Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali
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Executive Director

No. 4(I-XII)/QAA-IQA/HEC/2017/2044
Dated: 27th December, 2017

Subject: <u>**Weightage of Revised Assessment Criteria for Quality Enhancement Cells**</u>

My Dear Vice Chancellor/ Rector/ Director/ President/Principal/ Chairman,

      The Higher Education Commission is being striving hard to implant the Quality Culture in the Degree Awarding Institutions (DAIs). For that purpose, Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) have been established in all DAIs to strengthen the Internal Quality Assurance (IQA) mechanism. These QECs have been annually assessed by QAA-HEC for their performance against the defined parameters. Whereas, for External Quality Assurance (EQA) different mechanisms have been devised at Institutional level as well as program level.
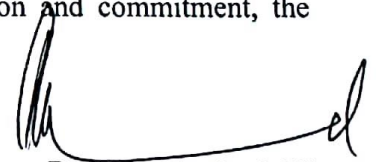
      Till FY 2016-17 the QECs were primarily assessed in accordance with their performance of Program level self-assessment. But it has been realized that the current quantitative assessment is not reflecting the exact picture of Quality Standing of the DAI. While considering its significance and internationally acclaimed best practices, the Quality Experts of Pakistan pointed out the need of bridging the gap between IQA and EQA by linking them along, for overall performance assessment of QECs.

      In this regard, the Revised Assessment Criteria for QECs have already been shared with all DAIs vide letter No. 4(I-XII)/QAA-IQA/HEC/2017/2572 dated 27th July, 2017, with intimation that the QEC of your esteemed Institution will be assessed on the revised criteria from Fiscal Year 2017-18. It is pertinent to mention here that the Revised Criteria also includes the establishment of QEC setup in Sub-Campuses and Affiliated Colleges (if applicable), for which your personal efforts are required.

      Now, the weightage of each dimension of criteria has been assigned while keeping in view its impact and importance. The same is attached herewith for your information and accordingly you are requested to direct QEC of your Institution to align its activities with the revised criteria. It is expected that the Yearly Progress Report of QEC will be framed according to revised criteria and shared with QAA of HEC accordingly.

      It is believed that with mutual coordination, cooperation and commitment, the Quality of Higher Education will be enhanced.

      With Warm Regards

Prof. Dr. Arshad Ali

Distribution:
Vice Chancellor/ Rector/ Director/ President/Principal/ Chairman of all Public & Private Sector DAIs of Pakistan (List Attached)
CC:
Chairman, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad
Consultant, Quality Assurance, HEC, Islamabad
Director, Quality Assurance Agency, HEC, Islamabad
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REVISED CRITERIA FOR ASSESSMENT OF QECs

Sr. No.	Activity	Weightage
1-	**Progress against Institutional Performance Evaluation**	
1.1	University Portfolio Report (UPR) Prepared / updated on yearly basis: Yes / No (6)	
1.2	1.2.0 Institutional Performance Evaluation by HEC in same FY of rating: Yes/No In case of yes (6) 1.2.1 Status of Action taken and Implementation Plan against Institutional Performance Evaluation Report (4) *In case HEC not evaluated, marks will be accorded to self IPE*	**16**
1.3	1.3.0 Institutional Performance Self Evaluation by DAI in same FY: Yes/No In case of Yes: • If all evaluator are internal member (3) • If at least one evaluator is external member (4) 1.3.1 Implementation Plan prepared against IPE Report (2) 1.3.2 Action taken against IPE Report (4) • If external IPE was conducted the report should also be addressed and will also be counted in assigning marks to action taken	
2-	**Progress against Program Self-Assessment**	
2.1	Self-Assessment Process for programs 2.1.0 Total Number of Program Offered: 2.1.1 Total Number of Program Teams formed: (1) 2.1.2 Total Number of Assessment Teams Formed: (1) 2.1.3 Total Number of Programs in which Executive Summary prepared: (2) 2.1.4 Total Number of Programs in which Implementation Plan prepared: (4) 2.1.5 Total Number of Programs in which Corrective Actions have been taken: (4) 2.1.6 Online feedback surveys conducted for each program (4) 2.1.7 Total Number of SARs completed	**16**
3-	**Accreditation**	
3.1	Accreditation Status 3.1.0 Total Number of Programs falling under the purview of Accreditation Councils (council wise programs details): 3.1.1 Total Numbers of Programs Accredited (council wise program details)	**14**

