

PRIST UNIVERSITY

IQAC – STUDENTS CHAPTER

India has the second largest educational system in the world. A focus on quality, access and relevance of higher education to achieve the required social transformation for sustainable economic development of the country has been the national priority. Qualitative improvement in higher education, to realize the desired dimensions of human resource development necessitated the establishment of the premier Quality Assurance Agency – NAAC – by the UGC, in 1994, to assess and accredit the country's HEIs. Quality assurance is not an event, rather it is a continuous process and a relentless pursuit to achieve academic excellence. It is an ongoing, dynamic and life-long endeavor of any institution. As the primary goal of institutional accreditation by NAAC is to provide the information needed to improve the experience of the 'learning communities', it is envisaged that NAAC plays a larger role in internalizing and institutionalizing quality assurance. Towards achieving this goal, while the participation of all stakeholders is essential, the involvement of student participation in the institutional quality enhancement processes is crucial and invaluable, because of the following:

- Students are the largest group within any HEI, and therefore are the main stakeholders who have a much stronger voice than any other stakeholders.
- Students are quite well informed, committed, participative, motivated and curious, and this provides for valuable contributions.
- The several dimensions of student participation often surpass the four walls of the institution and other academic frontiers, following the trend that induces or obliges the institutions to open up to the society.
- Of late, world over, there is a wide and positive attitude towards increased student influence in higher education governance including the role of student activism in social changes.

Students could therefore be the driving force behind ambitious and far reaching Higher Education reforms. Recognizing the significance of students not only as the main stakeholders in education, but also as central to the entire process of educational experience that an institution can provide, the University has initiated the establishment of the “IQAC – STUDENTS CHAPTER” with an aim to involve students in the quality assurance, quality sustenance and quality enhancement processes of the University.

Students involvement in the quality assurance, quality sustenance and quality enhancement processes may be realized by adopting the following strategies:

- Students understanding of the concept of ‘Quality’
- Students perception of the need for quality in an educational institution
- Students responses regarding their concerns for augmenting quality in educational institutions
- Students understanding of feedback mechanisms
- Students’ perceptions of their involvement in institutional feedback systems
- Students’ concerns about institutional feedback systems
- Students awareness of the NAAC’s assessment and accreditation processes
- Students views about their involvement in the A/A of their institution
- Students concerns about institutional A/A by NAAC

Constitution of the IQAC – Students Chapter

The IQAC – Students Chapter may have one meritorious student both at UG & PG/Research level from each department as members. The Prime Minister of the Students Cabinet may be the Coordinator of the IQAC – Students Chapter. The IQAC Students Chapter may meet atleast two times in a semester and copies of Minutes of the Meeting may be forwarded to both IQAC Coordinator and the Vice Chancellor for taking follow up action.
