

UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT
Academic & Administrative Audit of Teaching Departments
(2016 -2021)
Report

Name of the Department		Grade	Comments	Suggestions for improvement
Sl. No.	Item	A - Excellent, B - Good C - Average D - Poor		
1	Programmes Offered Relevance, adequacy, innovativeness etc. (3-8)	B	Except for LLM, the department is not running advanced research degree programmes. Difficult to measure innovativeness as the given data does not contain sufficient parameters	It is imperative to start a Ph.D. programme to make the department of Law a research department.
2	Demand ratio of courses (33,35,36)	C	The demand for the LLM programme is really low for candidates graduated from other universities within Kerala. More specifically, there has not been a single application from national/inter-national students.	The outreach of the department needs serious improvement in order attract students from different parts of the state and outside.
3	Syllabus & curriculum (10, 11, 46)	B	Introduction of more specialised streams of LLM as well as new elective courses needed. Also, the pending revision of existing syllabi needs to be completed in a timely fashion.	While introducing new courses and revising the syllabi special attention must be given to more contemporary areas from both public and private law subjects. Incorporating international and comparative law elements in the courses

				would be helpful increase the demand of the programmes run by the department.
4	Examination & Results (9, 34, 37)	C	The data of some years show a decreasing ratio of students completing the programme against the number of admitted students.	The department must take steps to ensure the students' commitment in completing their degree.
II	Faculty			
1	Strength (12, 14, 15)	D	It is unsatisfactory to note that the department has no permanent faculty serving since its establishment.	There seems a pressing need to sanction more faculty positions and appoint full-time professors, associate professors and assistant professors.
2	Student teacher ratio (16)	B	Sufficiently good.	
3	Qualification, experience diversity, performance etc. (13, 41, 48)	C	In terms of qualification, none of the faculty members hold a Ph.D. degree. Teaching/research experience is also not up to the desired standards.	More number of faculty members with advanced research degrees and reputed publications needs to be recruited. The department may also look into gender diversity while recruiting teachers.
4	Participation of faculty in Professional development programmes, Seminars, Workshops etc. (26-27)	C	Members of the faculty have not been exposed much to the national and international level academic events.	The department must ensure the faculty members engage in more research and writing beyond their classroom teaching. They may be encouraged to start a working paper series and regular in-house faculty seminars/presentations.
5	Recognitions received by faculty from notable institutions (state, national or international) (28-30)	C	There's no academic contribution which is worth mentioning.	As most of the faculty members are in their early career, it is recommended for them to reach out to associations/societies in their specific areas of research. This would help create avenues for them to contribute to the


					academic community and to gradually gain recognition in their respective field.
III	Research				
1	Thrust area (18)	B	Given the facilities at the department, the existing specialised streams of LLM are satisfactory.		The depart may consider introducing newer domains of legal research along with the traditional areas.
2	Facilities (21, 22)	D	Needs immediate attention.		Collaborations with local bar associations as well as law firms/business enterprises may be helpful in establishing advanced centres of research.
3	Publications	D			Department may think about starting a law review and/or an annual yearbook on a specific area.
4	Patents		Not generally applicable to departments of law.		
5	Consultancy	D			If not for income generation, faculty members may engage with different segments of the local community to render consultancy services on a pro bono basis.
6	Projects	D	Lack of faculty members with Ph.D. degree could be a factor hindering the securing of projects.		
7	External Funding (all funds secured by faculty other than normal grants received by the University)	D	The applicants' PhD degree is usually a benchmark for the success of funding application.		As recommended above, University must take immediate steps to recruit highly qualified professors to the department.
IV	Students				

				The graduate students of the department must be encouraged and guided to take part in conferences/seminars/webinars and present their research work.
1	Student achievements (state, national, international) (31)	C		
2	Diversity (male female ratio, from within the state, outside the state and international) (33, 38)	C	A criteria that requires a special attention by the university/department admissions team	
3	Student Progression (39, 40, 49)	D		It is necessary to make the students career-ready. For this purpose, structured programmes (may be by a permanent career counselling center at the University) should be designed to equip the current students and alumni for career success.
4	Financial support to Students (45)	B		Fellowships/scholarships and travel grants (in a post-pandemic world) can be introduced to promote the academic/research endeavours of the students.
V	Support Staff (Strength, Adequacy etc.)		No data provided.	
VI	Teaching- learning & Evaluation (47)	C	Apart from the assignment component as part of the internal evaluation , exercises to improve the academic writing skills of the students are missing.	A detailed teaching plan in addition to the syllabus needs to be prepared for every course prior to the start of each teaching semester. Depending on the need and resources, remedial classes by subject experts (both from practice and academia) may be considered.
VII	Feedback Mechanism	B		A system to assess the

(48)				monthly/quarterly performance of the teachers can be introduced. Suggestion boxes for academic and other needs of the students at the department is essential.
VIII	Activities of the Department (conduct of seminar, workshops, student enrichment programmes, extension activities and other beyond scholarly activities) (32, 50, 55)	C	Numbers of activities are seemingly inadequate for a period of 5 academic years.	
IX	Infrastructural facilities of the Department (52)	D	An all-important aspect that requires the immediate attention of the University.	Immediate steps must be taken to improve the physical infrastructure of the department.
X	Uniqueness of the Department & Innovative practices (53-55)	C	Recheck the response given to point no. 53.	
XI	SWOC (56)	B		
1	Strength			Emphasise the career prospects of LLM students in legal academia.
2	Weakness			
3	Opportunity			Start advanced research centers to cater to the needs of the state.
4	Challenges			
XII	Future plans (57)	B		University must take the necessary steps to elevate the department from its self-finance mode to a regular post-graduate department.

Overall remarks of the Auditor :

In addition to the above stated comments and recommendations, I would like to stress on two key aspects to transform the status of the department to make it noteworthy in the future. First, the University must sanction regular/permanent faculty positions at all levels. Needless to say, the research accomplishments of its teaching/research staff go a long way in bringing the required reputation to the department. Secondly, improving the infrastructure, including the library (both online and physical) with all ICT facilities is of vital importance for students undergoing masters and advanced degree programmes in law.

			Signature : 	
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