

XAVIER BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA

XXV TRIENNIAL CONFERENCE 2025

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18 - 21 **OCTOBER, 2025**

AT

ST ALOYSIUS (DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY), MANGALORE, KARNATAKA



To: The Member Institutions of Xavier Board of Higher Education in India represented by the Respective Heads of the Institutions.

Subject: Xavier Board XXV Triennial Conference 2025

Respected Vice Chancellors, Secretaries/ Directors/ Managers/ Correspondents/ Principal's and XB Networking Coordinators,

Warm greetings from the Xavier Board of Higher Education in India!

We are pleased to invite you to the **XXV Triennial Conference** of the Xavier Board, to be held from **October 18th – 21st, 2025** at the historic and vibrant campus of St Aloysius (Deemed to be) University, Mangalore, Karnataka.

The Theme for the XXV Triennial is: "Empowering minds, Embracing Change: Reimagining Higher Education for a Global Tomorrow".

In a world marked by rapid transformation and global interdependence, Catholic Higher Education must evolve to meet emerging needs while staying rooted in its foundational values. The theme — "Empowering Minds, Embracing Change: Reimagining Higher Education for a Global Tomorrow"—urges Institutions to cultivate critical thinking, creativity, and global citizenship. It calls for innovative pedagogy, Institutional adaptability, and reaffirmation of Catholic education's mission as a beacon of hope and leadership. This conference invites visionaries to co-create a future that is spiritually grounded, intellectually dynamic, and socially inclusive through dialogue, reflection, and strategic collaboration.

Established in 1951 with a humble yet visionary foundation, the **Xavier Board of Higher Education in India** has steadily evolved over the past 74 years, uniting Catholic Higher Education Institutions across the country. Rooted in Gospel values, the Board has consistently nurtured these Institutions through its Annual and Triennial Conferences creating vital spaces for dialogue, mutual learning, and the pursuit of excellence.

In its commitment to inclusive leadership, the Xavier Board has embraced decentralized governance across Institutional, regional, and national levels, including the Executive Board and Committee. As we prepare to host the historic XXV Triennial Conference, it is a defining moment to reflect on our journey and envision the transformative changes ahead.

St Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangaluru, is a distinguished institution founded in 1880 and steeped in a 145-year Jesuit legacy. Situated atop Light House Hill with sweeping views of the Arabian Sea, the University offers a serene academic setting enriched by historical architecture and vibrant learning. Managed by the Mangalore Jesuit Educational Society, it fosters intellectually competent, ethically grounded, and socially responsible individuals through a diverse array of undergraduate, postgraduate, law, engineering, and doctoral programs. It nurtures not only skilled professionals but also compassionate citizens who contribute meaningfully to society.

Guided by its motto *Lucetet Ardet* ("Shine to Enkindle"), the University is part of a global Jesuit educational network spanning over 105 countries. It was conferred the status of Deemed to be University on 19 January 2024, enabling enhanced academic autonomy and expanded research opportunities. Its commitment to excellence is reflected in its A++ NAAC accreditation with a CGPA of 3.67/4 and a 58th - place ranking in the NIRF 2024 list of Indian Colleges.

St Aloysius University aspires to be a global center for transformative education, rooted in faith, justice, and service. Through interdisciplinary learning, innovation, and social engagement, it continues to shape future leaders committed to building a just and sustainable world.

The Xavier Board's Triennial Conference, held every three years, is a vital forum where member institutions unite to share ideas, innovations, and values that advance Catholic Higher Education in India. It fosters meaningful collaboration—nationally and internationally—while empowering new office bearers to lead collectively. This dynamic platform promotes learning, vision building, and rapid growth by connecting emerging Institutions with established centers of excellence and heritage.

It is with great joy that we invite you to participate in the XXV Triennial Conference of the Xavier Board of Higher Education in India, a landmark occasion celebrating our enduring journey of faith, learning, and collaboration. The Conference will be hosted at St. Aloysius (Deemed to be University), Mangalore—a vibrant cradle of culture and scholarship—beginning with the Holy Mass at 4.00 PM noon on October 18th and concluding by noon on October 21st, 2025. Following the conference, participants are welcome to enjoy a curated sightseeing experience to explore the rich heritage of Mangalore. You may make your Travel arrangements accordingly. The detailed program schedule will follow. We look forward to your gracious presence at this historic gathering, as we reflect, share, and envision a future of Catholic Higher Education that inspires transformation and unity.

