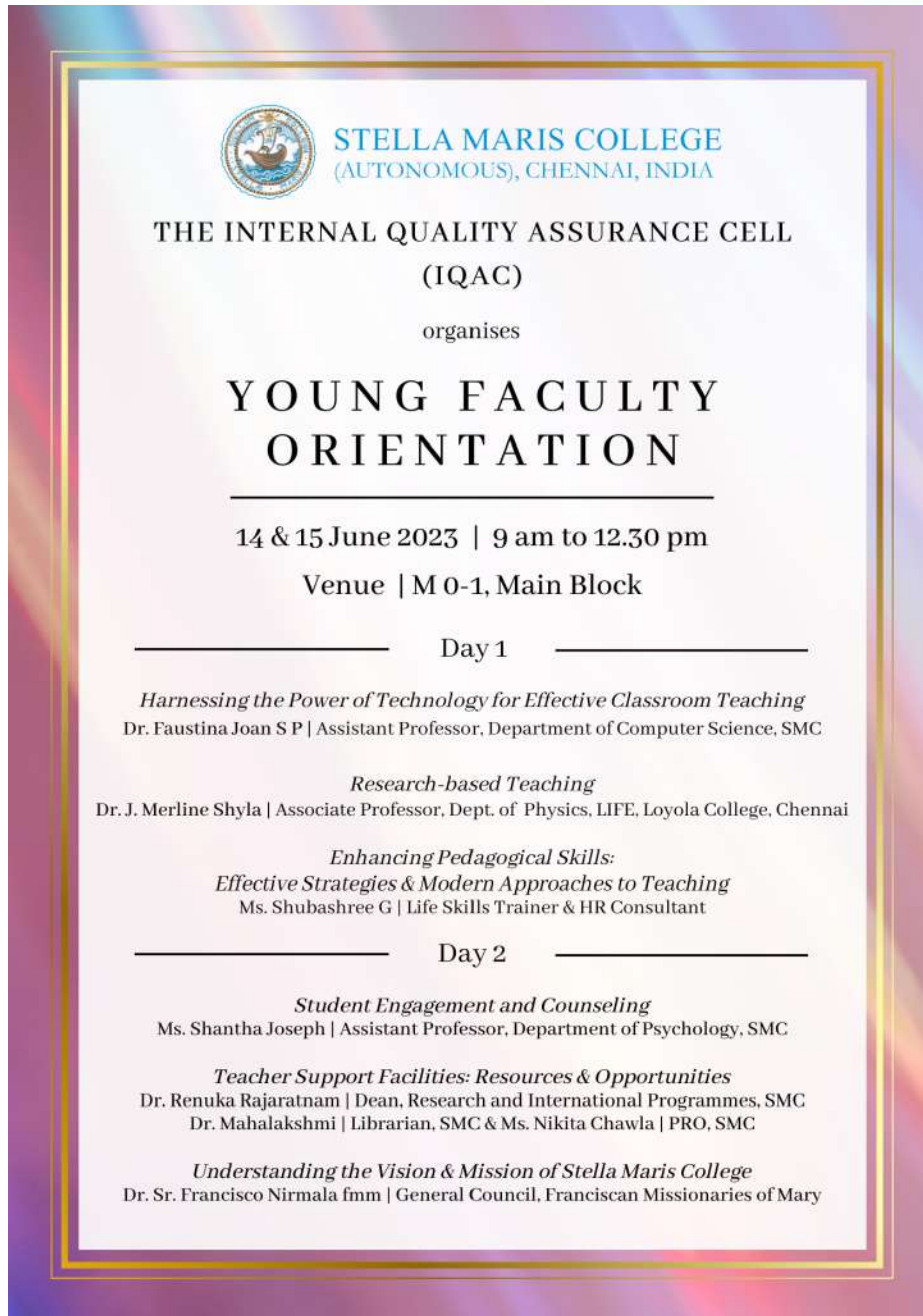



**Stella Maris College (Autonomous) Chennai
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)**

**Young Faculty Orientation | 14 and 15 June 2023
Report**

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Stella Maris College organised a two-day orientation program for faculty recruited from 2020-2021 into Stella Maris College. The orientation was held in Room M 0-1 in the Main Block on 14th and 15th June 2023 from 9 am to 12.30 pm.



