

Impact of Academic Audit on Quality of HEI

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ABSTRACT

The quality of higher education institution is reflected in its learning outcomes. These outcome contributes to develop professionals by enhancing the subject knowledge, employability skills, emotional & social behaviour, logical and strategical thinking among the learners. This can be achieved only through quality education which is supported by the quality management system. Academic audit gives the feedback on the efficiency of the academicians which helps the institution for betterment and improvement of the quality education.

Keywords: Academic audit, Quality assurance, Higher education.

INTRODUCTION

Higher education institutions are always aims at quality education to students. The quality of education merely not depends only the students but mainly on the quality education which is provided by the institution Even Society looks up to these institutions to address their needs through creating ample human resources with increased employability, by involved oneself toward social responsibilities, solving community based problems and maintaining harmony with outer environment solving. Quality is that element which distinguishes a product from another or one service from another. Quality is not achieved in one go, but it is continuous pursuit of perfections

Higher education institutions try to deliver comprehensive and global quality professional education through an well-established quality management system which is in a

form of a policy and which is in well-structured form, so that this policy contributes to institutionalizing the quality assurance processes in all the three areas namely academic, administrative and infrastructural.

In order to impart quality in higher education following are the criteria are considered.

Quality of the teacher:

Teaching and learning is a continuous process and to enhance the quality of teaching teachers are encouraged to attend the FDP/workshops/seminars/symposiums which helps in upgrading the knowledge and teaching skills. Faculty members are also can acquire additional qualification, research degrees and certification programmes that foster their skills.

Curriculum delivery:

A well-structured lesson plan, properly maintained work diary ensure the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Research activities:

Faculties are encouraged to write research papers to publish in journals and to present papers in National and International Conferences which helps in strengthening the research activities both in conceptual and empirical areas.

Personality Development Programmes:

Value Added programmes, certification courses are offered to the students to bridge the gap between the university syllabus and industry requirements. These helps the students in preparing for the career growth. Regular industrial visits and industry-academia interactions are organised so as to get practical exposure about the functioning of the organisation.

The institution has an integrated framework for Quality assurance of the academic and administrative activities. The academic and administrative activities can be integrated at three levels.

Strategic Level: Staff members are involved in framing the policies and procedures, guidelines, rules and regulations and effectively implementing the same to ensure smooth and systematic functioning of the institute.

Functional Level: All the Teaching Staff participate in sharing the knowledge by discussing on the latest trends in their respective area of specialization. The co-ordinators and the members of different departments meet together and plan the programmes to be conducted. Office staff are also involved in preparation of annual budget of the institute, taking into consideration the approved fee structure. They correspond with regulatory bodies to fulfill the requirements for smooth functioning of the institute's activities.

Operational level: All the staff members are involved in implementing the policies, procedures, and framework designed by the top management in order to maintain and achieve the quality standards.

Training to its staff is essential for effective implementation of the Quality assurance procedures. Faculty Development Programmes, Lectures and workshops give more thrust on pedagogy. As a result, the innovations across the field are practiced in the teaching methodology. Many industry experts and senior academicians from other institutions interact with the faculty members. This results in enhancement of the performance. Attending outreach programmes by faculty members also enriches them in benchmarking services of the institution.

Regular Academic Audit gives feed-back about each faculty member in the form of self appraisal and appraisal from head of the institution to know their teaching and learning performance. The details of the subjects handled, percentage of pass and students' performance in the tests and examinations, participation in faculty development programme, participation in the external conferences and seminars, books or papers

published and programmes organized in the college. The observations from the audit are passed on to the head of the institute for institutional improvement.

CONCLUSION

Commitment to providing quality teaching and learning through well designed and systematic curriculum delivery using multitude of learning experiences is at the core of quality assurance policy. Quality policy contributes to institutionalizing the quality assurance processes. A variety of quality assurance processes are institutionalized focusing around teacher quality, curriculum delivery and pedagogy, research and training, skill development of students, orientation programmes for overall personality development and broad range of activities which equip the students to face challenges and take up risks with courage. The triad of curricular, cocurricular and extra-curricular activities that expand their horizons of knowledge and contribute to development of mind is necessary for overall development of the students. In the ever increasing world of competition, educational institutions can survive only if quality is added in all walks of their service.

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