



Internal Quality Assurance Cell  
University of Kerala

# News Letter

Cycle 3, Issue 2 (Covering 2016), January 2017

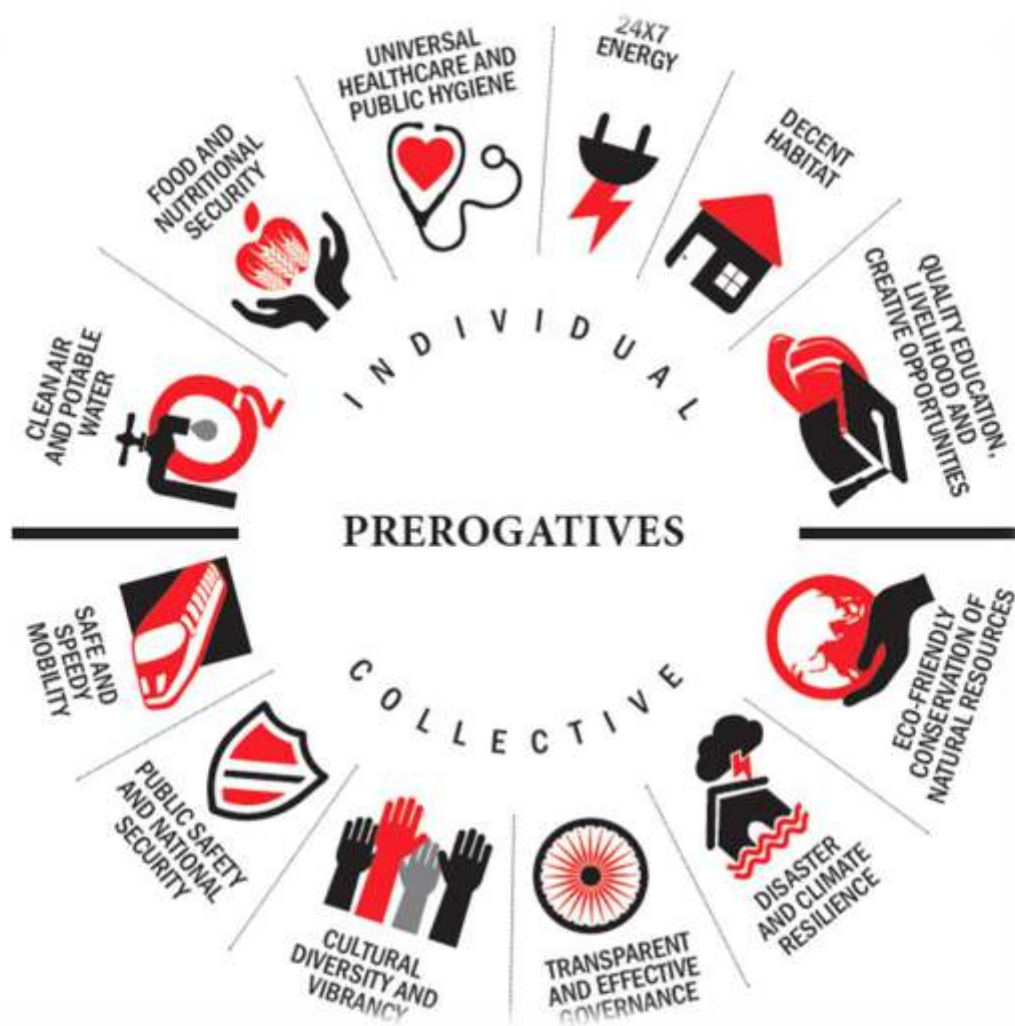


Image courtesy: TIFAC Govt of India

**What should our University research on ?**  
*An exercise in seeking stake - holder inputs*



## IQAC, University of Kerala

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(Chairman)
2. Pro Vice - Chancellor, UoK  
(Vice-Chairman)
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Syndicate on Academics & Research, UoK
4. Convener, Standing Committee of the  
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Programme Director, FLAIR,  
Govt of Kerala
12. Dr. M. Sarngadharan  
UGC Emeritus Professor, UoK
13. Dr. Jayachandran R.  
Assoc. Professor & Head,  
Dept. of Hindi, UoK
14. Dr. K.S Chandrasekhar  
Professor and Director, Institute of  
Management in Kerala, UoK
15. Dr. E. Shaji  
Asst. Professor  
Dept. of Geology, UoK
16. Dr. Mushtaq Ahammed  
Assistant Professor(Commerce)  
School of Distance Education, UoK
17. Dr. Joseph Antony,  
Assoc. Professor and Head, Dept. of  
Political Science, UoK
18. Dr. Bushra Beegom R.K.  
Asst. Professor, Dept of Sociology, UoK
19. Dr. Shaji. A,  
Asst. Professor, (History)  
School of Distance Education, UoK
20. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair  
Professor, Dept of Bioinformatics and  
Computational Biology, UoK  
(Director, IQAC)

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# Editorial



**A**s cycle 3 enters the third year, IQAC has marched ahead as planned, completing most of the quality enhancement activities that it had planned. A comprehensive academic audit, green/environment audit, gender audit, persons - with - disability audit have all been completed this year. Many new initiatives have been designed and/or launched: Kerala University Grand challenge, Innovation Contest, Internal Course Accreditation etc are ready to be rolled out. The first MOOC course is also ready to go online. Startup initiative, presently managed by IQAC, has also been fruitful in enabling four startup companies. Additio-

nal Skill Acquisition initiative is yet to roll out.

One of the major ground work done by IQAC this year has been the design and implementation of master data collection at Dept and Faculty level. This has been found extremely useful in not only meeting data needs of IQAC, but that of other Depts like Planning & Development or College Development Council. The compilation of the AQAR this year has been a very simple affair with no additional call for data.

IQAC spear-headed participation of the University in three major ranking exercises: The Chancellor's Award for the Best University (University of Kerala was ranked No. 2 in the State), National

Institutional Ranking framework NIRF (results awaited) and Times Higher Education supplement – THES world ranking (Result awaited). Each of these exercises have helped us to understand our strengths and weaknesses, enabling us to improve quality.

