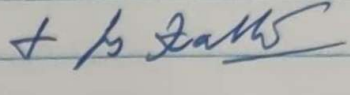
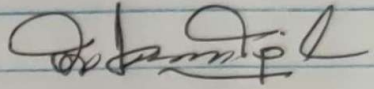
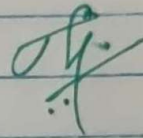

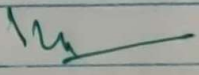
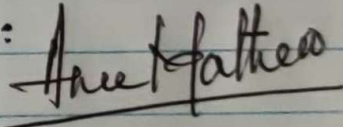






GOVERNING BODY MEETING

Date: 31-10-2020 (Saturday) (ON LINE)

Venue: DB-IV Conference Hall

Members present

1. H.E. Mr. Joseph Kallarangatt : 
2. Msgr. Dr. Joseph Maleparambil, Chairman: 
3. Dr. J. David, Principal, SJCE (Secretary): 
4. Dr. Ramesh Unnikrishnan, : 
Western Regional Director, AICTE
5. Dr. Madhukumar S, Vice-Principal, SJCE: 
6. Ms. Ance Mathew, HOD, Civil Engineering, : 
SJCE
7. Dr. T.K. Jose - IAS : 
Additional Chief Secretary, Govt. of Kerala
8. Dr. S. Unnikrishnan Pillai : 
Former Principal, REC (NIT) Calicut
9. Mr. P.C. Cyriac - IAS (Retd.), : 
Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Tamil Nadu
10. Mr. V.J. Kurian - IAS (Retd.), : 
Managing Director of Cochin
International Airport

11. Dr. Siby Mathew - IPS (Retd.), :
Former DGIP & Chief Information Commissioner
12. Dr. Job Kurian, :
Dean Administration, IIT Palakkad
13. Dr. Sarith P Sathian, :
Associate Prof., Indian Institute of
Technology, Madras
14. Dr. V.V. Georgekutty, :
Former Controller of Examination,
UTY of Calicut
15. Rev. Fr. Mathew Koramkuzha : J. M. J.
(Special Invitee)
16. Rev. Fr. Thomas Njavallil : Fr. Thomas Njavallil
(Special Invitee)
17. Rev. Fr. John Palithottam : J. P.
(Special Invitee)

Following members could not attend.

1. Dr. Job Kurian, Dean Administrator, IIT Palakkad.
2. Mr. V.J. Kurian, - IAS (Retd), Managing Director of Cochin International Airport.

The online meeting (Google Meet ID: meet.google.com/any-jhpz-kaf) started at 5:30PM with a prayer led by the Manager, Rev. Fr. Mathew Koramkuzha and he invited the Chairman, SJCEI Palai, to deliver the welcome speech.

The Chairman, SJCEI, Msgr. Dr. Joseph Maleparambil commented on the unusual circumstances under which the first governing body meeting for the academic year 2020-21 was being held. He said that the reconstituted governing body meeting was being held via the online platform. He extended a warm and hearty welcome to His Excellency Mar Joseph Kallarangattu, Bishop of Pala Diocese, who is the Patron of the Institution and also to ^{all} the members of the newly constituted governing body.

In his brief address, the Chairman highlighted the milestones through which the college had passed. SJCEI was started in the year 2002 and has completed 18 years in 2020. During this short span of time, the Institution has made remarkable progress in the field of technical education in the State.

The College had made a mark in the arena of technical education owing to the ceaseless efforts of many a luminary. At the outset, the stellar work done by Dr. PJ George (Former Project Director) SJCEI, who was called to eternal rest just a few months back, was remembered. He had been the helmsman right from the inception of the College in 2002 until 2016, during which tenure the institution grew by leaps and bounds. The Chairman requested all those present to observe a minute's silence in honour of the departed soul.

Resuming his address, the Chairman remarked that during the past 18 years, nearly 10,000 students passed out of the Institution. The number of B.Tech degree programmes had increased from 4 to 7. In 2004, the College secured ISO certification, and in 2012, the NBA Accreditation. It is in fact the crowning glory to the successful strides the institution has been making, that the new generation programme, Artificial Intelligence & Data Science, could be launched in the current academic year, i.e., 2020-2021.

