

University Profile & Fact Sheet



**University of Kerala
2017**

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FACT SHEET

UNIVERSITY OF KERALA



1	Name of University	University of Kerala
2	Year of Establishment	01-11-1937 (16 th University in India)
3	Chancellor	Governor of Kerala
4	Pro-Chancellor	Minister for Education, Govt. of Kerala
5	Vice-Chancellor	Prof. P.K. Radhakrishnan
6	Statutory Bodies	Syndicate (26 members), Senate (103), Academic Council (119)
7	Charter	Kerala University Act of 1974 (Act 17 of 1974). Earlier governed by Travancore University Act of 1937 and Kerala University Act of 1957.
8	UGC Recognition	Recognized under section 2(f) and 12 (b)
9	Type	Multi-disciplinary University
10	Source of funding	Govt. of Kerala Grants, UGC Grants, Internal Revenue
11	Motto	<i>Karmani Vyajyate Prajna</i> (Wisdom manifests in action)
12	Website	www.keralauniversity.ac.in
13	e-mail	registrar@keralauniversity.ac.in
14	Telephone	0091-471-2305631(Registrar)
15	NIRF Ranking (2016)	29 th among Universities, 47 th in overall category
16	World Rankings (THES)	Ranked in the band 800-1000
17	NAAC Accreditation	Re-accredited with 'A' Grade with GPA of 3.03, up to 1.3.20
18	Address	The Registrar, University of Kerala Palayam, Thiruvananthapuram - 695 034, Kerala, India
19	No. of Schools	9
20	No. of Departments	42 (Science and Technology: 16; Social Sciences: 14; Arts and Humanities: 11) + School of Distance Education.
21	No. of Faculties (Subject Groups)	16 Arts, Commerce, Education, Fine Arts, Law, Management, Oriental Studies, Science, Applied Sciences & Technology, Social Sciences , Engineering & Technology, Physical Education, Ayurveda & Siddha, Homeopathy, Medicine, Dentistry (<i>University has Departments in 10 of these only, shown in bold</i>).
22	Administrative Branches	General Administration, Examination, Finance,

		Planning & Development, College Development Council, Engineering, Public Relations
23	Administrative Staff	Registrar (1), Controller (1), Finance Officer(1), Other Officers (10), Joint Registrar (7), Deputy Registrar (20), Asst. Registrar (54), Section Officer (271), Assistant cadre (740), Office Superintend (57) Others(Technical, Security etc) = 290, Contract (251), Non-Teaching Contract employees in UIT,UIM etc. (96)
24	e-Governance	e-tendering, e-Certificate verification, Online Admission, Digital signature, Office Automation, Bio-metric attendance system, Campus wide CCTV surveillance, Paperless examination process, Separate online portals.
25	Water usage	The University has constructed 3 mega wells as a part of rain water harvesting, by which the usage of water from Kerala Water Authority has considerably reduced.
26	Average Electricity usage	Normal Usage : 9000 units/month Peak Usage : 25000 units/month Off-peak Usage : 45000 units/month Charges : Rs.11 lakhs/month
27	Power Station (Karyavattom)	Two 11KV/415V OLTC Transformer(KEL) each 315 KVA; One 500 KVA dry type (Uni Power). Total 1130 KVA.
28	Non-Conventional Energy use	100KW solar energy plant at Karyavattom Savings (of around Rs. 1 lakhs per month)
29	Budget for 2015-16	378.79 Crores (Salary: 132 Crores, Pension: 101.49 Crores)
30	Major Project Funding (01.07.2016-30.06.2017)	UGC - Rs. 1.25 Crores; KSCSTE - Rs. 63.56 Lakhs; SERB - Rs. 58.76 Lakhs; ICSSR - Rs. 8 Lakhs; Govt. of Kerala – 6.17 Lakhs; NCSCM – 5.70 Lakhs; MoEF & CC- Rs. 16.50 Lakhs-; MHRD – Rs. 50,000/-; DST – Rs. 1.80 Lakhs; ICMR – Rs. 7.98 Lakhs; DAE-BRNS – Rs. 14.10 Lakhs; ISRO- Rs. 6.71 Lakhs-; DoE & CC – Rs. 1.75 Lakhs; RUSA – Rs. 12.96 Lakhs; PURSE Grant (DST) – Rs. 2.57 Crores. Govt. of Kerala: State Plan Grant – Rs. 26 Crores SIUCEB – Rs. 1 Crore, IUCEIB – Rs. 2 Crore.
31	Campus Area in Acres	1. Karyavattom Campus: 363.13 acres: (a) North Campus 105.29 acres (including 37 acres on lease to National Games Secretariat + 1.5 acres on lease to KHRI) (b) South Campus: 257.84 acres 2. University Office (SH) Campus: 16.69 Acres; 3. University Stadium: 7.93 Acres + Parking Area: 0.33 Acres; 4. University Student Centre: 1.62 Acres; 5.

