



UNION CHRISTIAN COLLEGE ALUVA

MASTER PLAN 2017-35



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Master Plan

2017-2035

Origin

In 1921, four young men, who graduated from the Madras Christian College, founded a college in a remote corner of the Travancore State, Alwaye (Aluva). It was founded on an ecumenical basis and was an entirely local initiative. At the time, Alwaye was by no means a Christian stronghold, but a fore lone place inhabited by the most deprived in Indian society, and the college was established in a land gifted by the Maharaja of Travancore, with the conviction that they were serving in the mission of Christ and becoming agents of his liberating mission of creating wholesome individuals capable of making great sacrifices on behalf of their fellow human beings.

Vision

Serve the nation by facilitating and modeling wholesome and socially relevant education to actualize the values of humanism in accordance with the revelation in Jesus Christ.

Mission

The Union Christian College, extending God's love to all, is committed to providing such education that facilitates the growth of the whole person and brings out the best in him or her that they would serve our nation and humanity at large and the ecosystem as intellectually competent, morally upright and spiritually inspired persons.

Strategic Goals & Objectives

Union Christian College has the following long-term strategic development goals from 2017 to 2035:

- I. **Faculty Development & Academic Enhancement**
- II. **Wholesome Growth of Students/Community**
- III. **Course/Curriculum Development**
- IV. **Student/Community Centric Paradigms**
- V. **Center for Research, Innovation and International Linkages (CRIIL)**
- VI. **Infrastructure Development**
- VII. **Development Office**
- VIII. **Extension & Ecological Programmes (SANKALP & VIKAS)**
- IX. **Optimal Use of Resources on the Campus**
- X. **Wellness Philosophy & Culture**

Strategic Development Goal- I

Faculty Development & Academic Enhancement: Development of a workforce/faculty highly motivated, exposed and trained in the use of electronic resources and information technology in the teaching/learning process and capable of inducting students into the task of knowledge creation with appropriate pedagogical methods.

Activities

1. Encourage the faculty to acquire new knowledge and pedagogic skills by earning additional academic qualifications in novel disciplines.
2. Use of ICT tools in academic transactions. Utilization of LMSs like MOODLE and Online platforms such as Google Meet & Zoom.
3. Content development for academic and non-academic purposes in multi-media mode.
4. Introduction new value-added courses to enhance students' skills and employability.
5. Initiation of student/staff exchange programmes with other educational institutions via MoUs, Collaborations and Academic Linkages.
6. Organize Refresher Courses/Workshops/ in-service educational programmes for the faculty on cutting edge areas of respective disciplines and pedagogical methods.
7. Encourage participation of faculty (and students) in national and international conferences; provide financial support to faculty for the same, for publication of their work and also for membership in professional bodies.
8. Promote applications for research funding (minor and major research projects) to governmental and non-governmental organizations, research institutes and other funding agencies.
9. Encourage and facilitate doctoral/post-doctoral research among teachers of both aided and self-financing stream.
10. Encourage faculty to adopt innovative teaching strategy in Outcome Based Education mode (OBE) to make it more learner-centered, and improves student engagement.
11. Recognize and reward best practices in teaching-learning.
12. Inter-departmental short-term courses on topics such as DNA finger printing, Basics in bio-informatics, Analytical techniques in Chemistry, Ornamental fish farming, Hydroponics, Vertical gardening, Preparation of nutritional food/diabetic food products, e-learning etc. to be conducted by both self-financing and aided streams for teachers and students.

13. Organize invited lectures by scientists on latest topics in different fields such as AI, nano-technology, genomics, proteomics, metabolomics, radiation applications, cyber-security, robotics in agriculture, medical diagnostics, entrepreneurship, start-ups etc.

Strategic Development Goal –II

Wholesome Growth of Students/Community: Achieve wholesome development of students by linking their subjects of study to real life situations and its challenges and by facilitating life skills/soft skills, moral sensitivity and civic responsibility through add-on courses, service-learning, active involvement of teachers and students in clubs and societies, and exposure to models of alternative, sacrificial and creative living in the society.

