



Since 1881

The American College

Principal's College Day Report 2016-2017

Monday, 03 April 2017

Our revered Bishop-President of the American College Governing Council, Rt. Rev. Dr. M. Joseph, our distinguished and beloved alumni, ADGP Jaffar Sait, Padmasri Vivek and Actor-Director Karu. Palaniappan, all other alumni present here, former and present members of the faculty, parents, my beloved students and the press members – a very warm welcome, to all of you. Thank you all for joining us, in this **136th American College day** celebrations.

As the President of the American College Governing Council, Rt. Rev. Dr. Joseph, Bishop of the Madurai Ramnad Diocese, has been a big source of encouragement and support in our resolve to take the college forward and achieve high standards. His presence and participation in the college day function is our real privilege. May I request VP Dr. Abraham to honour our Bishop with a *ponnadai*?

Our distinguished alumnus-chief guest, Jaffar Sait IPS is, Additional Director General of Police, at present posted in Mandapam, Ramnad District. He joined the Indian Police Service in 1989 and has served as SP, DIG, JCP and IG in different parts of Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Jaffar Sait's bond with the American College began with his initial identity as 78ZOO37. He went on to do his M. Sc and M. Phil in, Entomology and Fresh Water Biology. The bond strengthened, as he immersed in the various activities of the college and built lasting friendships. As a student, he was known for his intellectual sharpness, enthusiastic participation in extra-curricular activities and also for his innovative mischiefs. Just as in the college, he has also made a significant mark in his career as the custodian of law. He continues to be the same vibrant personality brimming with energy and enthusiasm.

The American College is very proud to welcome, the much-admired IPS officer, back to our campus. He is truly an inspirational figure to our students who dream of becoming police officers.

I am equally proud to welcome Padmasri Vivek to propose the Toast to the American College today. Vivek registered his entry into the American College, the same year as Jaffar Sait, but as 78COM59. Both of them have shared the same segment of the College's history.

Vivek was a coveted star in our campus, long before he joined the film industry. With the American College's tag, he won laurels for the college and fans for himself during inter-collegiate competitions and entertainment programmes. Because of his rich humour and ready wit, there used to be competition to sit by his side in classes.

Vivek had made a mark in Humour Clubs and Stand Up Comedy shows, before he was introduced into the film industry, by the legendary film director, K. Balachander. Balachander was highly impressed with his remarkable talent for script writing, dialogue delivery with a unique humour quotient. He was amazed at how Vivek could produce scripts with sparkling humour for 16 characters overnight.

Though Vivek could carry many of his films to success with, what the film world called, "bankable humour," he is also known for his memorable performances in serious roles in films like, *Kutty*. He has won a number of Filmfare awards, an honorary doctorate and the Padmasri award.

But future will also remember Vivek for his contribution and commitment to the Green Projects. Having been a member of the American College green campus, he associated himself with the People's President Abdul Kalam and created many greening opportunities to minimize global warming. Vivek can make you laugh; Vivek can make you think; Vivek can effectively serve society and also make you serve society. We are truly proud of him.

The American College's production of thinking individuals committed to social activism has not stopped with the 1978 series. The next decade's unique production happens to be 89ENG15, the charismatic award winning actor-director, Karu Palaniappan. During his student days, he won over his teachers and peers with his radiant smile; he continues to do that with his *mandhira punnagai*. Karu. Palaniappan's films are known for his sensitive handling of human relationships. His films jolt us out of our comfort zones and challenge us to think. Film making is serious business for Palaniappan and he uses media exceptionally

well as a tool of social transformation. He is also a powerful, persuasive debater and is a sought after social commentator in media.

Palaniappan is also an effective teacher and a trainer. We are very grateful that he involved the English department students in work when part of his film *Sivappadhikaram* was shot in our college campus. It was a rare opportunity for our students to watch different aspects of film making from close quarters, learn and get trained by the task master Karu. Palaniappan.

The American College green campus and red buildings are witnesses to the loveable pranks and irrepressible energy of these three personalities. Their mark statements and their interesting class attendance records are part of the American College archives. They are the college's private property, not for public scrutiny. American College is very proud that our alumni have become high achievers in their chosen fields. They have emerged as responsible persons deeply concerned about the society and environment they live in. They have also given back to the college that has nurtured their talents and personalities.

As the Principal of this esteemed institution, I stand before you in all humility and gratitude for the abundant blessings, that God has showered on the college and the academic community during the past academic year. I gratefully acknowledge the valuable guidance given by the members of the Governing Council, cooperation and team support of the faculty, staff and students, in making 2016-17, a rare productive academic year.

Here is a condensed report of, the college's accomplishments and plans already laid, for the development of the college, this year. A detailed report will be presented in the college magazine.

Imparting quality education to the needy, under-privileged, has been the primary goal of the founders of the American College. By making the Satellite Campus functional and by introducing sought after courses there, the college has attempted to reach out to the under-served rural youth.

