

School of Economics

(UGC-SAP Supported Department)
Devi Ahilya University, Indore

Yearly Plan for IQAC

2009-2010

- **Preparation of Course Curriculum:**

The basic consideration of the goals and objectives is to create Value Orientation and Employment opportunities for the students. The academic and research programmes are designed to fulfill the needs of the trade, industry and society. The needs of the growing economy and market are incorporated in our academic programmes. The curriculum development in the institution is finalized by a committee of experts, which includes Alumni, students and subject experts from industry and academicians. The committee meets every year once in the month of May/ June to finalize the syllabus. The Board of Studies takes guidance from UGC expert report and valuable suggestions from the industry. The employability is ensured through compulsory summer training programmes and by paying due focus on the papers related to the functional areas of Economics and Finance.

We follow university ordinance no. 31 which gives full autonomy in designing the course curriculum and in conducting examinations of our programmes. We provide a handbook containing information regarding fee structure, eligibility criteria, course structure, job prospects and academic activities. We make it compulsory for our students to have at least 6-8 weeks Summer Training and One Major Research Project. We conduct Personality Development Workshops, Annual Programmes, and Seminars for overall personality development of our young students. The institute also involves students in preparing curriculum and placement, port and industrial visits. They are also involved in organizing workshops, seminars and EDP's.

We are planning to call the meeting in the first week of June, 2009 to review our course curriculum of various programmes for the year 2009-10. The committee would consist of Academicians, Students, Alumni and subject experts from industry. This would be followed with preparation of teaching schedule and distribution of subjects among the faculties for teaching and assigning responsibilities as per the semester-wise calendar. The prerequisites would also include preparation of various committees

- **Strategies of Teaching Learning:**

Besides class room interactions, we involve students in case study analysis and provide them practical exposure through campus industry interactions. Case studies are the compulsory elements of all the programmes. We encourage students to give presentations and assignments in the classes for the knowledge and skill development. Tutorials are also conducted for the same. Seminars and projects are carried out regularly. Guest lectures by industrialists and academicians are a regular feature of our curriculum. . We use teaching aides such as LCD, OHP, Computer, and much useful software in the class room and computer lab. Faculties are motivated to use all these facilities in the lectures. From next semester (starting from July 2009), we would shift to our new building where we would equip all the class rooms with modern facilities.

- **Student Feedback System Design:**

Student Feedback system is a regular feature in our department. Presently, School is collecting the feedback from the students at the end of each semester. The feedback forms are provided by the university. The weighted score is calculated on a scale of one to five. The feedback scores are communicated to respective teachers for their self review and upgradation. We collect student feedback on following fronts:

1. Subject knowledge of the teacher, communication skills of the faculty, punctuality and motivation by the teachers etc.
2. Depth of the course content and extent of coverage of course,
3. Effectiveness of the course curriculum.
4. Timely evaluation of the answer sheets,

In order to make further improvements in feedback system for enhancing teaching and course curriculum standards in the department, we plan to incorporate the more specialized feedback system as provided by IOAC in the year 2009-10

- **Collection of Feedback & its Analysis:**

Syllabus of every program is upgraded every year as per the need of the society and industry. Every faculty member has contributed in syllabus modification. On the basis of the suggestions and recommendations, we have introduced few new papers to meet the need of the industry. With the growing financial sector, we have launched one more programme namely MBA (Financial Services).

Besides feedback from students, we also collect feedback from our alumni, employer at the time of campus requirement, academic experts at the time of Comprehensive Viva and from the industry through detail report of students undertaking summer training with them.

The upmost teaching and academics standards in the department in the year 2009-10 would be further ensured through effective teaching and sincere

efforts by teachers in evaluation, timely declaration of results and strong campus-corporate interactions.

- **Format of Analysis:**

The department has its own Internal Quality Assurance Committee in which faculty discusses many academic and administrative activities. Internal Quality Assurance Committee /cell has always worked for the quality enhancement of the department. The IQAC committee in the year 2009-10 would further assess all the parameters of excellence in quality for achieving the highest level in education and overall growth of the institution.

Students through their feedback suggest the enhancement of quality of education. Students' quality enhancement would be ensured by the department by inducting extra inputs other than the syllabi in the form of seminars, workshops, guest lectures and strengthening linkages with industries/corporate.

