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ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT

OF

DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY,

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA, TRIPURA

The Academic Audit of the department of Botany, HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA, TRIPURA was conducted from October 4-8, 2021. The team comprised

- Dr. Jeevan Kumar, former Professor of Political Science, Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka, and Hon. Prof., Rural Development and Panchayat Raj University, Gadag, Karnataka, and
- Dr. Ms. Ordetta Mendoza, Member, Co-ordinator of Programmes, XBHEI and former Head, Post Graduate Dept. of Bioinformatics, Stella Maris College (Autonomous), Chennai, and Co-ordinator, XB-Academic and Administrative Audit, Holy Cross College, Agartala.

Prior to the visit, the College completed and submitted the Academic Audit manual developed and deployed by Xavier Board of Higher Education in India, Bangalore. The audit was conducted ONLINE.


The audit began with Dr. Dipanwita Chawdhuri Sil, Head of the Department making a PPT presentation on the status and academic functioning of the department for the last three years. This was followed by an interaction of the audit team member with all the faculty of the department, a virtual tour of the laboratories and virtual inspection of the equipment and facilities.

The department was established in 2012 and began by offering courses in General Botany. From 2018 it has been offering an Undergraduate (Honours) Programme in Botany with subsidiaries in Zoology and Human Physiology. There are three faculty members in the department all of who hold Ph.D. degrees.


Dr. Jeevan Kumar,

former Professor of Political Science,
Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka





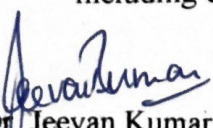
Dr. Ms. Ordetta Mendoza,
Co-ordinator of Programmes,
XBHEI, Bangalore

COMMENDATIONS:


- ✓ Well qualified faculty with interest in doing research.
- ✓ One faculty member is recognized as a research guide.
- ✓ The Head of department was given major research grant from DBT – 2018
- ✓ Faculty have publications to their credit.
- ✓ Departmental meetings are conducted regularly to plan various activities of the department, subject allotment, class tests, assignments and also to review the teaching planned for the academic session.
- ✓ The Head of the department has been involved in question paper setting at the University level.
- ✓ Faculty members attend and participate in workshops, seminars, training programmes, refresher courses and orientation programmes at the state and national level.
- ✓ The department has conducted national level workshops and webinars funded by the DBT, IISER, etc. on relevant topics.
- ✓ Faculty ensure optimum usage of equipment in the laboratory by the students especially during the practical sessions.
- ✓ Faculty members use various methods in teaching -learning process such as use of ICT, audio-visual equipment, charts, models, projects, seminars, etc. to enhance the experiential and participative learning experience of the students.
- ✓ Students in various activities and students are taken on study / field trips to enhance their knowledge of the taxonomy and study of plants.
- ✓ Evaluation methods include assignments, quiz as part of the Internal assessment.
- ✓ Department celebrates 'Vana-Mahotsav' programme annually in the first week of July.
- ✓ Herbarium, herbal garden and museum of specimens is maintained by the department.
- ✓ Students of the department take active part in NCC and NSS.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- ✓ Information on the webpage to be corrected for grammar and typographical errors.
- ✓ Feedback on the curriculum and its transaction to be taken from all stakeholders including employers.


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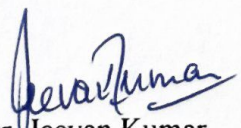

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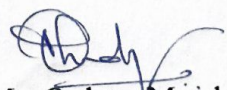
- ✓ Feedback to be analyzed and conveyed to the authority for further transmission to the University through the Governing Body.
- ✓ The department can advertise the programme and ensure that more students apply for the same
- ✓ Teacher : Student ratio needs to be improved.
- ✓ Since students with low grades are admitted the department must take concrete steps to classify the students as advanced learners and slow learners immediately after admission and address the learning levels of students, for both levels by conducting remedial teaching, additional reading, bridge course for communication in English, etc.
- ✓ Add on / certificate courses such as mushroom cultivation, preservation of horticultural produce, etc., of 30 hours duration should be offered to the students as soon as possible.
- ✓ Department can set up a Orchidarium of **hybrid / commercial orchid varieties** as well as botanical cum butterfly garden of some rare plants (**not endangered species**) in the campus.
- ✓ PO's, PSO's and CO's to be incorporated into the syllabi and displayed on the website.
- ✓ Students can be encouraged to undertake internship /projects /fieldwork as indicated in the syllabi.
- ✓ Mentoring to be done in a formalized manner
- ✓ Books in the central library needs to be increased (Not text books).
- ✓ Academic linkages / networking with other institutions can be considered.
- ✓ Academic-industry linkages to be initiated
- ✓ Alumni engagement to be enhanced
- ✓ A book bank for economically weak students can be started with books donated by alumni
- ✓ Secretarial assistance not required at the departmental level.

Date: October 8, 2021

Place: Bangalore




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