Activities

1. Offer student support through mentoring and counselling by teachers and general counselling by professional counsellors (BLISS). Each teacher will be assigned the responsibility of mentoring a group of students and following them up during the period of their academic studies in the College, being sensitive not only to the academic aspects but also students' Psycho-social needs.
2. Develop the students' awareness of various fields/spheres of life and improve their skills in interacting with those realities through the activities of various clubs (35 in number) and department associations.
3. Strengthen the activities of the existing institutional bodies such as Center for the Study of Religion and Society (CSRS), Center of Peace Studies and Dialogue (CPSD), Centre for Human Potential and Community Development (CHPCD), Centre for Service Learning (SLC) and Guru Nithya Chair.
4. Promote gender sensitivity and equality (KSWDC Women Cell); instill democratic values (Electoral Literacy Club); inculcate a non-violent worldview (Gandhi Darshan Club); improve socio-cultural awareness (Anti-Narcotic Club, Drama Club, Film Club, Folklore Club); cultivate environmental sensitivity (Disaster Management Club, Kandal Club, Nature Club) and strengthen humanitarian values (Pain & Palliative Club).
5. Offer soft skills and life skills training to students.
6. Organize an Annual Leadership Training programme for all students involved in political leadership, NCC and NSS leadership and also leadership of other Clubs and Associations.
7. Develop a student volunteer force under the slogan and programme, **“Green campus, Clean Campus”** to make them aware of various ways in which we can reduce the carbon footprint.
8. Organize orientation programmes for the students to introduce them to the College and its values, rules and expectations, support systems such as BLISS, Placement cell etc. and other available support systems on the campus.

9. Awareness campaigns and ethically grounded programmes will be conducted to remind the students of the challenges and demands they have to encounter: drug and alcohol abuse, lurking dangers in the use of technology, especially communication technology, healthy male –female relationships, developing sensitivity to fellow human beings and nature.
10. Encourage activities under Physical Education Department to help students to stay fit and healthy with such programmes as Yoga exercises.
11. Each department will have a community extension program by which they can serve the local marginalized communities.

Strategic Development Goal –III

Course/Curriculum Development: The college currently follows the curriculum of its affiliating university (Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam). In tandem with the University curriculum the college will develop and provide supplementary/add-on/value-based courses.

Activities

1. Developing short term certificate/add-on/value-based courses as interdepartmental initiatives, linking professional bodies and organizations so that eventually they can later be plugged in to the UGC sponsored B.Voc programme.
2. The teachers are currently contributing to the curriculum development of various universities by being on the Board of Studies (BoS). University Syllabi are being prepared by the teachers as part of the New Education Policy.
3. A Centre for Continuing Education will be established and suitable courses and curricula will be designed to promote learning in the wider community.
4. Submit curriculum/syllabus proposals to the university to commence new courses and inter/multi-disciplinary and integrated programmes.
5. Develop syllabi and curricula for skill development courses with accreditation to professional bodies or industries.

Strategic Development Goal –IV

Student/Community Centric Paradigms: Teaching-learning activities should be made more **student and community centric**

Activities

1. Lesson plan for each day and Delivery Plan for each semester will be generated by the teachers.
2. Identify students with special needs or slow learners and reach out to them with tutorial and remedial measures; special tests will be provided to identify such students.
3. Before the beginning of semester classes necessary bridge courses will be designed and offered to slow learners to bring them into a common platform for a comfortable learning experience.

4. Identify gifted students and offer them challenging educational experiences that their maximum potential can be developed for his/her own satisfaction and the good of society.
5. Develop best practices by which academic activities can be turned into research activities to solve problems encountered in a specific community; turn learning into a discovery and a joy.
6. Help students to acquire additional knowledge by themselves through e-learning facilities (**SWAYAM, MOOC etc.**)
7. Encourage faculty to adopt any innovative teaching strategy based on Outcome Based Education (OBE) to make it more learner-centered which improves the student engagement.
8. Creatively extend one's knowledge to the community in solving some of its vexing issues through service-learning activities.
9. Revenue generation by taking up consultancy services to local industries, local self-governing institutions, and government schemes.
10. Student-appraisal of teachers will be shared with the peer group and strategy should be worked out to improve teaching-learning.
11. SSS graduating students will be conducted every year to learn of developing trends, areas of students' concerns and the needed course correction.
12. Few selected students at undergraduate and post graduate courses will be sent for On-the-Job training/project/internship to prestigious institutes like IISc Bangalore, NIMHANS, BARC, TIFR, NCL, Rajiv Gandhi Centre, Trivandrum, Bio-nest, Kakkanad and other industries.

Strategic Development Goal –V

Center for Research, Innovation and International Linkages (CRIIL): Facilitate educational research and policy studies, prepare the college to take on the challenges ahead, offer courses in cutting edge areas of knowledge and education and offer educational programmes for an international clientele.

