



## EXTERNAL PEER TEAM REVIEW – REPORT

HELD ON 14.02.2019

The meeting commenced with the address of the Vice Principal, Dr. D. B. Usha Rani who welcomed the External Experts, Dr. M.R. Srinivasan, Dean – College Development Council, Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, University of Madras, Chepauk Campus, Dr. V. Pandiyarajan, Former Principal, Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi, Mrs. Chandradevi Thanikachalam, Chairperson, Ethiraj College Trust, Principal and Secretary of the College Dr. S. Kothai, Mr. G. R. Hari, Industry Expert and the members of the Committee. The Vice Principal then introduced the vision and mission of the college and various activities of the college.

The external experts made various suggestions for the betterment of the college. The following were some of the recommendation made by the members.

The Autonomy Granted to the college could be exploited to its fullest extent in novel ways as for example by starting new courses, thereby increasing the total credits that a student can earn. The number of credits can be finalized by the Board of Studies. The Autonomy can also be extended by introducing industry exposure as part of the courses.

He also suggested that the courses offered by MOOC could be introduced as part of the syllabus. At least 20% of the courses should be online courses and the credits earned should be part of the course curriculum. Courses offered by NPTEL and SWAYAM should be approved by the Board of Studies. He said students should be permitted to opt out of the MOOC courses if they so desire.

When courses offered through MOOC are to be introduced they must be approved in advance from the University of Madras and the board of studies.

International collaborations should be made mandatory. However, the financial aspects should be considered when opting for International courses and twinning programmes. Short term courses abroad with credits would be better suited.



Feedback system from students should be made online or the drop box mode introduced to get better feedback from students.

To a clarification from the Dean of Research, Dr. A. Saranya regarding how to decide on NPTEL credits for other discipline courses, Dr. Srinivasan, suggested that each board should approve the courses and credits for the respective subjects.

He also offered the information that IIT, NPTEL centre bringing out new courses, especially skill based courses- personality development which can be offered through MOOC. The credits assigned for the Undergraduate Programmes should be increased.

Dr. Srinivasan advised the faculty to apply for more Projects by tapping private institutions and organizations offering such projects such as ICMR, DRDO etc. and gave the information that projects beyond five lakhs in DRDO would have to be approved by the Defence Ministry.

Dr.V.Pandiyarajan External Expert commenting on the activities of IQAC said that the IQAC should bear in mind its responsibilities since it acts as a catalyst for improvement of college by giving suggestions.

He suggested that an extra optional credit paper could be offered for fast learners. In addition, in the final semester a minimum of one skill based or job oriented course per department, should be made mandatory. The courses should be approved by Government, Academics , board, council and BOS.

Even short term, certificate courses, diploma courses, crash courses and value added courses should be offered for a minimum of 30 hours.

He also advised the college to start incubation and startup centers keeping in mind the NAAC criteria on Research and Innovation.



With regard to the criteria on Teaching and Evaluation the college should concentrate on earning more credits in NAAC since NAAC had become stricter in awarding points. He also said that there should be a separate cell of ICT enabled teaching to improve ICT teaching methodology – multimedia, audio, video etc.

The College could consider student exchange programmes – within institutions at state level especially at the M.Phil./Ph.D. level.

Dr. Srinivasan, gave valuable inputs regarding internship programmes offered by the Jawarhalal Nehru Center for Advanced studies & Research, Bangalore and suggested that such internships should be given extra credits.

Mr. Hari, the Industry Expert thanked the team for their untiring efforts. He further commented on the feedback about the internship programme in Social science and suggested that students should concentrate on various internship programmes offered by the ministry.

Mr. Hari pointed out that at the micro level, the students are the brand ambassadors who reflected the college. He also said the students should be trained to prepare and share their CV and access the mail. He also enquired about the charter of the IQAC. Mr. Hari also spoke about the purpose of having a corpus fund in the college and that it should not be used only on infrastructure. He cautioned the college on having long standing idle cash and highlighted the need to keep a close watch on the available funds.

He said that it was necessary to ensure that the college possessed Quality control at 360 degree for policy making for the next decade at both the student and faculty levels. Choice between Industry Placement or higher education reflects good progress. Entrepreneurship, Research & Development plays a vital role in achieving the targets in the long run. Parallel creation of infrastructure is the need of the hour. A clear charter has to be framed by 2025.



Dr. Pandiyarajan enquired about the College NAAC sponsored programmes and advised that such programmes could be taken up in future. He further emphasized the need to orient all faculty members about the NAAC guidelines and understand each criterion.

