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SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

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A Don Bosco Institution of Higher Education, Founded in 1951 * Affiliated to Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore * Autonomous since 1987

Accredited by NAAC (4th Cycle – under RAF) with CGPA of 3.31 / 4 at 'A+' Grade



SACRED HEART COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS)

(Affiliated to Thiruvalluvar University, Vellore)

Accredited by NAAC (4th Cycle – under RAF) with CGPA of 3.31/4 at 'A+' Grade, 95th
College in India - NIRF 2017

GREEN CAMPUS INITIATIVES POLICY

Approved by: Internal Quality Assurance cell

Date: 16.03.2020

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FOREWORD

Sacred Heart College is an affiliated First Grade College of Thiruvalluvar University. It is a minority institution, established and administered by the Salesians of Don Bosco (SDB). The first care of the management is to give Higher Education to the Catholic youth in a Christian atmosphere of peace, justice and social responsibility with a preferential option for the poor among them. The College is also open to students of all castes and creeds other than Catholics. Their religious beliefs are respected in this institution. In order to sustain its focus of global excellence and nurture continual improvement, Sacred Heart College acknowledges the need for a Green campus.

To meet the strategic interests of the college and its global vision, this Green Campus policy is drawn to focus and in so doing protect health, environment and improve quality of life.

It is my sincere hope that Sacred Heart College and all the stakeholders will strive at all times to uphold the standards highlighted in this green campus initiative policy. My sincere appreciation goes to the team that was involved in the development and improvement of this policy, including the IQAC Members, the Deans and various support staff.

**Rev. Dr. D. Maria Antony Raj SDB,
Principal, Sacred Heart College (Autonomous)**

INTRODUCTION

- Environmental policy is primarily concerned with governing the relationship between humans and the natural environment in a mutually beneficial manner.
- Environmental policy Should be more a comprehensive policy supporting sustainable human development.
- An environmental policy helps set the tone for an organization, facility, or department regarding environmental protection and sustainability must be clearly articulated from the top and permeate throughout an organization, facility, or department's structure.
- It should help in Preventing pollution, saving energy, and limiting greenhouse gases.
- It should Include a pledge to measure and improve environmental performance continually and may include a promise to seek ways to reduce energy, limit fuel consumption, lessen emissions, prevent pollution, reduce greenhouse gases, and reduce potable water consumption, or an infinite number of other appropriate metrics, that when measured can show improvement in environmental sustainability.
- The environmental policy decrees to the entire organization what is of utmost importance to an organization beyond financial and budgetary concerns.
- An environmental policy helps an organization, facility, or department find and build upon a culture of environmental sustainability.
- Policies can also include other cultural agency sensibilities, including benchmarking, mentoring, and partnering with outside entities such as colleague agencies or academic institutions.

POLICY PRINCIPLES

The following are the guiding principles of the GREEN CAMPUS policy:

1. **Environmental Conservation** - The College endeavors to ensure environmental conservation by implementing strong initiatives to safeguard the Eco system of the college and its surroundings.
2. **Safe Disposal of Bio-degradable and Non-degradable wastes** - The College recognizes the need to dispose wastes to protect the environment in a manner that is safe and sound with respect to its staff, students, institutional operations and stakeholders.
3. **Public Awareness** - The College acknowledges the importance of an informed society. Therefore initiates for maintaining an healthy eco system depends upon the beneficiaries with self-awareness that helps to attain our objective.
4. **POLICY FRAMEWORK** -. Sacred Heart College endeavours to achieve a human-environment co-existence model which would promote society's welfare through environmental protection.

OBJECTIVES OF THE POLICY

To fulfil this vision, the college is obliged to institute a Green Policy which will focus on the following:

The objectives will be the fundamental consideration of the college in all its future endeavours.

- In future developments, infrastructure constructions and action plans, the college shall refer to the green policy and abide by the green regulations outlined.
- The college shall integrate environmental concerns into its everyday practice. In addition, it shall comply with all applicable legislation, regulation and codes of practice related to the Green Protocol stipulated by the State Government and endorse the university's commitment to sustainable development through all means.
- Adopt best practices for environmental protection; observe conservation, environmental laws, regulations and standards.

- The college has a responsibility and desire to educate members of the community to engage effectively as global citizens, responsibly steward our natural resources, foster a culture that supports and promotes the values and principles of social and environmental sustainability, and work towards a sustainable and just future in cooperation with organizations at the local, state, national and global levels, motivate to maintain and increase the green cover area of the campus in the coming years.
- While increasing green areas, native species of flora suitable for this ecosystem will be given importance. Systematic investigations into the spread of invasive species that tamper with the ecological balance of the campus will be conducted and measures are taken up to control the spread.
- Commitment to reduce energy consumption and reduce wastage of energy. Explore renewable energy sources as far as possible. In order to do this, the college would establish and maintain strategic partnerships with student and teaching communities, local governments, private companies and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to develop and promote sustainable practices and identify and address sustainability challenges in the energy sector.
- It would stand for increasing, sharing and exchanging environmental awareness and protection amongst the campus community and the society at large.
- To decrease the amount of waste generated by constantly monitoring the sources and through the Reduce, Reuse and Recycle policy. Implement sound long-term waste management strategies to reduce overall waste production and increase the recycled component of the waste stream, paving the way toward implementing eco-friendly technologies for utilizing natural resources efficiently.
- The purchasing policy of the college is altered to promote those products and services which cause the least harm to the environment. This should include supporting alternative ecofriendly products made locally. The purchase would also reflect the fair-trade commitments. Repair and reuse, setting aside maintenance funds and ensuring long term use of products purchased would be given priority before going in for new products.