Retreat

2016-17 academic year began with the faculty meeting and a retreat on 10 to 12 June in Munnar on the theme, “Revisioning the Mission” led by Dr. Aruldoss. 200 teachers attended the retreat with their family members. A similar retreat was held in Ooty on 22 and 23 October 2016 for all the non-teaching staff.

Reopening and Orientation

The college reopened after summer vacation on 16 June 2016. Orientation for postgraduate students of both aided and self-financed students and M. Phil. students was organized on 22 June 2016; for undergraduate aided students on 23 June 2016; and undergraduate self-financed students on 24 June 2016.

Admissions

There has been a phenomenal rise in student admission this year, to 2606 in general strength and 145 in the Community College. The total strength of the college is now 6697.

New Courses

M. Sc. In Food Science, M. Phil. Mathematics, and M. Phil Business Administration have been introduced this year. Advanced Diploma in Food Processing and Preservation, Medical Lab technology and Aquaculture were sanctioned by the UGC under the Community College programme during the last academic year.

Faculty Appointments

Appointments of teachers were made both in the aided stream and in the self-financed stream – 4 in regular vacancy, namely Mrs. Gunasundari, Mr. Antony David raj, Dr. Angeline and Dr. Shahul Hameed. Also, 29 staff were appointed in the self financed stream.

Campus Infrastructure

With the steady increase in student strength and the introduction of new courses, new facilities have become mandatory. The administration has taken special efforts to provide, proper learning facilities and conducive ambience to the student,s both in the main campus and in the satellite campus.

- **New Classrooms**

The construction of the three-storied building opposite the college canteen in the Main Campus has coming up. As per the schedule, the work will be completed by the end of April. The 6 classrooms will be ready for use from June 2017.

- **Amphitheatre**

The College has built an amphitheatre behind the Stoffer Hall and near the Wallace Hall. It was dedicated by the Bishop-President on Saturday 1 October 2016.

- **Herrick Hall in Main Campus**

We have created a separate space for women faculty in the Main Campus near the college canteen and a lounge for women students in the new building “Herrick Hall.”

- **Biometric System**

To prevent the entry of outsiders into the college campus, biometric system has been introduced in the campus. Machines have been installed on either side of the Washburn Gate.

- **Paver Block**

The pathway from the Main Hall to the Binghamton Hall, has been covered with paver blocks.

- **Men’s Hall in Satellite Campus**

The structure of the proposed Men’s Hall in the Satellite Campus comprises two floors with a combined area of 7,700 square feet in each floor. The construction work is progressing as per the suggestions given by architect Julian Smith. We plan to have the dedication of the Men’s Hall in June 2017.

Washburn Hall Centenary Celebration

Washburn Hall Centenary celebration was held on 1 April 2017. Alumnus-artist J. Jeyaraj was the chief guest. A Washburn Memorial Dais was dedicated on that day for the use of the Hall students.

Principal's Meeting with the Board of Trustees in the US

Principal Dr. M. Davamani Christober and Bursar Dr. Helen Ratna Monica attended the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees at Nashville, Tennessee in November 2016. They also visited Concordia College, New York for a meeting with the President of that college to take the academic collaboration between the two institutions forward.

Overseas Visits of the Faculty

Dr. A. Martin David, Assistant Professor in Commerce attended the Asian University Leaders Program (AULP) in Hong Kong from 26.10.2016 to 01.11.2016.

Dr. S. Rajkumar Immanuel, Associate Professor in Botany participated in an International conference in Singapore in July 2016.

Dr. M. Davamani Christober, Principal & Secretary presented a paper in the International Conference on "2017 Spring Topology and Dynamical Systems Conference" at New Jersey City University, Jersey City, NJ, USA.

Dr. S. Stephen Rajkumar Inbanathan made a presentation in the Racah Institute of Physics, Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel

Mr. Jehoson Jiresh, Department of English presented a paper and chaired a session in an ELT conference in Hong Kong.

Mrs. Leena Jenefa of MBA department attended a International conference at INFORMS, Bangkok, Thailand.

Grants from the Board of Trustees & United Board.

The College received a sum of USD 1,71,000 from the Board of Trustees for the construction of Men's Hostel, USD 15,100 for SCILET's programmes and USD 9093 for the Work-Study scholarship. We received a sum USD 15,000 from United Board for the digitization of rare books in DPM Library.

DST NIMAT Grants

Dr. S. Raju, Director, ASBA was sanctioned Rs.1.2 lakhs to carry out six minor projects.

Conference, Workshops and Concert

- **International conference on “Women and Power – Challenges and Opportunities”**

The second International conference on “Women and Power – Challenges and Opportunities” was organised by the Centre for Gender Studies on 6 and 7 January 2017. Dr. Rachel Star from Indiana University, Dr. Penelop from Loma Linda University, California and Dr. Subhashini from hp, German were the chief guests.

- **AIACHE Conference**

The Grand Finale of the Golden Jubilee Celebrations of the All Indian Association for Christian Higher Education was celebrated from Friday 7 October 2016 to Tuesday 11 October 2016 at our college. Rt. Rev. Dr. P.C. Singh, President of National Council of Churches in India delivered the inaugural address; Rt. Rev. Dr. M. Joseph, President of the Governing Council of the American College delivered the inaugural message. Justice P. Sathasivam, Honourable Governor of Kerala delivered the Valedictory address. Prof P.J. Kurien, Honourable Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha and Dr. G. Viswanathan of VIT addressed the gathering on 11 October 2016.

