Report of the workshop on "New Methodology for Assessment of NAAC"
conducted by
Community Institute of Commerce and Management Studies on 09.09.2017.

Community Institute of Commerce and Management Studies, Bangalore organised a workshop on "New Methodology for Assessment of NAAC" on 09.09.2017. Prof. Sailaja, Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Dr. Tharini, Assistant Professor of English from St. Francis de Sales College, Bangalore attended the workshop. The objective of the workshop was to educate the academicians of the new methodologies adopted by NAAC for grading the colleges. The resource persons were Prof. S. Ravichandra Reddy, former Director of NAAC and Dr. L.N. Sheshagiri, Associate Professor of English, Department of Collegiate Education, Bangalore.

The first session started around 10.30 a.m. Prof. S. Ravichandra Reddy addressed the gathering. In his address, he explained the importance of NAAC and how it is essential for every institution for the development of the nation and international cooperation. The main aim of NAAC is quality assurance which is needed to measure the quality of an institution and guiding the institution to grow. The quality assurance helps the government to understand themselves in producing quality student force resulting in a quality workplace and to know which institution is in need of help. It is also needed for the welfare of the students, employers and the institutions of higher learning.

The NAAC makes the institutions go through three stages of processing. The first is the Assessment process which makes the institution to understand what is the output they have produced. The output is the students and how they fare well in their life is what the institution should aim at. The second one is the Audit process which involves the financial matters involved with the institution. The third one is the Accreditation process, which involves a peer team visit. It credits the institution and says how much qualified is the institution with grades calculated through CGPA and such qualified assurance enables the nation for quality improvement.

He spoke about the five core values that the NAAC calls as the five pillars of evaluation. They are contributing to national development, fostering global competence among students, inculcating value system among students, use of technology among students and academicians and the quest for excellence. An institution should consider these five core values to assess themselves for the betterment of education. He shed light on the changes that has been initiated by NAAC for the grading of the institutions. He explained how different cadres of educational institutions have

different evaluative methods and how NAAC takes care of all these divisions. NAAC evaluation, which was voluntary previously has been made mandatory in the recent times. As per the instructions of NAAC, an Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) cell has to be established in every institution and a coordinator has to be appointed for the same. He also informed that the government is providing grants for IQAC cells.

A Self Study Report (SSR) has to be prepared by every institution applying for accreditation. The role of students is very important in IQAC. Students have to be involved at every stage of IQAC. They have to be made mandatory members of every committee formed in the institutions and their feedback and suggestions has to be considered in taking decisions. He explained that being a part of IQAC and preparing SSR, certain things has to be taken into consideration. A wholehearted involvement from the members, a planned and precise gathering of data, analyzing the data and preparing a report and presenting a true picture of the institution is needed for a good result.

He also insisted on rooting out plagiarism from the academic sector. He felt that allowing the students to copy will result in the lowering of the standard of education and also will result in the collapse of the nation. He concluded saying that being true and fair is what is the need of the hour for the betterment of the students and the nation and NAAC also strives hard to achieve the same.

Dr. Sheshagiri took over the next session and he divided his sessions into two. In the first session he discussed on the importance of higher education, how it is framed, what are the laws and committees related to it and how it is essential for a developing nation. He then asked to give input from IQAC members on their path to accreditation. Prof. Sailaja from St. Francis de Sales College and SMKRV gave their input. Prof. Sailaja explained how St. Francis de Sales college caters to the first generation graduates and how the college serves the rural people of Bangalore. Two of the Professors from SMKRV shared their ideas on how their college introduced research centers and how they made students evolve as a society ready individual which resulted in being graded "A" by NAAC.

He then took over the session in the afternoon and explained the process involved with the application for NAAC accreditation. The Institutional Information for Quality Assurance (IIQA) and Self Study Report (SSR) has to be submitted online to the NAAC when it opens its portal during June-July and August-September. Both of them have to be done simultaneously. The SSR also has to be uploaded on the college website. If there is any classified information, then it has to be protected by a hyperlink and the same has to be intimated to NAAC.

For the first cycle the IIQA and SSR report has to be made ready and uploaded. After that a DD of Rs.27,000 + GST has to be paid to NAAC. An institution, after the application process is

made will receive an intimation within 10 days of application. If the institution achieves 30% of the prescribed marks, then it is eligible for accreditation. All the applications have to be in digital formats. Seventy percent of the evaluation will be done by a verification process through a third party appointed by NAAC and thirty percent will be done by the peer team. He also shed light on the fee structure involved in the accreditation process.

He explained about the feedback system that the NAAC has proposed for the upcoming cycles. Adhar card of all the students has to be collected and details have to be given in the application for accreditation. The students will be randomly chosen for feedback and one time passwords will be issued to the student to give feedback of the institution. The institution will also not be informed of the details of the peer time in advance. The peer team visit will be a surprise one and the institution has to be ready at any time after the DD has been paid to NAAC. He explained about the changes that the NAAC has proposed and how the institutions has to submit their applications in accordance with the new regulations.

The workshop ended with a valedictory function and certificates were issued to all the participants.