Establish a Sustainable Environment Management Committee (SEMC), which will be empowered to Advice, take decisions and execute them

- regarding the sustainable environmental management of the campus. The committee will be accountable to the statutory regulatory bodies and abide by the laws and regulations existing in our country. The committee will endeavour to reduce harmful effects on the environment, human health and safety.
- Create awareness regarding the environmental impact and the carbon footprints that the institution leaves and carry out annual environmental auditing in consultation with the experts and take necessary measures to address the issues

raised by such inquiries will hereafter explore the possibilities of adopting eco-friendly architecture and green buildings.

- It will focus on commitment towards ensuring the quality of food purchase, preparation, and serving in canteens and hostel messes towards enhancing the campus community's health and the environment.

SCOPE OF THE POLICY

The policy visualizes setting a national and international benchmark for a socially and environmentally sustainable campus through action plans for environmental education, management and conservation.

ELEMENTS OF THE POLICY

This policy covers and is informed by the following elements: legal framework, capacity building and environmentally sound management of different types of wastes, awareness and information dissemination and resource mobilization.

Functions

Green Campus policy would be achieved through the following measures:

- Use of Bicycles
- Public Transport
- Pedestrian-friendly roads
- Plastic-free campus
- Paperless office
- Green landscaping with trees and plants.
- Transportation – staff and students would be advised to use the public transport system and vehicle pooling.
- Walking pathways and seats at different locations within the campus so that students are open to the effects of the environment in their daily interaction.
- Mosquito traps and regular inspection of mosquito breeding areas need to be carried out.
- Avoiding the usage of Banners and Thermocoals
- Plastic-free meal trays
- The college has a “reduce, recycle and reuse” policy and has imposed a total ban on polythene bags. The college encourages the fraternity to reduce the usage of plastic items like bottles, tiffin boxes, pens, disposable cutlery, and carry bags and supports this initiative encouraging the use of glass or stainless steel cutlery, sale of fountains and paper pens.
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- The college also conducts workshops in cloth and paper pen and bag making. The college collects plastic waste from the surrounding areas and disposes them safely.
- Institution of Environmental Awards for the best Eco-friendly Department and individual recognition of staff and students for being environmentally conscious.
- Policy Evaluation and activity monitoring: A committee would be set up to Monitor and evaluate the proceedings of the policy.

Awareness and Information Dissemination

Community awareness campaigns on how to maintain an eco friendly environment would be organized in the campus and the society to develop a strategy to educate including partnerships with manufacturers, retailers/recyclers.

Resource Mobilization

Sacred Heart College shall provide resources for the maintenance of a green campus management as follows:

- Increase the budgetary allocation to the initiative targeted at reducing wastes.
- Put in place mechanisms for resource mobilization from development partners.
- Provide the buildings, equipment and devices and other support systems for effective and efficient management of wastes.

Advisory Committee

The college shall constitute a Green Campus advisory committee that shall:

- a. Oversee implementation of this policy.
- b. Develop procedures and work instructions for collection, sorting, dis assembly, packaging, storage and disposal of wastes.
- c. Encourage decisions consistent with the national policies.
- d. Provide flexibility to adopt the changes required from time to time.
- e. Review inputs from all stakeholders.
- f. Monitor the implementation of this policy and advise college management as appropriate.
- g. Advise review/improvement of this policy from time to time.

Advisory Committee		
S.No.	Name	Designation
1	Rev. Dr. D. Maria Antony Raj	Principal
2	Rev. Dr. K.A. Maria Arokiaraj,	Addl. Principal
3	Rev. Dr. G. Theophil Anand	Vice Principal (Shift - II)
4	Rev. Dr. T. Sathinathan	Administrator
5	Dr. V. Collins Arun Prakash	Coordinator, IQAC

Research and Development Organization

Research and development shall be facilitated to carry out specific research to safeguard the eco system.

Staff and Skills

The College shall facilitate development of skills requisite for the implementation of this policy. The staff shall be provided with the requisite instructions and procedures.

MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW STRATEGIES

Monitoring and Evaluation

Realization of the output of this policy shall require consistent monitoring and evaluation of the output indicators. The management and any other relevant stakeholders will carry out monitoring and evaluation at different levels. A monitoring and evaluation framework shall be developed to ensure midterm review of the policy. The policy implementation shall be reviewed through the performance contracting execution and reporting structures. A policy implementation plan shall be developed every financial year including actions, time and resource plans.

Review of Policy

The policy shall be reviewed after every 5 years or earlier, as need arises from Sacred Heart College.