



JHEASA Higher Ed News

August 2025

Volume 3, Issue 8

FEATURED NEWS FROM JHEASA MEMBER INSTITUTIONS

An Ignatian Audit on Reimagining and Restructuring of all JHEASA Institutions as Witnesses of Hope

In line with the global Jesuit call for Reimagining and Restructuring (RR), JHEASA, under the guidance of President of the Jesuit Conference of South Asia, Fr. Stany D' Souza, who took the lead in steering this process across Jesuit higher education institutions in South Asia to draft a framework to conduct an assessment by appointing Fr Praveen Martis, SJ, Convener (SADU, Mangaluru), Fr M S Joseph Jacob SJ, (Loyola College, Chennai), Dr Alwyn D' Sa (SADU, Mangaluru), Dr Paul Newman (SJU, Bengaluru), Dr Marcus Barla, (SXC, Ranchi), Dr. Charlotte Simpson (SXC, Kolkatta), Fr Francis Pudhicherry SJ (DNC, Pune) and Fr Dominic Savio SJ (SXC, Kolkatta, JHEASA Secretary) as members. All the 82 JHEASA institutions would be covered under this process.

The team met from 4-6 August, 2025 at St Aloysius Institute of Management & Information Technology (AIMIT Centre), Mangaluru. The goal of this exercise is to ensure that our academic institutions remain vibrant, credible, and deeply responsive to the hopes and struggles of the communities we serve. This process is deeply rooted in the spirit of the Universal Apostolic Preferences (UAPs), particularly in showing the way to God, walking with the excluded, journeying with youth and caring for our common home.

In the context of the increasing presence of commercialised private universities and the proposal to allow 100 foreign universities into India which necessitate a profound re-examination of our own models of higher education. JHEASA is called not to compete on the same terms but to offer a counter narrative, a prophetic model that is value-oriented and socially committed.

Responding to the six focal areas articulated by the International Association of Jesuit Universities (IAJU), namely Global Citizenship, Promotion of Democracy, Mental Health and Well-being, Artificial Intelligence, Ecological Justice, and Refugees and Migrants, this study consciously prioritises the needs of first-generation learners, women, Dalits, Adivasis, children of migrant workers, refugees, orphans, LGBTQ and others from socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds. The team proposed a framework built on a 10 Core Criteria, enabling Jesuit higher education institutions across India to assess, reflect, and enhance their quality benchmarks in a manner that is systematic, evidence-based and mission-driven.

Objectives of the study include

1. To evaluate the present hierarchical structures, effectiveness and functioning of Jesuit Higher education Institutions in India, keeping the vision and mission of the institution in mind.
2. To plan for restructuring and reimagining
3. To understand the needs of the different stakeholders
4. To evaluate the satisfactory levels of the stakeholders in terms of their partnership/engagement with Jesuit institutions
5. To discuss and deliver future plans and directions for the institution according to the needs of the time

The proposed process is not just a mechanical exercise. It is a discernment journey, an invitation to all Jesuit institutions to undertake a SWOC (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Challenges) analysis that is not only rigorous and reflective but also grounded in dialogue with stakeholders. It aims to reinforce internal quality assurance mechanisms, support accreditation efforts, and chart out future directions in the spirit of shared mission and communal discernment.

Dr. Paul Newman
Professor and Dean,
St. Joseph's University, Bengaluru, India.



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An eventful August for St. Xavier's College, Maitighar, Tribhuban University, Nepal

The UbuCon Asia 2025, a community-driven conference connecting the Ubuntu community across Asia, was held at St. Xavier's College (SXC) Loyola Campus in Kathmandu, Nepal, on August 30 and 31, 2025. This year's UbuCon Asia was organized by Ubuntu Nepal and GNOME Nepal, with St. Xavier's College as the Educational Partner. The two-day event saw an impressive turnout of over 450 participants and brought together enthusiasts, engineers, creators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and contributors from all around the world. Prominent international companies such as Canonical, DeepComputing, NextCloud, and OnlyOffice were represented by their founders, managers, and leaders.



Collaboration with College of Global Liberal Arts (GLA), Ritsumeikan University, Japan: Continuing the collaboration that began in 2022, St. Xavier's College, Maitighar and College of Global Liberal Arts (GLA), Ritsumeikan University, Japan jointly conducted a short-term course- Special Lecture (Social Science) for the 4th cohort from April 9, 2025. As a part of the course, a team of 8 students accompanied by Prof. Dr. Miwa Hirono, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at GLA arrived in Kathmandu on August 31, 2025 for the field visit and was warmly welcomed at St. Xavier's College on September 1, 2025. On this occasion, certificates of completion were awarded to the 2025 cohort of the course comprising 11 SXC students.



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Students' representation at Philippines: Two Social Work students at the Department of Major Arts represented St. Xavier's College, Maitighar at the Service-Learning Student Fellowship Program 2025 (SLSF 2025) in Cebu City, Philippines. The event was organized by De La Salle University (DLSU) through the Uniservitate Asia and Oceania Regional Hub (UA&ORH) from August 3 to 11, 2025. SXC has been a UA&ORH member institution since 2024.





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Students Exchange Programme with Spain: Under the Erasmus+ KA171 Student Mobility Program, four students from three different departments of SXC, have been selected to pursue a semester from September 2025 to February 2026) at Universitat Politècnica de València (UPV), Spain. SXC also welcomed the exchange student from UPV, Spain, Ms. Inés Martínez Gabarda as an International Intern for 2025/26 in Project Wings to Dreams, 3D for Accessibility, an initiative by Chain For Change (CFC) in collaboration with St. Xavier's College, Maitighar.



