CHANDIGARH UNIVERSITY
Discover. Learn. Empower.

NAAC GRADE A+
Accredited University

Ref. No.: CU/R/M/2021-22/456

Date: 29-10-2021

Meeting Proceedings of the 17th Meeting of Internal Quality Assurance Committee held on 29th June, 2021 at 2.30 p.m.

Venue- Online Meeting
Chandigarh University, Mohali

The 17th Meeting of **Internal Quality Assurance Committee** was held online on Tuesday, June 29, 2021 at 2:30 p.m. through Zoom link:

https://cuchd-in.zoom.us/j/92361897864?pwd=T3YrclF6YS82WVN1eG9ZOGVEWURKQT09

The following members were present:

1. Prof. (Dr.) H. B. Raghavendra	Vice Chancellor - Chairman
2. Prof. (Dr.) S. S. Sehgal	Registrar - Member Secretary & Coordinator IQAC
3 Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan	Dean - Academic Affairs
4. Prof. (Dr.) R. M. Bhagat	Executive Director – Sciences
5. Prof. (Dr.) Sanjeet Singh	Dean - Research
6. Dr. Arvinder Singh Kang	Director-Students Welfare
7. Prof. (Dr.) Nilesh Arora	Director - USB
8. Prof. (Dr.) O. P. Midha	Director - UILS
9. Prof. (Dr.) Trishu Sharma	Director - UIMS & Animation
10. Col. (Retd.) Sanjeev Bakshi	Director-Administration
11. Dr. Anuj Bhardwaj	Associate Director-IQAC
12. Ms. Shefali Verma Associate	Director - Academic Planning and Monitoring
13 Prof. (Dr.) Amandeep Singh	Principal - UIAHS
14 Prof. (Dr.) K. K. Bajaj	Former Dean, CDC, HPU, Shimla.
15 Mr. Sofi Zahoor	Chief Executive Officer, Human Cap - India, Mohali
16.Prof. (Dr.) Gurupdesh Singh	Prof. (Retd.) Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar

Dr. Satbir Singh Sehgal greeted and welcomed the Vice Chancellor Dr H.B. Raghavendra who had joined the university a couple of months ago. He introduced him to the members as an accomplished scholar and experienced academic leader. He extended a hearty welcome to the members and hoped that their participation will enrich our deliberations on student centric activities and programs. He briefly touched upon the role of the IQAC vis-à-vis its contribution in focusing on quality concerns and enriching the quality of submissions to the accreditation, assessment rating bodies for our national and global visibility and merit & as per rating and ranking framework.

Prof. (Dr.) H. B. Raghavendra, Vice Chancellor in his brief introductory remarks stated that he had joined the university about two months ago and that he was in the process of appreciating the ethos and ambience of the university and hoped that in due course of time he will be able to lead the university to greater heights of academic merit and research recognition with the cooperation and

participation of all concerned. He also introduced Dr B. Priestly Shan as the new Dean Academic Affairs.

Dr. Satbir Singh Sehgal referred to the Covid 19 scenario and the massive disruption that it had caused in every field. As we meet, he hoped, we shall be able to overcome the different challenges that it had posed and the new normal that we now have in academics. With these remarks, and with the permission of the chair he proceeded with the consideration of the items on the agenda:

Items No 1, 2 and 3: To approve the proceedings and Action Taken Report of the Sixteenth meeting of IQAC meeting held on 8th December, 2020.

Dr Sehgal, Coordinator, explained the items which had come up for discussion in the last meeting and the Action Taken Report thereon.

Noted with approval. It was added that the submission of the Annual Quality Assurance be ensured by the last extended date – 31st August, 2021, to the NAAC.

Item No 4. The work in progress and the present status of submission for 2022 NIRF Rankings – department wise, was explained. However, it was desired to be expeditiously monitored to meet its submission schedule.

Item No 5. During discussion that followed in the context of the above the following points were flagged:

- Discussion on creation of on-line methodologies (portal) for the data collection process.