- **Improvement Plan:**

We, at School of Economics, believe in total development of the students. To compliment this, we have developed an atmosphere conducive to participative learning by organizing seminars, guest lectures and personality development programmes, thus promoting intellectual stimulation. We would continue to do so even in future. In continuance of this, we have planned following few activities in the year 2009-10 for the students, researchers and teachers:

- To shift to our new building and start our new session in July 2009 from Takshashila Campus of Devi Ahilya University This would provide an opportunity to our students to study in a very modern and conducive environment.
- To upgrade course curriculum to further strengthen various programmes run in the department.
- To incorporate the more specialized feedback system as provided by IOAC.
- To establish and strengthen Association/collaborations with FMC, Mumbai, NSE, IIFTR, New Delhi, CII and department of Consumer Affairs, Govt. of India, New Delhi.
- To prepare a time schedule of all the proposed activities and to ensure proper and timely execution of each event/ activity.
- To distribute a booklet with detailed information about various programmes and complete course curriculum to every student
- To constitute various committees and proper distribution of responsibilities among teaching and non- teaching staff to ensure good governance in the institution.

- To organize a seminar under UGC-SAP.
- To invite eminent speakers and guest faculties in the institution for enrichment of students and faculties.
- To organize four workshops for students on various issues.
- To organize a refresher course with the support of Academic Staff Collage, DAVV, Indore.
- To organize industrial visits of students to various industries/ corporate to provide them a practical exposure.
- To organize Port visit for students of International Business.
- To publish the research journal of Madhya Pradesh Economic Association.
- To motivate faculties and research scholars to indulge more in research activities which include preparing research proposals, writing research papers & case studies, participation in national/ international workshops, seminars, conferences, etc.
- To establish and strengthen Campus-Corporate linkages and organize Campus Recruitment Programmes for providing job opportunities to the students.
- To establish foreign collaborations with SAARC, UNCTAD, etc for capacity building and research activities.
- To organize *Personality & Communication Development* workshops for the students for their overall grooming.
- To organize the annual meet of the students: **Colors**” and to motivate students to participate in various extra curricular activities, which include management events, sports, games, debate, singing and many social services like donation of blood etc.
- To ensure proper working of Grievance redressal cell constituted to take care of Sexual Harassment would continue to function.
- To severely deal with ragging cases and to religiously follow strict anti-ragging measures.
- To continue to provide scholarships and fee facility through Govt of Madhya Pradesh.
- **Plan on Improvement in Infrastructure:**

The institute’s new building is constructed at Takshashila campus of Devi Ahilya University with a total carpet area of 36000 square feet. The upcoming batch of students in July 2009 would be privileged to study in our new building. Our new campus is designed and developed according to need of all the courses and is equipped with Auditorium, Spacious Library & class rooms, Research Room, Computer lab etc.

Library:

Our new library at Takshashila campus of Devi Ahilya University would be renovated in the year 2009-10 and have over 15,000 books on wide range of Economics, Management and quality journals. The new addition of books to the library would remain a continuous process. The Students will also have easy access to central library of the university which is located in the same campus.

Computer Lab:

The present day generation has wide exposure to area of information technology. Catering to this need of the students, the new computer lab in the year 2009-10 would be equipped with around 40 Terminals supported with uninterrupted use of internet. The terminals would be sufficed with latest software application packages like SPSS etc. The institute is planning to equip the complete building under WI-FI system.

Auditorium:

The auditorium has a seating capacity of around 200 people. We have planned to furnish it in 2009-10 with modern infrastructure so that the gatherings enjoy seminars, conferences and regular guest lectures comfortably.

Class Room aided with Internet and LCD Projector:

The new campus has 11 class rooms with a seating capacity of around 70 students in each class room. All the class rooms would be equipped with LCD Projectors. Internet facility would be provided in all the classrooms and as well as in faculty rooms

Placement cum Seminar Room:

The new campus has planed a separate well developed hall to manage the placement activities of the institute. This hall would be renovated in the year 2009-10 to accommodate around 40 students to conduct Pre-placement talks, Group Discussion sessions, Personal Interviews and small Seminars.