- **Science Day Celebrations**

On the eve of National Science Day Celebrations, the college conducted Intradepartmental Science competitions for our students, on 27 Feb 2017. IGCAR Scientists, Dr. Jalaja Madan Mohan, Head, TEPAS, Dr. Sivasubramanian, Head Radiation Application and Dr. Chandrasekaran, Radiological Division, were the guests of honour and these scientists of IGCAR organized an exhibition to commemorate the National Science Day.

- Alliance Francaise, Madurai Chapter, and the American College organized a concert Nyna Vales on Thursday 29 September 2016.

Faculty Development Programmes

The college always encourages the faculty members to update themselves in their chosen fields of specialization and therefore the following faculty members attended UGC sponsored refresher courses.

1. Dr. M. Vathanaruba, Chemistry
2. Dr. R.Sanjay, Botany
3. Dr. J.S. Gigi Christobel, Tamil
4. Dr. B. Krithika rani, Chemistry
5. Dr. K. Karthik Kumar, Chemistry
6. Dr. N. Govindarajan, Tamil
7. Dr. J.Ebenezar Immanuel, Botany
8. Dr. A.Saframma, Hindi
9. Mr. K. Ravi, English
10. Dr. P. Hendry Julius, Tamil
11. Dr, J. Prince, Tamil
12. Dr, J. Paul Jeyakar, English
13. Mr. A. Dinakar, English
14. Mr. R. Daniel Rubaraj, English
15. Dr. J. Jebaraj, Economics
16. Dr. Usha, Economics
17. Dr. Arulappan, RPS
18. Dr. Anurama, RPS
19. Dr. Israel, Physics
20. Dr. David Jebaraj, Physics
21. Dr. Beulah Ruby Kamalam, Physics
22. Dr, Rachael Malini, Physics
23. Mrs. Joy Sharmila, Zoology
24. Dr. Ferdrick Rajkumar, Zoology
25. Mr. Rajesh, Zoology
26. Dr. Chester manuel, Physical Education
27. Dr. N. Vasaanthakumar, Librarian

Convocation

The annual convocation 2016 was conducted on Friday 14 October 2016. Dr. G. Srinivas, Joint Secretary, SERO-UGC delivered the convocation address.

Study Centre for Indian Literature in English and Translation (SCILET)

The SCILET organized:

The annual 'Meet the Author' Programme, with Shinnie Antony as the speaker

The Inaugural, Paul Linder Love Endowment Lecture was delivered by Shiv Visvanathan, Director, O.P. Jindal Global University, on Wednesday 14 September 2016, on "Is Literature Possible after Auschwitz?"

The acclaimed musician and writer, Mr. T.M. Krishna, Ramon Magsaysay Award Winner 2016, spoke on his journey countering, caste and gender.

In August 2016, SCILET conducted the 24th annual **Creative Writing Workshop** in collaboration with the Kodaikanal International School, led by Shinnie Antony. 16 students from different departments participated. SCILET brought out the, 23rd volume of *Kavithalaya*, devoted to the contributions by the participants of the workshop.

The annual issue of SCILET's Indian Poetry journal, *Kavya Bharati-28* was published in December 2016.

Doctoral degrees acquired by Faculty Members

The following members of the faculty were awarded Doctor of Philosophy degree this academic year.

Dr. E. Joy Sharmila, Zoology Department

Dr. S. Balakrishnan, Department of Tamil

Dr. P.M. Anurama, Department of RPS

Dr. R. Mary Sophia Chitra, Department of Commerce (SF)

Dr. R. Jeyapandi, Dept. of Biochemistry

Dr. A. Hilary Joseph, Department of Commerce, Satellite Campus

Dr. Leena Jenefa, ASBA (MBA) Satellite Campus

Dr. S. Maharani, Chemistry Department

Dr. David Kirubakaran, Chemistry department.

Reports from the Departments

Academic departments, special centres, and service departments that offer co-curricular and extra-curricular activities form the backbone of the college. The administration extends support and encouragement for their growth.

Tamil

Dr. J. Sarojini, Dr. Boomi Selvam, Dr. Gigi Christabel, Dr. Prince, Dr. Johnson, Dr. Balakrishnan, Mr. Stanley and Mr. Sankar have presented in national and international conferences and published their research papers in reputed journals. Dr. Boomiselvam, Dr. Govindarajan, Dr. Balakrishnan and Mr. Meenakshi have attended workshops. Dr. Somasundaram and Dr. Balasubramaniam have been invited as subject experts in Board of Studies in autonomous colleges. Dr. Prabhakaran, Dr. Balasubramaniam and Mr. Stalin Rajangam have delivered invited talks.

