

IQAC Report

2019-2020



St. Mary's College (Autonomous), Thoothukudi attained A+ Grade in the 4th cycle of reaccreditation by National Assessment and Accreditation Council on 1st May 2019 with 3.29 CGPA. The institution is one among the 65 higher educational institutions which have been awarded the higher status of academic excellence among 1402 institutions across the country.

The IQAC endeavours to optimise the integration of modern methods of teaching, learning and evaluation. Orientation for the faculty and the students invigorates the academic, and intellectual fervour in the campus and enhances the holistic development of the individual. To refine the training programmes, IQAC undertook methodological frameworks and conceptual underpinnings to foster professional development. The qualitative professional progression programmes provided the teachers with an opportunity to reflect upon the praxiological nature of their classroom realities in relation to their own professional development.



Empowering teachers is the key to enhancing education. At the beginning of the academic year 2019-20 IQAC conducted an orientation programme on 14.06.2019 & 15.06.2019. Rev. Fr. Dr. T. Xavier Terrence, Rector, St Mary's Seminary, Palayamkottai enlightened the staff on “Qualitative Educators for Social Change.” He reiterated that teachers should teach their students to be perceptive and discerning. The teaching of values and character is the very basis of education. The teachers should foster environments of self-confidence, passion, and nurture the lives of students.

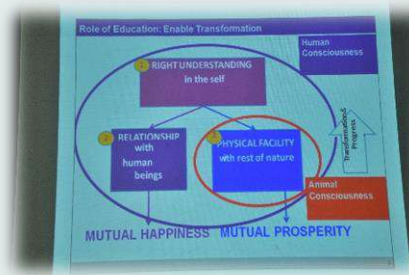


Dr. B. Jeyapragash, Assistant Professor of Library Science, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli spoke on “Academic performance indicators (APIs) and APIs for promotion under Career Advancement Scheme (CAS).” He explored on the eligibility conditions for various posts in colleges and universities, CAS for college teachers, work load, Assessment criteria and methodology for the promotion of college teachers. He stressed the importance of active involvement in research activities, achieving Academic / Research score, Patents, awards/ fellowships. He also explained the nuances of citation analysis, Web Of Science indexed journals, Scopus Indexed Journals, UGC approved journals, citation database to enrich the research ambience of the institution and spread an awareness of all the possible avenues for the advancement in their career. The faculty were all geared up and equipped to take the institution to the next glorious level of success. The very ambience reaffirmed the commitment of the teachers for providing quality education.





Student Induction Programme was organised for the I year UG students as per the directions of the University Grants Commission from 17.6.2019 to 25.6.2019. Students enthusiastically participated in various programmes and activities. The students were divided into three groups and were given badges on the good qualities such as Honesty, Justice, Gratitude to motivate them on the significance of team spirit. The activities include College tour, Orientation for the students, Introductory Meet of the HoDs, Orientation for the parents, English Bridge course, explanation of learning outcomes of the curriculum, Mentor-Mentee meetings, Screening of College History, Servite Saga, Marian Glory, Expert talks on Environment Sustainability and Conservation, Computer literacy and Career Guidance, Personality Development, Health and Hygiene, Balanced Diet, Universal Human values, Women Rights and Laws protecting Women, Facts of life, Psychological well-being, Correct Usage of Social Media, Protection from Cyber Crime, Orientation for the Counseling service, Library, NSS, NCC, Training on Yoga, Music- College anthem were given. These programmes provided the students an awareness of the learning resources and the support systems available to them inside the campus. The programme initiated a sense of belongingness to the alma mater and unites the students inspite of their varied diversities. The programme also helped them



widen close relationship with their seniors and to have a mature approach towards life.

The students were instilled an awareness on the milieu and the cultural ethos of the institution. With the input gained from the student induction programme they will be able to channelise their untapped energy in the right direction and bring laurel to their family and the institution, achieve harmony within themselves, their family, society, universe and nature. The students gained self-confidence and developed a close friendship with the seniors, the faculty and the management.



An orientation Programme was organised for II, III UG & II PG students on 26.06.2019 & 27.8.2019. Rev. Fr. Louie Doss SJ, Specialist in Counselling and Psychotherapy, Professional counsellor and Psychotherapist, Lecturer and PhD Scholar in the field of Positive Psychology delivered a speech on “Born to fly,” “Born to shine” which inspired the students to dream big and achieve their goals with determination. He shared the story of an eagle which struggles to live. He explained the life history of successful persons with birth defects. He advised students to have faith in God, spread positive energy and taught mirror exercises to gain positive energy. He concluded the story with the message “Know Pain, Know Gain.” Through interesting tasks, he helped the students realise their blessings in life. Rev. Fr. M.A. Johnson, Specialist in Family Therapy and Counselling,



Ph.D Scholar in Counselling and Psychotherapy at Anugraha, Dindigul introduced some of the funny greeting techniques. He guided the students how to overcome the teenage issues and motivated them to love and appreciate himself first, to work hard to attain their dreams. Ms. V. Padmavathy Babujee Pandian Ph.D Scholar in Marine Biology in Alagappa University Run Education centre at Chennai conducted personality development exercises by splitting the students into groups and made them perform certain tasks to develop the student's verbal and non-verbal communication skills. She emphasized the importance ethical values like honesty, justice and empathy. The Orientation Programme was a rewarding experience for the students.

