ST. THOMAS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCE
St. Thomas Nagar, Koyambedu, Chennai - 600 107.
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2020-2021
"LET THERE BE LIGHT"

We are so delighted to share the activity report of St Thomas College of Arts and Science for the challenging academic year, 2020-21, Due to Covid-19, many changes came to our world and it took some time for everyone to adopt the new normal. The Cavid-19 impact was everywhere, which resulted in drastic changes in the way educational institutions function in particular. Though Government relaxed their guidelines for couple of months, majority of the activities were in online mode.

Amidst pandemic, our college was vibrant in academic activities through online mode and has conducted many events to enrich learners as well as to explore new possibilities of teaching and learning process. We are pleased to present the annual report of this historical academic year 2020-2021.

The classes for the academic year 2020-2021 through online, were started for the Il and Ill year UG and II year PG students on Thursday, the 1st of July 2020.

Admissions:

Nevertheless the pandemic situation, we have taken effort to achieve full admissions for the current academic year. Introduction of online admission process on par with other leading colleges paved way for achieving this. We have admitted a total of 1844 students during the year, the highest ever. 1247 students were admitted in Shift and 597 students in Shift 11.

On Friday the 28.08.2020, "FRESHER'S DAY" was conducted through online mode for the first year students of academic year 2020-2021 and the same was live telecasted through YouTube. Our Chairman H.G. Dr. Yuhanon Mar Diascores Metropolitan delivered Presidential address and blessed our new students.

Centenary Building:

The construction of the centenary building with total built-up area of more than 1,25,000 scft was started about 4 years ago. The Phase consisting of 22 class rooms was completed and handed over for students use from 2019-2020 onwards. The Phase II of the building consisting of 18 classrooms and 4 seminar halls was completed and handed over in the beginning of the academic year 2020-2021. All the works were carried out as per the plan approval by CMDA and the contract between the construction company and the college.

At this juncture we would like to extend our special thanks to our Chairman His Grace Dr. Yuhanon Mar Diascoros for his prayers and blessings for the development of the College especially for the construction of new building. We also thank our present Vice-Chairman Rev. Fr. Shinu K. Thomas and former Vice-Chairman's Fr. Gigi Mathew and Fr. Aji K. Varghese for their support and prayers during the each stage of construction of new building. We also place on record our gratitude to all present and past members of the board for their untiring support through their active participation in the Board and unanimous approval on major decisions of the board? relating to this Centenary Building. We are reminded of the

contributions of each of the members individually and collectively for the growth and development of the college.

Auditorium:

As our college is heading towards silver jubilee in the year 2023-2024, it has been a long felt desire to have our own auditorium.

This dream is now coming to reality with the construction of a ultramodern mega auditorium along with the Centenary Building. This pillar-less auditorium can accommodate more than 1,200 people and has state of the art audiovisual systems. Our Thirumeni during the design phase of the auditorium expressed his desire that the auditorium should be one of its kind with good acoustical solution and illumination with high tech interiors to suit the grand structure. Accordingly, a separate contract for the interior work was granted and completed so that the aucitorium will be a pride of our community and will benefit students and general public from the ensuing academic year. Academic fraternity from various parts of country can conduct and organize various seminars and workshops in its main and ancillary halls. The same sized lengthy space is also available for multi-purpose such as dining and cultural events.

Research Centre:

The enhanced infrastructural changes within the college campus has paved way for taking forward the college to greater heights. The Col ege has taken initiative to establish a Research Centre with the approval of University of Madras as from Academic Year 2022-2023. After recognition, we will be able to admit more than 50 candidates for various research programs leading to PhDs like other leading colleges.

Introduction of New Courses:

Expansion of infrastructure like new class rooms facilitated us to introduce additional courses which will enhance our revenue potential to provide even better facility to the staff and students in the campus.

We have introduced B.Sc. Computer Science as an additional Section in Shift and B.Com Corporate Secretaryship as an additional section in Shift II. The necessary approval to admit 50 students and 70 students was accorded by the University of Madras and we have admitted students to its strength.