Speaking on the other academic aspects of the college, the Chairman remarked that in the year 2018-19, the admissions was 70% with 330 students, and in 2019-20, it rose to 86% with 414 students, and now, during the academic year 2020-21, it stands at 92% with around 500 students. This is indeed a spectacular progress for the college.

The academic year 2019-20 had been really challenging. The Novel Corona pandemic, which came to our country too, had rendered impossible the conduct of physical classroom teaching and exams. Rising to the occasion, the SJCET faculty switched over to online classes and training for the students. Exams too were conducted in the online mode. In spite of the challenges, campus interviews were held, and 292 students got placement in various prestigious institutions. Touching on the issue of physical infrastructure of the institution, the Chairman said that Rs. 1 crore Solar system project, led by Rev. Fr. Thomas Njavalil, Lab Manager SJCET, and Prof. P.V. Varkey, Dean UG Studies, had been put in place.

The College has a glorious vision for the future. During the period 2020-25, several new ventures have been envisaged. Autonomous status for the College is one such initiative. MBA/Computer Science/Civil MBA Accreditation being the other projected aims. By the year 2023, 60% of the faculty would have secured Ph.Ds., which sure will vouch for the academic vibrancy and credibility of the Institution. Scholarship amounting to Rs. 1 crore has been instituted to be granted to the brilliant students. The NAAC accreditation application is due in the month of December 2020, and the College is garnering all its physical and academic resources to secure a creditable grade. Considering the exceptional circumstances through which the world is going now, the College has started Covid First Line Treatment Centre.

The Chairman offered felicitations to His Excellency, Mar Joseph Kallarangattu, for his kind interest in the Institution and the positive encouragement and support he was always given to all its endeavours. He welcomed the existing and new members of the Governing Body and the HoDs who were present in the meeting.

The Principal of the College was then invited to present the annual report before the Governing Body. The Principal presented a detailed report on the activities in the College during the year 2019-20. After presenting the report, the Principal invited the members to discuss the activity reports of each Department which specific suggestions and proposals.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, former Principal, NIT Calicut initiated

the discussion. He first congregated the stakeholders of the Institution on the general progress it has made in all departments, specially mentioning the Computer Science and Electronics ^{and communication} Engineering departments; which performed exceptionally well. The Computer science department has done very well, although lagging in the matter of patented products. He queried whether the NPTEL Online courses were being attended with due certification. It will be a lot better with certification, since it will be done with intensity, care and seriousness.

The Principal intervened to confirm that the faculty are attending the NPTEL Courses with certification which would be issued on completion of the courses.

Dr. Unnikrishnan then spoke about the Eco-Bin project and enquired about its current status. The HoD concerned explained that the Eco-Bin project was being initiated with the support of IIT, Mumbai, and it aims to provide renewable energy to the local community to enable them to become energy self-reliant. The project would be implemented in the ensuing year, after holding discussions with the college authorities.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, commented that the Eco-Bin is a project with immense potential. He then proceeded to talk about the Ladoo-making project and queried on its current status. The HoD, ECE replied that the product was already launched. Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, suggested that the product may be marketed to a local bakery outlet on a commercial basis. Initially, it can be done on a trial basis.

He then raised a query to the Mechanical Engineering Department about the Gasifier Stove Project of the College. The HoD, M.E remarked that the Gasifier stove was a modified module and it works by supplying extra amount of air for complete combustion. Ordinary pieces of wood could be used in the device. It aims at improved performance of the existing systems. In his reply to a question on the status of the project, the HoD remarked that the students had completed the project last year itself. With regard to a query on the status of the Biodiesel project, the HoD said that the project is an ongoing one. Dr. Unnikrishnan expressed his happiness that the Mechanical Engineering Department was getting many funds and adequate resources were being brought in.

