



**MARIS STELLA COLLEGE (AUTONOMOUS), VIJAYAWADA**  
**A College with Potential for Excellence**  
**NAAC Accredited & ISO 9001:2015 Certified**

**IQAC External Peer Team Report: 2021-22**

The IQAC External Peer Team visited the college on 17.04.2022. The team met the management and faculty for interaction after reviewing the functioning of the statutory bodies of the college. The team also checked the documentation of the various departments/bodies and processes.

The team noted that Maris Stella College has been an autonomous institution since 2003. The college has completed four cycles of assessment and accreditation by NAAC. It is recognized by the UGC as a 'College with Potential for Excellence' and is ISO 9001:2015 certified. The college was awarded a **Certificate for Good Hygiene Practices** and a **Certificate for Providing Quality Education** by HYM International Certifications Pvt. Ltd. **Week magazine** has ranked Maris Stella's Arts programmes at 16, Commerce at 32 and Sciences at 27 and an overall ranking of 66 for the year 2021. In the **Education World Rankings 2022**, Maris Stella was placed at the 11<sup>th</sup> and 86<sup>th</sup> spots at the state and national levels, respectively.

The team verified the Annual Report of the college for 2021-22, the AQAR, the minutes of the Governing Body, Academic Council, the Boards of Studies, the Finance Committee and the audited statement of expenditure.

**Observations:**

As a minority institution, the college exercises its right to make its own **admissions**, adhering to prescribed norms.

This year, too, the **academic calendar** had to be modified in view of the continuing pandemic situation. It was not possible to set a uniform date for semester-end examinations for the different semesters because of the disruptions caused by the pandemic. While the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> year students completed their semester-end examinations on 13<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> April, respectively, the 1<sup>st</sup> years will finish only on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022. The **next academic year** is set to begin on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

The implementation of the **revised curriculum** introduced in 2021 is smooth. The **blended mode of teaching-learning**, introduced in the wake of the outbreak of the pandemic in 2020, has been fine-tuned effectively. Faculty have gained expertise in the use of ICT, making the teaching-learning process closer towards global standards.

Holistic education is delivered through a range of extra-curricular activities, literary and cultural activities organized by the various clubs and cells, certificate courses for skill development, internships and community service. With the easing of pandemic restrictions, and the resumption of in person classes, most of these activities could be organized on campus.

**Faculty Development Programmes**, refresher and orientation programmes, **research activities** in the form of paper presentations, publications and projects have been pursued despite the pandemic. Faculty and students have been supported in their academic endeavours by an **excellent library** that has incorporated the latest in technology and offers training and information on e-resources.

Eighteen functional MoUs promote collaborative programmes. The institution has also been the recipient of a number of programmes offered by the U.S. Consulate, including the Student Exchange programme, SUSI and the Fellow programme that has placed an American teacher on the college campus to offer English Language programmes.

An efficient mentoring system and the availability of a professional counsellor ensure the mental well-being of students. Several **student support services** such as mid-day meals, book bank, freships and scholarships, gym, free internet access, hostel facilities, two RO plants for pure drinking water, a canteen and bank are available. A Career Guidance & Placement Cell, NCC, NSS, well maintained sports and games facilities, STARS for extension activities, Green Initiatives for environmental sensitivity, are some of the other features for the benefit of students. While regular training programmes ready students for the job market, the institutional vision and mission direct the campus community towards **ethical values** and give the students a grounding in life skills.

**Good governance, leadership and management** marked by **transparency** and **delegation of responsibilities** has kept the college on a growth trajectory.

The IQAC has been initiating **quality sustenance and enhancement measures** consistently.

#### Names and signatures of External Peer Team Members:



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