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## XAVIER BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

31, PRIMROSE ROAD, BANGALORE - 560 025, SOUTH INDIA

### ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT OF THE

### DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY


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


The Academic Audit of SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), THEVARA, KOCHI was conducted from 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> December, 2018. The team comprised:


- **Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip**, FMM, Secretary General, Xavier Board of Higher Education in India, (XBHEI), Bangalore and former Principal, Stella Maris College (Autonomous), Chennai,
- **Dr. Fr. Joseph Xavier SJ**, former Principal, Loyola College (Autonomous), Chennai and former President, XBHEI,
- **Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar**, former Prof. of Political Science, University of Bangalore and currently Hon. Professor at Karnataka State Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka
- **Dr. Ms. Ordetta Mendoza**, Member, XBHEI and former Head, Dept. of Bioinformatics, Stella Maris College (Autonomous), Chennai, and Co-ordinator, Xavier Board-Administrative & Academic Audit (XB-AA Audit).


Prior to the visit, the department completed and submitted the Audit Manual developed and deployed by Xavier Board of Higher Education in India.

Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar visited the Department of Sociology on 19<sup>th</sup> December 2018 and interacted with the Head of Department and faculty. Mr. Benny Varghese, the HoD, made a presentation, which was followed by an interaction, and an examination of the relevant documents.

  
Dr. Sr. Annamma Philip, FMM  
Secretary General, XBHEI

  
Dr. Fr. Joseph Xavier SJ,

  
Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar

  
Dr. Ms Ordetta Mendoza  
Co-ordinator, XB-AA Audit



### About the Department:

The Department offers both UG and PG courses in Sociology. While the subject is being offered at the UG level since 1964, the PG course was started in 2015. The department Vision is to mould the young generation with social commitment and dynamism. The Mission is to create a thrust for broadening the horizon of knowledge, develop a critical bend of mind in understanding social realities and equip students to intervene effectively in the social transformation process.

### Commendations:

- The curriculum of the department is aligned to the vision and mission of the college.
- Cross-cutting issues like Gender, Environmental sustainability, Human Values and Professional Ethics etc., are incorporated into the curriculum.
- Three new courses like Media and Society, Life-skill Education, Social Pathology have been introduced.
- Field trips and study tours are organized regularly to inculcate in students the social realities of the economically weak and those affected by natural calamities as well as migrant labour.
- Feedback on the curriculum is received from students, parents and alumni/ae.
- Remedial coaching is offered to slow learners.
- Faculty use ICT as a tool for teaching and learning.
- Discussions, debates and experiential learning techniques are utilized in the classroom.
- Student-Learning Outcomes are assessed through written examinations, classroom performance and oral presentations.
- An Open Course on 'Elements of Social Psychology' is offered to students from other departments.
- Mentoring is done in the department and the ratio of teacher to mentee is 1:30 for UG programme and 1:5 for PG programme.
- Four students have recently cleared NET/SLET examinations.

### Recommendations:

- None of the teachers has a Ph.D. degree; they may be deputed for pursuing research degrees under the UGC's FDP.
- Need to introduce Add-on and Value-added courses.



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- Only one teacher actively participates in conferences and workshops; others need to follow suit.
- The enrolment ratio of 7:1 for UG programme and <1:1 for PG programme. Efforts may be made to increase the number of students applying for these programmes through media.
- Adequate number of students from other ethnic and religious groups and states can be admitted to the department.
- The overall Pass Percentage is only 55%; this needs to be improved considerably.
- No Research Projects and Grants have been sanctioned to any of the teachers. Faculty can take measures to obtain funding from various sources.
- Faculty need to scale up publications in UGC/peer reviewed journals.
- Teacher: student ratio is very poor (1:55) and needs to be increased.
- Collaboration with other institutions may be considered.
- There is scope for phenomenal improvement in academic orientation and performance.
- Make efforts to meet the huge challenge in the maintenance of the popularity and scope of the subject, in an increasingly competitive scenario.
- Need for a proper mechanism to assess and ensure the attainment of course objectives and outcomes.


Date: 12/02/2019

Place: Bangalore.



  
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