- **Plan for Research Activities & Promotion:**

UGC-SAP Supported Department:

On the basis of our strength in Teaching, Research and Capacity building, the UGC has selected this department for financial support

under its **Special Assistance Programme (SAP)** at DRS Level for a period of **five years** on the theme “**Environment, Development and Poverty**”. The department has been organizing Seminars, Workshops and Research Studies on Natural Resource Management in the region under this programme. The department has now successfully completed first phase of this programme.

We have already submitted a proposal for the *second phase* of **UGC-SAP** programme and then finally wish to become the Advanced Center of Research and Teaching in the field of Globalization and Environmental issues..

Research Projects:

The faculties in School of Economics are currently working on **Three Major Research Projects** sponsored by ICSSR and UGC, New Delhi. The thrust areas of these projects have been the regional development for betterment of quality of life of Malwa region. The students are allowed to participate in these research projects.

We have planned to submit fresh research proposals to NABAARD, wherein we intend to do research on issues related to agricultural/ rural development and Micro Finance. Besides this, all the faculties in the department are regularly motivated to produce quality research papers for publication.

The proposal to Forward Markets Commission for Nodal Agency:

The department is involved in the capacity building of teachers, students and other stake holders through the awareness workshops on the policy interventions of the government. At present we are getting support from Forward Markets Commission and Department of Consumer Affairs. We want to strengthen our academic relationship with Department of Consumer and IIFT New Delhi. We are planning to become the nodal agency for these organizations to conduct these workshops for the state of Madhya Pradesh. We have already submitted proposal to Forward Markets Commission, Mumbai.

The Centre for Tribal Development:

The jurisdiction of this university is mainly tribal dominated area. We wish to enhance our research on the social and economic issues of this region. We are planning to submit a proposal to establish a center for “Tribal Development”, to various funding agencies like Department of Higher Education and Tribal Welfare.

Academic Exchange:

We wish to develop academic excellence through academic exchange with some of the top Universities or institutes of the country like

Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, New Delhi, School of Business Economics, South Campus, New Delhi and Indian Institute of Finance, New Delhi

- **Plan on Improvement in Relationship with Stakeholders:**

Parents:

The department would enhance its interactions with parents by organizing Parent- Teacher meet regularly to improve the quality standards in the institution.

Students:

Besides many of the above mentioned students related activities, the department would further provide them regular career guidance and counseling for their complete grooming. The institute would further involve them in preparing curriculum and placement, port and industrial visits.

Office and Employees:

The department has always maintained a very cordial working atmosphere in the office and would further continue to strengthen this friendly and formal environment. The office staff and other employees are always motivated to help students. Steps would be further taken to minimize the waiting time at the office window by a student in the institution.

Teachers:

Besides conventional class room lectures, faculties discuss case studies and take presentations and assignments on a regular basis. Faculties in School of Economics also get involved in Seminars, Workshops, Conferences and refresher programmes for their value addition. Faculties are constantly motivated to involve in student-related activities and provide them career guidance and counseling from time to time. Apart from teaching, faculties represent many departmental committees and involve in allied administrative assignments for better governance in the department. Besides this, most of the faculties are involved in sponsored research projects and research related activities, which has been a regular feature of quality enhancement in the institution. The School of Economics has also successfully motivated non-Ph.D. teachers to pursue Ph.D. for further enhancement.

Teachers are also involved in other activities related to University examinations, by serving as observers, officers on special duty, invigilators, paper setters, curriculum development and evaluators. They serve as members in various committees of the University.

The department is committed to carry forward the same tradition in the coming years with more enthusiasm and spirit so that we would be able to touch the highest standards in higher education.

Alumni:

The School of Economics is blessed with very strong Alumni which are serving some of the top most corporate houses in the country. We often invite our Alumni for upgradation of course curriculum on a regular basis and seek their feedback about our students whom they provide summer trainings. Their suggestions are given due weightage in designing course curriculum and conducting placement activities in the department. In order to strengthen our relationship with our Alumni, the School would organize **Alumni Meet** in the year 2009-10 in our new building. This would not only help the present batch of our students to have face to face communication with current managers of corporate but also enhance their employability.