College strength:

The total strength of our college has increased year after year with the addition of new courses and class rooms. In 2020-21, the total student strength of our college stood more than 4900 in both SHIFT and SHIFT-II. The next academic year 2021-22, this is set to grow to over 5500 students.

University Rank:

University of Madras Conducted Graduation Day function on 08.04.2021 for students who completed their programs in April 2020. We are happy to state that our college student Mr. K.S. SUNEESH of M.Sc Electronic Media was awarded 1 Rank in the function.

NAAC Accreditation Process:

Preparatory process for getting accredited with NAAC was started through MOU with Stella Maris College during 2019-2020. They provide necessary support and guidance for us to apply to NAAC Accordingly, Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) is taking necessary steps.

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)

St.Thomas College of Arts and Science in collaboration with Stella Maris College(Autonomous) under the UGC Paramarsh Scheme organised a National Level Webinar on "NAAC Evaluation and Assessment System: New Format for Quality Enhancement for Higher Education" On 18th August 2020. Faculty members of colleges from various state attended.

The IQAC implemented the "GO-GREEN" movement by planting saplings inside the College Campus on 11th March 2021 Meeting related to NAAC documentation was conducted after that event. Dr. Priscilla and Dr. Nirmala from Stella Maris College were the chief guests. On 18th March 2021, it also conducted One Day Faculty Development Programme on "EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE" and "INSIGHT TO IQAC". Dr. R. Revathi, MA,M.Phil., Ph.D., Dean, Sri Krishnaswamy College for Women, Chennai was the Resource Person.

As the teaching, and learning process was in digital mode during 2020-2021, the IQAC has taken initiative to organize various seminars/webinars, Quiz and other competitions through online. People from other city, state and country took part in such events. In all more than 80 events were organized and experts from academics and industry were the resource persons for such online programmes.

Student empowerment:

Value added courses: Though it was very difficult and staff members were having limitations in conducting value added courses during Covid -19, students were encouraged to use google meet to attend classes and about 39 Value added courses were conducted and out of the 4382 students 3185 students were benefitted in this academic year.

Seminar: Apart from the limitations due to covid 19, faculties successfully organised 16 seminars and around 592 students were able to participate in it using google meet.

Mou's – Nine new Mou's were signed to form a collaboration with other reputed organisations and a total of 3213 students were beneficial.

Career guidance program: Career guidance programs too were organised in google meet and about 3475 students were benefitted.

Qualified Staff:

The introduction of new courses or additional sections to existing courses necessitated appointment of new faculty. Hence, 32 new staff member were appointed in various department of Shift - I and Shift II including non-teaching for the Academic Year 2020-2021. All those - recruited were qualified with NET/SET/PhD as per norms of UGC and University of Madras,

Staff Achievements:

As we encourage our existing staff members to obtain FhD degree, 7 of our existing faculty were awarded PhD degree during this year. The degree awarded to Dr. (Mrs.) Susan Koshy of BCA, Dr. V. Anandhakumar of B.Com, Dr. A. Prakash of B.Com, Dr. M. Rassul Jayapathy of Tamil from Shift I and Dr. R. Ramakrishnan of Tamil, Dr. G. Manoharan of BCA, Dr.S. Shyni Carmel Mary of BCA from Shift II. Fifteen of our staff members have published papers during this academic year.

Faculties who have attended FDPs, Seminars, workshops, and other outside the campus programs were provided with financial assistance. A sum of Rs 30, 170 was allotted by the institution for 94 faculties for attending various programs throughout this year. During this academic year 151 teaching faculties and 38 non-teaching faculties have attended the faculty development program organised by various reputed universities around Tamilnadu. To the faculties who were not able to attend such faculty development programs were encouraged to attend department wise FDPs and a total of 5 FDPs were organised.

