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## XAVIER BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

31, PRIMROSE ROAD, BANGALORE - 560 025, INDIA

### **ACADEMIC AUDIT REPORT**

**OF** 

# DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY, HOLY CROSS COLLEGE, AGARTALA, TRIPURA

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

- Dr. D. Jeevan Kumar, former Professor of Political Science, Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka, and Hon. Prof., Karnataka State 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. Sharmistha Chakraborty**, Head of the Department, making a PPT presentation of the academic functioning of the department for the last three years. This was followed by an interaction with the faculty of the department.

The department was established in 2009 and currently offers two programmes: an Undergraduate General course in Sociology (started in 2009); and an Honours course in Sociology (started in 2015). There are four-faculty members in the department, one of whom holds a Ph.D. degree. The three non-Ph.D. holders, however, are NET-qualified.

Dr Jeevan Kumar,

former Professor of Political Science,

Bangalore University, Bangalore, Karnataka

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

### **COMMENDATIONS**

- Gender sensitivity and gender sensitization are accomplished through the compilation
  of theoretical and exponential learning through fieldwork and involvement in different
  types of services through collaboration with NGOs and social groups.
- In order to sensitize students about the environment and sustainability issues, activities such as seminars, workshops, and special lectures are organized.
- For experiential learning, field visits and industrial visits are organized.
- Faculty members actively participate in national and international workshops, seminars, webinars, conferences, etc.
- The department has initiated two add-on courses:
  - 1. Food, Culture and Society; and
  - 2. Sociology of Mass Communications.
- Assignments and projects are planned to nurture reading practice, development of writing and presentation skills, development of strategy making and critical thinking.
- Department curriculum is restructured to provide intensive training in communication skills, personality development, presentation skill, and situation management skill.
- Students have to do research work in their final semester that is incorporated into the project paper.
- Department has initiated feedback questionnaires for the outgoing students, alumni and parents for collection of their feedback on curriculum.
- Faculty are actively engaged in presenting papers and participating in webinars and seminars, conferences, seminars and workshops.
- Department organized a National Seminar in 2019 and a National Webinar in 2020.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

(in view of implementing them at least before the Assessment and Accreditation process by NAAC)

- Department may start more subject-related Certificate/Diploma/Add-On Courses, for the benefit of its students, as well as for other interested students.
- Student intake to be increased.

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- Mentoring to be done in a formalized manner
- A departmental Academic Peer Review process and a Performance Appraisal system for its faculty - may be started.
- Feedback on the curriculum and its transactions needs to be done from all stakeholders, feedback to be analyzed and reports to be given to the higher authority for forwarding to the University through the Governing body of the College,
- Department may initiate MOUs with external institutions.
- The research component and the publication profile of the Department, requires strengthening.
- Resource mobilization for research may be seriously contemplated.
- Department may organize more conferences, seminars, webinars and training programmes for the benefit of its students, as well as others.
- Innovation Ecosystem in terms of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR), Research Methodology and Entrepreneurship development needs to be initiated.
- Student progression and student placement needs to be strengthened.
- Books to be increased in the central library.
- Students to be motivated to visit and do reference in the library.
- Students to be encouraged to apply for government scholarships and other scholarships too.
- Faculty need to participate in orientation and refresher courses at the parent University.
- Alumnae engagement needs to be initiated.

Date: Oct. 08, 2021

Place: Bangalore

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