		Observatory: 0.89 Acres; 6. Women's Hostel, Thycaud: 4.70 Acres; 7. University Library: 1.57 Acres; 8. Dept. of Education, Thycaud: 0.24 Acres; 9. Akkulam Marine Museum: 1.20 Acres; 10. Alappuzha Study Centre: 0.28 Acres; 11. Pandalam Study Centre: 0.30 Acres; 12. Ezhamkulam Village, Adoor: 0.50 Acres; 13. Raja Ravi Varma College for Fine Arts: 0.15 Acres. Grand Total = 399.53 Acres
32	Built up Area in square meters	Senate House Campus, Palayam: 37505 ; Kariavattom Campus: 1,11,768; Thycaud Campus (Women's Hostel): 6,911; University Library Campus: 2,727; University Stadium: 10,000; Department of Education, Thycaud: 1,067; Students' Centre: 3,498; Kerala University Observatory & Planetarium: 150.
33	Staff Quarters	160 (A,B, C, D, E & F Types)
34	ICT Facility	Tier 3 Data Centre, About 2000 Computers, WiFi enabled Campus, 10 GBPS Fiber Network Connectivity, High Performance Computing Facility, 38 Smart Class rooms.
35	Physical Education Infrastructure	Kerala University Stadium and G.V Raja Pavilion at Palayam is the hub of all sporting activities of the University with area of around 8 acres in the heart of Trivandrum. It has international standard synthetic athletic track, football field, Basketball, Volleyball, Handball, Kho Kho / Kabaddi courts and flood lights for night time events. Other Facilities: (1) Two modern Multi Gymnasiums in the G.V Raja Pavilion. (2) The Sports Hub Complex at Kariavattom Campus adjudged the best Sporting arena in India build on BOT basis. (3) The campus stadium in the Kariavattom Campus. (4) New multipurpose indoor stadium for Basketball, Badminton etc. at Senate House Campus, Palayam.
36	Scientific Instruments	iCAP Qc Series ICP-MS with New Wave NWR 213 Laser Ablation Unit; Microwave Sample digestion Unit; Scanning Probe Microscope with Peak Force Tapping Package; Laser Scanning Spectral Confocal Microscope with Multi-Fluorescence and Live-Cell Imaging; UV-Vis. NIR Spectrophotometer; Carl Zeiss EVO 18 Secondary Electron Microscope with EDS;Thermofisher Sorvall MX50 Centrifuge; High Performance Computing facility; Bruker D8 X-ray Diffractometer; Micro Raman Spectrometer; UV Visible Spectrometer; FTIR Spectrophotometer; Spectrofluorometer; Impedance Analyser; Network Analyser;F-Scan setup; Muffle furnaces;Source

		meter; Electrometer; BOD Incubator; HPLC; PCR; RT-PCR; Atomic Absorption Spectrometer; Electrophoresis; Bioreactor; ELISA reader; Speed Vacuum Concentrator; Drug Docking Station
37	Libraries Stock	Total No. of libraries: 49; Total No. of books: 8,41,255; Acquisition during 2015: 21,255 books; cost of books purchased in 2016-17: Rs. 312.53 lakhs; Annual growth rate of stock: 2.53%; Total no. of library staff (Permanent): 83; (Contract): 29; Classification: DDC in 35 Libraries, CC in 8 Libraries; LIDAS, software for accessing the KUL digital archives of rare and valuable documents.
38	Rare books in KUL	1. Samkshepa Vedartam (Compendiosa Legis Explanatio Ominibus Christian's Seitu Necessaria) by Fr. Clement Pianius (First complete book printed in Malayalam printed in Rome in 1772 and published by the sacred Congregation of the Propagation of Faith. 2. Four Gospels (Bible New Testament), Malayalam book printed in 1811 by the Courier Press, Bombay.
39	ICT enabled class rooms	38
40	Auditoriums	1652 seater Senate hall and a dozen additional halls. Golden Jubilee Auditorium - 800 seats. Seminar complex under construction- 240 seats.
41	Students (University Departments)	Ph.D (878 – 67% female), M.Phil (334 - 75% female), PG (1284 - 76% female), Diploma/Certificate/ Others (1138)
42	Students (UITs/UIMs etc)	UITs: 3731; UIMs: 435; KUTECS: 394; UCK: 406
43	Students (Affiliated Colleges)	UG: 99398, PG: 7577, PhD : 411
44	Foreign Students in University Departments & Centres	42 (Iran(11), UAE (4), Malawi (1), Yemen (12), Sudan (1) Ethiopia(6), South Sudan(1), Kenya(1), Srilanka (2), Lesotho (1), Namibia (1) Nepal (1)
45	Student start-ups	1 (2006-2008), 2(2016), 10 (under processing in 2017)
46	Students Union	1. Kerala University Union Chairman: Krishnajith R.G. 2. Kerala University Union General Secretary: Adarsh M. Saji 3. Department's Union Chairperson: Ghosh K.S. 4. Researcher's Union Chairperson: Prabhakaran K
47	Gender Profile of Students (2016)	Affiliated Colleges: UG students: 69% Female, PG students: 80% Female, Ph.D students: 75% Female. Uty Depts: PG students: 76% Female, MPhil students: 75% Female, PhD students: 67% Female,
48	Student Hostels	Men (2 Hostels – 75 PG students + 22 M.Phill