He also said that all activities should be highlighted in the IQAC newsletter. Dr. Srinivasan questioned regarding the funding received through minor and major projects. He advised that funding from TANSCHER, ICSSR, ICMR and DRDO should be identified and tapped as alternatives for UGC funding.

Mr. Hari pointed out that CSR funds and MOU from industrial sectors are available to be utilized.

Dr. Pandiyarajan added that publications in Scopus indexed journals and Web of Science should be improved. He insisted that each faculty must have at least one paper publication in a Scopus journal.

Initiatives to measure the outcomes should be taken and updated as per criteria and uploaded on the website. Course outcome should be measurable and included in the syllabus. The Syllabus should be made available on the website. The Programme Outcome, Programme Specific Outcome and Course outcome of the curriculum should also be uploaded on the website. He suggested that the IQAC Newsletter could highlight all activities in the College and not just the IQAC activities.

Dr. Pandiyarajan also gave suggestions for assessing the data quantitatively for NAAC accreditation by giving inputs to students, and spoke about the revised NAAC criteria. The applicable, non-applicable metrics, essential metrics of the new NAAC guidelines should be understood.

The experts also highlighted the importance of Equivalence Certificate for certain courses for future recruitment in government sectors. It was also suggested that Plagiarism software should be installed for enhancing the quality of publications. Alumni associations should be registered. The Principal Dr. S. Kothai thanked the experts for their valuable suggestions.



## MEMBERS PRESENT FOR THE EXTERNAL PEER COMMITTEE MEETING

The External Peer Committee Meeting of the IQAC of the College was convened on 14<sup>th</sup> February 2019 in the VIP Lounge at 11.00 am. The following members were present.

Dr. M.R. Srinivasan  
Dean – College Development Council  
Professor and Head, Department of Statistics,  
University of Madras,  
Chepauk Campus,

Dr. V. Pandiyarajan  
Former Principal  
Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi

Mr.G.R.Hari  
Chief Executive Partner  
Manohar Chowdhry & Associates,

Mrs. Chandradevi Thanikachalam  
Chairperson  
Ethiraj College Trust

Dr. S. Kothai - Principal & Secretary

### Vice Principals

Dr. D.B. Usharani - (Aided)  
Dr. T. Usha Priya - (Self-Supporting)  
Dr. A.S.Saranya - Dean of Research  
Dr. M. Vijaya - UGC Coordinator

### **IQAC Members**

IQAC Coordinator – Dr. Rennet Samson  
Dr. G. Radhika , Department of Economics ( Aided)  
Dr. N. Lavanya , Department of Hindi (Aided)  
Dr. G. Gohulavani , Department of Chemistry (Aided)  
Mrs. C.Vaishnavi , Department of Business Economics (SS) - Alumna  
Dr. M. Menaka , Department of Clinical Nutrition (SS)  
Ms. Trushna Patra - Student Representative

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Members Present

Name	Signature
Dr. M.R. Srinivasan Dean – College Development Council Professor and Head, Department of Statistics, University of Madras , Chepauk Campus, Chennai	
Dr. V. Pandiyarajan Former Principal Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi	 14/2/19
Mrs. Chandradevi Thanikachalam Chairperson Ethiraj College Trust	 Tch. 14/2/19
Mr.G.R.Hari Chief Executive Officer, Manohar Chowdhry & Associates	
Dr. S. Kothai ( Principal)	 14/2/19
Dr. D.B. Usharani, Vice Principal, (Aided)	 14/2/19
Dr. T. Usha Priya ,Vice Principal, (Self Supporting)	 14/2/19
Dr. G. Caroling (Dean of Academics)	—
Dr. A.S.Saranya (Dean of Research)	 14/2/19
Dr. S. Gayathri (Dean of Students)	—
Dr. M. Vijaya (UGC Coordinator)	 14/2/19
Dr. Rennet Samson (Coordinator	 14/2/19
Dr. G. Radhika , Dept of Economics (Aided)	 14/2/19
Dr. N. Lavanya ,Dept of Hindi (Aided)	 14/2/19
Dr. G. Gohulavani , Dept of Chemistry (Aided)	 14/2/19
Mrs. C.Vaishnavi , Department of Business Economics (SS) - Alumna	 14/02/2019
Dr. M. Menaka , Dept of Clinical Nutrition (SS)	 14/2/19
Mrs. Veena Murali , Dept of Bank Management (SS)	—

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Trushna Patra - Student Representative

*Patra*

Vice

DR MRS. VIJAYA  
DR MRS. USHABURUSH

DEPT of Chemistry (Ad)  
Clinical Nutrition  
& Dietetics (SS)

Dr Mrs Ushaburush

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