MINUTES OF THE MEETING EXTERNAL PEER COMMITTEE MEETING



Time: 10.30 am

Date: 11/9/2020

Mode: Gmeet - virtual

Link: https://meet.google.com/gve-ghho-iwz

The External Peer Committee Meeting started at 10.30 am with the welcome address by Dr. S. Kothai, Principal & Secretary, Ethiraj College for Women. Madam welcomed the external members Dr. R.R. Krishnamurthy, Dean of Academics, Professor & Head, Department of Applied Geology, Guindy Campus, University of Madras; Dr. Bharati Harishankar, Director - IQAC, Professor & Head, Department of Women's Studies, University of Madras, Chennai; Mr.G.R.Hari Industry Expert, Chief Executive Partner, Manohar Chowdhry & Associates; Dr.Chandra Devi Thanikachalam, Chairperson, Ethiraj College for Women, Dr.D.B.Usharani, Vice-Principal (Aided) and Associate Professor & Head, Department of Economics; Dr.T.UshaPriya, Vice-Principal (SS) and Associate Professor & Head, Department of Bank Management, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai and all the other faculty members.

The virtual meeting started with a brief presentation by the Principal highlighting the activities of the College for the academic year 2019-2020.

Dr.Latha Kumari, IQAC Coordinator, Ethiraj College for Women read the minutes of the previous External Peer Committee Meeting held on 14.02.2019, followed by a presentation on the Action Taken Report of the suggestions made by the Experts in the previous meeting.

The suggestions were addressed in terms of introduction of new courses, Outcome-Based Education, new self-study and value-added courses. IQAC Coordinator also presented the activities of the IQAC during the last academic year 2019-2020. The Plan of Action of IQAC for the Academic year 2020-2021 was presented.

Mrs. Chandra Devi Thanikachalam, Chairperson Ethiraj College for Women insisted upon the importance of quality in education provided to the students during this pandemic. Principal urged the expert members to give their valuable suggestions to the college.

Mr. G.R.Hari, an Industrialist, thanked the College for the opportunity to participate in the meeting and emphasized the need to provide quality online education during the pandemic. He suggested that the teachers should be trained to handle the online classes effectively and also highlighted the importance of collecting feedback on online teaching & learning to enhance it.

Dr.D.B.Usharani, Vice Principal (Aided), mentioned that the college has collected the information on the availability of laptops or smart phones for online classes in the admission application itself. She shared that the College Management has initiated the steps to help the students get the laptops at a concessional rate. Madam also shared her views on increased responsibility of a teacher in preparing for the online classes. She has also stressed on how the college has been handling offline classes critically and efficiently from April 2020 itself.

Dr.T.Ushapriya, Vice Principal (SS) pointed out that in a feedback conducted by the Department of Bank Management, the students have raised concerns about the huge amount of data getting consumed during the classes.

Dr. Bharati Harishankar, Professor & Head, Department of Women Studies and IQAC Coordinator, Chepauk, University of Madras suggested IQAC to specify the number of new courses introduced and quantum of funds raised through Research in the Action Taken Report. She was suggesting the importance of safe education zone along with Online Teaching and also insisted on maintaining the quality of online material which is being provided to the students. She also suggested to increase the number of smart classrooms and invite more overseas students for higher education through certificate courses which adds value to the college at the international level. She gave suggestions to the Departments which are having in-house journals to take steps to get it enlisted in the UGC Carelist and add value to quality research among the Staff and students.

Dr.Prof.R.R.Krishnamurthy, appreciated the IQAC for initiating various healthy activities at the college level. He also specified that the quantum of funds raised through Research Projects should be highlighted in the presentation since the college has 21 Ph.D Programmes. Sir also suggested that the details of the placement opportunities available in the college, Methodology used to teach the Online teaching and steps taken to improve the Online teaching & Learning could have also been included in the Action Taken Report.

Dr.D.B.Usharani, Vice Principal (Aided) gave information on the Major & Minor projects applied for which the results are awaited. Principal Madam informed about Dr.Sudha Parimalam, Department of Chemistry receiving project fund of Rs.4.8 lakhs for 2 Years. She also pointed out how the college management is providing Seed money to the staff members in order to inculcate Research culture in the college.

Mr.G.R.Hari Sir, Industrialist gave inputs regarding the funds provided by the organisations like Department of Science & Industrial Research. He also explained that the organisation is providing funds for Scientific research, Social research and Statistical research and also highlighted that the fund donated for Social research is 100% Tax exempted. Dr.D.B.Usharani, Vice Principal (Aided) talked about the funds received by the Department of Economics from the NABARD & Reserve Bank of India for publication of conference proceedings.

Dr.Bharathi Harishankar Madam added that, these funds can be highlighted as Publication Grant from NABARD, Reserve Bank of India. The Socio Economic Survey Conducted by the Department of Economics from the 2 adapted villages Nemilicherry & Karunakaracherry on January 2020 was also appreciated by the experts and considered as a great work which was sponsored by the Management. Principal madam added that the Management sponsorship for Research through ECRIC amounted to Rs.50 lakhs (25 lakhs from management itself and 25 lakhs from external source raised by the Management).

As a concluding note, Dr.Bharathi Harishankar Madam, mentioned that, for the IQAC Team to create the data and post it in the right place is a big challenge and insisted that the institution should have Centralised Documentation Centre to update the activities of the College periodically to smoothen the process during NAAC.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks by Dr. Latha Kumari, IQAC Coordinator.

Experts:

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Dr. R.R. Krishnamurthy. Dean of Academics, Professor & Head, Department of Applied Geology, Guindy Campus, University of Madras	
Dr. Bharati Harishankar, Director - IQAC Professor & Head, Department of Women's Studies, University of Madras, Chepauk, Chennai	Marradhis
Mr.G.R. Hari Industry Expert, Cheif Executive Partner, Manohar Chowdhry & Associates, Chennai	g. R. Haw.
Dr. Chandra Devi Thanikachalam, Chairperson, Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai	Mar. II.

Members present for the meeting:

Dr. S. Kothai, Principal & Secretary, Ethiraj College for Women.	5. Markat 1 2020
Dr.D.B. Usharani, Vice Principal (Aided)	Densharay
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Dr.M. Jeyanthi Additional Controller of Examination (SS)	M. Leganti
Dr.T. Punithavathy. Dean of Students (Aided)	Puf
Dr. Anusha Balasingh, Dean of Students (SS)	Anust!
Dr.J. Mangayarkarasi, Dean of Academics (Aided)	3.2
Dr.M. Sujatha, Dean of Academics (SS)	M. M.

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