



St. Mary's College (Autonomous)

Reaccredited with A+ Grade by NAAC (4th Cycle)

Thoothukudi - 628 001



Internal Quality Assurance Cell

External Peer Review (Academic Audit)

Peer Team Report

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of St. Mary's College (Autonomous) conducted the External Peer Review on 9th & 10th May 2023 in the campus. The IQAC Coordinator, the heads of the departments, the librarian, the physical director, and the counsellor presented the report of the academic, the sports and the cocurricular activities carried out in the academic year 2021 -22 to the external peer team. The external peer team visited the departments, assessed the documentation, and recommended a few suggestions for the enhanced performance of the institution in the academic arena.

General Information

1.1 Name & Address of the Institution: St. Mary's College (Autonomous)

104, North Beach Road,

Thoothukudi - 628 001

1.2. Accolades of the institution in the academic year 2021-2022

Academic Year 2021-22:

- ◆ Rs. 1,05,000 has been sanctioned by TNSCST for two programmes.
- ◆ Rs.15,000 has been sanctioned for two student projects.
- ◆ Rs. 37,500 has been sanctioned for CDP by Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD) as first instalment.
- ◆ Rs.60,000 has been sanctioned by ICSSR for the National seminar on "Entrepreneurship and Innovation."
- ◆ Rs.93,111 has been sanctioned by UGC (II Instalment of Autonomy Grant 2019-20).
- ◆ the institution has secured a prominent place in the 101-150 Rank band. In the ARIIA Ranking 2021, the institution secured the 'Performer Status' in the non-technical category.
- ◆ In the Education World India Autonomous Colleges Ranking 2020-21, the institution has secured 53rd place at the national level and 19th place in the state level.

- ◆ The college received Active Local Chapter Award from NPTEL, IIT, Madras.
- ◆ The college received “Eat Right Campus Award” from the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India.
- ◆ The principal Dr. Sr. A.S.J. Lucia Rose received Certificates of Appreciation from MGNCRE (Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education), NIPAM (National IP Awareness Mission), by Government of India and Best Principal Performance Award for Educational Excellence from Intellectual Peoples Foundation.
- ◆ 96 UG & 143 PG students have successfully completed MOOCs offered by the SWAYAM - NPTEL portal of MHRD in 2021-22.
- ◆ More than 40% of the students pursue higher studies and 20% of the students have procured employment.
- ◆ 96 faculty hold the doctoral degree and many of them are pursuing Ph. D as part time.
- ◆ There are 42 research guides, and 66 Ph.D. scholars pursue their doctoral research.
- ◆ 8 research scholars were awarded doctoral degrees from the research centres in the academic year 2021-22.
- ◆ The formidable research output comprises of 3 patents, research publications, 19 by the research scholars and 92 by the faculty in reputed Web of Science, Scopus, UGC CARE and ISSN indexed journals, publication of 7 books and 23 chapters (ISBN indexed) by the faculty.
- ◆ 735 II UG students and 21 faculty participated in the outreach programme TOUCH (Towards Upliftment and Community Healing), an integral part of the curriculum.
- ◆ During the pandemic, relief materials and essential grocery items were distributed to the families in the adopted villages and in the district.
- ◆ Through the Entrepreneurial Training programmes conducted in the 5 adopted villages, 525 rural women have emerged as entrepreneurs which resulted in the economic, environmental, health and social uplift of the region.

1.3. Date of the External Peer Team Visit: 09.05.2023 & 10.05.2023

2. Members of the Peer Team:

School of Language and Culture & School of Management and Economics:

Dr. S. Mohamed Haneef
Dean of Arts & Head of the Department of English
Sadakathullah Appa College (Autonomous)
Tirunelveli.

School of Physical and Computing Sciences & School of Biological Sciences:

Dr. A. Lourdusamy,
Head & Associate Professor,
Department of Mathematics,
St. Xavier's College (Autonomous),
Palayamkottai.

3. SWOC ANALYSIS

3.1. Institutional Strengths:

- ◆ The college is identified as one of the best performing institutions in the country by MoE based on the NAAC score in successive cycles. It attained A+ Grade in the 4th cycle of reaccreditation by NAAC on 1st May 2019 with 3.29 CGPA.
- ◆ The management and the faculty work towards the empowerment of the women students.
- ◆ The ample infrastructure facilities spearhead curricular, co-curricular and extra-curricular activities.
- ◆ The college has been serving as an elite centre of learning for the students belonging to the marginalised section of the coastal region, among which 80 percent of them are first generation learners.
- ◆ The college promotes a research culture among the faculty and the students alike.
- ◆ 96 faculty hold the doctoral degree and many of them are pursuing Ph. D as part time. There are 42 research guides, and 66 Ph.D. scholars pursue their doctoral research.
- ◆ The academic activities of all disciplines are grouped into five Schools of Excellence to augment research, design pioneering courses, enable efficient teaching, facilitate effective outcome-based learning and to empower the student community to face the global demands of the 21st century.
- ◆ The IQAC endeavours to optimise the integration of modern methods of teaching, learning and evaluation.

