

**ACADEMIC AUDIT  
ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)  
PALAYAMKOTTAI 627 002**

**PEER TEAM REPORT**

**Date of Visit**

**10 April 2018**

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	
1.1 Name & Address of the Institution:	<b>St. Xavier's College (Autonomous)</b> <b>Palayamkottai - 627 002</b> <b>Tamilnadu</b>
1.4. Five major features in the institutional Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• St. Xavier's College, Palayamkottai is an autonomous, co-educational Arts and Science institution run by the Jesuits and the college has consistently scored high grades ('A') in the last three cycles of NAAC assessment and accreditation and in NIRF-2018 ranking.</li> <li>• The college operates two shifts and offers UG, PG and PhD programmes and also certificate courses.</li> <li>• The college has been recognized by the UGC as a 'College with Potential for Excellence'.</li> <li>• The college caters predominantly to socio-economically marginalized sections of society and aims at empowering them.</li> </ul>
1.5 Dates of visit of the Peer Team	April 10, 2018
1.6 Members of the Peer Team which undertook the on-site visit:	<p><b>Prof. A. Joseph Dorairaj (Convener)</b>          (Former Vice-Chancellor i/c)          Professor of English          Gandhigram Rural University          Gandhigram 624 302, TN</p> <p><b>Dr.Sarah Sathiavathy (Member)</b>          Associate Professor and Head          Department of Zoology          Lady Doak College (Autonomous)          Madurai 625 002</p>

SWOC ANALYSIS	
3.1. Institutional Strengths:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Teachers are committed and care for their students' growth and development</li> <li>The infrastructure facilities for curricular, co-and extra-curricular activities are good.</li> <li>The college promotes a research culture and the number of research projects and publications is quite high.</li> <li>In Shift I, all faculty members are PhD holders and are also research guides.</li> <li>The college conducts Bridge courses in English and other subjects as well for freshers at the beginning of each academic year.</li> <li>The college brings out 6 journals—two figure in the UGC list and two are Scopus and Web of Science indexed.</li> <li>The Management offers a generous freeship to a number of socially-economically disadvantaged students.</li> <li>The Departments of Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology have got the DBT-STAR status.</li> <li>The college has quite a few formal linkages and this has led to the signing of MoUs and sharing of knowledge.</li> <li>The curriculum of all disciplines is revised and updated periodically.</li> </ul>
3.2. Institutional Weaknesses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The pass percentage of students in NET and SET is poor.</li> <li>There is lack of diversity among the students, for most of them belong to this region.</li> <li>A few courses like MA Folklore and MA Economics do not attract enough students.</li> <li>The campus is not totally architecturally disabled-friendly.</li> <li>The placement record is poor, though there are two professional programmes (MCA and MBA)</li> <li>There is very little international collaboration.</li> </ul>
3.3. Institutional Opportunities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>From CPE the college should progress to becoming a College of Excellence.</li> <li>The college has the potential to improve its NIRF ranking.</li> <li>The college can instill in its students concern for the marginalized groups.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AAVE could offer B.Voc. courses and become a centre for skill-development.</li> <li>• The college has the capacity to foster leadership qualities among the first general learners through its various curricular and co- and extra-curricular activities.</li> </ul>
3.4.Institutional Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To retain its Grade/Scores (3.50) ranking in NAAC assessment and accreditation in the fourth cycle, especially under the new framework.</li> <li>• To maintain academic excellence despite admitting a large number of first-generation learners.</li> <li>• To ensure the survival of the Department of Folklore, for the student in-take is low.</li> <li>• To promote value-based education in a capitalist and consumerist society.</li> <li>• To improve the placement record.</li> </ul>

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR QUALITY ENHANCEMENT OF THE INSTITUTION**

1. Spell out Graduate Attributes and take concrete steps to translate these attributes into realities.
2. Formalize and sustain remedial coaching irrespective of UGC-funding.
3. Convert AAVE into a skill-development centre which could offer B.Voc. programmes.
4. Encourage MPhil and PhD students to sign up for MOOCs and NPTEL courses and motivate them to watch programmes uploaded in the SWAYAM portal (UGC)
5. Encourage every department to organize at least one national seminar every year.
6. Rope in experts from Central Universities and institutes of national importance as members of your BoS.
7. Motivate Science departments to encourage their students to apply for Summer internship and Winter Schools through INSA.
8. The college can publish e-newsletters which could be uploaded on the college website.
9. Promote inter-disciplinary research and encourage departments belonging to a particular School to take up inter-disciplinary research programmes.
10. Appoint a professional counsellor on a part-time basis.
11. Strengthen the Placement Cell so that more students get training as well as job offers.
12. Organize a seminar on Intellectual Property Rights and have a cell for IPR (10 points under Criterion III – Innovation Ecosystem).
13. Identify your institutional distinctiveness/uniqueness and prepare a write-up (20 points under Criterion VII).
14. Prepare your students for Students Satisfaction Survey (50 points under Criterion II).
15. Prepare Programme Outcome and Course Outcomes for each programme and upload them in the website along with the syllabus/curriculum.
16. Explore the possibilities of establishing/retaining department libraries at least in research departments.
17. Make the total campus disabled-friendly.
18. Ensure that e-teaching and learning go beyond PowerPoint Presentations and embrace online courses and e-lectures.

### **Signature of the Peer Team Members:**

Place: Palayamkottai

Date: 10-04-2018

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