Detailed Action Taken Report on issues that came up in the 16th Meeting held on 8th December 2020.

S. No.	Agenda item	Action Taken/Remarks
1.	Discussion on preparation of Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for its to NAAC	As per letter No. NAAC/GH/F.2.76/AQAR/2020 Dated May 11, 2021, the last date for the submission of AQAR has been extended to 31st August 2021. The University has prepared the AQAR report as per revised format and is in the process of its approval with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.
2.	Discussion on NIRF India Ranking 2021 – Department wise preparation	• The University organized department level workshops to understand the five broad parameters of NIRF so that discipline wise data is prepared as per the NIRF formats. • The data have been verified by IQAC, DAA, Account Office and Dean, Research together based on NIRF parameters

3.	Discussion on creation of on-line methodologies (portal) for the data collection process.	• The online module of AQAR has been implemented on CUIMS to collect department wise data. • ERP online module for various audits of the University is in process.
4.	Skilling Courses and Implementation of CBCS (Choice Based Credit System) into our systems	In process, DAA office is working on NAAC recommendations
	Challenges of online education with reference to assessment and evaluation	Office of the Dean Academic Affairs and Examination Department are working on it to overcome difficulties and procedural issues

Agenda Item No. 3: Discussion on incremental improvements in academics and administrative parameters suggested by IQAC in the year 2020-21 and Agenda Item No. 4: Discussion on implementation plan of New Education Policy -2020.

Prof. (Dr) Satbir Singh Sehgal sought detailed discussion with honorable members especially on the improvements which had been introduced under academic and administrative parameters. He invited the views of the members on different academic reforms and restructuring particularly in the light of NEP. He informed that a separate committee was also working on this. Both the long term and short-term strategies and policy planning were being focused. Departmental upskilling and rescaling of faculty and staff were being taken as a challenge for the success of new initiatives. Consideration of feedback was also important in order to identify slow and fast learners. This has correlation with assessments as well. For NIRF filing, university departments like Engineering, Management, Architecture, Pharmacy these are important. Dean, Academic Affairs, Dean Research, and Finance and Accounts branches take care of their compliance protocols. Data are collected and collated as required. Choice Based credit system and our examination system along with proctoring system, and code of ethics for invigilators, are overseen by a team of ten plus members.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan reflected on the issue of two Open Electives against maximum of Six and the exit policy in engineering program and the limitations of the semester system.

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal submitted that provision of review by experts and the Learning Management System strengthened our practice of Open Electives system.

Prof. K. K. Bajaj, while intervening the discussion, welcomed the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and continued with emphasis on the quality assurance measures and initiatives in reviewing course content, pedagogy, restructuring, examination system, enrichment of faculty inputs, technologically empowered virtual laboratories, and electronic library resources – all leading to enhanced public perception. For this he complemented the Management, the Vice Chancellor, the committed Faculty and support staff.

Prof. Gurupdesh Singh extended the inputs of Prof Bajaj and emphasized that the incremental academic improvements be made more cogent and contextually relevant particularly in the light of NEP, to earn credibility and infuse confidence among the stakeholders. He desired these to be critically examined to make these more student centric. Curriculum planning should be a continuous exercise.

Mr Zahoor, congratulated the Vice Chancellor on his joining the fastest moving university and the endeavor the journey from "good" to "great". He invoked the insightful experience of the Vice Chancellor feel confident that his presence will usher into a period of glory and fulfilment of social aspirations.

Prof (Dr.) H.B. Raghavendra assured the members of his involved diligence in making the university a dynamic institution full of academic resurgence and research now that he had been here for the last two months.

The first thing what he shared with all that he wanted to develop an e-portfolio of students, the e-portfolio which will gave the students strength while he is going to be admitted into our system and by using NEP policy and also the flexibility, he was of the opinion that we should complement the strength of a student, irrespective of a program he joined during his journey at Chandigarh University, so that we can make him better learner.

