

**INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
TRIVANDRUM**

ANNUAL QUALITY ASSESSMENT REPORT (AQAR) -2009-10

**TRIVANDRUM
MARCH 2010**

PART A

The IQAC decided upon the following in the beginning of the academic year to enhance quality initiatives in the institution in the areas of teaching-learning, research and student support.

- Development of Quality Plans at the Department level.
- Departments to submit reports to the IQAC twice every year.
- Mandatory sharing of experience by the faculty members who attend important Training Programmes/Workshops.
- To broad base the Annual Quality Awards started in the year 2008-09 by instituting two more awards to Arts and Language Departments.
- Streamlining of research activities and faculty development programmes.

The Annual meeting of the QAC to review the progress of the quality initiatives during the year 2009-10 on 03-04-2010 came to the following conclusions:

- Most of the departments devised quality plans and some effectively implemented those according to a calendar.
- The Departments of Arabic, Tamil, Botany, Hindi and Economics organised several programmes aimed at quality enhancement which enabled them to qualify for the Annual Quality Awards.
- The teaching Departments showed keen interest to present their activities and achievements before the NAAC Peer Team that visited the College during 30-31 March, 2010.

Part B

1. Activities reflecting the goals and objectives of the institution:

- The National Seminar on Post Eighty Hindi Literature organised by the Hindi Department, Seminar on Language and National Integration and Script writing class by the Malayalam Department, Seminar on ASEAN Pact and discussions on Central Budget by the Department of Economics, National Seminar on Post Modern Trends in Contemporary Arabic Literature by the Dept. of Arabic and the Interdisciplinary National Seminar by the Departments of Philosophy and Psychology were intended to foster academic exchanges and cultivate the spirit of enquiry.
- In order to encourage student participation in education a variety of programmes were organised including Intercollegiate quiz competitions by the Departments of Chemistry, Statistics and Hindi.
- Departments of Economics and Arabic released magazine and research journal.
- Coaching camps for swimming, cricket, hockey and football organised by the Dept. of Physical Education helped in the promotion of sports and games among students.
- The Botany Dept. started the Darwin Bicentenary celebration for one year in collaboration with the Kerala Biodiversity board and the Kerala Sastra Sahitya Parishad.
- Nature Club of the College organised a programme in connection with the 150th year of publication of the book 'Origin of Species' by Charles Darwin.

2. New academic programmes initiated (UG and PG);

NIL

3. Innovations in curricular design and transaction:

Restructuring of Arts and Sciences Degree Curriculum that began in the year 2008-09 continued in the year 2009-10 also. Almost all senior faculties belong to any one of the 37 Boards of Studies and 8 Faculty members serve as Chairmen. Thus, the institution played a key role in the transformation of the degree curriculum into a Choice based semester system. A number of workshops were held in the college as part of this and several faculty members served as Chairmen for the Board for restructuring. Degree curriculum was totally revised by including new and frontier areas of study and research. Curriculum transactions also changed considerably by the inclusion of continuous assessment of students based on seminars, assignments and class tests. Information Technology, Scientific Inquiry, communication skill development are some of the new areas included in the degree curriculum.

4. Inter-disciplinary programmes started:

NIL

5. Examination reforms initiated:

The institution successfully completed a Model Examination for the B.Sc students according to a time table in the month of February, 2010. Almost all faculty members actively involved in this by getting involved in question paper setting, examination invigilation and evaluation of answer scripts. This exercise proved to be useful for the students preparing for the March examinations.

6. Candidates qualified: NET/SLET/GATE etc.

A total of 10 students from the different departments passed the UGC NET examination. Fifteen students of the college passed the various entrance examinations of the country and joined national institutions such as IITs, Central Universities and other higher education institutions of repute.

7. Total Number of seminars/workshops conducted: 10

8. Research Projects

- a. Newly implemented : 10
1. 1 major and five minor projects in Botany of KSCSTE
 2. One UGC Minor projects in Botany
 3. One UGC Minor project in Philosophy
 4. One UGC Major project in Tamil
 5. One ICPR Minor project (student) in Philosophy
- b. Completed : 2

9. Patents generated, if any. NIL

10. New collaborative research programmes:

Dr. K.P. Jaikiran and Dr. A.P. Pradeepkumar, Dept. of Geology established a research linkage with a faculty member, Ms. Jelena Pantic of the Faculty of Education, University of Novisad, Sombor, Serbia and developed a DVD based “Tool kit for overhauling Higher Education”.

