

MINUTES OF THE FIRST MEETING OF THE ACACEMIC COUNCIL OF PARVATIBAI CHOWGULE COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE (AUTONOMOUS)

Date: 31st October, 2014

Time: 10.30 am.

Venue: New Academic Block G - 002, Parvatibai Chowgule College of Arts & Science
Margao, Goa

The meeting started on time and 34 members were present. The Chairman of the Academic Council, Dr. R.V. Gaonkar, welcomed the members of the Academic Council and thanked them for attending the first meeting.

He briefly informed the members that the College was conferred Autonomy by Goa University through the Notification of August 2014 following the approval accorded by the University Grants Commission in June 2014 and the concurrence of the Government of Goa. Although we have been granted Autonomy from this academic year, i.e. 2014-15 we have decided to implement it from the coming academic year 2015-16 the Chairman said.

The Chairman brought to the notice of the members that, as per UGC guidelines for autonomous colleges and statute (SC-15) of Goa University relating to autonomous colleges, the College should have a Governing Body, an Academic Council, Boards of Studies and a Finance Committee. Accordingly, these have been constituted as per the provisions of the Goa University and the guidelines of the UGC.

Constitution of the Academic Council of the College

The Academic Council of the College has been constituted as follows:

- Principal of the College as the Chairman of the Academic Council.
- Twenty-two Heads of the Departments, (who are also the Chairman of Board of Studies by default) and Three Deans (who are faculty heads).
- Four teachers of the College representing different categories of teaching staff, (by rotation on the basis of seniority of service in the College).
- Five nominees of the Governing Body (experts from outside the College representing such areas as Industry, Commerce, Law, Education, Medicine, Engineering etc.).
- Three nominees of the Goa University.
- Member Secretary (A faculty member nominated by the Principal.).

The Chairman, Dr. R.V. Gaonkar, informed the members that the first Governing Body meeting was held on Monday, 13th October 2014, and it nominated five members to the Academic Council. Likewise the Academic Council is going to nominate two subject experts in the respective subject on each Board of Studies.

These Boards of Studies will meet in the next two months i.e. November & December 2014 to decide on courses and programmes in the respective subjects. Subsequently, the courses and programmes approved by the Boards of Studies will be placed before the Academic Council for

its confirmation. Matters approved by the Academic Council will finally be placed before the Governing Body for its consent.

After the introductory remarks Principal Dr. R.V. Gaonkar presented the Agenda and the business, as per the Agenda, was transacted.

AGENDA

1. To approve the proposed course structure of the Under Graduate Degree Program in Arts & Science under Autonomy.
2. To nominate two experts each from outside the College to the Board of Studies of every subject.
3. Any Other Business (A.O.B.)

Proceedings:

Agenda Item 1: APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED COURSE STRUCTURE OF THE UNDER GRADUATE DEGREE PROGRAMMES

1.1 Presentation of the proposed Course Structure by the Member Secretary Dr. E. M. Travassos

The Member Secretary Dr. E. M. Travassos explained the background and gave the justification for the proposed course structure. He stated that in an open letter of an employer to India's graduating students written in 2012 and publicised through the New York Times News Service, the employer stressed that job applicants from India make a false claim that they can speak and write English fluently, that they are good at problem solving, that they can think outside the box, that they look out for new ways of doing things, that they take responsibilities for their careers and that they invest in new skills. The employer also stressed that contrary to their claims the job applicants were neither professional nor ethical. Dr. Travassos also referred to another widely publicized news report of 2006 that said that only 5% of India's graduates were employable.

Confronted with this stark reality, the College decided to do whatever it could to improve the situation Dr. Travassos said. Accordingly, a group of four teachers and the trustee visited universities in USA to understand what was being done there. So also, Principal Dr. R. V. Gaonkar visited Sussex University in UK and stayed there for 6 months to study the courses & curriculum being offered and how they were taught and assessed

Dr. Travassos referred to the findings from those visits: Students' curriculum, there, had less number of courses and, therefore, students had much more time for reading /learning / research. Dr. Travassos further said that the system to produce quality education depends not on the number of courses but on how courses are conducted. Autonomy will help us to provide employability skills, use problem based learning methods, provide career orientation, inculcate social and ethical values and in general improve the quality of education.

