

MINUTES OF THE 43rd MEETING OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL HELD ON 4TH APRIL 2025 AT 11.00 AM IN THE BOARD ROOM OF FR. CONCEICAO RODRIGUES COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Members Present:

1. Rev. Fr. Bento Rodrigues (In the Chair)
2. Rev. Fr. Alarico Carvalho
3. Rev. Fr. Valerian D'Souza
4. Rev. Fr. Trevor Pereira
5. Rev. Fr. Agnelo Gomes
6. Dr. B. G. Fernandes
7. Dr. Uttam Kolekar
8. Mr. P. N. Jumle
9. Mr. Paresh Shetty
10. Dr. D. V. Bhoir
11. Dr. Sapna Prabhu
12. Dr. Surendra Rathod..... Principal/Secretary

Dr. Sapna Prabhu delivered a short introduction of all the members of the council to the gathering. Chairman, Rev. Fr. Bento Rodrigues, extended a hearty welcome to all the members and requested Dr. B. G. Fernandes to be the moderator of the meeting which he accepted.

With the permission of the chairman and moderator Principal started proceedings as per the agenda items.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of the 42nd Meeting held on 6th April 2024:

Principal read out the minutes of the last meeting. He said that issues that needed follow up, are listed in Item No. 2 Action Taken Report.

The minutes of the meeting held on 6th May 2024 were approved by the members.

Item No. 2: Discussion on the Action taken report on the minutes of the last meeting

Principal informed that based on the suggestions given by the members in the previous Governing Council meeting following actions are being taken:

- Started M.Tech in Computer Engineering from academic year 2024-25
- All seats in Mechanical Engineering are filled for academic year 2024-25 primarily due to autonomy and infrastructural changes
- To improve placement following initiatives are taken:
 - Professor of Practice have been implemented
 - Training sessions are organized for skill development

- Curriculum interventions are done
- Semester-long internship is started
- Syllabus for first year courses is changed and new relevant courses are being added
- Floor area for the incubation center is allocated and civil work is in progress.
- Four professionals are appointed as Professor of Practice. These appointments proved to be very useful. Few measurable outcomes are:
 - Alumni association is registered
 - Better placement guidance
 - PoP taught 'Financial planning' course to all SE students
 - Incubation and start-up mentorship with many teams getting selected e.g. at Start-up clinic of UoM etc
- Code of Conduct is being implemented. Meetings of students, faculty and staff are taken to make them aware about Code of Conduct. Also, it is made available on college website
- Fr. Agnelo Gomes said that college should appoint professional counsellor. Director said that full time counsellor Dr. Joseph Rodrigues is already appointed by the college. Also, by considering rising cases of mental health in the society, college is looking for appointing one more professional counsellor or psychologist.
- Contacted industries (JPMC, Bluestar, General Mills, JSW and Colgate) to collaborate for starting new courses and training programs
- For enhancing alumni network, one Professor of Practice who is alumni of the college is appointed and alumni committee is restructured. Alumni association got registered.
- Faculty members are informed during meetings that integrity of the faculty is important for success of autonomy and Faculty Development Programs are also arranged to coach them.
- Fr. Carvalho enquired about progress of introducing energy systems to which principal replied that already elective courses are being offered by mechanical engineering department in the said domain.

Item No. 3: Progress Report for the Academic Year 2024-25:

a) Details of Admission and Enrollment – 2024-25

- Members noted that all seats were filled in the academic year 2024-25 and congratulated college for this. It was also noted that max and min cut-off marks are improved as compared to the previous years. Members were curious to know the reason for these improvements to which Principal replied that it is because of autonomy due to which home University seats got converted to pan Maharashtra seats and it is also due to improvement in college infrastructure. He mentioned that this year it has been observed that there is an increase in students coming from interior parts of Maharashtra.
Also change of nomenclature from AI&DS to CSE has worked in the favor as CSE is considered to be wider branch and college is able to convince the candidates. In case of Mechanical engineering, honors and minors also helped in filling the seats as students get wider option for study.
- Fr. Agnelo Gomes enquired about the progress of minority candidates particularly admitted at low merit. It was discussed that college should track progress of students admitted with low merit and faculty must pay more attention to them.
- Fee Regulating Authority (FRA) has sanctioned Rs. 1,81,000 for UG and 1,05,000 for PG programs in 2024-25. The fee proposal for Academic Year 2025-26 is already submitted to the Fees Regulating Authority and the approval is awaited.

b) Financial Assistance / Scholarships

Principal presented data for the financial assistance availed by students in the form of scholarships/freeships.

