

Minutes of the Governing Council Meetings held on Saturday 20th April 2024

The Governing Council meetings of St. John College of Engineering and Management was held on Saturday, 20th April 2024 in the SJCEM Conference Room from 10:30 am onwards.

The Chairman, Mr. Albert W. D'Souza presided over the meeting.

The following Members were present for the meeting

1. Mr. Albert W. D'Souza
2. Mrs. Elvina D'Souza
3. Mrs. Elaine D'Souza Buthello
4. Mr. Aldridge D'Souza
5. Most Rev. Bishop Leo Cornelio SVD
6. Most Rev. Bishop Gerald Almeida
7. Dr. S. Krishnamoorthy
8. Mr. George Castelino
9. Dr. K. Venkatesham (online)
10. Rev. Fr. Adolph Furtado
11. Rev. Fr. Joby Mathew
12. Mr. Avinash Shastri
13. Dr. Reuben Buthello
14. Dr. Pandharinath Ghonge
15. Dr. S. Kumaraperumal
16. Mrs. Dipti Lopes
17. Mr. Prasad Deshpande
18. Dr. G. V. Mulgund

The following Special Invitees were present for the meeting

1. Dr. Suhas Pednekar
2. Dr (Mrs. Savita J. Tauro
3. Dr. N. Shani
4. Mr. Satheesh Shetty
5. Mr. Vidyadhar PAtil
6. Mr. Sudhir Babu
7. Mr. Baptist D'Souza
8. Rev. Sr. Irene Pais

The following Members / Special invitees were granted leave of absence

1. Most Rev. Bishop Percival Fernandez
2. Mr. R. H. Mendonca
3. Mr. C.S. Sangitrao
4. Rev. Sr. Dr. M. Venissa A.C.
5. Rev. Fr. Magi Murzello
6. Dr. Evans Coutinho

Welcome by the Chairman

The meetings commenced with the Campus Prayer, after which Chairman, Mr. Albert W. D'Souza extended a warm welcome to all the Members and Special Invitees. He invited the Principal to present the Institute report of their Academic Progress.

Institute wise Presentation / Review of the Academic Progress

Dr. G.V. Mulgund, Principal of St. John College of Engineering and Management presented the Academic Progress of MMS Department, Engineering Degree and Diploma.

Before the respective presentations, the Minutes of the previous meetings held on 2nd May 2023 were read and approved by the Members. The presentations started with the Action Taken Report on the decisions recorded in the Governing Council meetings dated 2nd May 2023 followed by the Academic Progress for the year 2023-24. It included details of Admissions, Students and Faculty Strength, Results Analysis, Extra and Co-curricular Activities, Seminars / Workshops / Trainings Conducted for Students, Placements, Industry Visit / Internships, Students and Faculty Achievements, Way Forward and SWOT analysis.

During the respective presentations, Dr. Mulgund informed the Members that the Engineering College has been granted Autonomy status from the academic year 2024-25. They sought approval for the names proposed for Autonomous Governing Board, Academic Advisory Council and Board for Studies. They also presented proposed academic plan, credit distribution structure.

After all the presentation were completed, the Chairman invited the Members to give their inputs.

The Members first congratulated the Management, Principals and Faculty of St. John College of Engineering and Management for getting Autonomy. They appreciated the progress of the Institutes and the reports presented and shared their observations / suggestions.

Dr. Suhas Pednekar –

- He suggested that this current Governing Board be called as the Executive Body for Aldel Education Trust. Under Autonomy each individual College Board can be called as Governing Body / Governing Board.
- Education should set up an equilibrium in society and contribute to society growth. Teachers need to be like students – continuously learning.
- He suggested the use Artificial Intelligence to modify the presentation mode.
- He also suggested courses on Artificial Intelligence in Leadership.
- Implementation of NEP and Autonomy gives a tremendous amount of freedom. We should do things differently not just follow others.

- We should prepare to become a University. We have to establish our quality. Proper branding of the institution will help in becoming a University.
- All courses should be integrated with one another.
- Research should be done by teachers – will happen once Ph.D. teachers number is more.
- Every activity should be based on outcomes. Curriculum should be outcome driven.
- Use innovative methods for evaluation of students “Design Approach”.
- Constant brainstorming sessions between all Institutions faculty should be done.
- Introduce more case studies in the education pattern.

Bishop Gerald Almeida

- He appreciated that the students, faculty, placements are good.

Dr. S. Krishnamoorthy

- He congratulated on the growth of the Campus.
- He suggested that the Governing Body report should mention about the Outcome measures and Improvement trends.
- He advised to work on the students who achieve accolades and taken them to higher levels as such students add to the perception index.
- He also advised to identify good students in the local areas and encourage them to take admissions.
- He suggested that impact of value added courses be mentioned.
- Regarding Laghuswapna event, he suggested to make action plan on the 62 companies visited by us, to make follow up visits for further planning and to enlarge the connections.
- He said that when Faculty members show merit, the Institute should develop them further.
- The NPTEL course content should be checked before the faculty enroll for NPTEL courses, we should identify the courses that add value level to the department.
- Bureau of Indian Standards - We should give students a project on implementing at least one standard in the industry.
- The Colleges should identify areas for research and publications.
- Autonomy
 - Use the Design Thinking Methodology approach to design the course content. We should not become Autonomous for name sake.
 - We need to harness the parents, students and faculty strengths. Use student numbers as a strength area for the institution. Uses these strengths in a focused manner and tap their talent.

Archbishop Leo Cornelio

- He appreciated the progress of the Campus

- He said that the Institutes can get recognition through research, journals. The Colleges should try to tap more sources of funding for journals and research papers.
- Placements can be further improved through industry contacts.

Mr. George Castelino -

- Appreciated the development over 16 years and the Autonomous status.
- He added that with autonomy, the faculty have the freedom and also the responsibility to do better. They need to be conscious and not become stagnant but keep developing and moving forward.

Fr. Adolph Furtado-

- He extended congratulations to the Management for the progress made.
- He suggested that we need to think out of the box. The time between thought and action should be quick.
- While planning, we need to look at things from a broad perspective.
- We should train our students to be placed abroad.
- We need to think of a non-fee based income setup (eg. ZOHO model)

Fr. Joby Mathew-

- The best way to bring about a perception change is to tap alumni and achievers. Use them as brand ambassadors.
- Autonomy should bring a change - make us different from other Autonomous institutions.

The General Manager, Mr. Satheesh Shetty, presented the Institution wise Budgets for 2024-25. After discussion, the same was approved.

It was suggested that the M.E. Computer Engineering budget be prepared separately.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks by Mr. Aldridge D'Souza.

Dr. Kamal Shah
Principal / Member Secretary

Mr. Albert W. D'Souza
Chairman