



MINUTES

8TH MEETING OF IQAC (CYCLE 03)



2016 January
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
University of Kerala

Minutes for the Eighth Meeting of IQAC, University of Kerala

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**Minutes of
The Eighth Meeting of IQAC, University of Kerala
Venue: Syndicate Room
Date: 25.1.2016**

Members

01. Prof. P. K. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)	:Sd/-
02. Dr. N. Veeramanikandan, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Vice-Chairman)	:Sd/-
03. Dr. R. Jayaprakash (Member, Syndicate)	: Absent
04. Dr. Girish Kumar R. (Member, Syndicate)	: Absent
05. Dr. P. M. Radhamany (Member, Syndicate)	: Absent
06. Dr. Alexander Jacob I.P.S. (Retd)	: Absent
07. Registrar, University of Kerala	:Sd/-
08. Dr. Mini DejoKappen, Director, Planning & Development	:Sd/-
09. Dr. M. Jayaprakash, Director, College Development Council	:Sd/-
10. Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S., Director, Computer Centre	:Sd/-
11. Shri. Santhosh C. Kurup, CEO, ICT Academy of Kerala	: Absent
12. Shri. Narayanan S., President, Network Systems and Technologies Ltd.	: Absent
13. Dr. G. Suresh Singh, Professor, Department of Mathematics	:Sd/-
14. Dr. K. S. Chandrasekar, Professor, Institute of Management in Kerala	:Sd/-
15. Dr. M.C. Subhash Peter, Professor, Department of Zoology	: Absent
16. Dr. C.R. Prasad, Professor, Department of Malayalam	:Sd/-
17. Dr. G. Raju, Professor, Department of Commerce	:Sd/-
18. Dr. Shaji A, Assistant Professor, School of Distance Education	:Sd/-
19. Shri. John Williams, Chairman, Departments' Union	: Absent
20. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair, Director, IQAC	:Sd/-
21. Dr. T.S. Anirudhan, Vice-Chairman, CSS Academic Committee (Invitee).	: Absent

Item No.Q3.8.01: Confirmation of the minutes of the Seventh IQAC meeting held on 30.11.2015:- The minutes of the seventh IQAC meeting held on 30.11.2015 as electronically circulated to the members may be confirmed.

Decision: Confirmed.

Item No.Q3.8.02: Action Taken Report (ATR) on decisions of the previous meeting

Decision	Action Taken
Item No.Q3.7.03: Curriculum Fair:- Resolved to organize curriculum fair as proposed	Preparations going on to hold the fair on February 15 th
Item No.Q3.7.04: Linnaeus - Palme Program With Lund University:- IQAC noted the progress	No Action pending
Item No.Q3.7.05: Consultancy Brochure for the University: - It was resolved that University Consultancy Cell may organize a seminar to enhance consultancy efforts, in collaboration with IQAC.	Action Pending
Item No.Q3.7.06: Proposal for offering Psychological Services: - Resolved to refer the matter to the HOD, Dept. of Psychology for remarks.	Action Pending

Item No.Q3.7.07: <u>Status of eBook Project:-</u> It was resolved that the Vice-Chancellor be authorised to form an Editorial Board to ensure quality of publications, and the editorial board may refer the books for peer review, as it deems fit.	Progressing
Item No.Q3.7.08:<u>Facebook Page for University:-</u> It was resolved to keep the matter in abeyance	No Action Pending
Item No Q.3.7.09: <u>Quality Consultation Meeting with Faculty:-</u> Noted	No Action Pending
Item No Q3.7.10: <u>Graduate Attributes Video & Booklet:-</u> Noted	No Action Pending
Item No Q3.7.11: <u>Progress of Multi-Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC):</u> IQAC noted the progress and expressed satisfaction.	No Action Pending
Item No.Q3.7.12: <u>Bench Mark Series:-</u> Noted. Members may propose further Bench Marking themes	No Action Pending
Item No.Q3.7.13:<u>Wiki Lights Projects:-</u> Noted.	No Action Pending
Item No.Q3.7.14: <u>Report of 3-tier Induction Programme:-</u> Noted	No Action Pending

Decision: Noted. On item, 3.07.06, the Pro-Vice Chancellor was authorised to take up the matter.

