leadership of student development office, under the banner of HEAL, organising regular outreach programmes. Service learning of the UG students is a major contributor towards this.
- Sri Abin Ambily and Rev. Dr. Joseph Varghese.
- First Extension Centre – led by our former Vice Principal and Physics faculty Dr. Fr. George Pittappilly – alternative energy and eco-friendly life styles.
- Second Extension centre at Arayankavu – SHCOOB – focussing on organic farming, ornithology and biodiversity. Feb 27, 2021.
- In the small centre Sacred Heart College have introduced 21 species of fruits and vegetables in observation of the international year of plant health 2020 and international year of fruits and vegetables 2021.

In collaboration with Organic Kerala Charitable Trust, with the Principal as its chairman, Sacred Heart College could organise a 4 day long exhibition on the theme of International Year of Fruits and Vegetables, in the town hall, Ernakulam. With Kochi Corporation and its new HEAL programme as chief patron.

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION - AASH

Sri Babu Joseph, Dr. Mathew M J, Sri Rahmathulla

Chapters: US – NY, Houston, Chicago, Washington, UAE, Qatar, New Delhi, Bangalore

Federal nature: Leadership of several units

NSS alumni, NCC alumni

1993-95 PDC batch – tremendous.

OBITUARY

Former faculty members who passed away during the year 2020-2021.

- 1) Prof M K Abraham (Department of Physical Education)
- 2) Dr P A Sebastian (Department of Zoology).
- 3) Rev Fr Domitian Manickathan CMI (Department of additional languages)

Quite a few of our alumni have joined eternity departing from this world.

LOOKING AHEAD:

College is now completing 77th year of its existence and is looking forward to the next major event of navati (90 years) in 2034 and centenary in 2044.

As per the vision of our founders, this is to grow into a full-fledged university. Towards this Sacred Heart College hope to have 3 distinct full fledged campuses functional by 2025.

Besides the typical programmes, Sacred Heart College hope to start centres of excellence in Physical Discipline through Yoga in alignment with FIT India programme, a centre for International Languages to enable students to spread their wings beyond the borders, a centre for promotion of culture and heritage through a CENTRE FOR PROMOTION OF SANSKRIT and other classic languages, a centre for Gender Studies before 2025.

As befitting our vision statement, Sacred Heart College are to be in a relentless pursuit of excellence to create an ENLIGHTENED SOCIETY (prabudha samooham), which can transcend the petty narrow divisions Sacred Heart College ourselves generate and perpetrate. For this our foundations shall be faith in God as Sacred Heart Collegell as a secular (read scientific) outlook. May the Sacred Heart guide our paths in that direction and make us all truly ONE AT HEART.