

**Minutes of the Meeting of IQAC to discuss Action Plan
held on Wednesday, 25 September 2019 at 12:30 p.m. at IQAC Room**

Following members were present for the meeting:

1. Dr. Sanjay S. Kharat, Chairperson (Head of the institution)
2. Mr. Parag Shah, Coordinator, IQAC
3. Prof. Suresh Todkar, Chairman, CDC and Members from Management
4. Dr. Jyoti Gagangras, Teacher Representative
5. Dr. Shubhangi Joshi, Teacher Representative
6. Mrs. Swati Kandharkar, Teacher Representative
7. Dr. Shampa Chakravarthy, Teacher Representative
8. Dr. Varsha Bapat, Teacher Representative
9. Dr. Sangeeta Dhamdhare, Teacher Representative
10. Dr. Vinay Kumar, Teacher Representative
11. Ms. Gauri Kopardekar, Teacher Representative
12. Mr. Prakash Renuse, Administrative officer
13. Dr. B. D. Bhole, Nominee from local Society
14. Mr. Prathamesh Joshi (M.Com. Part II) Nominee from Students
15. Dr. Madhura Vipra, Director, Athena Consultancy, Nominee from employers
16. Mr. Rajiv Tulpule, Partner, Retco Cable Corporation, Nominee from Industrialists
17. Prin. Tanaji Salve, Parent Representative
18. Prof. Peeyush Pahade, Invitee

A leave of absence was granted to Dr. Prakash Dixit, Visitor of the College and Management Representative and Nominee from Alumni Mr. Kiran Desai

Following business was transacted in the meeting:

1. Minutes and the Action Taken Report of the meetings held on 16 August, 2019 with Criterion In-charges regarding restructuring of committees and inform the in-charges about online submission procedure of AQAR; 3 September 2019 Meeting of Criterion III regarding preparation and data collection and 17 September 2019 Meeting of Criterion VI held to discuss status of AQAR work were approved unanimously.
2. Principal Dr. Kharat apprised the members about activities initiated by the College. He presented the demographic diversity as the college hosts international students, students from Jammu & Kashmir and North Eastern States. Considering the achievements of the college, Prin. Salve proposed a resolution to Congratulate the principal on all the awards and accolades received by the college. The members passed the resolution unanimously.
3. Mr. Parag Shah informed the committee about following Post-accreditation initiatives:
 - 3.1 : New Programme / Courses started**
 - The college started MA Psychology, M Sc Mathematics, B Sc Blended (International Collaboration with University of Melbourne, Australia), Defense and Strategic Studies at BA level, Beauty and Wellness-under Community College Scheme from the academic year 2019-20.
 - Skilled courses on Vedic Mathematics and Women Studies have been conducted regularly for two years

- The college being one of the lead colleges in formulating IQAC Cluster, designed the curriculum for *Train the Trainers Programme* for RUSA, Maharashtra and UGC HRDC at SPPU
- The college conducted Induction programme for Students and newly recruited faculty members for last two years. The Principal observed that the induction programme though has been made mandatory by UGC from 2019, the college conducted the same from 2018 itself.
- Dr. Dhamdhare, Member, IQAC and Librarian informed the members about strengthening of facilities for differently-abled students such as brail books, audio-books added to the library. A computer training institute is imparting computer training to visually impaired students on angle-player machines and out association with Poona Blind Association for giving financial scholarship to them.
- **Faculty Development Programmes**
 - Learning Management System for all the faculty members in the month of June 2019
 - e-Content development for teaching faculty

3.2 : Research : Dr. Vinay Kumar informed the committee that the College took an initiative in drafting a comprehensive Research Policy Document i.e. **Strategic Research Plan 2017-22** that includes Vision & Mission, Guiding Principles, Policy on research ethics, biosafety and plagiarism. **This report was approved unanimously.** The college is the only HEI in India where all the 10 departments under Science Faculty have been covered under Department of Biotechnology (DBT) STAR College Scheme (with Star Status) funded by the DBT, Government of India. Under this scheme, separate proposals from teachers and students were called for identifying and funding Star Research Projects. He explained the **mechanism** that the Star Advisory Committee issues a notification, which is publicized among students and teachers. The committee reviews the research proposals received. The shortlisted proposals are scrutinized by the review committee having external experts for sanctioning these small research grants. Introduction of the concept of **Student Principal Investigator** was well appreciated by the committee members. Star Research Projects for teachers and students for pursuing research independently under DBT that provide Rs. 15,000/- per teacher and Rs. 5,000/- per student. Rs. 3 lakhs have been disbursed so far.

He apprised the members about other initiatives of the college for augmenting research related resources and for encouraging faculty members and students to indulge into research.

