

Andhra Loyola College (Autonomous): Vijayawada – 520 008
Minutes of the Meeting of Board of Management
held on 27th June 2023, Tuesday, at 9.30 A.M.

A meeting of the Board of Management was held in hybrid mode on 27th June 2023, Tuesday, at 9.30 A.M. in the College Conference Hall. Rev Fr K Stanislaus, SJ, Provincial and President, Board of Management, chaired the Meeting attended by the following Members:

Members Present:

1. Rev Fr.K.A.Stanislaus, SJ, Provincial	President
2. Rev Fr.P Balashowry, SJ, Rector	Vice President
3. Rev Fr.Dr.G.A.P. Kishore, SJ, Principal	Secretary
4. Rev Fr.Dr.M.Sagayaraj, SJ, Correspondent	Management Representative
5. Rev Fr.K.Anil Kumar, SJ, Controller of Exams	Management Representative
6. Rev Fr.Dr.B.Joji, SJ, Director, ALIET	Educationist
7. UGC Nominee	(not yet appointed)
8. Dr. S. Shobha Rani, RJDCE (FAC)	Govt. Nominee
9. Prof. N Usha, Krishna University	University Nominee
10. Dr.P.V.S.Sairam, IQAC Coordinator	Staff Representative
11. Dr.K.Rayapa Reddy, Secretary-Academic Activities	Staff Representative
12. Sri G.M.Srirangam, NAAC, NIRF & RUSA Coordinator	Staff Representative

Agenda:

1. In the Chair : Rev Fr.K.A.Stanislaus, SJ, President
2. Invocation : Rev Fr.P.Balashowry, SJ, Vice President
3. Welcome : Rev Fr.K.A.Stanislaus, SJ, President
4. Brief Review of the Academic Year 2022 - 2023: Rev.Fr. Principal
5. Presentation of the Minutes and Resolutions of the Academic Council Meetings I and II for the year 2022-2023 for Ratification: Dr.K.Rayapa Reddy, Secretary, Academic Activities.
6. Presentation of the Minutes of Finance Committee Meeting for the Financial Year 2022-2023 for Ratification : Rev.Fr.Principal
7. Presentation of the *College Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR)* and *NAAC Feedback Analysis* for the year 2022-2023 for Ratification: Dr.P.V.S.Sairam, IQAC Coordinator.
8. Any Other Matter with the Permission of the Chair
9. President's Concluding Remarks
10. Vote of Thanks: Rev Fr.Dr.M.Sagayaraj, SJ, Correspondent

The proceedings commenced with Rev Fr.P. Balashowry, SJ, Vice President, Board of Management, invoking God's blessings for the fruitful conduct of the proceedings.

Fr.President, extended a warm welcome to all the Members. In his opening remarks, Fr.President observed that the power of Education has the potential to create innovative leaders and said that the scenario of Higher Education in A.P. with its new challenges calls upon the academicians to play a greater role in planing well for the next generation learners especially in the context of National Education Policy-2020 (NEP-2020), commercialization of education and the digital divide. Referring to the educational priorities undergoing a sea change, he called upon the Faculty to formulate suitable strategies for future while drawing upon the lessons learnt from the past experiences in order to mould the students as "men and women for others with Competence, Conscience and Compassionate Commitment" in tune with the vision of the College.

Welcoming the new Curriculam Framework introduced by the APSCHE in the light of NEP-2020 and the emerging changes pursuant thereto, Fr.President noted that "Confidence is the Key for any Success" and said that with such confidence we should do our best to mould our students as global citizens.