A Transdisciplinary research work has been initiated by faculty members of the Departments of Geology, Botany and Zoology in a problem relating to radioactivity of beach placers of Kerala coast.

11. Research grants received from various agencies :

1. Kerala State Council for Technology and Environment (KSCSTE) project on Ecophysiological and biochemical adaptations of Bryophytes. Rs. 8.06 lakhs. Department of Botany.
2. KSCSTE project on Micropropagation and mass cultivation of *Piper longum* and *Kaempferia galanga*- two endangered plants of Kerala. Rs. 1.30 lakhs. Department of Botany.
3. KSCSTE project on Micropropagation and biochemical characterisation of *Gymnema sylvestre* R Br. Rs. 10,000/- Department of Botany.
4. KSCSTE project on Computer aided drug design for *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Rs. 10,000/- Department of Botany.

5. KSCSTE project on Bioactivity of stem bark extract and oil extract from flowers. Rs. 10,000/- Department of Botany.
6. KSCSTE project on Phytoremediation of heavy metal contaminated soil employing an invasive weed – *Amaranthus spinosus* L. Rs. 10,000/- Department of Botany.
7. UGC Minor project in Botany – Physiological changes, antioxidant response system in *Amaranthus tricolor* L. Rs. 0.88 lakhs.
8. UGC Major research project in Tamil – Folk Traditions in Sangam Literature. Project Investigator Dr. Nisha Raffi, Dept. of Tamil Rs. 4.39 lakhs
9. UGC Minor project in Philosophy – World Religions and their role in Environment protection. Rs 25,000/- Dr. Radharani, Dept. of Philosophy.
10. Indian Council of Philosophical Research project in Philosophy – Ethics of Euthanasia. By M.Phil Student, Miss. Leena K.R. Rs. 20,000/-

12. Details of Research Scholars

Dept. of Physics	- 17
Chemistry	- 9
Botany	- 8
Zoology	- 9
Tamil	- 19
English	- 2
Philosophy	- 5
Hindi	- 14
Economics	- 16
Politics	- 13
History	- 4
Maths	- 3
Arabic	- 2

13 Citation indexes of faculty members and impact factor:

Most of the faculty members of Science Departments publish their Research findings in International journals having impact factor 1 to 3.

14 Honours/Awards to the Faculty:

Dr. M.S. Vinayachandran, Sel. Grade Lecturer in Hindi received the Sampadak Ratna Award for Editorship.

Dr. Dominic Kattoor, Lecturer in Malayalam got the Best Narrator award for a Documentary film from the Kerala State Government.

Dr. M.A. Sideek, Lecturer in Malayalam was awarded the Fokana Award for best research thesis.

Dr. B.V. Sasikumar, Sel. Grade Lecturer in Malayalam won award for Literary Criticism.

Shri. Babu N.M., Sel. Grade Lecturer in English won the special Jury prize for a Tele documentary at the State Level Competition held at Guruvayur, Kerala.

Dr. K.P. Jaikiran received the DST Travel support and attended the Transdisciplinary Conference 2009 at the Geography Institute, University of Bern, Switzerland by the Swiss Academies of Arts and Sciences. He presented a paper 'Tool kit for overhauling Higher Education', a joint work by Indian and Serbian Educational professionals at the Conference held during 19-21 November, 2009.

15 Internal Resources generated:

Financial resource generation from the institution is mostly from subscriptions to the Parent Teacher Association and revenue generated through photo copying service. Consultancy services that are offered by the various Departments are on a voluntary basis and hence non-remunerative.

16 Details of the departments getting SAP, COSIST/DST-FIST, etc.

The Departments of Physics and Chemistry were selected for DST-FIST Assistance for Rs. 35.00 lakhs and Rs. 40.00 lakhs respectively.