	3.1.2 Total Number of Programs that are In process of Accreditation (NOCs/Green signal etc) (council wise program details) 3.1.3 Total Number of not accredited Programs (council wise program details) (weightage calculation: (total number of accredited programs by each Council + total number of programs in process of accreditation by each Council)/ total number of programs falling under purview of each council) *Note 1: the total marks will be equally divided amongst the respective councils under which the programs of concerned DAI fall.* *Note 2: If no program of the DAI is fall under purview of any Accreditation Council, these marks will be normalized**	
4- Ph. D. Program Review and MS/M. Phil & Equivalent Program Review		
4.1	4.1.0 Review Status of Ph.D. Program	7
	4.1.1 Ph.D. Program Review Conducted by HEC in same FY of rating : Yes/No In case of Yes (4) 4.1.1.1 Total Number of Satisfactory Programs that meet HEC minimum criteria (Programs cleared by HEC) 4.1.1.2 Total Number of Un-Satisfactory Program that does not meet HEC minimum Criteria (Programs stopped/further intake stopped/halted) 4.1.1.3 Implementation plan against HEC Review Report (3) *In case HEC not reviewed, all marks will be accorded to self-Review* **4.1.2 Ph.D. Program Self Review conducted by DAI in same FY of rating: Yes/No** In case of Yes (4) 4.1.2.1 Total Number of Programs Reviewed: 4.1.2.2 Total Number of Satisfactory Programs that meet HEC minimum criteria: 4.1.2.3 Total Number of Un-Satisfactory Program that does not meet HEC minimum Criteria: 4.1.2.4 Implementation plan against Review Report (3) • If external Ph.D. Review was conducted the report should also be addressed and will also be counted in assigning marks to action taken *Note: If a DAI is not offering any Ph.D. Program, these marks will be normalized**	
4.2	4.2.0 MS/M. Phil. Program Review Status	7
	4.2.1 MS/M. Phil. Program Review Conducted by HEC in same FY of rating: Yes/No In case of Yes (4) 4.2.1.1 Total Number of Satisfactory Programs that meet HEC minimum criteria (Programs cleared by HEC)	

	4.2.1.2 Total Number of Un-Satisfactory Program that does not meet HEC minimum Criteria (Programs stopped/further intake stopped/halted) 4.2.1.3 Implementation plan against HEC Review Report (3) ***In case HEC not reviewed, all marks will be accorded to self-Review*** **4.2.2 MS/M. Phil. Program Self Review conducted by DAI in same FY of rating: Yes/No** In case of Yes (4) 4.2.2.1 Total Number of Programs Reviewed: 4.2.2.2 Total Number of Satisfactory Programs that meet HEC minimum criteria: 4.2.2.3 Total Number of Un-Satisfactory Program that does not meet HEC minimum Criteria: 4.2.2.4 Implementation plan against Review Report (3) • If external MS/M.Phil. & Equivalent Program Review was conducted the report should also be addressed and will also be counted in assigning marks to action taken ***Note: If a DAI is not offering any MS/M.Phil. or Equivalent Program, these marks will be normalized****	
4.3	**4.3.0 Launching of New Program after October, 2013**	**4**
	4.3.1 Total Number of Ph.D. Programs Launched after October, 2013 4.3.2 Total Number of Ph.D. Programs that obtained NOC from HEC: (2) 4.3.3 Total Number of MS/M.Phil. or Equivalent Programs Launched after October, 2013 4.3.4 Total Number of MS/M.Phil. Programs that obtained NOC from HEC: (2)	
5- Functioning of QEC Secretariat		**5**

