

**Report of**  
**THE PEER TEAM**  
**On**  
**Institutional Accreditation of**  
**S.M.Patel College of Home Science**  
**Affiliated to Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidya Nagar**

**March 14<sup>th</sup> -15<sup>th</sup> , 2007**

**Section 1: Introduction**

Shivabhai Marghabhai Patel College of Home Science is one of the 36 educational institutions established by Charutar Vidya Mandal founded in 1945 by a few dedicated people like Bhaikaka and Bhikhabhai, inspired by Shri. Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel for empowerment of rural population. The college started on 15<sup>th</sup> June, 1971 to promote education for women with aim of "Personal Enrichment and Profession Development of young women", is affiliated to Sardar Patel University, Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat. The enlightened management of the college has a conviction that Home Science education has the potential of turning women into most effective resource for any country. It is a grant-in-aid college and recognized by UGC under 2(F) & 12 (B) since 8-9-1975.

Over a period of 36 years, it has carved out niche in five specializations in Home Science- Family Resource Management, Foods and Nutrition, Food Science and Quality Control, Human Development, Textiles and Clothing and Composite Home Science. In addition, two Post Graduate diploma and one certificate courses are offered.

The college volunteered to be assessed by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) and submitted its self-study report to the NAAC in January 2007. The NAAC constituted a Peer Team consisting of Prof. Geervani P., Former Vice Chancellor, Sri Padmavathi Mahila Vishva Vidyalayam, Andhra Pradesh as a Chairperson of the NAAC team; Prof. Vibhuti Patel, Head, Department of Economics and Director, Department of Post Graduates Studies and Research, SNTD Women's University,

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Mumbai as a member coordinator of the NAAC team and Dr. S. Kumuda, Principal, Bharathidasan Government College for Women (Autonomous), Puducherry as a member of the NAAC team. The Peer team visited the college and its various departments for the validation of the self-study report on 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2007. The team visited all the departments and observed the facilities available, interacted with students, parents, Alumini, teaching and non-teaching staff and Management. The report of the peer team is presented in accordance with the criteria identified by NAAC.

The college is located in semi-urban area of Anand District of Gujarat. It is spread over 1.78 acres of land and the plinth area of the college building is 5783 Sq. Mts. The college has 15 permanent teachers and 8 teachers working temporarily on a contract basis. Six teachers have Ph.D. degree and 5 teachers have cleared UGC NET & SLET examinations. The college has 17 teaching, 12 non-teaching employees on its pay roll.

As against sanctioned strength of 220, the intake in the current academic year is 209 in 2006-2007 and total strength is 543. It is noticed that there is slow drop in the number of students admitted and the team is informed that the drop is due to diversion of students to other courses. The college has initiated a number of certificates and diploma programmes which have enrolled 188 students. There are 63 students perusing self-finance Post Graduate course offered by IGNOU.

In Foods and Nutrition and Family Resource Management Departments, there are 89 students doing UG course; while in Human Development and Textiles & Clothing Departments 85 and 48 students respectively. The unit cost of education, including salary component is Rs. 13800/- and excluding salary component is Rs. 925/-. The college follows the semester system for under-graduate programmes. The college functions for 224 days of which teaching days are 195.

## **Section 2: Criterion-wise Analysis**

### **Criterion I: Curricular Aspects**

Academic programmes and courses are governed by goals of imparting knowledge and skills for intellectual growth, academic and professional excellence and sensitivity

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towards ecology and environment among students through training and value orientation. The last updating of the curriculum was done in the year 2003.

The college started with composite home Science programme at UG level in 1971 and added UG programme in Foods and Nutrition and Family Resource Management in 1976, Human Development in 1977, Textiles & Clothing in 1980 and vocational course in Food Science & Quality Control in 1995.

The college has praiseworthy outreach programmes, the benefits of these programmes get reflected in the curriculum. Introduction of the self-finance degree, certificate and diploma courses is welcome. Provision could be made so that the present students also benefit from these programmes as add on courses. Students from disadvantaged communities are offered economic support; extra hours of teaching, reduction in fees and counseling. The college has integrated gender component, Competency & skill oriented professional courses have been introduced during 1974-80. However facilities required for offering these courses are not adequate to face the professional needs of imparting skills for a national/ global level competition. Most courses lay emphasis on women's empowerment. The curriculum is relevant & meets the needs of the society. The curriculum has been developed following UGC guidelines. The curriculum provides for horizontal & vertical mobility.

