

ETHIRAJ COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (Autonomous)
Chennai – 600 008

Affiliated to the University of Madras
College with Potential for Excellence
Reaccredited with A Grade by NAAC



6.5.3. Quality Assurance Initiatives

IQAC Minutes

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**MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL PEER COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON
14.02.2019**

The External Peer Committee Meeting of the IQAC of the College was convened on 14th 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. G. Caroling - Dean of Academics
Dr. S. Gayathri - Dean of Students
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)
Mrs. Veena Murali , Department of Bank Management (SS)

Trushna Patra - Student Representative

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Dr. V. Pandiyarajan Former Principal Ayya Nadar Janaki Ammal College, Sivakasi	 14/2/19
Mrs. Chandradevi Thanikachalam Chairperson Ethiraj College Trust	
Mr.G.R.Hari Chief Executive Officer, Manohar Chowdhry & Associates	
Dr. S. Kothai(Principal)	 14/2/19.
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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.
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Patra

Vice

DR MRS. VIJAYA
DR MRS. USHABURISH

Dept of Chemistry (Ad)
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**ETHIRAJ COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI
INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)
MINUTES OF THE EXTERNAL PEER COMMITTEE MEETING 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 IQAC Coordinator Dr. Rennet Samson read the highlights of the Minutes of the previous meeting and presented the Action Taken Report. Thereafter the external experts made various suggestions for the betterment of the college.

The following were some of the suggestions made by Dr. M.R. Srinivasan:

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 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.

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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 hrs.

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.

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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 about the NACC guidelines and understand each criterion.

He also said that all activities should be highlighted in the IQAC newsletter.

Dr. Srinivasan questioned regarding the fundings received through minor and major projects. He advised that funding from TANSCH, 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.

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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. Pandiarajan 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.

The meeting came to an end at 1.15pm .

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