Later, Fr.President invited Fr.Principal to present a Review of the Academic Year 2022-2023. The Academic Review presented by Fr.Principal through PPT included the highlights as under:

- **Commencement of the Academic Year:** On account of the continued adverse impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic, the 2022-2023 Academic Year began as detailed below –

For Senior Intermediate on 1st July 2022

For Junior Intermediate on 18th July 2022

For UG III and V Semesters and PG II and IV Semesters on 20th July 2022

For UG I Semester on 21st September 2022 and

For PG I Semester on 12th November 2022;

- **Profile of the College**, total Teaching Staff (190), including the adjunct Faculty and newly recruited Faculty (10), Non-Teaching Staff 96 and Students' Strength (5245);
- **Inauguration of Platinum Jubilee Year of Andhra Loyola College** and the newly built two Academic Blocks by His Excellency Sri Abdul Nazeer, Hon'ble Governor of A.P., on 12.04.2023;
- **Introduction of New U.G. Programmes:** Three new U.G. Programmes, i.e. Bachelor of Computer Applications (B.C.A.); B.Sc., Statistics, Computer Science, Economics; and B.Sc., Statistics, Computer Science, Accountancy. With these, the total number of U.G. Programmes in operation currently stands at 31 with 40 Sections, P.G. Programmes at 2 and Intermediate Groups at 5;
- **New Officials;**
- **Additional Qualifications acquired:** Six Faculty Members being awarded Ph.D. With these, the total number of Ph.D. holders among our Staff goes up to 66; while that of the Faculty Members with M.Phil. stands at 23; and the Faculty Members with NET and SET Qualification at 45;
- **Submission of Ph.D. Thesis/Registration for Ph.D:** 05 Faculty have submitted their Ph.D Theses and 05 Faculty have got themselves registered for Ph.D. With this, the total number of Faculty presently pursuing their Ph.D goes up to 16;

➤ **Awards and Recognitions:**

Institutional Achievement: College being awarded All India 94th Rank by the NIRF for the Year 2022 on 15th July 2022;

Institutional Awards viz. (1) an **Award of Excellence** presented to the College by A.P. Greening and Beautification Corporation, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh, in recognition of its contribution to greening the State through its own Green Campus during the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Celebrations on 15.08.2022; (2) a **Certificate of Merit for rendering Meritorious Service** by the District Collector and Magistrate, NTR District, on behalf of Govt. of A.P., during the Republic Day Celebrations 2023; and (3) the **Red Cross Excellence Award** presented to the College by the Indian Red Cross Society Branch for conducting Voluntary Blood Donation Camps during Red Cross Day Celebration on 8th May 2023;

Individual: Four Faculty Members being conferred with different Awards, Honours, Recognitions: (1) Dr.T.Srikumar (Physics) awarded **National Best Inspirational Teacher Award 2022** by Avishkar Foundation, Maharashtra; (2) Mr.P.Venu Gopala Rao (Mathematics) awarded **Dr.Sarvepalli Radha Krishnan National Excellence Award 2022** from the International Multidisciplinary Research Foundation on 05.09.2022; and (3) Dr.K.Ramya Krishna (Agriculture and Rural Development) awarded **Young Soil Scientist Award** from Jaipur National University, Rajasthan, on 04.06.2022; and (4) **Dr.M.C.Rao** (Physics) ranked among the Top 2% Researchers in the World by Elsevier Journals in Materials Science Category;

Patents: 02 Patents secured by Dr.B.Balaji Bhanu (Electronics) for (i) Agriculture Monitoring Device Using Sensors and (ii) Smart

and Control of an Indoor Vegetation Environment System Using Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning Approach, from the Govt. of India and the Republic of South Africa;

- **Faculty's Professional Contribution** including Conduct of International Seminars/Conferences (11); Papers Presented (57) Publications (94); Books Authored (03); Invited Talks Delivered (16); and Radio Talks Presented (15);
- Faculty participation in **68** Seminars/ Webinars/Workshops/FDPs;
- **Academic Enrichment of Students** including Student Seminars/Workshops conducted (29); Industrial Tours/Field Trips (12); Guest Lectures/Invited Talks (35); Students' Participation in Seminars/Workshops;
- Students' Achievements;
- **Loyolites Enterprises:** To hone up their Entrepreneurial Skills, under the guidance of their Faculty, 42 Students of the Business Administration Department joined together, each one making a minimum initial investment of Rs.1,000/- and opened Loyolites Enterprises on 30th September 2022 to cater to the various needs of fellow Students during their Break time, capturing the hitherto uncaptured market potential in the Campus at affordable prices.
- Sports and Games;
- Different events organized on the Campus;
- Library activities including Loyola Reviewers Association's Activities;
- Activities of NCC, NSS, NGC, Women's Cell, and MAGIC-Youth;
- Inauguration of Rowing Simulator (Rs.10 Lacs) – an artificial Boat Pulling Instrument – in the College Naval Wing Office on 25.05.2023.

