

**REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC AUDIT COMMITTEE-JSS COLLEGE OF ARTS,  
COMMERCE & SCIENCE-2010.**

**INTRODUCTION:**

JSS College of Arts, Commerce and Science was established, by Jagadguru Shivarathreeshwara Maha Vidyapeetha during 1964 as an affiliated college of the University of Mysore, in Mysore. The University granted permanent affiliation to this college in the year 1993.

The College has been offering many Under-graduate courses in the disciplines of Arts, Science and Commerce and Management. The college has also started Post-Graduate course in Biotechnology, a graduate program in science with the subjects Botany, Microbiology and Biotechnology from 2005-06 and UGC sponsored Certificate, Diploma and advanced Diploma Courses in Horticulture, Industrial Microbiology and Electrical and Electronic Equipment Maintenance and also Management sponsored Certificate, Diploma and advanced Diploma in Sharana Sahitya. The academic performance of the college over these years has been highly impressive. The academic activities of the college under Teaching, Research and Extension including the welfare measures, management participation in the growth of the institution have been assessed and accordingly the college has been Re-Accredited with A grade by NAAC during 2008.

The continuous good academic performance and the confidence developed by the institution for introducing academic innovations independent of the affiliating University has resulted in getting Autonomous Status to the college from the year 2005-06. This college belongs to the first batch of five autonomous colleges coming under the University of Mysore and also one of the three Colleges administered by the same Mahavidyapeetha. The college has been functioning as an autonomous college for the last five years. Although there is no statutory requirement for the college activities to be audited by an external peer group, it is a wonderful self assuring effort on the part of the management to periodically get the academic programs evaluated for purposes of strengthening the various Curricular and Co curricular activities of the institution.

Accordingly the JSS Mahavidyapeetha have constituted the following audit committee:

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| 1) Dr P Venkataramaiah<br>Former Vice-Chancellor<br>Kuvempu University                  | Chairperson |
| 2) Dr S R Ramesh<br>Prof. of Zoology<br>University of Mysore<br>Manasagangotri, Mysore  | Member      |
| 3) Dr Kotreshwar<br>Prof. of Commerce<br>University of Mysore<br>Manasagangotri, Mysore | Member      |
| 4) Dr K.M.Chander<br>Prof. of English<br>University of Mysore<br>Manasagangotri, Mysore | Member      |

**REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE:**

The Audit Committee met on 22 Nov 2010 at the chambers of the College Principal at 2.00 PM. The Principal made an elaborate presentation on the activities of the college vis a vis the programs initiated during the period of the autonomy. The college is located on an area of 08 acres of land adjacent to Chamundi Hills. All the academic activities are organized in a huge three storied building. The college has enough number of class rooms and laboratories with adequate facilities. The college is planning to organize all the Post Graduate programs exclusively on the third floor of the building.

The total student strength is 1613 including 55 students from other countries mostly from Afghanistan, Iran, and Mauritius and 30 from other states. It is interesting to note that nearly 40% of the students are from rural background. The staff strength is also impressive with 31 Professors, 02 Readers under UGC scheme and 30 Lecturers on permanent basis appointed by the management and 33 lecturers on part time basis. The college has 01 Director of Physical Education and two Librarians. The institution is managed by a highly enthusiastic and dynamic Principal.

The committee went through the Internal Academic Audit report as well as the Annual Quality Assurance Report prepared and submitted by the college to the Director of NAAC Bangalore.

The committee noted the constitution of various statutory bodies required under the provisions of the UGC guidelines/rules/statutes. The statutory bodies like Governing Body, Academic Council, Boards of Studies of various subjects, and the Finance Committee have been duly constituted. The college has also constituted non-statutory bodies like Admission Committee, Examination Committee, Planning and Evaluation Committee, Library Committee and IQAC. The IQAC constituted by the college has wide representation involving teachers, members from management, University representative, special invitee from Gulbarga University with the Principal as Chairperson.

