

ANNUAL REPORT

2013 - 2014



HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

(AFFILIATED TO M.S. UNIVERSITY, TIRUNELVELI)

RE-ACCREDITED WITH A GRADE (CGPA 3.34) BY NAAC

NAGERCOIL - 629 004, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

HOLY CROSS COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), NAGERCOIL

Holy Cross College (Autonomous), Nagercoil, has continually exemplified a commitment to academic excellence and holistic education since its inception. As an institution dedicated to empowering women through knowledge and skills, the college has embraced a comprehensive approach to learning that emphasizes not only academic achievements but also personal development, social responsibility, and community engagement. The academic year 2013 - 2014 was marked by significant milestones, including the introduction of innovative programs, successful examination outcomes, and a wide array of extracurricular activities that fostered student participation and leadership. This report highlights the college's accomplishments, initiatives, and the dedicated efforts of faculty, staff, and students, reflecting our shared vision of nurturing well-rounded individuals prepared to meet the challenges of a dynamic world.

Management Committee:

The college's administrative team comprises Sr. Hilda Mathias as President, Sr. Basil Rose serving as Secretary, Sr. Gerardin Jayam in the role of Principal, Sr. Sahaya Selvi as Vice Principal, Sr. Elsy Thatla as Office Superintendent, and Ms. Alankara Vasanthi representing the staff. This academic year has seen significant changes in their respective roles. The college management expresses gratitude to Dr. Sr. Sophy, the former Controller of Examinations, for her dedicated service over the past two years. A warm welcome is extended to Sr. Mesmin, who previously served as the librarian and has now assumed the responsibilities of Controller of Examinations.

Academic Programmes:

The college offers 13 undergraduate, 12 postgraduate, 4 M.Phil., and 4 doctorate programs under its autonomous status. Additionally, the MBA and BA with Computer Applications are satellite center programs of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University.

Commencement of Activities:

The academic year commenced with the reopening for senior students on the 20th of June, followed by the first-year undergraduate students on the 21st of June. An orientation session was held on the same day for freshers and their parents, covering the college's

history, mission, goals, and rules and regulations. From June 24 to 26, the Department of English organized a short-term course titled “Take Off with Spoken English” for first-year students.

Examination Results:

The pass percentage for all undergraduate, postgraduate, and M.Phil. courses in the examinations held in April 2013 exceeded 70%. Notably, the UG Mathematics (both aided and self-financed), Chemistry, History, English Literature, Computer Science, PG Physics, Biotechnology, Commerce, Zoology, Business Economics, and all M.Phil. courses achieved a remarkable 100% pass rate.

Inauguration and Student Council:

The inauguration of all associations, clubs, committees, and the installation of the College Student Council took place on July 10, 2013. Dr. Tamil Chelvam, the Registrar of Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, graced the occasion as the guest of honor. The council members are as follows:

- President: Ms. K. Yobina Fathima (III B.Sc. Computer Science)
- Vice President: Ms. P. V. Adish Meera (III B.Sc. Mathematics)
- Secretary: Ms. Joanna (II B. Com with Computer Applications)
- Joint Secretary: Ms. Serumakani G. (II B.Sc. Zoology)

Student Strength and Faculty:

The college currently has a total student strength of 2,455, supported by 150 dedicated teaching staff and 58 committed non-teaching staff.

Empowerment Initiatives:

The institution emphasizes the empowerment of all members of the Crossian family by focusing on internal strengths. The Campus Animation Team organizes value education classes, retreats, renewal and motivation programs, and competitions for both staff and students. The students of Jesus Youth, accompanied by a faculty member, participated in the three-day Grace 2014 camp at St. Joseph’s College, Trichy. All Christian faculty members received orientation to teach the Gospel of St. John.

Research and Publications:

The Research Committee published a biannual multidisciplinary journal, *Crossian Resonance*, while the IQAC published a biannual newsletter. A national-level seminar was organized by the Crossian Research Forum, and the IQAC hosted NAAC-sponsored national-level seminars on “New Perspectives and Practices for Quality Enhancement in Higher Education,” “Examination Reformation,” and “Teaching and Learning in the Digital Age” for faculty members. Additionally, a three-day orientation program was conducted for junior faculty members.

The achievements of the institution are attributed to divine blessings, dedicated service, and the active involvement of stakeholders. We extend hearty congratulations to Ms. Fernando Loretta, Ms. Josepin Rani, Ms. Mary Freeda, Ms. Mary Saroja, Ms. Mary Metilda Bai, Ms. Jeni Chandar Padua, Ms. Punitha, Ms. Anami, Ms. C. Braba, Ms. Nivetha, and Ms. Josheela for earning their Ph.D. degrees. Three faculty members also successfully cleared the NET examination. Notably, several scholars from various faculty members have received their Ph.D. degrees under their guidance.

