

Academic and Administrative Audit (AAA) Committee Visit, 27th December 2022

To

Karnatak Science College, Dharwad

(A Constituent College of Karnatak University, Dharwad)

A Report of AAA Committee

Karnatak Science College is a co-education constituent institution of Karnatak University, Dharwad. Dr. S. C. Chougale is its Principal and Dr. L. T. Nayak is the Coordinator of IQAC. The College comes under UGC 2f and 12(B). It was accredited for the third cycle in 2019 at 'B' Grade with CGPA of 2.22. The accreditation validity will end on 3rd March 2024. The IQAC was established in the year 2001 and an 18-member committee was formed. It appears that the committee did not propose strategies and goals to be achieved. However, there have been a number of programs/events, etc, conducted by the IQAC as per discussions at the meeting of the above said committee. The IQAC submitted AQAR for the year 2020-21.

The College offers BSc, BCA and BSc (Computer Science, CS) as Undergraduate programs with the following subjects for choosing combinations – Botany, Computer Science, Chemistry, Criminology/Forensic Science, Geography, Geology, Mathematics, Physics, Zoology, Statistics, Biotechnology, Microbiology and Genetics. The College also offers Self-financed Post-graduate MSc programs in Chemistry, Mathematics and Physics. As for BSc, BCA and BSc (CS), in all there are 27 courses offered under CBCS Scheme with the option of choosing Open Electives, thereby providing flexibility to the students. MSc programs are also offered under CBCS Scheme. There have been a total of 1856 students for the year 2020-21 with the students of BSc/BCA/BSc (CS) at the entry level account

for 579 and 104 for the three MSc programs based on the merit-cum-roster as per the State Government rules as and when notified by the Karnatak University. As a result, the students belonging to all social categories were proportionally represented in the enrolment. The Demand Ratios ~ 4.0, 3.0 and 1.0 stood respectively for BSc, BCA and BSc (CS) programs. The PhD programs are also offered in Botany, Zoology, Criminology/Forensic Science, Geology, Geography, Chemistry and Physics. To this end, the concerned individual teachers have secured grants of Rs. 92.02 lakh from under three MRPs and of Rs. 4.0 lakh under eight Minor Projects. Required research labs have been set-up and, when needed, concerned faculty members have been using instrumentation facilities at USIC, PURSE, UPE-FAR and SAIF programs established at Karnatak University. Out of 78 PhD registered candidates, 15 candidates have been on fellowship. Seven candidates were awarded the degree during 2020-21.

Observations and Commendations:

1. IQAC prepared the following Plan of Action:
2. Demand ratio for BSc: 4.0 per vacancy; BCA: > 3.0 per vacancy; BSc (CS): 1.0 per vacancy.
3. Passing percentage at aggregate level: For BSc – 86; BCA – 85; BSc (CS) – 90. Similarly, for MSc (Chemistry) – 88; MSc (Physics) – 90; MSc (Maths) – 92. While two students secured sixth and eighth ranks at BSc, one rank was secured at MSc (Chemistry).
4. There are 92 full-time teachers as against 43 sanctioned posts. Of these, the number of teachers with PhD is 55. The number of teachers recognized as research guides is 22.
5. The student-to-teacher is ~ 20:1. Similarly, the mentor-to-student (mentee) ratio is ~ 1:20.

6. There are adequate full-fledged 32 class rooms and seminar halls, 30 labs and 84 computer systems. Wherever required, accesses to some lecture rooms are provided by constructing ramps for the differently-abled persons. Respective laboratories are also well-equipped, ventilated and airy. The five museums (Botany, Zoology, Criminology/Forensic Science, Geology and Geography) have been an important part of the pedagogy and public outreach.
7. The syllabi were revised during the year 2020-21. However, curriculum enrichment is not apparent across all the 27 courses although it is claimed to have been incorporated but not shown in specific course papers from the syllabi.
8. The CBCS Scheme was implemented with effect from 2020-21, after a protracted delay.
9. Conduct of exams, valuation and declaration of results has been completed as per Karnatak University norms/regulations. Redressal of the related issues/grievances have been conducted and resolved satisfactorily.
10. NCC/NSS Units have been active, engaging in a number of on-campus activities.
11. A number of specific waste management procedures have been adopted but not shown as data.
12. One MoU has been signed by the College with Nichrome Testing Laboratory and Research Pvt. Ltd., Dharwad.
13. Feedbacks have been collected and analyzed from all the stakeholders. However, no action reports have been mentioned in the AQAR report.
14. As for Teaching-Learning processes, there have been a number of events conducted but not available in data form to support it.