He expressed the feeling that this process had already been started on this side, and hopefully, we are going to master that process and that will make our students, much happier and we work for the students' delight.

Secondly, he thought that we would always say we are student centric and then you have got some incremental improvements in the system, now in this academic also and he wished this learned gathering and the external experts will give him some suggestions in making and decreasing the gap between the laboratory delivery in the online and offline system. In the meantime, we are working very hard, of course we have learned in the past and that's good and however, we want to make a better delivery on that. We are not only going through the progress, and we are exploring not only in India but in this system outside and to see that who the virtual laboratory being created and what is the alternative some of the courses which is not available.

All these things are being done by the eminent team of DAA and these are going to implemented from the next semester to an effect to bridge the gap between physical and online at the same time the delivery must improve to work on that.

The next thing is about the assessment; testing is a part of assessment, and a lot of weightages is given to the testing rather than the assessment now. In the time

to come may be in year or two, assessment would regress, and testing is made a part of still increment and it has to be part of assessment but the way the students would change in coming 2-3 semesters, so these two-three interventions have to be planned and of course that the wisdom of ethnic minority and also the external testing would be made this goal in this particular way in a much appropriate manner.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan thanked the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor and esteemed members for sharing their insight. He elaborated on how the university is ensuring practical learning through virtual Labs and assessments. Also, during pandemic, students have not got the required exposure to the practical's, and lack hands on training, which will be complemented through makeup sessions once the physical opening of the campus is done.

At the same time a proposal on preparing more virtual labs is on pipeline, through tie-up with the IIT Bombay. This will enhance our outreach. In the engineering sector we have a lot of virtual labs but in pharma sector where we don't have much virtual labs, we are trying to enhance our capacity in exploring areas, where virtual labs are not much available and develop them.

Prof. Gurupdesh Singh appreciated the stated initiatives which could enhance our capacity for exploration and development of our competitive competence. He suggested that YouTube could be used for example, and we might have lots of demonstrator films or movies or lessons, those can be honored, which can be used for this purpose. Most of us who the sources could benefit from other laboratories.

Prof. K. K. Bajaj found the information so shared to be very useful. He thanked the Vice Chancellor for having flagged three important and significant points such as (i) making data student centric, (ii) making the students lab savvy (iii) making of teaching learning - a pleasant student-oriented exercise through delivery of teaching contents to the students from laboratories. He appreciated Dean Academic Affairs to have picked up the idea very fast in this university. Creation of e- portfolio of each student would enhance the quality of its relevance and reference in this age of fast digitization.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan moving to the next point, stated that bringing greater flexibility UGC as also proposed that going to 20 to 40 percent through MOOCs, so this semester, it was planned that 10 percent of the courses students could take through MOOCs. Initially plans are in place to ensure courses like Critical thinking, Design Thinking and innovation, Decision making skills are to be taken up through MOOCs. Initially MOOCS will be operated through Blended learning platform. In current semester, it is targeted to have minimum 10,000 students to opt for Blended learning through MOOCS. Currently, the courses will be offered through NPTEL. In Future, more platforms like coursera, edx, udemy etc will be explored.

Prof. (Dr.) Gurupdesh Singh again appreciated the tie-ups of the Chandigarh University, besides the others mentioned earlier with SWAYAM. He reiterated the need to integrate MOOCs in teaching curriculum.

NEP refers to internationalizing our education. In this behalf we may get in touch with lots of the national sources. For example, Open University in the UK, they have 1000s of videos on topics, and those can be also integrated, and you have to get in touch with them so that you could have some kind of an agreement or an MOU with them so that could produce their resources, and that's not only one source, there are a large number of others and since online education is going to be the norm that is soon, whether this pandemic or non-pandemic, online education is to stay here for good.

He thought that the more we think we will make efforts to integrate that kind of learning to your system, the better it will be, but already made good moves have been made in this direction.

Agenda Item No. 5: Discussion on identification of departments for Ranking & Accreditation.

