

YEAR 2014-2015

IQAC

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), established in accordance with NAAC guidelines, is integral to the protraction and augmentation of the quality of an institution post accreditation. In SJCC, the cell is neither a hierarchal structure nor a mere record keeping exercise, but serves a vehicle that streamlines the efforts of the institution in promoting its holistic academic excellence. The sanguine efforts of the cell have been central to the development of a system for action to improve the performance of the institution – both academic and administrative, and have been the impetus behind the internalization of quality culture and the institutionalization of best practices that are the precursors of quality enhancement.

Curricular Aspects:

1. Partnership with Professional Institutions

The college had signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the following associations and institutions to provide students an opportunity to pursue professional courses along with their degrees.

- Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA)
- Association of Chartered Certified Accounts (ACCA)

2. Partnerships with Industry

The college had collaborated with various industries such as Ernst & Young (E&Y), Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), International Skill Development Course (ISDC) in order to underline an exchange of learning and information on both sides of the undertaking.

3. Placements

Placements activities at St. Joseph's College of Commerce have always achieved an impressive recruitment record since inception. The placement performance was gratifying, both in terms of response from the industry as well as the performance of the students. Students were recruited on the basis of both on and off campus placements.

4. Partnership with NGOs

Our institute having always been committed in inculcating a sense of responsibility amongst its students had associated itself with different NGOs and social enterprises. In order to strengthen this objective, the college, while hosting its annual cultural fest Dhvani, actively promoted a newly established NGO 'Agape' and provided a platform for them by organizing a fashion show.

Fiesta 2014, an annual event organized by SJCC, tied up with *Sneha Care Home* and celebrated a day with AIDS affected children. The objective of the event was to sensitize students and raise awareness towards such social issues.

5. Professional Certificate Programmes

Various certificate programmes are reviewed and revised annually in response to the changing needs and demands of the academia and Industry. These courses run concurrently with the Graduate Programme and are spread over 40 to 60 hours of inclusive classroom instruction, practical work, assignments, projects, case studies and presentation. Some of the courses include Entrepreneurship Development Programme, Market Analysis & Investment Management and Human Resources Management.

6. Academic Progression

The academic progress of every student is integral to the growth of the institution. Emphasis is placed on improving and sustaining the academic competence of the students through various programmes such as the bridge courses, guest lectures and remedial classes. Guest sessions enable experiential learning and reinforce the theoretical teaching that occurs in the classroom. Remedial classes are conducted for the benefit of students who need additional guidance.

7. International Exposure

Our College, in collaboration with Swansea University, Kobe University, Dulles University and ESDES France, has laid the foundation for foreign university collaborations, which paves the way in appreciating the diversity of people and culture on SJCC campus.

The following are our academic partners:

- ESDES France
- Dulles University Virginia
- IESEG School of Management, LILLE, Paris
- Kobe College , Japan
- Swansea University , USA

The students are also encouraged to enroll for LSE Summer School and King's College London Summer School Programme. At LSE the students are given the opportunity to interact with people from diverse backgrounds and cultures, both inside and outside of.

8. Industrial Visits

The college conducted various international and local industrial visits for the B.Com, BBM, B.Com TT and the PG departments.

Teaching-Learning and Evaluation:

The College had decided to introduce the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) from the academic year 2015-16. The CBCS offered students a greater choice of courses tailored to their interests and career goals.

The objectives of the CBCS were:

- To transform the pedagogy into an interactive process where students could evolve from being passive listeners to active contributors in knowledge creation.
- To design an interdisciplinary curriculum that includes specifically designed value oriented and vocational courses with well-defined course objectives and outcomes.

- To expose the students to real life experiences through internships and project work.

Research, Consultancy and Extension:

The Research Centre of the Institution publishes two bi-annual research journals in an academic year. **The Institution Management Research Review** (ISSN 2249-4359), is a peer reviewed journal which is committed to publishing scholarly, impactful and theoretical research articles. Eight issues been successfully released.

The Student Research Journal is an in-house journal which provides a research platform for students in areas related to theoretical, applied and interdisciplinary research in Commerce, Business Studies and Management. Post Graduate students are also given periodical training workshops in statistical packages which help them to participate and make paper presentation at various National and International seminars. BBM students are given group projects in various researchable areas with adequate guidance for these from the research centre.

