

**ALUMNI FEEDBACK ON
SYLLABUS
2017**



**St. Joseph's College
(Autonomous)
Irinjalakuda**

INTRODUCTION

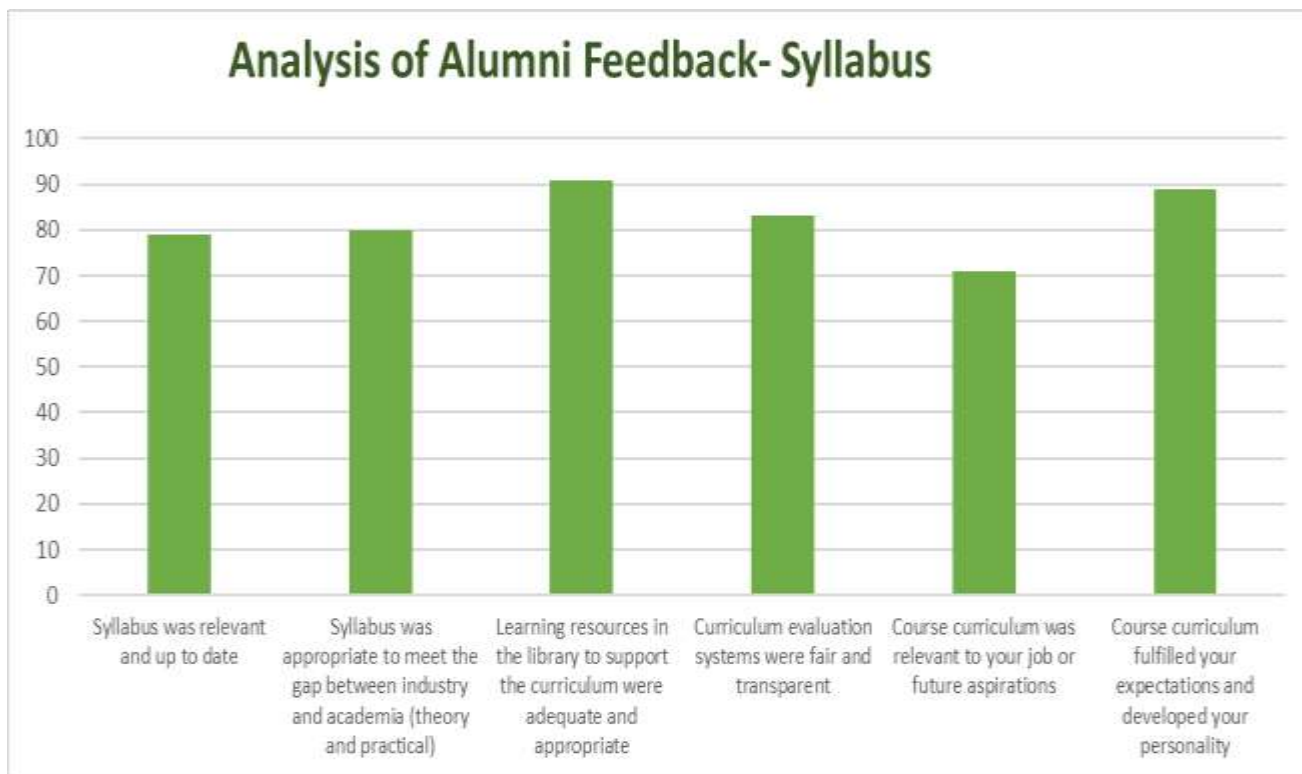
St. Josephs holds the repute of being one of the colleges in the state of Kerala that offers not just quality education but also indulges into the holistic development of their students which was founded based on the ever increasing demand for higher education among young ladies. The institution strives to implement their mission of training young women and making them capable of excelling in the academic and ethical domains through value-based quality education. The success of the mission depends upon the committed endeavor of the students, the consistent effort and sacrifice of the management, faculty and staff and the whole hearted co-operation of the guardians and well-wishers of the college.

The college plays an indomitable part in shaping the young minds that turn into successful entrepreneurs and the work force of tomorrow. Hence, the critical task of moulding these raw minds into stones of brilliant shine and rare virtues resides on this institution. With this commitment guiding our routes, we take extreme care in framing our course programs and their respective modes of implementations. Regular revisions and checks are conducted to keep the syllabus and the curriculum up-to-date. Suggestions are sought from subject experts and stakeholders who play a significant role in designing the curricular and non-curricular agendas. After deep filtration and reviews, these opinions are forwarded to the respective authorities for approval of execution. This process is not a one-time event and necessary measures are taken from the institution to ensure the regularity of the practice.

The feedback system is the most prominent method adopted to regulate the prior mentioned updation. As an institution that operates on collaborative efforts from different units that work unitedly for its progression, it understands the importance of respecting and paying heed to their voices. Feedbacks ensure that the educational body runs democratically and with the pace of time. The alumni feedback is collected and combined with the efforts from the administration and the faculty. As the beneficiaries of the services we offer, our alumnae possess all the rights to inform the modifications to be included in the course of developmental journey we offer from the college. We deeply appreciate the alumnae suggestions and responses. Considerable efforts are directed to ensure that the services we provide are well-intentional and accept the changes suggested with a positive outlook.

