

Mahatma Gandhi University

Minutes of Meeting of Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) held on 27.03.2025 at 03:00 pm in the IQAC Conference Hall

Members Present:

1. *Prof.(Dr.) C. T. Aravindakumar, Vice Chancellor (in chair)*
2. *Dr. Sreejit C.M., Controller of Examinations*
3. *Prof.(Dr.) Robinet Jacob, Director IQAC*
4. *Dr. Sylas V.P , Joint Director IQAC*
5. *Prof.(Dr.) Beena Mathew, SCS, Dean & Member IQAC*
6. *Prof.(Dr.) Sajimon Abraham, SMBS, Member IQAC*
7. *Prof.(Dr.) R Harikumaran Nair, SBS, Member IQAC*
8. *Prof.(Dr.) Saji Mathew, SOL, Member IQAC*
9. *Dr. Toney K. Thomas, STS, Member IQAC*

Agenda:

The meeting began at 3:00 PM, with the Vice Chancellor extending a warm and sincere welcome to all attendees. In his opening remarks, he congratulated the whole IQAC team for their efforts in securing Category I status from UGC for the University. He emphasized that the granting of Graded Autonomy by UGC opens up a new gateway for expanding the University's outreach and urged that this opportunity be fully capitalized on to increase the student population, a challenge the University is expected to face in the coming years.

1) CAS Promotion of Teachers

Sl. No.	Name of Applicant	Present Post	Post to which CAS promotion sought	Recommended date of promotion	Remarks
1	Dr. Radhakrishnan E K School of BioSciences	Associate Professor (Academic Level 13A)	Professor (Academic Level 14)	19.02.2025 FN	UGC Regulations 2018 (Assessment period 19.02.2022 FN to 18.02.2025 AN)
2	Dr. Rajesh E School of Behavioural Sciences	Assistant Professor (Stage 3)	Associate Professor (Stage 4)	15.01.2021 FN	UGC Regulations 2010 (Assessment period 15.01.2018 FN to 14.01.2021 AN)

2) Quality initiatives in connection with conferment of Category I status of UGC

- In the light of Category I Status, the meeting once again reviewed the NAAC 5th cycle plan for the University devised in the last IQAC meeting dated 12.03.2025 and ascertained that a more proactive and aggressive approach to be taken on its implementation with the granted autonomy of UGC at our disposal.
- In order to overcome the key hurdle in the University's future, having a healthy student population of above 3000 under the University, starting a Constituent College/ Colleges under Mahatma Gandhi University with the permission of the Govt. of Kerala is inevitable. As the initial phase it is recommended to have discussion on converting Government College, Nattakam as a Constituent College under MGU management with VC as Chairperson. Students can join in FYUGP courses completing their first three-year studies in the constituent college followed by the second phase of two-year studies in the related Schools/ Centres of the University where advanced lab/instrumentation/ teaching-learning/practical facilities are available for cutting-edge learning and research.
- Further it is resolved to take swift actions to implement UO No. 2885/DASTP/2025/MGU dated 26.03.2025 issued as per the recent Syndicate decision on expanding of the academic services of the Directorate for Applied Short-term Programmes (DASP) by pooling the resources of affiliated colleges also which is currently limited to offering regular part time Certificate, Diploma and Post Graduate Certificate /Diploma programmes by pooling the resources of various schools/ Centres of the University.
- With the granted autonomy of UGC in hand, it is opined that necessary steps may be taken up to reinstate dialogue with the Higher Education Department and the Government of Kerala to facilitate a favourable response to the University's plans for establishing off-campus facilities and the most ambitious offshore Campus facility, which could even bring laurels to the Higher Education Department for the academic facilities offered by the State.

3) Any other item permitted by the chair

- Resolved to organize academic audit in all teaching departments in the months of July - August every year based on the Annual Self Appraisal report submitted by the faculty members.
- To promote placement opportunities in the campus, resolved to form a Training, Placement and career guidance cell with Dr. Rajesh Many as the Co-ordinator. It is resolved to utilize

the funds under PM-USHA project for the Training, Placement and career guidance cell to enhance training and placement opportunities to students.

- To prepare for the anticipated changes in the NAAC accreditation process in the near future, especially an expected increase in the count of criterion numbers from seven to ten, it was resolved to entrust Prof.(Dr.) Sajimon Abraham, the outgoing member of IQAC and member, Board of Directors of MGUIF to comprehensively redevelop faculty data management system (IQAC-FMS) with AI features with the help of a technical team from MGUIF using PM-USHA funds.
- Resolved to entrust School of Tourism Studies to operate the Souvenir Shop in its building by making available customized University souvenirs for the use of various University departments and stakeholders.
- The meeting also discussed the possibility of huge employment opportunities in the logistics, shipping, cargo management and transportation in the wake of inauguration of Vizhinjam transshipment port. Resolved to recommend starting of logistics and transportation programmes in School of Tourism Studies.
- The need for job-oriented programmes like Design Studies, Animation, Multimedia and Graphic Design was highlighted in the meeting. Resolved to recommend using and pooling of the underutilized music recording studio resources for starting such job-oriented programmes with lab facilities.
- To enhance quality of research, product development and patenting, resolved to recommend granting of exemption from PhD entrance test to 'R&D/ Technical staff in State Govt./ Central Govt./ Govt. funded research and Product development institutions with atleast five years of service and are working at the time of doctoral Committee'.

Strengthening of IQAC

The Vice Chancellor congratulated the whole IQAC team led by Prof. (Dr.) Robinet Jacob, Director, IQAC for their earnest efforts during their tenure which helped the University in securing A++ grade in NAAC accreditation, higher NIRF rankings, THE World University rankings in the band of 401-500, winning thrice the Chancellor's award for the best University in the State, Category 1 Graded Autonomy status, 140th position in TIMES Asia ranking, 81st position in TIMES Young Universities ranking, securing of PM-USHA funds etc

In the event of retirement of two key members of IQAC and to prepare for the anticipated changes in the NAAC accreditation process in the near future, especially an expected increase in the count of criterion numbers from seven to ten, it has been opined to take initial steps to identify enthusiastic and qualified faculty members in the University to join the IQAC team and to take up key roles.

At the meeting closure, the Vice Chancellor extended his wishes and kind words of appreciation to Prof.(Dr.) Sajimon Abraham on his retirement, acknowledging his valuable contributions to the University, especially as an active IQAC member and dedicated service to the University academic community. All present members remembered his sincere efforts in elevating the University to the digital era, especially in the implementation of faculty data management system (IQAC-FMS) for the University for streamlining and digitalizing the CAS promotion of faculty members and department data management system (IQAC-DMS) for efficient collection of student data for various ranking purposes. On a similar note the Vice Chancellor extended a warm gratitude on the retirement of Prof.(Dr.) Beena Mathew for her invaluable contributions to the University as an active Member of IQAC and also on different roles as Dean Faculty of Sciences, Member Syndicate etc. resulting in multifaceted developments to the institution.

The meeting was concluded at 6:00 PM, with an acknowledgement of the efforts made by all attendees.



DIRECTOR IQAC



VICE CHANCELLOR