True to its motto "Quality through Continuous Improvement", this newsletter has attempted to improve itself from last year, inform and content. Critical comments, another tool for improvement, are welcome. ■

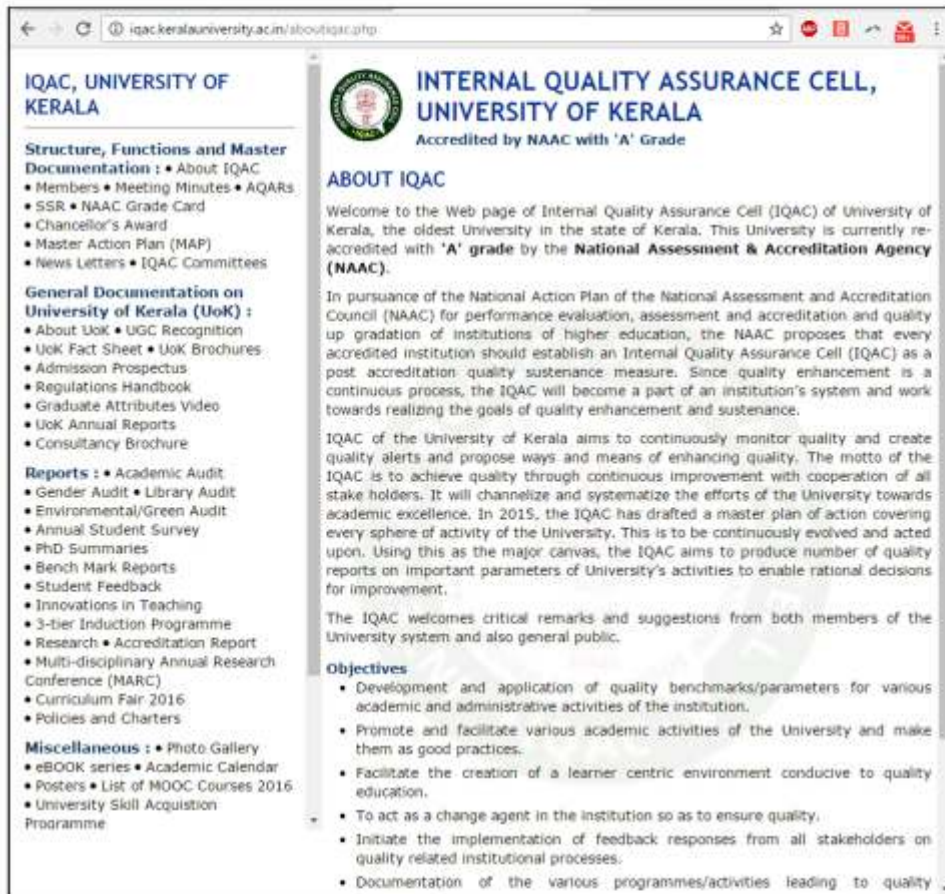


**Prof. P.K. Radhakrishnan**  
Vice-Chancellor  
Chairman of IQAC



# Rich and simple

## IQAC Website redesigned



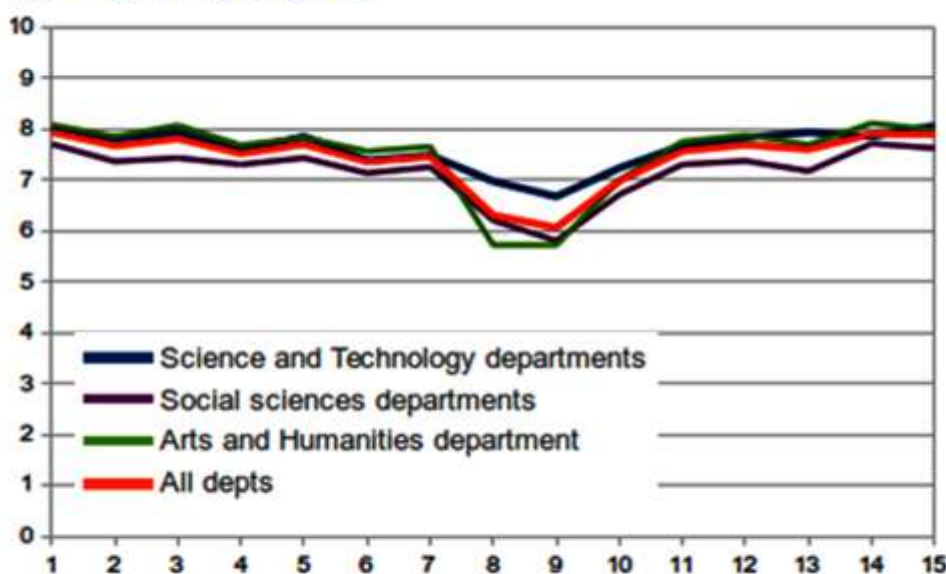
The website of the IQAC has been comprehensively redesigned with technical assistance of the Kerala University Computer Centre. A purely textual design has been adopted and the design ensures that a bird's eye view of the web content is always visible on the left panel. All meeting minutes and over 25 reports of the IQAC are available for downloads. University's basic documentations and annual reports are included.

This website is extremely professional and without flaws. If someone finds your website they will have all the links/information that is needed. The question I would have is how someone will find it? We are so inundated with information these days, it's hard to figure out a way to 'drive' someone to a website.

William G. Tierney

Wilbur Kieffer Professor of Higher Education  
University of Southern California

## T-LARC



Teaching Learning and Assessment Review Committee (T-LARC) set up by IQAC has published students feedback summary for 2016

### Feedback Questions

(1) Over all the courses was an excellent one (2) The teacher motivated me (3) The teacher treated all students fairly equal

(4) The teacher gave interesting assignment. (5) The teacher encouraged students to ask questions. (6) The assignments were valued and returned with helpful comments. (7) In addition to topics in syllabus, general perspective was also given. (8) The teacher used multimedia presentations in some classes. (9) The teacher uses the smart class rooms. (10) The teacher suggested web resources. (11) Enough books were available in Dept. Library, related to the course (12) Aims and objectives of the course was explained clearly to students (13) A course bulletin / brochure was issued in the beginner of semester (14) I was fully involved in the course. (15) I will recommend this course to junior student.



# Mandate of IQAC

**G**oals: 1) To develop a quality system for conscious, consistent and catalytic programmed action to improve the academic and administrative performance. 2) To promote measures for institutional functioning towards quality enhancement through internalization of quality culture and institutionalization of best practices.

Objectives: • Development and application of quality benchmark parameters for various academic and administrative activities of the institution. • Promote and facilitate various academic activities of the University and make them as good practices. Facilitate the creation of a learner centric environment conducive to quality education. • To act as a change agent in the institution so as to ensure quality. • Initiate the implementation of feedback responses from all stake holders on quality related institutional processes. • Documentation of the various progra-

mmes/ activities leading to quality improvement.