English

The English Literary Association had its inaugural function on 9 August 2016, with the Southern Regional News Coordinator of the Hindu, Mr S. Annamalai as Chief Guest. Flintonions participated inter-collegiate cultural competitions in ten colleges in the state and secured several prizes. The ELA published a completely student-run annual magazine called “Enzine”. It started a Book Club this year. Pegasus 2017 was celebrated in a grand manner with 500 participants from 24 colleges in the state.

PG English Association organized a guest lecture by Dr. Nancy Batty, on “Feminism and Climate Change” and also a workshop on “Practical Theatre” and presented a Dramatic Representation of African Culture.

Research Department of English witnessed, conducted Ph.D viva voce examinations for five teachers, Pre-Ph.D submission colloquium for six scholars, Ph.D Admissions test for twelve scholars, and eighty four colloquiums for M.Phil scholars. M.Phil scholars presented 147 research papers, published 64 research papers in conference proceedings, and 30 papers in international journals. The department published the fourth edition of ACJELL and is taking all steps to publish, the fifth issue shortly.

Mr. N. Elango conducted five workshops on theatre and acting in colleges across the state. **Dr. J. John Sekar**, the Head, has published 9 research papers in international journals, presented 19 research papers in national and international conferences, chaired 11 technical sessions at conferences, received two best paper awards, delivered 10 plenary talks, guided 4 PhD scholars of whom one successfully completed the viva and the other three are awaiting it, and guided 6 M Phil scholars. **Dr. M. Lawrence** delivered 9 invited talks in various

institutions across the country and conducted a workshop on communication skills. He also co-authored the translated Tamil novel into English titled “*The History of Prathaba Mudaliar.*” **Dr J. Paul Jayakar** presented a research paper in an international conference organized by ELTAI-Tirupati Chapter and had it published. **Mr. K. Ravi** has a research article published in a journal and he has been appointed as Centre Inspector of ISC Examination 2017 for Madurai Region. **Mr. C. Joel Gnanadoss Timothy** presented two research papers in international conferences and has one paper publication in a book. **Ms. Anita Caroline** has published one paper in an international journal and acted as a resource person at a workshop conducted. **Mr R. Daniel Ruberaj** attended two webinars, organized by the International Association of Teachers of English as Foreign Language (IATEFL), Participated in an online summit on the Future of the TESOL Profession. He also served as Observer for UGC NET exams and Observer for IIT-JEE.

Hindi

The Hindi Literary Association “Surabi” celebrated Hindi Day celebrations by organizing guest lectures. Dr. A, Safframa has presented six research papers in international conferences and published a book. She has also delivered three invited talks. Mrs. Kannammal Devi has published a book and presented two papers. Mrs. T.L. Vijaya also has published two papers.

French

The French Literary Association celebrated the **International Francophone Day** on 20 March 2017. The department organized an international workshop on 4 February 2017 with Mr. François Xavier Nève de Mévergnies, Professor of Linguistics from the University of Liege, Belgium and Mrs. Yolande Marie as Resource persons. Mrs. B. Vijaya was invited as a resource person for a workshop in Nagercoil.

Mathematics

The department organized its intercollegiate meet Axiomatica 2017. Both undergraduate and postgraduate students participated in academic and co-curricular competitions, conducted in various colleges. Mr. S. Stalin Kumar has published a paper in *Romanian Journal of Mathematics and Computer Science*. Mrs. A. Vinith Mala has qualified the State Eligibility Test 2016. L. David Raj Kumar, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics passed Joint CSIR-UGC Test for J.R.F and Eligibility for Lectureship (NET).

Physics

PHOBOS 2017 an Inter-collegiate meet was organised and 225 students from 19 colleges in and around Madurai participated. UG Physics Association conducted a Seminar cum Interaction-with-Scientist session with Dr. Edwin Ebenezer, Kodaikanal Solar Observatory, Kodaikanal as resource person. Undergraduate Physics students visited SATISH DHAWAN SPACE CENTRE, Sriharikota and interacted with scientists at CECRI, Karaikudi. Participants from the undergraduate department won several prizes.

Dr. A. Robson Benjamin has published one research article in an international journal.

Dr. S. Stephen Rajkumar Inbanathan has published one research article in international journal and presented three papers at conferences and delivered three invited talks.

Dr. S. Israel in collaboration with scholars has published 19 research papers in international journals and five papers in conferences. **Mrs. Rachel Malini** has published one research paper and presented three papers in conferences. **Dr. R. Daphine** has presented a research paper at a national conference. Dr. R. Daphine has cleared SET 2016.

Chemistry

The PG Association was inaugurated by Dr. T. Pananiselvam, KAUST, Saudi Arabia 6 and the UG Association was inaugurated by Mr. A. Eswaran, Food Analyst and delivered a talk on Food Analysis and Food Safety. The annual intercollegiate Chemistry meet CHEM-GLAZE was conducted on 3 March 2017 with participants from 12 colleges. Three students have cleared NET and SET this year. Recent Trends in Chemistry 2017 was organised where Eminent professors from prestigious institutions including IISc Bangalore addressed the students and scholars.

