

Academic Audit Report
of
KET's V. G. Vaze College of Arts, Science and Commerce
(Autonomous)
MULUND, MUMBAI- 400 081
For the Year 2021-22
Under Quality Assurance Initiative

By

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10th December 2022

Academic Audit 2021-22 was conducted for THE KET'S V.G. VAZE COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCE & COMMERECE (AUTONOMOUS) MULUND, MUMBAI-400 081,under the Initiative of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell's on 10th December 2022.

Objectives:

- To review and assess teaching, learning and evaluation processes practiced by the institution.
- To give feedback on strengths/opportunities and best practices of the respective departments and suggest areas of improvement.

Procedure:

Academic Audit was conducted offline in the college premises. Departments made their presentations as per the schedule given. Each presentation was followed by interaction between the internal experts and the members of the department. It involved clarifications, validations and reinforcements. For this Audit, the focus of discussion was recommendations received from the last Academic Audit Committee, ATR, difficulties faced in implementing the recommendations, best practices and unique features of the department, future plans for AY 2023-24 and support required for materializing the plans.

General Observations Across Departments of All Faculty

- Majority of the departments are satisfactorily carrying out quality activities. A number of varied activities are being undertaken.
- More attention should be given to connect these activities with the community at the local and regional level.
- Guidelines given in NEP 2020 should be followed while chalking out future programmes and activities.
- An Interdisciplinary and Multidisciplinary approach should be adopted while designing departmental initiatives.
- Departments should focus on collaborations and linkages with Industrial Houses and NGOs.
- In order to inculcate the spirit of scientific enquiry and analytical reasoning, systematic efforts should be taken to involve students in research activities at the undergraduate level.
- Social Science Laboratory to be set up with 15 work stations.
- Case Study approach to teaching and investigation to be utilized optimally by departments wherever relevant.
- Environmental awareness should be given priority in all the departmental endeavors
- Placement drive in connection with SFC programmes is noteworthy.
- Internship should be the focus of all departments
- Anti-plagiarism software is to be purchased. Access to the same should be given to students from the Vaze Research Centre as well as outside students. Students to be charged for the service and rates to be subsidized for the in-house research students.
- Vaze College should take the lead to set up a Centre of Suburban Studies.
- Alumni networking needs to be aggressively taken up.

Department-wise Observations and Recommendations

ECONOMICS

Observations:

Workshops and guest lectures to sensitise students to issues of poverty and environment issues as well as research work presented on Cable TV as a Disruptive Innovation are noteworthy initiatives.

Recommendations Received:

- Organise a guest lecture on “Green Buildings” with Mr. Hitesh Thakkar as the Resource Person.
- Extend the Research on “Cable TV as a Disruptive Innovation,” by including Social Media as a Disruptive Innovation.

ENGLISH

Observations:

The Prospective projects including the language training for non-teaching staff and English Enhancement Course are good. Dramafest is a good activity and students deserve to be applauded for their efforts.

Recommendations Received:

- Software upgrade and hardware upgrade that supports the language Lab should be done with the help of the IT Department and vendors for the Language Lab and regular Annual Maintenance Contract to be maintained.

HINDI

Observations:

हिंदी विभाग द्वारा रामनारायण झूनझूनवाला के हिंदी विभाग के संयुक्त तत्वावधान में होने वाले छात्र संगोष्ठी की सराहना की गयी। तृतीय वर्ष कला के छात्रों के इंटर्नशीप की बात को प्राथमिकता पर रखा गया। हिंदी दिवस को महाविद्यालियन स्तर पर अन्य संकायों तथा विभाग के साथ मिलकर मनाने के लिए हिंदी दिवस को महाविद्यालियन कार्यक्रम के स्तर पर मनाना घोषित किया गया। नए शिक्षा नीति को ध्यान में रखते हुए राष्ट्रीय एवं अन्तराष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी के आयोजन को प्रस्ताव को पारित किया गया।

Recommendations Received:

