

Internal Quality Enhancement Cell Initiatives

School of Liberal Studies, PDPU (2012-2013)

It may please be noted that to enhance internal quality in teaching-learning, administration and research activities of the various schools, IQAC was constituted on 5th September 2012 at Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University. Following is the executive summary of the initiatives undertaken by School of Liberal Studies and the challenges faced:

(a) Curriculum Development and the Basket of courses:

- (1) To expand the course basket and to cater to the quality education quest of students, SLS launched four year undergraduate course in B.Com. (Hons.) The course focuses on four major areas of commerce – Finance & Accountancy, Banking & Insurance, International Business & Entrepreneurship and Marketing & Management.
- (2) New minor cluster in Mass Communication has been introduced from the year 2013. This minor cluster is introduced to provide new career dimensions to the students of communication in mass communication and media.
- (3) Courses in Public Administration, Psychology, Business Administration and English Literature are modified to provide fresh global perspectives. The courses are duly approved by the concerned BOS, Faculty and Academic Council.
- (4) SLS proposes the new PG program in MSW (Master of Social Works) from the year 2014. The proposal is in the draft mode right now and the best practices are studied for such a program.
- (5) In addition to the regular 3 Credit foreign language courses, additional foreign language courses in German Language and Japanese Language are introduced for those who want to learn such languages for the sake of learning and genuine academic quest. These courses are voluntary and in addition to the regular time table.

(b) Faculty and Staff Recruitment:

- (1) The School recruited two new faculties against the vacancy in Business Administration area and one each in Public Administration and Psychology. The current faculty strength of the School is 15.
- (2) One staff member is recruited in office administration. Currently there are three staff members at SLS.

(c) Placement and Further Study:

- (1) The foundation batch of B.A./B.B.A. (Hons.) program has graduated and out of 34 students who opted for the placement 27 students have been facilitated with placements by the school.
- (2) Placement Policy and the handbook for the career opportunities for the Liberal Arts students have been prepared and circulated to all stakeholders.
- (3) From the foundation batch of 42 students Ms. Harneet Kaur has been offered admission at the Masers Program at Columbia University New York, Ms. Aditi Manke has been offered

admission at the Masters Program at Drexel University US, Ms. Archita Bhalotia has been offered admission at the Masters Program at Adler College Chicago. Two more students have applied for admissions at De Montfort University UK and are awaiting the admission letters.

- (4) Two students from the foundation batch of 42, have got admission in Masters Program at Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai and one student has got admission in Masters Program at IRMA.

(d) Research Activities:

- (1) Students Research – after the constitution of IQAC, 21 National/ International Paper Presentations are done by students including paper presentation at River Side College, LA, USA; Harvard Leadership Conference in Dubai and at Singapore. Mr. Yash Modi of SLS is selected for the Tata Jagruti Yatra 2013-14 out of 8000 students.
- (2) Faculty Research – 22 research papers are presented/ published by faculty. One book has been authored and faculties have carried out international research presentations in Australia, Turkey, Canada and Malaysia.
- (3) UGC Sponsored National Symposium on Indian English Literature into Films: A journey of Indian Cinema’ was conducted in partnership with Delhi Sahitya Akademy on September 28, 2012.
- (4) National Level Research Seminar on Interdisciplinary Approaches to Knowledge was hosted by SLS on April 4-5, 2013 where more than 80 papers were presented by 108 researchers from all parts of India.
- (5) Ms. Urmi Satyan completed her Refresher Course in English.

(e) Internationalization:

- (1) AIESEC students have developed a model of ‘One World’ and added to the in-coming international interns to PDPU culture. The idea is that not all students would be able to avail IEP. If International interns visit PDPU they bring their own perspectives in culture and education for the entire PDPU community.
- (2) 11 SLS students had international exposure to China, Russia, SA, Mauritius and Philippines as outgoing interns through AIESEC Global Community Development Program.
- (3) SLS Students hosted MUN at PDPU and also represented 8 countries at MUN , Symbiosis, Pune.
- (4) Active Role for round tables – SLS faculty and students have facilitated India-Canada, India-US, India – Singapore and India-Australia Round Tables. SLS Team coordinated activities for PDPU at the Education Pavilion during Vibrant Gujarat 2013.
- (5) SLS Students participated and mediated between local and international industry by volunteering for UDISHA during VG – 2013.
- (6) SLS Students and Ms. Neeta Khurana volunteered as multilingual interface during Investors Summit, VG – 2013
- (7) SLS Students coordinated U to U Meetings at PDPU during ICAI – 2013.

(f) University Arms:

SLS faculties have also helped various bodies of the university. Dr. Himani Baxi is currently the Chief Warden and Convener Women’s Cell, PDPU; Ms. Niyati Shah is In Charge of Social and

Cultural Activities, PDPU and Dr. Nigam Dave is Faculty Coordinator, OIR. Team SLS has actively contributed to the Event Management of PDPU throughout the year.

(g) Library and the Information Centre:

Since the constitution of IQAC, SLS Library has acquired 650 new books. Currently the Library subscribes to 41 journals and one database.

(h) Community and Extension Work:

- (1) As responsible change agents, SLS students have promoted the message of green and clean energy by painting 90 posters. These posters are framed for public promotion. SLS is also coordinating the promotion of green and clean energy through enactment of street plays with social messages.
- (2) SLS students volunteered for Ahmedabad Marathon which was conducted in January 2013.

Challenges Faced:

- (1) With all commitment and dedication, we still require more human resource particularly in office as lot of facilitation is required for regular activities also.
- (2) We still need to create awareness for new programs at SLS and particularly Masters Program, we are committed to improve our efforts.
- (3) We have not been able to meet internally with regular frequency because of clashes in time table to discuss the efforts and implementation for internal quality, we are committed to meet more frequently and discuss how to move ahead.

We thank PDPU Management and seniors for guiding us all throughout. We promise to strive our best for the university in particular and society in general.