

## Progress of and Plans for Quality Assurance in Universities

Prof. Kalyani Perera

QA Consultant – HETC Project

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### 1. Progress of activities from 1<sup>st</sup> August 2015 – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

#### 1.1. *Manual for Institutional Review of Universities and Higher Education Institutions*

Additional 140 copies of the Manual had been issued in August and September according to the requests received, making the total number of copies of the Manual issued to 15 universities, Ministry of Higher Education, UGC and higher education institutions to 696.

#### 1.2. *Assisting the Universities to prepare for Institutional Review*

Awareness programmes were held at the *South Eastern University of Sri Lanka* to the administrative staff, IQAU members and SER writer nominees on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2015 to clarify issues and promote SER writing. Professors Uma Coomaraswamy, B.D. Nandadeva (writers of the IR Manual) and QA consultant served as resource Persons. Total of 41 members of the administration staff and academic staff participated.

Visited *University of Peradeniya* on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2015 to meet the DVC (IQAU Director) and New VC to secure their cooperation to accelerate SER preparation, revive IQAU and request to send responses of University academia on updated SLQF document to QAASC; sent a copy of the SLQF to PS/VC.

#### 1.3. *Promoting Internal Quality Assurance circular and Sri Lanka Qualification Framework*

An awareness programme was held at the *University of Ruhuna* on Internal Quality Assurance circular, Institutional Review Manual guidelines and Sri Lanka Qualification Framework on 10<sup>th</sup> September 2015.

Professors Uma Coomaraswamy, H. Abeygunawardena, B.D. Nandadeva (writers of the IR Manual), Dr. U. Mampitiya (SLQF Consultant/HETC) and Prof. Kalyani Perera (QA Consultant / HETC) served as resource Persons. Total of 71 members including the Vice Chancellor, Deans of faculties, Senior Professors, Professors, senior lecturers and members of the administration staff participated.

#### 1.4. *Formulation of a Revised Manual for Subject/Programme Review*

Meetings were held among the team of Manual writers on the following dates to present and discuss the chapters of the revised manual that had been completed:

01st September, 2015

15th September 2015

22nd September 2015

23rd September 2015

95% of the draft Manual has been completed.

#### 1.5. *Revision of Subject benchmark Statements*

Finalized nominations received from the Universities for the below listed Benchmarking Committees were sent to the QAASC for approval.

*Mathematics & Statistics*

*Botany*

### **1.6. Training Programme for senior academics to serve as future Institutional Reviewers**

Nominations were called from the universities (Vice Chancellors) for senior academics with prior administrative and/ or quality assurance experience and wish to serve as institutional reviewers in future to be trained on Institutional reviewing.

A total of 178 nominations received. Of them 65 members had submitted required information. Based on their willingness, qualifications, prior administrative and quality assurance experience, 54 academic members had been selected for training by the three member subcommittee appointed by the QAASC.

## **2. QA activities planned for October – November 2015**

### **2.1. Training Programme for senior academics to serve as future Institutional Reviewers**

A Two-day training programme for the selected group of senior academics on institutional reviewing will be held on 5<sup>th</sup> October, 2015.

### **2.2. Preparation of the Subject/Programme Review Manual**

Another meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015 to complete the draft manual.

A stakeholder meeting (with representatives from all universities, interested HEIs, the UGC, and the Ministry) will be held to scrutinize the content of the draft manual and obtain the suggestions, on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> October 2015.

### **2.3. Institutional Review of the Remaining Universities and HEIs**

University of Peradeniya has submitted the Self-Evaluation Report. The IQAU Director informed that the University will be ready to receive the Review panel in early November 2015.

Vice Chancellor/ University of Colombo and Competent Authority/Eastern University have informed that The SER writer teams are in the process of finalizing the SERs to submit on 30<sup>th</sup> September and early October, respectively.

### **2.4. Promoting Internal Quality Assurance and Sri Lanka Qualification Framework**

Functions of IQAUs of the Universities will be monitored and required assistance will be provided. Universities will be visited depending on the need and availability of relevant officials. Following Universities will be visited:

10<sup>th</sup> October 2015      Eastern University of Sri Lanka

### **2.5. Revising Subject Benchmark Statements (SBS) and promoting their Use**

Meetings with the former members of the following benchmarking Committees will be held to examine whether the existing benchmark statements need revision and if so to decide on the course of action and the time frame and nominate the members to be included in the next committees:

Civil Engineering

Economics

Geography

Medicine

Physics

Zoology

