

## **DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY**

### **SACRED HEART COLLEGE, THEVARA (AUTONOMOUS)**

#### **Meeting of the Board of Studies of Botany Conducted on 01.11.2014**

Time: 11.00 AM

Venue: Department staff room

#### **Members present**

1. Dr. George Joseph (Chairman)
2. Dr. M S Francis
3. Dr. C M Joy
4. Dr. Giby Kuriakose
5. Fr. Dr. Jose John
6. Dr. John E Thoppil
7. Dr. V N Sanjai
8. Binoy C

The second meeting of BoS (Department of Botany, SH College, Thevara) held on 01 November 2014 was presided over by Dr. George Joseph, HoD, Department of Botany, SH College, Thevara. Eight BoS members were present in the meeting.

The meeting discussed the syllabus of undergraduate and post graduate Botany programmes separately. Dr. George Joseph started the discussion by emphasizing the need of fundamental science and relevance of agriculture.

The meeting discussed about the relevance of B.Sc. first semester core paper "Methodologies and Perspectives in Science and Diversity in Plants" and decided that this paper shall be replaced by some other relevant paper that includes scope, relevance, history, importance, traditional knowledge etc. These changes shall be made after further necessary discussions.

The meeting discussed on one day field visit by students as part of curriculum and decided to retain the same as a part of first semester academic calendar.

Part of the first semester B.Sc. core paper shall be shifted for fifth semester after necessary modifications.

The BoS unanimously resolved to follow the CBCSS pattern for under graduate programme and Elective system for post graduate programme from 2015 academic year.

**It also discussed and agreed upon the inclusion of topics in the new UG syllabus for nurturing different skills for entrepreneurial ventures and grabbing employment opportunities.**

Issues related to Gender, environment, sustainability, human values, professional ethics shall be considered and included wherever found apt and applicable with respect to the objectives of the programme.

The BoS discussed the possibility of introducing new courses such as Horticulture and Nursery Management. It also suggested to move the General informatics and Methodology course from second semester to fifth semester as it would be advantageous to project works.

The BoS also appreciated and approved the suggestion to remove the core paper in the first semester (Diversity and Perspectives). Since the diversity portions are spread across different courses, it suggests introducing Microbiology and Phycology in the UG first semester as the core course. The perspective part of this course shall be retained in the General Informatics and Methodologies in Plant Sciences course that is proposed to move to the VI<sup>th</sup> semester.

The BoS unanimously supported the suggestion to incorporate hands on training in place of conventional group project. The BoS entrusted the chairman to further develop criteria, areas, mode of operation, feasibility analysis to get in to MoU with external agencies and institutes.

After conducting the discussions on UG syllabus the meeting discussed in length on Postgraduate (PG) Syllabus.

The Vth semester B.Sc. open course paper shall be diversified by including some of the following topics.

Plantation Management, Bonsai Preparation, Food Processing, Vermicomposting, Malaysian Fruits/Fruit Yielding Trees, Tissue Culture, Organic Farming, Nursery Training, Mushroom cultivation, Medicinal Plants, Aquarium Plants etc.

The BoS discussed about the relevance of starting a value-added course in Orchid Cultivation and gave approval to the same.

The following were the discussion on M.Sc. Syllabus,

The structure and content of the syllabus shall be revised giving emphasis to compatibility of the syllabus with NET. Make curriculum vitae (CV) a mandatory component along with the dissertation and produce the same during comprehensive viva. This shall be mentioned in the syllabus. The PG dissertation should be submitted along with a research paper in a standard journal format and internal marks shall be given for such paper presentations. An abstract of the dissertations shall be made available to the examiners prior to the viva voce. The last chapter of each subject shall include the most advanced topic/portion/development. The repeated papers of M.Sc. 3rd semester and 4<sup>th</sup> semester (Biotechnology) shall be combined with the inclusion of some advanced area. Include a bridge course for M.Sc. students as the students joining M.Sc. come from different colleges/Universities. Introduce a multi exit programme for B.Sc. that leads to Ph.D. or an integrated B.Sc.-M.Sc.-M.Phil.-Ph.D. programme allowing the student lateral entry for advanced courses after a feasibility study.

The meeting came to an end by 1.10 pm.

Dr. Johnson X Palackappillil  
Principal  
Sacred Heart College (Autonomous)  
Thevara, Kochi-682 013

Chairman

(Board of Studies)