THE ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE AUDIT REPORT G.M. UNIVERSITY, SAMBALPUR

The Academic and Administrative Audit committee was constituted vide letter No. 753/GMU dated 13.02.2024 for auditing the academic and administrative functions of G. M. University for the academic session 2022-23.

Auditors:

- Prof. Prakash Chandra Sarangi
 Former professor, Central University, Hyderabad
- Prof. Pradipta Kumar Mohapatra
 Professor, Ravenshaw University, Cuttack

This Report is based on (1) the data inputs provided by the IQAC, G.M. University and on (2) personal visits by the committee on February 19-20, 2024. The Committee had the benefit of interacting with the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. N. Nagaraju, officers and other senior functionaries, including the Director, IQAC. The committee visited all the academic departments, administrative units as well as the library. The committee also separately interacted with the students and faculty.

General Observations

The University currently employs full-time as well as contractual and guest faculty in order to maintain an active and vibrant teaching-learning environment. The departments are utilizing the available infrastructure effectively. The university has an ascending trend of publications and students' achievements despite the limited availability of resources. Overall, the University has demonstrated improvement in several key areas, including increased enrollment ratios, research outputs, collaborations, successful implementation of sponsored projects, effective student mentoring, curriculum updates, and students qualifying in competitive examinations.

Department-wise observations

1. Anthropology

School of Anthropology is a new School, which was established with a vision to set a standard of excellence at different levels engaging in quality teaching and research by extending and applying anthropological knowledge for promoting inclusive development and positive social change. The mission of this school is to create a learning environment through which student can understand human diversity, develop a critical perspective on their own society and examine their role in a complex society. The school also focuses on doing research on issues of Western Odisha in particular and Odisha in general and apply the knowledge gained thereof to transform social realties in a more positive direction and towards inclusive development.

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The school offers UG (32), PG (20) and Ph.D programmes since 2020. The School at present has four faculty members.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The department has adequate teaching faculty and teaching-learning resources.
- 2. Publications need to be improved, both quantitatively and qualitatively
- 3. Research projects from external funding agencies need to be obtained.
- 4. Students facilities need improvement.

2. Botany

School of Botany was established in 1957. The School has been declared as "Star Performer" Department by the UGC under CPE Programme. It offers UG, P.G. and M.Phil. Programmes. The Botanical garden of the Department has a good number of medicinal plants has a unique identity in the state. One "Herbal Garden", a "Green House" and a "Mist Chamber" have been set up with the assistance of CPE Grant. The department is keeping pace with the advancement in science accepting a new challenge in frontier areas of Plant Sciences and research. It publishes a scientific journal "BIOHELICA" and organizes National Seminar at time intervals.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The teaching-learning facilities for students and teachers need improvement.
- 2. There are adequate numbers of teachers, but all are temporarily engaged. Some teachers may not have institutional commitment.
- 3. There is no research publication from the department during the year and no research project is in operation at present. There is insufficient research activity.
- 4. Teachers should be encouraged to apply for research grants.

3. Biotechnology

School of Biotechnology came in existence at Gangadhar Meher University in 2019. It was established to give a new shape to the development of Modern Biological Science in Western Odisha, as per the need for this modern technology in biological sciences of the state. Thrust areas of the School in teaching and research include multidisciplinary research in the fields of Bioinformatics, Microbiology, Environmental Biotechnology, Plant Biotechnology, Animal Biotechnology, Genetic Engineering etc. In research, Bioprospecting of Microbes, stress biology, plant tissue culture, Microbial Proteomics and genomics under stress, Bioinformatics. The School has a dedicated qualified faculty team having doctoral and post-doctoral research and teaching experiences and focus on research in the advanced areas of Biotechnology. The School seeks to produce the biotechnology professionals with leadership quality in technology, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship. The School offers M.Sc., M.Phil and Ph.D. programs.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The department has inadequate space for the teaching-learning activities. There is no practical laboratory for students.
- 2. There are vacant teaching positions, which need to be filled up, at least through engagement of temporary/guest faculty.

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- 3. The department has research collaborations with other institutions.
- 4. One research project is in operation in the department. Teachers are advised to apply for more research funding as personal/departmental projects.
- 5. The department has a good number of research publications.