St. Joseph's College of Commerce (Autonomous), Bangalore

On 2 August, SJCC signed an MOU with the University of San Francisco to explore collaborative opportunities in academic, research, and student engagement. A General Medical Camp was organised on 2 August in collaboration with the Lions Club, offering consultations in Allopathic, Homeopathic, Unani, and Ayurvedic medicine.

On August 31, the NBCLC, in collaboration with SJCC commenced an eight-day residential Financial Management Course, training participants from not-for-profit organisations across the country.





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The Loyola Alumni Association, Chennai

Loyola Alumni Day 2025 (LAD 2025)

Loyola Alumni Association celebrated its Centenary Year Alumni Day on August 3, 2025, coinciding with International Friendship Day. The milestone event commemorated 100 years of academic excellence under the theme “Together for a Century, United for a Lifetime”. The celebration brought together the institution’s global alumni network of over 3,000 members.

LAA Chennai Chapter has taken the “Launch Pad 2025” initiative, the first of its kind, featuring a Loyola Alumni Startup Showcase as part of Centenary year celebrations.



Loyola - ICAM College of Engineering and Technology - LICET Autonomous

Precise Energy Olympiad 2025 – Preliminary Round at LICET

The Precise Energy Olympiad, jointly organized by the **Russian Centre of Science and Culture, Chennai, Russian State Corporation Rosatom, and Tamil Nadu Science and Technology Centre**, was conducted at LICET on 22nd August 2025. The Olympiad, which covers Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics, saw enthusiastic participation with around 400 students from I to IV year registering for the preliminary round. Top scorers from this stage will qualify for the final round at the Russian Centre of Science and Culture, Chennai, where they can compete in their chosen subject under the guidance of specially invited Russian scientists.



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Loyola Institute of Business Administration

Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme

On 21st August 2025, the Prof. C.K. Prahalad Centre for Emerging India at LIBA, in collaboration with JMS Social Centre, organized a community outreach program at Kadambathur, Thiruvallur district. The session was designed to spread awareness about business opportunities and government-supported schemes, with a focus on encouraging women in entrepreneurship. The initiative witnessed the participation of 36 women from 6 villages, gaining useful insights and guidance through the program.



St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangalore

St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangalore, organized a six-day AICTE sponsored ATAL faculty development programme on 'Tech-harvest: Advancing Computer Science & Agricultural Research for Sustainable Agriculture.

The institution held an International seminar on 'Analytics in the Age of AI – The Evolving Role of Business Analysts' and signed MOUs with Manjusha Museum, Dharmasthala, TECHADEMY Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd, Bangalore, FMMC, Divine Cashew industry, and Fr Muller Medical College.



St Aloysius was awarded for outstanding contribution to the use and promotion of solar energy below 1 MW category. The institution's Department of Food Science has secured a grant of 43.3 lakhs from the Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health and family Welfare, Govt. of India for a project entitled "Jackfruit Rachis (Arthocarpus heterophyllus) Dietary Fibre: Nutraceuticals formulation and evaluation for Type 2 Diabetes Mellitus management through preclinical and clinical investigations".



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ST. XAVIER'S COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), KOLKATA



Felicitation of NAAC Grade A, A+ and A++ colleges by the Higher Education Department of WB.

The Higher Education Department of West Bengal felicitated colleges in the state of West Bengal who had secured NAAC A+ and A++ grades. St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Kolkata which secured a grade of A++ was thus felicitated. Rev Father Dr. Dominic Savio, SJ, Principal, received the award on behalf of the college from the Education Minister Shri Bratya Basu.

Golden day for SXC, Kolkata, second patent got published.

Application Details	
APPLICATION NUMBER	202531068085
APPLICATION TYPE	ORDINARY APPLICATION
DATE OF FILING	16/07/2025
APPLICANT NAME	1. SANJANA GHOSH 2. Shoham Ghosh 3. Arup Kumar Mitra
TITLE OF INVENTION	A METHOD FOR IDENTIFICATION AND FORMULATION OF BACTERIA FOR DEGRADATION OF PLASTIC
FIELD OF INVENTION	BIOTECHNOLOGY
E-MAIL (As Per Record)	rupkathaganguly01@gmail.com
ADDITIONAL-E-MAIL (As Per Record)	
E-MAIL (UPDATED Online)	
PRIORITY DATE	
REQUEST FOR EXAMINATION DATE	--
PUBLICATION DATE (U/S 11A)	25/07/2025



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St. Xavier's University, Kolkata



Knimbus Most Usage in East India 2024-25 Award to SXUK

St. Xavier's University, Kolkata (SXUK) bagged the "Most Usage in East India 2024-25" award from the Knimbus Online Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi. This honour is based on the number of views, searches, downloads, and overall accesses of the subscribed electronic resources within the SXUK Digital Library with Knimbus platform.

Dr. Stephen G., Assistant Librarian of SXUK, received the award on behalf of Rev. Dr. John Felix Raj, SJ, Vice-Chancellor of SXUK on August 26, 2025 from Mr. Sharansh Gond, Regional Manager of Knimbus. The award was subsequently handed over to Father Felix Raj.

The university extends its heartfelt thanks to all users, with special appreciation to the faculty members, research scholars, and students, whose consistent engagement has made this achievement possible.

St Aloysius Institute of Management and Information Technology (AIMIT), Mangaluru



St Aloysius (Deemed to be University) has signed MoUs with leading global institutions to promote student and faculty exchange, study abroad, and research collaboration. The agreements were signed with Catholic University of Córdoba (UCC), Argentina in the presence of President Dr. Andrés and Dr. Milton; Catholic University of Uruguay, represented by President Dr. Julio; and a Slovakian university, in collaboration with Fr. Milos—marking a significant step in strengthening international academic ties.