Currently, there are 44 part-time researchers, 21 full-time researchers, and 8 faculty members who have submitted their theses. Additionally, 15 faculty members are guiding research scholars, with Dr. Brisca Renuga and Dr. Jeni Sanjana receiving research guideship from Manonmaniam Sundaranar University. Seven faculty members hold UGC-sponsored minor research projects, with eight others applying for minor projects and two for major projects. Faculty publications include research articles in 12 international journals, 38 national journals, and 48 articles in proceedings with ISBN numbers. Eight books have been published by the faculty, and they have presented papers at numerous national and international seminars.

The articles by Dr. S. Jayasurya and Dr. C. Jespin Ida in the *Asian Journal of Microbiology, Biotechnology and Environmental Science* have achieved the highest impact factor of 3.07. Six faculty members have published in journals with significant impact factors, and we congratulate them on their contributions.

Faculty and Staff Activities:

Faculty members enjoyed a picnic to Thirparappu Falls and Bonsai Garden on October 25, 2013, while the non-teaching staff had their annual picnic at Courtallam with

their families. The faculty members of the Department of English, along with retirees and their families, celebrated Christmas together, fostering better understanding among colleagues. A workshop on responsible freedom was also conducted for non-teaching staff members, who collaborated with faculty in various college programs and participated in competitions, winning prizes.

Academically motivated faculty encourage students to engage in seminars, present papers, undergo summer training programs, and excel in job fairs. The college has hosted 12 endowment lectures and 19 national-level seminars. A total of 1,051 students participated in seminars conducted on campus, with 247 attending those at other institutions. Furthermore, 38 students presented papers at national/state level seminars, and 6 presented at international level seminars.

Educational tours were organized by various departments, with Physics, Chemistry, Commerce with Computer Applications, and History students visiting Thumba Rocket Station to witness a rocket launch on February 19, 2014. All first-year UG students in English Literature, Chemistry, and History undertook UGC-sponsored career-oriented certificate courses in Journalism, Clinical Chemistry, and Travel and Tourism, respectively. In total, 475 students completed various certificate courses such as Computer Hardware, Tailoring & Embroidery, Handicraft, Painting, Jewel Making, Bouquet Making, Hair Dressing & Bridal Makeup, organized between July and October 2013.

All third-year UG students participated in the certificate courses “Human Rights Education” and “Women’s Studies.” Among our alumni, 18 students are pursuing higher studies in B-schools and other universities, while four have cleared the NET and 13 the TET. Additionally, 14 students secured placements at TCS, one at CTS, seven at IOB Bank, one at Canara Bank, and three in the postal department. PG students, M.Phil. candidates, and research scholars are encouraged to take the CSIR-UGC SLET/NET examinations through coaching provided by faculty.

Skill Development and Career Guidance:

The skill-based courses offered under Holy Cross Academy inspire UG students to consider entrepreneurship. Career guidance is provided in collaboration with IIB, Athythia Academy, Jeyam Academy, Bharath Sevak Samaj, and Marscane Educational Win Academy, with 55 students undergoing entrepreneurship training supported by the Tamil Nadu government. Two students received training at Marscane Educational Win Academy, and 38

at JPR Typing Institute. We commend the coordinators, Dr. Shyla Suganthi and Dr. Jeni Sanjana, for their consistent efforts.

The Anti-Ragging Cell ensures students sign affidavits as per UGC recommendations. The Grievance Cell and Discipline Committee members address student complaints and take necessary actions to resolve issues.

All first-year and third-year UG students take a course in communicative English to enhance their language skills. An English newspaper is provided for each class daily, and remedial classes are held twice weekly after regular hours. Counseling support for first- and second-year UG students is facilitated by the organization “Centre for Light.”

Throughout this academic year, four PTA meetings were convened. We appreciate the encouragement and constructive feedback from the PTA and Alumni during the general body meetings. Alumnae Day was celebrated, allowing attendees to reminisce.

Financial Support and Scholarships:

The Student Welfare Fund benefited 210 students, providing a total of Rs. 92,060 to assist financially disadvantaged students with bus concessions and examination fees. Additionally, 497 students received various scholarships amounting to Rs. 17,04,645. The management and well-wishers extended support through freeships, endowment prizes, and scholarships, with the institution providing freeships to four sports students and fee concessions to 29 self-financed stream students totaling Rs. 1,98,300.