The faculty could have done better by introducing interdisciplinary studies and choice based credit system. Introduction of a self-financing course in Food Science & Quality Control is a step towards progress. Since last two years, the college has developed an appropriate scale proforma for students' feedback on course and teachers and for self appraisal of staff. However, feedback from the community, government institutions, industries etc are collected on an informal basis.

### **Criterion II: Teaching –Learning and Evaluation**

The college has a transparent admission procedure and follows state government and university norms. Number of application received has been less than the number of seats available in the programme. In order to help the student from vernacular medium, a remedial course in English provided by the teachers. However, it is not a structured

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programme. The department has made efforts to make learning more effective by introducing different methods in the II and III year of the courses, such as field visit, project, seminar and group discussion. All department are equipped with an OHP.

Library facilities are well utilized. Internet facilities are utilized to a limited extent. Practical curriculum is good, but there is scope for improving facilities for practical by upgrading laboratory facilities. Students are sent on field visits and internship outside the college, but evaluation of this experiential learning needs to be improved and made objective. Out of 25 Staff, 19 are Permanent and six are on adhoc basis. Six teachers have Ph.D. degree. The team observed that the FIP facility has not been utilized by the teachers. The student teacher ratio is 25:1 .

Since 2005, evaluation of teachers by students is carried out, analysed and the principal communicates the content to the respective teachers. The performance of the students is evaluated through continuous assessment by fixing a minimum to be scored in internal assessment with maximum transparency. External assessment is taken care of by the university. The weightage of internal & external evaluation is 30:70.

The team observed the strength of English class to be exceeding 100 which is not conducive for teaching language especially when students need extra attention for improvement of English Language. The college follows the reservation as per the government norms.

The college prepares a teaching schedule, which is followed through the academic year. In all the departments, field exposure/ industrial visits is an integral part of the curricula. Surprise quiz, assignments, project work and presentations are used as assessment tools. English proficiency and remedial classes for educationally disadvantaged students are held periodically. The ratio of teaching and non-teaching staff is 1.4. Almost all the teaching staff has attended some developmental programme or other in the past 2 years. The college has carried out some evaluation reforms.

### **Criterion III- Research, Consultancy and Extension**

The college is active in research. The research committee comprising of the principal, research coordinator and secretary of Charutar Vidya Mandal monitors funded

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researches. It promotes students participation in research through involvement in surveys and questionnaire formation. The college provides facilities for a major research. Currently a research project is conducted by two teachers of Department of Family Resource Management sponsored by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. Head of the Department of Textiles & Clothing has been awarded a prize by S.P. University, Vallabh Vidya Nagar in February, 2003 for her paper on “A Study on Garment Designing for Physically Handicapped Children”. Two teachers of the college have authored books at high school level. Foods and Nutrition department of the college is providing consultancy services for the Department of the School Education, Department of Women and Child Welfare and Forest Departments of the state government. The Department of Human Development is providing consultancy for NGOs. Some of the faculty members are serving as resource persons to government which is commendable.

All the departments of the college have extension activities that involve students to work for community. They make community aware about latest technologies to develop entrepreneurial skill of the villagers. Under NSS, college neighbourhood network is established through activities such as Flower-Doll-Soft Toy Making and Dying technique as an income generating activity. Awareness for Nutrition, health & hygiene practice is imparted through folk methods. The college promotes students’ participation in Tree Plantation and Blood donation Camp and other such Camps. The college organizes training of ICDS staff, Bal-Sevikas, weavers and other poverty groups. A training centre with hostel facility has been established for training field functionaries. In all, the college has established linkages with eight NGOs, five industries, five institutions and four Universities. These linkages are on an informal basis to facilitate students and teachers to do project work and internship. This has contributed to effective teaching and learning.

