

Minutes of the meeting of IQAC

Date and time: November 23, 2021 12:00 p.m.

Venue: Council Room, Vice Regal Lodge, University of Delhi

The following members were present:

1. Vice-Chancellor- *Chairperson*
2. Pro-Vice Chancellor
3. Director, South Campus
4. Chairperson, Research Council
5. Registrar
6. Prof. Shyama Rath, Department of Physics and Astrophysics- *Coordinator*
7. Prof. Shailendra Goel, Department of Botany-*Co-Coordinator*
8. Prof. Sanjeev HM, Department of Political Science (Member)
9. Dr. Mukesh Kumar Mehlawat, Dept. of Operational Research
10. Dr. P. Koteswara Rao, Department of Electronic Science
11. Dr. C.M. Negi, Department of Finance and Business Economics
12. Dr. Subhash Kumar, Department of Physics, ANDC College
13. Prof. Pami Dua Department of Economics (Special invitee)
14. Prof. Sanjay Sehgal, Dean, Applied Sciences & Humanities & Chairperson, STFGR

The following members expressed their inability to attend:

1. Ms Bharti Ramola
2. Prof Ujjwal Singh

1. At the outset, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Yogesh Singh was accorded a warm welcome by Coordinator, IQAC on behalf of the team, as this was his first IQAC meeting after taking over charge of the university. The meeting began with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor in the Chair and a round of brief introductions by the members present. The Coordinator also took this opportunity to thank the administration for their support in the last one year, ever since this committee took over the responsibility of the IQAC.
2. The minutes of the last meeting of the IQAC, held on 8<sup>th</sup> April, 2021, laid before members in print, was passed unanimously without any modification or rectification.
3. This was followed by the presentation of the Action Taken report wherein it was reported that:
  - (i) Submission of AQAR reports were being done for the first time by the university after the NAAC review in 2018. The AQAR for the year 2018-19 and 2019 – 20 were submitted on 23/07/2021 and 31/08/2021 respectively. Further, the compilation and drafting of the AQAR for the year 2020-21 was in progress and is expected to be submitted by the end of December 2021.
  - (ii) Student Satisfaction Survey (SSS) Form for 2020-21 was communicated to the students through the Department Heads. To facilitate online feedback, IQAC had created a Google Form from the template for SSS approved earlier by the competent/statutory authorities.
  - (iii) The monthly reports of the IQAC are being regularly submitted to the Hon'ble Chancellor's office and there is no backlog at present.
  - (iv) GATI (Gender Advancement in Transforming Institutions): Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor was appraised about IQAC's initiative for the university's participation in GATI, a DST funded scheme which aims to align policies and practices for greater gender equity and sensitivity, with emphasis on the STEMM departments of HEIs. Our university became a signatory of the GATI Charter in June, 2021. DST has sanctioned an amount of Rs 7,99,200. The project involves the formation of a GATI self-assessment team (GSAT) and the appointment of a Project Assistant. University of Manchester is the U. K partner to our university in this scheme. On a query by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, it was reported that with respect to students, the PG departments of the university has a healthy ratio in favour of female students. However, this ratio is not very healthy among the technical staff of the departments. The gender data collected by IQAC from the various STEMM departments of the university w.r.t PhD student, post-docs, faculty, technical staff were presented.

- (v) To promote digitization, IQAC has been coordinating with academic departments, DUCC, and Establishment Branch to encourage faculty members to adopt the *Samarth* portal.
4. The Co-ordinator presented an analysis of the university's QS Ranking 2022 which has been jointly carried out by the IQAC and the Special Task Force on Global Rankings (STFGR). The house was apprised about the various parameters for global ranking which need attention. The joint recommendations by IQAC and STFGR was placed before the House. Prof. Sanjay Sehgal, Chairperson, STFGR (a Special Invitee) emphasised that a very large improvement is only possible after addressing some structural issues in the policies and practices. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor reiterated his commitment and focus on faculty recruitment, which is a priority for the university.
  5. Further on the matter of improvement in the Global Rankings, it was noted that the ranking methodology for publication metrics takes into account only SCOPUS indexed journals. It was deliberated that the publication in SCOPUS journals should be strongly encouraged to enhance the citation profile of the University. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor announced that henceforth the University would adopt a policy which will entail university's support to faculty members in publishing research articles in journals/conferences proceedings, which are only indexed by SCOPUS or have a similar indexing. At the same time, reputed journals outside the ambit of SCOPUS indexing may also be supported, if they are specially approved by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor on the recommendation of the Research Council. The Research Council shall place this proposal after the recommendation of a 3 member committee of the concerned department/faculty. The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor directed the IQAC to prepare a draft note to give effect to this directive with effect from January 2022. It was also agreed that Open Access publishing may also be encouraged, but only after a rigorous evaluation of the journal is taken up by the Research Council.
  6. On the matter of active engagement with the Alumni of the University, taking forward the suggestions in the previous IQAC meeting, it was reported that an Alumni Affairs Committee comprising of a Dean and faculty members of various departments and colleges as members had been established. To give further impetus to this measure and to include alumni as members, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor suggested that the University may set up a Section 8 company which shall function as the Alumni Division of the University led by the VC, with his team members being its ex-officio members and a CEO functioning as an executive head. The IQAC and the Alumni Affairs Office of the University was directed to coordinate with the Registrar to give effect to this. Further, integrating the alumni database with the *Samarth* Portal may be undertaken.
  7. On the matter of internationalization, the Co-ordinator remarked on the significance of increased internationalization of students and faculty as an important measure to enhance global rankings of the university. IQAC had initiated the process for inviting applications from departments for engagement of international adjunct faculty. A committee chaired by Dean, Academic Activities is formulating guidelines for the same and reviewing the applications received. The Hon'ble VC suggested that the engagement of international faculty in the online mode may also be encouraged and explored.
  8. The house was informed about the impending NAAC accreditation of the University which shall be due in 2023. It was decided that IQAC may formally communicate this to the various departments to enable them to review their processes along NAAC guidelines. It would also advise departments to keep track of the career progression of their students and alumni, as this is also an essential requirement of accreditation and various ranking exercises where the university participates.
  9. Academic Audit of the University: The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor concurred with the suggestion of the IQAC, that is a desirable exercise and directed the IQAC to take up this effort in right earnest. He further assured the house that university shall attempt to implement the suggestions of the Academic Audit in order to enhance the stature of the University.
  10. The Ex-Coordinator of IQAC, Prof. Pami Dua (a Special Invitee) apprised the house of the benchmarking exercise that the IQAC has undertaken so far. In this exercise, certain best practices are earmarked to be adopted in the Departments which are benchmarked to the best institutions globally as well as nationally.
  11. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor also informed the house that the University is making efforts to provide more fee waivers to students as a measure to enhance the reputation of the University globally.

12. On the matter of students' placements, it was noted that while the Central Placement Cell (CPC) is involved in the placements for UG students, there is a need to establish a similar cell for PG which would greatly benefit the students.
13. The matter of improving amenities and ongoing eco-friendly initiatives were discussed. Director, South Campus and Registrar appraised on the progress on the installation of solar panels in the university.
14. The matter of a dedicated office space for IQAC was noted by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor.

The meeting ended with thanking the Chair.

*Shyama Rathi*  
Co-ordinator 09/12/2021

*[Signature]*  
Chairperson 11/12/2021