Dr. C.D. Sheela presented two research papers at national and international conferences. Dr. R. Ebenezer attended the UBCHEA sponsored faculty development programme in Chennai in October 2016. Dr. T.K. Ganesan has published two research papers in international journals. Dr. K. John Adaikalasamy has one paper published. Dr. Y. Brightson Arul Jacob has published three research papers in international journals. Dr. R. Ebenezer has published three research papers in international journals. Dr. C. Joseph Kirubaharan and Dr. S. Maharani have published one paper each. Dr. T.K. Ganesan has successfully guided one of his research scholars for the award of PhD. Dr. J. Helen Ratna Monica published a book with ISBN number and published two papers in international conferences with ISSN number.

Zoology

Undergraduate students of Zoology have won two Overall shields in the inter-collegiate competitions. Postgraduate and Research Department of Zoology organized the DBT-ICMR sponsored International conference on “New Horizons, Emerging Challenges and Recent Paradigms in Food Mediated Immunity and their role in Human Health and Longevity” and organized the Science Academies’ Lecture Workshop.

Dr. K. Navaneethakannan has been appointed as External for Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission and a member in curriculum development for UG & PG Zoology syllabi at Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli. He has presented a research paper in a conference at Vizak, delivered an invited talk, and participated in a national conference. Dr. A. Joseph Thatheyus has been honoured with “Loyola Environmental Award” from SECNARM, Loyola College, Chennai. He has participated in five national and international conferences. He also has four publications in international journals. Dr. E. Joy Sharmila has presented two research papers in international conferences and produced a documentary film on Winged Wonders of the American College. Dr. P. Velladurai has presented a research paper each in national and international conferences. He has been appointed as a subject expert in Board of studies in B.Voc Medical Laboratory Technology program at Bio Medical Engineering, Kalasalingam University.

Dr. T. Frederick Rajkumar participated in four national conferences. Mr. M. Rajesh has been honored with Best Teacher Award by the Theni cultural Society. He has presented five research papers in national and international conferences and attended a national workshop. He also has two publications in conference proceedings. He has delivered, four invited talks and appointed as, subject expert in BOS in four autonomous colleges. Mr. A. David Antony Raj participated in three national conferences and presented a research paper in an international conference. Dr. T. Angeline has cleared SET 2016. She has published three research articles and presented two papers in conferences.

Dr. Sivaruban Thambiratnam has two publications and presentations in international conferences and one in conference proceedings. Mr. K. J. Dhananjeyan has two publications in international journals, presented a paper in a conference, and participated in two national conferences. Dr. H. Raghuram has one publication in OUP and delivered four invited talks, one publication in conference proceedings, and participated in three national conferences.

Ms. J. Judith Caroline has presented four research papers in international conferences, one publication in an international journal, and participated in two conferences.

Economics

Inauguration of Postgraduate and Research Department of Economics Association and birthday celebration of the eminent economist Alfred Marshal was held on 26 July 2016. The department organized a Workshop on “Research Methodology” with Resource person Dr. Dhulasi Brindha Varadharajan, UGC Professor Emeritus, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai. It also facilitated a Photographic presentation on “Understanding Madurai - A vision through photographs” with Mr. Selvam Ramaswamy, Social Media Activist and Environmentalist as Guest of honour on 10 August 2016. Dr. S. Jeyarani participated in two international conferences, presented and published 3 research papers and served as resource person in 7 seminars. She was awarded the “Young Economists Award” in IMRF international conference.

It organized a special discussion on “Identification of Researchable Problem” with Dr. Sugandha Ramamurthy, Associate Professor, Postgraduate and Research Department of Economics, Lady Doak College, as resource person. Also, It organized a Workshop on “How to write a research proposal?” which was conducted by Dr. Mahalingam Kannan, alumnus and former Principal of Madurai Institute of Social Sciences, Madurai. Dr. K.T. Rammohan, Former Director and Dean, School of Economics, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam and Economic Historian facilitated a Discussion on ‘History of Economics and Economic History’. It also organized an Interactive Session on ‘Demonetization in India: Facts and Issues’ with Dr. J. Albin, Associate Professor in Economics, St. Xavier’s College, Palayankottai as resource person.

Religion, Philosophy and Sociology

The Department Association known as REPHISO was inaugurated for the academic year on 16 August 2016 by Rev. Dr. M. Gnanavaram as Guest of Honour. Dr. M. Lawrence conducted a one day workshop on Career Guidance for senior RPS students. It organized a one day academic trip to M. S. Chellamuthu Trust and Alagarkoil Temple.

Dr. P. Arulappan, Dr. M.A. Shahul Hameed, and Mr. W. Prince Earnest presented research papers in an international seminar on Religious Pluralism and Religious Conflicts at Madurai Kamaraj University and their papers were published in the conference proceedings.

Daniel Poor Memorial Library

The centenarian library added 1665 books, 51 Journals and magazines this year. Inlibnet on-line E-Resources are provided to all faculty members. 24 students are engaged in the library as part of the scheme under the **Earn while Learn scheme**.

A workshop on 'Artifacts and Tamil Inscription Learning' was organized by the Daniel Poor Memorial Library in collaboration with '**Tamil Heritage Foundation**' Germany on 16 December 2016.