4. Chemistry

The School of Chemistry of erstwhile G. M. College, Sambalpur (G. M. University since 2015) came into existence in the year, 1944. The Intermediate in Science opened in that year followed by BSc (Hons.) in 1960. The Post-Graduate teaching in Chemistry started in the year 1964 and it has been imparting teaching in UG (Hons. & Pass) and PG students since then. In addition, it offers Ph.D. programme. The faculty members of the Department are actively pursuing research activities and have produced eminent scholars in their respective areas.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The classrooms and laboratories for teaching are adequate.
- Research activities and publications are good. The quality of publications is excellent. Research infrastructure should be improved. The faculty are encouraged to apply for external research funding.
- 3. The department has research collaborations with other organizations.
- 4. Student facilities need improvement.

5. Commerce

The School of Commerce, G.M. University (erstwhile G.M. College, Sambalpur established in the year 1944) is one of the oldest and largest Departments in Odisha. The B. Com course was introduced for the first time in the State by this Department. The Department offers courses like UG, PG, and Ph. D. Programmes in Commerce. The School has a vision to build the School of Commerce into a center of academic excellence with a commitment to quality education in Commerce, Management, and allied fields, with a holistic approach towards a better life, environment, and society.

Observations and recommendation

- There is a great deal of demand for Commerce courses; unusually large number students admitted.
- 2. Organised several seminars; faculty also attended several seminars.
- 3. Reasonably good publications; the faculty should try to publish in more reputed journals.
- 4. The syllabus is upgraded from time to time.
- 5. The department has no permanent faculty.
- 6. The department could introduce a few job-oriented courses, diversifying from the existing B.Com. and M.Com.

6. Computer Science

The School of Computer Science was established in the year of 1998 as a programme floating the BSc. Computer Science course under the aegis of the School of Physics. Later in the year 2001, M.Sc. in Computer Science was introduced. It got its own identity as a fully independent

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department in the year 2017. The School started the Ph.D. programme in the year 2020 after the recruitment of three faculty members along with support staff. The vision of School is to create globally competent undergraduate and post graduate students in Computer Science by imparting training in emerging technologies and collaborative research through a conducive and disciplined academic environment and orient them towards serving the society.

Observations and recommendation

- The department has adequate number of faculty and minimal infrastructure to run the course.
- 2. The teachers have research publications. There is a need for more number of publications per faculty..
- 3. The students' enrolment and demand ratio is good.
- 4. Participation of faculty in seminar and symposia is encouraged.

7. Economics

School of Economics has been an integral part of the GM University since its inception as a college. However, PG course was introduced in the session 1966-67. From the very beginning the department is contributing to the society and the nation through its teaching and research activities. On an average student have been maintaining consistently high academic performance. The department has illustrious alumni to its credit who have been involved with the administration of the country at national level. The school has organized various national seminar and international seminar time to time. The research focus of the School is in the areas of Microeconomics, Economic Theory, Agricultural Economics, Political Economy, State Finance, Tribal Development, Behavioral Economics and Financial Economics.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Reasonably good publications by the faculty.
- 2. The faculty attended a number of seminars.
- 3. Nice outreach activities.
- 4. The faculty should seek external funding to organise seminars and research projects.
- 5. There has been no recent syllabus revision.
- 6. Data on placements need to improve.

8. Education

The school of education is one of the oldest Department of Gangadhar Meher University which provides BA (Education), M.A. (Education), and Ph.D. in Education along with Integrated B.A./ B.Sc. B.Ed. A record number of students are qualifying NET/JRF, CTET, OTET, OSSTET every year from the school. The School of Education prepares highly qualified scholars and educators to meet the needs of students in diverse settings within the State of Odisha and beyond. It tries to link theory, practice, and social justice. It emphasizes on equity, academic excellence, reflective practice, curriculum integration, and advocacy. The programs promote meaningful fieldwork in which our students interact with other students, families, and other educators of diverse communities. The students conduct research, understand educational policies and develop the skills required to meet the needs of all students.

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Observations and recommendation

- 1. The faculty has presented papers in numerous seminars.
- Per-capita publication rate is good. However, they should try to publish in qualitatively good journals.
- 3. The faculty should get externally funded research projects.
- 4. Students' progression and placement records need to be augmented.
- 5. There are two streams of programs in Education. Their integration may be explored. This may enhance the efficiency of the department.

9. English

The Department of English was established in the year 1949. Since its inception, the department had several distinguished faculty members. It has grown in terms of the student enrolment and courses offered. Over the years its output has included distinguished alumni, research journal of the department, publications in scholarly journals by faculties and scholars, contributions to co-curricular activities, among others. Its alumni have occupied highly respectable positions in diverse fields, i.e., academia, publishing, mass communications, civil service and others. The School of English, as it is named presently admits around three hundred students are pursuing Ph.D., P.G. and U.G. programmes. A well-equipped seminar library with internet facility caters to the academic needs of the students. Besides, the department conducts special classes on NET, GATE, soft skills and personality development in a well-furnished language laboratory to enhance the employability of the students. The literary club and debating society of the department frequently conduct activities like poetry recitation, creative writing, elocution, debates, drama, etc. for the holistic development of the students.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. A number of students have got NET/GATE.
- 2. IT-enabled infrastructure is needed.
- 3. Quality of publications needs to improve.
- 4. The faculty should get externally funded research projects.

