

Minutes of the Department Council meet held at Department of Law, University of Latituit on 21/2/2022 at 2 pm

### Members present

1. Dr. Rifat Khan Coordinator.
2. Fathima Farbath
3. Preetby Thampara
4. Snutbi Bahulyan.
5. Shamsila R

### Agenda of the meeting (AA Report)

1. To discuss the Academic and Administrative Audit Report of Department of Law for the year 2016 to 2021, by the external auditor.

### Recommendations and action taken.

1. With regard to the relevance and adequacy and innovativeness - as recommended that starting a phd programme to make the Department a research department. It is discussed that the department started with a vision and mission to be a research oriented department. But the department is running now in a self financing mode which need to be regularized, in order to start a regular phd programme.

In furtherance of our mission, the department has submitted a proposal to regularize the department and to start phd programme.

2. On the recommendation to improve outreach of the department - The department has been using



multimedia platform also to reach to different areas and people from different parts of states and outside. It is pertinent to mention, however, that over the years the demand has increased and department has received application from different parts of states and outside.

3. With regard to Syllabus and Curriculum Revision-

The department has resolved that every subject teachers shall submit the required changes and special attention to be given to more contemporary areas from both public and private law subjects at the earliest. And concerned authorities shall be informed to take necessary action for the revision.

4. With regard to completing the programme by the students and to ensure students commitment to complete the degree-

The mentor-mentee programme shall be geared up to advise / guide students and enhance students educational, social and personal growth through learning from experiences of mentors. and also it was agreed that to improve study environment by improving relationship between student and teacher.

II 5. With regard to strength of faculty-, the department has proposed for regularizing the post graduate department of law and also to take steps to sanction more faculty positions and appoint full time Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors.

6. Student-teacher ratio in the department is sufficient enough to meet the present needs.



7. With regard to qualification and participation of faculty -

The department has now faculty members with advance research degree (Phd) and have good number of publications. However the department is also encouraging to focus on research publications by faculty. With this regard the department is determined to conduct seminars, workshops in the department and also to utilize online platform in this regard.

8. With regard to recognition received by faculty -

Being young and in early stage of career, the faculty is enthusiastic and looking for avenues and opportunities to contribute to the academic committee. The department is also focusing on outreach programmes like legal aid, legal education in collaboration with different agencies.

9. With regard to the recommendations on introducing new domains of legal research -

The Department is focusing on contemporary socio-legal issues, doctrinal and non-doctrinal research are being conducted by students during their course.

10. With regard to the recommendation on collaboration with law firms, business enterprise for establishing advanced centre for research -

The students from the department in this regard have got internship opportunities in reputed firms which may be helpful in this regard. And the department has ~~also~~ resolved to encourage more students in this regard.

11. With regard to starting publication and in house law review -

It has been stressed that all the



stakeholders including teachers and students of the department to form a departmental research committee and to start on in house law reviews on specified areas.

12. With regard to Consultancy - legal aid clinics in the department should be made functional in this regard. It stressed that students and teachers should collaborate with various agency to render legal education free of cost to needy and vulnerable sections of the society.

13. With regard to Projects - Since the department now has faculty members with Phd degrees the department has resolved to enquire and to focus for securing projects in the future.

14. With regard to External funding - For external funding the faculty needs to look for opportunities

15. With regard to Student Achievements - Students of the department shall be encouraged and guided to participate in conferences and workshops.

16. With regard to Student Progression - The department agreed to conduct structured programmes like legal writings, plagiarism, research methodology etc. to attain success in careers by the students and the teachers have been and will continue net coaching for the students in the department.

17. With regard to Financial Support to students - like Fellowships, Scholarships, to promote research endeavours of the students, e-grants programme benefit a quite good number of students.

V  
18 With regard to Support Staff (Strength and Adequacy) - the department of Law has an office Assistant (Permanent) & CLERK. However need for Librarian is pointed out.

vi  
19 Teaching Learning and Evaluation - The syllabus for LLM two year program is framed in such a manner that it promotes interactive lecture practical learning and discussion method. Apart from usual classroom interaction the department provides expert lectures on specific lectures as and when required.

vii  
20 Feedback Mechanism - Regarding this there is an online feedback system in operation and students are time and again encouraged to give feedbacks and suggestion through centralized system.

viii  
21 Activities of the Department - Regarding conducting seminars workshops etc the department has agreed to conduct Seminars workshops etc. The department has also agreed on creating a library club, <sup>video</sup> film club, moot court, communication skills and reading and writing skill.

ix  
22 Infrastructural Facilities: Department though has a modest beginning with limited Infrastructure Facilities, is now putting efforts to upgrade the infrastructural facilities in order to meet the needs of teaching learning and also to meet the increasing demand of the course.

x  
23 Uniqueness of the Department and innovative practices  
Clinical legal education programs offer opportunity to students to reach out to public and various institutions. The legal Aid & Legal Library programs on subjects



Like gender rights ADR are also are the unique and innovative practices held in the Department.

XI 24. SINOC - Department has resolved to start add-on courses and Value added Courses in Cyber Law, Forensic Law, IPR, Environmental Law, Women and Law etc.