Taking into account all these consideration the College has developed the Course Structure on the basis of the Choice Based Credit System. Dr. Travassos then explained the Course Structure and its four components:

Component 1. CORE PAPERS – 84 credits

In management we know it has core competence, therefore the word core is borrowed from management parlance. Students should opt for any one of the following to develop core competence

Choice 1 – Single major

Choice 2 – Major & Minor

Choice 3 – Double major

Component 2. GENERAL PAPERS – 36 credits

These contain papers that we believe are very important for the students to develop other soft – skills. Under interdisciplinary subjects science student can opt for papers in humanities and Social Science and vice-versa, ensuring horizontal mobility.

Component 3. EXTRA – CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES – 6 credits

Here we have provided an opportunity to the students to follow their passion. The subjects the students offer under this head are non-evaluative.

Component 4. INTERNSHIP – 4 credits

Students can do internship not only in industries but also in any other fields, like being a research assistant, undertaking peer tutoring, working in the NGO's, teaching the underprivileged, organizing events like sports for people in slums, etc.

Under this proposed choice based credit system 120 credits are evaluative and 10 credits are non-evaluative credits.

1.2 Discussion on the proposed Course Structure:

Discussion Summary: Members felt that the proposed course structure was very well designed and was out-of-the-box kind of course structure.

Commenting on the Course Structure Mr. Chandru Chawla, the Governing Body nominee, said that the corporate sector expect good fluency in English, problem-solving ability, out-of-the-box thinking, an enquiry oriented, purposeful and ethical mind. The course structure has been designed wonderfully and has taken care of many issues. It would lead to a transformation from a rigid to a liberal education system. This transformation is challenging but the end result is good for students. Students that are taught in traditional ways will find it difficult to change. Therefore, these students' would require enormous amount of counselling. We have to be sensitive towards students and train them in critical thinking.

The Goa University nominee, Prof. K.R.S. Priolkar, said that looking at the structure that has been evolved/designed one notices that it is certainly a structure out of the box, and, therefore, has the potential for improving the quality of education.

The Governing Body nominee, Mr. Girish Bharne, congratulated the College on being conferred Autonomy. He said that it was time to show to the state government what wonders the College can do. Autonomy enables transformation – getting the freedom to design the curriculum and transform the education system.

The Goa University nominee, Prof. P.K. Sudarshan said that it was an innovative course structure.

Details of the Discussion:

In the course of the discussion the following queries were raised:

1. As every science subject except mathematics depends on other science subject how would you address this issue and incorporate ancillary subjects that are required in major subjects?
The query was raised by Prof. K.R.S. Priolkar, the Goa University nominee. Replying to the query, Dr. R. V. Gaonkar, Chairman of the Academic Council said that right from the beginning subjects like Physics, Chemistry, Maths, Computer Science needed a background of each other. Under affiliating system the papers are so arranged that if the students needed a prior course in Maths it was taught in a semester prior to the semester where it was required. Under autonomy individual departments have the freedom to decide up to what level of Maths is to be taught, say for example, to students of Computer Science and Physics. Dr. Ananya Das, Dean of Sciences, stated that the Board of Studies in Physics has decided that one of the core papers will take care of Maths required in Physics at the First Year Level, and the same was true for Computer Science. Commenting on the reply Shri Anand Masur, Head of Mathematics Department, said that Maths does not require background study of Computer Science or Physics, but can provide applied papers for those subjects that required foundation of mathematics.
2. How will the work load of teachers be taken care of?
The query was raised by Prof. K.R.S. Priolkar. Replying to the query, Dr. R. V. Gaonkar, said that the Goa Government has frozen the workload in the College; however, management will bear the expenses of additional teachers, if required.
3. How would you sensitize student about the relevance and importance of Ethics?
The query was raised by Mr. Chandru Chawla and Dr. Manju Singh. Mr. Chawla said that Ethics is a universal concern and it should not be an optional subject. Dr. Singh said that all educational systems are failing due to lack of ethics. This was not so under the gurukul system. We have to revive these aspects of the old education system; without ethics we cannot reach anywhere. For anything i.e. education, profession and career, ethics is required. In each subject elements of ethics can be incorporated. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that each department will incorporate social responsibility and ethics into the curriculum. The query was further clarified by Shri R. V. Patil, Head of Department of Philosophy. He said that the Department of Philosophy is proposing Philosophy of Ethics and Practical Ethics as Core papers and Bioethics /Professional ethics as interdisciplinary papers.
4. Can the nomenclature of Arts be changed to "Humanities and Social Science"?
The query was raised by Mr. Chandru Chawla and Dr. Manju Singh saying that the renaming would change the perception about the Arts courses in the community. Some institutions have done that. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that renaming