Item No.Q3.8.03: Report on MARC: The National Multi – Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC) conceived by IQAC has been successfully organized from Dec 15 to 18th, 2015. The report of the conference will be tabled by the organizing Secretary Dr. A Shaji during the meeting.

Decision: Dr. A. Shaji tabled the report on MARC 2015. (Appendix A1) Members appreciated the event and authorized the Pro-Vice-Chancellor to convene meeting of School Directors and HoDs to discuss the publication procedure.

Item No.Q3.8.04: Report on Kerala University Annual Student Survey: The Annual Student survey conducted during the 3-tier Induction programme held on September 7, 2015 has now been analyzed and a consolidated report prepared. The same shall be tabled. IQAC may consider and approve the report.

Decision: The report was approved and Director was authorized to incorporate corrections, if any. It was also noted that the survey is a highly useful one and also serves as a best practice of our University.

Item No.Q3.8.05: Compiling Innovations in Teaching from all teachers: It is felt that innovations in teaching may be documented teacher-wise, to enable best practices to be visible for adoption by each other. IQAC may consider the proposal and advice.

Decision: It was resolved to call for innovations in academics from all teachers.

Item No.Q3.8.06: Annual Report of IQAC to be included in University Annual Report:

A brief annual report of IQAC for the year 2015 is enclosed as Appendix A2; IQAC may consider and approve the same for inclusion in the annual report of the University.

Decision: Approved.

Item No.Q3.8.07: Review of achievements of IQAC during 2015, based on Master Action Plan:

The Master Action Plan adopted in early 2015 containing 350 action points (to be acted upon over 5 years, in 8 themes) is to be reviewed on annual basis. The number of items completed/ initiated in each section is given in below. The overall percentage progress is 91/350, approximately 25%. IQAC may note and advice further action.

Sl No.	Name of Sector	Total Points	Action initiated/ Completed	Progress %
1	Vision, Frame Work & Benchmarking	31	15	48.4
2	Research & Innovation	38	8	21.1
3	Teaching, Learning & Evaluation	61	15	24.6
4	Schools, Depts., Centers & Institutions	36	6	16.7
5	Student Development	45	13	29
6	Governance	105	25	24
7	Extension	12	3	25
8	Miscellaneous	18	6	33.4
Total		350	91	26

Decision: IQAC expressed satisfaction at the progress. It was resolved that the progress be maintained.

Item No.Q3.8.08: National Institutional Ranking Process - Reporting: UGC has launched an initiative to rank all Universities and college in the country (www.nirf.org). As per their direction, University of Kerala has registered in the web site and initiated steps to collect data, under the auspices of the IQAC. The Vice-chancellor has addressed the UGC Chairman on some of the issues with data uploading and has sought more time. The matter is reported to IQAC.

Decision: Noted.

Item No.Q3.8.09: Preparing for UPE: The selection of University of Kerala for the Best University Award instituted by the Honorable Chancellor has been a major credit for the University. It is now proposed that early preparations may be done for seeking UPE (University for Potential of Excellence) status. The list of Universities granted UPE status is given below along with their grades, grade points and focal themes.

Sl No.	Name of the University	Focus Area
1	Jadavpur University (Grade A, 3.61)	Mobile Computing and Communication and Nano-Science
2	Pune University, Pune NA	Bio-Chemistry & Bio-Technology
3	University of Hyderabad (Grade A, 3.72)	Interface Studies and Research
4	Jawaharlal Nehru University (Grade A, 3.91)	Genetics, Genomics and Bio-Technology
5	University of Madras NA	Herbal Science
6	Madurai Kamraj University NA	Nano science in Biology
7	North Eastern Hill University (Grade A, 3.03)	Bio-Sciences and Area Studies
8	University of Calcutta (Grade A, 3.3)	Modern Biology
9	University of Mumbai (Grade A, 3.05)	Green Technology
10	Osmania University (Grade A, 3.31)	Material Research - Social Relevance
11	Banaras Hindu University NA	Advance Functional Materials Genomics and Proteomics
12	University of Rajasthan NA	Materials and Converging Sciences : Nano Particles, Nano-composites and multilayers
13	University of Mysore (Grade A, 3.47)	Advanced Functional Materials; Media and Social Development-A Case Study of Karnataka
14	Karnataka University (Grade A, 3.02)	Anti-Tumor Activity : An Integrated Approach
15	Guru Nanak Dev University (Grade A, 3.5)	Material Science

A committee may be formed to study the scheme and make an action plan. The IQAC may advice.