He then raised his apprehension regarding the low pass percentage in the Ecs Department during 2015-2019 (33.33%) and requested to enlighten him in this matter. The HoD concerned replied that the low pass percentage was due to the backlog of the students in previous semesters. In fact, there was a mass failure for a few papers in university exams as a whole and steps were taken to rectify the setback and a majority of the students cleared the papers in the following supplementary chance. During 2016-2020, efforts were made to ensure that the students promptly appeared for the supplementary papers and cleared them availing the immediate opportunity and now the results have improved to 67%.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, complimented the Ecs Department for doing well in the matter of good training programmes, publications and patents.

Mr. P.C. Cysiac, IAS took up the discussion at this point. He congratulated the patron of the College, Chairman, Principal and the members of the faculty on the good performance of the institution.

He enquired about the ongoing online classes, and the experience of the faculty and the feedback from the students. He also expressed his apprehension about the conduct of practicals. Practical need to be conducted physically to be effective and he also enquired about the probable date of re-opening the College, so that face-to-face teaching-learning process could be resumed.

The Principal, in his reply, said that the College had closed on the 10th of March 2020 and online classes started within one month of the closure of the college. The faculty worked from home as per the directions of the Government/University. Initially, there were difficulties regarding connectivity and devices. However, these problems have been resolved now. The Learning Management System (LMS) software has been put in place. Classes are being conducted on the Google Meet platform and exams are conducted on Moodle.

Mr. Cysiac then suggested that there might be more technologically advanced platforms than Moodle. So it might be worthwhile to explore the possibility of availing alternative and more versatile software systems, after conducting a cost benefit analysis in this regard. He then reiterated his questions on the feedback of the students regarding the online mode of teaching.

The Principal remarked that as far as lab experiments were

concerned, the faculty members and technical staff conducted the experiments, had recorded them on video and then uploaded them on the YouTube for students.

Regarding the efficacy of lab experiments, he said that the students of Mechanical/Electrical Engineering departments were facing issues in the online mode.

Mr. Cysiac suggested that at least for practicals, it may be a good idea to bring the students to the College, complying with the Covid protocol directives of the government. The academic year is halfway through and time is running out. So it is imperative that the actual conduct of practicals is done without further delay.

Dr. TK Jose, IAS, Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala intervened at this point and said that the state government was seriously contemplating the re-opening of the educational institutions by November 15. He remained that SJCEET alone cannot start physical classes.

Mr. Cysiac said that the College authorities should be prepared for the re-opening. Good homework needs to be done, and all the paraphernalia like medical facilities, Covid tests, conducting of shifts etc. should be put in place to tackle the situation.

He then raised the issue of National Education Policy announced by the Government and how it was going to affect the institution. Specifically, what preparatory measures are to be taken in this regard. It is understood that the new policy insists on at least 3500 students for every college. So

a serious study needs to be undertaken to take advantage of the provisions governing the new education policy.

Mr. Cysiac then invited the attention of the Board to two issues - accreditation of courses and autonomous status for the College. He opined that there must be an aggressive drive for securing accreditation for all the courses offered by the College. Accreditation is going to be mandatory very soon and so, the authorities must show up efforts to get all courses accredited. He requested the cooperation on the part of the Patron and the Chairman of the institution and suggested that the Principal and faculty members work as a team to accomplish this goal. He emphasized that the accreditation drive needs to be done on a war-footing. If necessary, programs without adequate interest from prospective students shall be dropped, so that vigorous attention could be given to the other potential courses.

Similarly, autonomous status for the college is the need of the hour. Numerous self-financing colleges have already attained autonomy and, so, any lapse in this regard might spell trouble. If autonomous status is obtained, it would save the college the time and trouble of approaching the AICTE for obtaining approval for each and every course.

Mr. Cysiac then raised a question regarding the newly started AI & Data Science programme. He expressed a desire to know if there are competent faculty members to teach the programme.

The Principal explained that as of now, the College is making use of the Computer Science / Electronic Engineering

faculty to begin with; since there are a few of them specialized in the areas concerned. In due course, faculty from outside can be roped in to provide training to the staff and students.

Mr. Cyriac suggested that being a new programme, the students shall be given state of the art coaching for the programme. He also recommended a tie up with the Government of India institution in Kottayam, the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), so that their faculty could closely collaborate with the SJCEET faculty to provide world class training and instruction to the students. Although three faculty members of SJCEET are currently doing research in IIIT, the relationship between SJCEET & IIIT needs to be fortified further. Further, steps are to be taken to ensure the cooperation of the IIIT faculty.