- हिन्दी दिवस के अवसर पर अन्य विषयों के विद्यार्थियों के लिए प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन करना। (Organize competitions on the occasion of Hindi Diwas for students of other faculty)
- महाविद्यालय के अन्य विभागों (इतिहास, राजनीतिशास्त्र और अर्थशास्त्र) के साथ मिलकर कार्यक्रम का आयोजन करना। (Organize programs in collaboration with other departments of the college (History, Political Science and Economics))
- अहिंदी भाषी तथा अन्य विभागों के विद्यार्थियों के लिए विभिन्न प्रकार की प्रतियोगिता का आयोजन। (Organize various types of competitions for non-Hindi speaking students)
- गैर हिन्दी भाषी छात्रों के लिए हिन्दी भाषी पाठ्यक्रम शुरू करना। (Start a Hindi speaking course for Non-Hindi speaking students)
- सरल हिन्दी कोर्स के लिए फ्री हिन्दी रोड़ शो करना। (Publicise the certificate course on Saral Hindi at the Career Mela)

HISTORY

Observations:

Collaborative activities of the Department of History with Departments of Chemistry, Library, Political Science, Psychology and Sociology as well as other autonomous colleges are noteworthy.

Recommendations Received:

- Tours like Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Vastu Sanghralaya contribute to understanding the subject better and should be encouraged.
- The RM Certificate Course may be extended to other Social Science departments
- The plan to begin a Certificate Course on ‘Ethics and Values’ must be designed with NEP 2020 in mind.
- Historical sites of Mulund and surrounding areas should be explored to see if there is any ‘Heritage’
- Heritage walks can be undertaken in collaboration with B.voc
- History department to take lead to introduce ‘Faculty Trivia’ as an activity to provide a platform where students and faculty will get chance to discuss, talk and interact with each other on various topics.
- ‘Manuscriptology’ as a course to include Modi and other scripts.
- Collaborate with the Department of Psychology to study topics like – Women who excelled, Lesser-known women and their Personalities .
- Exploring of Internship Opportunities is suggested.
- “Family Businesses” to be introduced as a certificate course. Dr. Meeta Dixit may be invited to guide.
- Collaborate with the Scientific Research Centre (SRC) to explore possible research options in Ayurvedic Cures and Treatments.
- New courses on topics related to Indian culture may be introduced.
- Organize activities that encourage research on topics like Ornaments/Saree Types and Draping Styles/Pagdis

MARATHI

Observations:

ग्रंथालया सोबत सलग चार वर्ष सुरु असणाऱ्या ‘वाचनकट्टा’ या उपक्रमाची प्रशंसा केली गेली. तसेच अमराठी विद्यार्थी, शिक्षक व शिक्षकेतर कर्मचारी यांच्यासाठी संवादात्मक मराठी लघुपाठ्यक्रम, इतर विभागासोबत कार्यक्रम आणि आगामी पदव्युत्तर (एम.ए) अभ्यासक्रमाची निर्मिती या उपक्रमांना प्रोत्साहन देण्यात आले.

Recommendations Received:

- मंथन- जागर मराठीचा हा पूर्वीचा साजरा होणारा महोत्सव पुन्हा सुरू करणे; यास मराठमोळे स्वरूप देऊन मराठी दागिने, पदार्थ व पोषाख इ. चे प्रदर्शन भरवणे.
- मराठी विभागाने इतिहास विभागासोबत उपक्रम घेणे, यात विशेष ८ मार्च जागतिक महिला दिनाचे औचित्य साधून मराठमोळ्या सौंदर्यस्पर्धेचे (ब्युटी किन) आयोजन करणे, व लिपी संशोधन -अध्ययन मोडी, पाली) इ. कार्यक्रम / प्रकल्प घेणे.
- अ-मराठी विद्यार्थी, शिक्षक, शिक्षकेतर कर्मचारी यांच्यासाठी नियोजित -मराठी संवादकौशल्य लघुपाठ्यक्रम आयोजित करणे. मराठी व्यवसायभिमुख मार्गदर्शन, प्रमाणपत्र लघुपाठ्यक्रम मेळाव्यात सहभाग घेणे.
- मराठी पदव्युत्तर शिक्षण (एम.ए.) सुरू करण्याबाबत सकारात्मक चर्चा झाल्याने अभ्यासक्रम सुरू करण्याचा विचार करणे.
- चित्रपट दिग्दर्शन, पटकथा लेखन अनुवाद -भाषांतर अशा कार्यशाळांचे आयोजन करणे, जनसंपर्क (Maas Media) विभागासोबत एखादा प्रकल्प करणे.
- मराठी विभागाच्या सर्व कार्यक्रमांचे वृत्त प्रसिद्धी माध्यमात येण्यासाठी आग्रही राहणे.

