IQAC Meeting Held on 12th August, 2020

Members present:

Dr. A. Bose; Dr. S. Bishnoi; Mr. S. Tandon; Dr. S. Ghosh

Members who could not attend:

Dr. Girish Jain; Dr. A. Pandey; Dr. V. Sharma

This was the first meeting of IQAC for the academic year 20-21. The agenda was to discuss the list of activities that needed to be planned for the year.

Programme Audits:

2019-20: There were self-assessment reports from certain Programmes and audit reports of these Programmes that were pending for the last academic year (2019-20). It was suggested and agreed that Dr. A. Bose would send reminder emails to the concerned Programme representatives, and Auditors.

2020-21:

a. The members recommended that the audit for 20-21 should be conducted during the period April/May 2021, since i) this was suited from the perspective of time availability with both Auditors as well as Auditees, and ii) it would be more effective to capture process related information at the end of the academic year.

b. The members also recommended inclusion of certain other Departments/Programme into the audit scope for this year, such as: Doctoral Programme and Research; Examination Cell; Admissions; CCR; and Campus administration.

c. GM, Campus Admin., informed that a Covid-19 readiness audit for the campus has been conducted early this month by an external expert. The report is expected in a week's time.

d. GM, Campus Admin., also suggested that an audit of the eco-friendliness of the campus; the safety of students, staffs, and residents; the supportiveness of the campus infrastructure; catering; and student support services be included in this year's audit.

AQAR: The report for 2019-20 is pending and needs to be sent to NAAC. The deadline is 31st October 2020.

Quality Training

It was suggested and agreed that quality related training programmes should be planned for this academic year for the Academic and Campus Admin staff, as well as for the faculty members. The purpose would be to raise the level of involvement of these stakeholders in quality related affairs of the institution.
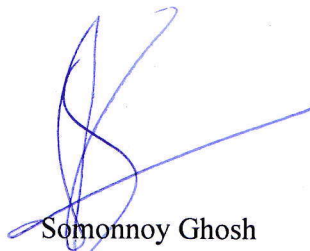
Suggested New Endeavours for IQAC

The IQAC Coordinator suggested the following new initiatives:

a. The ultimate goal of any quality initiative is enhancement of institutional performance in the areas/parameters identified by the leadership. Institutional performance, on the

other hand, would depend upon how well institutional processes perform. This requires i) identification of these critical institutional processes; ii) efforts to create formal representations of these processes in the form of process flow diagrams, to start with; iii) identification of those process elements that are critical to quality; iv) creation of measures related to these critical elements; leading to the v) creation of a quality health dashboard that can be accessed by important stakeholders any time. This initiative aligns well with prevalent process oriented approaches to quality management, as well as with recommendations of the accrediting bodies like AACSB, NAAC, and NBA.

The above proposal was discussed with Dr. Meena Bhatia (Vice Chairperson, Accreditation Committee). She concurred and further suggested that an integrated process oriented approach should also help integrate our data availability for the various accrediting bodies, which have more or less similar requirements but use different formats and nomenclatures.

b. Students, their parents; recruiters; and alumni are important stakeholders for our institution, and their 'voices' can form valuable inputs to whatever critical institutional processes are identified. It was suggested that the scope of their involvement should be examined with a view to using these stakeholders creatively and effectively in institutional quality planning, deployment, and monitoring. This suggestion also aligns well with the recommendations of NAAC, as well as with best practices followed globally.

Somonnoy Ghosh
Coordinator, IQAC