		students + 78 Researchers), Women (3 Hostels – 353 PG students 30 M.Phil + 65 Researchers), Women (Affiliated Colleges PG & UG) – 1 hostel (304 students)
49	Distance Education	Distance Education programmes offered through School of Distance Education to thousands since 1976. The UGC-DEB has accorded recognition for 25 Programmes (PG-12 & UG-13) for the Academic years 2017-18 & 2018-19.
50	Centres, Other Institutions	Centres - 32; Lexicon Department – 1; University Institutes of Technology (UITs) - 17; University Institutes of Management (UIMs) - 7; Kerala University Teacher Education Centres (KUTECE) - 10; University College of Engineering - 1; UGC Human Resource Development Centre (Academic Staff College); Centre for Adult Continuing and Education & Extension (CACEE)
51	Support Service Centres & Other Departments	Kerala University Computer Centre, Sophisticated Instrumentation and Computation Centre; Kerala University Library; University Press; University Service & Instrumentation Centre (USIC); Engineering Unit; Health Centre – 2; Dept. of Student Services; Dept. Physical Education; Dept. of Publication; Employment Information & Guidance Bureau; Placement Cell; Finishing School.
52	Affiliated Institutions	Arts & Science Colleges – 104; Hotel Management – 3; Special Education – 1; Physical Education – 1; Music and Fine Arts – 3; Teacher Education – 50; MCA/MBA – 24; Law – 6; Fashion Technology – 1. Total -193
53	Research Centres (in addition to teaching departments of the University)	82 (R&D institutions, affiliated colleges with PG programmes)
54	Programmes offered by University Departments & Centres	PG – 45; M.Phil – 44 (36 +Innovative M. Phil Programmes – 9); Ph.D – 42; Certificate – 18; PG Diploma – 13
55	No. of exams conducted per year	15,000 examinations.
56	Faculty Positions	Total No. of Sanctioned posts: 291 (Prof.: 34, Assoc. Prof.: 56, Asst. Prof.: 201) Filled posts: Prof.: 3, Assoc. Prof.: 19, Asst. Prof.: 155 Posts are upgraded as a part of Career Advancement and present positions are Prof.: 31, Assoc. Prof.: 40 and Asst. Prof.: 100. In addition about 60 contract

		Assistant Professors work in University departments.
57	Qualification of Permanent Faculty	Ph.D. (94%), M. Phil (6%)
58	Teacher - Student Ratio	1:10 (in University Depts.)
59	Tuition Fee range for Teaching Departments (Master Programme)	Rs. 800/- per Semester for all programmes
60	University Terms/Semesters	Semester 1,3 (Odd): September to February (Fall) Semester 2,4 (Even): February to August (Spring)
61	Grading system for Masters	O (Outstanding, <i>grade point 10</i>), A+ (Excellent, <i>grade point 9</i>), A (Very Good, <i>grade point 8</i>), B+ (Good, <i>grade point 7</i>), B (Above Average, <i>grade point 6</i>), C (Average, <i>grade point 5</i>), D (Pass <i>grade point 4</i>) F (Fail, <i>grade point 0</i>), Ab (Absent, <i>grade point 0</i>)
62	PhDs awarded (2016)	300 in 2016 (Total awarded till date: over 4000)
63	Recent Honorary Doctorates	Prof. Amartya Sen (2000), K. J. Yesudas (2003), Laurie Baker (2003), O.N.V Kurup (2007), G. Madhavan Nair (2007), Justice K.G. Balakrishnan (2008), Shri. Adoor Gopalakrishnan (2010), Mammooty (2010) and Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman (2010).
64	Research Publications in 2016-17	Average Impact Factor: 1.72 (115 papers published in 2016-17 with total impact factor = 198)
65	Patents (2015-2017)	Filed: 6; Under filing process: 4
66	Journals Published	20 (One of the oldest journals in the country, Journal of Indian History is published by the University of Kerala since 1946).
67	Book Publications	Around 20 books per year. (Premier Publications: (i) 10 volumes Hortus Malabaricus on plant wealth of Kerala (English and Malayalam) (ii) 9 Volumes of Malayalam Lexicon (nearly 9000 pages), the largest dictionary in any modern Indian Language, which has taken half a century so far (iii) Sahithya Charithram by Ulloor)
68	Manuscript Collection	The Kerala University Oriental Manuscripts Library has over 65,000 works in 30,000 copies mainly of palm leaf, paper, copper plates, birch bark and textiles. The collection also covers Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia and Nepal.
69	Oldest Institutions	1. Observatory (1838), 2. Oriental Research Institute of Manuscript Library – ORIML (1904), 3. Department of Aquatic Biology (1937)
70	Awards	1. UNESCO - NLM Award (2005)

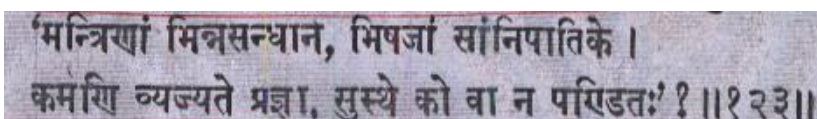
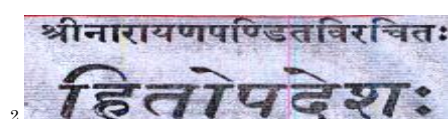
		2. Indira Gandhi National Award for NSS (2005) 3. Chancellors Award for Best University in Kerala (2015)
71	GPS (respective Campus gates)	Palayam - 8° 30' 8.27", 76° 56' 51.5"; Karyavattom - 8° 33' 57.14", 76° 52' 37.18"
72	Distances	Karyavattom to Palayam: 12Km, Karyavattom to Thampanoor Railway Station: 14Km, Palayam to Airport: 8Km, Palayam to Thampanoor Railway Station: 2Km, Karyavattom to Airport: 13Km

A PROFILE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KERALA

1. Genesis & Evolution:

One of the first 16 Universities in India, the University of Kerala was founded as the University of Travancore in the erstwhile princely state of Travancore (now southern part of Kerala) in 1937. Since then, the University of Kerala has undergone transformations in many ways. The earliest origins of the University may be traced back to two institutions of modern learning in Kerala, the University College Thiruvananthapuram and the Trivandrum Observatory¹. The University was modeled after the best Universities of the United Kingdom, and even today retains some of these features. The affiliating system of the University, however, evolved to be different from the college system in British Universities. The objective of the University was to effect re-organization of the system of education in the state so as to develop technical, technological education and research in applied science, in addition to promoting Kerala Art and Culture. The Logo of the University depicts a lotus with a conch shell (a symbol of erstwhile state of Travancore) and a traditional book stand with palm leaf manuscript on it, symbolizing scholarship. The motto of the University was drawn from Panchathantra (a Buddhist work) and reads “*Karmani Vyajyathe Prajna*” which roughly translates to “Wisdom manifests in action”²