ANALYSIS OF CURRICULAR ALUMNI FEEDBACK

The alumni feedback of the year 2017-2018 witnessed re-affirmation of the institutional practices being followed. A good number of alumni had volunteered to respond to the feedback forms sent through different means to different parts of the world. The institution received nearly 521 responses and it is of immense pleasure to conclude that the responses highlighted the efficient prevalent system being charted in the college. Considering the restrictions of time and place, the feedback form designed was concise and direct with ample spaces allotted to carry the customized suggestions of the alumni. The form consisted of objective and descriptive type questions that inquired on the relevance of the syllabus they underwent and its role in acquiring the current occupational position. It also enquired on any other amendment that they considered appropriate in the syllabus rendering process.



For the statistical analysis of multiple-choice questions to measure the agreement or disagreement in a five-point Likert scale. ‘Strongly disagree’, and ‘disagree’ was with -1. Response as ‘no opinion’ was given 0 weightage and discarded from the further analysis. Result was expressed as percentages.

The first question posed in the feedback form dealt with how far the syllabus was relevant and up to date. The college has followed the university prescribed syllabus during the academic years of 2016-2017. It is clear from the responses received that 71% of alumni considered the syllabus appropriate and supportive in acquiring the current occupational status of the alumni. They opined on the fact that the education along with the skills offered under the patronage of the teachers have helped them discharge the assigned task with better outcomes and greater confidence levels. It has also aided in broadening their perspective and taking logical quick decisions. This is suggestive of the efficiency displayed by the well qualified faculty in implementing the prescribed syllabus. The feedback raised another query on the need to introduce any other module or course program to enhance the outcomes from the syllabus. According to the responses received from our alumni, more than half i.e. 60.1% felt that the existing syllabus was competent and resourceful and did not require any further substitution. The remaining percentage of alumni preferred alterations to be included for updation of the syllabus as per the requirement of the time.

Stating the need for alteration requires spaces for the communicating the type of changes to be brought about in the syllabus. Hence, the feedback comprised of a suitable area where the alumni could describe the preferred changes. Among the alumni, some advocated inclusion of certain subjects that had recently emerged in the educational scenario like courses related to digitalization and globalization. The suggestions were noted as the recommended courses were

in terms with the recent developments and had the potential to build research aptitude in students. The topic of globalization was relevant as it was an umbrella term that addressed issues of ecology and sustainable development. The suggested course topic could include concepts that aid the ecological practices being followed in the campus like plastic free environment and organic waste management.

The alumni offered their perspectives on skills acquisition facet of the curriculum. The feedback enquired on the skills that the alumni wished they acquired during the tenure with the institution. The alumni collectively said that the syllabus was competent yet can be transformed with more skill acquisition programs to aid the syllabus. As per the suggestions received from the alumni, most of them requested the inclusion of programs that enhanced their communicative skills. As aspirants of different field of work that requires excellent communicative abilities, the alumni comprehended the prominence of communication skills in a workplace and the need to include it in the syllabus. The institution has all the infrastructural facilities in the form of language labs, trained faculty, resource books and software to aid the acquisition of the communicative abilities in students. Hence, the opinion of accelerating occasions for language acquisition not only for language specific batches but also for inter-disciplinary students will be forwarded to the concerned authority for further actions. The alumni also insisted that along with communicative abilities the students can be provided with entrepreneurial inspirations in the form of interactions with entrepreneurs, startup capital for innovative and feasible projects, awards and scholarships for eligible and bright students. This can greatly increase the number of students that take the possible risk involved to commence pliable projects. This calls for providing theoretical as well as practical modes of experimentation for the students to recognize the norms of initiating their entrepreneurial journeys.

On the whole, the syllabus was satisfactory but posed areas that could be enhanced with the incorporation of age relevant recent innovations and skills. The course of implementation of the syllabus and the modes of tutelage were well appreciated by the alumni. The success rates of our alumni in their career and the everlasting bonds with the institutions stand as a testimonial to the efficient means of training and value education we strive to provide at St. Josephs. Their recommendations form a valuable thread for the college to weave the fabric of progression in the upcoming academic years.

It is encouraging to state that the alumnus has marked the library facilities with the satisfaction levels soaring as high as 91%. The college takes prime concern in equipping its edifice with all the relevant groundwork. The most appreciated were the fully fledged library that comprised of necessary resource materials and equipments that cream up the student training period with pragmatic modes of education. The library is a huge repository with syllabus based books and journals and also houses a vast expanse of interesting and research potential topics. The alumnae commented that they benefitted profusely with the sources of competitive books and journals that were available in the library with flexible return and renew policies.

CONCLUSIONS

The feedback collected from the alumni has exposed that the college has strived for excellence throughout the academic year of 2016-2017. The practices initiated have reaped good result for the curriculum adapted by the college. The alumnae stands as the representatives of the college and have labeled their academia as extremely satisfactory yet there are areas that possess the scope for perfection. The curriculum has been satisfactory but it can be further target oriented with concepts that address the requirements of the changing world. The suggestions and comments provided by the graduands will be deciphered and forwarded to the respective authoritative bodies for further action and implementation if applicable. The co-curricular practices carried out in the college have provided the alumni with luxurious educational experiences that testify our value based ethical education and require only minimal efforts at enhancing the activities.