Activities

1. Develop a center for research and instrumentation which will coordinate all research activities of various departments and can provide course work and interdepartmental consultation
2. This center will organize national international seminars and conferences annually or quarterly on cutting edge areas and also in areas that are extremely needed for our society.
3. An international journal will be published in collaboration with our international partners.
4. Since research equipment procured through the support of UGC, RUSA and other funding agencies cannot be housed in the respective departmental spaces and the only alternative is to develop an Instrumentation Center/Technology Centre where all these instruments can be kept which also would facilitate interdepartmental collaborations and research.

5. The Center will establish an Incubation Center with the help of Central government where research and innovation and entrepreneurship/start up initiatives can be promoted at the same time. Encourage college students to take up start-ups and incubate in the center
6. The center over a period of time will develop more and more industry/community linkages and be able to extend more and more consultancy services to industry, and the community and local self-governing institutions
7. The center will also initiate innovative educational programmes at the cutting edge areas of science and technology, which cannot be started as part of the main stream aided program
8. Establish and promote more and more international partnership and provide them a facility/an International House, to stay and pursue their studies and research work, thus making an international exchange of students and scholars possible.

Strategic Development Goal –VI

Maintenance and Development of Infrastructure: In order to cater to the growing educational needs of the student community, the college continues to improve its functioning by maintaining and developing its infrastructure.

Activities

1. Construct a state-of-the-art Library of international standards, providing electronic resources and facilitating e-learning. Create a hub of knowledge generation and exchange, extending knowledge to the community, and documenting of community resources.
2. Construction of a new Centenary Block and renovation of the Platinum Jubilee auditorium.
3. New Academic and Administrative blocks to be constructed.
4. Infrastructure enhancement of AB Block: a. International Seminar Hall b. Language lab c. Guests lobby d. Lecture halls.
5. Restore our heritage sites such as the Kachery Malika, gifted to us by the then Maharaja of Travancore (which remains a monument under the Archaeological Survey of India) the College Chapel, Chacko Hostel, Varkey Memorial Hall (VMA Hall), TB Ninan Hall etc. and provide a facelift to the class rooms and other physical amenities on the campus.
6. Establish smart class rooms in each department, a few smart seminar halls with different seating capacities. Make all class rooms ICT enabled class rooms.
7. Complete the construction of a Men's Hostel which also houses a Sports Hostel for men that finally accommodate 200 men students. Renovation of other hostels.
8. Initiate an Incubation Center supported by the Central government Start up/incubation promotion programmes.
9. A center for Research and Instrumentation.
10. Construction of an International Guest House and Study Centre for foreign guests/students.

11. Facelift for the whole campus under the mission, “**Green Campus, Clean Campus**” with the College maintaining and sharpening its natural ecosystem to make it look beautiful, abide by Green Protocol and remain a resource-efficient and low carbon campus.
12. Upgradation of sports facilities: a. renovation of the Basket Ball Court, Tennis court and Cricket ground. b. a gymnasium for staff and students

Strategic Development Goal –VII

A fully functioning Development office: Make the Development Office fully functional to act as nodal center for the integrated management of relationships to increase understanding and support among key constituents, including alumni and friends, industry, foundations and other funding sources, international partners, policy makers in government, the media, members of the community and other entities to further the strategic objectives of the college in integrating, transmitting and applying knowledge.

Activities

1. Develop a comprehensive alumni data base and interactive website.
2. Announce the detailed proposal for the Centenary Celebrations of the College.
3. Open Alumni chapters in different parts of the country and abroad.
4. Appoint a Development officer who would work under the guidance of the Manager of the College.
5. Plan for an international gathering of alumni as part of the Centenary Celebrations.
6. Establish contacts with corporate entities to secure their CSR funds for the completing the proposed projects associated with the centenary.
7. Extend corporate partnerships to enlarge industry linkages for research, startups and consultancy
8. Establish relationships with the Higher education Department of the Government of Kerala, Kerala Council for Higher Education, UGC, RUSA and other national and international educational agencies for increasing the Endowments, creative academic partnerships, greater international linkages

Strategic Development Goal – VIII

Extension & Ecological Programmes (SANKALP & VIKAS): The college engages in community extension activities, emphasizing neighborhood services, integrated with the curricula as opportunities intended to help, serve, reflect, and learn. Ecological conservation programmes will be organised to evoke environmental consciousness among the student-teacher community and the larger society. In Union Christian College these activities are clubbed under two **Best Practices**: a. **SANKALP** (Sustainable Action for Nature, Knowledge & Accountable Life Practices) b. **VIKAS** (Value-Based Interventions for Knowledgeable Action in Society)

SANKALP (Sustainable Action for Nature, Knowledge & Accountable Life Practices) exemplifies UCC's holistic approach to environmental stewardship, advocating responsible practices in waste management, energy conservation, sustainable food, and education. 'SANKALP' showcases the college's commitment to creating a sustainable and environmentally conscious campus and community.