The Library has received the United Boards three year institutional grant for a project titled "Digitization of Rare Books and Manuscripts Collection of the Centennial Daniel Poor Memorial Library." Career Guidance Cell (CDC) was opened and 213 students registered as members in this cell. As part of extension activities, the library facilitated 368 Students to get Indian National Passport, and 289 students have received their PAN Card.

Physical Education

The College administration has been taking all special efforts to encourage sports. Boys and girls excel in their chosen fields, by way of special concession in admissions, waiver of college fees, free boarding and stay in the Halls, and financial help. Its results are becoming tangible, in terms of university blues. The College teams have emerged winners in Inter Zone Volleyball, Swimming, Hockey, and Shuttle this year

This year the College got 34 university blues among men and five among women for handball, chess, volleyball, badminton, basketball, athletics, hockey, kho-kho, khabadi for men and for women, football, swimming, and best physique. Our boys and girls emerged winners and runners-up in almost all sports and games both at Zone and Inter-zone levels. They bagged cash prizes for various games and sports conducted at institutions in Trichy, Tirunelveli, and Madurai. It got three gold medals and one silver for shooting at 42nd Tamilnadu State Shooting Championship. The college bagged Mu Va Cup for the third time in athletics.

Annual Sports Day

The 136th Annual Sports Day was conducted on Tuesday 30 August 2016 and Mr. K. Veera Raghava Rao, IAS, the District Collector was the Guest of Honour.

Muthaiah Ambalam Memorial Trophy

The 23rd State level Inter-Collegiate Flood Light Volley Ball Tournament was conducted on Friday 12 August 2016.

IV Bishop Dr. A. Christopher Asir Memorial State Level Hockey tournament was conducted in the 1st week of February. Sixteen teams from different parts of Tamil Nadu participated in this inter-collegiate state level tournament

Department of English (SF)

Department of English (SF) conducted a one day Intercollegiate Symposium on English Language Teaching, Literary Theories, and World Literatures on Wednesday 29 June 2016.

J. Jiresh Jehoson has presented papers in International conferences and acted as a resources person. A. Sherlin Raja has participated in two International conferences and presented 4 papers International/ National conferences and published two articles in International journals.

Department of Commerce (CA)

Ms. D. Kanakavalli, and Ms. V.Suganya have presented two papers each at International level seminars and published two books with ISSN. Ms. E. Keren Judi has presented a paper at International level seminar and two at national level seminars. Ms. G.Divya and Ms. T. Gnana Gowsalya have presented a paper each at national level seminar organised by our college, IQAC. Mr. Subramanya Bala Jesuran has presented three papers at international level seminar and published one research article with ISSN number. Ms. V Suganya has completed her viva voce examination on doctoral thesis. More than 30 Students have participated in inter collegiate cultural programmes organised by various colleges in and around Madurai and won prizes.

The Department of Commerce (SF)

Dr. R. Mary Sophia Chitra, C. Antony Mary Vinothini, P. Mangayarkarasi, and A. Emimol Grace published a paper each in Journal with ISSN and R. Nixon Jesuraj, R. Sundareswaran published a paper each in a book with ISBN. The students of Department of Commerce have won many prizes in intercollegiate competitions. During this year four of our students have cleared the foundation course in COMPANY SECRETARYSHIP and one has cleared CPT course in CA examination.

Department of BBA

The Department of Business Administration has organised an Industrial visit and conducted four skill development and awareness programmes on Soft Skills, Share Market and Mutual funds, Data Analysis Methods and Financial Management. BBA Students have won prizes by participating the intercollegiate competitions.

Department of BBA (Satellite Campus)

The department conducted “*Workshop on Entrepreneurs*” and “*Social Sensitisation Workshop*”, the Association of the department conducted by “*Cognitio*”, an Intra-Departmental Competitions. It also conducted “*Aids Awareness*” and “*Traffic Awareness*” and Blood Donation Camp. The faculty Mr. P.F.E. Divakaran presented a paper in UGC Sponsored National Seminar and Ms. C. Catherine has presented a paper in a National conference.

BCA Department

The Department Association conducted Hover 2K17 – an Intercollegiate meet on 10th March 2017, received participation from more than 10 colleges for various events

Mrs. A. Ann Ramola Jeyanthi, Mrs. T. Suganya and Ms. J. Caroline published papers in International conferences. Mr. B. Ilayaraja attended a Faculty Development Programme. Mr. M. Martin Porus attended an International Workshop. Mrs. M. Hosanna, Ms. J. Caroline, Mrs. Annathangam and Ms. G. Pauline Pershyl presented papers at the National Conference. Ms. J. Caroline & Ms. G. Pauline attended a workshop.

Department of Biochemistry

Mr. C. Caleb Johnson, and Mrs. J. Renuka, Mr. R. Jeyapandi published research papers in International Journals. Mrs. J. Renuka, participated and presented three papers in International Conferences, and received “Best Presentation Award” participated in an International Conference. Mr. C. Caleb Johnson, Mrs. Renuka & Mr. Jeyapandi participated in the Science Academies Lecture workshop. Mr. Sama attended International Seminar. The students attended several Inter-collegiate competitions and have won several prizes.