Mangalore, nestled between the Western Ghats and the Arabian Sea, boasts a rich cultural mosaic of Tulu, Konkani, and Beary traditions. Its vibrant festivals, historic temples, and coastal trade legacy reflect deeprooted heritage. The city contributes to nation-building through education, entrepreneurship. It celebrates Yakshagana theatre, Pilivesha (Tiger Dance), Bhuta Kola rituals, and Kambala buffalo races. The city's cuisine, churches, and festivals reflect centuries of spiritual depth, artistic expression.



Global Bridges Initiative: Xavier Board International Networking

Unlock a world of possibility through strategic partnerships with leading universities in USA and beyond. Formal MOUs—coupled with student and faculty exchanges, joint research and curriculum development—offer Xavier Board members a transformative opportunity to advance global academic collaboration.

Xavier Board invites its member institutions to explore transformative global partnerships, echoing the rising global emphasis on sustainability, ecological consciousness, and cross-border cooperation. Universities worldwide are reshaping their missions to address planetary well-being through joint research, integrated curricula, and collaborative innovation. Indian Catholic Higher Educational Institutions are called to align with this momentum. There will be opportunities to interact with representatives and check the possibilities to venture into international collaboration in the venue or later with Universities in Asia and beyond that can drive faculty and student exchanges, dual-degree programs, and resource sharing. As we approach Triennial 2025, participants are urged to come prepared to co-create a globally aware academic ecosystem that enriches learning and strengthens visibility.

Let's lead together

Some of the Notable attractions in and around are



The **St. Aloysius Chapel** in Mangaluru was built by Jesuit missionaries in 1880 and its interiors painted by the Italian Jesuit Antonio Moscheni in 1899. Bro. Antonio took two and a half years to complete the work in Mangalore. He prepared the paints himself using vegetable dyes. One can only wonder how he managed to put up the high scaffoldings to go up to the ceiling.



Church of Our Lady of Rosary of Mangalore or Rosario Cathedral is a Roman Catholic cathedral in the Roman Catholic Diocese of Mangalore, dedicated to Our Lady of the Rosary. It was the first Roman Catholic Church in the Canara region. It is the oldest church in Karnataka.



Gadaikallu, also known as Jamalabad Fort, is a hill fort located near Belthangady in Dakshina Kannada, Karnataka. It's known for its historical significance, being built by Tipu Sultan, and as a trekking destination. The fort is situated on a granite hill, with steps carved into the rock face leading to the top.



The Basadi was built by the local chieftain, Devaraya Wodeyar in 1430 and took 32 years to complete additions to temples were made in 1962. The shrine has a 50 feet tall monolith manasthambha erected by Karkala Bhairava Queen Nagala Devi.

BEAUTY OF Mangalore WITH Beaches and Hélls







An Expression of Identity and Joy Together, Pilivesha, Yakshagana, and Kambala form the vibrant heart of South Canara's culture. These practices speak of faith, folklore, physicality, and artistry, weaving a legacy that continues to shape identity, foster unity, and bring joy across generations.

Important Guidelines for XB Triennial 2025 Registration

- 1. The **registration for the XB Triennial will begin on 5th August, 2025** and will be closed on 10th September, 2025
- 2. Each member Institution is encouraged to register three representatives: (Director/ Secretary/ Manager, the Principal, and one faculty member).
- 3. Accommodation is availed for delegates from 18th to 21st October, 2025. Delegates are allowed to choose as per convenience.
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 4. Delegates will not receive receipt separately, as you will receive online acknowledgement upon successful payment.
- 5. Once the registration for the Triennial is confirmed, refund will not be entertained.
- 6. To ensure seamless participation, registration is open for over a month. Therefore, all the participants ensure to complete registration before 10th September, 2025.
- 7. Log in to <u>xavierboard.org</u> and under the **Registration tab** (Register for Triennial Conference 2025).

Kindly mark your calendar and save the date and make travelling arrangements. Confirm your participation at the earliest to help us to go ahead with the other arrangements.

Looking forward to see you and hear from you.

With warm Wishes and Regards

(Dr Sr Deepthi UFS)

Secretary General,

Xavier Board, Bangalore - 25