#### **Governing Body:**

The Governing Body has been constituted under the chairpersonship of His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Sri Shivarathree Deshikendra Swamiji the president of JSS Mahavidyapeetha. The composition of the Governing Body is broad based with the induction of several eminent educationists.

#### **Infrastructure for Teaching and Learning:**

The college has built up very impressive infrastructure facilities for teaching and learning for both UG and PG courses. The present floor area of 15000 sq.mts has been further expanded with an additional floor exclusively for PG programs with an area of 5000sq. mts. There are 37 spacious lecture halls, 2 AV rooms, one auditorium and 18 laboratories. In addition, the college has two museums maintained by Botany and Zoology departments and a centre for satellite based education- EDUSAT and EVERONN. The sports facilities with spacious play grounds, indoor game facility and multi Gym are available. The college has hostels for both men and women in addition to a canteen and a garden.

### Academic Programs:

Apart from the continuation of the existing courses of study that are offered over the years, the college has made constant efforts to add new courses keeping in view the job potential for the students in addition to making them become competitive in the context of globalization. The college has started M.Com course as well as Certificate and Diploma courses in Animation. In addition, the Academic Council has taken an important decision to adopt CBCS for the PG programs from the year 2010-2011. The syllabi of the UG courses are also revised and adopted.

### Empowerment of Teachers:

The college has been making constant efforts to improve the academic profile of the teachers by encouraging them to do research to improve their qualifications, to attend seminars, to present research papers in conferences and apply for funding to continue research work. Three teachers have successfully completed Ph.D and another three are pursuing research towards Ph.D. Three teachers have completed M.Phil degree. At present 50% of the teachers have Ph.D as the highest qualification.

### Research and Extension:

The total performance of any Educational Institution is judged not only by the Teaching program but also by the involvement of its Faculty in Research and Extension. There are 5 ongoing Minor research projects funded by UGC and there are no major research projects at present. However proposals for 3 projects to ICMR and 2 projects to DST have been submitted for Major Research funding. In addition, 6 proposals have been submitted to UGC for minor research grant. Although constant efforts are made by the college for promoting research, the number of research publications do not commensurate with the faculty strength.

The extension activity is mainly confined to the activities of NSS volunteers. A 'Social work' camp was organized by the students of the department of Social Work of the college in association with the organization DEED for one week. The camp was aimed at familiarizing the students with regard to the life style of tribal population as well as social science research methodology. The students during the camp period conducted survey and obtained data on the number of persons who smoke tobacco related products, number of persons consuming alcohol drinks, sanitary conditions in the house etc.

It would be better to plan result oriented extension activities involving not only NSS volunteers but also other willing students. This type of sensitization of students for societal issues is also the need of the time in consonance with the concept of quality of Higher Education.

#### **College With Potential for Excellence:**

In the journey for achieving academic excellence the college has been initiating many programmes after obtaining Autonomy. As a result of the effort made by the college it is gratifying to note that the college has been identified by the UGC as a "College with Potential for Excellence" and UGC has already released a grant of Rs 75.00 lakhs. This is both an opportunity and challenge to the college faculty to achieve EXCELLENCE in the real meaning of the term.

#### **Sustenance of Academic Culture:**

The college has been making efforts to sustain the academic environment and promote good academic culture among the teachers and students. This is seen in the periodic organization of workshops on **Consumer Protection Act, Thriyoga, CBCS and Entrepreneurship** during 2009-10. Seminars sponsored by UGC are also organized by the college in addition to large number of special lectures by inviting eminent scholars from different colleges and universities.

The college has made efforts to enhance the quality of teaching and learning by the students of B Com and BBM introducing experiential learning component by taking them to various branches of State Bank of Mysore, Cooperative Training Centre and Rural Bank to understand the actual bank transactions including the functioning of cooperative bank.

#### **New Initiatives:**

The Management of the college has emphasis on the courses that have high value system. Accordingly Certificate and Diploma courses on Sharana Sahitya are offered. These courses are supplemented with the establishment of Buddhist Study Centre with the assistance of UGC. This Centre is offering Certificate and Diploma courses on Buddhism.