Mr. Cyriac also took up the issue of the proposed rubberized road for the College. He suggested that the Panchayath authorities need to be convinced of it, and after obtaining their willingness in writing, technical assistance of the Rubber Board needs to be sought. Concrete steps shall be taken in this regard. At least 2km road can be rubberized will serve the college for the next 10 years.

Hether queried on the study conducted by the SJCEET team on the Palasivattom Bridge. He sought the developments that had happened since then.

The faculty in charge replied that 2nd year M.Tech students and one Associate Professor went to the site in

February 2020. The study was on the deflection of beam, and the students constructed a prototype beam based on the study. The study could not be carried out further due to the Covid pandemic situation.

Ms. Cyriac then dwelt on the placement cell of the College. A lot is expected from the placement cell and her queried about the details of the members of the cell.

The Placement officer replied that there are two members. There are representatives from all branches, supported by students from all batches. Altogether there are 40 members. The cell starts with induction, and primarily soft skills training is imparted to the students. The intention is to streamline students from different backgrounds into the same track. To a query relating to alumni, the placement officer replied that alumni meetings are held in the month of December every year. Every semester/year soft skills training is imparted to the aspirants, followed by aptitude training. It is not the job of the placement cell to arrange industrial visits, but in case of a query, the cell would provide necessary support.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai then put in a word on the placement. He said that ideally, placements shall be done by nodal agencies for internship practical training for students, faculty and professionals from outside. All three must come under the purview of the placement cell. Ideally the placement cell shall act as a nodal agency. The Alumni Connect Software is a good platform on which the ties with the alumni could be strengthened. So, the suggestion is that the Alumni Connect Software may be good use of.

Mr. Cysiac agreed with Dr. Pillai and reiterated that the placement cell shall also take care of internship. In this connection, he mentioned the declaration of average monthly salary drawn by the incumbents who have been recruited through the placement cell. The minimum and maximum salaries drawn by the incumbents shall be declared recruited through the placement cell.

The Placement Cell officer replied that last year the highest salary was given by the Federal Bank to an MBA student amounting to Rs. 10.25 lakhs and for B-Tech it was Infosys, which gave Rs. 3.65 lakhs. During 2020-21, a Canadian company called SOTT hired a couple of students and remunerated them each Rs. 7.5 lakh per annum followed by Infosys which gave a Rs. 5 Lakh package. Mr. Cysiac drew attention to the issue of the need for an incubator in the campus. For example, the Ladoo making machine was developed, and it was left at that instead, if an incubation centre could be set up, it is possible to commercialize such products.

The Placement Officer intervened at this point and brought to the notice of the members, a point related to internship. Nowadays, companies do not entertain internship through the placement cell. The candidates have to prepare a project and through the faculty concerned, approach the organization. MBA might be an exception, but otherwise, internship through the placement cell is not at all entertained by prospective employers.

Mr. Cysiac suggested that there are two methods by which the issue can be resolved. The first is to prepare a

project and then to approach various companies with a proposal to join them. The second is to contact a company and establish a relationship with them, and then get them to accept some faculty and students from the institution for one month or so.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, concurred with the above suggestion and said that internship need not necessarily be project-related. The important thing is to join a company and gain experience from them. For this purpose a proper relationship needs to be established with the company. The odds of the trainee being absorbed in the company eventually is also great. The placement officer and his cell is the right person/agency to establish such linkages.

Mr. Cyriac then reverted to the issue of the incubation centre. Products like Ladoo could be made more saleable, if made in a cost-effective way. If it is done in a cost-effective way, then bakeries of similiar concerns could be lured to accept the products.

Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai, supplemented this view saying that merely designing a machine with some loose wires and a motor will not do the trick. What is required is a strategy by which mass marketing of products can be done in a cost-effective way.

Mr. Cyriac also talked about a couple of software systems developed by the college like the Parish Management System and the School Management System. It is learnt that the former had been sold to the Kozhuvanal Church. It is a commendable action. But it should not be left at that.