- Activities of Extension Programme ALANA and ALERT, Equal Opportunities Cell (EOC), and HEPSN;
- Jawahar Knowledge Centre and Students' Placements: 172
- APSSDC-sponsored Employability Skills Centre's activities;
- Hostel Life;
- Humanitarian Assistance amounting to Rs.4,40,000/- extended to students for their Medical Expenses;
- Student Welfare Schemes implemented: **285 students** including sportsmen and women, got benefitted through the Management Freeships and Scholarships during this academic year to the tune of **Rs.17,13,960/-**; and
- **In Memoriam:** Rev.Fr.C.Peter Raj, SJ (Aged 76), the ninth Principal of the College, breathed his last on 28.12.2022.

Appreciating Fr.Principal for presenting a detailed and meticulously recorded Academic Review, Fr.President commended the numerous activities conducted and creditable achievements made.

Ratifications:

I. Minutes of the Academic Council:

Taking up the next item on the agenda, Fr.President invited Dr.K.Rayapa Reddy, Secretary-Academic Activities, to present the minutes of Academic Council Meetings I and II held during the academic year 2022-2023.

The Secretary-Academic Activities presented the minutes of the Academic Council Meetings (held on 05.12.2022 and 15.06.2023) including the Resolutions of the Standing Academic Councils, Boards of Studies (UG & PG) as well as the Resolutions concerning introduction of three new UG Programmes viz. 1) *BBA Business Analytics* and (2) *BMS Maritime Logistics* with an intake of 60 students each; and (3) a 5-years *Integrated MS*

Programme in Computer Science with Cognitive Systems with an intake of 50 students from the Academic Year 2023-2024 and sought the ratification of the same by the Board of Management.

Post-presentation of the minutes of the meetings of Academic Council by the Secretary-Academic Activities, Fr.President invited the Members to express their views/observations, if any.

Additional Inputs by the Principal:

With regard to the Resolution No.01 of the Standing Academic Councils dated 04.11.2022 and 28.04.2023 concerning introduction of 4-years Honours Programmes at the UG Level, Fr.Principal mentioned the purpose of both the Resolutions being the same and said that the Resolution dated 04.11.2022 was passed following the APSCHE constituting a Committee towards the end of October 2022 on introducing UG Honours Programmes in the State in the light of National Education Policy-2020 and the latter after the announcement of the State Government's policy decision on the same.

Hence, Fr.Principal said that all the existing 3-years UG Programmes of the College were converted into a Single Major 4-years Honours Programmes.

He further said that the Honours Programmes under the new Curriculum Framework would afford the students multiple Entry and Exit Options at the end of each year of the Programme and a Certificate/Diploma/Bachelor's Degree/ Honours Degree would be awarded to the qualifying students as per the exit option exercised.

In this connection, Fr.Principal said that ALC, as an Autonomous College, introduced an Optional Second Minor for the benefit of its students. He further said that students were required to get 50% Credits in the Single Major and 24 Credits in the Minor, which would enable them to pursue PG Programme in both the Subjects. Students securing above 75% marks in the

Single Major could pursue Research in the 4th year and students with less than 75% could continue in the Honours Programme, he added.

With regard to the Resolution on Grace Period, Fr.Principal said that the discretionary power of granting an additional one year of Grace Period - *over and above the two years Grace Period granted under the University norms* - to the students having a Single Subject arrear was vested in the Principals of Autonomous Colleges as delegated by the affiliating University.

With the foregoing inputs by Fr.Principal, the Board of Management approved the Minutes and Resolutions of the Academic Council I and II dated 05.12.2022 and 15.06.2023 respectively.

II. Minutes of the Finance Committee:

Later, Fr.President invited Fr.Principal to present to the Board of Management the minutes of the Finance Committee Meeting of 2022-2023 for its Ratification.