Strategies: • Ensure timely and efficient performance of academic and extra-curricular activities. • Maintain quality of academic and research activities. • Ensure an error free evaluation procedure. • Facilitate the modern methods of teaching and learning. • Measures for ensuring quality sustenance and quality enhancement.

Functions: • Formulation and implementation of quality benchmark for various programmes and activities of the university. • Documentation of various activities / programmes organized in the University. • Organise training programmes on quality related themes. • Preparation of Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) to be submitted to NAAC. • Prepare the University for the next cycle of reaccreditation and elevate it to the status of a world class institution. ■

## Online Grievance Redressal

### 38/43 Complaints from SC/ST settled in 2016

**T**he UGC has directed Universities to develop a web page on their website for lodging complaints of caste based discrimination by SC/ST students as part of prevention of caste based discrimination in Higher Educational Institutions. Accordingly a portal was started by the University of

Kerala exclusively for the redressal of caste based discrimination. SC/ST students can lodge their grievance through the portal which is visible to the Nodal Officer who in turn take remedial measures and upload the same through the same portal. Dr. A. Shaji, Member, IQAC is serving as nodal Officer ■



MASTER ACTION PLAN TO  
IMPROVE QUALITY  
UNIVERSITY OF KERALA



## Master Action Plan

**T**he Master Action Plan (MAP) to improve quality is a listing of 350 points classified under eight focal areas : 1. Vision, Frame Work & Benchmarking 2. Research & Innovation 3. Teaching, learning & Evaluation 4. Schools, Depts. & Centers 5. Student Development 6. Governance 7. Extension 8. Miscellaneous. They have been drawn up by considering the parameters recognized by NAAC and UPE scheme. In addition, the IQAC has also deliberated and contributed its collective wisdom. This document is expected to be the road map for the University in its journey towards excellence. At the end of 2016, 37% of items in MAP has been either initiated or completed. ■



# Infrastructure Funds Promised



**F**unding from Kerala Infrastructure Fund Board (KIFB) to the tune of ₹ 150 Crores will be made available to University of Kerala, to develop Karyavattom campuses to world class. This was declared by Honourable Minister for Finance, Dr. T. M Thomas Issac during the inauguration of the International Seminar on "Attracting Project Funding: Opportunities and Approaches" organised by IQAC on 20th August 2016. Dr. Thomas Issac called upon the University to develop a detailed project report for Karyavattom Campus development. He expressed satisfaction that the University was taking effort to attract external funding. He also declared support of Govt. of Kerala for the "Kerala University Grand Challenge" being launched by IQAC. Registrar Dr. M. Jayaprakash presided over the inaugural

function. The function was organised in collaboration with Translational Research and Professional & leadership Centre (TPLC) at Barton Hill Engineering College under Directorate of Technical Education. Dr. K. Vijayakumar, Director of Technical Education, Dr. Shaji Senadhipan, Principal, Barton Hill Engineering College, Dr. A. Shaji, Member of IQAC and Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair, Director, IQAC spoke on the occasion. Two parallel sessions, one for Science & Technology and one for Social Sciences, Arts and Humanities were held. Close to 200 participants were there. The resource persons were: Dr. Eldo Mathews (British Council), Dr. Manju K (Research Officer, RUSA), D. Manjula Mudakana (Science Officer at the German Consulate General), Dr. P.S. Anilkumar (IISc Bangaluru), Prof. P.R. Sudhakaran (Former

head of the Dept. of Biochemistry, UoK), Dr. Ajith Prabhu (KSCSTE), Dr. Somanath (ISRO, Valiyamala), Dr. John Samuel (UNDP Consultant), Prof. Thankom Arun (U.K), Dr. Natarajan (Central University, Pondicherry), Dr. C. G Rajendra Babu (Formerly Professor of Malayalam), Dr. Sanal Mohan (Professor, M.G University, Kottayam). Various schemes of funding were introduced in the seminar. Dr. K. Gopchandran, Associate professor, Dept. of Opto Electronics mooted the idea of seminar and co-ordinated it jointly with Dr. A. Shaji, Member of IQAC and Dr. R. Suja, Programme Director, TPLC. Govt. Barton Hill Engineering College. It is hoped that the seminar will go a long way its motivating teachers to bring in research funding to the University. IQAC has plans to follow up the initiative to its logical conclusion. ■



# 13 Meetings, 200+ items

## IQAC continues to be hyper-active in 2016



**I**n the third cycle of accreditation, 13 full-fledged meetings and a special meeting to approve the Annual Quality Assurance Report have been held. So far over 200 items related to quality improvement were discussed. In 2016, six meetings with over 100 agenda items were held. Some were implemented and matters falling under the powers of statutory bodies were forwarded to the authorities for consideration. IQAC also held quality consultation meetings with faculty. Bench marking data collection by the IQAC indicates that the IQAC of Kerala University is among the most active quality councils in the country ■

## Professional Development Programme

### Junior teachers undergo 2-day programme of IQAC.



**T**wenty seven Assistant Professors underwent the two day professional development programme organized by IQAC at UGC

Human Resource Development Centre during 8th and 9th November 2016. Dr. K.S. Chandra sekhar, Professor, Institute Management in Kerala, member,

IQAC, mooted the idea and co-ordinated the event. Resource persons for the programme were: Dr.S.V. Sudheer, Director, UGC-HRD, Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair (Director, IQAC), Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S., Director, Computer Centre and S. Vijayakumar, S.O., IQAC. The programme covered awareness on University Acts and statutes, University's IT initiatives, NAAC and accreditation process, Start-up and entrepreneurship system in the University and activities of Finishing school. The feedback from participants has been very encouraging ■





number of committees were formed by IQAC to initiate action on its decisions. In most of this committees, women representation and representation to 3 major disciplinary streams (Science & Technology, Social Sciences and Art & Humanities) has been ensured.