**Criterion IV- Infrastructure and Learning Resources**

The college has adequate, well ventilated and spacious class rooms, moderately equipped laboratories, Library, Canteen and students’ room. Sports and Hostel facilities common for all the 36 colleges under Charutar Vidya Mandal located in the same campus are

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shared. The management has entrusted the responsibility of sports and hostel to separate appointed for the purpose by the management. Sports field is very vast and located close to the college. (Hostels are spacious but the cleanliness of the dining and kitchen areas need to be improved.)

The Library has an advisory committee to provide guidelines concerning library awareness purchase of books and journals and proper utilization of services. However, it is spacious to accommodate the students. The library needs to add more latest-editions of reference books and text books.

The college has a computer center with 24 computers. All classes have 2 credit course on computer application and the students have access to the computer for 2 hours in a week. A common health center established by the management provides primary and referral services. It houses a study center of IGNOU and conducts M.Sc. Dietetics and Food Service Management course since 2005. The college facilitates, placement of students by organizing campus recruitment and informing students about job opportunities and encourages students to participate in inter- institution competition.

#### **Criterion V- Student support and Progression**

The college has been unable to admit a full strength over the last five years. Its success rate is 95% to 100% and drop out rate is seven to 10%. Nearly 30% of the students go for higher studies and 30% seek self employment.

The college publishes and regularly updates prospectus and handbooks providing information about the vision, mission and objective of the trust.

The SC and ST students are given scholarship and accommodated in a separate hostel run by the government. Academic and personal counseling are provided by teachers constantly. Around 30 students per faculty member are allotted for counseling purpose. The college is fortunate to have alumni who are influential and supportive. Their contribution towards college is in terms of funding, services and help in increasing students' strength. Several extra curriculum activities are encouraged.

The college has a grievance redressal cell for students. The college has promoted programmes for personality development and legal literacy of students.

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## Criterion VI – Organization and Management

The governing body of the management meets once in a month and gives necessary direction and advice to the principal. Principal is chairperson of the staff council that carries out functions through staff committees. Support provided by the management, leadership of principal, cooperation of staff are commendable. A congenial atmosphere is noticed by the team in functioning of college. Student interaction revealed that there is constant counseling specially, of the first year students.

The college administration adopts various measures to improve its functioning through transparent academic and administrative plans. Transparency is ensured at every level as the decisions are taken after a thorough discussion among the management, principal, teaching and non-teaching staff. As per the suggestions received in the meetings, the plans are implemented or modified.

The board of management approves the annual budget of which 95% is spent on salaries and five % is spent on operational expenses during 2005-06. Of 21 faculty positions, five are vacant and filled on an adhoc basis on a consolidated salary. As it the policy of Government of Gujarat, to give free education for women, no tuition fee is charged. Even, special fee such as laboratory and library fee, etc., prescribed by the government is very low to meet the needs. The government is seen to contribute @ Rs. 75/- per student per annum towards recurring expenses of the college which is insufficient. The management makes good by contributing three to five lakhs to meet recurring expenses. Unit cost per student is Rs. 13800/- with salary and Rs. 925/-without salary. The budget is approved by the management and the principal has freedom to spend the allocated funds. Internal and external audit are carried out regularly.

The college has received UGC grant of Rs. 12.33 lakhs for the introduction of vocational course in Food Science during 1996-2000 towards Building and Equipment. In the Ninth Plan, UGC has provided Rs. 23.05 lakhs out of which 18.7 lakhs was spent on canteen building and the rest on equipments and books. During the 10<sup>th</sup> Plan, the college received 8.8 lakhs towards library books, laboratory and extension equipments and PTAC. There has been no input over the last 10 years by the state government towards the equipment

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and library. With discontinuation of grant for vocational course by UGC, the course has been converted into self-finance course since 2000 and no additional facility has been created since then.

The college strictly adheres to the academic calendar prepared by the University and maintains the confidential reports of staff, which are considered during their promotion.

Over and above self appraisal by the teaching and non-teaching staff, the institution appraises the performance of the teaching staff. The performance is announced in the staff-meeting and during the annual day. The college has also conducted student feedback.