¹The University College was initially founded as the Maharaja's Free School by the King Swathi Thirunal in 1834, with Mr. John Roberts, a Christian Missionary as Headmaster, and soon grew into a college in 1866, affiliated to the Madras University. When the University of Travancore was founded, the Departments of the College became the University Departments, only to switch back again when the transformation to University of Kerala happened in 1957. The University College still retains its connection with the University as an affiliated college. The Trivandrum Observatory was founded in 1837 and had an internationally reputed scientist, John Caldecott FRS as its first Director. The “Travancore Almanac” of 1838 was the first publication from the Observatory. It later became a part of the Travancore University and is today the oldest institution of scientific research under the University of Kerala. Even today the Observatory is the agency relied upon by the Govt. of Kerala for entering Moon rise and setting in the Govt. calendar.



In 1954, the unified state of Kerala came into being. The Kerala University Act was brought into force in 1957 and the University of Travancore was renamed University of Kerala (a name which was considered even in 1937) with jurisdiction all over the state of Kerala. The 1957 Act conferred a large measure of autonomy to the University and made its administrative bodies more broad-based. University of Kerala is today known as the “Mother University” of the state, as almost all the other Universities in the state were created by either bifurcating it or re-affiliating its affiliated colleges³. These developments have shrunk the jurisdiction of the University of Kerala to Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha districts and some parts of Pathanamthitta district. The University is recognized under 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act 1956, re-accredited by the NAAC with ‘A’ grade, ranked under NIRF as 29th among Universities and ranked under the THES World Universities Ranking in the 800-1000 band.

2. Administration

The Vice-Chancellor, appointed by the Governor of Kerala, is the Chief Executive Officer of the University. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor assists the Vice-Chancellor. The University has three important bodies which make policy decisions and execute it. The Senate and the Academic Council, two large bodies with wide-based representation, are the supreme bodies on general policy matters and academic matters respectively. The **Senate**, “the Supreme Authority of the University”, which is reconstituted every four years, has 117 members (24 ex-officio, 78 elected and 15 nominated). It represents a cross section of the society, with its members drawn from different walks of social life. The **Academic Council** is the supreme academic body of the University. It is also a large body like the Senate, with its members drawn from different spheres of academic spectrum. The Academic Council has the power to make regulations and to advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters, to prescribe the programmes of studies in the University, to prescribe the qualifications of teachers, to make provision for the admission of students to the various programmes etc. The **Syndicate**, the chief executive body of the University, has a strength of 25 (including the Vice-Chancellor, the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the Secretary to Govt. (Higher Education), the Secretary to Govt. (IT Dept.), the Director of Public Instruction, the Director of Collegiate Education, twelve elected members, one elected student member, five nominated members and one member nominated by KSHEC. The Syndicate, which meets ordinarily once in a

³ *The University had three campuses located in three different parts of the state viz. Thiruvananthapuram, Ernakulam and Kozhikode. In 1968, the University Campus at Kozhikode became a full-fledged University, the University of Calicut. The Cochin University of Science and Technology - CUSAT (1971), Kerala Agricultural University (1971) and Mahatma Gandhi University (1983) were subsequently established. In recent times the Kerala State University of Health and Allied Sciences and APJ Abdulkalam Technological University have taken over affiliation of medical and engineering colleges respectively, reducing the affiliated college strength further. Jurisdiction of the University now extends to the revenue districts of Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Alappuzha (excluding Kuttanad Taluk) and Pathanamthitta (excluding Ranni, Mallappally, Kozhencherry and Tiruvalla Taluks).*

month, has executive powers including the general superintendence and control over the institutions of the University.

3. Teaching and Research

The University of Kerala has its own departments of teaching and research (mostly housed in University Campus at Karyavattom) and also maintains a number of affiliated colleges, spread over four southern districts of the state. The forty two departments of teaching and research are organized as nine schools, and most of them are housed in the Karyavattom campus. Teaching, research and knowledge extension are the mandates of the departments. They primarily focus on post-graduate (masters) programmes, MPhil programmes (1-year research degree started in 1973) and doctoral (PhD) programmes and post-doctoral programmes. Affiliated colleges run large number of bachelor's programmes and lesser number of masters and doctoral programmes. University's research activities are also going on in select affiliated colleges and other recognized research centres. The total number of full-time students in the University departments is around 2500, including research students.

The University has also established 10 University Colleges of Teacher Education (UTE) and 17 University Institute of Technology (UIT), both of which offer under-graduate programmes (B.Ed. in UTEs and BSc (Computer Science/IT/Electronics) and BBA in UITs), although masters programmes are available in select UITs. The University College of Engineering at Karyavattom offers Engineering education at Undergraduate level. These institutions together have student strength of more than 6000. The Institute of Distance Education has been accorded with recognition for 25 Programmes (PG-12 & UG-13) by the UGC-DEB for the Academic years 2017-18 & 2018-19.

The University has 193 affiliated colleges with an enrollment of around 1,00,000 students. Thirty two colleges offer Post Graduate teaching programmes. One of the affiliated colleges offer M.Phil programmes and some have been recognized as research centres.

