POST ACCREDITATION INITIATIVES 2014

Submitted to

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Bangalore

GURU NANAK DEV UNIVERSITY
AMRITSAR

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The Second Cycle of accreditation of Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, was carried out in December 2007. The Peer Team visited the University on 4-8 December, 2007. The Peer Team made recommendations for the Quality Enhancement of the University by pinpointing twelve areas where it was desirable to take initiatives to either enhance quality or to maintain the existing standards by further strengthening it. In addition to the recommendations of the Peer Team, the University has undertaken certain quality sustaining and enhancement measures. The presentation of the Post Accreditation Initiatives carried out by the University has been divided into three parts. The first part is informative and its purpose is to situate the presentation of various facts in their rightful context. The second and third part deal with the initiatives taken in the light of the Peer Team's recommendations and the other initiatives taken by the University respectively to enhance quality.

I. **University with Potential Excellence (UPE):** The last recommendation of the Peer Team reads as follows: "The University may move to become a University with Potential for Excellence". The University initiated the process of applying for the UPE status to the UGC. After going through various steps of evaluation the University was able to achieve the status of UPE in 2012.

II. **Quality Enhancement Initiatives:** The following initiatives as recommended by the Peer Team in 2007 were undertaken:

A. Linkages among Language Departments: Under the UPE the departments in the faculty of languages initiated the research projects in Comparative Literature. However, as per the recommendation with regard to a course in comparative literature, the process has been initiated, but has not yet been implemented.

B. Regrouping of the Departments: The University envisaged the possibility of introducing the school system and the grouping the departments to facilitate interdisciplinary research and teaching by 2020 in the Self Study Report submitted to the NAAC in 2007. The Peer Team recommended that it was desirable to go for such a transformation. Efforts towards this direction are in but the University has carried out the merger of various departments to make them more cohesive units for teaching and research and, in the process, unnecessary and superfluous has been avoided. The following mergers have been carried out:

S. No.	Names of the Departments Merged	Present Name of the Department
1	a. Department of Applied Chemistry b. Department of Chemistry c. Section of the Department of Applied Chemical Sciences and Technology	Department of Chemistry
2	a. Department of applied Physics b. Department of Physics	Department of Physics
3	a. Section of the Department of applied chemical Sciences and Technology b. Department of Food Science and Technology	Department of Food Sciences and Technology
4	a. Centre for Genetic Disorders b. Department of Human Genetics	Department of Human Genetics
5	a. Department of Laws b. School of Legal Studies	Department of Laws

In order to promote Interdisciplinary research, six departments of Life Sciences Faculty, applied to UGC for Centre for Potential in a Particular Area (CPEPA) which was sanctioned and now joint research in the areas of Type 2 Diabetes and Cancer is being carried out by these departments.

So far as the interdisciplinary programmes are concerned, the University has gone for the same in a big way. At present, in all the programmes the interdisciplinary courses have been made compulsory for students in the University campus and the regional centres. There are 137 interdisciplinary courses offered to the students of various programmes.

C. The University has adopted the Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) in all programmes of study except for Physical Education and one masters' programme in the Department of Sports Medicine and Physiotherapy. The CBCS has been introduced under the continuous grading and evaluation system.

D. Career guidance has been made an integral part of the Placement Department of the University. In addition the All India Services Pre-Examination Centre performs the duty of guiding the students.

E. The University has established the GNDU Alumni Association on a strong footing. It is expected that in the coming years the University alumni will play an important role in the academic growth of the University.

F. Though the health insurance for the staff of the University has not become a reality, but various existing measures which are in operation assure health care of the employees of the University which are as follows:

   1. All the University staff (in this case including the temporary and on contract basis) and students are offered free OPD services in the health Centre. The University Health Centre is equipped with latest diagnostic equipments like Advanced X-Ray machine, Hot Air Woven, DCA Vantage HBA1C analyser and DEXA Machine for disease diagnosis. Certain medicines for seasonal ailments and recurrent sicknesses are also provided free of cost.