Infrastructure:

The Covid-15 impact was everywhere, which resulted in the closure of educational institutions too. As a result, education has changed dramatically, with the distinctive rise of e-learning. whereby teaching is undertaken remotely and on digital platforms. The college has taken steps to improve internet connectivity through getting AIRTEL Leased Line connection and making campus Wifi with modern WiFi instruments. This helped faculty to conduct classes virtually through online platforms from the college. Faculty members were provided training on using online platforms for conducting online classes effectively by Dr. P. Jayakumar, Vice Principal Shift 1.

To add to the feather, the college has approached Google to provide their support in the online teaching learning process. Mr. Shibi Mathai, IQAC Coordinator, had continuous follow-up with Google and obtained Google Suite for Education which will allows us to provide official email IDs and to use Google platform for education purposes without any cost. Hence, we have utilised Google Suite for conduct of online classes during this pandemic.

Increase in Fixed Assets:

The fixed asset block post depreciation during the year 2020-2021 increased from 31.73 crores to 37 crores,

College Automation Software:

Present pandemic and Government restrictions compelled us to rely more on remote working Hence, comprehensive software which covers admission, monitoring students' progress and issue of transfer certificates was the need of the hour. As a Phase I, the college has introduced Admission module on par with other leading colleges to overcome physical barrier during this pandemic and this was monitored by Mr. Shibi Mathal, Head Automation Wing. As expected, it was of immense help in achieving full admission during 2020-2021. The other modules of the software are also being implemented one after the other.

ISO Audit:

ISO Auditing was conducted in our college on 31.03.2021 Mr. Ravi (ISO Auditor) inspected library and various departments of our college. He also checked electrical connections, drinking water quality, canteen facility, fire extinguisher, and college office. He suggested getting fire safety certificate and water quality report and submit it to ISO office for ISO Certification.

Student Achievements:

One of the students of our college Mr. Ahmed Abrar studying in II B.A. English has won "Mr Chennai" Award. Due to on-going pandemic, students could not get opportunity to exhibit their talents which otherwise could bring laurels to the college.

National Service Scheme (NSS):

Dr. S. Prem Kumar, Assistant Professor of Tamil and Mr. Karunakaran, Assistant Professor of Tamil, Shift II of our college have been appointed as new NSS Programme Officers with effect from 11.03.2021 for three years in the place of previous NSS Programme officers Mr. K. Dharmaraja, Assistant Professor of BBA and Mr. J. Dilli Babu, Assistant Professor of BCA.

NSS conducted (COVID 19) Corona Awareness Campaign on 20.03.2021 along with Greater Chennai Police near Koymebedu Metro Station. Our college principal Dr. N. Thangavel delivered a speech about Corona and its impact to the Public. The awareness campaign continued at Koyambedu market and Dr. M.V. Nagarajan, Vice Principal Shift-II delivered a speech about the Precautions to be taken to reduce the spread of corona to the Public. Our college NSS Students participated in this awareness campaign.

National Service Scheme conducted an E-Quiz on "Social Awareness" among students. Another awareness programme on CDVID 19 held on 31.03.2021 near college entrance. Principal, Vice- Principals, Faculty members and NSS volunteers of both Shift-I and Shift - it have participated. As requested by Tamil Nadu State Election Commission, more than 60 of our college NSS Students volunteered and took up election services at various election booths in Chennai city during the Assemble Election Day 06.04.2021

Placement:

Though Placement Drive could not be conducted at the College due to COVID-15 Pandemic, various career guidance and training programmes were organized through online. A Webinar on "Essential Skills Required for Job Seekers" was organised on 4th June 2020 through online to all the final year students.

Sports and Games:

Department of Physical Education organised online test on "Physical Fitness" and a webinar on "YOGA IS A WAY OF RIGHT LIVING", "The Effect of Acupuncture for Cavid", "Yogic practices for Boosting immune System" on various dates to faculty members, students and general public

Activities of clubs and associations.

PG Department of Visual Communication has organized online Webinars on various topics such as "Photo Journalism", "Audio Post Production in Media", "Screenplay writing for Film and Televisior", "innovation in 3D Techno ogy, "OODAGA ULAGAM", "Editing Techniques", "Qualitative Research", "introduction to 5 C's of Cinematography" during this academic year 2020-2021.