In addition to the departments of teaching, the University also has several centres⁴ for studies and research in specialized areas. Some of these centres offer degree/certificate

⁴ *The International Centre for Kerala Studies, Centre for Canadian Studies, Centre for Australian Studies, Centre for Comparative Literature, Sree Naryana Study Centre, Centre for English Language Teaching, Centre for Vedanta Studies, V.K. Krishna Menon Study Centre, Centre for Gandhian Studies, Centre for Women's studies, Centre for Systems and Synthetic Biology, Centre for Evolutionary and Integrative Biology, Centre for Women's Studies, Inter-University Centre for Alternative Economics, Inter-University Centre of Excellence in Bioinformatics, Inter-University Centre in Genomics and Gene Technology, Inter-University Centre for Geo-Information Science and Technology, Centre for Marine Biodiversity, Centre for Quantitative Analysis, Centre for Cultural Studies, Centre for Learning Disabilities, Christian Study Centre, Inter-University Centre for Natural Resource Management, Survey Research Centre, Technology and Research Centre for Malayalam, UGC National Curriculum Development Centre, UGC Nehru Study Centre, V. K. Krishna Menon Study Centre, Centre for Performing and Visual Arts are some of the centres functioning under the University.*

programmes (Certificate/Diploma/Masters/MPhil) and some offer PhD programmes. The University has also instituted three chairs: Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Chair, Mahathma Ayyankali Chair and V. K. Sukumaran Nair Chair.

4. Campuses

The University of Kerala has two major campuses, the largest being the Kariavattom Campus, 16km from the city Centre. The Palayam/Senate Hall Campus is right in the middle of the city. The Music and Education Departments, the University Stadium, the Student Centre, International Youth hostel, the Centre for Continuing Education, and Aakkulam campus are in separate locations in the city, all quite close to the Palayam Campus. The Palayam Campus (housing the heritage building of the Travancore University) has mainly the administrative office of the University, including the Vice-Chancellor's and Registrar's office. The majestic Senate Hall with a seating capacity of 1352 seats in ground floor and 300 seats in balcony is housed in the middle of the campus. In addition to the office of the Controller of Examinations and Computer Centre, the Palayam Campus also houses the departments of English, German & Russian, and the School of Distance Education and Student Amenities Centre.

Thirty six departments are situated in the Karyavattom Campus⁵. This sprawling green campus (359 acres) is close to Kazhakuttom, on the National Highway 47, towards north. The famous Trivandrum Technopark is adjacent to the University Campus. The new Technocity and Lifescience Park opened in 2017 are a few km away from the campus.

5. Student Empowerment

The University of Kerala is well known for empowering its students. The University Union is an active presence in the University life since 1939. The University Union, Department's Union, Researcher's Union, are all forums that are established through democratic process and positions in these forums are fiercely competed for. Elected student representatives have membership in supreme bodies of the University such as Senate, Academic Council and also Syndicate, the executive committee of the University (Student representation in Syndicate was given for the first time in India, by University of Kerala, in 1977). The Co-

⁵Divided into north and south campuses (32 departments being in the south campus and 4 in north campus), the Kariyavattom campus is conspicuous by lush greenery, dominated by Acacia trees. The Campus biodiversity is overshadowed by these trees. Tucked away behind them are trees of rare species and a number of ponds, (the 'haunted' Hymavathy Kulam, the EchilottuKulam etc.), tiny hills and valleys and even a sacred grove. Butterflies, snakes, bats and birds including peacocks, are a part of the biodiversity of the campus. The Chempaka trees, the Konna trees (the golden shower), the Gulmohar or Vaka (the fiery forest red) and the tiny yellow flowers of the Acacia dot colors in the green scape of the Campus.

ordinator of the National Service Scheme (NSS) Programme and the Director of the Student Services organize youth welfare activities with the active co-operation of the Unions. activities include: leadership training camps, labour and social work projects, and camps, Inter-Collegiate youth festival, Inter-University youth festival and University youth festival. The University policies are aimed at student welfare and empowerment in every field. The graduate attributes envisaged by University of Kerala is articulated visually through a creative video.

The gender profile of the students in the University reveals a unique picture: 76% of post graduate and 75% of MPhil students in University departments are women. 67% of research scholars are women. UG students in affiliated colleges also have 56% of women. One of 343 PhDs awarded in 2015, 67% were awarded to women.

6. Institutions

(i) The Oriental Manuscript Library of the University, established in 1904⁶, is a treasure trove of Indian culture. The library has over 65,000 works in 30,000 copies mainly of palm leaf manuscripts, in addition to paper manuscripts, copper plates, birch bark and textiles. The manuscript collection also includes those belonging to Burma, Malaysia, Indonesia, Nepal etc. This can be rated as one of the “must see” libraries of the world.

(ii) Kerala University Library System: The University library system has over 8 lakhs books. The University has a Central Library (Kerala University Library-KUL) near its city campus and caters to the knowledge quest of all students, staff and public⁷. In addition to KUL (3,30,000 books) Karyavattom campus has a Campus Library. Department libraries (above 5,00,000 books) and College libraries (each with 20,000 – 1,00,000 books) provide information service to students. It has rare books and bibliographies in its collection⁸.

⁶The origin of the Manuscript Library can be traced back to 1830s, when a Sanskrit scholar hailing from Payyannoor, Sankara Natha Jothishi, who was a member of the court of Renjith Singh in Lahore came to Trivandrum with a collection of rare manuscripts which was gifted to the King of Travancore, which formed the nucleus of the Palace Library which gradually became the Oriental Manuscript Library.

⁷In 2016, Kerala University Library had 14,504 members, out of which 7850 are students, 1024 are research scholars and 4723 are general public. On an average, 500 students, teachers and public visit the library per day. Library has 11 Sections: Acquisition, Technical, Maintenance, Circulation, Periodical, Reference, Documentation, Research, Kerala Reference, UN collection. The exclusive collection consists of: - Reference: 65,000, Kerala Studies: 35,000, Closed reference: 45,000, Back Volumes of periodicals: 52,000, Bound Volumes of Journals: 10,000 Biography: 10,000, Govt. Publications: 2,500, Women Studies: 3,000, United Nations and World Bank: 20,000, Theses: 4,000 and 9,000 e-journals under UGC-INFONET Consortia. The stock is: Books: 3,32,681, Periodicals: 299, Popular magazines: 37, News Papers: 25.