Government Scholarships/ Freeships received to the students are:

- 234 students received EBC scholarship
- 79 students received Scholarship for Reserved Category
- 15 students received Central Govt. Minority Merit-cum-Means Scholarship

Non-Government Scholarships received to the students are:

- 7 students received Bluestar Foundation Scholarship

- 2 students Ekam Foundation Scholarship
- 4 students received scholarships from IDFC bank
- 8 students received scholarships from alumni

In addition, college has partnered with NGOs e.g. Nimaya, Katalyst and British Council, to empower girl students through soft skill training, internship and financial assistance.

c) Results of University Examinations – May 2024

Principal presented final year result analysis of May 2024 examinations. Members noted results for various classes as AI&DS: 100%, Mechanical: 94%, ECS: 100% and Computer: 99%. Also three candidates in Mechanical Engineering and two in Electronics Engineering completed PhD from the college research center.

d) Placement details: 2024-25

Members went through the placement statistics for 2024-25. Members were happy to note that highest package offered is 22.00 LPA by Carwale while average salary offered is 6.00 LPA. It was also noted that 26% of students from the college enrolled for higher studies and opted out of placement.

Fr. Carvalho asked if there is any study conducted regarding placement to find out the reasons of not reaching to 100%. Principal replied that current final year students have studied their HSC during pandemic which affected their technical as well as non-technical skills. Director also mentioned about the student's preference to do job only in western suburban locations.

Principal agreed that still there is a need to improve the placement statistics and more efforts will be taken by the college for the forthcoming batch. Dr. B. G. Fernandes mentioned that statistics are good if we add percentage of placement and higher studies.

Principal also shared semester long internship details with the members. It was noted that stipend to the tune of 87000/-- and 75000/-- per month is being offered to the students which is appreciable amount. Council members were happy to see the implementation and success of internships.

Mr. P. N. Jumle mentioned that along with Board of Apprenticeship Training (Western Region) college can implement Apprenticeship Embedded Degree Programme (AEDP) under National Apprenticeship Training Scheme (NATS) of Ministry of Education, Government of India. Principal mentioned that college will explore possibility of

signing MoU with BoAT for AEDP. Fr. Carvalho mentioned to look for industries for OJT.

e) Co-curricular and Extra-Curricular activities / initiatives

Principal presented details of various events organized by student clubs/councils/chapters. Members went through the gist of Technical, Sports, Cultural and Societal activities of 2024-25, highlighting major events. Students council, Technical chapters and Non-Technical chapters like NSS, TEDx and Rotaract Club are very active and have organized variety of activities for students to enhance their skill sets and talents. Induction program of two weeks was conducted for the benefit of newly enrolled students in first year. Euphoria, TEDx, CRMD, CRESCENDO, alumni meet, degree certificate distribution and Sports events were organized in the college. CineCRCE is newly introduced event in the college. Principal specially briefed members about GDSC organized international hackathon and also about UnPlug start-up event which was an innovative concept. College celebrated national and international commemorative days, events, and festivals. Principal stated that the faculty, staff, and students of the institution all came together to celebrate these occasions. The institute organized seminars to spread the message of unity, peace, love and happiness. College has a Women Development Cell (WDC) which organizes various programs to create confidence and self-esteem among female staff and students. Council members appreciated efforts of students and staff in organizing these events.

f) Minutes of the College Development Committee Meeting held on 24th Jun 2024 and 30th Dec 2024.

Members noted and approved MoM of CDC meetings held on 24th Jun 2024 and 30th Dec 2024. Members were happy to note that college is following the norms and regulations of statutory bodies.

g) Department Progress Reports

Members went through the department reports, giving details of publications, certifications of faculty and students. FDPs and STTPs attended by faculty as well as Guest lectures, departmental activities and individual faculty & student achievements. Principal informed that involvement of faculty towards upgradation of their skills shows improvement in the form of participation in STTP and FDPs. However, faculty going as resource persons to other colleges need to be improved.