Department of Business Administration in Association with IQAC organized Business E-Quiz to students and general public.

Department of Computer Applications - Shift-l, conducted an Online UGC Net Paper-1 Mock Test to the faculty members of various colleges.

Department of Corporate Secretaryship - Shift-l in Association with IQAC organized E-QUIZ on General Knowledge and Research Methodology. It also organized a webinar on the topic "Post Pandemic Challenges in the Indian Economy".

PG Department of Electronic Media in Association with IQAC conducted an online Quiz on COVID-15 awareness and Communication Skills. The Department had Inauguration of the Department Association "Media Icon" on 7 October 2020. PG Department of Electronic Media also organized vanous Webinars on various dates on topics like "The Film is a Marvel", "Multicamera Production in Television", "Radio Production", "Design Aesthetics", "Art Aesthetics", Career Advancements Abroad", "The Art of Portrait Making in Water Colour", "Psychology of Teaching Learning Process", "Challenges faced by Adolescents during Pandemic", "Visual Capturing" during the academic year 2020-2021.

Department of Mathematics conducted E-quiz on Mathematics and "E-Quiz on Mathematics to know your Aptitude and Mental Ability". "ZOOM INTO SIGMA" The Association of the Department conducted seminar on "APPLICATION OF MATHEMATICS IN REAL LIFE" on 17th March 2021.

Department of Computer Science organized an online Mock Test for UGC Paper AND Paper II to faculty of various colleges and a webinar on "Environmental Science and Human Health"

Department of English-Shift and Shift II conducted an E-Quiz on English Literature, American Literature, and Literary theory and Criticism. They also organized webinar on various dates on topics such as "The Power of Positivity", "ENHANCING THE INTERPERSONAL SKILL AND DEVELOPING YOUR PERSONA" "Soulrid" - The Poctry Club and "THOMREADERS-BOOK CLUB of Department of English-Shift 1 in association with IQAC conducted an E-Quiz

Entrepreneurship Development Cell (EDC) organized a webinar on "Educators Learning on Entrepreneurship" for faculty members and another webinar on MASK AND STORAGE BAG MAKING" for all the students. It also organized a webinar on "An Awareness on Rural Entrepreneurship and Development of Business Plan" for students of BBA

Department of Tamil Shift and Shift II jointly conducted E-Quiz for the students.

Department of Commerce Shift organized a webinar on "Investment options in Stock Market" and another webinar on GST an Overview" for the faculty members and general public.

Department of Commerce (Bank Management) Shift-I organised a webinar on "Career Opportunities in Banking Sector".

Department of Psychology organized webinars and guest lectures on various date on topics like "Challenges and Coping skills of teachers in Bringing Quality Online Learning", "Major Careers in Psychology", "NURTURING THE INNER SELF THROUGH MEDITATION", "Role of Special Education in Psychology", "Transition from School to College. How to be a Psychology Student", "Adoloscent Wellbeing". "Specific Learning Difficulties", "Role of Sports Psychologist in Emerging Field of Mental Well-Being", "Music and Dance Movement Therapy". "Sexual Dysfunction Psychological Perspective", "Personality Disorder", for students and general public. The department also organized 3 days workshop to students on "Basic Counselling Skill" from 27th January until 30th January 2021 and another workshop on "Eliminating Roadblocks for Success".

Scholarships:

The College has taken all the necessary steps to ensure that finance should not be a barrier for the children in continuing their studies. In order to achieve this, Zachariah Mar Dionysius scholarship is given to deserving students. The College also extends its support through scholarship schemes from Central Government and from Government of Tamil Nadu. 562 students availed the scholarship provided by the government of Tamilnadu, and 3383 students were granted with management scholarship.

May God Almighty bless our College, Long live St. Thomas College of Arts and Science.

With Prayers,

Biju Chacko   Alex Abraham.
Secretary   Treasurer