Efforts must be made to market the system in more parishes and make a financial gain out of that. It would be advantageous to the parishes also thus making the whole thing a win-win situation. He congratulated the department concerned and queried about the above suggestion.

The HoD of the Computer Science Department replied that as of now, the software has been sold only to the Pala diocese. So far, it has not been extended to other dioceses. The system that had been sold to Kozhuvanal Church was designed as per their requirements. Mr. Cysiac reiterated that the department could extend the facility to as many parishes/dioceses as possible. Dr. Unnikrishna Pillai said that the MCA students also have developed similar software systems that could be marketed. The Computer Science department was directed to consider this aspect also.

Mr. Cysiac then queried about the biodiesel developed by the Mechanical Engineering Department. Specifically, he enquired about the raw material used in biodiesel. Also he enquired if it was viable in the light of crashing petroleum prices. The HoD Mechanical Engineering Department explained that cooking oil is the essential ingredient.

Mr. TK Jose Additional Chief Secretary to Government, then joined the discussion. He commented on the excellent work done by the SJCEI in the field of Covid-19 management in the local community. However there is a room for improvement. There are other colleges in the unaided sector which are far more advanced than SJCEI. There are few points that must be mentioned in this

connection.

1. The newly started AI & Data Science programme is innovative and well-thought out. However, there are other areas that need to be focussed. For example, hydrogen fuel cells is an emerging area. The whole world is focussed on developing hydrogen fuel cells, and within 2 to 3 years, vehicles will be run on hydrogen fuel cells. Similarly, Robotics, Nano Science, and Biotechnology - linked Computer Science and other areas of energy are going to be the most sought after fields.

Similarly, Food-Technology is also an emerging discipline in the light of the food safety aspect and agro technology. A few self-financing colleges have already started Food Technology courses. The TKM self-financing college is a pioneer in this area followed by Amal Jyothi and Saingits colleges. Similarly water Technology is an upcoming field. Out of the 150 Engineering Colleges only SCMS College of Technology has instituted a Water Technology department. Water Technology and Water Management are gaining greater importance in the light of declining per capita availability of water.

2. Collaborative efforts have to be strengthened. Tie ups with various departments, entrepreneurs and foreign universities of repute must be initiated. If this is lagging, it may not be possible to proceed further. Specifically, Government Agencies/Departments face a lot of problems. Many of the faculty members can associate with Government Departments and help them to solve their problems. He said that while associating with the

project department of Rebuild Kerala initiatives, he got excellent support from SJCT, from among the 15 engineering colleges, which had participated. What was intended was a free service to begin with. But later it could be developed into a consulting service on a free basis. After initiating a 2 years debate/discussion with the Higher Education Department and Local Self government, a landmark government order was issued on the 23rd December 2019, allowing engineering colleges and Local Self governments to interact with each other. Five components need to be highlighted in this regard:

1. Paid internship to students in Local self government Institutions at all levels.
 2. Projects of students/teachers and departments to be encouraged and solicited in Local Self government Departments.
 3. Consultancies by the departments, teachers and colleges to be put in place on payment basis.
 4. Supporting local start-ups within the campus itself.
 5. Social problems in the locality to be taken up by the students, colleges, teachers and departments and solutions to be initiated by them.
3. Excellence - let every department/course get NBA accreditation. In fact, this is one of the criteria for being granted autonomous status to the institution. It must be pointed out that excellence is not all about teaching only but about Research as well. It is important to link academics with the requirements of the local community. Technical Institutions must identify and define a specific area and convert it into technology. Knowledge by

itself will not impact the local communities in a positive way. So it is imperative to identify a geographical area on which a primary impact can be made. It is therefore suggested that a dozen of Grama Panchayats, a couple of Municipalities and a Corporation may be taken and see how the knowledge or expertise gained could be applied there so as to make a positive impact on the lives of the people who live ^{there} starts.