### **Student Support:**

Being a government aided Institution large number of students get 'student concession' in the form of scholarship and fee exemption. The College has also made efforts to institute many endowment scholarships in addition to management offering a few scholarships to the economically weak students. The college can motivate Alumni Association to institute many scholarships to the poor and merited students.

### **Students' Activities and Performance:**

The students of the college have participated in many inter Collegiate sports at the city level, Mysore University level and Inter University level also. Many of them have obtained prizes.

The performance of the students in the final examination is also impressive. The college has made earnest efforts to improve the system of evaluation in order to make it more error free and transparent.

### **Career Guidance and Placement:**

The college is aware of the responsibilities in empowering the students to face interviews and accordingly a workshop on "**Entrepreneurship Development and Career Planning**" was organized. A small number of 11 students were selected in the campus interview conducted by Infosys.

The college has to enlarge the scope of activities of the Career Guidance and Placement Cell. The officers from the Employment Bureau of the University need to be invited to educate the students about the opportunities available for employment in the private as well as government sectors in addition to self employment.

### **Library:**

The library has a total carpet area of 14,400 sq. ft. with a seating capacity for 150. A separate reading room for students and staff with a seating capacity of 200 is made available. It is completely computerized and the open accession system followed which is highly beneficial to the students. The Library also has an old book bank facility created with the assistance of UGC for the benefit of the students.

The college library has got the INFLIBNET facility provided by the UGC. This has enhanced the status of the college. Through INFLIBNET the college has access to 2100 E-Journals and 51,000 E-Books.

### **Teachers' Performance:**

The Quality of Higher Education provided by a college depends mostly on the Quality of Teachers. Hence performance appraisal of teachers becomes an important component in the functioning of the college.

This college has made good effort in getting the students' appraisal on the performance of teachers. The appraisal forms have been analyzed on a four point scale. The management need to discuss this and those teachers whose rating is less than 75% need to be motivated to improve in certain specific area.

The college has to take the self appraisal reports from the teachers and get them evaluated on the agreed system of weightage. In addition, **it is also essential to introduce Peer appraisal so that the performance of the teachers can be seen in three dimensions independently and also together. This would give good yardstick for assessing their performance.**

### **GENERAL OBSERVATIONS:**

The college has made adequate preparations and was able to conduct their own examination, evaluation and tabulation of the results through computers adopting efficient software. The examinations are conducted as per the schedule and the results are announced within 3-5 days of completion of the theory examinations.

**SUGGESTIONS :**

- 1) Every teacher to be encouraged to get minor or major Research projects from funding agencies.
- 2) Nearly 50% of the faculty does not have Ph.D. degree. They should be encouraged to undertake research and to get into Ph D program at an early date.
- 3) The college should plan to use appropriately the feed back from the students on the teachers' performance to improve upon the faculty performance both in content and delivery.
- 4) The evaluation of teachers' performance by the students should be combined with the evaluation of self appraisal and Peer appraisal to get good index on the performance of teachers.
- 5) The college has to adopt an extension activity through which a meaningful result is achieved on any societal issue identified under the program. This can go beyond what is done through NSS.
- 6) The Career Guidance and Placement Cell of the college should invite and arrange lectures from IAS, IPS, IFS and other persons qualified through Central Service Examinations so as to motivate the students for competitive examinations.
- 7) The Placement Cell should organize lectures by the officers from Employment Bureau to educate the students on the job opportunities.
- 8) Management should take initiative to establish more number of Endowments to support the merited but needy students.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT :**

The Audit Committee wish to place on record their appreciation to the college Principal and all the supporting staff for the courtesy extended to the committee during their visit to the college and also pranams to His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Sri Shivarathree Deshikendra Swamiji for nominating the members to the Audit Committee.

Professor P. Venkataramaiah  
Chairperson

Professor S. R. Ramesh  
Member

Professor G. Kotreshwar  
Member

Professor K. M. Chander  
Member

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