   2. All the regular employees of the University are paid Rs. 500 monthly medical allowance as per the directions of the Government of Punjab.

   3. Reimbursement of the medical bill is done in the case of all those employees who are suffering from chronic diseases as well as those who are hospitalised for certain surgical treatment.

G. The student feedback as evaluation of the performance of teachers was introduced in 2010 and since then it has been in operation. However, in terms of its successful implementation as a system, there are some challenges to make it effective.

H. One of the recommendations of the Peer Team was that he University should strengthen its Engineering and Technology Faculty through various means. B. Tech. in Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering has been introduced at one its regional centre, Sathiala. However, the University has strengthened its Computer Science Engineering and Electronics and Communication Engineering Departments by recruiting more faculty and introducing new programmes.

I. The feasibility of establishing a National Institute of Sports on the part of the University has not been worked out yet, but there has been tremendous expansion of sports infrastructure in the University. The amount of funding required for such a venture still remains the major challenge.

J. The University has not moved towards establishing a credit Cooperative Society, but there is a formal system of credit in operation for the Class IV employees to buy foodgrains and for all regular employees to get loan for purchase of specific items. Besides the above, the provision for refundable and non-refundable loans from the Provident Fund is there.

K. A course on Natural Resource Management has not been introduced.

III. **University's Initiatives**: All the above quality sustaining measures, which have been implemented or could not be implemented, constituted 'Recommendations for Quality Enhancement of the Institution' by the Peer Team which visited in 2007. The University initiated certain quality enhancement and sustaining measures which are listed too. These are as follows:

A. One of the major measures taken has been the implementation of transparency in the evaluation process. An evaluated answer book is shown to the student examinee and he/she can question and insist upon changing the score if he/she feels the evaluation has not been properly done. The practice has induced a tremendous degree of satisfaction with the institution. However, the practice is only confined to the University campus and its regional centres. It has not been implemented with regard to constituent and affiliated colleges.

B. The University has introduced capacity enhancement programme to make education accessible to the remote areas of the region. In addition, the University has established rural colleges out of which two are located at a close distance to the international border.

C. Every member of the faculty has been provided with the personal computer (PC) and broadband internet connectivity.

D. IQAC (Internal Quality Assurance Cell) has been active during this period in various ways to further improve upon the existing practices. In addition to the submission four Annual Quality Assurance Reports (AQAR) since 2007, the IQAC has been proactive in assuring quality enhancement in the University. Some of its activities are delineated below.

  1. The IQAC conducted the SWOC analysis of the University twice one of which was submitted in the fourth AQAR, and the second has been included in the present SSR.

  2. Academic Audit was conducted in 2013 whose findings have been included in the SSR in the third cycle of accreditation.

  3. The IQAC recommended that the University resources should be available to differently-abled students. Results of this recommendation have become visible. Ramp has been constructed

to make the University Library accessible to differently-abled students. The new girls hostel has been provided with a lift for the differently-abled students.

E. The peer Team in its visit to the University in 2007, identified provision of hostels for more students as one of the challenges. The University has constructed a women's hostel, particularly keeping in mind the rising proportions of women students in most of the courses. In addition, hostel facility has also been created in regional centres. It may be added that the accommodation needs of the students in the main campus have been properly attended to by the University at the moment.

F. The University has created a central instrumentation facility, where the state of the art scientific equipments needed for latest research in modern areas of sciences has been installed. The building is equipped with a dedicated automatic generator which resorts to power back up within 2 minutes of power failure so that the research on these sophisticated instruments does not suffer.

G. The University has also received a grant of Rs. 10 crore under TEQIP (Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme) of Ministry of HRD, Government of India for infrastructure development.

H. Department of Science and Technology, Govt. of India has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 9 Crore to the University under PURSE Programme for promotion of Science Education.