⁸ A few of the rare books possessed by the Library are: (1) **Samkshepa Vedartam** (Compendiosa Legis Explanatio Ominibus Christianis Seitu Necessaria) by Fr. Clement Pianius (First complete book, printed in Malayalam) printed in Rome in 1772 and published by the sacred Congregation of the Propagation of Faith. (2) **Four Gospels** (Bible New Testament), Malayalam book printed in Bombay in 1811 by the Courier Press, Bombay. Some of the bibliographies published by the library:- (1) Catalogue of doctoral and masters dissertations approved by the University. (2) Asan bibliography (3) Vallathol bibliography (4) Kerala bibliography and (5) Uloor bibliography. Kerala University Library has

(iii) The University Computer Centre⁹ has a history of over half a century (dating back to the use of a Czech made electro-mechanical computer “Arithma” in 1950s and Core-Memory based IBM-1920 computer IBMs and Indian made TDC 316 in 1970s) and, today spearheads the University's e-Governance initiatives. Computing support for research is no longer centralized, thanks to the advent of affordable desk-top computing power. The University's main campus in Karyavattom is firmly connected to the cyber highway with broad-band connection flowing into over 2000 computers. The entire campus network has been upgraded to 10 GBPS optical fibre connection. State of the art digital studio is coming up in the campus for recording/developing video lectures, with sound proof lecture hall, video editing, speech to text conversion etc.

The University web site has also evolved since 2000 to become an indispensable cyber forum that connects the university community and serves information to all stake holders. The web site offers on-line admission portal and PhD portal and is one of the most visited sites of the state, in public domain. University also has an official email system.

The University also judiciously uses technology in many ways to serve academics & governance including systems such as 24 hour digital camera surveillance, over 100 digital security features in Hologram affixed degree degree certificates, digitization of archival records, online admission for both University teaching Departments and affiliated colleges, online grievance redressal system etc.

(iv) Department of Physical Education: The Department of Physical Education of the University came into existence in 1939. The Kerala University Stadium along with G. V. Raja Pavilion is the iconic land mark in Thiruvananthapuram city skyline. Characteristic of antiquity, notably the arch roof of pavilion, the stadium had a large flora around giving greenery and shades. It has a seating capacity of 10,000. The stadium meets latest technological requirements like sharing in for various media platforms and TSR equipments (Time, Scoring, Results). The floodlights have 900 to 1200 lumax capacity. The stadium has 400 meters international standard synthetic track with 8 lanes running track and facility for field events. Apart from this, following facilities are available in the stadium premises. (i) Standard Football Field (ii) Basketball Court (iii) Volleyball Court (iv)

also published (1) List of world bank publications available in the University Library (2) Union catalogue of current periodicals in the university and departmental libraries (3) List of books on research methodology (4) Reader's guide.

⁹ *The Czech made Arithma Electro mechanical computer was gifted to the University during 1950s by United Nations. This was utilized by the Department of Statistics (the University gifted it to the Kerala State Science and Technology Museum in 2000). In 1974 VSSC gifted a IBM-1920 computer to the University, which was inaugurated by Chief Minister Sri. C. Achutha Menon in 1974. With UGC assistance, in 1977, a Computer Centre was inaugurated with an Indian made TDC-316 computer. It was in 1985 that the PC age began in the University with VERSA-IWS PC from Keltron with 128 KB RAM. Soon a Unix multi-tasking system was installed. Thereafter with the global IT revolution, the University's computing facility also expanded.*

Handball Court (v) Kabaddi/Kho-Kho Court (vi) Modernized Fitness Centre (vii) Weight Training Hall. The Stadium was the main venue for the Athletic Competitions for 1987 and 2014 National Games competitions. In addition to the stadium, multipurpose indoor facility for Basketball and Badminton is available. 200 meters track, two shuttle courts and one Volleyball Court are available in Karyavattom Campus. As an incentive to promote sports, University accord merits scholarships for outstanding sportsmen based on their achievements. University also provides grace marks to sports persons. Admissions are reserved for sports person in all programmes of the University. University conducts around 30 Inter Collegiate tournaments in various disciplines and University team participates in All India Inter University Tournaments. Summer Coaching Camps are conducted for school students in various sports events recognizing that they are the feeder line of University Sports. An International stadium (Greenfield stadium) is housed in the Karyavattom campus since 2015.

(v) The Department of Publications¹⁰, one of the oldest departments of the University, has brought out several noteworthy publications including Saraswathi Kantabharanam, a treatise on Sanskrit Grammar, the five volumes of Kerala Sahitya Charithram by Mahakavi Ulloor S. Parameswara Ayyar and Sahithya Nayakanmar (Men of Letters) Series, Chitra Ramayana, based on palm-leaf manuscripts. The University has also published the first ever complete English and Malayalam translation of Hortus Malabaricus, the classical treatise on the plant wealth of Kerala (which have been inspiration to world renowned botanist Carl Linnaeus). The first e-Book, Swathi Thirunal's 'Bhakthi Manajari' was published in 2013. The department publishes around 20 books per year.