Empowerment through Talent and Leadership:

The college focuses on empowering students by offering opportunities to showcase their talents and leadership qualities. Student Administration Day, initiated by the Quality Circle members, and Fine Arts Week celebrations highlighted the latent talents of students through cultural events, with 1,430 students participating in 27 programs and 348 winning prizes.

CROSSINGS 2013, conducted in collaboration with the SIOL Quiz Club, Pondicherry, and the Departments of Economics and History, hosted intercollegiate quiz competitions in November 2013, fostering collaboration among participants from 14 colleges. We also hosted intercollegiate competitions in dance, music, and arts. The students of our college excelled in various intercollegiate events, showcasing their talents.

The College Cultural Team participated in the State Youth Festival held at Trichy, where students won first place in Tamil elocution, second place in Bharatanatyam, and third in various other competitions. Additionally, we commend the fine arts team for their success at the university-level cultural competitions. The outreach program, *CROSS-WAYS 2013*, aimed to support flood-affected people through a donation drive and distributing essentials to the affected areas.

Extracurricular Activities:

In terms of extracurricular activities, the college has organized sports events such as intercollegiate tournaments, while first-year students engaged in leadership training camps. The Department of Physical Education has seen our students achieve great success in various sports competitions at both the university and state levels. The college athletic team won the overall championship in the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in the Twenty third - Inter collegiate Athletic Meet. Students participated in the M.S. University Intercollegiate Tournament and retained the overall championship. The management, staff and students are proud to say that there are 12 University Blues from the college. Ms. Nanthini, II B. Com (S.F) represented India in the South Asian games held at Ranchi and won the silver medal for Discuss Throw. She also won the Ist place in Discuss throw and II place in Shotput in the National Level South Zone Junior Athletic Championship. Interschool tournament was conducted by the Sports committee on the 19th of February, 2014. 92 students from 5 schools participated in the tournament.

The college has formed a partnership with the Department of Youth Welfare, who organized a camp to promote awareness on “Environmental Protection and Entrepreneurship Development,” reaching out to students from 12 surrounding colleges.

The college aims at empowering students by providing opportunities for exhibiting their talents and leadership qualities. Student administration day was the initiative of the Quality Circle members. Fine arts week celebration brings out the latent talents of the students through cultural events 1430 students from all departments participated in 27 programmes and 348 students won prizes.

Youth Red Cross and Red Ribbon Club conducted the blood donation camp in collaboration with government hospital at Asaripallam and 65 students donated blood. YRC conducted first aid camp for 2 days and 100 students participated and benefited from the programme.

Consumer club and Legal Literacy club organized a one-day seminar for all the III UG students on "Human Rights". World Environmental day and World breast feeding week were celebrated by Eco club. They conducted signature campaign in view of creating eco awareness. The staff and the students are instructed to use eco-friendly materials.

The activities of Rotary Club are very remarkable this year. They conducted free medical camps- one in collaboration with AICUF of our college in Thalavaipuram and one in our college and 850 were the beneficiaries. Two of the AICUF students participated in the National level camp at Trichy.

NSS units 76 and 77 have conducted special camps at Maravankudirruppu and Vallankumara vilai from 18th to 22nd November 2013. Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations were organised by NSS in the campus.

RUN (Reaching the Unreached Neighbourhood) programme has been carried out in orphanages, old age homes and neighbouring villages Karthikaivadali, Thammathukonam, Chundapattivilai, Chinnavilai and also the Govt. Schools at Melasurankudy, Sundapattivilai and St. Antony's Higher Secondary School, Kurusady and Bishop Arockiasamy Higher Sec. School, Maravankudirruppu. In the villages and schools, they worked in collaboration with the Childline giving awareness programme to the children and parents. The students also took survey and helped the senior citizens for their pension and also gave door to door demonstration on health, hygiene and saving habits.

H.share is an activity launched by all the departments to help the poor children of the locality. During the Christmas season the staff and students of each department shared with the less privileged people the Christmas joy in the form of material goods and variety entertainment to make the season memorable.

In view of the Golden Jubilee celebration, the students from the Department of English conducted a cultural event, students of Biotechnology had an exhibition on plant

tissue culture and the students of Commerce (S.F) conducted eye donation camp and the department provided the students with 100 fruit bearing saplings. The students contributed Rs.3600/- to the flood struck people of Uthargand. Students of English (SF) conducted Interschool drama competition and they also distributed books and plants to Govt. school, Sundapattivilai.