After presenting the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 21.06.2023, Fr.Principal informed the Members that the College had not been in receipt of Autonomous Grant since the outbreak of Covid-19 Pandemic. However, the customary practice of allocation and utilization of amounts under different Heads of Autonomy Grant, duly sourced through advance from the College Management, and submission of Utilization Certificate thereof to the UGC was being regularly followed by the College to keep the system in vogue, he added.

Later, the Board of Management approved the minutes and resolutions of the the Finance Committee dated 21.06.2023.

III. Ratification of Annual Quality Assurance Report:

Dr.PVS Sairam, IQAC Coordinator, placed the College *Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR)* and *NAAC Feedback Analysis* for the year 2022-2023 before the Board of Management for its Ratification.

The Board of Management unanimously ratified the presented Annual Quality Assurance Report and the NAAC Feedback Analysis.

Any Other Matter:

Under Any Other Matter of the Agenda, Fr.President invited Mr.G.M.Srirangam, College NAAC, NIRF and RUSA Coordinator, currently on deputation as the Academic Officer to the APSICHE, to make a presentation on the College NIRF Ranking 2023.

Mr.Srirangam, NIRF Coordinator, in his presentation said that ALC, which had been participating in the NIRF Ranking since its commencement in 2017, and consistently being ranked among the top 100 Colleges hitherto, had, for the first time, its Ranking slipped to 101-150 band for the year 2023.

In this connection, he said that the College received an email from the NIRF Secretariat communicating the parameter-wise Scores of the College with a call to make a representation on the subject, if any.

Informing the Members that he undertook a brief analysis of the Scores of the Colleges ranked 100 and below and the Score of the ALC, he said that a few anomalies were noticed.

The NIRF Coordinator further said that an email was sent by the College on 26.06.2023 making a request for Review of the College Ranking.

Referring to a few grey areas identified in his analysis for the College to improve upon further, he noted that ALC's under-performance primarily concerned the segment of Graduation Outcome for want of students'

Placements Data. In this connection, he said that this segment was being significantly strengthened and streamlined from the 2022-23 academic year thanks to the special measures taken by Fr.Principal. He expressed the hope that ALC would, henceforth, put in better performance in this regard.

Observing that it would be a very happy development if the College was awarded a revised Ranking commensurate with its Score, Fr.President appreciated the hardwork put in by all the stakeholders of the College for NIRF Ranking.

Responding to the observation of Fr.President on the possibility of the College credentials being adversely impacted in the light of NIRF 2023 Ranking in its upgradation plans to become a Deemed to be University, Fr.Principal cited the pertinent stipulation of the UGC guidelines “*getting below 100 Ranking for three years*” which did not mention any other specification, including, ‘*consecutive*’.

In this context, mentioning the consistent hardwork being put in all along by the College, Fr.Principal spoke of three different factors i.e. the declining Student Enrollment, diminishing number of Research Publications by the Faculty, and the dwindling salary component of Grant-in-Aid Staff adversely impacting the College NIRF Ranking.

Regarding the Student Enrollment, Fr.Principal said that ALC opting out of the State Government UG Online Admissions Module as per its Rights as a Christian Minority Institution had its adverse impact on the UG Admissions of College for the last two years.

Fr.Principal noted the Grant-in-Aid Faculty’s creditable contribution in the Research domain over the past years publishing good number of Research Papers in prominent Journals of high order as aptly reflected in the significantly high score of the corresponding years. However, this had

started declining with almost all the Grant-in-Aid Faculty getting into the highest pay band and not publishing the Research Articles as before, he added.

Speaking of the significance of Salary Component in NIRF Ranking, Fr.Principal said that this Component of the College pertaining to Grant-in-Aid Staff had been dwindling for quiet some time and would continue its trend with the superannuation of these Staff.

Thus, these three factors were adversely affecting the prospects of the College getting a good enough NIRF Rank, he added.

Referring to the constraints involved in collection of the Students' Placements Data, Fr.Principal attributed these to the lukewarm / or even lack of response from both the student community and their parents to share their Placement details. Fr.Principal further said that a couple of University Registrars participating in the UGC Consultation on Accreditation by NAAC along with him had also expressed similar experience faced by them in this regard. In this connection, he informed the Members of a request made to the UGC by the members of this Consultation to apprise the NAAC and NIRF of the scenario and get the needful done in this regard.