(vi) The UGC-Human Resource Development Centre, University of Kerala (formerly **Academic Staff College**) set up with the aid of UGC in 1987, offers specially designed in-service courses like Orientation Programmes, Refresher Courses and Short-Term Courses for teachers of universities and colleges across the country for capacity enhancement and

¹⁰ *At the time of its establishment, no other University in India had a well-organized publication department. During its formative strage it brought out a series of glossaries, popular science books, translations from classics and original books. "The Arogyamargangal, the Kumarabhrityam, etc provided some basic elements of health education. A survey of the rise of the Dutch power in Malabar and Dutch Hegemony in Malabar and its collapse by Dr. T. I. Poonen was also brought out. The copyright of "The birds of Kerala" by the eminent ornithologist Dr. Salim Ali, (originally published in 1953 as The Birds of Travancore and Cochin) remains with the University of Kerala. Other works included translations of Marcus Aurilius, Plutarch's Lives, Montaigne's essays etc. Kerala Sahithya Charitram (5 volumes, 3000 pages) by Mahakavi Ulloor is the universally accepted reference book on the literary history of Kerala. Prof. Sukumar Azhikode, opined about this work: "Scholarships at its highest, prose at its best and criticism at its noblest. In amplitude it is the greatest original work written in Malayalam", While in merit. Among prose-works, it is again the greatest, Undoubtedly it is the magnum opus of Uloor". Bodhisatwapadana Kalpalatha was got translated into Malayalam verse by Mahakavi Vallathol and published in four parts. Dr. K. Goda Varma's work entitled "Kerala Bhasha Vijnaneeyam" is one of the earliest linguistic study of Malayalam language. An edition of the Malayalam translation of the Rig Veda by Mahakavi Vallathol was also published. In the men of letters series, short but illuminating sketches of the lives of great writers and a critical appreciation of their works were published.*

knowledge upgradation. So far 660 courses have been conducted and 23,767 teachers have been trained through these programmes. This HRDC is adjudged as the top ranking institution in the country for the last ten years in the matter of largest number of courses conducted and high number of candidates participated.

(vii) The Centre for Adult & Continuing Education (CACEE) aims at “further education” of the educated' for which it received UNESCO – NLM Award. The centre offers a wide variety of courses in collaboration with other agencies to further continuing education.

(viii) Malayalam Lexicon¹¹ is one of the largest and greatest dictionaries in modern Indian languages. The Lexicon department of the University has published nine volumes of the lexicon by 2015, running to nearby 9000 pages, in an effort spanning half a century.

(ix) Sophisticated Instrumentation and Computation Centre (SICC) is a state of the art scientific instrumentation centre and computation facility which has been set up in the Karyavattom campus in 2015-2016.

7. Academic System

The University has a 3-tier academic system. Each subject of study has a Board of Studies to design syllabus and propose action on all academic matters. Group of related subjects are grouped together and defined as a faculty. The University has 16 faculties. Finally Academic Council is the supreme academic body. The University follows the Choice based credit and semester system for all post-graduate (masters) programmes and under-graduate (bachelors) level. Semesters typically fall during the months of August-January and February-July. Masters programmes are typically of two year duration and have four semesters with 5 to 6 courses offered each semester. The final semester has a project and thesis requirement. MPhil programmes are post-masters research degree, offered under credit and semester system since 2016.

¹¹ *“The Malayalam Lexicon is clearly the work of a perfectionist who, no less evidently, has the support of a team inspired by the same ideals. We see the results of careful and sensible planning and of thoughtful and painstaking execution. A remarkable feature of the Malayalam Lexicon is the large number of works from which words and citations (a million and a half of the latter). When all volumes have been published, they will form a source of envy- and, one hopes, of inspiration- for the speakers of the other national languages of India”.* **(R.E. Asher** International scholar in Linguistics and Malayalam, University of Edin Burgh). *Prof. Samuel Mathai, Vice-Chancellor doing release of first volume. “In offering this work to the public, the University of Kerala feels that it is fulfilling one of its major functions as a regional University. This is the first lexicon in any Indian language based on philosophical and historical principles”. For comparison, it may be noted that, the Pune Deccan College’s Sanskrit dictionary has so far published eleven volumes with 5408 pages in 60 years, the Oxford English dictionary, when it was last printed, had 21 volumes with over 21,000 pages.*

The programmes in University Departments & Centres are as follows

M.A. (Master of Arts) : Sociology, Politics, Malayalam, Tamil, Arabic, English, German, Russian, Music, Linguistics, Hindi, Sanskrit, Manuscript, Archeology, Economics, History, Islamic Studies, Philosophy, Political Science, Psychology, Sociology.

M.Ed. (Master of Education): Education

M.Sc. (Master of Science): Geology, Environmental Sciences, Aquatic Biology and Fisheries, Bio-Chemistry, Biotechnology, Botany, Zoology, Computer Science, Chemistry, Demography, Mathematics, Physics, Statistics, Computational Biology and Bioinformatics.

M. Tech. (Master of Technology): Computer Science, Future Studies, Opto-Electronics

MBA (Master of Business Administration): Management

MSW (Master of Social Works): Sociology

LLM (Master of Laws): Law

M.Com (Master of Commerce): Commerce

MLI.Sc. (Master of Library and Information Science): Library and Information Science

M.Phill: All Departments

PhD: All Departments

8. Miscellaneous

University has had among its faculties eminent scholars who were trained under legendary figures: Sir C. V. Raman's student in Dept. of Physics, Hans J. Eysenk's (German Psychologist) student in Psychology, Prof. S. R. Ranganathan's student in Library Science, Pearson's student in Dept. of Statistics and Prof Benjamin Bloom's student in Dept. of Education. Some of the faculty members themselves were legends, such as famous poet K. Ayyappa Panicker, Oriental scholar T. Ganapathi Sasthri and Padmasree N. Balakrishnan Nair, among others. Many eminent scholars led this University as Vice-Chancellors: Sir. C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Sir Herald Papworth, Prof. A. Aiyappan, Prof. R. S. Krishnan, Prof. J. V. Vilanilam, Dr. B. Ekbal, Prof. A. Jayakrishnan among others.

