CAUVERY COLLEGE FOR WOMEN (AUTONOMOUS)
TRICHY -18
EXTERNAL PEER TEAM VISIT REPORT
2022-2023

CRITERION I: CURRICULAR ASPECTS

Observations:

- The curriculum has well defined Program Outcomes (POs), Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs), and Course Outcomes (COs), whose attainment is systematically mapped and assessed.

- Mapping of Course Outcome Attainment with Cognitive Level (K1–K6) has been done.

- The Board of Studies (BoS) restructures and revises the curriculum twice a year, with approval from the Academic Council and Governing Body.

- New courses are introduced under the Learning Outcome-based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) and the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) to keep up with current trends and developments.

- 771 New courses have been introduced across all programmes.

- Out of 26 UG and PG Programmes, 702 courses have undergone syllabus revision under the CBCS/Elective course system.

- During the assessment period, **137 Value-added Courses/Certificates** were offered, and the students were empowered with valuable life skills.

- Students are also encouraged to pursue online courses through platforms like SWAYAM, NPTEL, and Wadhwani.

- Both undergraduate and postgraduate students have completed **92 SWAYAM/ NPTEL** courses.

- Data related to MOOCS/Swayam /NPTEL etc., courses are well documented.

- Under the Ability Enhancement Compulsory Course, the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Course has been introduced for all UG programmes.

- Internship and Research Projects have been introduced in the curriculum for all programmes.

- Social Work and Nutrition & Dietetics Students mandatorily carried out their Field Work Projects.

- In accordance with NEP-2020 principles, most of the courses in the curriculum focus on employability, entrepreneurship, and skill development, which are designed in such a manner as to stimulate interest in venture creation.

- The curriculum is constantly updated to meet local, regional, national, and international requirements by taking into account input from stakeholders, such as students, faculty, employers, alumni, Academic peers, and parents.

- Feedback from all the stakeholders and action taken report was maintained and the feedback analysis report was disclosed on the website.

Suggestions:

- New Bench Marks regulations to be considered for Self-Study Report.
- For skill development B. Voc or Diploma in B.Voc can be introduced.
- Self-paced courses for all Programmes to be introduced.
- New Certificate Courses can be introduced through Online/Offline mode.

CRITERION II TEACHING LEARNING AND EVALUATION

Observations:

- The educational approach of the College prioritizes in creating a vibrant atmosphere for knowledge acquisition and personal development.
- Adheres to complete transparency in admissions, following the State Government Reservation Policy.
- Conducts Student Induction Programme- Deeksharambh at the beginning of each academic year to facilitate a smooth transition for new students.
- Has 185 experienced faculty members of which 85% hold Ph.D. and NET/SET qualifications, accompanied by a student enrolment of 3253.
- Has incorporated ICT into education to foster student-centric learning. An array of ICT amenities, including smart classrooms, online communication channels, virtual labs, smart TVs, pen tablets, projectors, interactive devices, a media centre, smartboards, and collaborative ICT tools, are utilized to enrich the teaching and learning experience.
- The college fosters participation in MOOCs, maintains a local NPTEL chapter, and utilizes e-library resources.
- Faculty members and students contribute to e-content development.
- Teachers assign courses, develop meticulous plans, and track progress through reviews, audits, and meetings.
- Lesson plans are followed to maintain consistency in teaching, resulting in an average pass percentage of 90%.
- IQAC has contributed significantly for institutionalizing the quality assurance strategies and processes, by constantly reviewing the teaching-learning process, structures & methodologies of operations and learning outcomes, at periodic intervals.
- The mentor-mentee ratio of 1:17 equips mentors with the ability to address academic, personal, and psychological needs.
- The performance of the student is assessed at Entry, Intermediate and Exit Levels. Assessment offers

remedial classes to support slow learners and Entrepreneurial ventures for advanced learners.

- The college plans its academic calendar well in advance, ensuring alignment with the objectives of Outcome-Based Education for transparency in teaching, learning, and evaluation processes.

- The Examination Section ensures examinations are conducted promptly and fairly, and results are declared on time with confidentiality, integrity, and transparency.