 **STELLA MARIS COLLEGE**
(AUTONOMOUS), CHENNAI, INDIA

**THE INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL
(IQAC)**
organises

**YOUNG FACULTY
ORIENTATION**

14 & 15 June 2023 | 9 am to 12.30 pm
Venue | M 0-1, Main Block

Day 1

Harnessing the Power of Technology for Effective Classroom Teaching
Dr. Faustina Joan S P | Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, SMC

Research-based Teaching
Dr. J. Merline Shyla | Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics, LIFE, Loyola College, Chennai

*Enhancing Pedagogical Skills:
Effective Strategies & Modern Approaches to Teaching*
Ms. Shubashree G | Life Skills Trainer & HR Consultant

Day 2

Student Engagement and Counseling
Ms. Shantha Joseph | Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, SMC

Teacher Support Facilities: Resources & Opportunities
Dr. Renuka Rajaratnam | Dean, Research and International Programmes, SMC
Dr. Mahalakshmi | Librarian, SMC & Ms. Nikita Chawla | PRO, SMC

Understanding the Vision & Mission of Stella Maris College
Dr. Sr. Francisco Nirmala fmm | General Council, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary

This programme was attended by 12 faculty members from Shift I and 53 faculty members from Shift II. The orientation commenced with a prayer by Dr. Rebecca Devaprasad, the IQAC Coordinator.



The following are the brief reports of all the sessions on Day 1.

DAY 1

Session 1: *Harnessing the Power of Technology for Effective Classroom Teaching* – Dr. Faustina Joan S P, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Stella Maris College

The Young Faculty Orientation was organized by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), SMC on 14th and 15th June 2023. As a part of the orientation, a session on “Harnessing the Power of Technology for Effective Classroom Teaching” was conducted and the resource person for the session was Dr. Faustina Joan S P, Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Stella Maris College. The participants of the orientation Programme were young faculty across the department of the SMC fraternity. The First session of the day focused mainly on effective teaching methods and modern technology tools for pedagogy.

Dr Faustina Joan S P spoke about the effective teaching steps such as Setting outcomes, designing content, collecting feedback and redesigning content in the pedagogy. She further explained the teaching steps more vividly with examples and teaching tools for utility. For a better understanding of the participants, Dr. Faustina used mentimeter.com to explain the conventional teaching tools used by the faculty including the chalk and board, PPT and YouTube Videos. She spoke on designing content and highlighted the significance of using a slide presentation, slide templates, animation, transition and multimedia in a presentation.



Dr Faustina also gave a demo on using ChatGPT and explained the restrictions and limitations of the Artificial Intelligence applications. She also emphasized the need for creative breaks in-between classes as the average attention span of current students is eight mins. This would help the faculty to retain focus which acts as a positive deviation for the students. To conclude, the session was enriching and filled with informative inputs including AI software and applications to auto-generating Presentations, images and different technological tools for designing content, aiding assessment and engaging learners.

Session 2: *Research based Teaching* – Dr Merline Shyla, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, LIFE, Loyola College, Chennai

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of Stella Maris College conducted an orientation program for the young faculty members on the 14th of June, 2023. With an objective to familiarise and upskill the young faculty on the various aspects of teaching, research and student management, the programme comprised three segments.

The first session on Harnessing the Power of Technology for Effective Classroom Teaching by Dr.Faustina,Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science, Stella Maris College commenced sharply at 9:00 a.m. This was followed by the session on Research-based Teaching, wherein Dr.Faustina introduced the speaker for the session. Dr.Merline Shyla, Associate Professor, Department of Physics, Loyola College presided over the session as the resource person. Dr.Rebecca Devaparasad, IQAC Coordinator, Stella Maris College, felicitated the resource person with a memento.

The session began with Dr. Shyla's brief introduction on research and different types of research. The resource person later delved into the importance of research based teaching, thereby highlighting the different modes and venues of research that can be undertaken by the faculty members within their classrooms and beyond. A comprehensive explanation and details about the choice of journals for research and the research grants that are available was also discussed by the resource person.



