



An Institution of
the Society for the Higher Education
of Women in India

Sophia College (Autonomous)

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ACADEMIC AUDIT CONDUCTED AT SOPHIA COLLEGE

FOR THE YEAR 2021-22

General Observations and Suggestions

Since the year under review for audit was shadowed by the pandemic lockdown, the various departments were constrained in many ways and were not able to conduct many activities which they normally do. Despite that, each department had taken up the challenge, risen to the occasion and put in a lot of effort.

- Most of the departments delivered excellent presentations accompanied by elaborate and detailed visually pleasing power point presentations showcasing their departments and highlighting the activities of the staff and students of the department.
- Almost all the departments have offered at least one add on course, while some have conducted more than one.
- The staff members are part of various committees within the college, in the University and other reputed organizations. There is representation of the staff in other Colleges, Organizations and University.
- Most of the Science departments are involved in Postgraduate programmes. More Arts departments may be encouraged to take up research and start PG programmes.
- Staff should strive to publish their research work in recognized, peer-reviewed journals.
- Examination results of all the departments needs to be presented in a uniform format.

- Student progression is required to be followed up and presented by all departments.
- An effort may be made to increase inter- departmental and cross faculty collaboration in activities, including seminars, conferences and workshops.

A general suggestion – A common uniform template should be shared with all the departments as a starting point. All the departments can then be told to put in their creativity using the template as baseline.

Department of Zoology

Strengths

- Offered an add-on course on 'Forensic Sciences'.
- Project based learning and good use of ICT based tools.
- Had a lot of virtual activities, including excursion and guest lectures due to the lockdown.
- Staff invited as resource person at local and state level.
- Department is recognized for Ph.D. programme with several students registered.

Suggestions/Observations

- Progression of students cannot be tracked since the department does not have a third year program.

Department of Physics

Strengths

- Offered an add-on course on 'Python for beginners'.
- Remedial teaching is conducted.
- The department has organized several activities to encourage students
- Staff has presented and published papers.

Suggestions/ observations

- Department is limited by its offer of subject only in the first year. To cultivate an interest in students more inter-departmental activities may be encouraged.

Department of Microbiology

Strengths

- Offered an add on course on 'Clinical Research' and another on 'Scientific writing' (in collaboration with the Dept. of Life Sciences)
- Several innovative teaching learning practices and use of ICT tools were used to compensate for lack of classroom teaching
- Student progression have been recorded for several students.
- Staff have published review articles
- Department is recognized for a Ph.D. programme with several students registered.

Suggestions /observations

- M.Sc. results have not been provided M.Sc. results were not presented.

Department of Mathematics and Statistics

Strengths

- Add on Certificate course offered on 'Data Analysis using Excel'
- Varied techniques using software were used to communicate the difficult aspects of the syllabus.
- Group projects and presentations encouraged for students.
- Alumni engagement – invited for Guest sessions for the students.
- Two faculty members are handling 2 subjects (Maths and Statistics) of which Statistics is open to Arts students

Suggestions/observations

- Students could be encouraged to publish their project work.
- The examination results for Maths do not show the success percentage.

Department of Life Sciences

Strengths

- Add on courses offered – One year course on 'Bioinformatics' and another one credit course on 'Scientific writing' in collaboration with Dept of Microbiology
- Various innovative ICT practices used for online teaching.
- YouTube used as teaching platform
- Peer teaching of UG students by PG students.
- Student progression tracked by the department.
- Alumni invited for interaction with current students and guest lectures.
- Field trip organized in physical mode.
- Publications by staff in journals.
- Staff are recognized as Ph.D. guides and department is recognized for Ph.D. in Applied Biology

Suggestions/Observations

- Publications in other National / International journals should be encouraged.

Department of BSc – IT (Un-aided programme)

Strengths

- Add on course offered on 'Ethical Hacking and Internet Security'
- Innovative ICT tools used for hybrid learning.
- Group projects were undertaken and live projects were encouraged
- Department offers good placement through Campus organized placement drives.

Suggestions/Observations

- With the expertise available with the faculty, the IT profile of the college could be enhanced.

- Need to improve/ enhance interface with industry in order to facilitate internships and placements.

Department of Chemistry

Strengths

- Add on course was offered on 'Positive Health in Women'.
- Contact groups where a group of students is allocated to a dedicated staff.
- Department undertakes outreach programmes.
- Generation of online material for online practical.
- M.Sc. programme is in collaboration with Jai Hind College.
- Internships offered to PG students in Institutes such as ICT, FDA and Chemotest Labs.
- Conducted several activities through Chem Club such as inter-collegiate competitions.
- Organized an international webinar on 'Chem Libre Text as an Open Education Resource' attended by teachers across India
- Student progression recorded.

Suggestions /Observations

- A formal record of alumni can be maintained especially since contact groups have been formed.
- Publications from staff in peer-reviewed journals should be encouraged.

