



# INSTITUTIONAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)



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## The IQAC at NSU



With the help of the University Grants Commission (UGC) and the World Bank, the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) has been established at North South University (NSU) on January 12, 2016. However, the formal beginning of the IQAC activities at NSU started with an inception workshop on July 21, 2016. Mr. AzimUddin Ahmed, Chairman, Board of Trustees, NSU was present as the Chief Guest while Professor Atiqul Islam, Vice-Chancellor of NSU chaired the program. The IQAC is

awarded with Higher Education Quality Enhancement Project (HEQEP) funding for quality assurance (QA) both at institutional and departmental levels. Even though NSU is always trying to maintain quality of education, establishment of the IQAC assists in centralizing the quality assurance activities at NSU.

The IQAC is designed to help NSU in establishing a sustainable mechanism ensuring quality education and services to the students. The IQAC is currently arranging training programs, workshops, and seminars for both academic and non-academic staffs. The IQAC plans to establish a 'Learning-Teaching Center' at NSU which will conduct all sorts of training programs for academic and administrative staff, look after curriculum development and improvement, classroom management and other related issues. The IQAC is now monitoring and guiding self-assessment (SA) activities of the Self-assessment Committees (SACs) that would result in the improvement plans for the participating departments.

## NSU-IQAC in the National Core Team



The Director and the Additional Directors of IQAC, NSU have been selected by the UGC as members of the Core National Team for QA. This recognizes the sincere work of the NSU IQAC team and yet another opportunity for NSU to show that it is indeed the centre of excellence in higher education.

*The IQAC team with Dr. Rozilini Fernandez-Chung, a Malaysian QA expert, at the core team training workshop at the UGC.*

## The IQAC Workshops at Department-level

A meeting was held on January 19, 2017, at the VC conference room between the IQAC team and the Chairmen of all the departments of NSU. The purpose of the meeting was to update the chairmen about the on-going SA process and explore different opportunities that the IQAC can provide to the departments in the area of holding workshops on different aspects of QA such as research, outcome based education, effective teaching and industry –academia connection. The well-attended meeting ended with all the chairmen committing to submit annual plans for department related workshops and training sessions.

In this connection, the IQAC has already organized workshops on research and publications and curriculum development at the departments of Law, History and Philosophy and Accounting and Finance. Besides this, all the 12 departments of NSU that are doing SA have successfully organized their first team-building workshops at their respective departments.

## Self-assessment Activities Going On



The IQAC sat with the SACs of the six departments that have been carrying out the SA activities since August 2016. The meeting was held on February 8, 2017, at the SBE conference Room. The meeting was attended by the representatives of SACs of the departments of Accounting and Finance, Management, Political Science and Sociology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biochemistry and Microbiology and Electrical and Computer Engineering. In the meeting the members of the SACs shared their experiences and challenges. All the SACs expressed confidence in finishing their tasks according to

their plans.

## Self-assessment Activities Gain Momentum



A status update meeting was organized by the IQAC on March 8, 2017, Wednesday at the SBE Conference Room of NSU. The meeting was attended by the heads and members of all the SACs of the departments of Accounting and Finance, Management, Economics, Political Science and Sociology, Pharmaceutical Sciences, Biochemistry and Microbiology, Public Health, Marketing and International Business, English & Modern Languages and Electrical and Computer

Engineering. The meeting was presided by Dr. Nazmun Nahar, Director, IQAC. Dr. Ahmed Tazmeen, Additional Director of IQAC, gave a presentation on evidences needed to address the QA standards (along with survey) in writing the self-assessment report (SAR). In the meeting, the SAC members shared their experiences and challenges with SA. A Central Document Folder was distributed among the SAC members to assist them in doing the SA.

## 'Mastering Effective Communication': A New Experience for the NSU Non-academic Staffs



A two day-long training program was organized by the IQAC on "Mastering Effective Communication" for administrative staffs on February 16 & 23, 2017 at the Faculty Lounge of North South University.

A total number of thirty participants from various administrative units and departments of NSU were selected for this intensive training program.

An external training organization,

called Leadership Excellence & Development (LEAD) was invited to conduct the training. It was an interactive session and the participants enjoyed and learned a lot throughout the training program. They thanked the IQAC for organizing this type of training and suggested to arrange similar trainings in future. Certificates were distributed among participants towards the end of the training program.

*Quote from a Trainee Feedback form: 'This training is very helpful for us. I personally enjoyed the session very much!'*

## The IQAC Workshops



*Seminars on 'Writing a PhD Research Proposal and Applying for Research Grants' and 'Law Journal Articles: How to write and where to publish' Organized by the IQAC at the Department of Law.*



*Workshop on 'Curriculum: Development to Practice' organized by the IQAC at the Department of History & Philosophy.*



*Seminar on "Research & Publication: Importance, Process, Opportunities & Challenges" organized by the IQAC at the Department of Accounting & Finance*

## Training for SAC Members: Wrapping up!



A day-long training program was organized by the IQAC on “Self-Assessment: Procedure, Tools & Report Writing” for the SAC members on February 18, 2017 at the Faculty Lounge of North South University. This training was for those SACs who have started SA in January 2017. Prof. Dr. Sarwar Jahan, Additional Director, IQAC of Khulna University was the facilitator of the training session. Another similar training by the same

resource person was organized on December 1, 2016 for those SACs who started their activities in August 2016. Dr. Sarwar Jahan, in his presentation, discussed several topics including significance of SA, steps to be followed in SA, concepts and guidelines for SA exercise, survey, methods to write a SAR and how to prepare for external peer review.

## Upcoming Activities of the IQAC



- ✦ Training on **Time Management & Team Building** for administrative staffs
- ✦ Training on **Mastering Effective Communication** for administrative staffs and faculty members
- ✦ Faculty Training on **Outcome-based Education**
- ✦ Workshop on **Professional Writing** for administrative staffs
- ✦ Departmental workshop at 16 departments of NSU on **research, curriculum, teaching, industry outreach**

## The IQAC Management Team



- ✦ **Director:** Dr. NazmunNahar, Associate Professor, Department of Environmental & Civil Engineering, North South University
- ✦ **Additional Director:** Dr. Mohammad Sahadet Hossain, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics & Physics, North South University
- ✦ **Additional Director:** Dr. Ahmed Tazmeen, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, North South University
- ✦ **Office Manager:** Ms. Marzia Begum
- ✦ **Accountant:** Mr. Salauddin Chowdhury Tamal
- ✦ **IT Officer:** Mr. Mohammad Mohsin



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