1. **ASAP Executive Committee:** Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair (Director, IQAC), Dr. M. Sarngadharan (Dean, Faculty of Commerce), Dr. Bushra Beegom R.K. (Sociology), Dr. Sibi K.S. (Physics), Dr. G.S. Jayasree (English), Dr. Jayasree E.G. (Chemistry)
2. **Attracting External Funds for Research:** Dr. K.G. Gopchandran (Opto-Electronics), Dr. M.C. Subhash Peter (Director, School of Life Sciences), Dr. Suresh Jnanaswaran (Director, School of Social Sciences), Dr. Meena T. Pillai (Director, School of Foreign languages), Shri. P.K. Raju (Finance Officer), Dr. S.V. Sudheer (Director, UGC-HRD Centre).
3. **Preparing for UPE Scheme:** Dr. J. Prabhash (Political Science), Dr. Suresh Jnanaswaram (History), Dr. Manoj Changat (Future Studies), Dr. P.M. Radhamany (Botany), Dr. Subhash Kuttan (Communication & Journalism), Dr. V. Biju (Physics), Dr. Thajudeen A.S. (Arabic), Dr. Bijukumar A. (Aquatic Biology & Fisheries), Dr. Humayoon Kabir S. (Library & Information Science).
4. **Promoting Journals Published by the University:** Dr. M. Sargadharan (Dean, Faculty of Commerce), Dr. Pradeepkumar A.P. (Geology), Dr. Aji S. (Comp. Science), Dr. Meena T. Pillai (English), Dr. Shaji E. (Geology), Dr. Anu Unni (Political Science), Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S. (Director, KUCC), Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair (Director, IQAC).
5. **Preparation of NIRF 2017:** Dr. A. Shaji (IDE), Dr. Anil Chandran S., (Demography), Dr. Vinod Chandra S.S. (Director KUCC)
6. **Examination Reforms:** Dr. C. Satheesh Kumar (Statistics), D.S. Ajitha (IDE), Dr. A.P. Pradeepkumar (Geology), Dr. S. Prema (Linguistics), Dr. C.S. Suchith (Hindi), Dr. Biju P.G. (Biochemistry), Dr. Sreejith P. (Zoology), Dr. Bindu R.L. (Education), Dr. Josukutty C.A. (Politics), Dr. Bindu P. (Psychology), Dr. K. Satheeshkumar (Futures Studies)
7. **Academic Performance of Students from disadvantaged groups:** Dr. Pushpam M. (Sociology), Sri. Noushad V. (Arabic), Dr. A. Rosemary A. (Linguistics), Dr. B.V. Sasikumar (Malayalam), Dr. A. Ganga Prasad (Botany), Smt. Jeejakumari. V. K. (Zoology), Dr. Sony George (Chemistry), Smt. Sajna A. (History), Dr. Saiful Islam A (Politics)
8. **Promoting Innovation:** Dr. T. S Anirudhan (Chemistry), Dr. K.G. Gopchandran (Opto Electronics), Dr. A. Bijukumar (Aquatic Biology), Dr. Satheesh (Futures Studies), Dr. E. Shaji (Geology), Dr. Sainaba M. (ORI), Dr. Saja K. (Biochemistry), Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair (Director, IQAC)
9. **Progress in Master Action Plan in 2016:** Dr. G. Prasad (Zoology), Dr. R. Vasanthagopal (IDE), Dr. Meena T. Pillai (Institute of English)
10. **Promoting Drug Free Campus:** Dr. Suresh R. (Politics), Dr. Mushtaq Ahammed (IDE), Dr. E. Shaji (Geology).
11. **Proposal for Student Success Center:** Dr. Bismi Gopalakrishnan (Law), Dr. Bindu P. (Psychology), Dr. T. Vijayalekshmi (Tamil), Dr. C. Satheesh Kumar (Statistics).
12. **Enhancing Extension/Outreach Activities:** University Level co-ordinator, Dr. A. Bijukumar (Aquatic Biology & Fisheries), Dr. C. R. Rajagopal (Malayalam), Dr. E. Shaji (Geology), Dr. S. Raju (Psychology), Dr. Sainaba M. (ORI), Dr. Rajesh. S.V. (Archeology), Dr. Rajalekshmi R. (Botany), Dr. Aji S. (Computer Science)
13. **Committee on managing AIR Programme- "Sarvakalasala Vaani":** Dr. M.S. Harikumar (communication and Journalism), Dr. Sindhu Thulaseedharan (Law), Dr. Saja K. (Biochemistry), Dr. V. Biju (Physics), Director, IQAC
14. **Gender Audit 2017:** Dr. Bushra Beegom R. K. (Sociology), Dr. Indu K. V. (IDE), Dr. S. Ajitha (IDE), Dr. Christabell P. J. (Future Studies), Dr. A. Rosemary, (Linguistics) and Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair. (Bioinformatics), Dr. Rose Mary George (IDE).



# Annual Student Survey

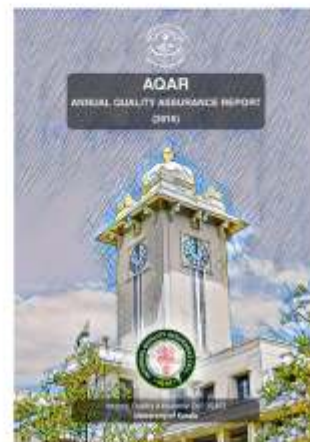


**A**n annual student survey was conducted during the 2-tier induction programme for post-graduate students, organized by the IQAC in 2016. This was aimed at understanding the student cohort's social, academic, entrepreneurial, and aspirational background, so as to enable the teachers and administrators to serve them better. 81 questions were asked under 9 heads. The responses to these have been compiled and published. 458 students of the newly admitted batch have taken part, making it a fairly representative survey one. The annual conduct of this survey is expected to also provide an indication of changing social backgrounds and student population.

## We are.....

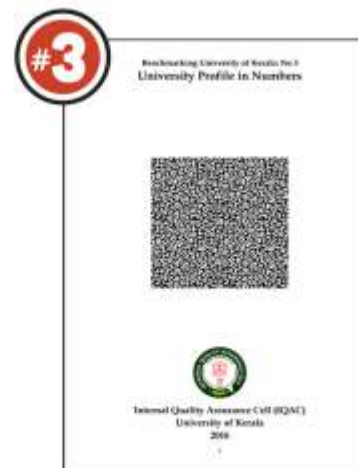
- 78% of students are in age group of 20 – 22;
- 77% are female.
- Highest qualification of parents of around 36% students is SSLC.
- 8% of students face some crisis in family.
- 2% of students have serious health issues.
- 97% of students have Aadhar Card.
- 41% of students studied SSLC in Govt. School.
- 43% of students studied SSLC in Malayalam medium.
- 75% seek salary of Rs.25,000 and more; 14% seek Rs.10,000–5,000.
- 55% of students wish to join M.Phil.
- 64% of students wish to go on to Ph.D.
- 51% are ready to start a company, if University supports them.
- 54% own a laptop and 95% own mobile phones (72% smart-phones)
- 46% seek NET training, 40% want to try civil service..