- ◆ IQAC organises the Students Induction Programme for the I UG & the I PG students as per the UGC guidelines.
- ◆ The college conducts Bridge courses in English and other subjects as well for freshers at the beginning of each academic year.
- ◆ The college brings out a biannual research journal *Marian Quest*.
- ◆ The Departments of Physics, Chemistry, Botany and Zoology have got the DBT-STAR status.
- ◆ The curriculum of all disciplines is revised and updated periodically.
- ◆ Emphasis on value-based education and enhancement of life skills
- ◆ The Counselling Forum & the Tutor Ward System ensure the emotional and the psychological well-being of the students.
- ◆ Excellent outreach and community engagements through CDP which has been awarded by UBA.
- ◆ The Eight Centres for Excellence mould the students in co-curricular and extracurricular activities through the programmes of 30 clubs and forums.
- ◆ The NCC wing and the NSS units instil discipline, social awareness, patriotism, and social responsibility among the students.
- ◆ In Sports, the college has made a landmark achievement by retaining the overall Championship trophy in team games of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University 28 times consecutively.
- ◆ The institution has a rich historical prominence and reputation in the region.
- ◆ The Research ambience in the campus is furthered by the Library subscribed to a digital library of 6050 (e-journals) and 138862 (e-books) through N-List (UGC-INFLIBNET).
- ◆ The Wi-fi enabled campus aids the research scholars to access the electronic resources. Library has initiated all the faculty, researchers, and students into the NDL.
- ◆ The Institution has a sprawling clean & green campus spread over 16 acres of land.
- ◆ The greenery in the campus is ensured with high diversity of trees and plants.
- ◆ The college promotes institutional values and socially responsible programmes on a large scale.
- ◆ The faculty are well qualified with Ph.D. and NET/SLET.

- ◆ The overall academic performance of the student is appreciable, and the graduate outcome is good.
- ◆ The students participate in the leadership programmes organised by the Students' Council.
- ◆ The advanced learners are encouraged to take up MOOCs and Self-study courses.
- ◆ The slow learners are helped through remedial teaching, handouts and study materials are provided to enhance their success in the academics and extra coaching and guidance are provided.
- ◆ The multifaceted and dedicated faculty volunteer to shoulder additional responsibilities that support the administration of the college.

3.2. Institutional Weaknesses:

- ◆ Students have a low pass percentage in competitive examinations.
- ◆ The institution has not yet established a lasting impact in international collaboration.

3.3. Institutional Opportunities:

- ◆ The college possesses the potential to enhance its NIRF ranking.
- ◆ The college can nurture leadership qualities among first-generation learners through a range of academic, co-curricular, and extracurricular activities.
- ◆ Departments can design modules for online certificate courses.

3.4. Institutional Challenges:

- ◆ To maintain academic excellence through imparting quality education to a larger number of first-generation learners.
- ◆ To improve the placement opportunities for the students.

Recommendations of the External Peer Team for the Quality Enhancement of the Institution College

- ◆ Seed money could be provided for all fund involved activities like seminars, conferences, workshop, organised by the departments.
- ◆ Action Plan at the beginning of each semester and Action Taken Report at the end of the semester and add objectives to the Action Plan.
- ◆ Specify the nature of the activities and the competitions.

- ◆ For courses with higher level of complexity, encourage students to create posters and working models.
- ◆ Course convenors could include the Syllabus, Course Material, CIA portions, Paper allocation, Question Papers, Question Bank, Mark Reports in the course file.
- ◆ In the Industrial Visit Reports, outcome of the field work could be added.
- ◆ The details of fund allocation for the departments, fee waivers for the students could be maintained in the departments.

IQAC

- ◆ Apply for MOU with institutions from abroad.
- ◆ Programme outcomes could be measured using specific modules to implement OBE effectively.

Programmes under STAR College Scheme

- ◆ Centralised lab with all equipment which can be used for all the research activities.

IIC

- ◆ Real time problems to be identified and solutions to be suggested
- ◆ Apply for funds to start Incubation centre. Explore available project schemes and apply for it

Centres for Excellence

- ◆ Extension activities related to Technology to be conducted
- ◆ The departments could organise specific activities related to their domain in the adopted villages under UBA as part of Community Development Programme in association with the NGO's.

Research Forum

- ◆ Inter-disciplinary Research could be promoted.
- ◆ Encourage faculty to apply for ICSSR Projects .

School of Language and Culture

- ◆ To apply for the Internship and enhance placement in IT Companies
- ◆ To develop e Content in Swayam platform

School of Management and Economics

- ◆ Offer GST Training Courses
- ◆ Conduct Training Programmes in latest Technological advancement to equip the students to face the demand of the job market.

School of Physical and Computing Sciences

- ◆ Improve research innovations and extensions.
- ◆ To establish MoU focusing on employability/Entrepreneurship/Skill Development.

School of Biological Sciences

- ◆ Establish collaboration with Institutional Funding Agencies for Projects
- ◆ Organise training programmes on Industry based approaches.

Department of Library

- ◆ Online accession of library e books could be done.
- ◆ Wide usage of OPAC could be encouraged.

Counselling Forum

- ◆ Online Schedule could reduce waiting time.

Name with Designation	Signature with Seal
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Dr. S. Mohamed Haneef Dean of Arts & Head, Department of English Sadakathullah Appa College (Autonomous) Tirunelveli.	 Dr. S.MOHAMED HANEEF M.A., M.Phil., B.Ed., Ph.D Assistant Professor and Head Research Department of English Sadakathullah Appa College (Autonomous) Rahmath Nagar, Palayamkottai, Tirunelveli - 627 011.

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