The University also focus on various ranking & ratings of the university departments such as Engineering, Management, Media Studies, Hotel Management, Law etc. by the agencies like NIRF, NBA, ABET, QS-IGAUGE, QS, World & Times Higher education ranking.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan appreciated all for the informed discussion and stated that plans were afoot for submission of applications. The university had got NBA accreditation for 5 institutional departments, Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, MBA and ECE in which ECE department is accredited for 6 years. In Phase 2, Computer Science, Aerospace, Mechatronics and Chemical Engineering will submit the pre-qualifier by August -2021. Also ABET will be initiated for all Engineering department by September 2021, targeting 2022-23 cycle. For MBA program, AACSB accreditation activities will be initiated by December 2021.

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal thanked all for the useful information shared in continuation to lightning the year 2020-21 will be going from the university, now one more addition because NIRF and Engineering, Management, Architecture and Pharmaceuticals will be doing and Law we would like to add to it this year for NIRF.

Important thing is for the QS for which we start work with the Asia Ranking and that is long term strategy especially by looking it at the parameters of QS Ranking & Times Higher, our research is an important parameter, the university currently index 34 and we expect that in the meantime next 1 or 2 year, we are targeting around close to 70 double of it, since the number of publications have also exponentially increased in the last two years are back to continue with it.

In terms of the foreign faculty recruitment because here in both QS and Times Higher Education the foreign faculty is one of the parameters and in addition to the inbound and outbound students the university has already focused and working on it and the same basis we would be moving ahead; we would like to have a view of house and especially experts that anything which you advised the university should focused more.

Mr. Sofi Zahoor endorsed the view that classroom experience whether it was virtual lab based or physical classroom presence, was the most important issue. He stated that its ambience had to be evocative enough to inspire and invoke student's participation for human engineering refinement. Interaction and engagement with the faculty mattered.

Prof Bajaj invited the attention of the members to QS University Ranking methodology with 40% for academic accreditation, 20% on faculty student teacher ratio, 20% on citations and another 20% on perception. The university must focus on these benchmarks. Our own niche had to be created in terms of academic excellence, equity, quality, pedagogy, research with empowering teaching learning experience. Perception being a dynamic concept in this context had to be understood in all its subtlety and context. It called for meticulous planning and preparation to establish high academic benchmarks.

Prof. (Dr.) Gurupdesh Singh brought out the paradigm shift in the entire teaching learning stance. There were the based and flexible courses with multiple exit points as given in the NEP. He brought out the significance of critical skills which made skilling and reskilling more important than learning the syllabus. Review of criterion-based evaluation, continuous assessment and Instructional procedures was urgently needed to enable the student to appreciate the new learning experience. The new concepts such as open book testing, online assessment etc. These being critical issues required holistic discussion.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan shared the thematic focus on skilling and upskilling with different attributes at different level for the faculty through workshops and interactive enrichment. He made a reference to the tenability of availability of credits in a semester on the credit-based system. This too required detailed discussion.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan shared the initiatives that had been taken on outcome-based inputs with defined attributes and the programs. Besides this workshop had been conducted for upskilling faculties. He gave details of open electives so unique about the curriculum offers of the university.

Prof. (Dr.) Gurupdesh Singh stated that with the student centric approach the system had to be geared to objectivity and transparency to establish our attributes. This will help the students activate their critical abilities and faith in the system.

Dr. Anuj Bhardwaj shared the department wise preparation for various rankings & ratings. He also shared various parameters of the various rankings in detail.

Agenda Item No. 6: Discussion on USP's of the departments/ upskilling/ reskilling of Faculty & Staff.

Prof. (Dr.) B. Priestly Shan reiterated the initiatives taken for upskilling and Staff through teams and clusters. and all the clusters have recommended few courses for upskilling and few course for reskilling. Sunrise areas are identified, and

training will be given. It's proposed that every faculty must attend at least one FDP in 2 years.

