



Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University

Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC)



**National Seminar on "Academic and Administrative Audits" (AAA)
(NAAC Sponsored)**

27th & 28th March, 2017

Brief Report

The Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University had organized a NAAC sponsored two day National Seminar on the theme "Academic and Administrative Audits" on the 27th and 28th March 2017. A total number of 153 delegates from within and outside the state participated in the seminar.

The Programme started with the formal inauguration of the programme by the chief Guest Dr. S. Chandrashekar Shetty, Chairman, Advisory Committee of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health and Centre for Disease control and former Vice Chancellor, RGUHS and Sri Devraj Urs, University, Kolar who in his keynote address emphasized on Quality enhancement in higher Education and highlighted on the process of academic and administrative Audits towards achieving self reliance and excellence in higher education.

Dr. B Suresh Honourable Vice Chancellor of Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University in his presidential remarks comprehensively highlighted on Accreditation process in higher education and the auditing process in the higher education institutions which would lead into self reliant institutes of excellence.



Picture 1: Inauguration of Two Days National Seminar on Academic & Administrative Audits. (From Left to Right) **Dr. S. J. Nalini**, Professor and Vice-principal, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai **Dr. Prashanth Vishwanath**, IQAC Co-ordinator, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University, Mysuru, **Dr. B. Suresh**, Vice Chancellor, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University, Mysuru, **Dr. S Chandrashekar Shetty**, Chairman, Advisory Committee of Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Public Health and Centre for Disease control and former Vice Chancellor, RGUHS and Sri Devraj Urs, University, Kolar, **Dr. P A Kushalappa**, Director (Academics), Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeshwara University, **Dr. H Basavanagowdappa**, Principal and Dean faculty of Medical Sciences and **Dr. G Parthasarthy**, Principal and Dean faculty of Pharmacy were present on the occasion

After the key note address, Dr. S. Rangaswami, Former Vice Chancellor, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai deliberated on the topic "Academic & Administrative Audit - More than a Grading Tool". He gave insights into the concepts and role of AAA process in quality sustenance and enhancement of HEIs – A motivating and mentoring tool, the Methodology of AAA: The seven steps, How to draw on the system and Benchmarking as a quality enhancement tool.

Followed by this session, Dr. S. J. Nalini, Professor and Vice-principal, Faculty of Nursing, Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai, highlighted the importance of Annual Quality Assurance Reports (AQAR's) and how to effectively use AQAR's for continuous quality evaluation of the institution. She discussed with examples how AQAR's had been used as a quality enhancement tool at their institution. In the following session a Panel Discussion was held on Ensuring Quality in Higher Education by prominent panellists. The panellists put forward their views on ways to ensure and sustain quality in higher education institutions.

In the post lunch session, a panel discussion on Academic Audits - The Global scenario and where do we stand? Brought out important features of international audits and their salient features and how they differ from the national standards. The standards of various bodies pertaining to higher education in professional courses were discussed and this was followed by discussion by audience.

In the final session Dr. M. A. Shekar, Director, Karnataka Institute of Endocrinology & research, Bengaluru, discussed about the sustenance of an academic health of an institute by giving examples of health check up packages and how it implies to academic health of and higher education institution and how the process of regular accreditations and audits improve the health of an institution

The day ended with 26 Poster presentations on the theme of "Academic and Administrative Audits" being presented to the 3 judges and to the audience. The posters presented various assessment models and their results on improving quality in higher educational institutions.

Day 2 (28th March 2017)

The second day started with a session on Benchmarks for assuring the quality at different levels of higher education delivered by Dr. S. P Thyagarajan, Professor of Eminence and Dean (Research) Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai who elaborated on the various mechanism for setting benchmarks and who also elaborated on various ranking systems and how much weightages they give for different parameters and which parameters need higher benchmarking.



Picture 6: Dr. S. P Thyagarajan, Professor of Eminence and Dean (Research) Sri Ramachandra University, Chennai delivering a session on benchmarks for assuring quality in higher education

Following this session Prof. S. N. Hegde, Former Vice Chancellor, Mysore University spoke about challenges for an academic audit and how to overcome those challenges. He highlighted that the real challenge is always within the institution and if one overcomes that, then quality if sustained perennially could lead to excellence

This was followed by a session by Prof. Ilango Balakrishnan, Former Vice Chancellor, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore who in his talk tried to bridge the gap in principles and practice of good governance. He gave examples of real case scenarios and explained how governance can handle such issues.

Following this there was a panel discussion on "Seven criteria of NAAC - Is it sufficient". The panellists put forth their views on the existing criteria and how it covered most of the aspects of higher education. There were views that it does not cover many aspects of health sciences universities and some points for suggestions to NAAC with regards to health sciences universities were made and it was decided to submit the same to the NAAC office.

In the post lunch session, there was an interesting panel discussion on stakeholders expectations and perception in which administrators, faculty and students participated as stakeholders and brought out the expectations of various stake holders in relation to quality in higher education.



Picture 7: Panel Discussion on stakeholders expectations & perceptions

In the next session, Dr. K. P Arun, IQAC Co-ordinator of JSS College of pharmacy, took on effective documentation wherein it was emphasized on the key aspects of maintaining effective documentation with examples. In the final session, Dr. Sunil Kumar D, IQAC Co-ordinator of JSS Medical College discussed with examples the key aspect wise assessment indicators. He made the participants to evaluate an institution using the seven criteria of NAAC with the set of indicators and gave an overview of the accreditation process.

The two day programme ended with a valedictory function which was presided by Dr. B. Manjunatha, Registrar, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreshwara University. He highlighted the importance of such seminars and how it could translate into better understanding of the accreditation processes and how individual faculty could contribute towards improving quality of the higher education institutions. Best Poster awards were distributed to three participants whose posters were adjudged the best posters among the 26 poster presentations. The programme concluded with vote of thanks by Dr. Prashant Vishwanath, IQAC Co-ordinator, Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreshwara University.