- IT integration is in place, featuring online data collection, surveillance cameras, online forms and payments, result uploads, and secure mark sheets.

- Examination reforms include centralized examination and valuation, online exams, outcome-based question papers, feedback mechanisms, and grievance redressal.

- Special provisions cater to Divyangjan students. The college emphasize on Outcome-Based Education (OBE) to develop graduate attributes (GA). Program Outcomes (POs), Program Specific Outcomes (PSOs), and Course Outcomes (COs) are structured to match these attributes and are communicated to both teachers and students.

- Attainment is evaluated based on End Semester valuation.

- Regular Student Satisfaction Survey are conducted to collect feedback on teaching and facilities for further improvement.

Suggestions:

- To increase the percentage of student enrolment.
- To incorporate PO, PSO, and CO into the attainment.
- To enhance the LMS system.
- To include attainment in the internal marks.

CRITERION-III: RESEARCH, INNOVATIONS AND EXTENSION

Observations:

- The College's Research Promotion Policy is in alignment with the institution's overarching goals.
- The acquisition of research grants amounts to Rs. 78,70,460 from external funding agencies underscores the institution's steadfast commitment to fostering a dynamic research environment.
- Seed grants of Rs. 25,30,000 were provided to fifty-five faculty members, enabling them to pursue high-quality research endeavours.
- Faculty members were awarded incentives amounting to Rs. 2,50,400 for their research contributions, alongside Rs. 12,57,255 was given to research supervisors. This incentivization has led to the achievement of 913 publications in reputed journals, 32 patents, and 386 books and chapters.
- Under the guidance of 38 supervisors across nine departments, 81 scholars have excelled in impactful research.
- Consultancy services have generated revenue of Rs. 36,62,321, affirming the institution's expertise in providing valuable solutions to external stakeholders.
- Collaborations with 55 institutions through Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) foster innovation.
- The Institutional Innovation Council has consistently achieved a prestigious 4-star rating in evaluations by the Ministry of Education, demonstrating its commitment to promoting innovation. Additionally, it has been recognized as the Best Performer in the Non-Technical category in the Atal Ranking of Institutional Innovation Achievements.
- The Incubation Center supports the commercialization of 15 startups.
- Nineteen Extension clubs integrated into the curriculum foster holistic student development and social awareness. Additionally, the institution has adopted five villages to build sustainable community ecosystems.
- The college has earned acclaim through 32 awards garnered from various extension activities.

Suggestions:

- Faculty members with Ph.D. qualification can apply to get research guideship.
- Faculty members could apply fellowships from various reputed organizations.
- Faculty members should strive to increase their publications in reputable journals and increase the books/chapters publication with ISBN numbers.
- Departments should increase consultancy services towards research and corporate training.
- Departments could consider increasing the number of Extension activities in collaboration with NSS, NCC, and other extension clubs.

CRITERION IV - INFRASTRUCTURE AND LEARNING RESOURCES

Observation:

- The campus appears well-structured and spacious, with designated areas for academics, seminars, laboratories, sports and housing.

- The college's dedication to uninterrupted power supply, facilitated by generators and solar panels, highlights its commitment to maintaining a seamless learning and operational environment.

- The emphasis on utilizing IT tools such as projectors, tablets, interactive devices and Smart boards showcases a contemporary educational approach, promoting interactive and immersive learning experiences.

- The library's automation and vast collection of physical and digital resources offer students a valuable learning asset, extending their access to information beyond traditional printed materials.

- The robust infrastructure, including high-speed internet, institutional email services, CCTV surveillance and a firewall, underscores the college's focus on effective communication, security, and data integrity.

- The proactive maintenance strategies, including daily checks, minor repairs, and annual inspections through AMC contracts, demonstrate a proactive stance towards facility maintenance and safety protocols.

- The integration of sustainable energy practices, represented by the solar panel alongside conventional generators, underscores the college's commitment to environmental responsibility.

- The provision of comprehensive IT resources for content development and access to online platforms like Grammarly and Swayam underscores the college's modern educational approach, leveraging technology for improved learning outcomes and academic support.

