

## **JESCOL I PROGRAMME**

The Jescol I programme was held from November 4-6, 2024, at the SJU campus for new faculty, hosting 85 participants. The event began with a prayer and lamp lighting, with Fr. Dr. Victor Lobo SJ encouraging faculty collaboration for a stronger team at SJU. Fr. Swebert D'Silva SJ (Rector) introduced the essence of Jescol I, followed by a session on "Group Dynamics and Team Building" by Fr. Joel Fernandes SJ. Through icebreakers and team activities, the session fostered open communication and interdepartmental rapport, laying the foundation for a collaborative spirit.

Fr. Denzil Lobo SJ presented a talk on "Jesuit History: Origins and Growth," followed by Fr. Charles Lasrado SJ's insights into the Jesuit legacy, covering purpose, vision, and mission, highlighting educators' transformative impact. The day concluded with a panel discussion moderated by Dr. Joyce D'Souza, where experienced faculty from Jesuit institutions shared insights into collaboration within the Jesuit community, emphasizing personal growth, dedication, and service.

Day 2 started with Mr. Clement D'Souza SJ's talk on "Characteristics of Jesuit Education," emphasizing critical thinking, social responsibility, and compassion. Fr. Pradeep Crasta SJ presented on "Jesuits and Spiritual Exercises," discussing the role of spirituality in Jesuit life. Fr. Olvin Veigas SJ's session on "Contemporary Indian Situation" addressed India's socio-economic issues and the Jesuit commitment to peace, justice, and education. Fr. Arun Luis SJ then spoke on "Jesuits and Option for the Poor," focusing on outreach programs to instill values of social concern in students. The day concluded with group discussions on Ignatian principles and collaboration, with leaders summarizing key points around principles like Cura Personalis and Magis, classroom implementation, and collaboration strategies.

Day 3 featured talks on "Collaboration" by Fr. Joseph D'Mello SJ and "Jesuit Leadership and Governance" by Fr. Denzil Lobo SJ, who highlighted Jesuit leadership pillars of self-awareness, ingenuity, love, and heroism, as well as the vows guiding Jesuit service. Fr. D'Mello then led a meditative session and reflective exercises on the Examen of Conscience (EC), a tool for self-awareness and growth, guiding participants through a process of reflection on personal and professional experiences.

The program concluded with faculty reflections. Participants shared personal growth experiences, with a focus on Jesuit values' impact on teaching and teamwork. The session closed with gratitude for the organizers and speakers, leaving attendees inspired by the Jesuit commitment to holistic education, social justice, and ethical leadership.