Infrastructure and Learning Resources:

In terms of infrastructure, the college renovated the Computer lab, Principal's office, Examination Center, Reception area and the Main Corridor.

Student Support and Progression:

1. Technological Improvement

The Institution recognizes the needs of a dynamic, demanding workplace that is increasingly reliant on technology. To equip the students, the college had designed innovative pedagogical methods that use state of art technology.

The college upgraded its ERP system with the dedicated efforts of the ERP team. The latest version of the software boasts of advanced features such as:

- Short Messaging Service (SMS) for intimating the parents about his/her child's absence.
- Online Payment Gate way implemented for admissions.

- Consolidated Marks cards.
- Auditorium and Class room bookings made online enabling the user to get the availability and confirmation online, and several more features, a detailed list of which can be found on the college website.
- Implemented Moodle an open source software for conducting online examinations.
- Period wise update of co-curricular leave

This had been augmented through the introduction of additional measures such as Software Binary System and Antivirus software programs to ensure secure browsing and seamless transactions. Several classrooms were refitted with new LED projectors and the teachers had been equipped with new laptops.

To enhance our security and monitoring activities, several CCTV cameras were installed in strategic locations. Additionally, the use of Biometric scanners was implemented to ensure a foolproof system of recording attendance for the staff. The College also facilitates a fully equipped state of the art Language Lab which accommodates forty students at any given time.

The Institution boasted of vast collection of books and periodicals in its library, spanning a diverse section of disciplines. An additional 474 books were added to the collection.

2. Mentorship Programme

The role of the Mentors is to contribute to the holistic development of the students under their care. Mentoring entails to be supportive towards the student and to help a student in any specific way in which he or she may require guidance. Each class has a mentor, the role of the mentors is to be supportive towards the student and be a link between the student and the department, between the subject teachers and the students, between the parents and the students and between the students themselves. They contribute to the holistic development of the students under their care.

3. Ignitors

As part of the Ignitors programme, there were a number of activities which not only encouraged them to nurture critical enquiry and creativity among the students, but also gave them ideas on building a better and happier life. The main objective of the program was to 'IGNITE' the audience on a subject which would create awareness and drive them towards better thoughts and actions.

4. Scholarship

The Management sponsors midday meals for 116 students. A total of 100 students received the scholarship.

5. Skill Progression

The institution believes the holistic development of its students is complete when academic instruction is adequately supplemented by skill building. The college recognizes the importance of skills at workplace and otherwise and are therefore committed to enhance the skills of its students by incorporating skill components in the curriculum that include among others field work, project reports, workshops, internships and certificate courses. The students are also offered pre placements guidance and counselling.

6. Guest Lectures

To supplement academic in class learning, the college invited eminent speakers from various walks of life to address the students. This created a vibrant platform for the students to engage with various disciplines and be inspired by ideas, people and organizations. Talks, workshops and seminars as well as national seminars were held for the same.

Innovations and Best Practices:

1. Curriculum Advancement

Designing a flexible, industry centric and evolving curriculum that is deeply rooted in the contemporary developments of the world of finance and business. The process of curriculum development and improvement is a shared endeavor with multiple stakeholders.

- Appointment of Subject Coordinators for individual subjects, who have regular discussions to suggest necessary changes in the curriculum
- Collecting expert opinion on the suggested changes, from distinguished practitioners in the field
- Deliberation of the changes in curriculum by the Board of Studies, comprising of subject teachers, academicians, student representatives and Industry representatives for deliberation
- Incorporation of changes in the curriculum
- Regular staff enrichment programmes and deliberation focused on curriculum advancement.
- Promoting research on campus to facilitate the staff to map the latest advancements in their respective areas of specialization.
- Encouraging Faculty to attend seminars and workshops and present research papers
- Mobilization of learning resources which are searchable, accessible and shareable for curriculum implementation.

2. Education for All

Our goal is to support students coming from the weaker and underprivileged sections of the society by providing higher education and ensuring inclusiveness.