## AQAR 2016



**T**he Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR), the major document required to be filed by the IQAC every year has been compiled this year without any separate data collection. The stream lining of regular data collection has made this possible. ■

## Bench Mark Series



**A**s per the goals and functions of IQAC defined by UGC, development and application of quality benchmark and parameters has prime importance. Bench mark series of IQAC is aimed to help stake holders to understand different facets of the University system in contrast to local & global peers. Third in the series, comparing selected Universities on key parameters, has been published. ■





# POGIL to enhance Learning



**I** QAC University of Kerala in Association with FLAIR, Govt. Of Kerala organized a two day workshop on "Process - Oriented Guided Inquiry Learning (POGIL)" in Kariavattom from 25th and 26th November 2016. The inauguration ceremony was held at Darwin-Babbage Seminar hall at Department of Computational Biology and Bioinformatics. Dr. Baboo M. Nair, Emeritus Professor, Lund University, Sweden, officially inaugurated the function. Dr. K. P. Jaikiran, Director FLAIR, Govt. of Kerala, presided over the function. Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair, Director, IQAC; Dr. Clif Kussmaul (Muhlenberg College, USA), Sri. R. Dilip, Joint Registrar, University of Kerala Dr. Rajoo Krishnan, Programme Director, ASAP Govt. of Kerala were the other eminent personalities

who made their presence in the inaugural ceremony. Over 38 participants joined the POGIL two day workshop, of which 31 were from University of Kerala, four were external participants and three participants from the co-organiser: FLAIR, Govt. of Kerala.

POGIL is a student centered group learning strategy developed through research on how students learn best. The workshop provided an excellent opportunity to review the POGIL activities in depth starting from basic teaching and learning methodology to self-Assessments. Dr. Clif Kussmaul Dr. K. P. Jaikiran and Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair were the key resource persons. The workshop dived through state of art handouts which ensured interaction throughout the sessions. Green Charter was complied in the event. ■

## Team IQAC

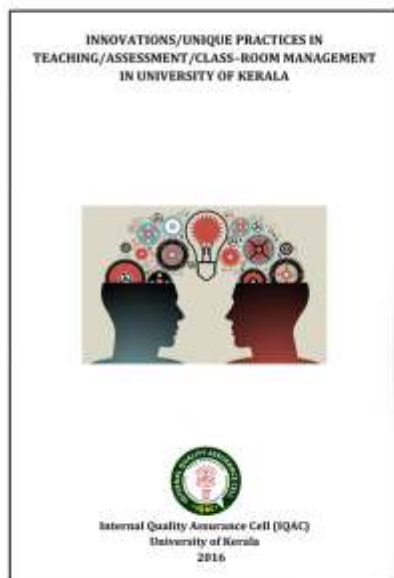


**I** QAC has been strengthened with a full fledged office with two assistants: Akhila S. and Kannan Raj, newly posted. The office is administered by section officer Sri. Vijayakumar S. The office has been re-furnished with modern amenities and a mini Conference hall is being set up. An archive of key documentation of the University is also being set up. The premises are also being given a facelift. ■



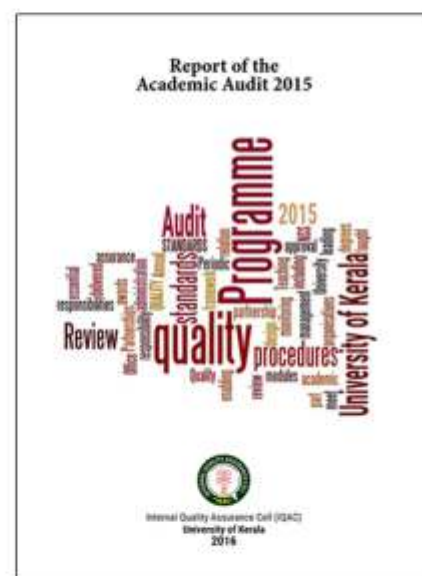
# Teaching & Learning

## Ideas for improvement



**I**nternal Quality Assurance Cell is charged with the responsibility to document microscopic activities related to quality. This compilation is a non-exhaustive collection of innovative practices in teaching/assessment/ class-room management that are reported by teachers. It is hoped that good practices can be adopted by others. A set of suggestions by IQAC for improve teaching and learning has been also included in this compilation ■

# Academic Audit



# On top of data.....

## Data Collection Systematised



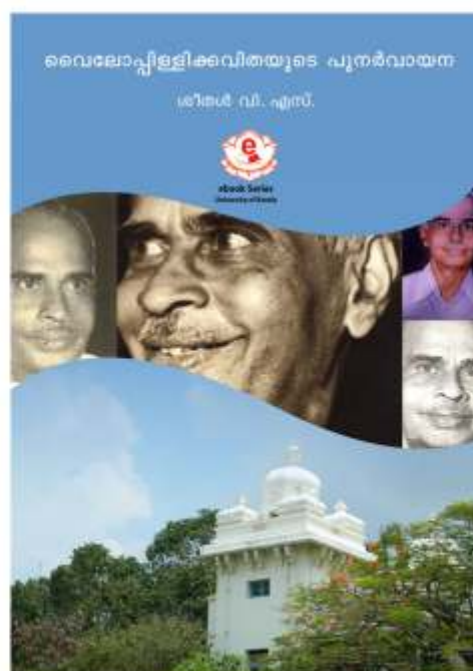
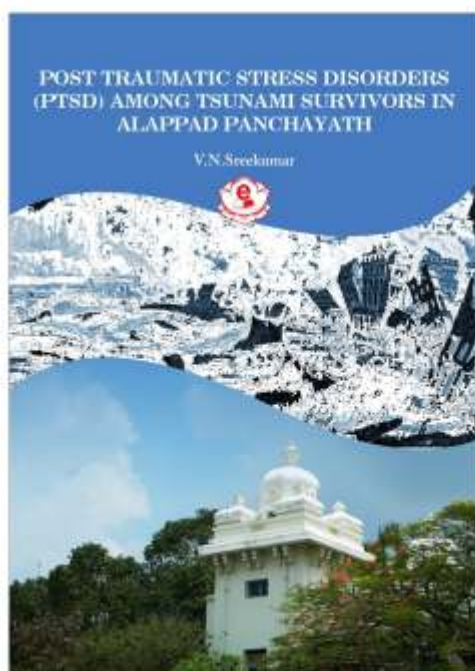
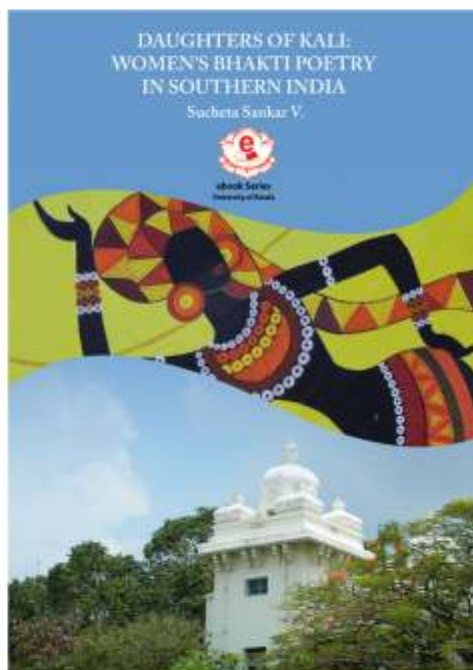
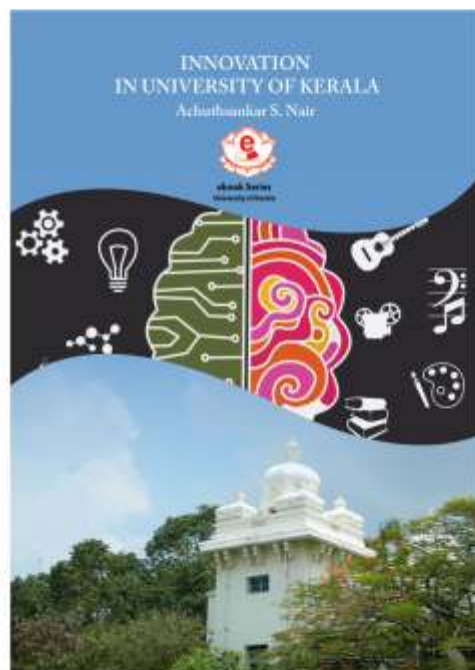
**A** big university like University of Kerala (3634 students in its own campuses and 69737 Students in affiliated colleges) is a complex system to comprehend, for both insiders and outsiders alike. From a quality perspective, there is a constant need to collect data and produce reports aimed at understanding the university system

