

Internal Quality Assurance Cell Initiatives
School of Liberal Studies, PDU (2013-2014)

IQAC formed on – September 5, 2012

Last report submitted on – September 2, 2013

It may be noted that to assure and enhance internal quality in teaching-learning, administration and research activities of the various schools, IQAC and IQEC have been constituted on 5th September 2012 at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University.

Following is the executive summary of the initiatives undertaken by the School and the challenges faced:

(a) Curriculum Development and the Course Basket –

1. **Curriculum Review** - Consequent to the course approval of B.Com. (Hons.) and the credits assigned, it was observed that though some courses had 1.5 credits assigned, these courses were scheduled and taught at par with all other courses having 3 credits, as found desirable academically. Having deliberated on this issue the proposal has been submitted to the Chairman Academic Council for approval.
2. **Curriculum Design** - At its meeting in April 2014, the Board of Studies for Business Administration and Commerce curricula for Finance, Marketing and HR from 5th semester were approved. This has also been approved by the Faculty of Liberal Studies and the Academic Council. The same will come in force in 5th Semester of 2012 batch.
3. **Foreign Language** - To further expand the course variety in foreign language, SLS offered Japanese Language Course worth 3 credits from 2014 batch. The course is taught by the Japanese faculty. The acknowledgement of the same is taken by Nikkei Asian Review.
4. **Industrial Psychology Course Design** - Board of Studies of Psychology met in November 2014 to review syllabus of B.A.(Hons.) /B.B.A. (Hons.). Review of course in Industrial Psychology to be offered to B.Com. (Hons.) Students was discussed.
5. **Masters in Psychology Course Design** - SLS also has prepared the course structure of M.A. in Psychology which can be put up to the statutory bodies of the University for approval. The current interest level of students in Psychology has led to this proposal.
6. **Introduction of Additional Major** - SLS also has proposed the Major in Mass Communication from the year 2015.

7. **Preparation for Course Design** - Boards of Studies meetings for Public Administration and International Relations are proposed in April 2015.

(b) Faculty and Staff Recruitment –

Drive for recruiting competent faculty continues. While an Associate Professor in Marketing has already been recruited, efforts for recruiting faculty in areas of Economics, International Relations and Public Administration are being made.

(c) Collaborative Research Project –

Towards Women's Economic Empowerment in India: A Psycho-Social Intervention

Amount of Money requested: \$28,307.00

Applied for grant from Australia India Council General

Duration: 28/11/2014- 27/11/2015

This is a major International Collaborative Research Project spanning over 12 months. The aim of the proposed collaboration is to conduct a psychological intervention and related project that will investigate the attitudes towards women in the workforce in India, as well as develop an ongoing collaborative relationship between The School of Psychology and Social Science at Edith Cowan University (ECU) and the School of Liberal Studies, Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University (PDPU) India. The initial project is significant in terms of promoting the psychosocial health and wellbeing of women in the workforce in India. The development of an ongoing intervention and evaluation is significant because it raises the profile of the researchers and the universities involved and contributes to increased and deeper understanding of best practice psycho-social interventions of women who work, it will also lead to greater understanding of women and empowerment and bring about positive change by influencing stakeholders. More importantly it has the potential to improve the lives of the community in India through raising awareness of social justice issues. Expected outcomes include; (1) a collaborative psycho-social intervention and method that would be implemented in India; (2) positive influence stakeholders (business owners, women and economic leaders) and community and political leaders about the importance of Indian women in the workforce; (3) collaborative future project applications and increased understanding of Australian best practice in gender based research and psycho-social modelling on women and empowerment; (4) a trusting working relationship between ECU and PDPU crucial for future collaborations between the two institutions and through these processes the two nations (India has been identified as a key nation that ECU plans to collaborate with). Further and more substantial grants will be targeted after the successful completion of the project. It will be possible to

plan to apply the methods and findings to other South Asian Nations and therefore raise the influence of India-Australia researchers in the region.