#### **Criterion VII - Healthy Practices**

- The college has made the computer course a compulsory subject at the UG level.
- The college plans, implements various co-curricular activities. Counseling sessions and popular lectures are organized for the benefit of students.
- The staff is encouraged to join orientation courses, refresher courses, workshops, seminars and IT enabled teaching-learning and administrative courses.
- Civic responsibilities are inculcated through N.S.S. and N.C.C. activities, community based extension programmes.
- Educational trips to various Industries, Welfare agencies, Hotels, Hospitals, Conferences, Exhibitions, NGO organisations, industries etc. are arranged for students to facilitate participatory learning.
- The institutional ambiance is conducive for academic excellence provided staff integrates IQAC into the system.
- Most of the staff have computer skills and are found to use internet facility.

#### **Overall Analysis**

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The vision and dedication of Charutar Vidya Mandal to the cause of women's education and the creation of infrastructure conducive to the development of young students in semi-rural area is highly commendable. The fact that the home science education was considered important for development of women and society speaks of the vision of the founders.

The college has made a good start by opening opportunities for students to seek admission in specialized vocational courses since 1974. However it did not keep pace with the needs of the specialization in terms of strengthening the laboratories, library and curriculum options.

The Management's readiness to find resources and availability of the scientific & technical competency on campus offers a great potential for achieving academic excellence in vocational courses of the college.

### **Recommendations**

The Peer Team, after studying the self-study report and visiting the college makes the following recommendations:

- The college must make the effort to communicate to the people about the prospects of the courses offered by the college so as to attract larger number of students and to make courses viable.
- Counseling of students before admission and selection of the students by aptitude test will enable students to make right choices.
- The departments may strive to get formal MOUs with institution which can provide participatory experience to the students.
- The college should have greater thrust in curriculum on entrepreneurship development as most students are drawn from families oriented towards enterprise and are interested in self employed.

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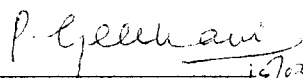
- On an experimental basis one or two department can start production cum training centers so that the students get entrepreneurial experience along with technology.
- The staff with research degree should make efforts to get funds for research by submitting proposals and seeking grant from different funding agencies such as UGC, DST, Ministry of HRD, Ministry of Women and Child Development, CSIR, etc. It will strengthen teaching and open avenues for offering new courses.
- Certificate course on the Micro Enterprise Management can be introduced to strengthen students' capability and confidence.
- Communication skills, soft skill development, personality development interaction with industry and government need to receive attention of faculty and management.
- Nutrition & Diet counseling, Family counseling, Adolescent Counseling, Enterprise counseling and Career Counseling centers may be established on the campus which can facilitate to build confidence among students.
- Methodology for field work and internship evaluation must be developed by the teachers through organizing workshops.
- Advocacy material for Extension activity and outreach programme such as Pamphlets, Poster, Booklets, training material, CDs, DVDs in local languages must be prepared to harness creative potential of the students and disseminate the to the community.
- The college can start B.Sc. programme in Extension Education as it can compliment other U.G. programmes. The college may also attempt to introduce inter disciplinary programmes.

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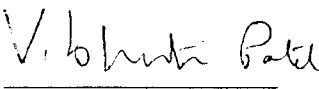
- The college should have permanent exhibition on home science areas to enable the public get acquainted with latest development in areas of home science. this will enable the college to attract good number of students.

The Peer Team thanks the management, Principal and faculty for their co-operation to the team and is confident that the college will be able to accomplish its objectives of nurturing the innovative entrepreneur abilities and thereby ensure self confidence and social economic value addition to the life of the students. The team wishes this college a bright future.


*Names and signatures of the members of the Peer Team*

  
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Prof. Geervani P.  
(Chairperson)

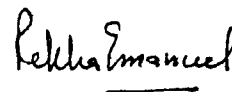


Prof. Vibhuti Patel  
(Member Coordinator)

  
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Dr. S. Kumuda  
(Member)

I have gone through the report and concur with the views expressed in the report.



PRINCIPAL  
S.M. PATEL COLLEGE OF  
HOME SCIENCE  
V. V. NAGAR-388120

Signature & Seal of Head of the Institution

Date: March 15, 2007

Place: Vallabh Vidyanagar