Decision: IQAC discussed in detail the preparations for applying for UPE scheme. It was resolved that the standing committee of IQAC may prepare a discussion note. The Vice-Chancellor may approve the note and then a meeting of all school Directors & HoDs be called to discuss the matter further.

Item No.Q3.8.10: Calling for Department Level Actions Plans (2016) from Depts:

The Annual Action Plans for enhancing (2015) were called for, received and compiled. IQAC may now decide on (i) calling for a report on action taken on the plans of 2015, and (ii) calling for Annual Action Plans for quality improvement for the year 2016.

Decision: IQAC decided to call for ATR on 2015 Department level plans and also to call for plans for 2016. The suggestions that the IQAC evaluate the ATR were considered, but it was generally agreed that it is better to place trust on the ability of the teachers to do critical evaluation of their own activities. After their own evaluation is received, if needed, IQAC may consider further steps.

Item No.Q3.8.11: Approving Environmental Audit Report: As per the decision of the IQAC, a committee chaired by Dr. A. Bijukumar of the Dept. of Aquatic Biology had conducted an Environmental/Green Audit in Kariavattom Campus. The report is tabled before IQAC for approval and further action.

Decision: IQAC approved the report and authorized the Director to incorporate corrections noticed. It was also resolved to issue congratulatory notes by the Vice-Chancellor to the members of the committee. It was also resolved that the communication on open defense of PhDs should contain an instruction to follow Green Charter of the University. Sign boards in the campus may also be considered. Green Charter may be reissued as circular.

Item No.Q3.8.12: Conduct of Energy Audit- Proposal from BSNL: As per decision of IQAC, the director had initiated steps to conduct the Energy audit of the University. On enquiry, it is understood that only licensed agencies can conduct such an audit. The consultancy wing of BSNL is one such agency. They have provided a quote which shall be tabled in the meeting. IQAC may decide further action.

Decision: It was resolved to request the University to set apart Rs. 5 lakhs for energy audit in the budget for 2016-17.

Item No.Q3.8.13: Attracting Project Funding : Dr. K.G. Gopchandran, Associate Professor, Dept. of Optoelectronics, University of Kerala has put forward a suggestion to IQAC to observe two selected months as project submission months. Every faculty member may be requested to submit a proposal for funding from an agency of their choice, either as investigator or co-investigator. The planning Dept. may setup a single window facility for processing and forwarding the proposals diligently. Also a DEO may be engaged to design and produce copies of proposals. Necessary funds for reprography may also be allotted. It is suggested that the months of April & May may be chosen for the above. IQAC may consider the above proposal and advice.

Decision: IQAC discussed the proposal in detail and resolved to go ahead with its implementation. A workshop on funding proposal preparation is to be conducted with a common session and 3 parallel sessions for Science & Technology, Social Sciences and Arts & Humanities. Special arrangements to support and process proposals to be made by DPD. The Vice-Chancellor was authorized to nominate a 4 member committee under DPD.

Item No.Q3.8.14: Review of NAAC Exit Recommendations: NAAC Peer team has given the following recommendations in its exit report, for quality enhancement. IQAC may review the status of progress in each:

- 1. Take steps to fill up the vacancies*
- 2. Establish central instrumentation facilities with state of the art technology*
- 3. E-Governance could be further strengthened and moved towards paperless administration.*
- 4. Timely declaration of results and strict adherence to academic calendar*
- 5. Go in for a better placement mechanism*
- 6. Core faculty to enhance teaching learning resources in outstation centers*
- 7. Make the campus differently abled friendly*
- 8. Strengthen mentoring and counseling systems.*
- 9. Go in for more MoUs at national and international levels.*
- 10. Design courses with industrial linkages for providing employment opportunities to students.*

11. Strengthen research culture in University departments and especially in the affiliated colleges.
12. Encourage teachers to go for PDF and undertake sponsored research projects.
13. Encourage teachers to innovate and apply for patents.
14. Introduce more inter and multi – disciplinary courses
15. Activate and energize Alumni Association
16. Institutionalize grievance redressal and feedback mechanism.
17. Arrange for more lectures by eminent academicians drawn from all over the country.

