

Report of the July Alumni Meet 2019

The July Alumni Meet of Union Christian College, Aluva was held at the Mithrapuram Hall on 13 July 2019. The meeting discussed the Centenary Vision document and all contributed towards creating a road map.

Members Present

1. Dr. David Saj Mathew, Principal, Associate Professor, Department of Botany
2. Rev. Prof. Thomas John, Manager, Retired faculty, Department of Psychology
3. Dr. Jenee Peter, OSA Executive Secretary, Assistant Professor, Department of History
4. Lal Paul, OSA Executive Member
5. Jaison Paniskulanagara, OSA Executive Member
6. Dr. Jenish Paul, Assistant Professor, Department of Chemistry
7. Mr. Varghese Paul, Staff, U.C College
8. Mr. Ashokan, Junior Supt, U.C College
9. Prof K. Govindankutty Menon, Retired faculty, Department of Physics
10. Dr. C A. Antony, Retired faculty, Department of Economics, MBA
11. Dr. Varghese John, Former Principal, Retired faculty, Department of English
12. Dr. Jyothi Mariam John, Retired faculty, Department of Chemistry
13. Dr. Cyriac George, Kuwait
14. Krishnan Menon, Sacramento, California, USA
15. Unnikrishnan Nair BC
16. Col. P Krishnan Nair
17. P O. Devassy
18. Radhakrishnan M
19. Ms. Subi Susan
20. Abraham
21. P R. Reghu
22. Fr. Joy Vadakumchery
23. Dr. Joemon Pappachan
24. Ms. Arathy Madhav
25. Justin George

Dr. Jenee Peter welcomed the gathering, Principal Dr. David Saj Mathew spoke on the present status of the college and its increasing relevance. The manager initiated a discussion with all members introducing themselves and sharing their vision for the college. Then the Manager presented the Centenary Vision document. The meeting started at 10.30 AM and ended at 2.00 PM. It was followed by lunch.

Suggestions from the Discussion on Centenary Vision

1. Should develop more interpersonal relationship with alumni and the nostalgia for College mainly hostel and choir were reaffirmed.

2. The alumni chapters reports and Chapter level meetings
3. Efficient website communication, creation of database, identify active members from each chapter/ what app group admins such as Snehatheeram and Globalucians. Registration should be online, with permission to access their batch mates and add photos and edit profile once their membership is approved by the admin.
4. Chapters to be represented in the OSA Executive Committee.
5. Class Alumni gatherings can be restricted to the months of July and November- increase participation in both November and July Meets as relationships were not confined to classrooms. Use social media for publicity and add personal touch.
6. Reset the clock and to celebrate 100 years we should have 100 great personalities visiting the campus which can include foreign nationals too. UC has a unique vision and the vision and value of UC should be introduced among the chapters, alumni and present students
7. Focus on rebuilding relationships through the alumni meets.
8. Organize Dubai alumni meet or Kuwait alumni meet or so and giving publicity to such events through the radio etc.
9. Club centenary with Mahatma Celebrations for more news value.
10. Ten/ hundred students or families from Harijan Settlement can be adopted by the alumni.
11. Alumni will contribute only if solid plans are presented to them with clarity.
12. Prof. Govindankutty Menon reminded that UCC management is not rigid in approach and should become a deemed university instead of autonomous college. Teachers should be able to touch the lives of students as Kuttipuzha Sir and others did.
13. Arathi Babu the youngest participant who did MSc Chemistry spoke of how she felt she was unprepared for the 'nostu' (nostalgia) yet and would like to seek company of friends and reconnect with them in the Reunion meetings. One three women participated in this meet but she reminded that there are 85% girl students in the campus and how the campus should be redone with these majority girl students from rural households in mind.
14. Dr. Jenish Paul reminded us of the merit appointments in the College and how the infrastructure lags behind and the alumni support is critical in providing facilities to students to do learning effectively. Mr. Ashokan, Justin and Jenee supported the immediate planning for improving infrastructure on a priority to class rooms.
15. Rev. Thomas John said that most students are keen to renew their relations but reluctant to connect with the college. The Chapters in many cities are not having a formal link with U C College. Email ideas to revthomasjohn@gmail.com and support.ucc@uccollege.edu.in. The high impact project is a world class library with a budget of 4 crores though the detailed project report is will be ready by September and will be presented in full form for the November Reunion Meet 2019. Sponsorships of small spaces by alumni and Corporates is the plan. Among the 100 personalities we can have Amartya Sen and Gopalkrishna Gandhi.
16. An International House is required for coordinating the international students, service learning and faculty exchange.
17. Infrastructure development includes, Library, classrooms and student services. Besides, there are improvements required where physical space is not required but broadening of our horizons is required.

18. To implement the Centenary Vision a Development Officer should be appointed who has a vision and passion to execute ideas. Office is already there. Regarding receiving funds, the college will make arrangements with banks and FCRA office.
19. Staff of the College have expressed their willingness to contribute financially to the Centenary projects apart from developing the vision at department level and executing them.
20. Col. Krishnan Nair said the Perspective Plan for the college should be done by an expert planner. Once the plan is well conceived, then money and support will come automatically from the alumni with a magic touch from UCC.
21. Dr. Jenee Peter spoke about OSA being inclusive with members from various chapters, department and decades of the college. The little changes that can bring big differences can be implemented by the college at the department level. The aims of centenary vision shall be to help alumni reconnect with the college and present students be provided exemplary learning and valued driven opportunities to excel in life. The overall aim is to stay relevant for another 100 years.

OSA Executive Secretary

Aluva

15 July 2019