

GOA UNIVERSITY

Taleigao Plateau, Goa

Minutes of the IQAC Meeting

A meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) was held on 20 March 2017 at 4:30 pm under the Chairpersonship of Varun Sahni, Vice-Chancellor at the meeting hall in VC's office with the following agenda:

1. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting held on 10 October 2016
2. Activity Review of IQAC
3. Preparing for NAAC-2019
4. Website initiatives
5. IQAC office space
6. Any other matter with permission of Chair

The following members attended the meeting.

1. Varun Sahni, Vice-Chancellor – Chairperson
2. Y.V. Reddy, Registrar – Member
3. Uttam Naik, Finance Officer – Member
4. Andre Rafael Fernandes, Dept. of English – Member
5. K.S. Priolkar, Dept. of Physics – Member
6. Jyoti D. Pawar, Dept. of Computer Science and Technology – Member
7. B.R. Srinivasan, Dept. of Chemistry – Member
8. Koshy Tharakan, Dept. of Philosophy – Member
9. Nilesh Borde (representative President, GUTA) – Member
10. Anthony Veigas (President, Goa Univ Alumni Association) – Member
11. Pranab Mukhopadhyay, Dept. of Economics and Director, IQAC – Member Secretary

Special Invitees

- a. M. Chakraborty, Head, Computer Centre and
- b. M.P. Tapaswi, OSD, IQAC were Special Invitees to the meeting.

Varun Sahni, VC and Chairperson, IQAC Committee welcomed the members. The members deliberated on the agenda as follows:

1. Confirmation of minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 10 October 2016 were confirmed.

2. Activity Review of IQAC

2.1. Surveys and questionnaires:

The members were briefed about the number of questionnaires and surveys that were attended by the IQAC during the current academic year. They include:

1. Academia-Industry Survey, conducted by DST- Centre for Policy Research at Panjab University, Chandigarh,
2. AQAR 2015-16 report (circulated and presented in this meeting),
3. Association of Indian Universities survey (presented in this meeting),
4. Performance Appraisal & Retention of Faculty member in Higher Academic Institution in India survey by Prof. R K Chauhan, VC Lingaya's University

5. India Today – India Today-Nielsen University Ranking Survey
6. PHD Chamber of Commerce & Industry survey on Framework of University-Industry Linkages in Research for Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Science & Technology, Govt. of India
7. National Institutional Ranking Framework 2017 (NIRF), MHRD, Govt. of India
8. National Survey on Resources Devoted to Scientific and Technological (S&T) Activities 2015-16 (DST, Govt of India)
9. The Week - Hansa Research – Best University Ranking Survey 2017 (that would be submitted by 24 March 2017) and
10. University Grants Commission (Pay Review Committee, 2016) Questionnaire for Universities
11. Select data for NRDC Innovation Facilitation centre proposal

IQAC also helped in preparing a proposal for Green Energy smart campus for the Government of India.

The Director, IQAC thanked every one involved from administrative block as well as departments in providing needed information to complete such herculean tasks.

2.2. Visiting Cards:

The members were also informed that the IQAC as a part of quality assurance in the organization, took initiative in standardizing the design for the visiting cards for the faculty members. It was opined that such products should have a corporate look. A blue colour that has been opted by the University be seen on all the products. In future, it was recommended to print the cards with blue background. In line with the effort, the members also felt that University develops standard products such as conference bags, T-shirts with logo, etc., at no cost to the University funds.

2.3. Green Campus Initiative:

The members criticized the installation of a large garbage bin near the faculty block canteen and recommended to shift it at a covered place where it is not largely visible. Though it was meant for plastic bottles that are thrown on the campus everywhere the bin is currently being used for dumping all (wet and dry) waste. The birds around are largely gathering there for food and spilling out the same making that area filthy. Members recommended for large number of small size bins for dry waste (including plastic bottles) on walk ways in the campus, as an alternative to this single bin, which would then be emptied routinely to the large bin.

2.4. Arrival of overhead scanner:

The members were informed that the overhead scanner had been installed in the library as a central facility. This was basically required for scanning of publications for the repository by IQAC and RUSA funds were used to acquire this common facility. It can scan and provide high quality output at a large speed (depending on expertise of the staff attending to the task). Members felt this be used not only for scanning of pages from books, etc., but also for all the important content of archival nature from files that are in the administration.

3. Preparing for NAAC-2019

It was informed that the Committees to prepare the NAAC effort was already in place and IQAC had been requested to assist this effort.

4. Website initiatives

The current website of the University was designed in 2010-11 and since then large technological changes have taken place. It was therefore thought of having a new design that allow all visitors to read the content comfortably with whatever devices they use and assist the persons with special abilities, besides choice of a language. An agency maintaining University website was contacted to provide a new design and quotation for the job. The new design was presented to the members in the meeting by inviting the contractor. This triggered an enthusiasm and much discussion among the members. Members were also felt that the services such as online verification of mark-sheets and certificates be also introduced on the new website. It was also felt that the new website provides seamless access to the University staff for the MIS dashboard that is likely to be introduced possibly by next academic year.

Mr Vernon from Team Inertia joined the meeting as a special Invitee and appraised the members that the contents were also being restructured under different menu items suiting to the guidelines provided by Govt. of India for the websites of Governmental and publicly funded organizations.

5. IQAC office space

The members were informed about allocation of a space for IQAC in Social Sciences Block B, vacated by the Department of Commerce. However, the hall that is provided cannot comfortably accommodate IQAC officers together with the support staff currently shared with RDRM. Besides, RUSA secretariat had also requested to join hands with IQAC to develop an office of RUSA. IQAC is already sharing data with AISHE. It would help in easing work if all these activities are brought together under one roof but that needs more space. It was decided that the Director IQAC would place a request with the Registrar to review the situation for more space.

6. Any other business

6.1. AISHE data:

Jyoti Pawar indicated need for additional information such as Aadhaar card and mobile phone numbers for AISHE. The Aadhaar numbers, as available with the administrative office for every faculty, be provided. However, AISHE cannot forcibly collect this information as it is not yet made mandatory to have Aadhaar card for every citizen. Some members also expressed reservations in providing mobile phone numbers as that would amount to the invasion of privacy as the University does not support the mobile phones.

6.2. Replacement of phones by mobile phones:

In continuation to the discussion on the AISHE data and the need of mobile phone numbers, the Registrar informed that the administration is in looking for new service provider for the phone connections on every faculty members' and officers' table. Members felt that the possibility of providing mobile phones without additional recurring expenditure to the officers and teachers in lieu of table phones be explored.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks.

(Pranab Mukhopadhyay)
Director and Member Secretary, IQAC