Decision: IQAC discussed various activities done by the University during 2015 towards responding to the NAAC exist report suggestions and observed that the suggestions have been acted upon with varying levels of strength as indicated below:

High:

- *Establish central instrumentation facilities with state of the art technology: Centre instrumentation facility is about to be opened.*
- *E-Governance could be further strengthened and moved towards paperless administration: Director, Computer center confirmed that the process towards paper-less office is in full swing.*
- *Timely declaration of results and strict adherence to academic calendar: Academic calendar is in place; its adherence is being monitored by the Chancellor himself on a trimonthly basis.*
- *Go in for a better placement mechanism: Placement cell has been re-enlivened.*
- *Design courses with industrial linkages for providing employment opportunities to students: A course on Next Generation Sequencing was organised jointly with InApp Technologies, Technopark.*
- *Strengthen research culture in University departments and especially in the affiliated colleges: Research policy is on the anvil.*
- *Introduce more inter and multi – disciplinary courses: MPhil in integrative Biology is newly being launched.*
- *Arrange for more lectures by eminent academicians drawn from all over the country: Impressive progress is being made in this aspect*

Medium:

- *Make the campus differently abled friendly: All Depts now have disabled access in ground floor, access to higher floors need to be acted upon. In the senate hall, lifts are available.*
- *Go in for more MoUs at national and international levels: Some are being processed*
- *Encourage teachers to innovate and apply for patents: Two patent applications have been filed in 2015. IPR literature has been supplied to selected departments.*

Low:

- *Take steps to fill up the vacancies; Core faculty to enhance to teaching learning resources in outstation centers: On both the above aspects, IQAC noted that filling up vacancies is subject to legal and administrative issues being solved.*
- *Strengthen mentoring and counseling systems.*
- *Encourage teachers to go for PDF and undertake sponsored research projects.*
- *Activate and energize Alumni Association*
- *Institutionalize grievance redressal and feedback mechanism.*

Item NO.Q3.8.15: Tri-monthly Report to the Chancellor: The trimonthly report to the Chancellor has been submitted on time during the 4 terms in 2015. IQAC may review the arrangements for the reporting.

Decision: As the committee has been serving for a year, it was resolved that the committee be re-constituted by the Vice-Chancellor.

Item NO.Q3.8.16: Virtual Internationalisation: International Workshop on Virtual Internationalisation (to enhance the student experience with the use of new technologies) was organised jointly by Dept of Zoology in association with University of Roehampton, UK and IQAC from Jan 18th and 19th 2016. A number of pragmatic suggestions for international collaborations have evolved from the Workshop. Discussions were held by Dr. Girish Kumar R., Member, Syndicate with experts from UK. IQAC may discuss the matter and propose action.

Decision: IQAC discussed the possibilities and recommended further action. It was resolved to authorize Dr. Girish Kumar R., Member, Syndicate, to make a proposal to the Vice-Chancellor with specific suggestions.

Item No.Q3.8.17: Complaint regarding MARC

മാർക് സെമിനാറുമായി ബന്ധപ്പെട്ട് വിദ്യാർത്ഥികളുടെ ഭാഗത്തുനിന്നും വന്ന പരാതി ചർച്ചചെയ്തു. ഭാഷാശാസ്ത്രവിഭാഗത്തിൽ അർഹതയില്ലാത്ത ഒരാൾ പ്രബന്ധം അവതരിപ്പിച്ചു എന്നതിനെ സംബന്ധിച്ച് സ്കൂൾ ഓഫ് ഇന്ത്യൻ ലാംഗ്വേജിസിന്റെ ഡയറക്ടർ വിശദീകരണം നൽകി. അത്തരം ഒരു ശ്രമത്തെ തടയുന്നതിൽ കൃത്യസമയത്തു തന്നെ ഡയറക്ടറുടെ ഇടപെടലുണ്ടായി എന്നും അനർഹമായി ആർക്കും സർട്ടിഫിക്കറ്റ് നൽകിയിട്ടില്ല എന്നും ഡയറക്ടർ വിശദീകരിച്ചു. ഡയറക്ടറുടെ വിശദീകരണം യോഗം അംഗീകരിച്ചു.