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Observations:

Proposal for starting a short term course “Maritime Studies” is appreciated. Collaborative activity proposed with the American Centre is noteworthy.

Recommendations Received:

- Certificate Course on the Indian Constitution to be started in collaboration with the Department of Law.
- Sign an MOU with the American Center for further activities
- “Maritime Studies” be introduced in AY 2023-24

SOCIOLOGY

Observations

Future plans of collaborating with Science and Law department to organise activities and proposed short-term courses on Criminology and Medical Sociology were appreciated. Sociology of Tourism is a new and upcoming area and the initiative to study the same is wonderful.

Recommendations Received:

- Conduct a guest lecture in the area of Criminology. It will be useful for students. Cybercrime/ Cybersecurity can be the topic for the Kelkar-Kulkarni Lecture Series in February 2023.
- Collaborate with other departments to meet the requirements of interdisciplinary activities of NEP. For example, collaborate with the Political Science department to conduct activities to explore the politics behind social events/phenomena.
- Conduct activities/guest lectures, workshops to develop the Cultural Quotient of students.
- Organise activities to promote safe use of cyberspace at a larger platform

PSYCHOLOGY

Observations:

Observation of International Suicide Prevention Day for more than a decade is appreciated. The event titled “Stories of Rising from the Ashes” is a good initiative. PG Programme in Psychology is will be a good initiative.

Recommendations Received:

- Appoint Mrs. Geeta Kale as a Professional Counsellor.
- Organize a Certificate Course Mela to promote all Certificate courses of the psychology and other departments.
- Ensure the introduction of a Master’s Programme in Psychology

BOTANY

Observations:

Proposed MSc in Botany with an Angiosperm and Pharmacognosy Specialization, Certificate Course in Horticulture and Gardening, implementing Flora Digitization on College Campuses with QR Codes, and networking with alumni are all good activities.

Recommendations Received:

- Raise Seed Capital for Minor Research Projects by approaching various financial institutions like Saraswat Bank.
- Coordinate with the Scientific Research Centre for research based projects with weekly follow-up.
- Provide expertise related to vermicompost, horticulture and nursery development to the neighbourhood.
- Coordinate activities with the G. D. Kelkar Skill Development Centre and Finishing School.

- Workshops and Certificate courses should also be conducted for students from other institutions.

MATHEMATICS

Observations:

The Bridge Course in Mathematics for Bio-Technology students is appreciated. None of the recommendations of the previous academic audit have been implemented. It should be implemented this year.

Recommendations Received:

- Real life applications of mathematics should be included in the syllabi.
- Students should be given hands-on training using various softwares available in mathematics to develop interest and research acumen.
- The department has to organize activities throughout the year.

PHYSICS

Observations:

Certificate Course proposed on Astrophysics, Hardware & Software Testing is appreciated. Project based on Applications of Physics in day-to-day life and training programmes on how to handle measuring devices (thermometer, oximeter etc) for all non-physics students is a good venture.