Arts as 'Humanities & Social Science will depend on the UGC guidelines and the Goa University statutory provisions.

5. Can you introduce "Thinking" as a subject?

The query was raised by Mr. Chandru Chawla referring to the presentation made by Dr. E. M. Travassos. He said that there was absolutely nothing in the education system, now-a-days, that encourages 'thinking'. Dr. Travassos said that in this College we use the Bloom's Taxonomy in every subject to develop thinking abilities.

6. Can you provide more choice in the "core papers"?

The query was raised by Mr. Chandru Chawla. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that we are providing ample choice in the core subject through "Core Electives". Even more papers could be floated if required.

7. Some of the Colleges/ Universities offer multiple majors. Can that be offered?

The query was raised by Mr. Girish Bharne. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that in future we can design something.

8. What about adding more foreign languages? Can we introduce contemporary global languages like Mandarin, Spanish, Portuguese, and French as these are extraordinarily important specially in the IT sector?

The query was raised by Mr. Girish Bharne adding that it will benefit not only engineering students who go abroad for taking jobs but also other Goan student who go out of Goa to pursue further studies/ job. Replying to the query Shri Anand Masur, said that we should not have too many languages in academic curriculum. Mr. Girish Bharne agreed and said we should not have academic courses in foreign languages but can provide certificate courses in foreign languages. Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that the College presently offers courses in French, Portuguese, Spanish and German. We expect students to take benefit of foreign languages taught in this College. However, more outside people than students were taking benefit of these programs.

9. What is the difference between Academic writing and Research writing? Can it be converted to Creative writing?

The query was raised by Prof. V.D. Sawant, the Goa University nominee referring to Component B of the Course Structure. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that with regard to Academic writing /Research writing, it is important that students learn research skill at the undergraduate level. Academic writing helps them in writing their assignments. Students should be introduced to research; they should know what research is; how to write the abstract etc.

10. What type of internship will be provided for the language students?

The query was raised by Prof. V.D. Sawant, referring to Component D of the Course Structure. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that during the last academic year, 51 students went for 1 month summer internship. The College had given a free choice to the students. One biotechnology student went for internship to a publishing house; she showed wonderful skill in that field and at the end of internship she got a permanent job at the publishing house.

During the first 4 semesters students can choose to do their internship during summer break or winter break. It is left to the student to choose what type/field of internship they would like. If a language student wants to do teaching s/he can do so. They can contact schools, colleges etc; they can also teach in slum areas.

11. Why only one month's internship and why only 4 credit for it?

The query was raised by Dr. Manju Singh. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that we decided on one month only after we contacted the industrialists and asked for their opinion. We can think about extending the internship period. We decided to give 4 credits in order to provide equal weightage to all the papers.

12. My concern is number of compulsory/ elective papers across the course structure is different for all the three choices.

The query was raised by Prof. P.K. Sudarsan, Goa University nominee. Replying to the query Shri Anand Masur said that we have done this to provide vertical mobility to students for further studies.

13. Can a student, who had opted for single major initially, change to double major later?

The query was raised by Shri Kumares V. C., Head of Department of Computer Science. Replying to the query Dr. R. V. Gaonkar said that we had sufficient time to think about it.