The meeting came to a close at 11AM

Director, IQAC

Vice-Chancellor
Chairman, IQAC

Appendix A1

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL MULTI-DISCIPLINARY ANNUAL RESEARCH CONFERENCE (MARC) 2015

By Dr. A. Shaji, Organizing Secretary, MARC

The first Multi-Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC) was conducted jointly by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IAC) and various schools of the University of Kerala from 15-18 December 2015. The inaugural and plenary sessions were held in the Kerala University Senate Hall, Palayam from 10 am to 1pm on 15 December 2015. School level conferences were conducted by various schools from 16 December 2015 to 18 December 2015.

Inaugural and Plenary Sessions

The inaugural and plenary sessions were held in the Kerala University Senate Hall, Palayam from 10 am to 1pm on 15 December 2015. For this purpose an invitation was prepared and the soft and hard copies were circulated far and wide. For highlighting the guests of honour who has agreed to participate in the function a separate poster carrying the photos of the guests of honour was also prepared and circulated.

As decided earlier the programme commenced at sharp 10am. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair and Dr. Shifa. S compared for the inaugural and plenary sessions of the conference. The prayer song was rendered by the students of the Department of Music, University of Kerala. Dr. N. Veeramanikandan, Hon'ble Pro-Vice Chancellor made the Presidential Address. Dr. Shaji A. Conference Secretary, MARC 2015 rendered the welcome address:





Dr. P.M Radhamani, Member, Syndicate and Sri. V.V Ajesh, Chairman, Researcher's Union offered felicitations. The vote of thanks was given by Dr. M. Jayaprakash, Registrar. The inaugural session was followed by the plenary session in which Sri. T.M Krishna, Carnatic Music vocalist spoke on Music, Science and Society. Prof. Y.S Rajan, distinguished Professor, ISRO, Bengaluru spoke on Technology: Challenges Ahead. Sri. P. Radhakrishnan, Astronaut ISRO spoke on Science and Man and Dr. Sebastian Paul presented a paper on Media and Society. The sessions concluded with the national anthem. Around 1500 persons participated in the inaugural and plenary sessions.

The School of Business Management & Legal Studies conducted the national conference on Ethical and legal issues in Human and Societal responsibilities of organizations on 18th December 2015. The morning session started with the invited lecture by Sri. Babu Jacob, Chairman of CMD, Thycaud and the former Chief Secretary of the Government of Kerala. In the morning session, there were 21 papers presented. After lunch, there was an invited lecture by Sri. Veerakumar, Director, KILE and then Dr. B. Vijayakumar, Principal, KITTS chaired the technical session II where there were about 19 papers presented. In all about 200 members got the benefit of the programme.

School of Indian Languages conducted MARC seminar on 17 & 18 December 2015 on the topic "Relevance of Humanities in multidisciplinary research with special reference to Language and Literature." After the inauguration, 6 parallel sessions for the paper presentation of students began. 24 teachers and 80 students presented their research papers and 267 registered members had participated in the seminar.

The School of Life Sciences, University of Kerala conducted two days national 2015. The technical sessions started at Seminar Hall, Botany Department with the theme lecture by Dr. AG Pandurangan (Scientist, JNTBGRI) Parallel session at Conference hall, Department of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics on Ecology & Conservation Biology was held. At Conference hall, Dept. of Zoology, Session Functional Biology was held. The oral presentations (9 Nos.) were chaired by Dr. Omkumar and Co-chaired by Dr. Sunny Francis, Dept. of Zoology, University College, TVM. On 17.12.2015, 23 presentations were made by researchers from different organizations. Parallel to this session at Seminar Hall, Dept. of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics 20 oral presentations were also conducted.

The National Multi-Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC) 2015 on **Information Overload in the Postmodern Society** organised by the **School of Communication and Library Science** was held on December 17, 2015. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair inaugurated the Conference. Yaseen P.V., Director of School of Communication and Library Science, gave the presidential address. One hundred and two (102) participants from various fields attended the Conference. Altogether, Seventeen (17) papers were presented.