- Seed money of Rs. 3 lakh 2017-18 & Rs. 5 Lakh for 2018-19 has been reserved towards research funding by the college.
- Research Projects done by UG Students under DBT has been a special feature, with more than 2200 students were engaged in these projects.
- New research centers : Zoology, Chemistry & Biotechnology
- The college has received Research Funding to tune of Rs. 1.5 Crore/-
- **Outcome:** 4 patents have been filed and more than 70 research articles of teachers and students have been published so far having 135 cumulative impact factor and 2.09 average impact factor
- Dr. Varsha Bapat, Coordinator of placement cell informed about the products developed by the students from the Electronics Department and other projects like development of Digital Time-table, RFID attendance system, e-Thermometer and Electronic Voting Machine.

4. Governance and Leadership :

Principal explained the leadership initiatives undertaken by the college like taking

- Lead role in formation of IQAC Cluster India, signing MoUs with multiple institutions regarding facility and faculty sharing and mentoring Higher Education Institutes (HEIs) in the areas of accreditation and quality improvement initiatives.
- Organization of a One Day National Seminar on 'Innovative and Best Practices in Higher Education' in association with...
 1. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Bangalore
 2. Savitribai Phule Pune University, Pune
 3. Center for Educational Development & Administration (CEDA)
 4. IQAC Cluster India
- MOU with Modern College of Pharmacy (For Women), Moshi for academic exchange and advancement and dissemination of Learning in Toxicology related studies
- Association with Kshiti Clean Tech Private Ltd. for development of research projects. This could be a collaboration with institutes from Spain
- e-governance : Online fee payment facility has been started from Academic year 2019-20 as an Action taken on feedback received from the students.
- Initiating Refresher Course in Chemistry under Science Academies, DST Government of India.
- Short Term course in Sociology under Teaching-Learning Centre (TLC), SPPU
- A lecture workshop funded by the Apex Indian Science Academies was conducted for students and teachers.
- DBT Lecture Series was organized under the science faculty, funded by DBT, Government of India.
- Administrative Audit was done for external Higher Education Institutes (HEIs)
- A professional code of conduct has been devised by the institution was also approved by the committee.

Dr. Bhole and Prof. Pahade put on record the leadership role performed by the College in enhancing quality of Higher Education Institutes and in the area of Research promotion. All the members appreciated the academic leadership provided by Dr. Kharat.

5. Discussion on Action Plan for the academic year 2019-2020 : Future Plans

- College is planning to establish an Innovation, Incubation and Start-up Cell in the campus. About 120 students from all the streams have registered. UGC provides the funding. College is preparing a proposal for Atal Innovation and Incubation Center for getting funds from Niti Ayog, MHRD. Mr. Rajiv Tulpule cited example of a College from Hubli which has institutionalized innovation and entrepreneurship course. He suggested that the college can start on the similar lines and to start with an awareness generation session could be organized by the college for the interested students.
- Feedback of 2018-19 and Action taken : College has developed in-house Online feedback system. Feedback is taken from Students, Teachers, Alumni, Parents and Employers. Suggestions related to curriculum were communicated to the respective BOS. Housekeeping agency was informed and corrective action was taken for maintaining cleanliness in the campus. Online fee payment facility has been started from Academic year 2019-20. Introduction of Defense and Strategic Studies at BA level and purchased more instruments as per suggestion received. It was suggested


that Student Satisfaction Index is more crucial so more focus would be given on that.
The committee approved the report on feedback.

- AQAR 2018-19 Status : Members were updated about the preparations and work done so far for online submission of AQAR. It was decided to complete the task as soon as possible and to ensure filing of the AQAR within the prescribed time.
- A discussion on the Best Practices and Institutional Distinctiveness under the Criterion 7 was held. The Best Practices in 2017-18 Examination seat number digitization and installation of Solar wind hybrid power generation system respectively. It was decided that the same best practice with innovative dimension could be presented. However, practices like working by the college as a lead college (Mentor) for colleges either covered or aspiring to be covered under the DBT Star College Scheme in the region, Donation to Orphanage and old age home on a regular basis and Projects by UG Students could also be the other best practices of the institution.
- While deciding the **Institutional Distinctiveness**, it was unanimously decided that academic leadership and leadership in building research and quality enhancement ecosystem is the real differentiating feature of the college.
- **Road map** : it was decided that the Short term goal would be preparing towards 2021 NAAC accreditation and application for UGC Paramarsh scheme, long term would be getting Autonomy and we need to have at least 2-3 national award winning students in the years to come.
- **Any other point** : Student representative suggested to provide regulated Wi-fi facility in the college campus.

Resolutions passed :

1. One percent of the college annual financial budget to be reserved as seed funding for innovation and incubation. This would be forwarded to the CDC for its final approval
2. Food Processing and Computational Biology could be identified as potential focus areas for innovation related short term training programmes
3. Tap the industry-DBT PPP model possibility

The meeting concluded with a cordial Vote of Thanks to the Chair.


Parag Shah
IQAC Coordinator
25/9/2019




Dr. Sanjay Kharat
Principal & Chairman