Prof. K.K. Bajaj emphasized coordination between students and teachers as the new fundamental to today' learning experience and that the teacher was no larger an untouchable academic icon. The definition of curriculum had acquired a new meaning and relevance. Now it is a planned sequence of learning experience through outcome-based education. New Education Policy too had flagged so many issues, posed many challenges such as of flexibility, proficiency, delivery among different kind of institutions to be brought under one umbrella. These things will take time. Humble but concerted beginnings must be made along with e-portfolio for each student to be in sync with university data base repository.

Agenda Item No. 7: Discussion on identification of Slow Learners and Fast Learners.

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal stated that Dr. R. M. Bhagat who represents science cluster may kindly appraise the members about the procedural difficulties and the solutions envisaged.

Prof. (Dr.) R M Bhagat raised the issue of linking such identification to students' performance in examinations. The limits are nebulous and unscientific as such. Performance is the result of so many factors and differentials such as socio-economic and cultural background, interest, subject matter under test, communication, and many other issues. He referred to a few practices which included special entry tests, semester end performance etc. But none of these could be infallible besides institutional vagaries.

Prof. K.K. Bajaj suggested the constitution of moderation committees with members of unimpeachable credibility and academic health.

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal observed that with the cross-section of views of merit the process could be finetuned.

Agenda Item No. 8: Discussion on Reforms in Evaluation System (Grading system).

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal, Registrar and Coordinator, invited the members to open discussion on the above two issues. Before this he apprised the members of the prevailing practice and procedure vis-à-vis difficulties and limitations being faced and stated that they would like to have a discussion on the reforms in evaluation of grading system, this again from this batch. Moderation committee too had been constituted but not without issues. The software has been in place for this but after around eight to nine years of working within this system it is felt that the system and software needed to be revisited under the expertise of experts.The second point is debate and discussion with which is going on whether to have a question bank where we have around let say 300-500 questions or to have a set of question papers, so these are the two points of discussion we would like to have from the experts.

Prof. (Dr.) H. B. Raghavendra, Vice Chancellor stated that due to online exams, there have been some odd difficulties, but the students have achieved certain results that are not expected from different clusters, wherein 50% to 60% of students score good marks in this mix of systems which is restricted. This has been a result of some odd difficulties.

The idea is established to have a Moderation Committee trying to acquire the clusters that decides the grade for a specific course.

Prof. K.K. Bajaj suggested that the constitution of autonomous moderation committee could be refreshed on their limitation with guidelines and clear mandate. **Prof. (Dr.) Gurupdesh Singh** discounted the idea of moderation committees and expressed took strong exception to this. Instead, he suggested the evaluation done by our examiners may be better monitored. Plagiarism could also be tackled with discipline and dignity with punishment to the erring examiners or students. Moderation committees result in trust deficit.

Agenda Item No. 9 - Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

There was no item submitted under this.

Prof. (Dr.) Satbir Singh Sehgal, Registrar, Coordinator IQAC, thanked the Vice Chancellor and the members for their valuable participation which enabled the university to be guided on identification of Slow and Fast learners besides many issues envisaged in NEP linked to various aspects of evaluation, creation of e-portfolio for students and other student centric activities.

Prof. (Dr.) H. B. Raghavendra stated that this was a great learning experience and the debate on many subjects in the University and hopeful that the institution was heading in the right path. I hope that we can progress towards implementing the new education policy with all the wisdom offered by the external group and our colleagues.

The Vice Chancellor wanted to progressively carry out review system improvements and ensure openness. He praised the experts and everyone who contributed to the deliberations for making this IQAC meeting a success with these observations. The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

Submitted for kind consideration & approval:

Associate Director - IQAC

Associate Director
Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)
Chandigarh University
Gharuan, Mohali (Punjab)-140413

Dean – Academic Affairs

Dr. B Priestly Shan
Dean-Academic Affairs
Chandigarh University
Gharuan (Mohali)-140413

Registrar

Vice Chancellor

29/10/21