Department of Commerce, Satellite Campus

An Industrial visit had been organized to National Sugar Mills Ltd., Alanganallur, Madurai. Mr. A. Hilary Joseph presented two papers in the International seminars and published two articles in journals with ISSN number.

Department of Mathematics (S.F)

Mr. J. Loyola Foresith Spencer attended the training on “Mental Health First Aid”. The students have participated in several competitions and won prizes.

AMERICAN SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION (MBA)

The department conducted a 4-day Pre-placement Training for II MBA and a Guest lecture on Career Guidance. It also conducted a on-Campus drive by **Bharti Airtel, IDBI Federal Life Insurance**. Students also attended off-campus drive by **Federal Bank**. Several students were placed in the on-campus drive by these companies. Workshops on “**SEBI Investor Awareness Programme**” and “**Advanced Business Research**.” Conducted Guest lectures on Mutual Funds, General Insurance, Financial Institutions, Business Plan and Entrepreneurship by resources persons from those fields. Field Visits and Industrial Visits were organised for the students.

Dr. Raju attended 3 International conferences, published 8 papers in proceeding and Journals. Mr. M. Vignesh attended one International conference and published 8 papers in proceeding and Journals. Mr. Kannan attended one national conference, published 1 papers in proceeding. Mr. Arul Jeevaraj attended 4 International and 1 national conference, published 11 papers in proceeding and Journals. Dr. Leena Jenefa attended 5 International conferences, published 8 papers in proceeding and Journals. Mr. Jackson Gunaraj attended 1 International conference, and published 2 papers in proceeding and Journals.

Department of Physics (SF)

One day Workshop on “Astronomy and Astrophysics” was jointly organised by Department of Physics (SF) and Department of Applied Science involving 9 colleges and 197 participants. Department of Physics (SF) organised the State Level Inter collegiate Quiz Competition – 2017, Zone – 6 Sponsored by IGCAR, INS and IARP, Kalpakkam. 35 colleges with 54 teams participated in the event. Students and Staff visited CSIR- Central Electrochemical Research Institute, Karaikudi and ISRO – Sriharikota.

Department of Immunology and Microbiology

Department has Organized DBT and ICMR sponsored International Conference on “New horizons, Emerging Challenges and Recent Paradigms in Food mediated Immunity and their Role in Human Health and Longevity”. It also organised Intercollegiate event by Department association “MICROFIESTA ‘17” on 07 March 2017. Mrs. J. Stella Mary and Ms. N. Jennifer Michellin Kiruba Qualified in the Tamil Nadu State Test (SET-2016) Mrs. J. Stella Mary, Ms. N. Jennifer Michellin Kiruba, Ms. V. Nalini , Ms. R.Padma Priya, Mr. J. Immanuel Suresh, Ms. Jenita Sathiya Priya have presented papers in International and national conferences.

M.A. Social Work Department 2016-17

The World First Aid programme was observed on 16th September 2016. Awareness of First Aid in different situations like Burns, Nose Bleedings, Fractures, Poisoning, Snake bites, Dog Bites, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR etc.) were explained. An Awareness Session on Sexuality and Reproductive Health was organized on 16th December 2016.

PG Department of Food Science

Student and Staff members have visited to Indian Institute of crop processing technology (IICPT). Students and staff members underwent a four days stall arrangement programme “Food Tech.” and they visited IICPT, Tanjore and attended international conferences conducted at Home science, Tamilnadu Agricultural University, Karunya University, Coimbatore and Meenakshi College, Madurai. Sindhuja, Nivethini, Hema and Johny Beula and Malarkodi have published papers in the International conference conducted by the dept of Home Science, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Aquaculture

The faculty of aquaculture visited Regional Centre of Tamil Nadu Fisheries University, in Kanyakumari district. The students were successful in breeding ornamental fish. Dr. A. P. Lipton, an eminent scientist and Emeritus Professor, Centre for Marine Science Technology, M. S. University, Rajakkamangalam, delivered a special lecture on “Microbial Techniques in Aquaculture.”

Medical Laboratory Technology

MLT Students carried out Body Mass Index and Blood Grouping Tests at O.C.P.M. Higher Secondary School, Madurai. In Collaboration with Apollo Speciality Hospitals, Madurai, Health check-up for faculty was organized. Dr. Rohini Sridhar, Chief Operations Officer of Apollo Speciality Hospital Madurai, delivered a talk on Chronic Myeloid Leukemia (CML). Dr. Puratchimani, Managing Director of Bose Clinical Lab. Madurai gave hands on training on Laboratory Practices and Reporting. Mr. Prabhu, staff of The American College, Madurai gave a lecture on Human heart diseases. Mr. Kannan, Marketing Executive from Abbott Laboratories gave awareness on Thyroid disorders.