ARTS FACULTY

Department of Economics

Strengths

- Add on course conducted on R programming (in collaboration with Meghnad Desai Academy)
- Organized a National level online workshop on 'Striving for Human Security : Efforts from the field'.
- Publications by faculty in peer-reviewed journal.

- Department has a student managed E-journal.
- Annual feature of review of budget

Suggestions/ Observations

- Alumni may be engaged to interact with the students
- Improve linkage with industries to enhance job opportunities for graduating students

Department of Education

Strengths

- Offered an add on course on 'Gender Inclusivity'.
- Progression of students has been tracked.
- Department undertakes remedial teaching.
- Conducted online symposium - Best of Kashish
- It's a single faculty department so several activities have been conducted as inter-departmental activities.
- Publication in International Peer reviewed journal.

Suggestions/ Observations

- When presenting results it would be nice to mention percentage success than percentage fail.

Department of English

Strengths

- Add on course offered on 'Memory Studies'
- Department offers remedial teaching.
- Publications by some staff.

Suggestions/ Observations

- When listing information under Publications, only those articles published in Peer-reviewed journals are to be included.
- Inter-departmental activities may be encouraged.

- Steps should be taken to encourage students who register for Add on courses to complete the program.
- The presentation would have been enhanced by use of visuals
- With all permanent staff the department should encourage more research projects.

Department of Hindi

Strengths

- Two add on courses were offered – ‘Basic Spoken Japanese’ and ‘Sara Hindi classes’ (under the auspices of Hindustan Prachar)
- A very well prepared aesthetically designed presentation.
- Several publications by all the faculty members.
- A variety of guest lectures were organized with the help of alumni.

Suggestions/ Observations

- Some information on student progression would be good.

Department of History

Strengths

- Interesting and lively presentation (Good tag lines)
- Offered two Add on Courses – ‘Humari Mumbai; Urbs Prima in India’ (along with Asiatic Society) and ‘Ancient Civilization: two case studies’ (Excellent student participation)
- Field visit to Asiatic Society.
- Has conducted interesting inter-departmental and inter-college activities.
- Some students have done an internship in Cipla Archives.
- Student collaborations with several Institutes.

Suggestions/Observations

- Student progression may be tracked

Department of Philosophy

Strengths

- Add on course offered – 'Peace and Conflict Resolution'
- Publication by Staff.
- Remedial learning through Peer teaching.
- One staff has PhD recognition.

Suggestions/ Observations

- Presentation lacked appeal since there were no visuals.
- The representation of student : teacher ratio is not right.
- The links provided for the teaching learning slide are not accessible.
- With a Ph.D. recognized guide, the department should endeavour to register Ph.D. students, as that would enhance the departmental profile.

Department of Political Science

Strengths

- A 'Mock Parliament' which is a simulation exercise was organized.
- One book edited by staff.

Suggestions/Observations

- Presentation was very lack lustre. The new staff presenting does not seem to have been given any guidance.
- Department should conduct an Add-on course in the coming year.
- Department needs to organize some seminars, conferences, workshops.

Department of Psychology

Strengths

- Well planned add on course on 'Changing Frames' (with 133 participants). The participants then conducted sessions for non-psychology students.

- Diploma course (10 months) on 'Counselling and Safeguarding of Children and Senior Citizen' (in collaboration with Centre for Safeguarding Cs) Pune, SCWSD and Counselling Centre)
- Remedial teaching offered by the department.
- Several inter-departmental activities organized.
- Organized an International Conference on 'Gender Sensitisation and Protection of Rights of Children and Senior Citizen' (in collaboration with other Institutions)
- Presentation at International Conference

Suggestions / Observations

- Student progression may be tracked.

Department of Sociology

Strengths

- Add on course offered on 'Social Research Methods and Academic Writing'
- Some student progression has been provided.
- Innovative teaching methods used.
- Event – 'Samajik Sociology' on multiculturalism was conducted.
- Inter-departmental activities have been conducted.
- Offers an MA in Gender Studies
- Several Research Presentations by staff.

Suggestions

- With such emphasis on research and methodology publications could be encouraged.
- In the current global scenario, the department could emphasize on environmental issues.

Department of BA-Strategic Communications and Journalism

Strength

- An excellent presentation with impeccable visuals.
- Four Add on courses were offered – ‘Advanced Computer Skills Programme’, ‘Advanced Film Appreciation Programme’, ‘Screenwriting Programme’, ‘Media Literacy Programme’. Really commendable.
- Innovative teaching and evaluation methods (examination reforms with changes in pattern)
- Have several guest faculty from varied fields of the Industry.
- Have a Film and Photography Society.
- Organized Documentary Film Festival followed by discussion with the directors.
- Menternship Programme – students work in industry with alumnae mentors

Suggestions

- Student progression could be maintained.

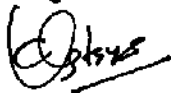
Ms. Gilda Pereira



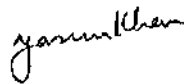
Dr. Ignat Mendes



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Dr. Yasmin Khan




Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil
Principal

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