The National Conference on Translation Studies organized as part of the Multi-Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC) under the auspice of The School of English and Foreign Languages took place on December 16th 2015, at the Seminar Hall, Institute of English, University of Kerala. 120 registered participants including teachers, researchers, academics and students from across the country participated in the conference. It was inaugurated by Dr. J. Devika, renowned translator and academic, Centre for Development Studies. In the afternoon, four parallel sessions of paper presentations were held.

As part of the First National Multi- Disciplinary Annual research Conference (MARC 2015), a seminar on 'Current Trends in Earth and Environmental Research' was organized by the School of Earth System Sciences on 17th December 2015 at the Department of Geology. Fourteen presentations were made in this technical session. First Presentation was by ***Shan-Shan Li, Research scholar, China University of Geosciences Beijing, China*** in the topic "Neoarchean subduction tectonics in the North China Craton: evidence from Yishui complex". Then six presentations from the Dept. of Environmental Sciences and seven presentations from the Department Of Geology were made.

National conference on trends and Advancements in ICT was a multi-disciplinary annual Research conference (MARC) organised by School of Technology on 17th December 2015 at Department of Physics (Seminar Hall). The participation of the different departments are as follows: Department of Computer Science - 123, Department of Futures Studies-46, Department of electronics- 41 and other delegates- 7.

Marc conference by the School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences was organized on 16 December 2015. More than 225 participants from various institutions and organizations registered and participated. The inaugural address was made by Dr. V. Ramakrishna, Director, IISER, Trivandrum. 12 papers were presented in two different sessions.

School of Social Sciences, the biggest school in the University of Kerala organized the National MARC on 16 and 17 December 2015. It was inaugurated by Prof. Amit Shovan Roy, Director, Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram. Around 500 persons participated and 35 papers were presented in the conference.

Appendix A2

Annual Report of IQAC

University of Kerala

With the successful completion of the second cycle of re-accreditation by NAAC, culminating in award of A-grade, IQAC has rebooted to take quality activities to the next level for cycle 3 re-accreditation due in 2020. IQAC has set a clear focus on designing and implementing both microscopic and macroscopic quality initiatives. The following are the members of the IQAC:

1. Prof. P.K. Radhakrishnan,
Vice-Chancellor (Chairman)
2. Dr. N. Veeramanikandan
Pro Vice-Chancellor (Vice-Chairman)
3. Dr. R. Jayaprakash
Member, Syndicate
4. Dr. Girish Kumar R
Member, Syndicate
5. Dr. P.M. Radhamani
Member, Syndicate
6. Dr. Alexander Jacob I.P.S
Former D.G.P
7. Dr. M Jayaprakash
Registrar (i/c)
8. Dr. Mini Dejo Kappen
Director, Planning & Development
9. Dr. M. Jayaprakas
Director, College Development Council
10. Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S
Director, Computer Centre
11. Shri. Santhosh C. Kurup
CEO, ICT Academy of Kerala
12. Shri. Narayanan S
President, Quest Global, Technopark.
13. Dr. G. Suresh Singh
Professor, Department of Mathematics
14. Dr. K. S. Chandrasekar
Professor, Institute of Management in Kerala
15. Dr. M.C. Subhash Peter
Professor, Department of Zoology
16. Dr. C.R. Prasad
Professor, Department of Malayalam
17. Dr. G. Raju
Professor, Department of Commerce
18. Dr. Shaji A
Assistant Professor, School of Distance Education
19. Shri. John Williams
Chairman, Departments' Union
20. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair
Professor, Dept. of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics, (Director,IQAC)

The reconstituted IQAC started off with a 60 month planner of activities for 2015-2020. At the end of 2015, the planner has been followed successfully and 7 full-fledged meetings have been held in which over 100 items related to quality improvement were discussed. Some were implemented and matters falling under the powers of statutory bodies were forwarded to the authorities for consideration.

1. Master Action Plan

The Master Action Plan to improve quality is a listing of about 350 points classified under 8 focal areas which the University plans to relentlessly pursue in the near future.