Food Processing and Preservation

Students and faculty visited IICPT “Open Day Programme” in Tanjore and “Food Tech” organized by Ministry of Food Processing Industries, at Tamukkam Hall. Faculty of food science Mrs. Ameena Beebi and C. Angelin Monica presented two papers in National Seminar. Mrs. Ameena Beebi also participated in the International Conference and made a poster presentation.

Academic achievements of NCC NAVY 2016-17

The year 2016-17 has brought back our old glory in the achievements by our NCC NAVY cadets at the national level competition and camps.

Our cadet captain S. Devasenapathy (14 MAT 16) was selected for the Youth Exchange Programme and he sailed to neighbouring countries like Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, and Bangladesh along with Indian Navy with 12 other cadets selected from other parts of the country.

Two of our cadets have participated in the Republic Day camp held at New Delhi representing Tamil Nadu Directorate, out of which F. Maria Christopher (15 TAM 31) has won Gold medal in the ship model competition and A. C. P. Prashanth (15 BOT 29) has won a place in Republic Camp, for the Prime Minister Rally that gave, Guard of honour to our honourable Prime Minister, Narendra Modi at New Delhi.

Petty Officer Cadet K. Gowtham (14 CHE 25) was selected for the Officer Training Academy at Kamptee and he has undergone vigorous training to qualify for the selection of officers in Indian defense forces.

Three cadets have been selected and undergone Scuba training at Chennai.

Petty officer cadet B. Senthil Kumar (14 CHE 61) was selected for the National Integration camp held at Raipur in December, 2016

Two of our cadets (i) K. Gowtham (14 CHE 25) and (ii) P. Palpandi (14 BOT 30) have participated in the Annual Leadership Camp held at Coimbatore in November 2016.

NCC ARMY

Senior Under Officer M.VIGNESH of III year B.Sc. Botany participated in The All India Special National Integration Camp 2017 held at Nagaland representing Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Andaman Nicobar Directorate. He was the Directorate Senior Cadet. He also Lead the TN, P & AN Contingent. He Bagged a Silver Medal in the Cultural Competition.

Cadet Under Officer B. DEEPAK of III Year B.A English also Participated in the All India Special National Integration Camp -2017 held at Nagaland representing Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Andaman Nicobar Directorate. Cadet Under Officer B. Ragupathi of III year B.A Tamil attended All India Mountaineering Expedition held at New Delhi. He was accompanied by the Indian Army and scaled a height of 22000 ft at Mount. Bhagirathi at Uttarkhand.

Cadet T. DHARMA of II year B.A. Tamil and Cadet P. MAYIL RAJ of II year B.A. Economics attended the Snow Skiing- 2017 held at Gulmarg (Jammu & Kashmir) from 13 to 31 March 2017 representing Tamil Nadu, Puducherry & Andaman Nicobar Directorate.

NSS

NSS unit of the American College has organised 4 blood donation camps which includes 1104 units o floods. 4 of our NSS volunteers attended Tamilnadu state republic day parade camp 2017 held at Chennai. Dr. Samuel Anbuselvan was appointed as state camp coordinator for Tamilnadu state republic da parade camp 2017 held at Chennai. NSS of our college has

received a rolling trophy from the Govt Rajaji hospital and Madurai Medical College. Also we received 3 more awards for highest blood donation in Madurai district.

Students Service Committee (SSC)

The Cultural team under SSC has won 6 overall championships, 5 Runners up trophies and several individual prizes in Inter-collegiate competitions held at various parts of the country.

Death

I am sad to share with you the untimely death of three of our students who lost their lives in three different accidents during the academic year 2016-17. They are S.Bala Murugan of II BCA, J Vasanth, III BCA and S. Thirumala Vignesh Raja of II BCA. Mr. K.S.Rajkumar, former technical staff, department of applied Sciences, Mr. M. Veluchamy, former office assistant, Mr. Devarajan, former cook, Dudley Hall and T.Kulanthaisamy former cook, Zumbro Hall passed away during 2016-17.

Conclusion

Catering to the needs of the disadvantaged students, without compromising on the intellectual pursuits, has impressed the UGC-appointed Autonomy Review Committee and the National Accreditation Team. After scrutinizing all the office records, publications, department and field visits, interactions with all the stakeholders, the Autonomy Review Committee recommended with appreciation the continuation of autonomy for the college.

The detailed assessment of all the projects and activities of the college has taken the college, to an enviable ranking position in the state. The college has also joined the elite top ten colleges in the country. This is indeed, a remarkable achievement.

The college received yet another recognition in the form of **Educational Excellence Award** from the **PEARL** Foundation as the Best NAAC Accredited A Grade College in India for 2016. Dr. M. Davamani Christober received the **Best Principal Award** for his outstanding contribution to the cause of education. I deem it as an award bestowed on every member of the American College family. This recognition further spurs us on to take up more challenges to renew our commitment to our students and make education more meaningful for every student.

Our work in 2016-17 has given us immense satisfaction and proud moments. We are aware that excellence in education is not a destination, but a continuous pursuit. We assure you that, we will continue our pursuit with dedication and determination. We seek your continued support in the years to come. The Lord, who has sustained us this far, would bless all our efforts and help us to take the college, forward to greater glory.

God bless.