VIKAS (Value-based Interventions for Knowledgeable Action in Society) resonates with the SDGs of quality education, gender equality, and partnership for the goals.

Activities

1. Install eco-friendly solar panels for power generation and initiate steps for energy conservation.
2. Improve water conservation and rain water harvesting practices (1 lakh litres unit with UBCHEA support functional)
3. Effective management of various types of degradable and non-degradable waste – use of vermicompost units.
4. Conduct Green/Environment, and Energy audits.
5. Organise clean/green, plastic-free campus initiatives.
6. Arrange Community Extension Activities in association with NCC, NSS, the hospitals, schools, and social organizations nearby, along with the various clubs of the college. Encourage the academic departments to conceptualize and implement subject related extension programmes.
7. Initiate MoUs, Collaborations and Linkages with professional bodies and educational institutions to facilitate extension activities.
8. Encourage social involvement with relief activities and disaster management programmes during natural calamities (Floods/Heavy rains etc.). Open facilities for relief camps if necessary.
9. Offer palliative care facilities.
10. Conduct blood donation/medical camps.
11. Offer psychological counseling and skill training to the wider community.
12. Offer free mid-day meals to the needy under the auspices of the *Thanalidam* project.
13. Enhance Service Learning activities by engaging with local schools, Special Schools, Handloom and Khadi initiatives, Kudumbashree etc.

Strategic Development Goal – IX

Optimal Use of Resources on the Campus: The College promotes maximum use of available resources on the campus and conservation of the same.

Activities

1. Space will be identified on the campus for UCC Media & PRO office.
2. Locations for organic farming/cultivation, to be managed by various departments, will be identified. The produce from these will be sold through THANALIDAM Eco Shop.

3. Collection of unused but useable dress/utility items will be organised by THANALIDAM Thrift Shop.
4. Students and Faculty will be motivated to contribute unused books to libraries/schools nearby.
5. Recycling of used materials into aesthetically appealing art/craft works and bags will be conducted by RANTHAL. The sale of such items will also be organised every year to promote awareness.
6. Students from nearby schools will be invited to the campus to attend special lectures and visit the labs and other facilities. This is to promote awareness about the scope of higher education.
7. As part of the energy conservation programme energy efficient equipments will be used in the college. Water conservation methods will be implemented effectively.

Strategic Development Goal – X

Wellness Philosophy & Culture: The college adheres to its mission statement of extending God’s love to all, by facilitating the growth of the whole person; intellectually, morally, spiritually, thereby drawing out the best in every person. The institution advocates a philosophy and culture of wellness towards realizing this goal, with programmes to enhance Emotional and Spiritual Intelligence(s).

Activities

1. Enrich the activities of the Centre for the Study of Religion and Society (CSRS) by including community exposure programmes and engagements with alternative life styles.
2. Conduct certificate programmes in peace building and promote interfaith and interreligious dialogue under the auspices of the Centre for Peace Studies and Dialogue (CPSD).
3. Offer value education programmes through the Centre for Value Education (CVE).
4. Co-ordinate INSPIRE life coaching sessions led by the INSPIRE team of the college.
5. The Guru Nityachaitanya Yati Chair will organise *Nityadarsanam Seminars* to propagate the spiritual vision and philosophy of Guru Nitya.
6. The Gandhi Darshan club will organize seminars, workshops and awareness programmes to promote Gandhian values.
7. Initiate Yoga club activities to promote wellbeing.
8. The Chapel and Student Christian Federation (SCF) of the college would organize camps, retreats and workshops to enhance spiritual and emotional wellbeing.

Evaluation

1. An academic auditing and evaluation done by the Advisory group for each Department
2. Submission of AQAR by each department and an IQAC initiated internal evaluation every year.
3. Evaluation by an expert team appointed by the Governing Board of the College

4. NAAC led evaluation

Conclusion

Union Christian College will be celebrating its centenary in 2021. The goals and objectives are geared to centenary and beyond; but the focus is on the centenary. It is believed that the momentum created associated with this mobilization will help the College to take off to another stage of developmental trajectory. Fundamental to this is the commitment of faculty and their determination. This is to facilitate active engagement of each department to develop their own departmental perspective plans that would creatively address the concerns and programs envisaged in this Perspective Plan for the College. Though 'Autonomy' for the College is not specifically stated in the goals or objectives, it is our conviction that a genuine effort to implement these actions will prepare the ground for the college to become an autonomous entity or a Center of Excellence or a deemed to be University.



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