Suggestions:

- Enhance current classrooms by incorporating additional interactive smart boards and virtual reality technologies.

- Organize workshops and activities centered on diversity and inclusion to promote a welcoming and diverse campus atmosphere.

- Expand access to international publications and databases to offer a broader range of cutting-edge research and information.

- Implement sustainable transportation alternatives like electric shuttles and bicycles to lessen the campus's environmental impact.

- Set up a fully-equipped healthcare facility with onsite medical staff to cater to students' healthcare requirements.

CRITERION V- STUDENT SUPPORT AND PROGRESSION

Observations

- An outstanding system of student support has been established by the college to facilitate the progression of students. The institution endeavours to create an environment that promotes the holistic development of students.

- 56.96% of students got benefitted through Government, Non-Government, Individual, and Alumnae Scholarships. The institution offers a variety of financial assistance including the Merit cum Means Scholarship, 50% Management Scholarship and Discipline Scholarship. Totally 2689 students benefitted with Rs124.87 lakhs through Institution Scholarships during the assessment period. It also oversees various grant initiatives sponsored by the Government, NGOs, and individuals. 7028 students were granted Rs.334.07 lakhs from these awarding agencies.

- Over the past five years, 20,099 students have received coaching for competitive exams and career development from the college.

- Besides academic support, CCW provides opportunities for enriching the personality of students by offering 593 programmes on Language and Communication Skills 49, Soft Skills 76, Life Skills 151, Awareness on Recent Technologies 317 and bridge courses.

- The institution adheres to the guidelines of regulatory bodies with regard to Anti-ragging, Anti-Sexual harassment/Internal Complaints Committee

- The institution maintains a well-structured policy that handles and addresses student grievances through the Grievance Appeal Committee. Students can submit grievances online through the college website.

- The active career guidance and placement cell organizes placement training programmes that has made 65% of outgoing students placed in various industries/institutions. 232 students qualified in state/ national/ international level examinations such as NET/SLET/State government examinations etc.

- Students are encouraged to participate in extracurricular activities, such as sports and cultural events, to achieve complete growth. 211 students bagged awards and medals in various competitions organized at the Inter-university, state, and national levels.

- Student Council serves as the voice of the students and assists in decision-making on academic and administrative activities.

- A total of 234 events/ competitions were organized on campus to showcase students' talents. These included 20 sports events, 130 cultural events, 46 academic events, and 38 other types of events.

- By serving as a bridge between the college and its former students, the creation of a thriving alumni association fosters the development of a support system. During the assessment period, the alumni contributed 40,14,650 lakhs towards the development of infrastructure and scholarships for students.

- 538 students received financial assistance of 38.22095 lakhs from CCAA during the assessment period. The Alumnae extend support through Career counselling, special lectures and placement assistance for current students.

Suggestions

- The number of students availing scholarships from the NGOs should be increased.
- Number of students appearing for the Government competitive examination can be increased.
- Students should be encouraged to go for higher education and get jobs for better data.
- Students should be encouraged to pass competitive exams.

CRITERION VI   GOVERNANCE LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

Observations:

- The institution's vision and mission permeate through every facet of its academic and non-academic pursuits.
- Regular, meticulously recorded meetings are held for both statutory and non-statutory committees.
- The strategic plan has been meticulously crafted and communicated for optimal clarity and alignment.
- The institution champions decentralization across its academic, administrative, research, and consulting domains, bolstered by its infrastructural and financial support for faculty and students to participate in National and International curricular events and conferences.
- Outcome Based Education with Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) as advised by the Academic Council.
- Welfare measures are provided for all staff members
- Emphasis is placed on formulating a robust Performance Appraisal System and Self Appraisal System to assess their academic and research progress in fostering accountability.
- Stringent service regulations and policies are in place to facilitate staff development through active participation in scholarly endeavours including conferences, seminars, and publications.
- Notably, 60% of teaching faculty have received financial backing to partake in national and international conferences, workshops and to register in Professional Bodies during the assessment period.
- For prudent fiscal management, routine internal and external audits are conducted to ensure transparency and accountability in financial affairs with defined policy.
- Strategic initiatives are devised to mobilize funds and utilize the resources from philanthropist to enhance the students' Academic welfare.