and improving it. IQAC has introduced two dockets, Dept. level and Faculty level, which capture microscopic data. They have been designed taking into account all data needs (AQAR, NIRF and Chancellors Award etc.) and has proved to be an excellent resource not only for IQAC, but for many branches of University administration. ■

**T**he report of the first Academic Audit of the University of Kerala has been brought out. It has been conducted as a faculty driven self-reflection and peer feedback. The Departments themselves have chosen peer reviewers and have resolved on taking steps based on peer review. The IQAC has merely been an enabler. It is perhaps noteworthy that the Kerala University Act has provisions for a general audit of varsity's working, every 10 years, as per subsection (1) of section 71 of the Act. In 1984, Dr. Malcolm S. Adiseshiah and in 2000, Dr. Padma Ramachandran led the two commissions appointed by the Government of Kerala. The commission of 1984 seems to have conducted something very similar to the present audit of teaching Departments. Some extracts of both these reports have been included as an appendix to the present Academic Audit report. The exercise is to repeated once in every two years ■



# eBook Project



**T**he eBook series launched by IQAC has multiple aims (i) to provide a platform for speedy publications of scholarly works; (ii) to promote dissemination of scholarly thoughts and new findings in a free manner, under a Copy left license; and to (iii) promote out-reach activities of UoK, Chairperson), Dr. Jameela

the University of Kerala. Six eBooks have been released under Creative Commons CC-BY-NC-ND (Attribution - Non Commercial-NoDerivs ) license. In the first phase, 10 books were received for consideration. An editorial committee consisting of Dr. S. Kevin (Former Pro-Vice Chancellor, Ibrahim, ( Retd Professor of English), Dr. E.V. Sonia (Scientist

Rajiv Gandhi) Centre, and Dr. John K. Kattakkayam (former Prof. of Sociology) reviewed the manuscripts received and recommended 6 for publication. They are available in IQAC website for download. AQAR of 2016 records e-Books as one of the best practices of University of Kerala. Many teachers have expressed interest to contribute eBooks in 2017. ■



# MOOC: Ready for Rollout

**A**fter almost an year of deliberations and technology evaluation, the first "Massive Online Open Course" from University of Kerala is ready for roll out in January 2017. A professional video has been launched and international sign up is being solicited at [www.keralauniversity.ac.in/mooc](http://www.keralauniversity.ac.in/mooc). As it is well known that the dropout rate of MOOCs is exceptionally high, the University has designed its first MOOC with six lectures, each of six minutes. The course subject has also been chosen to appeal almost every one—"how to make powerful multimedia presentation".

In 2016, the University tested a pilot MOOC, for which a number of teachers from within the University signed up. This enabled the testing of the technology and also provided

**Announcing**  
**Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)**

@ University of Kerala  
Online, Open, Free and Globally Available

First course on  
**Making Powerful Multimedia Presentations**

- 6 lectures, 6 MCQ Tests, 1 assignment, 0-discussions
- **Pre-requisite:** Anyone already familiar with making PowerPoint presentations
- **Course instructor:** Prof. Achuthankar S. Nair

This course will uncover techniques to make a multi-media presentation with optimal viewability, ergonomics, aesthetics, and enjoyment. It will give opportunity to critically review some sample presentations and finally make one

Sign up at:  
[www.keralauniversity.ac.in/mooc](http://www.keralauniversity.ac.in/mooc)

**MOOC**

valuable feedback for the design of the first course. IQAC is co-ordinating the first MOOC. The MHRD, Govt. of India has meanwhile launched a MOOC platform named SWAYAM and has started offering UG courses through it. The facility for credit

transfer from SWAYAM courses has been legislated by UGC. The Academic Council of University of Kerala has readily adopted the regulation in 2016. MOOC has come to stay, and the University of Kerala has set the wheels rolling. ■

## Tryst with MOOC 15 years ago

**Learn On-line@University of Kerala**

**First Time in Kerala ...**

6-month Certificate Course in Web Technologies  
All learning material available on web  
Video of lectures available on CDs  
Faculty interaction via eGroups, eMail & Chat  
Appearance only for admission & examination  
Eligibility: Any recognised degree  
Familiarity in programming desirable  
Last Date for Application: 10 June 2002

Download Prospectus &  
Application Form from  
[www.keralauniversity.edu](http://www.keralauniversity.edu)  
(see What is new)

**UNIVERSITY OF KERALA**

**F**ifteen years ago, the University of Kerala attempted a simple form of MOOC. It announced an online course on "Web Technologies" in April 2002. While the discussions and interactions were online, the video lectures were to be delivered on CDs! (The internet did not have the capacity to carry online video during 2002). Three students registered for the course too. But due to many reasons, the course did not take off. The tryst with MOOCs is being realized, after 15 years, in a fully online mode and in an international canvas. ■