Dr. Shyla emphasised the importance of research based teaching and encouraged the faculty members to explore the research arena. The session came to an end with a vote of thanks delivered by Ms.M.Subhasree, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Shift II.

Session 3: *Enhancing Pedagogical Skills: Effective Strategies & Modern Approaches to Teaching* – Ms Shubashree G, Life Skills Trainer & HR Consultant

On 14th June, 2023, the IQAC of Stella Maris College organised an orientation programme for the young faculties. Shubashree G, our resource person from Life Skills Trainer & HR consultant, addressed the faculties on the topic "Enhancing Pedagogical Skills: Effective Strategies & Modern Approaches to Teaching ". The workshop began with a welcome address by Dr. Renuka Devi SV from the Commerce department. The speaker started the session by introducing herself and explaining the basics of Pedagogical skills. She makes us sit in a small group to do an activity. She went on to encourage the faculties to be interactive and to express their thoughts, and she also mentioned that the faculties are good learners. She spoke about the significance of quality of teachers and personality traits of teachers in today's world. She gave activity for the teachers to write about challenges in their classroom. She emphasised on why pedagogy is important to keep the classroom very active. Ms Shubashree spoke about how to engage students in the classroom. She also gave a case study about classroom challenges and ask the teachers to write about the steps taken to overcome the challenges. On the whole, the workshop was enriching and taught us a lot about modern approaches to teaching in the current situation of teaching and learning. Ms. Shubashree also made us reflect on active learning strategies and inclusive teaching practises by encouraging us to write down our thoughts. The workshop came to an end with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Asisi Janifer from the Physics department. Ms. Shubashree was very

patient and answered all our doubts and clarifications. On the whole, the workshop was very efficient and useful for us and we gained knowledge on important elements of pedagogical skills.



The day ended with a group picture of all participants, resource person Ms. Shubashree, the IQAC coordinator, Dr. Rebecca and the IQAC core members.



DAY 2

The second day of the orientation started with a prayer by Dr. Janet Sabina X, IQAC Core Member followed by the first session of the day. The following are the brief reports of all the sessions on Day 2.

Session 1 *Student Engagement and Counseling* – Ms. Shantha Joseph, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Stella Maris College

Day 2 of the Young Faculty Orientation began with Ms. Shantha Joseph addressing the faculty on the topic of “Student Engagement and Counseling”.

The 1-hour session began with Ms. Shantha Joseph addressing the faculty on the importance of Student Engagement and delineating the characteristic roles of a mentor and mentee. She also explained in detail the typical characteristics of Gen Z and the peculiar aspects that arise when conducting sessions with them.

She urged on the importance of using presence of mind and critical thinking when handling topics that are off-guard and also stressed on the importance of establishing a rapport with the mentees so as to ascertain changes in their behaviours. She stressed on the importance of refraining from behaviours that involve spoon-feeding and allowing the mentee to think on their own, grow at their own pace, and not rushing or forcing unfulfilled dreams and core values of the mentor on the mentee.



She counselled the faculty on the importance of being able to identify cues and signs of abuse among students in contingencies wherein the family members or the caregiver themselves could be the perpetrator. She threw light on the fact that mentoring was a process that involves synergy of the mentor as well as the mentee and established the fact that student engagement was an art and not a process that has clear discrete steps that one could abide by as in a textbook.

Towards the end of the session, she recommended the faculty that though it was essential to uphold values based on faith and hope, it was unfruitful to rely on prayer alone as a solution. She ended the session by reiterating the importance of practices such as active listening, adopting a non-judgmental

attitude, slowing down the process of reflection, and offering emotional support. The session ended by the resource person addressing the questions raised by the potential mentors on dealing with a large group of mentees, issues with students not opening up, and dealing with phony behaviours exhibited by students.

Session 2: *Teacher Support Facilities: Resources & Opportunities* – Dr. Renuka Rajarathnam, Dean of Research, Dr. Mahalakshmi, Librarian & Ms. Nikita Chawla, PRO SMC

The session was based on the theme of teacher support facilities and resources. The session was trifurcated.