1. Vision, Frame Work & Benchmarking 2. Research & Innovation 3. Teaching, Learning & Evaluation 4. Schools, Depts., Centers & Institutions 5. Student Development 6. Governance 7. Extension 8. Miscellaneous. This key document is expected to be the road map for the University of Kerala in its long journey towards being world-class

2. Logo and Website

A logo was approved for IQAC at its second meeting and is now used in all literature of IQAC. A simple graphics with the image of Q embedded around University logo, with the motto "Quality through continuous improvement" displayed around it. A web site also has been launched at kuiqac.keralauni.edu. Dr. Shaji, Member, IQAC leads the web site project and its maintenance. The year 2015 began with the coveted A-grade re-accreditation by NAAC. The year ended with an equally coveted recognition for the University-the first Chancellors award for the best University of the State.

3. Annual Student Survey

An annual student survey was conducted during the 3-tier induction programme for post-graduate students on September 7, 2015. This was aimed at understanding the student cohort's social, academic, entrepreneurial, and aspirational background, so as to enable the teachers and administrators to serve them better. 148 questions were asked under 12 heads. 521 students (around 70%) of the new admission have taken part in this survey, making it a fairly representative one. Major Findings of the Annual Student Survey include: 86% of students are in age group of 20 – 22, 80% are female; highest qualification of parents of around 45% students is SSLC. ; 15% of students face some crisis in family; 4% of students have serious health issues; 69% of students wish to join M.Phil; 81% of students wish to go on to Ph.D.

4. Research Methodology Workshop

A workshop for research students was held in association with Research Union.

5. Library Quality Audit

A base-line quality study of the library system has been conducted and report published.

6. Gender Audit initiated

A gender audit of the University has been initiated.

7. Policies & charters

Fifteen policies and charters have been drawn up through committees appointed by IQAC, for consideration of the statutory bodies of the University.

8. Student feedback conducted

Annual Student Feedback has been conducted. The data is being processed.

9. Circulars on promoting Interdisciplinarity and directing research towards University

Detailed Circulars on promoting Interdisciplinarity and directing research towards University have been issued.

10. Student Quality Council

Student Quality Council, a body for students to discuss and point out quality related issues of concern to the studies to IQAC, has been constituted.

11. T-LARC Constituted

A Central Body, as envisaged by NAAC/UGC, to review the teaching, learning and assessment process in the University has come into existence vide U.O No Ac.D/IQAC/2/7311/2015 dated 10/12/2015 under chairmanship of Pro Vice-chancellor. The Teaching Learning and Assessment Review Committee shall meet twice a year to discuss student feedback, assessment samples, and also review the Academic Audit Report of Depts. from the perspective of Teaching, Learning and Assessment and make recommendations for improvement.

12. Environment Audit

A committee was constituted by IQAC to conduct an environmental audit of the campuses of the University. As there is no standard model for such an audit, the committee brainstormed and evolved a questionnaire. With the help of student volunteers, the major part of the data was compiled, which the committee analyzed. The Department of Environmental Sciences of University of Kerala and also Pollution Control Board of Govt. of Kerala provided measurements. The committee has made short term and long term suggestions to take environment protection to higher levels.

13. Bench Mark Series

As per the goals and functions of IQAC defined by UGC, development and application of quality benchmark and parameters has prime importance. Towards this end, IQAC of University of Kerala is engaged in compiling a bench mark series that helps the stakeholders of the University to understand different facets of the University system in contrast to local & global peers. Two such reports have been compiled.

14. Graduate Attribute Video

The IQAC has drawn up attributes of graduates of the University. A pledge by the students was taken during the Induction programme based on graduate attributes. A creative video to communicate the same has also been produced and screened.

15. AQAR Submitted to Syndicate

The Annual Quality Assurance Reports, the major document required to be filed by the IQAC every year was compiled with inputs from all Depts. and University arms, by a committee led by IQAC member Dr. C.R. Prasad. The report has been placed before the Syndicate for its approval and is presently under consideration of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on research.

16. Dept Quality Plans; Academic Audit

In the first quarter of the year, all teaching and research departments of the University were requested to prepare quality plans. These were received and compiled. These are to be reviewed early next year. An academic audit scheme has been designed. It is to be completed early next year.