Referring to the downtrend students' strength, Fr.Dr.M.Sagayaraj, S.J., Correspondent, mentioned that the College opting out of the State Government's Online Admissions Module and subsequent denial of Government's Scholarships to the College students had their adverse impact on the admissions. Hence, the College approached the Hon'ble A.P. High Court on the issue of denial of the Scholarships to the students on account of the College adhering to its own admission policy, he added.

In this context, he recalled an observation of the Madras High Court that it was the duty of the State to provide education to its pupils and advised the State Government to pay the entire school fees to the Private Schools.

Sharing common information, Fr. Correspondent said that a recent judgement of a Division Bench of the Supreme Court upholding the Madhya Pradesh High Court's verdict on the constitutionality of the State Government's Fee Regulatory Powers with respect to the Minority Educational Institutions (MEIs) is a major setback to the interests of Minority Educational Institutions. He further said that seeking a Review of this Judgement before a larger Bench of the Apex Court could be considered.

Sharing further information, Fr. Correspondent informed the Board of the Health Insurance Coverage introduced for the Unaided Staff and said that similar coverage for the students could also be considered, making use of the Students Medical Aid Fund component of the College Fee.

He further suggested instituting a sizeable Student Scholarship Fund to accelerate admissions and a Research Fund for further augmenting extensive Research on the Campus.

Observing that the Supreme Court's judgement cited by Fr. Correspondent apparently concerned the Private Unaided Minority Educational Institutions, Fr. President highly appreciated the Health Insurance scheme introduced for the Unaided Staff. On extending similar facility for the students, Fr. President expressed the view that the subject matter needed a further study in the context of short duration of their stay in the College.

Referring to the declining student's strength, Fr. President said that the possibility of offering more number of PG Programmes and introducing new Schools of Law, Education, etc. could be explored.

Responding to the observation of Fr.President, Fr.Principal said that it would take some more time for the College to have the newly introduced UG Curriculum Framework grounded before it could proceed to focus on the Programmes/Projects as noted by Fr.President.

Dr.PVS Sairam, IQAC Coordinator, mentioned that Krishna University had approved the Research Centres of ALC with well qualified Research Guides, who had been publishing a good number of Research Articles in reputed Journals every year. However, the Research Guides in the College were still awaiting the University allotment of Research Scholars, he added.

In this context, Fr.Principal said that as per the available information there was a paucity of Research Scholars even for the Research Guides in the University. He also noted that the University and the APSCHE Officials had said that non allotment of Scholars to the College was unintended.

Fr.President suggested taking up the subject with the University authorities concerned for appropriate action in this regard.

Prof N.Usha, University Nominee: Appreciating the notable achievements made by both the Faculty and the students in the course of the academic year, the University Nominee said that the College, given its consistent creditable track record over the years, would scale greater heights in the years ahead and suggested to all the stakeholders not to worry about the NIRF Ranking. She further said that ALC had been, and, would always be the best College in the State.

Fr.President's Closing Remarks: Expressing his happiness to be a part of the meeting, Rev.Fr.President said that the achievements made in the course of the academic year as reported in the Academic Review-2022-2023 were credit-worthy and very much appreciable. He wished and hoped that the College would cross many a milestone coupled with many more innovative

achievements in the years ahead especially in the Platinum Jubilee year of the College. In this connection, Fr.President emphasised the need for all to put in greater efforts and work hard to make the achievements possible. Before concluding, Fr.President specially thanked, on a personal note, all the Members, especially, the nominees of the Government and the University for their presence and valuable suggestions.

Vote of Thanks: With the foregoing deliberations and ratifications by the Board of Management, the meeting concluded with Rev.Fr.Correspondent proposing a Vote of Thanks duly mentioning the contribution of all the Members and thanking each of them for their active participation, valuable suggestions, guidance and support.




(Fr.Dr.G.A.P.Kishore, SJ)

PRINCIPAL
ANDHRA LOYOLA COLLEGE
VIJAYAWADA-8.