h) Patents filed by CRCE Faculty and students

Principal appraised members with the data related to publications & patents published and granted to the students and faculty members in 2024-25. Dr. B. G. Fernandes mentioned that it is good to see IEEE Transaction paper is being published by the college. Fr Carvalho mentioned that most of the papers were from Prachi Dalvi and Swapnali Makdey indicates that they may be lead writers. Members expressed their satisfaction over publications however they also expressed that all faculty should focus on quality publications rather than more number of publications. Principal mentioned that college already have IRG and Research Promotion Policies to encourage faculty members for publications.

i) Achievements

Principal appraised members with the major achievements in 2024-25, ranking of projects, awards in sports and other rankings received. In particular, national winners in Smart India Hackathon, achievements in entrepreneurship events & technical events, and Bronze & Silver medal in the Mumbai University Inter-Collegiate Tournament Zone - II, Shooting Event held on 5th Oct 2024. Principal mentioned that ranking by IIC is becoming difficult every year due to higher expectations by ranking agency for start-ups to be Unicorn. Hence there is a need to start incubation center at the earliest. Achievements were appreciated by the council members.

j) Requirements of NBA as per new format

Principal informed council members that college is already accredited by National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) with 'A' grade which is valid up to June 01, 2028. Also, UG program in Computer Engineering already have accreditation from National Board of Accreditation (NBA) up to 30-06-2026.

Now college has applied for NBA accreditation of ECS and Mechanical UG programs. SAR is uploaded on 3rd Dec 2024 and peer member visit is being awaited.

Information was given to all the members about changes in the NBA format related to Outcome based assessment, Faculty information & improvement, faculty contribution, student support and Governance. Members noted that there is a need to make provision in the budget at Institute as well as Department level towards SDGs, R&D,

training, placement, industry linkages, entrepreneurship, industry expert, industrial training, internship training, support for faculty development.

It is resolved that college should make a provision in budget for the same in terms of percentage of budget. Fr. Carvalho also suggested to instruct the faculty to do MOOC courses, internships etc. otherwise college will suffer in the future. He also recommended to link appraisal to IRG, money given for other initiatives and seed money for the consultancy & research. He also mentioned that budgeting is required for this. Dr. Bhoir mentioned that L&T has facility to train faculty on various courses. Members suggested that faculty can go on industry internships during vacation period.

Item No. 4: Approval of Minutes of Academic Council Meeting held on 14th Feb 2025 and 8th

March 2025

Principal briefed all the council members that credit structure and degree nomenclature is being decided as per the guidelines received from regulating bodies namely University of Mumbai and Directorate of Technical Education. Meeting of Board of Studies and Academic Council are being held and they approved curriculum, syllabus and academic rules.

Principal mentioned about various multi-disciplinary minor courses and double minor options being given to the students. Dr. B. G. Fernandes said that electrical vehicles etc are coming in a big way and hence minor related to electrical engineering and energy systems could have been introduced. Principal informed that he will communicate the said suggestion to academic council and look for the feasibility of the same. Dr. Sapna Prabhu elaborated how embedded is a part of IoT minor which is a cross four semester program.

All the members of the council expressed their satisfaction towards these positive changes approved Minutes of Academic Council Meetings held on 14th Feb 2025 and 8th March 2025.

Item No. 5: Proposal for starting new courses

Principal informed members that there is a need to create multidisciplinary ecosystem in the campus for implementation of NEP in its true sense. For this there is a need to add new level of programs in the existing college or there could be a new college on the campus offering other programs in demand. For getting broad perspective from the members of the Governing Council, Principal proposed undergraduate programs

in Architecture (B. Arch.) and in Design (B. Design). Principal presented minimum land requirements for the new college or courses with the variations in intake capacity for these programs.

Fr. Alarico Carvalho cautioned about implementation of NEP and choice of Architecture program. Mr. Paresh Shetty mentioned that before finalizing it is necessary to look at the payback period, IIR and ROI for the available options. Fr Valerian said that Foreign Universities are coming and we need to offer something different to the suburban students. We need to be marginally ahead of others in order to sustain. Mr Paresh Shetty mentioned that Gaming Technology as a part of Applied Arts and Crafts of UG program seems to be attractive option and is in big demand in the market. He said if we think of such course then we need to look for Big players in the market for collaborating for these programs. Members also expressed to look for the possibility of collaborations with the other institutes. Most of the members were of the opinion of Design as a good option but architecture needs to be thought of carefully.