17. eBook Project

The eBook series has multiple aims--to provide a platform for speedy publications of scholarly works; to promote dissemination of scholarly thoughts and new findings in a free manner, under a Copy left license; and to promote outreach activities of the University of Kerala. 5 books have been prepared for release.

18. PG Brochure

Even though the University of Kerala published its International Brochure in 2013, it has not been having an annual brochure for students, for the past few decades. This lacuna was solved when a brochure was printed and distributed to all newly admitted PG students on 7 Sept 2015, along with 3-tier induction programme.

19. USAP

A university Skill Acquisition Programme (USAP), as a complement to ASAP scheme of Government of Kerala, has been conceived and discussions held.

20. 1000 Wiki Lights

"1000 Wiki Lights" has been initiated to get students, researchers and faculty to contribute copy left articles through wikipedia to enrich the cyber knowledge world. This was done in collaboration with Depts. Union and Research Union. A training programme on Wiki development has been held.

21. National Multi-disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC)

The first Multi-Disciplinary Annual Research Conference (MARC) was conducted jointly by the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IAC) and various schools of the University of Kerala from 15th to 18th December 2015. The inaugural and plenary sessions were held in the Kerala University Senate Hall, Palayam from 10 am to 1pm on 15 December 2015. School level conferences were conducted by various schools from 16 December 2015 to 18 December 2015. The inauguration was done by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Dr. P.K. Radhakrishnan. In the plenary session, Sri. T.M Krishna, Carnatic Music vocalist spoke on Music, Science and Society. Prof. Y.S Rajan, distinguished Professor, ISRO, Bengaluru spoke on Technology: Challenges Ahead. Sri.P.Radhakrishnan, Astronaut ISRO spoke on Science and Man and Dr. Sebastian Paul presented a paper on Media and Society. Around 1500 persons participated in the inaugural and plenary sessions.

A plenary session which saw four luminaries and an audience strength of 1500, nine school-level conferences which saw 343 paper presentations with 2131 registrants. MARC 2015 the first multi-disciplinary Annual Research Conference organized by IQAC in collaboration with various schools of the University was held successfully from 15-18th December 2015. Prof Dr. P.K. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor & Chairman of IQAC inaugurated the conference. Dr. M. Jayaprakash, Registrar (i/c), Dr. P.M. Radhamani, Member, Syndicate, Sri V.V. Ajesh, Chairman of Researcher's Union, Dr. A. Shaji, organizing Secretary of MARC spoke in the inaugural session . Sri. T.M. Krishna, Carnatic

music vocalist spoke on “Music, Science and Society”. Prof. Y.S. Rajan, distinguished Professor, ISRO, Bengaluru spoke on “Technology: Challenges Ahead”. Sri. P. Radhakrishnan, Astronaut, ISRO spoke on Science and Man” and Dr. Sebastian Paul spoke on “Media and Society”.

School level conferences were held during 16-18th at various venues in which faculty, research scholars and students presented papers and participated. The School of Business Management & Legal Studies organized conference on the theme “Ethical & Legal Studies”. (40 papers were presented, 200 participated). School of Indian Languages organized conference on the theme “Relevance of Humanities in multidisciplinary research with special reference to Language and Literature”. (104 papers were presented, 267 participated). The school of Life Sciences organized conference on the theme” Changing Perspectives in Life Sciences” (70 papers were presented, 400 participated). School of Communication and Library Science organized conference on the theme “Information Overload in the Postmodern Society” (17 papers were presented, 102 participated). The School of English and Foreign Languages organized conference on the theme” Translation Studies” (35 papers were presented, 120 participated). School of Earth System Sciences organized conference on the theme” Current Trends in Earth and Environmental Research” (13 papers were presented, 100 participated). School of Technology organized conference on the theme” New Trends and Advancements in ICT” (15 papers were presented, 217 participated). School of Physical and Mathematical Sciences organized conference on the theme”Challenges in Basic Science Research” (14 papers were presented, 225 participated). School of Social Sciences organized conference on the theme” Constructing Modern Kerala: Multiple Trajectories of Past and Present (35 papers were presented, 500participated).