4. Innovation and creativity, while the students are on the campus, let them acquire extra skills which will enable them to find a suitable job or even be successful entrepreneurs. Communication skills are poor, so many students who graduate with degree in engineering find it tough to get through interviews and group discussion. Therefore, the need of the hour is to develop language skills through a Language lab. One extra language other than English would go a long way in enhancing their skillsets, and would come handy in those parts of the world where English is not spoken. For eg. French and Spanish are becoming popular in emerging African countries. So it is high time that the college authorities thought of training the STCET students in, say, Japanese or German language. In view of the Covid Pandemic, the Japanese and German companies are thinking about relocating from China to India. So it is advantageous for our students to acquire foreign language skills. A very good grooming is required for training students to face interviews and also to take part in national level competitive exams like Engineering service, Civil service etc.

A specific suggestion may be put forward to the

Computer Science / IT departments. Many fresh Computer Science, IT graduated are being recruited to various government departments. But when it comes to developing, deploying and using a good Management Information System, these youngsters do not square up to the requirements. While the students are in the campus, an extra course (not necessarily credit earning) in web-based monitoring or web based MIS needs to be given. These practical courses would help them in their future career.

5. The next point is the water sector in Kerala. Actually we need a lot of Engineering Institutions, especially Civil Engineering Departments to come and do research in the water sector. It is worthwhile to note that the SJCEST has done a study on the water quality and contamination of the Meenachil river. Almost all our 44 rivers are silt-covered and the water-holding capacity is low. In this ^{area}, there is a need for collaborative effort between the Government Departments and Engineering institutions. The SCMS College has already established collaboration with German University. The Engineering Colleges, both in the aided and self-finance sectors, should design courses for people working in the Government Engineering Departments. There are 5 to 6 Engineering Departments in the Government Sector like PWD, water authority, Ground Water Board, Irrigation, Harbour Engineering department. etc. Engineering graduates who leave their institutions and join these Government Departments hardly get any opportunity to enhance their knowledge or skills. Many M.Tech graduates, IIT products and even us - returned

graduates are doing pretty work in the Grama Panchayats. They were encouraged to go outside and engage classes in Engineering Colleges. But most of them chose to work in either the Barton Hill College or the College of Engineering, Trivandrum. However all Engineering Colleges including those under the self-financing sector must be included in this endeavour. The irrigation department is ready to fund such short-term courses in the Engineering Colleges, which are willing to take the initiative.

6. Another important point is how much more impact can be made on the society by creating value or rendering service to them. Every education institution can make an impact on society by defining a primary/secondary impact domain in an adjoining area.

This is applicable even in the case of ordinary people who could not pursue their education after 10th or 12th level. There are many such artisans like plumbers, electricians, masons, blacksmiths etc. now, the question is whether the departments of STERT can try to improve the skills of these people, upgrade their tools and bring more efficiency and productivity.

In the agrarian sector, for eg. combined harvesters are used to harvest paddy fields. Earlier, we used to hire combined harvesters from neighbouring states like Tamilnadu. In this area, hand-held devices can be designed and developed.

Mr. Lysiac intervened here with his observations on rubber-tapping devices. For planting rubber saplings, there was a proposal to design hand-held devices, which could be carried like pistols,

but nothing materialized.

Ms. Jose resumed and said that many institutions outside Kerala, like Vanavarayan Agricultural College, Tamil Nadu, have developed such hand-held devices.

As a last point, the need for collaboration with external institutions like foreign universities and technical institutions must be emphasized. This will help to bring the much-needed technology and also student/teacher exchange programmes.

Next, the AICTE Regional Director, Dr. Ramesh Unnikrishnan was invited to join the discussion. Dr. Unnikrishnan congratulated the STCET authorities on the wonderful initiatives for excellence and also commented on the AI & Data Science programme that was started in the College. In 2019, the Dr. BVMohan Reddy Committee identified 9 areas of new generation engineering programmes as the future of engineering. However, initially everyone objected. Whenever a new programme is launched, we have to see what happens to it after 4 years. Earlier, the Biotechnology, Shipbuilding and Aeronautical Engineering branches were started. But at the end of the day, there were no takers. For an IIT, it does not pose a problem because the IITs are already established and they have earned a name. But for the government Engineering Colleges and the unaided engineering institutions, opting for new generation programmes might be a bit risky. Also there is dearth of competent faculty for teaching such courses. Hence for AI & DS courses STCET has to ensure that the teaching-learning process is flawless.

