

ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN 2017- 2025

The Academic Master Plan of Mary Matha Arts and Science College is intended to provide an institutional guide for future growth, creation and development of academic programs and support services which contribute to the identity and reputation of our institution. It expresses the collective vision of the faculty; staff and administrators involved in academic programs, and will be used to help achieve the goals of the institution's strategic plan. It will help to justify the acquisition of resources needed for faculty, administration, staff as well as the construction or modification of campus facilities to support physical training, library services, student services, classrooms, laboratories, residence halls and other academic needs. The Academic Master Plan is intended to focus on development goals over the next several years, with special focus toward the year 2030.

The Academic Master Plan has been prepared in compliance with the academic policies, vision, mission and objectives of the management, the University and the government. The plan has taken into account an environmental scan of career related and demographic information encompassing the local, regional and national community; and futurist literature from individuals, books and professional organizations. We intend that the Academic Master Plan serves as the guiding document for planning and decision making for the coming years. However, the 'final' plan will be revisited and revised as changes around us dictate that necessity.

The objective of the Master Plan is to maintain and constantly improve institutional and academic quality. After consultation with the Board of Governors and various stakeholders, the IQAC has set out the following recommendations and directions for academic affairs:

1. **Introduce programs that would improve the employability of the students:** Mary

Matha College was founded with the vision of providing higher education to the students of Wayanad district. The College which started with three degree courses in 1995, has grown into a well-established institution with seven degree courses, two PG courses being offered, and three thriving research centres.

In a remotely situated and geographically isolated district like Wayanad, it is heavily taxing on the students to compete with their contemporaries with regard to educational and vocational enterprises. The institution since its inception is trying hard through certificate courses and career and counseling to enable the students to cope with the challenges and opportunities of the outside world. The institution further aims at introducing new programs like professional courses in the field of Management Studies, Environmental Science. Computer Science, Mass Media in the coming years which would help the students compensate their limitations and make best use of their potential.

The College will explore opportunities for the students to earn while they learn by actively engaging the nearby industries.

2. **Encourage research works in compliance with the needs of the community:** Mary

Matha College is situated in Wayanad district which is one of the remote districts and no direct access to the major happenings of the mainland of Kerala. After suffering a devastating flood people are slowly limping back to normalcy. We have well established research centres in our college which can be utilized to improve the quality of living of the people of this district. Special focus can be given to the areas where the district lags behind. Since extensive qualitative and quantitative analysis has to be conducted for the

overall improvement of the communities, the research projects of the degree and PG students can also be chosen in compliance with the needs of the society. We will encourage the students to pursue research that would help the people of Wayanad, When the community benefits, it will in turn benefit our students and the institution. Keeping this in mind, the faculty and students will apply for and take up maximum academic/ research projects, to create an ambience of research excellence.

3. **Student exchange programs:** The College hopes to collaborate with prestigious institutions like IITs, IIMs, and central universities for student exchange programs. The college will encourage the departments to send their students in the summer and winter camps organized by IITs, IISERs and other reputed institutions. Such programs will introduce the students hailing from a backward district to new avenues and opportunities. At the initial stages, the exchange program can be organized among departments in Wayanad district. This can be further taken up at the state and national levels.

4. **IQAC Activities:**

IQAC will facilitate / contribute:

- To a heightened level of clarity and focus in institutional functioning towards quality enhancement and facilitate internalization of the quality culture.
- To the enhancement and integration among the various activities of the institution and institutionalize many good practices
- To provide a sound basis for decision-making to improve institutional functioning
- To act as a change agent in the institution
- To better internal communication

Quality pursuit becomes a natural phenomenon rather than an enforced work culture. In this context the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) assumes importance as an endogenous system defining the quality culture of an institution. All the stakeholders of an institution will promote and encourage the activities of the IQAC in order to make the institution a Centre of Excellence. The records in IQAC shall be archived

Student IQAC: To improve leadership qualities and team work among the students and also to provide a democratic space for the students in the functioning of the college, a student IQAC shall be created. This will give more exposure to the students in addition to the Union activities performed by them in the college. The College plans to improve the mentor-mentee ratio to give individual students more attention. Programs like ASAP, WWS, SSP, etc will be made more effective in the institution for better outcomes. Career Guidance and Counseling Cell will create tie-ups to understand the trends in the job market. Keeping this in mind, the College will provide support for entry into service and for cracking entrance exams.

5. **Introduce forums for Critical discussions:** To improve social responsibility and social awareness among the students, which is the need of the hour, forums for critical discussions shall be introduced in the college which would enable the students to think judiciously, analytically and develop the ability to assess the social environment.
6. **Examination:** A system to audit the exam processes shall be designed internally. The College will introduce online examinations, open book exams, to improvise on the already existing patterns.

An exam calendar for each department and for the entire college shall be designed.

7. **Administration:** The College plans to digitalize and automate the official records and maintain an archive. A cell for addressing the grievances of the employees shall be created. Annual survey of staff, faculty, and students shall be conducted and recorded.

8. **Effective use of the alumni association:** One of the strong suits of Mary Matha College is its alumni. The College has its alumni working at different organizational levels, scattered in India and across the globe. We hope to take advantage of them in a more extensive and organized form in order to create tie- ups with corporates, business and production houses, to offer internship programs, invited lifestyle lectures, etc and to utilize the alumni at all possible levels in the college.

We plan to improve the involvement of the alumni by establishing regional alumni chapters and promote their engagement and commitment towards the college.