- The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) serves as a central administrative body overseeing quality-centric endeavours, including professional development initiatives such as Faculty Development Programs (FDPs).

- More than 52% of the faculty took part in various academic training programmes, and engagement in developmental projects aimed at augmenting educational excellence.

- The college prioritizes IQAC activities as a cornerstone in the pursuit of quality enhancement, leveraging insights and feedback garnered from accreditation agencies and statutory bodies.

- Regular IQAC meetings serve as conduits for collecting, analyzing, and leveraging feedback to effectuate meaningful improvements within the college.

- Furthermore, the college upholds a transparent administrative policy, ensuring grievances from both staff and students are promptly addressed through mandated redressal mechanisms.

Suggestions:

- The learning Management System of the institution could be effective in the educational modernization.

- Consistently convening various institutional bodies to promote holistic development by incorporating suggestions and implementing regulations for Outcome Based Education.

- Focus on developing a strong Performance Appraisal System and Self-Appraisal System for teaching and non-teaching staff.

- Grievances from stakeholders, staff, and students ought to be recorded both online and off-line.

- Feedback garnered from accreditation agencies and statutory bodies.

- Insightful feedback is to be collected from accreditation agencies and statutory bodies.

CRITERION VII INSTITUTIONAL VALUES AND BEST PRACTICES

Observations:

- The college organized 131 Awareness Programmes on Women's Safety and Gender Sensitivity from 2019 to 2024.
- Medical and Meditation Rooms were established for students and faculty within the college premises.
- The campus is equipped with 96 CCTV Cameras for security.
- Water conservation facilities include Rainwater Harvesting Systems, Borewells, and Tanks.
- Encouragement of bicycle use and prohibition of plastic usage to reduce pollution.
- Pedestrian pathways are provided throughout the campus.
- 25 buses are available for the safe transportation of female students from remote areas.
- LED and Solar Lights are used to manage electricity shortages.
- Reverse Osmosis Plant provides drinking water.
- Water quality tests are conducted biannually by the PG and Research Department of Microbiology to check for E. coli and coliform bacteria.
- A Medicinal Garden has been established in the Hostel Campus.
- An inbuilt Incinerator is installed for proper disposal of sanitary napkins, with sufficient garbage bins for biodegradable waste placed around the campus.
- A Composting Yard (for dry leaves) is implemented in the hostel campus for effective Solid Waste Management.
- E-waste is discarded properly for recycling of electronic components (plastic/metallic).
- An E-Waste MOU has been signed with TRITECH SYSTEMS (E-Waste certified by the Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board), Chennai.
- Policy documents are maintained for a Green Campus.
- The Institution, Principal, and Staff have received Clean and Green Campus Recognition Awards.
- Signage including tactile path lights, display boards, and signposts are available.
- Facilities for inquiry and information include Human Assistance, Reader, Scribe, Soft copies of Reading Materials, and Screen Reading.
- Ramps/Lifts provide disabled-friendly access to classrooms.
- Technology is adopted for Net Banking, Online Salary Transactions, online attendance, online grievance helpline, etc.
- Various Social Awareness programs were conducted to promote tolerance and harmony across cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socioeconomic, and other diversities.

- Language labs actively train students to improve their communication skills.
- The Institution Innovation Council is actively promoting women entrepreneurs.
- Barricades are placed to manage crowds during special performances and lectures.
- Gender Audit, Green, Energy, and environmental audits have been conducted.
- Special programs to encourage performing yoga have been organized.
- Manure was generated and used for planting inside the college campus.

Suggestions:

- The number of awareness programmes to promote gender equity should be increased.
- The number of tree samplings should be increased.
- Awareness should be created to maintain a green campus.
- The use of bicycles should be encouraged.
- Parents should be encouraged to involve their daughters in IIC initiatives for experiential learning and skill development.

Name & Designation of External Peer Team Members   **Signature**
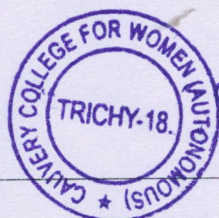
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