15. Program Outcomes (PO) and Course Outcomes (CO) have been provided in the syllabi but are too generic to be useful.
16. Total research grant received at the individual level is ~ Rs 65.00 lakh. There two departmental level research projects.
17. Number of research papers published in International journals - 104; National journals – 11; Book chapters, 01. Number of collaborations is 05.
18. Number of extension/outreach programs conducted is 38.
19. Augmentation/renovation of the existing physical infrastructure (i.e., class rooms, library, labs, etc) has been carried out at a cost of Rs.138.85 lakh.
20. Rs.1.44 lakh has been utilized towards the purchase of books, periodicals, subscription to journals, etc, by the Central Library.
21. While 243 students benefitted by the scholarships provided by the government, whereas the 15 students benefitted by the NGOs, etc.
22. While 11 students have passed national/international level tests (i.e., KSET/NET/GATE/GRE), etc, but there is no break-up of the data to support it. Similarly, there is no accurate data to support their progression to higher studies and placements.
23. Except two ranks at BSc and one rank at MSc (Chem), hardly any awards, medals or any other recognition have been earned by the students; this may be seen as a reflection of the absence of the motivation and competitive spirit in them.
24. Much needs to be done in the over-all administrative machinery to implement e-governance with minimum delay. Further, the College will pursue Karnatak University to provide financial support to the needy teachers for attending the conferences, etc, and training for the office staff to make them computer-literate.

25. All the things considered, the College has performed very satisfactorily in all categories, namely, *Curricular Aspects, Teaching-Learning and Evaluation, Research (both in terms of output and securing grants from the funding agencies), Extension, Infrastructure augmentation, Students Support Services and Progression, Governance, Institutional Values and Best Practices*, and therefore, AAA Committee compliments all the students, teachers, the Principal, the IQAC Coordinator, non-teaching staff and all the concerned stakeholders.

Recommendations:

In the light of the above Observations and Commendations, the Committee wishes to make the following Recommendations:


1. IQAC will ensure that the 18-member committee constituted from the beginning proposes clear-cut strategies and quantitative metrics as achievable goals. One Deputy Coordinator may be nominated to ease pressure on the Coordinator as has been done at KUD. Further, required guidance may be sought from the IQAC at KUD.
2. The transfer of the teaching faculty belonging to Mathematics presently in the Karnatak Arts College will be expedited before 2024.
3. To recruit adequate number of teachers for all the departments including those where additional subjects are offered, namely, Biotechnology, Microbiology and Genetics, it is appropriate to show them as independent entities for proper deployment and filling of sanctioned posts. In this matter the College will take necessary steps to persuade Karnatak University.
4. Of the two Best Practices claimed by the College, namely, 'Mentoring System' and 'Solid Waste Management', the latter alone would qualify as

the 'Best Practice' whereas the former practice is the part and parcel of the 'Teaching-Learning' process.

5. The existing Alumni Association to be strengthened so as to become integral part in the development of the College with new programs.
6. Since the fourth cycle of assessment and accreditation by the NAAC is due in 2024, IQAC will strictly comply with the requirements of AQAR to create year-wise quantitative data, documents, committee minutes and so on, and collate the same for consolidation and usage in the preparation of SSR and its successful submission. Both IQAC and the College would strive to earn a minimum of 'A' Grade that is richly deserved by the College.

AAA Members:


1. Prof. B. Basavanagoud
Dean, Faculty of Sci & Tech
Dept of Mathematics, KUD.


(B. Basavanagoud)

2. Prof. J. R. Tonannavar
Dept of Physics, KUD.



3. Prof. M. Y. Kariduraganavar
Dept of Chemistry, KUD.


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4. Dr. Ganesh
Dept of Zoology, KUD.

