

## **Visit to St.John St.Benedict University, Minnesota**

Prof.Amitava Roy

Dean, Department of Business Administration,  
St.Xavier's College, Kolkata -16

The visit to College of St.Benedict and St.John University, Minnesota, commenced from 2 Oct,2011 and ended on 29 Oct,2011. This was the first such visit with 9 students, 3 each from the Department of Political Science, Sociology and Business Administration. This visit was an eye opener for our students and they gained immensely, both academically and culturally. The visit also led to the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the two institutions. The major highlights of this visit and the MOU are as follows,

### A. From the perspective of the two institutions

1. Both the institutions are extremely satisfied with the way the partnership has progressed. The ultimate objective will be to have semester exchanges between the two colleges. CSBSJU is a top rated institute in Minnesota, USA and they have an equal appreciation for St.Xavier's. However, due to the higher cost of education in the USA as compared to India and St.Xavier's still not being able to adopt a flexible curriculum, as in the cafeteria system, in the short run this 1 month exchange from our side will continue.

2. Both the institutions have tremendous opportunities in the field of research (in particular,chemistry,physics,micro-biology and biotechnology and environmental science). Besides, the management department too has a lot of opportunities in collaborative research. I will convene a committee soon to explore this further. My vision is to make undergraduate research a reality.

3. I personally feel that faculty exchanges and joint publications by the faculties of the two institutions should also be pursued. In addition to this, student research at the undergraduate level may also be encouraged. The opportunities are immense and boundless.

### B. From the perspective of the students

1. Students have appreciated the exposure they got and the academic atmosphere that exist there. They were overwhelmed by the infrastructural facilities, interactive classes and the home stay experience with the American students.

2. Students have also expressed the willingness to work in campus when they are at CSBSJU.



College of St.Benedict



Students of SXC in Minnesota