On 6.08.2019 Students' Wing of IQAC was inaugurated with the view to encourage Quality initiatives among the students.

On 21.09.2019 IQAC organised a one day workshop on 'Aligning an Assessment Template with the specified Outcomes.' The resource person Dr. M.G. Sethuraman, Professor of Chemistry, Gandhigram Rural Institute provided information on the changed focus of Curricular Design, Simplified Pathways to OBE and Evaluation Based on Outcomes. The teaching faculty were given exercises on CO design, Mapping of CO with PSO and Question paper setting based on the revised Blooms Taxonomy.





On 21st & 22nd November 2019, IQAC was selected to participate and present (One among the 15 Institutes) Institutional Best practices in the NAAC – Sponsored State Level Seminar on Best Practices on Blossoms as Benchmarks seminar organized by the IQAC, Bharathidasan University.



IQAC received feedback from the students on various academic and developmental activities and the parents on institutional performance during the Parents' Teachers Meet. On 26th November 2019 IQAC organised a one day Faculty Development Programme on “Improving Teaching Practice – A Strategic Approach.” Mr. Krishnaprasad Nair, Chief Mentor, Aadhi Foundation addressed the teaching staff on Professional, Instructional, Leadership Organizational Development to embark on a successful teaching mission.

IQAC along with ICT Academy and *The Hindu* hosted Standard Test of English Proficiency (STEP) as part of National Communication Skill Challenge 2019 programme on 04.12.2019. 100 students took the Test in the English Language Lab and excelled in the various performance indices.





IQAC Organised an Orientation programme on “Strengthening Mental Health through Effective Practices” on 19.12.2019 for the Supportive Staff Ms. R. Rohini, Counsellor, St. Mary’s College (Autonomous) spoke on the need to check an individual’s mental wellness to simple and effective strategies.



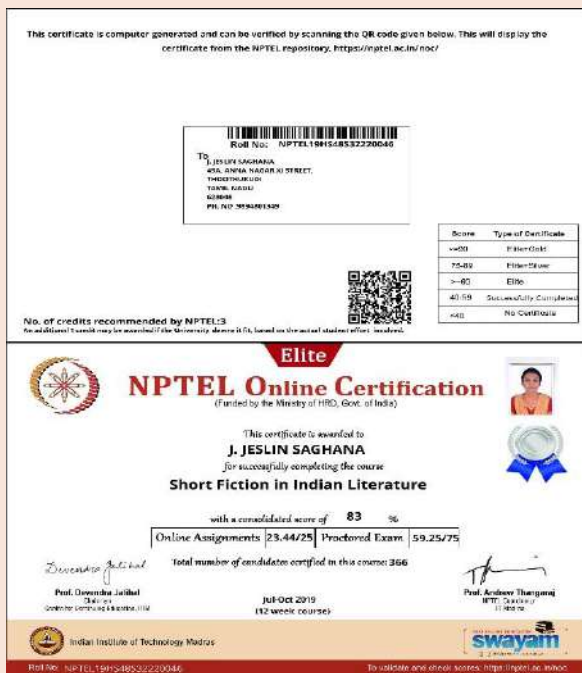
IQAC organised an orientation programme on 29th January 2020 on “Google Classroom” to the teaching staff to use the digital platform in an effective way so that the learners of the digital generation are engaged and taught in a befitting manner.



IQAC conducted a workshop on E content Development from 18.2.2020 to 22.2.2020. Dr. S. Senthilnathan (FAC) UGC-Human Resource Development Centre & Associate Professor of Educational Technology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirapalli and Dr. Fr. P. Susaimanickam, Department of Media Sciences, Anugraha, Dindugul were the resource persons. Thirty staff members attended the workshop and developed their E-Content on their own in the workshop.



IQAC met the Heads of the departments on 4th February 2020 to discuss the details of the Performance Management Meetings to be conducted in the respective departments to analyse the performance of the students in Continuous Internal Assessment, the remedial measures to be taken by the faculty and the analysis of progress attained by the learners.



IQAC applied to IIT Madras to become a Local Chapter on SWAYAM NPTEL Portal on 21st January 2020 and received the sanction letter on 4th February 2020 to be the Local Chapter with the LC Id 3688.

Eight students who excelled in the MOOC online courses on “Short Fiction in Indian English Literature” were shortlisted by NPTEL to attend a free one-week workshop from 16.3 2020 to 21.3.2020 on ‘Soft Skills’ in IIT Madras campus Chennai. Due to the panic spread of COVID 19, students are invited to participate in skill enhancement sessions through video calls.



IQAC hosted a Virtual Power Seminar on “Employability Skills for the Future” organised by the ICT Academy on 05th May 2020 exclusively for the students of St. Mary’s College, first of its kind in the district. Mr. Karthick, HR Manager, HCL Technologies in his expert talk highlighted the need to develop the essential competencies and the ability to understand “workplace know-how” which would transform a student into a promising professional.

IQAC and the Career Guidance and Placement

Cell organised a webinar on “Young Professionals: Plotting a Career Path Post Pandemic” on 30th May 2020. Mr. Sarto Rajendran, YALE GALE Scholar, Managing Director, Guardian Management Services Pvt. Ltd., Chennai & Managing Trustee, Guardian International School, Chengalpattu addressed the faculty and the students across the nation on the issues of formulating a potential career path during this pandemic driven epoch with an emphasis on a comprehensive and developmental view of education-career planning.



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