17. Community Services:

The National Service Scheme units of the College organised Community development programmes including the annual Ten day Camp organised in the city suburbs and blood donation programmes. A Radio Health Club was formed in the College to involve students in mass awareness programmes aimed at Health Education. Legal Literacy Classes were organised for Graduate students in association with the Kerala State Legal Services Authority.

18. Teachers and officers newly recruited:

During the academic year 2009-10, four new Lecturers joined the various departments apart from the 20 teachers transferred to the college.

19. Teaching-Non Teaching staff ratio: 3:1

20. Improvements in the library services:

The General Library of the college took a series of measure for improvement in the service delivery. This included launching of a Knowledge Portal, www.unicollibrary.synthasite.com which serves as a gateway for the dissemination of open source journals and e books. The process of initiation of library automation was started with the acquiring of the 'Software for University Library' (SOUL).

21. New Books/Journals subscribed and their value:

A total of 510 new books worth Rs 1.20 lakhs were purchased by the various departments of the College.

22. Courses in which student assessment of teachers is introduced and the action taken on student feedback

Student assessment of teachers is already part of the various Programmes being offered in the institution. Department staff meetings discuss important student feed back for taking corrective action.

23. Unit Cost of Education:

Being a Government run institution that receives funds from various Government agencies and where concessions of different kind are provided to the students of the weaker sections, exact unit cost of education can't be worked out.

24. Computerization of administration and the process of Admissions and examination results, issue of certificates

The college administration got a face lift through the modernization of the office and computerization. All sections of administration are now connected via LAN system established through the concept of N-computing. Admission system for B.A/B.Sc courses is fully Computerized and uses the College website also. Examination results are now available to the students through the internet due to the reforms of the University of Kerala.

25. Increase in the infrastructural facilities:

The Department of Geology was equipped with a state of the art Network lab and an Instrumentation lab with advanced Petrological microscopes, imported Rock thin section making unit and automatic Sieve shaker.

The existing hand ball court was upgraded at a cost of Rs 30,000/- .

26. Technology upgradation:

A total of 20 new computers were procured during the academic year, of which 15 were installed in the administrative block for office automation. Advanced petrological microscopes and a GPS machine were procured by the Department of Geology utilising the DST FIST funds.

27. Computer and internet access training to teachers and students

Computer and internet training are offered to the students by group tutors during the tutorial sessions and also with the help of the staff appointed for the purpose in the Online Education and Research Centre of the College.

28. Financial aid to students:

The various departments have arrangements to support financially weaker students.

29. Activities and support from the Alumni Association:

UNIZOA, the alumni association of the Zoology Department designed, developed and installed a new campus lay out board. UCASA, the Senior Alumni Association actively involved in the developmental activities of the college during the year by providing moral and financial support. The UCASA instituted prizes for two students of the college securing high marks in English.

30. Activities and support from the Parent Teacher Association:

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) of the College plays a key role in the functioning of the college. Annual departmental assistance by the PTA helps the individual departments in organising programmes for student welfare, for maintenance of computer systems and for small infrastructural maintenance

work. Besides, the class PTA meetings are organised with the active support, both financial and administrative, from the College level PTA. The PTA took lead role in co ordinating the preparations of the teaching departments for NAAC Re accreditation.

31. Health Services:

The Department of Physical Education took lead role in offering health services to the students and staff of the institution. Calculation of Body Mass Index and provision of First Aid Services were introduced in the Department for the benefit of all. The Staff Club took initiative in offering Yoga training for the Faculty members which evoked a great response. The services of a professional Yoga trainer were utilised for the purpose.

Voluntary blood donation by students of the college is an important Community health service offered by the institution. The institution has bagged an award instituted by the State Government in this regard. The NSS units of the college undertake the task of Health education especially through awareness programmes organised during the World AIDS Day and Blood Donation day.

32. Performance in sports activities:

The College teams achieved the following during the academic year:

1. Winners in the All India SAI Inter Collegiate Football Tournament
2. Winners in the South India Inter Collegiate Hockey Tournament for the 'Dhyanchand Cup'.
3. Winners in the 'Millenium Ever rolling Cricket Tournament'.
4. Winners in the Kerala University Hand ball Tournament
5. 1st Runner up in the South India Inter Collegiate Football Tournament for the 'Redeemers Cup'.
6. 1st Runner up in N. Sreedharan Memorial Hockey Tournament
7. 1st Runner up in the Kerala University for Handball and Swimming (Women).
8. 2nd Runner up in the Kerala University for Cricket, Water polo, Hockey.