In the course of the discussion the following suggestions were made:

- a. Mr. Chandru Chawla suggested that the course structure would lead to a transformation from a rigid to a liberal education system. This transformation is challenging but the end result is good for students. Therefore, from students' point of view enormous counselling is required before the students opt for courses. Students that are taught in traditional ways will find it difficult to come up with out of the box thinking. We have to be sensitive towards students' needs and train them in critical thinking. Persons who graduate have 3 choices: - go for a job, go for further studies or start their own business. After 25 years of interviewing people, he said that 90% of interviewing time is spent understanding what a graduate has learnt. Candidates lack application orientation skills. Application comes from practical knowledge i.e. 60% application & 40% theory. Elective papers to be project oriented. Design a curriculum that is more career oriented. Internship should not be academic oriented but should be society oriented. Internship should be every year. His industry i.e. Cipla would support such internship.
- b. Dr. Manju Singh suggested that Project papers should be useful and interesting. It should connect students and teachers to the reality of life. Students should learn about research at all levels. She said we need to motivate students and push them to do research thinking. At the First Year students choose their area of interest. Option should be given to change the area of research.
- Research project should be linked with summer training / Internship. Every year students should undertake internship not only in summer but any time which is convenient to the students. Summer training / Internship can be done in any field such as going to an NGO, Industry, Research project etc. Teachers can take up major or minor

research projects and with the help of few students as interns (Research assistant), can get their research project done. This will benefit both teachers and students. Students can get exposure to research methodology. And the teachers' API score would increase without additional workload.

Statistical method should be converted to research methodology. And should cover the following areas: Statistical method; Research design; Research planning; Research writing; Research methodology; How to conduct research.

- c. Mr. Girish Bharne suggested that "learning abilities" of students should be improved by shifting the orientation of students from "studying" to "learning" to improve the inquisitive abilities.

1.3 Resolution on the proposed Course Structure:

Proposed Course Structure of the Under Graduate Degree Program in Arts & Science under Autonomy is approved unanimously by this house.

Agenda Item 2: NOMINATION OF TWO EXPERTS EACH, FROM OUTSIDE THE COLLEGE TO THE BOARD OF STUDIES OF EVERY SUBJECT

2.1 Introduction to the Structure of the College Boards of Studies:

Opening discussions on Item 2 of the Agenda, the Chairman said that the Boards of Studies, in various subjects offered by the College, are to be constituted as per the recommendations of the UGC and Statute SC - 15.26 of Goa University. The Boards of Studies will therefore consist of:

- Head of the department of the Subject as Chairman
- Entire faculty (full time, part-time, contract basis) as Members
- Two experts in the Subject from outside the College. These are to be nominated by the Academic Council.
- One expert to be nominated by the Vice- Chancellor of Goa University
- One representative from the Industry/ Corporate sector etc.
- One post graduate meritorious alumnus.

2.2 Discussion on nominating external subject experts to the College Boards of Studies:

The Chairman further said that selecting two experts in the subject from outside the College is the responsibility of this Academic Council of the College. He further said that University nominees have an important role to play here, and the College on its own will not take the liberty of choosing the experts.

Replying to the Chairman's suggestion Prof. V.D. Sawant, Goa University nominee, said that he would allow the Heads of Department to choose the two external Subject Experts for their respective Boards of Studies.

Dr Travassos then beamed on the screen, subject wise, the list of five to six external subject experts submitted by the various departments. Heads of the Department then chose the following subject experts to their Boards of Studies.

1. Department of English:

1. Dr. K. Sripad Bhat
Ph.D. (Mangalore University)
Professor
Goa University
Taleigao, Goa
Ph. No (off.): 0832 - 6519062
Ph. No (Res): 0832 - 2335208
Email: sri_goa@yahoo.com
2. Dr. Raj Rao
Associate Professor
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University of Pune.
Mob.: 9823031078
Email: raj@unipune.ernet.in

2. Department of French:

1. Dr. Varalakshmi Anand Kumar
17/8, Bishop Wallers Avenue (West),
Chennai - 600004
Mobile:- 09840063908,
2. Dr. Anuradha Vagle,
Goa University
Mob: 9822165597,

3. Department of Hindi:

1. Dr. Satish Pandey
Asso Prof & Head Dept. of Hindi
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2. Dr. Ishrat Khan
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4. Department of Konkani:

1. Bhushan Bhave,
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2. Dr. Chandralekha D'souza,
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5. Department of Marathi:

1. Prof. Dr. S. M. Tadkodkar,
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2. Dr. Ashok Mangutkar
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6. Department of Economics:

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2. Dr. Pranab Mukhopadhyaya
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7. Department of Geography:

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2. Dr. Pravina Kerkar
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8. Department of History:

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2. Dr. Remy Dias,
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9. Department of Philisophy:

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10. Department of Psychology:

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2. Dr. Mahesh Pai,
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11. Department of Sociology:

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2. Dr. Savio Abreu

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12. Department of Botany:

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13. Department of Biotechnology:

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3. Dr. Jayanth Sridhar
Global Head of Biologicals Manufacturing
Cipla Limited

14. Department of Chemistry:

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2. Dr. A.K. Srivastava
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15. Department of Computer Science:

1. Dr. Damodar Reddy Edla
Assistant Professor - Department of
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2. Dr. V.V.Kamat
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16. Department of Geology:

1. Dr. Kotha Mahender,
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2. Dr. P.K.Sarkar, M.Sc. Ph.D.
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17. Department of Mathematics:

1. Dr. Solapurkar,
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2. Dr. Rajeev Gajanan Sapre
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18. Department of Physics:

1. Dr. Arun Kulkarni
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2. Dr. Kaustubh Priolkar
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19. Department of Zoology:

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2.1 Resolution on external subject experts to the College Boards of Studies:

The Academic Council unanimously nominated the external subject experts chosen by the Heads of Departments to the respect Boards of Studies.

The meeting ended at 1.15 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

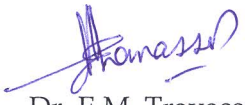
The following members of the Academic Council were present for the meeting :

1. Dr. R.V. Gaonkar		- Chairman
2. Dr. Manju Singh	- Governing Body Nominee	- Member
3. Mr. Chandru Chawla	- Governing Body Nominee	- Member
4. Mr. Girish Bharne	- Governing Body Nominee	- Member
5. Prof. P.K. Sudarshan	- Goa University Nominee	- Member
6. Prof. K.R.S. Priolkar	- Goa University Nominee	- Member
7. Prof. V.D. Sawant	- Goa University Nominee	- Member
8. Dr. G.K. Naik	- Chemistry	- Member
9. Dr. Sangeeta Sankhalkar	- Botany	- Member
10. Dr. D.K. Tikare	- Zoology	- Member
11. Mr. Anand P. Masur	- Mathematics	- Member
12. Dr. N.N. Sawant	- Geography	- Member
13. Ms. Sarita S. Naik Tari	- History	- Member
14. Dr. Debasish Majumdar	- Economics	- Member
15. Mr. R.V. Patil	- Philosophy	- Member
16. Ms. Kavita A. Borkar	- Psychology	- Member
17. Mr. Sachin Moraes	- Sociology	- Member
18. Ms. Rajashree R. Desai	- English	- Member
19. Dr. Omprakash Tripathi	- Hindi	- Member
20. Mr. S.S. Adsul	- Marathi	- Member
21. Dr. Gunaji S. Desai	- Deans of Languages	- Member

22. Ms. M.D.S. Borkar	- French	- Member
23. Mr. Kumares V.C.	- Computer Science	- Member
24. Dr. Ananya Das	- Dean of Sciences	- Member
25. Dr. M.P. Shivalli	- Library	- Member
26. Dr. Devashish Bagchi	- Physical Education	- Member
27. Ms. Meghana S. Devli	- Geology	- Member
28. Dr. Ashish M.Dessai	- Physics	- Member
29. Ms. Liesl Majella C. De Silva	- Biotechnology	- Member
30. Mr. N. G. Rivonkar	- Teacher Representative	- Member
31. Ms. Shaila Ghanti	- Teacher Representative	- Member
32. Dr. Sameena S. Falleiro	- Teacher Representative	- Member
33. Ms. Rupali M. Tamuly	- Teacher Representative	- Member
34. Dr. E.M. Travassos	- Dean of Social Science	- Member Secretary

Dr. Nitin Borkar, Governing Body Nominee, conveyed his inability to attend the meeting.
Dr. V. N. Jindal, Governing Body Nominee, conveyed his inability to attend the meeting.

Date: 28/11/2014


Dr. E.M. Travassos
Member Secretary
Academic Council

Annexure 1: Proposed Academic Course Structure of the Under Graduate Degree Program
in Arts & Science under Autonomy