As far as accreditation is concerned, a gazette notification by the AICTE had mandated that all the institutions must have accreditation for all the eligible courses. The STCET must ensure that all courses are duly signed. However, care must be taken to see that the faculty is not overburdened in the processes. Teachers should not set aside their classroom instructional hours for meeting the accreditation requirements like submission of SR.

Next, Dr. Saith P Bathian of IIT Madras joined the discussion. He spoke about the new generation programme AI&DS launched in STCET. Being a new course, and unlike the other Structured Engineering Programmes, the teaching faculty may not have the right background, although they might have the fundamentals to acquire that background.

By way of suggestion, Dr. Bathian said that encouragement shall be given to the faculty in the CS, EC departments to attend some good online standard courses and get certified until such time as well trained people can be picked up. There are also courses run by the MHRD and IIT/IIC consortium and the NPTEL programme.

Probably, the curriculum of AI&DS might be a good standard curriculum of KTU. It is good to include as many electives as possible. However it must be ensured that the courseware is extended to other engineering branches as well. Students from other engineering disciplines must be able to make use of their domain knowledge in AI&DS. This branch of knowledge is going to rule the world in future and we

may require manpower.

Regarding the results, Dr. Sathian queried whether the low pass percentage of ECE students affected their placement. The HOD concerned explained that a few students could not get placement in the first process, but they were given orientation subsequently.

He then touched upon the Ph.D status of the faculty. This is an area that must be shored up since in future, possession of Ph.Ds by faculty members might well become mandatory for accreditation. He observed that there is only one faculty with Ph.D in ECE department. The SJCEET faculty members are relatively young, and so, they should be encouraged to apply for early career grants. They will be able to secure grants easily. A good team of faculty, including the Principal and HODs should work together towards this objective. Also good mentoring is needed in this area. Real research begins after obtaining Ph.D research, teaching simultaneously may be difficult, and so, applying for early career grants needs to be encouraged.

In many IITs/NITs, the requirement for entry is a Ph.D degree, and so, it should be possible to encourage the SJCEET faculty members to pursue Ph.D degrees. The number of SIP applications is very low. Many scholars from Kerala fails to get admission in IITs because they are not very adept in those areas where they are teaching. So, the solution might be to get them trained in NPTEL/Swayam courses in their chosen areas. This can be done for even the regular faculty members, so that they get certified in online courses.

Dr. Sarith P Sathian conducted his discussion by mentioning the alumni factor. There is a need for strengthening the alumni activities. Students should get an opportunity to get connected to them. Many of the alumni might be occupying key positions in various prestigious companies. So it would be advantageous for the students to interact with them. One suggestion is to include the alumni as part of the governing body meeting. It would also be ideal to institute an award for distinguished alumni so that it would act as a recognition to them.

Lastly, Dr. Georgekutty VV, former Controller of exams, Calicut University, was called upon to take part in the discussion. Dr. Georgekutty lauded the significant achievements of SJST and offered the following suggestions:

1. Necessity to upgrade and update the College website
2. Proper information regarding NAAC Accreditation to be furnished on the website and include the same in the Governing Body report.
3. Set up a very effective coaching for slow learners to clear their supplementary papers. The short-term goal shall be to secure more than 90% pass and the long term goal, to secure ranks for the students in the university exams.
4. Appropriate motivational systems shall be put in place for high performance students.
5. There is a need to strengthen placements - the focus shall be on core placements.
6. Updated placement data shall be furnished on the website, so as to attract more admissions.
7. Conduct motivational sessions presented by CEOs, Directors of Multinational Companies for each department.

8. Students shall be encouraged to become good entrepreneurs. To meet this objective, a start-up cell is required.
9. The College should have a dedicated PR team that takes up the responsibility to bring the institutions to limelight, and to highlight its USPs, especially during the admission time.
10. Each department shall be required to form an international resource team or a team of mentors in academic and careers consisting of the CEO's of MNC's, professors of foreign universities and research scholars of national and foreign institutions etc. and online meetings shall be conducted once in 2 months. This will help the students to understand the current developments and trends in the global market.