Many students got individual achievements during the year which are shown below:

Mr. Vidhin Anand, II B.A. History won gold medal in all three events that he participated in the Kerala University Inter collegiate Athletic meet 2009-10.

Mr. Aneesh O. III B.A. Economics won the 2nd place in the Kerala Univ. Body building competitions in the 75 kg category.

Miss. Anu K.R. III B.Sc Physics held the record for the 200m backstroke Swimming in the Kerala University.

Mr. Niyas N. II B.Sc Zoology got selection in the Kerala Ranji Trophy Cricket team and he also got selected as a probable for the IPL team, Kolkata Knight Riders.

Miss. Midhula M. II B.A. Politics represented Kerala State in Boxing and got Gold medal in Youth National Competition.

Mr. Sivaprasad became captain of the Kerala University Handball Team.

Mr. Thulasi G. captained the Kerala Rugby team that own the second place in the National championship.

33. Incentives to outstanding sports persons:

The institution within its limited resources gives sufficient incentives to meritorious sports students. The PTA gave cash awards to the members of the Hand ball team which won several distinctions. Besides, the faculty members give financial assistance to weaker students participating in sports events.

34. Student achievements and awards:

Mrs. Shilpa Sathish (Botany), Young Scientist Award in the Swadeshi Science Congress, 2009. Mrs Sajitha Rajan (Botany) got the best Woman Swadeshi Scientist Award 2009.

Students performed well in academic and co curricular activities. They won several awards including Gold medals in competitions, First prizes in quiz competitions (**Mr. Renjith** II B.Sc Chemistry and **Mr. Sajan** of I B.A. Politics won several Quiz competitions held at the State level), Medals in sports events (**Mr. Rajesh** of I B.Sc Geology won Silver medal at a fencing competition held at national level) and prizes in college level events.

35. Activities of the Guidance and Counselling unit:

The Career Guidance and Placement Cell of the College organised a total of 7 placement interviews by various firms.

36. Placement services provided to students:

The important placement interviews held during the year include those by TIME, Sabarigiri Center for Management and Technology, Eureka Forbes Ltd., Sunrise Systems, John& Mary Call Center, Current Books India Ltd and CMS Computers Ltd.

37. Development programmes for non-teaching staff:

Members of the non-teaching staff avail the training facilities of the Institute of Management in Government (IMG) in office automation.

38. Healthy practices of the institution:

The Department of Arabic started a website of its own, to show cases the achievements of the faculty and staff and also to aid Teaching-learning and research (<http://arabicuniversitycollege.yolasite.com>). The

General library of the college also started a website to provide many library Services online (www.unicollibrary.synthasite.com)

39. Linkages developed with National/International, academic/ Research bodies.

The Science Departments have research linkages with various national Research bodies of Trivandrum including the ISRO, CESS, SCTIMS and the Rajiv Gandhi Biotechnology Centre .

40. Any other relevant information the institution wishes to add:

In order to ensure access and quality in Higher Education, the Kerala State Higher Education Council introduced the novel concept of the Cluster of Colleges. The University College was made the lead college in the Thiruvananthapuram Cluster and the Principal is acting as its Chairman.

The proposal given by the General library of the College in establishing an advanced library for the Thiruvananthapuram Cluster of Colleges was given approval by the authorities. This would be initiated soon.

PART C

Plans of the institution for the next year

The review meeting of the QAC held on 03.04.2010 discussed in detail the plan of action for the year 2009-10. The important plans for the academic year 2010-11 suggested by the meeting included organising a series of In house training programmes for the faculty and students under the leadership of the IQAC, organising a three day Workshop on e Teaching and Learning in the Online Education and Research Center by utilising the plan funds, streamlining of the documentation activities of IQAC through monthly updation through the LAN and encouraging the Faculty in participating in National/International Conferences.

Co ordinator

IQAC

Principal