Minutes of the meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell held in the Conference Hall, adjacent to the Vice-Chancellor's office on November 13, 2015 at 2.00 PM

Members Present:

Prof. Appa Rao Podile - Vice-Chancellor & Chairman

Prof. A.N Rai, NEHU
 Member

Prof. D.B. Ramachary
 School of Chemistry

Member

Prof. Nirmal Kumar Viswanathan
 School of Physics
 Member

 Prof. Hrushikesha Mohanty - Member School of Computer & Information Sciences

 Prof. Pingali Sailaja - Member School of Humanities

7. Prof. Sujata Patel - Member School of Social Sciences

Prof. B. Ananthakrishnan
 SN School of Arts & Communication

Dr. N. Varatharajan
 Ex-officio Member
Librarian

10. Prof. B. Raja Shekhar - Director & School of Management Studies - Member Secretary

Prof. Alok Bhattacharya, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Dr. M.S. Shyamasundar, Advisor, National Assessment and Accreditation Council, Prof. B. Senthilkumaran, School of Life Sciences, Prof. R. Radha, School of Mathematics & Statistics, and Mr. M. Sudhakar, Registrar I/c., could not attend the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed all the members and explained the background of the constitution of the IQAC. He also underlined the fact that the IQAC is a very important organ of the university, which assures quality and helps the university to improve further. He also expressed a firm hope that the IQAC would review the strengths and weaknesses of university from time to time to ensure quality of education and transparency, ably supported by the Schools with their active feedback to the IQAC. The efforts should lead to carving out a brand called, 'The University of Hyderabad'.

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The agenda was taken up as follows:

Quality Policy of the University and Vision and Mission of IQAC

The Vice-Chancellor explained the quality policy, vision and mission of the University of Hyderabad. He also emphasized the importance of quality and how it can help the University to become a world-class entity. He called for all possible efforts to be made by the University fraternity to achieve this objective, for which the IQAC can play a vital role in implementing the quality vision and mission. Towards this end, the University should incorporate innovative ideas practiced by other Universities.

- 2. The salient features of IQAC at the University of Hyderabad, and computation of Academic Performance Indicators were briefed. On the issue of sharing the points for API, when more than one author has published a paper, the IQAC resolved to assign 60% weightage each to both the first author and the corresponding author and 40% weightage to each of the other authors. Where two or more authors have contributed equally, as happens in some disciplines, they may be given 60% each, since all the authors are not necessarily competing for the same post, this distribution need not add up to 100%. If the candidate reapplies when not promoted, his/her date of eligibility for promotion will be determined as per the existing rules of the university. If any candidate fails to accumulate requisite API score during the assessment period, his/her date of eligibility for promotion will be from the date on which he/she acquired the required API score.
- IQAC deliberated on the recommendations of the committee constituted to develop the
 guidelines for appointment / CAS promotion of faculty without Ph.D. in Fine Arts, Visual
 Arts and Performing Arts. The committee met several times, but it has not been able to
 finalize the guidelines required as yet. The recommendations of that committee will be
 brought to the next IQAC meeting.
- The IQAC resolved to submit the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for the year 2014-15.
- 5. It was decided to have an exclusive website for IQAC which would enable the faculty members of the University to upload their academic achievements with the help of a user name and password. This website would enable the University community to know and understand various quality initiatives of the University from time to time.

The need for e-governance in the University as a whole and IQAC in particular was noted. If the IQAC website is in place and e-governance systems are in place, the annual report of the University can be prepared without any difficulty as and when required.

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- 6. The IQAC agreed on the following action plan for the next quarter:
 - Sensitize the campus community about the importance of the student feedback and the IQAC should evolve an effective and alternative mechanism where student feedback will become mandatory and retrieval of data also becomes easy.
 - The IQAC resolved to generate a list of journals where the University of Hyderabad faculty have been publishing (particularly in the last five years), and also desire to publish. Such journals may be classified as 'outstanding', 'very good', 'good', 'average' and 'poor' / 'unacceptable' categories. The screening committees of respective academic units may keep these categories in mind while screening the applications. The IQAC also should update such lists periodically by getting inputs from respective Departments and Schools. The list of journals used by ICSSR and other research Institutes, could be used as a criterion for classifying journals in social sciences.
 - IQAC resolved to prepare a list of spurious journals. This list cautions people about these journals and gives some criteria by which to identify them and this may be used as a reference point when classifying journals.
 - Every School should create an IQAC Cell, with the Dean as Chair, which will, in the first instance, decide on the classification of journals. External experts, preferably members of the School Board, should be invited to the School level meetings. The process of classification is to be completed within a month so as to enable faculty interviews to take place.
 - The IQAC also should take an active role in implementing Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) and help the University in formulating better grading system in evaluation.
 - The Vice-Chancellor stated that teaching and evaluation should be taken seriously by all faculty. In this connection, he suggested instituting a best teacher award. The modalities of determining the best teacher need to be worked out.

The external member appreciated the efforts of the University in reactivating the IQAC Cell and the efforts of the Vice-Chancellor in inculcating quality consciousness and making an attempt to develop a quality system in the University.

The meeting ended with the Chairman thanking the members, particularly the external member, for making it convenient to help the IQAC.

CHAIRMAN