XII 25. Future Plans - To regularize the Department so as to start P.G diploma courses Phd program in house publication so as to attain and elevate the department to a well known Research center. And also for improving Infrastructure including Library both online and physical with all ICT Facilities in order to improve access to quality research work necessary to undergo Master and Advanced degree programs in Law.

The meeting came to an end at 4.30 pm

CO-ORDINATOR  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW  
UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT

*Rifat Khan*  
Co-ordinator  
Department of Law



UNIVERSITY OF CALICUT

Academic & Administrative Audit of Teaching Departments  
(2015-2021)

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. 1 (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 2 (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 LLM department needs serious improvement in order attract students from different parts of the state and outside.
3	Syllabus & curriculum 3 (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

<p>4 (9, 34, 37)</p>	<p>Examination &amp; Results</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The issue of some areas show a decreasing ratio of students completing the programme against the number of admitted students.</p>	<p>Should be sought across the department. The program can be the department.</p>
<p>1 (12, 13, 15)</p>	<p>Strength</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>It is unsatisfactory to note that the department has no permanent faculty serving since its establishment.</p>	<p>There seems a pressing need to sanction more faculty positions and appoint full-time professors, associate professors and assistant professors.</p>
<p>2 (16)</p>	<p>Student teacher ratio</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Sufficiently good.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>3 (13, 41, 42)</p>	<p>Qualification, experience, diversity, performance etc.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>4 (26-27)</p>	<p>Participation of faculty in Professional development programmes, Seminars, Workshops etc.</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Members of the faculty have not been exposed much to the national and international level academic events.</p>	<p>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</p>
<p>5 (28-30)</p>	<p>Recognitions received by faculty from notable institutions (state, national or international)</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>There's no academic contribution which is worth mentioning.</p>	



<p>III</p> <p>Research</p>	<p>1 Thrust area (16)</p> <p>2 Facilities (21, 22)</p> <p>3 Publications (23)</p> <p>4 Patents (24)</p> <p>5 Consultancy (25)</p> <p>6 Projects (19)</p> <p>7 External Funding (all funds secured by faculty other than normal grants received by the University) (20)</p>	<p>B</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p> <p>D</p>	<p>Gives the facilities at the department, the funding specialised streams of LLM are satisfactory.</p> <p>Needs immediate attention.</p> <p>Not generally applicable to departments of law.</p> <p>Lack of faculty members with Ph.D. degree could be a factor hindering the securing of projects.</p> <p>The applicants' PhD degree is usually a benchmark for the success of funding applications.</p>	<p>Acquiring consultancy and to introduce law consultancy in their respective law.</p> <p>The department may consider introducing newer domains of legal research along with the traditional areas.</p> <p>Collaborations with local bar associations as well as law firms/business enterprises may be helpful in establishing advanced centres of research.</p> <p>Department may think about starting a law review and/or an annual yearbook on a specific area.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>As recommended above, University must take immediate steps to recruit highly qualified professors to the department</p>
<p>IV</p> <p>Students</p>				


<p>1 (31)</p> <p>Student achievements (state, national, international)</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>The graduate students of the department must be encouraged and aided to take part in conferences/seminars/workshops and present their research work.</p>
<p>2 (33, 38)</p> <p>Diversity (male female ratio, from within the state outside the state and international)</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>A criteria that requires a special attention by the university/department admissions team</p>
<p>3 (39, 40, 49)</p> <p>Student Progression</p>	<p>D</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>4 (45)</p> <p>Financial support to Students</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Fellowships/scholarships and travel grants (in a post-pandemic world) can be introduced to promote the academic/research endeavours of the students.</p>
<p>V</p> <p>Support Staff (Strength, Adequacy etc.)</p>	<p>No data provided.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p>VI (47)</p> <p>Teaching-learning &amp; Evaluation</p>	<p>C</p>	<p>Apart from the assignment component as part of the internal evaluation, exercises to improve the academic writing skills of the students are missing.</p>
<p>VII</p> <p>Feedback Mechanism</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>A system to assess the</p>



<p>11. How far is the performance of the department in the following areas:          a) Academic and other needs of the students of the department is essential.</p>			
	<p>Numbers of activities are seemingly inadequate for a period of 5 academic years</p>	C	<p>Activities of the Department (conduct of seminar, workshop, student enrichment programmes, extension activities and other beyond scholarly activities)          VIII (52-50, 55)</p>
<p>Immediate steps must be taken to improve the physical infrastructure of the department.</p>	<p>An all-important aspect that requires the immediate attention of the University.</p>	D	<p>Infrastructure facilities of the Department          IX (52)</p>
	<p>Recheck the response given to point no. 53.</p>	C	<p>Uniqueness of the Department &amp; innovative practices          X (53-55)</p>
<p>Emphasise the career prospects of LL.M students in legal academia.</p>		B	<p>SWOC          XI (56)</p>
<p>Start advanced research centers to cater to the needs of the state.</p>			<p>1 Strength          2 Weakness</p>
<p>University must take the necessary steps to elevate the department from its self finance mode to a regular post graduate Department.</p>			<p>3 Opportunity          4 Challenges</p>
		A	<p>Future plans          XII (57)</p>

**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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