

# Salesian College Siliguri

## UB PEER TEAM VISIT

11 – 12 MAY 2018

**Dr RW Alexander Jesudasan and Dr M Marcus Boominathan**

### Visit Schedule

#### 11 May 2018

09:00 am – 09:30 am:	Meeting with the Principal
09:30 am – 10:00 am:	Meeting with Students (BBA/BCA/MA)
10:00 am – 12:00 noon:	Briefing on the revised NAAC Guidelines to the Principal and IQAC Team through Power Point Presentation
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm:	Departmental presentations in AV Hall
01:00 pm – 02:00 pm:	Lunch (in Stadium Block for Faculty)
02.00 pm – 02:30 pm:	Meeting with the Alumni
02:30 pm – 04:00 pm:	Departmental presentations in AV Hall – continues
04:00 pm – 05:00 pm:	Visit to Departments, Library, Labs, Facilities, etc.

#### 12 May 2018

10:00 am – 11:00 am:	Exit Meeting - Brief sharing by the UB Peer Team
12:00 noon:	Lunch & Departure

# Salesian College Siliguri

United Board (UB) Peer Team Visit: 11 – 12 MAY 2018

Dr RW Alexander Jesudasan and Dr M Marcus Boominathan

## Report of the Visit

11 May 2018

### *Meeting with the Principal and IQAC*

The UB Peer Team visit started for Siliguri Campus on 11 May 2018 from the Office of the Principal. Fr (Prof) George Thadathil SDB, Principal, Salesian College appraised the peer team about the back ground and traced a short history of Siliguri campus with its present relevance and present status where it has reached today. Fr (Dr) Mathew Pulingathil, the IQAC Co-ordinator, Fr (Dr) George Chempakathinal, Vice Principal, Fr (Dr) Babu Joseph, Assistant Principal and Mr Peter Lepcha, Secretary, IQAC were present for the meeting. The meeting with the Principal came to a close with a short video presentation titled *Salesian College Sonada Milestones*.

### *Peer Team Interactions with the Students*

The Peer Team interacted with the students of the departments of Business Administrations, Computer Applications and Master of Arts, English in the AV Hall where Dr RW Alexander Yesudasan engaged the student audience by highlighting the need of quality in the modern day higher education, role of National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and UB Grant for support to help institutions planning for (re)accreditation. He challenged the students to shoulder the responsibility to bring about international quality in higher education in India in the near future. Then the students were asked to provide feedback to improve the college standards in all respects, to which many students frankly provided with their invaluable feedback, most of which are enumerated below:

- a) Library is to be immediately seen to by the college management to make it more spacious and more student friendly.
- b) Common rooms for boys and girls to be provided
- c) More science programmes to be activated in the college
- d) Internships could be provided from the second semester itself
- e) Smart Boards are welcome feature even in the College level study
- f) Placement Cell Office space can be set apart
- g) Hardware equipment for the computer practical to be procured more for diverse experimentations in computer science discipline
- h) More PG Programmes to be introduced

### *Input Session on new NAAC Assessment Criteria format*

At 10:40 am, the Peer Team had an intense input session on new NAAC Assessment Criteria format. This session began with Dr RW Alexander Yesudasan's introduction to the need for quality higher education in India and why the Peer Team has taken the commitment to aid those member institutions planning for (re)accreditations. He observed that the College is young as

well as the faculty are young, therefore, a good potential. Dr M Marcus Boominathan took the gathering through a detailed study of the new Self Study Report format where there has been a drastic change in the way the reports are to be collected, collated, uploaded and substantiated. He brought to light the segments of report where the answer/response is qualitative (which is almost 30%) and the other being quantitative (which is around 70%). He pointed out that the qualitative portions needed the Peer Team visit and verification, whereas the quantitative is evaluated/tabulated by a third party vendor who has the expertise to do so. He cautioned the faculty to be meticulous in record keeping and take care of all the criteria and highlighted the attention to be given to second and fifth criteria which directly calls for faculty's action. Dr Boominathan reiterated that concerted efforts of all the faculty and management can/will make the process of collecting, uploading and substantiating the data for SSR a smooth one, and all will stand to gain.

#### *'Pen, Pain & Writing' - Release*

Volume VIII, No 2, December 2017 issue of *Salesian Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences* with volume title '*Pen, Pain & Writing*' was released by Dr RW Alexander Yesudasan in the presence of management and faculty of the college. The first copy of the journal was handed over to Mr Peter Lepcha, one of the editors and Head of the Department of English.