Recommendations Received:

- Organize Guest lectures and talks by successful alumni
- Organize formal courses/programmes for preparation for entrance exams like IIT, TIFR, IISER as well as for NASA.
- Explore the possibility of utilizing old computers of the IT Lab for Certificate Courses on Dismantling and Assembling various parts of computers.
- Interdisciplinary programs must be introduced from the next academic year.
- Astronomy sessions/stargazing programs for non-science students.
- Collaborate with different departments for important interdisciplinary topics (for eg, Astronomy: collaboration with History department for historical background of astronomy and stargazing; and EVS department for pressing matters in environmental issues and sustainable development)

ZOOLOGY

Observations:

Research on Drosophila in collaboration of TIFR is appreciated. The proposed collaboration with Veterinary colleges to create awareness regarding animal care and the study on quality control of fish with reference to water pollution are good activities. The proposed MOU with TIFR should be done immediately.

Recommendations Received:

- Outsource the facility of the animal house and plan a visit to the Zoo to understand how the animal house functions.
- Collaborate with Ramanarain Ruia Autonomous College, Matunga for animal house facility.
- Develop Interdisciplinary collaboration with the Department of Psychology for studying pets.
- Propose an activity to understand pets in the Royal Families with the History Department.
- Herpetology – the study of different species of venomous and non-venomous snakes should be taken up.
- Collaborate with the Department of Political Science for a module on “Maritime Studies”.
- Coordinate with the Department of Botany for a study of “Foods from Flora and Fauna”
- Certificate Course in Aquaculture should commence immediately.

CHEMISTRY

Observations:

MSc students internship in chemical industries is appreciated. There is much more that such a strong department can do which is not happening.

Recommendations Received:

- Interdisciplinary programmes should be planned with departments of History, EVS etc.
- Research that is of Applied nature should be taken up immediately.
- Ensure to start certificate courses one by each member of the department.
- Chemistry Department activities should be increased.

BUSINESS LAW

Observations:

Academic Audit team appreciated the proposed compiling of the Booklet of Common Laws.

Recommendations Received:

- Create a Booklet of "Common Laws" with respect to cyber-crime and provisions of Co-operative Societies Act.
- Collaborate with experts from the legal field and conduct lectures for faculty on topics like Drafting of Will, Due Diligence of an Agreement.
- Conduct field visits to Court / Lok Adalats.
- Role-play of Moot Court is recommended.
- Screen films to highlight the working of the judiciary.

BUSINESS ECONOMICS

Observations:

The experiential learning activities of the department is appreciated.

Recommendations Received:

- Tie- up with other departments of Commerce for MSME's and Company internships.
- Train other departments for conducting Statistical Analysis in Research.
- Extend the understanding of Statistical Analysis to students participating in Avishkar.
- Design a Curriculum and Budget for a Certificate Course on "Business Analytics".

COMMERCE

Observations:

The STC on Data Analytics with Power (BI) Business Intelligence (a tool from Microsoft) is appreciated. The recently started IDEA KATTA is a good start.

Recommendations Received:

- Introduce M.Com. in Management on a priority basis from AY 2023-24
- Introduce courses for using Commerce Lab – Prepare a schedule of the commerce faculty with their programs and submit it to the office with courses that each member can start.
- Create a platform for solving Grievances of Investors, Consumer Complaints, RTI related to investors
- Contact ATC logistics for providing Internship to Commerce Department students.

EVS

Observations:

Survey on Urban Issue and Waste Management is appreciated.

Recommendations Received:

- From AY 2023-24 start courses on :
 - E waste management in collaboration with IT department
 - Waste Management in the College Campus and Canteen along with the NSS.
 - Ensure MOU with Enviro Vigil for clean-up activities at Yeoor Hills, Thane
 - Collaborate with the Physics department and College Office for proper functioning of the Solar Panels on the college building roof top
 - Collaborate with Departments of Botany, Zoology and other departments to conduct various programs related to Environmental Awareness, such as Eco-friendly Diwali.
 - Collaborate with Isha Foundation for the Soil Conservation Drives as a social initiative
- Ms Shirisha Gupte must register for PhD Programme.

ACCOUNTANCY**Observations:**

The Taxation Clinic on the basis of recommendations of the previous Academic Audit Committee is a good initiative.