The discussion session having ended, budget presentation needed to be done. Due to shortage of time, the presentation was cancelled. However, copies of the budget would be made available to each of the members of the Governing Body. Suggestions could be sent by e-mail.

Finally, the Bishop of Pala Diocese and the Patron of the College, H.E Max Kallarangattu was respectfully invited to address the meeting and bless those who were present.

H.E Max Kallarangattu, in his address said that what the meeting witnessed on the digital forum was a great battle between the Engineers and IAS officers. All the suggestions and proposals that emerged in the meeting should be taken seriously. The Bishop thanked the participants for their valuable insights and inputs.

All of them provided the fuel for the growth and development of this institution.

H.E then mentioned a couple of points related to moral orientation

Two luminaries who are being talked about a great deal in the Christian world are His Holiness Pope Francis, and the Patriarch of Constantinople, His All Holiness Bartholomew. The Holy Father has spoken about God, the world and its people. Those words, without doubt, are words of great exhortation. His notable words were "No one is useless, nobody is expendable, globalization makes you neighbors, maybe not brothers", these are indeed words to be pondered upon in depth and to be contemplated upon seriously.

The aim of SJCEET is quality engineers. A good value system is very important in modelling such people. In this context, it is worthwhile to remember St. Jude's expression in his epistle "Stella Errandus", which means, the stars that go astray. No matter how educated a person is, it is very important that he or she does not become wayward.

His All Holiness Bartholomew used to employ certain keynote expressions while speaking to the orthodox community. One of the expression he used was "Homo Faber", meaning humans who create everything: from technology to technology, man creates everything. However, after a point of time, the Homo Faber mutates into "Homo Fabricatus", i.e, man becomes slaves of the machines and technology he created. Again, His All Holiness Bartholomew uses the expression, "Homo Technologicus", i.e, instead of being spiritual, man turns into

someone who knows only technology. Then again, he becomes, "Homo Habilis", i.e., a person who wants to conquer everything. This is of course, a great danger to the entire world.

Hence the suggestions put forward in this meeting will definitely instil spiritual and moral values in all our activities.

Technology has augmented our relationships, but whether it has improved our moral and spiritual standards needs to be examined from a Christian perspective or in any religious context. The 6 persons who participated in today's discussion are all distinguished personalities in their own fields. The ideas and thoughts they provided to us are indeed magnificent ones.

Specifically, their suggestions with regard to accreditation, autonomy, Ph.D, etc. are valuable, and an aggressive effort needs to be made towards fulfilling these objectives. Moreover, we need a lot of wisdom to realize these objectives.

The Pala Diocese is serving the society through its various institutions - Engineering College, Medicity, Nursing College etc. While running an institution of this stature, it is worthwhile to remember Gandhi's dictum, "evaluate whether the institution is progressing along the right path, the path of truth".

The Holy Father, Pope Francis has stated in H.E.'s official book that The Holy Father got inspiration and insights from Gandhi's Teachings. This is indeed valuable, coming

as it were, from the Holy Father.

H.E. concluded his address by blessing one and all and praying for God's mercy to be bestowed on all present.

Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the previous GB meeting held on 24-04-2019 was approved.

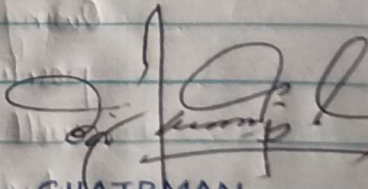
Ratification

The governing Body Meeting resolved to ratify the action taken by the Chairman relating to the following:-

1. Starting of the new programme
B.Tech Artificial Intelligence & Data Science from the academic year 2020-21.
2. Termination of the following M.Tech degree programmes from the academic year 2019-20.
 - a) M.Tech Advanced Communication & Inf. Systems.
 - b) M.Tech I.C Engines & Energy Systems
 - c) M.Tech in Power Electronics

The meeting ended at 9:00 pm


PRINCIPAL


CHAIRMAN