#### *Departmental Presentations*

After a common lunch at the new Science wing of the College, the Peer Team engaged the different departments in departmental presentations. The following departments made their presentation consisting of 10 minutes each and got feedback from the peer team: Business Administrations, Commerce, Computer Science & Applications, Education, English, General Degree Courses, Geography, History, Mass Communications & Journalism, Mathematics, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology. The overall feedback given by the Peer Team were on the presentation skills of the faculty especially on the use of ICTs such as PowerPoint Presentations for making the class more focused, result oriented and effective for young minds. The peer team also encouraged the faculty to go for Orientation Programmes (OPs) and Refresher Courses (RCs) in good Academic Colleges across the nation to update themselves and to keep abreast with the changing contours of subjects and disciplines.

**12 May 2018**

#### *Exit Meeting*

The Peer Team addressed to the Exit Meeting with the College Management, IQAC Members, Members of Teaching Faculty, Supportive Staff and Student Leaders at 11 am in the AV Hall. The Meeting began with a prayer led by Fr (Dr) George Chempakathinal SDB, Vice Principal, Salesian College Siliguri. By way of closing the visit, Dr RW Alexander Yesudasan thanked the College and exhorted that the teaching – learning activities undertaken by the college are commendable. He expressed that the college has walked a long way for 80 years and there were many stalwarts who had trodden this journey to bring the college to this height and at this point in time, the responsibility rests upon the present lot. In simple words he said, "It is a stock taking experience and process" when an institution undertakes an inspection or peer team visits from external agencies such as the one being carried out. The main focus of such activities in the institutions of higher learning are propelled by the need of quality sustenance. Citing numerous illustrations and anecdotes, he brought into light the fragility of the 'making' or

'breaking' of an institution which rests entirely upon the human resources especially the faculty of an institution. He also expressed the luminary roles of Christian institutions which stands for the values of love of God and neighbour, equality, justice and equity.

Dr M Marcus Boominathan resonated with his peer team colleague and expressed that Christian institutions have a great role historically too in massification of education to all strata of Indian society. He gave his detailed feedback on the presentation of SSR to the Peer Team members of NAAC. He brought forth a serious concern for dwindling number of students in some of the departments which needed so be arrested as soon as possible with the help of proper marketing and information sharing to the nearby schools. He lauded the translation work done by the college and Community Radio which stood unique to Salesian College. The young National Eligibility Test qualified faculty of the college added to the youthfulness of the college and he said that this was a plus point for the college. Some improvements, he pointed out that the college has to take up, comprises of research work by the faculty, OPs and RCs to be attended by the faculty, study tours and exchanges with good departments/institutions of India.

Fr (Prof) George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College thanked the peer team for their earnestness with which the visit was carried out for four days. He expressed the deep sense of gratitude to the peer team. While owing up the responsibility of the degree of preparedness for the visit, he lauded the efforts by the management and faculty of the college. In order to improve the overall presentation skills, he proposed a departmental presentation of PPTs with immediate feedback from the colleagues, to which the faculty answered in the affirmative.

Fr (Dr) Mathew Pulingathil, IQAC, Co-ordinator, Salesian College proposed the vote of thanks and expressed the gratitude to the UB Peer Team for their painstaking service rendered at the time of the visit. He pointed out the humane side of the interactions and experiences he had had with the peer team members.

Dr RW Alexander Jesudasan handed over the UB Peer Team Report of the four day visit to Fr (Prof) George Thadathil, Principal, Salesian College.

#### *Final Sitting with Management and Coordinators*

The UB Peer Team finally sat with the College Management and Co-ordinators to finally close the meeting. The immediate action plans to be taken are listed below:

1. UB Peer Team Report Study by IQAC and College, Co-ordination Council
2. Sorting of the concerns and areas from the Report for immediate action(s)
3. Making a time line, Road Map for the online SSR submission in November 2018
4. General Survey of the demography of North Bengal and Sikkim for the future prospects of the student populous who will walk in to our institutions

The UB Peer Team Visit by Dr RW Alexander Jesudasan and Dr M Marcus Boominathan came to a close by an agape in the Fathers' Residence.

Minuted by

Peter Lepcha