Recommendations Received:

- Start Bridge Courses for non-Commerce students (Budget Course, GST etc)
- Introduce B. Com Honours Programme
- Start Certificate Courses in collaboration with all departments of commerce
- Succession Planning for the subject of Taxation to be taken up seriously.

BAF/BBI/BMS**Observations:**

The ideas of community outreach, HR club, Celebrating Management Week must take off soon.

Recommendations Received:

- SFC is completing 20 years in 2023. SFC departments need to plan celebration by conducting events, exhibitions and seminars and inviting different industry Celebrities / CEO's and other important dignitaries.
- SFC Departments should start integrated PG and UG courses as a part of evening courses.
- The SFC department should start a Stock Market Certification Course in collaboration with the BSE.
- Conduct a Bridge Courses for Science and Arts students for understanding commercial and financial markets.
- SFC departments to integrate professional studies like CS / CA foundation course and begin coaching programmes in the evening.

BIOTECHNOLOGY**Observations:**

11 Projects that were sent to 16th Intercollegiate Avishkar Research Convention 2022 in the UG category – Pure Sciences are noteworthy.

Recommendations Received:

- Provide a detailed list of equipment required to be purchased. Invite quotations and follow process and procedures.
- A laboratory attendant should be appointed from AY 2023-24
- Self-financing Courses for students and working professionals must be initiated in collaboration with foreign universities.

IT

Observations:

Department activities to be increased

Recommendations Received:

- IT department should develop a software for maintaining student attendance.
- IT department faculty member should be the intermediary to communicate the requirements of Leave Management and Payroll Software which is going to be developed by Senses Technology Software Development Team.
- IT Department should help other departments of the college to maintain and give a professional touch to their Departmental Sites.

BVOC

Observations:

Hands-on practice of Amadeus software, inclusion of general and skill component towards holistic development of the students is appreciated.

Recommendations Received:

- Organize an exhibition of agencies/hotels/resorts in the month of February utilising classrooms and ground/foyer.
- Assignments should be given to the students to develop any Sites for Virtual Tourism.
- Evening Course specific to the Industry requirements to impart specific skill sets to the students be planned.
- Connect to agencies like Anubhav Travels, Kesari Tours to enhance placements/internships.
- Display testimonials received from students on the college website to enhance the popularity of the Tourism and Hospitality Programme.
- Students of B.Voc. should be given assignments to plan study tours/ Industrial visits for the various departments within the college.
- Coordinate with the Department of History for Heritage Walls.

PGDPCM

Observations:

The Department's initiative to restart a programme with the National Blind Association for training visually challenged students was applauded. New Courses and Guest lectures planned with Alumni Collaborations was appreciated.

Recommendations Received:

- Focus on Collaboration with NGOs to start Fragrance/Cosmetic evaluation training.
- Check the possibility of Placement fees to be charged to companies approaching Vaze College for Placement and plan accordingly.
- Arrange alumni meet for PGDPCM department and check the possibility of alumni funding towards advancement of the Course/Department/College.
- Increase the number of faculty members in order to start new associated Courses in AY 2023-24.
- Department of PGDPCM to plan meeting with college authorities once a month.
- Use PGDPCM Library for Dual Purposes with the help of removable/ Foldable partition for conducting sessions. Use anti-chamber for Library facility.
- Plastic chairs to be purchased to ease seating arrangement in the PGDPCM laboratory.
- Invite Alumni for Guest lectures.
- Prepare a board on the college compound, outside the college displaying information about the Course.
- PGDPCM department can start evening courses in college
 - Skin Care/ Beauty Care
 - Professional Makeup
 - Ayurved and Beauty

Academic Audit 2021-22 helped the members of the Management and other authorities to get a perspective on areas of strengths and future development of various departments. The members of the Audit team applauded the departments for quality initiatives introduced. They promised to support them in all their future endeavours so as to make Vaze College a Premier Institute in the field of education.

Names & signature of the Academic Audit Team (Internal Members)

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