The first session was taken by Dr. Renuka Rajarathnam, Dean, Research and International program, Stella Maris College. Ma'am covered areas related to International Collaborations and MOUs that the college has. There is a UG research program, where the students pursuing their under graduation across departments undertake this certificate course on research and are given hands on experience of researching on the topic of their interest. There are various workshops conducted for research writing, academic writing for students and staff throughout the year. Departments can make use of the Centre to gain international attention for their field of expertise. There are also facilities for publishing papers. If the faculty want to publish their research, they can approach the Centre. There are also options for seed money wherein the college offers financial support for a small-scale research project based on the research idea for the staff of Stella Maris College.



The second session was taken by Dr. Mahalakshmi, Librarian, Stella Maris College. Ma'am started by explaining the history of the library and the statistics of the resources in the library – books, theses, periodicals, journals, newspapers, e-resources, etc that are available for both staff and students. Ma'am also highlighted the use of herbal pest control systems that are used in preserving the resources. The library has separate sections for UG and PG. Students can make use of the computers available in the library. They also can get access to study materials and previous years question papers for reference. There is also an open Wi-Fi facility available. Ma'am spoke about the accessibility of online resources

that are available like Nlist, EBSCO, Eblis, IRINS to publish researches where they get worldwide visibility, to reserve books etc. Ma'am also spoke about SWAYAM and NPTEL courses that are available for the students. They get extra credits on completion of these courses. There is also a facility wherein the students can return the books through kiosks.



The third session was taken by Ms. Nikita Chawla, Public Relations Officer, Stella Maris College. Ma'am highlighted the importance of updating the college website. Since there is going to be department wise accreditation, it is important for the department page to be updated. It enables the stakeholders get benefitted and to enhance the College's perspective among stakeholders. Updating personal details is also important because the stakeholders have access to the website first. The image that is built there will be carried forward to the department and ultimately, the College. Any event that happens in the College can be posted on the College website and social media platforms to showcase the activities of the college. For this purpose, every department will have a point of contact (POC) to update this to the PRO. Photos with captions can be sent within 2 days after the event by the department POC to the PRO. Ma'am also oriented about the 2 new initiatives of the college.

1. Coffee with the Principal – Staff and students can have a discussion with the principal periodically regarding any issues and suggestions regarding college.
2. Think Tank – the students and the faculty collaborate and bring in innovative ideas that could help in the betterment of the stakeholders and the college at large.



Session 3: *Understanding the Vision and Mission of Stella Maris College* – Dr. Sr. Francisco Nirmala, General Councillor, Franciscan Missionaries of Mary

Dr. Sr. Nirmala was welcomed by Dr. Sr. Stella Mary, Principal-in-Charge, Stella Maris College and Dr. Shiny John Vairamon, Vice-Principal. The session began with an introduction to Dr. Sr. Nirmala by Dr. Rebecca, the IQAC Coordinator.



When Sr. Nirmala began her session, she posed the following questions to the faculty: "What is your Dream for the college?" and "What is your Dream?" After receiving a few responses, she emphasized that one's own dreams lead to the dreams of our college. She divided the faculty into groups and guided them through an activity. She provided them with topics for discussion: Mission (When, Why, How) and Vision (Why, How, Where) of Stella Maris College for Groups from 1 to 6. The faculty were asked to depict the points discussed in order for everyone to always remember the college's mission and vision.



Each group contributed distinctive ideas and pictures. A representative from each group displayed charts and provided an explanation. At the conclusion of her explanation, Sr. Nirmala shared her thoughts on the college's mission and vision. She suggested that encouraging student's critical thinking would improve the standard of education, and that teachers should mold and guide the students they teach in order to realize the vision. According to her, efforts should be made to improve both the qualitative and quantitative aspects of education, as well as their analytical component. Sr. inspired that each of us has a spark within us that will ignite when combined with a dream, vision, and mission. In order to create responsible young women for society, she urges her audience to "Ignite the fire within."



The two-day orientation programme ended with the online collection of feedback through Google Forms from the participants and a formal vote of thanks. A group picture was also taken with Dr. Sr. Nirmala, Dr. Shiny, IQAC members and the participants.