After detail discussions, moderator Dr. B. G. Fernandes resolved that campus needs to grow. He mentioned that even IIT is looking for many other options and tying up with hospitals etc. IIT will also be no longer only technological institute. Hence it is resolved that college should form committee comprising alumni from different sectors to do the feasibility study, land requirements, faculty availability, market demand about starting new programs and give recommendations to the college. If required then GC meeting can be called once again to discuss this particular agenda item.

Item No. 6: Discussion on Vertical/Cluster/Deemed to be University

Principal briefed members about the eligibility criteria for vertical, cluster and deemed to be university. He mentioned that it is necessary to have a multi-disciplinary institution for converting campus in a 'Deemed to be University'. Also, there are other eligibility criteria like teacher-student ratio of 1:20 with a minimum combined faculty strength of not less than one hundred and fifty teachers and a minimum combined student strength of three thousand on rolls under the regular classroom mode, of which not less than one fifth being post-graduate or research or as per the norms of the relevant statutory body.

Hence, Principal suggested to expand the campus to multidisciplinary institution and requested members to approve for this expansion.

It is resolved that the committee formed to consider agenda item no. 5 can do the feasibility study for the same and after that if required GC can be called once again to discuss this agenda item.

Item No. 7: Institute Development Plan for next 5 years

Principal presented Institute Development Plan i.e. strategic plan which was approved in GC meeting held on 13th May 2023 and informed members that first three years goals are already achieved. Now college is connecting to other institutes and industries for collaborations to achieve remaining goals.

Principal briefed about the steps taken in this academic year for implementation of autonomy & NEP, he mentioned about the impact of these steps and also challenges encountered along with scope of further improvement. Dr. B. G. Fernandes mentioned that regular classroom seating arrangement needs to be changed in light of changes in the curriculum and activities. Mr. Paresh Shetty said look for courses on mindfulness etc. as today's kids are not equipped to handle the stress. Members shown concern over skilling of exam staff and delay in declaration of results.

Principal also mentioned about the methodology for Quantification of Measurement of Student Success and Joy of Learning Index (JOLI) – Sentiment Analysis Metric for Campus Vibrancy. Mr. Paresh Shetty suggested to find JOLI for faculty as well.

Item No. 8: Staff Structure and Staff Position

The faculty structure and non-teaching staff position as on 31st March 2024 was presented. It was informed to the members that USSC advertisement is already published in Times of India for the vacancies which are calculated based on increase in intake and resignations or superannuation's. Principal also briefed that college is also looking for Industrial Relations Officer for handling placement process and industry connect. Mr. Paresh Shetty recommended to post such advertisements on Linked-In.

Item No. 9: To consider and approve:

- a) Audited Account for the year ended 31.03.2024.
- c) Budget for the year 2025-26

Members went through the budget figures and approved the same. Principal informed council members that due to renovation of Samvad Auditorium, Canteen, Washrooms and other places there is deficit of Rs. 3.14 Cr.

Members approved the Audited Income & Expenditure Statement and Balance Sheet for the year ended 31.03.2024. Mr. Paresh Shetty enquired about increase in income to which Director replied that it is due to extra sanction of seats in CSE. Dr. B. G. Fernandes also mentioned that income from other sources should also come from R&D, consultancy etc. He also mentioned to rope in alumni for funds. IF required then college can look for naming the lab after alumni or company etc.

Item No. 10: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

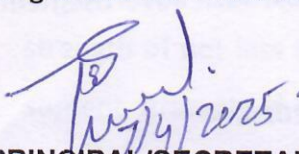
Fr. Carvalho appreciated what college is doing and also said that college must look towards USP as an innovation in cutting-edge technologies. Dr. B. G. Fernandes mentioned that Professor of Practice and CSR fund need to be tapped for developed of labs. He once again reiterated that flexibility is the key and also integrity of faculty is important to have successful autonomy. He also mentioned that there is a need to improve output as college is already getting good input. To elaborate the point, he quoted example of a school that has slogan 'we convert ordinary into extra-ordinary'. He mentioned that there are few laboratories which exists for no reason. So, there is a need to do study for that. Dr. Sapna explained that it is done before changing the curriculum.

All the members congratulated college management and principal for the progress of the college.

There were no other items for discussion.

Dr. D. V. Bhoir delivered vote of thanks to each member and expressed his gratitude for their valuable inputs.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks to the Moderator, Chairman and the members.


PRINCIPAL/SECRETARY


CHAIRMAN