

## **INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS**

St. Francis De Sales College was founded in 1956 by the great visionary Archbishop Eugene D' Souza. Possessing wonderful foresight, he laid the foundation of an academic journey which has achieved milestones since its inception. Following the motto of 'Truth and Love', the very words of our Patron Saint, St. Francis De Sales, the College has been carefully nurturing the legacy of values and ideas of the founder over the past 64 years. Under the Archdiocese of Nagpur, the College is managed by the S.F.S. College Society, whose members are priests with impeccable morals and principles, which ensures transparency in its dealings and a fair delegation of powers and responsibilities to its stakeholders, mainly the teaching staff and students.

The serene, sylvan surroundings provide the College with excellent positive and conducive academic ambiance. The college plays an all-encompassing role in the all-round development of the students with its disciplined work culture coupled with a vibrant learning atmosphere. Emphasizing on regular teaching of the syllabi prescribed by the affiliating R.T.M. Nagpur University, along with conduct of other student centric activities, the college is dedicated to positively influence and impact the students to grow progressively as better citizens of modern India.

SFS College though recognized as a Roman Catholic Christian minority institution welcomes all, with the teachers as well as students representing the manifold cross sections of our diverse populace, from all over India. Catering to a wide spectrum of students belonging to heterogeneous backgrounds including those coming from other minorities as well as marginalized sections of the society, the College has over the years gained a reputation of being one of the iconic institutions in Central India.

The institution has undergone accreditation by NAAC in 2004, and further worked tirelessly on improving on all spheres of providing excellent learning environment, empowering and transforming the young adults which is reflected in the reaccreditation cycles in 2009 and 2015, scoring A grade and a CGPA of 3.14 and 3.23 respectively. The institution also seeks to undergo further improvement and introspection through applying for CPE and NIRF, both of which help in our attempts at the enhancement of quality.

The College has one of the best infrastructures catering to academics, sports, co-curricular development and research which are reflective of its growth and evolution as an institution. The completely automated College Library houses a rich collection of educational resources for the use of students and staff alike. The sports department is involved throughout the year in encouraging student participation in collegiate, intercollegiate and university level sports events. Many students have brought laurels to the institution through their active participation in sports.

The staff and students can access the Network resource centres and internet facilities which assist in the use of technology and modern methods of teaching to supplement the traditional ones. This also helps them to stay in tune with today's rapidly evolving world by following contemporary as well as futuristic practices in academics, sports, co- and extra-curricular activities with active and enthusiastic participation of our students. Teachers have wholeheartedly taken to the use of ICT which has facilitated a modern learning approach for teaching, learning and evaluation as has been evinced since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With stated Program Outcomes, Program Specific Outcomes and Course Outcomes, our focus on the development of students has become a well-defined one. The institution thus has adopted a three pronged approach- academics, sports and extra-curricular activity, in order to achieve these outcomes.

The College has been consistent in keeping a high success rate in almost all examinations as compared to University results during past five years.

The development of personality of each student is sought to be realised by inculcating in them positive attitude, leadership qualities, spirit of oneness, sportsmanship and self-awareness. Generation of a learner-centred environment which is brought about by the students' responsible and active participation in planning, collaborating, executing and managing a plethora of student-centric and scholastic activities-such as guest lectures, industrial visits, workshops and training programmes, cultural activities- conferences, debates, competitions, teachers' day celebrations, celebration of National festivals as well as the annual day event in the extracurricular sphere, including participation in sports events, matches at different levels, organising of intercollegiate events such as the Late Eugene D'Souza memorial football tournament, and the Annual sports event of the college.

Making our institutional website dynamic has taken us a step forward in reaching out to our stakeholders- students, parents, alumni and employers alike in a progressive way.

Funding from agencies such as RUSA has augmented our infrastructure and has given added wings to the institution to reach greater heights. It has widened the scope of teaching through increased classroom space, added ICT facilities, better networking and additional laboratory equipment. There is a continuous quest for being a College with Potential for Excellence.

Employability of graduating students has seen a rise through the efforts of the UDAAN Cell, and increased opportunities in the developing MIHAN (Multimodal International Hub and Airport at Nagpur). The institution endeavours to establish a networking with Industries, Alumni and Parents for using the same for better guidance / coaching and placements of students. The institution has also focused upon applying for career oriented / vocational courses for enhancing the employability of students.

The institution also caters to furthering the academic interests of those graduates inclined towards higher studies. In the past five years, two new post-graduate programs in Mathematics and Physics have been added to the existing programs of Biotechnology and Chemistry. Further additions are envisaged with the institution having applied for another post graduate program, M.A. in English and a graduate program B.B.A., in Commerce. The institution is a recognized Research Centre and provides excellent and modern facilities with the help of its academically competent staff and through linkages for fostering collaborative research.

The area of priority and thrust is thus to create and facilitate a learning environment seeking knowledge, research, skill, teaching self-reliance and developing humanitarianism that would propel the young to build a caring and sharing society.