



University of Petroleum & Energy Studies

Minutes of Special IQAC Meeting held on 5th September 2015

Venue: MDC, UPES

Time: 11:00 AM to 1:30 PM

Members present:

1. Dr. Shrihari, Vice Chancellor – Chairperson
2. Dr. S. R. Das, VP Academic Affairs and Member Secretary
3. Dr. Amitabh Bhattacharya, Controller of Examination
4. Brig. S.S.Dillon, Director – Administration
5. Dr. Tarun Dhingra, College of Management & Economics Studies
6. Dr. S.P.S. Narang, Associate Dean, College of Management & Economic Studies, representative of Dr. Anirban Sengupta, Dean, College of Management & Economics Studies
7. Mr. Ravindra Yatagiri, AVP – Online Education
8. Mr. A. P. Semwal, Assistant Registrar – Academic Affairs
9. Mr. Shival Dubey, M.Tech. (Robotics) 2010-12
10. Dr. Vinay K Varshney, Head of Chemistry Division, FRI, Dehradun
11. Dr. Chinnappan Baskar, THDC Institute of Hydropower Engineering, Tehri Garhwal, Associate Professor of Chemistry Academic In-charge & Controller of Examination
12. Dr. V. J. Byra Reddy, Professor & VP-Accreditation
13. Dr. Jitendra Kumar Pandey (AVP-Research)
14. Dr. Suresh Kumar, Associate Dean – College of Engineering Studies representative of Dr. Kamal Bansal, Dean, Colleges of Engineering Studies
15. Dr. Shyam Pandey, Associate Professor, College of Engineering Studies
16. Dr. Mamta Rana, Assistant Professor (SG), College of Legal Studies, Representative of Dr. Tabrez Ahmad, Director, College of Legal Studies

Leave of absence was granted to the following members:

1. Mr. Sachin Jain Chief Finance Officer
2. Mr. Abhay Sharma, Registrar
3. Ms. Deepa Verma, Director (IA)
4. Dr. (Brig.) Anil Kumar Sharma, Director Student Affairs
5. Prof. S. C. Gupta, Colleges of Engineering Studies
6. Dr. Manas Pradhan (CIT), Colleges of Engineering Studies

7. Prof. Loveraj Takru, College of Management & Economics Studies
8. Dr. J.P.Gupta, Director Emeritus – QA
9. Dr. Rajiv Gupta, Colleges of Engineering Studies
10. Mr. Sandeep Vasist, Financial Controller
11. Mr. Anugunj Agarwal – MBA(LSCM, 2009-11)

The special meeting of IQAC was held on 5th September 2015 at 11:30 AM at the MDC of UPES Bidholi Campus.

The following points, raised as important by NAAC, were deliberated:

S.No.	Point for Discussion	Our recommendations
1.	Should India focus its resources on research universities, including liberal arts and social sciences so as to improve the country's position in the global ranking?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The research universities should also focus on liberal arts and social sciences along with basic science and technology as well as in interdisciplinary research as both knowledge creation and skill enhancement are required in somewhat equal proportion; both across and within disciplines. • Any plans to increase focus on research universities should be done after consolidating the quality in the teaching universities; without the conceptual understanding research is of will not progress.
2.	Should not India develop its own ranking system relying on indicators more suitable to Indian situation as other ranking systems have heavy weightage for perception/subjective factors in which Universities lose out	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ranking and accreditations are entirely different with different objectives. It is recommended that NAAC should not be involved in ranking exercises. India should have a ranking system of its universities, if any, based on objective and measurable parameters.
3.	Accreditation has been made mandatory for all institutions (whether the institution is publicly funded or not)? Is this approach correct or not?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accreditation should be mandatory for all institutions including research institutions.
4.	How should we facilitate the process of accreditation to make the process more objectively verifiable and transparent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All assessments of NAAC should be rubric driven, transparent, verifiable and justifiable.

5.	Should we focus on programme accreditation or institutional accreditation or both?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAAC should focus on Institutional accreditations only. Programme accreditation should be carried out by specialist organisations in the respective disciplines.
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The following issues about ranking of institutions and accreditation were also discussed in the meeting:

1.	What changes could be suggested in the accreditation system:	
i.	Having Independent quality assurance frameworks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a unified higher education qualification frame work. This should be implemented by a National Body without involvement of any other agency. However state higher education council can be involved as a part of this accreditation bodies in case of state universities. • We recommend that all such assessments should be rubric driven, transparent, and verifiable.
ii.	Having a unified higher education qualification frame work.	
iii.	Role of State Higher Education Council and State Accreditation Council	
iv.	Changes in Methods of existing accrediting/regulatory agencies such as NAAC, NBA, UGC, AICTE, COA, DECI, NCTE, etc	
2.	What are the hindering factors that make our higher education institutions fare poorly in world rankings?	
3. Suggest ways to help our Universities to achieve global standards.		
i.	Curricular and academic reforms – CBCS, credits transfer, students and faculty mobility, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian universities both public and private should receive more funds to invest in research. • Industries should be encouraged to participate and fund research with the universities, both public and private. • Research Degrees, along with taught degrees should be encouraged at the post graduate level. Research Master's degree graduates should be enrolled in to Ph.D. programmes without the requirement of any other qualification. • There should be a rationalization of credit hours across all the programs
ii.	Promoting inter-disciplinary studies, research, innovation, entrepreneurship	

		<p>such that the programs are taught and learnt in depth than in breadth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There should be a thorough rationalization of teaching loads such that teachers are both encouraged and have time to do quality research • Indian universities and institutions should be allowed inter-university credit transfer for individual stream of programmes. • Parameters of research funding should be redefined to allow private universities to submit proposals in all categories. This will bring the competitive flavor and improve the quality of the proposals. • The regulators should encourage a right blend of research and teaching in the universities with higher focus on research. • Undergraduate programmes should be redesigned to allow research credits.
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Dr. S. R. Das
Member Secretary - IQAC

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Dr. Shrihari
Vice Chancellor & Chairperson