# What should our University research on?

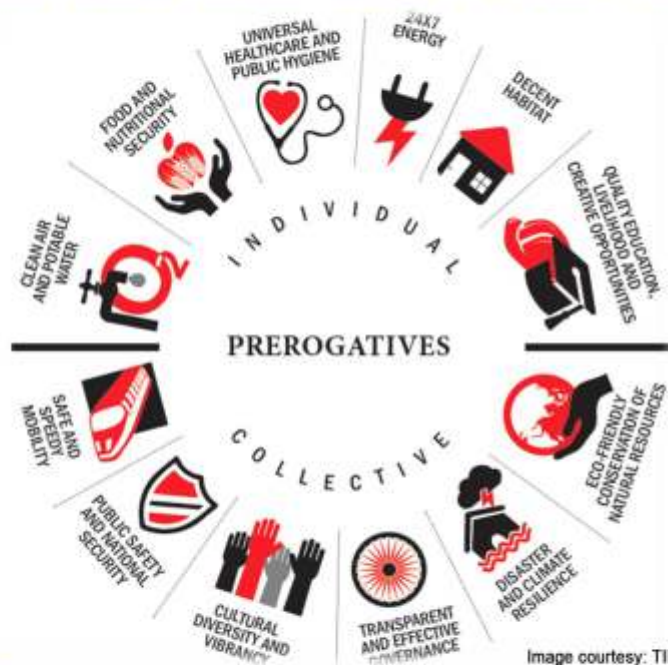


Image courtesy: TIFAC Govt of India

**T**he University of Kerala has been accelerating its efforts to enhance quality in all spheres. The Internal Quality Assurance Cell of the University has taken multiple steps to invite suggestions from all stake holders of the University, from general public,

alumni, local and national Industries and organizations through direct communications, media releases and also using social media. These have now been compiled and published in IQAC website. It is published for the benefit of students & research scholars of the University. This

compilation is an important activity aimed at connecting research to real-life problems. Many of the problems highlighted by the proposers are worth first consideration by researchers, as their utility is automatic. Kerala Minerals and Metals has, for instance, pin-pointed their problem: that of developing means of using the two lakh metric ton of waste iron oxide and ETP (Effluent Treatment Plant) solid. The Innovation Lab of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has proposed a collection of exciting technological problems. Many other organizations and individuals have made innovative suggestions such as synthetic blood to attract mosquitos, cocopistol to estimate tenderness of coconuts and so on. ■

## Research Council



**D**irector, IQAC held charge of Director of Research from June to December 2016. A full-fledged meeting of the Research Council was organised during this time.

The minutes of the meeting has been published and includes a documentation of history and current status of research in University of Kerala.

The council adopted a mandate for itself and considered a status report of research in the University. The average impact factor of 2 for the 100 publications it produced in 2015 was noted as having scope for improvement. It was decided that scientific infrastructure should be documented. IQAC has produced such a documentation and published it in IQAC web site. Other matters relevant to IQAC are being acted upon. ■

## Research on the University

**T**o promote and research work directed towards the University, such work has been issued letters of appreciation by IQAC. In 2016, two such letters were issued: (i) Dept. of Futures Studies has produced a project report on "Performance assessment of 100 KW solar power plant installed at University Campus in Kariavattom". (ii) Dr. Asha J.V., Dept. of Education has come out with a book on "Disabled Friendliness of Higher Education Institutions in Kerala: A case study of University of Kerala". ■



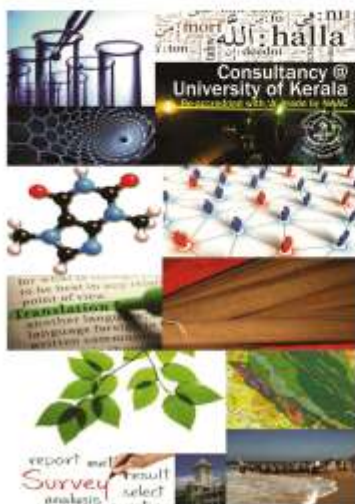
# Miscellaneous Notes

## Gender Audit



A committee appointed by IQAC has conducted gender audit for 2015 and published it in 2016. This is the third gender audit conducted by IQAC and reconfirms the women majority in all sectors except top echelons of power, in the University. ■

## Consultancy



IQAC has compiled a comprehensive brochure on consultancy services and sent out copies of the same to 150 potential clients. Consultancy guidelines have been revised in 2016. The annual turnover from routine and non-routine consultancy during 2015 has been Rs.

61 lakhs. Dr. Annie Abraham, Professor, Dept. of Bio-Chemistry has been serving as Director of University Consultancy Cell during 2015 - 16. Recent major clients have been Kerala State Bio-diversity Board, Israel Agency for Development of Aquaculture in Kerala, Biothera Health Care, Govt. Ayurveda College, Trivandrum Corporation, Reliance, etc. ■

## 2-Tier Induction



Induction programme of newly admitted PG students have been organized at school level and dept. level during September 2016 and the report has been compiled and published by IQAC. Streaming of Graduate Attributes Video designed by IQAC, Annual Student Survey, introducing school and department, talks on learning strategies etc. have been arranged by Departments. ■

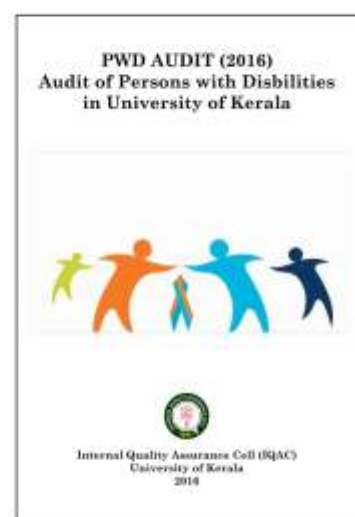


## Academic Calendar



IQAC has designed a model format for academic and examination calendar which has been approved by a duly empowered committee in 2016 and instructions have been issued to adopt the model from 2017 onwards. The new model is ergonomically designed and organized with clarity for layman's use. ■

## PWD Audit



Audit of students and staff with disability has been conducted and published, along with helpful information such as text of the recent Act on Persons with Disabilities. ■



## Admission Statistics

**A**dmission statistics showing application received and students admitted in all programmes of Departments and centers such as UIT, UIM, UCK etc. has been compiled by IQAC. The demand ratio in University Depts. is as follows:

Stream	Demand Ratio
Art and Humanities	4.2
Social Science	11.6
Science & Technology	10.5
Overall	8.7

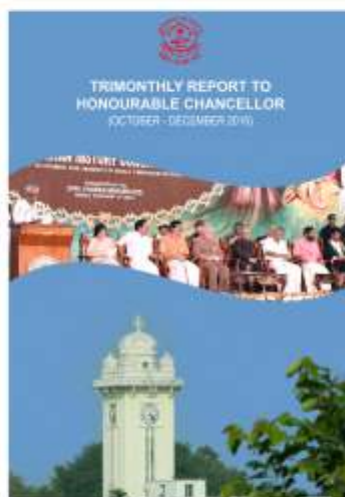
## Seminars

**K**ey Seminars and Workshops organised by IQAC during 2016 are: • Talk by William G Tierney of University of Southern California • Seminar on Higher education and Research Funding in Germany by German House for research and innovation • Seminar on Sustainable Development Goals • Workshops on Research Methodology in collaboration with Researcher's Union. • Workshop on SPSS in collaboration with Researchers Union • IQAC also collaborated in the organization of Virtual Internationalisation Workshop organized by Dept. of Zoology ■

## Award, Ranking

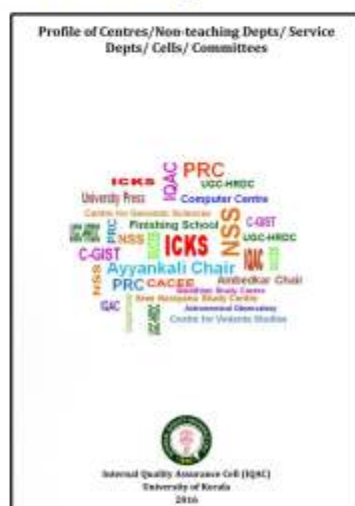
**T**he University of Kerala, which won the first Chancellors Award for Best University in the State in 2015 has been ranked No.2 in 2016. The University has taken part for the first time, in National Institutional Ranking Frame (NIRF) of MHRD, Govt. of India and also the World University Rankings of Times Higher Education Supplement (THES), London. Results of both are awaited. ■

## Trimonthly Reports



**T**rimonthly reports called for by the Hon'ble Chancellor have been compiled by a committee consisting of Dr. Shifa R., (Dept. of Malayalam) Dr. Binoj R. (Dept. of Geology) and Dr. L. Darvin (Dept. of Linguistics). Four reports of 2016 were submitted in time. ■

## Centres under University



**I**QAC has compiled quick profile of all centres, non-teaching Departments, cells and committees of the University and has published it in the IQAC website. This 80 Page booklet has 76 entries. It has been rated highly useful. ■

## Policies/Charters



**F**ifteen policies and charters compiled by various committees appointed by IQAC is before the syndicate of the University of Kerala for adoption. ■

**M**any thanks for sending me the link giving me an opportunity to have a glimpse of what IQAC has been doing. I am highly impressed. I had a look at the minutes of the last meeting, and the various Reports. You have provided the info all that are pertinent in a fair and transparent manner. We should have an online facility to key in our data. We are told to furnish info for the compilation of the JNU Annual Report and then again for the NAAC. It takes a huge amount of effort to provide the info on our part. Possibly we are also a bit lackadaisical in our approach. My question is how could you manage? How did you get the cooperation of the faculty and the non-teaching staff to carry out and prepare such reports? I must say, it is a tremendous achievement.



Saumen Chattopadhyay,  
Professor, Zakir Husain Centre  
for Educational Studies, JNU



# Curriculum fair held

## 29 Curriculum innovations showcased

**I**QAC in collaboration with Centre for Curriculum Development of University of Kerala and FLAIR, Govt of Kerala, organised a Curriculum fair on 13<sup>th</sup> march 2016 at the Dept. of Education, University of Kerala. The fair saw display of 29 and was noted for very lively discussions and debates. Participants displayed posters on their unique curricular practices. Teachers from the University and Colleges and also teacher education students participated. The venue was the Dept of Education, University of Kerala. The success has motivated organisers to hold the fair in a higher scale in 2017. Dr Asha J.V., Director, Centre for Curriculum Development, University of Kerala has been the key organiser.



# Virtual Internationalisation

**I**nternational workshop on 'Virtual Internationalisation making effective use of new technology to enhance the student experience' was organized by Department of Zoology, supported by University of Roehampton and in association with IQAC (University of Kerala), FLAIR programme, British council of India from 18th to 19th January 2016. Sri.T.P. Sreenivasan, Vice-chairman The Kerala State Higher Education Council, Dr. Bridget Middlemas, PICAS coordinator, University of

Roehampton and Dr. Jo Peat, Head of Continuing Professional Development, University of Roehampton Dr. A.Sukumaran Nair, Former Vice chancellor, MG University, Dr. Alexander Jacob I.P.S., Sri. Mohankumar K. of C-DIT Rosamma Philip, Mount Tabor Training College, Sri. Sajanj., Doordarshan Kendra Dr. Mini Dejo Kappen, Director Planning & Development, and Dr. Gireesh K (Member, Syndicate) enlightened the workshop with their presentations and lectures. Dr. Sreejith was the Co-ordinator.







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**Contact:** Director, KU-TBSC, C/o IQAC, University of Kerala,  
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[team.iqac@gmail.com](mailto:team.iqac@gmail.com)





For attention of Researchers & Students ...

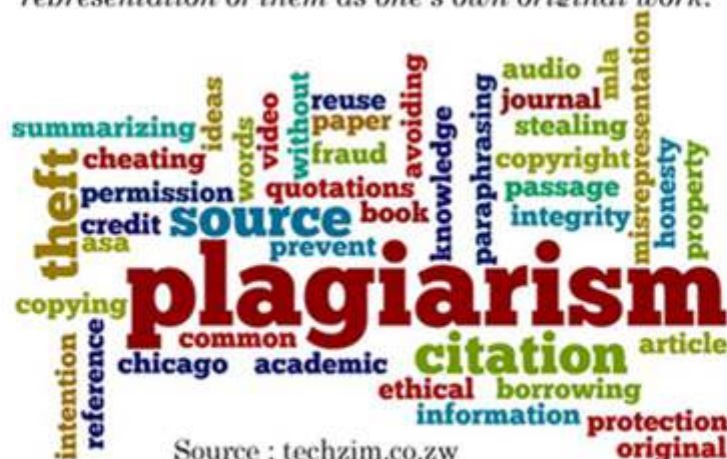
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