50 members of SHG of Karthigaivadali, a neighbouring village were given self-employment training on preparing washing powder & phenyl by the students of Economics department. 50 mentally challenged children of Oasis special school in Chettikulam were helped by the staff members from the department of Economics to purchase study materials and physiotherapy aids. The department of Computer Science has given free computer training to school students and Free computer literacy to other department staff members.

The students of MSW organized 3 capacity building training programmes for different target groups. The beneficiaries of the programme were HIV/AIDS infected / affected people, SHG members and students. They mobilized funds amounting to Rs. 7947 from the institution for the HIV/AIDS affected children for their educational needs. The students of MSW raised funds through the sales of phenyl for the welfare of old age home Our staff and students contributed Rs. 65,000 towards the medical expenditure of one of our students and Rs.8550 for a parent.

Fine arts week, the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, Christmas celebration with Bible crib competition, Campus fest, Mother foundress day, Pongal, Muthamil Vizha, Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations are some of them. The retired staff members are invited to the institution by the staff of the respective departments on special occasions. Library day was celebrated on 8th August to promote the culture of reading.

The 21st Graduation Day turned out to be a remarkable day of honour for the 739 students who reaped the fruit of hard work. Dr. P. Annammal, the Regional Joint Director of Collegiate Education delivered the address and felicitated the graduates on 8th February, 2014.

Library Facilities:

The college offers open access system in the library with 45632 books 19

journals and 43 periodicals. There are 235 computers among which 115 are connected with the broadband system. The amount spent for books and journals is Rs. 4,09,557.

Hostel Activities and Faculty Contributions:

The college hostel currently accommodates 380 students, who are motivated and supported by our dedicated wardens, Sr. Leema Rose, Sr. Shanthi, and Sr. Dominic. To foster a sense of belonging and community, various events are organized throughout the year. Activities such as Welcome Day, para-liturgical services, Christmas celebrations, and Bible-based competitions contribute to making the hostel a true home away from home.

Endowment Contributions:

This year, the college received significant contributions for various endowments:

- Mr. Charles from Kadiyapatnam generously donated Rs. 50,000 to organize an endowment lecture for the Department of Commerce (S.F.).
- The first batch of M.Phil. students of Commerce contributed Rs. 10,000 as an endowment scholarship.
- Fr. Joseph Angelo from Australia contributed Rs. 50,000 as an endowment scholarship in memory of his parents, Mr. Angelo Fernando and Ms. Annammal Angelo.
- Dr. Josheela established an endowment prize of Rs. 10,000 for faculty members whose research articles have an impact factor.
- Dr. Benedictal instituted an endowment prize of Rs. 10,000 for the M.Sc. Physics student securing the highest total in I M.Sc.
- Dr. Mary Helen contributed Rs. 20,000 for endowment prizes for financially needy students in I, II, and III UG History.
- The outgoing students from the Department of Commerce (S.F.) (2011–2014) instituted Rs. 7,500 for the best outgoing student in the Accountancy paper.
- Dr. Nirmala Vasantha established a proficiency prize of Rs. 10,000 for II B.Sc. & I M.Sc. students.

Additional endowment scholarships instituted this year include:

- Dr. Thadeus Maria Ignatiammal's scholarship for any deserving Botany student, instituted by her children, Mrs. Crispin Kavitha and Mr. Christo Kavin, amounting to Rs. 50,000.
- Mother Emilie's endowment scholarship for a Botany student, contributed by Dr. Mercy Leelavathy (Alumni), totaling Rs. 5,000.
- Mother Emilie's scholarship for both a B.Sc. Botany student and an M.Sc. Biotechnology student, instituted by the Alumnae of the Botany Department, amounting to Rs. 20,000.

Environmental Initiatives:

In its commitment to environmental sustainability, the college celebrated Green Day and conducted various programs to enhance awareness and responsibility among students and staff. Tree planting initiatives took place, with saplings planted in and around the college campus.

Holy Cross College (Autonomous), Nagercoil has made significant strides in academic excellence, student empowerment, and holistic development during the academic year 2013-2014. The unwavering support from the management, faculty, and staff has fostered a vibrant learning environment that encourages creativity, critical thinking, and personal growth among students. The institution's commitment to nurturing talent and leadership, combined with its proactive approach to community engagement and social responsibility, has enriched the college experience for all. As we move forward, we remain dedicated to our mission of fostering academic rigor, moral values, and global competencies, ensuring that our students emerge as well-rounded individuals ready to contribute meaningfully to society.