5.1	5.1.0 Total Number of Sanctioned Positions of QEC Secretariat Staff (at least 05 positions i.e. 01 Head of QEC, 03 Officers of QECs (including 01 Data Analyst) and 01 Support Staff:
	5.1.1 Total Number of filled Positions :
	    a. Total Number of Permanent Staff: (1 mark for Head of QEC, 03 marks for officers; 01 mark for each officer, 01 mark for support staff)
	    b. Total Number of Additional Charged staff: in case of additional charge, 0.25 marks will be awarded against 01 mark of respective post
	5.1.2 Total Numbers of Vacant Positions:	

5.2	5.2.0 Budget Allocation for QEC Secretariat (Yes/No) If yes please mention the allocated budget 5.2.1 Involvement of QEC secretariat in Budget preparation (1) 5.2.2 Budget released for QEC (mention amount) 5.2.3 Budget consumed by QEC (mention amount) (2) {(total budget consumed/total budget released)*2}	**3**
5.3	5.7.0 Infrastructure and Facilities 5.7.1 Establishment of QEC Secretariat (0.5) 5.7.2 Availability of Adequate Facilities (0.5)	**1**

5.4	5.3.1 Memberships of International QA bodies obtained by QEC (list the names) Note: Marks will be only awarded to International Bodies related to Academic QA		**2**
5.5	5.5.0 Membership of QEC in all statutory bodies 5.5.1 Senate/Syndicate/BoG or Equivalent Body: (Yes/No) (1) 5.5.2 Academic Council or Equivalent Body: (Yes/No) (0.5) 5.5.3 Board of Advance Studies & Research (BASR) or Equivalent Body: (yes/No) (0.5) 5.5.4 Board of Faculty (BOF) or Equivalent Body: (Yes/No) (0.5) 5.5.5 Board of Studies (BOS) or Equivalent Body: (Yes/No) (0.5) 5.5.6 Finance & Planning Committee or Equivalent Body: (Yes/No) (0.5) 5.5.7 Selection Board: (Yes/No) (0.5)		**4**
5.6	5.4.1 Awareness seminars/conferences/workshops on QA (within DAI) (1) 5.4.2 Seminar/Conference on Quality Assurance (involving resource person/s from outside the DAI) (1)		**2**
5.7	5.6.0 Contributions and Participations in Academic QA activities: 5.6.1.0 Contributions of QEC at National Level (1) 5.6.1.1 Contributions of QEC at International Level (2) 5.6.2.0 Participation of QEC at National Level (0.5) 5.6.2.1 Participation of QEC at International Level (0.5)		**4**
5.8	5.8.0 Establishment of QEC Setup in Sub-Campuses • Total Number of Sub-Campuses • Total Number of QEC's Established in campuses: *Note: If a DAI has no sub-campus, these marks will be normalized**		**5**
5.9	5.9.0 Establishment of QEC Setup in affiliated colleges • Total Number of Affiliated Colleges: • Total Number of QEC's Established in Affiliated Colleges: *Note: If a DAI has no affiliated college, these marks will be normalized**		**5**
6-	**Implementation of HEC(QA) Polices and criteria's**		**5**

6.1	6.1.1 Plagiarism Policy (3)
	    6.1.1.1 QEC representative in Plagiarism Standing Committee of DAI (1)
	    6.1.1.2 Action taken against all reported cases of Plagiarism (2)
	6.1.2 Faculty Appointment Criteria (1)
	6.1.3 Minimum admission criteria of MS/M.Phil. and Ph.D. Programs (1)		

	Total		**100**
*Normalized: If a criterion is not applicable to any of the DAI, then the total marks will be calculated on the applicable criteria and normalized to 100%.			