The University of Kerala celebrated its silver jubilee in 1962, golden jubilee in 1987 and diamond jubilee in 1997. During 2012, the University celebrated its Platinum Jubilee.

The University has an active Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) that continuously monitors and analyses quality aspects and designs microscopic initiatives to enhance quality. The University has Start-up scheme since 2006 and presently the “Kerala University Technology and Business Start-up Centre” nurtures student Startups. The University Consultancy Cell coordinates the consultancy services offered by various University Departments. Services include routine ones such as water quality testing, Arabic Translation etc to testing using sophisticated instruments and development of software.

University has a Research Council and a Director of Research. University’s research output in 2016 resulted in 411 PhDs, 6 patents have been filed and 4 are under filing, 115 publications with total impact points of 198 (average impact factor of 1.724). Recent innovative research from University departments include safe and natural food colourant, improved dye-sensitised solar cells, correlation of low cholesterol to hair loss, sensor to detect pesticide presence, ceria incorporated composite Hot Dip Galvanic Zinc coating, anti-cancer molecule form curcumin, new scientific performance measure ‘M’-score, enhanced production of solasodine, method for retrieval of separate endodontic files from human root canals, a new species of mushroom (*O. nidiformis*), improved gene finding and sub-cellular localization algorithms, novel high-k dielectrics, development of substrates for surface enhanced Raman spectrology, isolation of new lead molecules from marine organisms, use of DNA barcoding technology for documenting threatened marine mammals, models on tectono-thermal evolution of shear zones in south India and a strain of bacteria that can completely degrade the pesticide chlorpyrifos.

The University regularly honours scholars and eminent personalities by conferring honorary degrees. In the past it had conferred honorary degrees on Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai, Chemmangudi Sreenivasa Iyer, Prof. Ilya Progovine, Sri. M.P. Appan, Sri. Suranad Kunjan Pillai etc. Recent awardees include Nobel laureate Prof. Amartya Sen (2000), Sri. K. J. Yesudas (2003), Mr. Laurie Baker (2003), Sri. O.N.V Kurup (2007), Sri. G. Madhavan Nair (2007), Justice K.G. Balakrishnan (2008), Sri. Adoor Gopalakrishnan (2010), Sri. Mammooty (2010) and Sri. Umayalpuram K. Sivaraman (2010).

The University bagged the Indira Gandhi National Award for the best NSS activities in 2005, and the UNESCO-NLM award for literacy in 2005, State Govt’s award for e-Governance in 2010 and the first Chancellor’s Award for the best University in the State of Kerala, in 2015.

The University had the privilege of hosting Indian Science Congress during 2010 and the Indian History Congress in 2016. The University also regularly invites eminent scholars to the campus including Nobel Laureates. Prof. Dr. Johann Deisenhofer (Nobel Prize in

Chemistry, 1988), Prof. Martin Chalfie (Nobel Prize in Chemistry, 2008), Dr. Anders Liljas (Nobel Prize Committee Member), Prof. Ada E. Yonath (Noble Prize in Chemistry, 2009), Professor Michael Levitt (Noble Prize in Chemistry 2013) and Professors such as Dr. Robin Jeffry.

‘KERALA’ UNIVERSITY

Even when most of State Universities bear name of a region in Kerala, University of Kerala has the pride of bearing the name of the state itself, even after its jurisdiction has been limited to southern part of the state. Almost all Universities in the state are born out of University of Kerala. The University continues in its pan-Kerala outlook. Here are a few evidences:

- University’s Act mandates it with pan-Kerala outlook.
- Kerala is known for women empowerment. University of Kerala has a gender record in this aspect. According to the Times Higher Education World University Survey, University of Kerala is the second largest University in the world in terms of percentage of women among students.
- The Oriental Manuscripts Library of the University is a treasure house of traditional knowledge of Kerala and is also a national pride.
- The University’s most prominent publication to date – the 10 volume *Hortus Malabaricus*, delivered to the country the English translation of the Dutch work that documents the plant biodiversity of Kerala.
- The Malayalam Lexicon undertaken by the University since 1960s, is one of the largest and greatest dictionaries in modern Indian languages.
- The International Center for Kerala Studies in Kariyavattom and the Kerala Studies section in University Library are both unavoidable reference centers for scholars of Kerala Studies.
- The University maintains one of the oldest Astronomical Observatories of the country (Est: 1838) and the oldest surviving observatory in the state. It is also the first institution of modern science in the state. The observatory provides astronomical computations for preparation of Government Calender, a practice since 19th century.
- The University Library systems with over eight lakhs books is easily the largest in the state. It has produced indices specific to Kerala authors.
- Since 1972, The University’s Centre for Computing Cost of cultivation (attached to Dept of Economics) has been collecting data to enable determination of minimum support prize for coconut and paddy from the state, for Ministry of Agriculture, Govt of India.
- In terms of honoring cultural leaders and scholars, the University has a pan-Kerala history – Chemmangudi Sreenivasa Iyer, Thakazhi Sivasankara Pillai, M.P. Appan, K.J. Yesudas, Laurie Baker, O.N.V. Kurup, G. Madhavan Nair, Justice K.G. Balakrishnan, Adoor Gopalskrishnan, Mammotty ...the list of its honarary confermet is self-evident.’



SITE FOR HORTUS MALABARICUS GARDEN