Members from ECU: Dr Peter Hancock; Professor Alfred Allan; Dr Eyal Gringart; Dr Mary Edwards

Members from PDPU: Prof D. M. Pestonjee; Dr Ritu Sharma; Dr Neeta Sinha, Ms. Neeta Khurana, Ms. Supriya Pal

(d) Research Activities:

Research publications

Dept.	Journal Articles	Conference Proceedings	Chapters in Book
English			
Public Admin		3	2
Psychology	6		
International Relations			1 Book authored
Business Administration	1	2	

Paper Presentation in International National Conferences

Dept.	National	International	Workshops
English		4	
Public Admin	5	3	1
Psychology		2	
International Relations			
Economics			
Business Administration	1	3	

(e) Symposiums and workshops conducted by the School-

1. PDPU Research Competition October 3, 2013
2. Second National Seminar on Interdisciplinary Studies, April 3-4, 2014
3. Chartered Accountancy – Career and Prospects Workshop by Business Administration Dept. March 25, 2014
4. E Commerce Workshop by Business Administration Department, April 10, 2014
5. Research Methodology Workshop by Business Administration Department
6. Economics Conclave by the Economics Department, August 21-22, 2014

7. Psychology Symposium by Psychology Department, August 1, 2014
8. Mass Communication Workshops on Development Communication and Film Appreciation July 16 and 24-25, 2014

(f) Students' Research

1. Papers Presented -11
2. Papers Published with ISSN Number – 4
3. Ms. Jainisha Chavda got Commonwealth Scholarship, the only Indian Recipient this year, this would enable her to do Masters with Full Expenses paid at Birmingham University.
4. Ms. Jainisha Chavda presented a paper on 'Esperanto' – A Universal Language at Triple A Summit' in Hague, Netherlands, Her paper would be read out at the UN General Assembly Session next year.
5. Ms. Bhoopali Nandurkar got US Consulate Scholarship to study at Phoenix Community College for one year.

(g) Public Lectures

1. 1st Distinguished Lecture by the famous poet Makarand Paranjape on April 1, 2014
2. 2nd Distinguished Lecture by Google India Head, Mr. Lalitesh April 15, 2014
3. 3rd Distinguished Lecture by RBI Regional Head, Prakash Chandra Sahu on April 15, 2014
4. 3rd Public Diplomacy Lecture Series, lecture by Ambassador of India to Japan Dr. Aftab Seth, July 22, 2014
5. 1st Teachers' Day Lecture Series, Lecture by Prof. Ghanchi, Former VC of NGU September 5, 2014

(h) Community Work

School of Liberal Studies students and faculty are helping the Udyog Bhavan, Govt. of Gujarat in Cleanliness Campaign.

(i) Library Resources

Since the submission of IQEC report last time, SLS has purchased 949 more books for its library. Reading facility has been enhanced and the computers with internet connectivity have been put up in the library.

Months	Total Books
Sep – 2013	29
Oct– 2013	53
Nov– 2013	34
Dec– 2013	46

Jan- 2014	44
Feb- 2014	410
Mar- 2014	4
Apr - 2014	54
May- 2014	4
Jun- 2014	35
Jul- 2014	87
Aug- 2014	81
Sep- 2014	37
Oct- 2014	31
Total	949

(j) Internationalization –

To acquaint students and faculty with the best practices in education abroad, cohort of SLS students and faculty visited University of Wollongong in June 2014. SLS is again proposing to send a cohort of students to university of Wollongong in June 2015.

(k) University Arms –

SLS has formed an organogram for faculty contribution to the university's corporate life. Currently Dr. Neeta Sinha is the Chief Hostel warden of the university. Ms. Khushali Purohit is efficiently handling the NCC Girls Wing of the university and the team of Ms. Neeta Khurana, Ms. Khushali Purohit and Mr. Phalgun Kumar are facilitating for the Rural Internship Program for engineering students of the university. Ms. Niyati Shah is the Coordinator for cultural activities in the university.

Challenges Ahead –

Identification of challenges is within the domain of quality enhancement, as such identification leads to redefining quality parameters and related goals.