10. Geography

The School of Geography (the then-Department of Geography) was established in 1964. In the year 1985, postgraduate programmes in geography were introduced by the department. The Department contributed a lot in the area of cartography and human geography, focusing on social, cultural, and economic aspects of geographic study for the next three decades. Because of these contributions, the department was designated as the nodal center of Sambalpur University in 2010 to carry out our research work leading to a Ph.D. degree. The introduction of the M.Phil. programme with an intake of 10 seats is another milestone that the department has achieved prior to getting renamed the School of Geography at G.M. University in the year 2015. Full-time Ph.D. programmes were introduced in the School of Geography in 2020, followed by the opening of B.Sc. and M.Sc. programmes for students with a science background in the academic years 2021–22. The school of geography has evolved over time to incorporate advanced technologies, including remote sensing, geospatial analysis, and webbased mapping, to address sustainability issues and environmental issues at a local to global

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scale. The school increasingly emphasizes experiential learning, community engagement, and practical applications of geographic knowledge.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Adequate class rooms are required for the department.
- 2. There are vacant teaching positions in the department.
- The department has organized seminars during the year. A few faculty have attended seminars/symposia.
- 4. Teachers have published papers. More number of publications by the faculty is expected..

11. Hindi

School of Hindi was established on 7 July 1944 at the prestigious Sambalpur College, presently Gangadhar Meher University. The Honors course was started in 1974 with 16 seats. In 2019, M.A., M.Phil and PhD courses were also opened in this department. Students from Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand bordering Odisha are also studying in this department. Modern and relevant subjects like women's discourse, tribal discourse, Dalit discourse and cinema, screenplay and dialogue writing, journalism and purpose-oriented Hindi and translation have also been included in the curriculum so that students can achieve success in every examination held at the national level.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Number of Ph.D.s in a year is impressive; however, this contradicts the Academic Section's data that no Ph.D.s students are admitted in Hindi.
- 2. No research projects.
- 3. The faculty has no publications.

12. History

The Dept. of History came into existence in 1944 catering to the academic needs of the U.G. and P.G. students of this region in particular and of Odisha in general. After the transformation of G.M. College into G. M. University in 2015, the Department also got its new identity as School of History and presently offers U.G., P.G., M.Phil and Ph.D courses with 48, 78, and 08 seats respectively. It is now a premier institution of Historical research and learning in India. The Department offers a basket of varied and challenging courses for its undergraduate (integrated) and graduate programmes. It has constantly espoused a double–barreled pedagogic effort in which core courses cutting across all historical periodizations are offered for enhancing a general disciplinary proficiency in Indian history, alongside a broad overview of world history. A large clutch of highly specialized, theme–oriented courses, on the other hand, offer students the opportunity to choose/pursue their own specializations/research interests. The Department has been consistently widening its research agenda in line with the emergent themes and paradigms, with a focus largely on India and with a growing interdisciplinary orientation.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The faculty has reasonably good research projects.
- 2. A number of seminars were organised and attended.

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- 3. Good outreach activities.
- 4. Quality and quantity of publications need to improve.
- 5. Syllabus should be revised more frequently.
- Data on student progression and placement need to improve.
- 7. The department should collaborate with organizations like ASI, etc.

13. School of Information Science & Telecommunication (IST)

The department of Information Science and Telecommunication (IST) was officially inaugurated in the year 2003 as a department. The basic objective of opening of this department was to provide 3 years duration bachelor degree level technical/professional education related to Information Science, Electronics & Communication and allied technologies in a reasonable and affordable course fee. In the year 2015, with the upgraded structure of the university, the BSc (IST) program became the School of Information Science & Telecommunication(IST). In the year 2018 a post graduate program MSc-ETC (Electronics & Telecommunication) added to this school. It has earned the glory to produce much efficient man power for IT and Telecommunication industry. Now it is attracting students from different parts of Odisha and many of its alumni are working in different national and international reputed IT companies, banking sector and government offices.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The department has adequate teaching faculty, but needs supporting staff.
- The teaching-learning infrastructure is inadequate. There is no laboratory for students for practicals. Other students' facilities need improvement.
- The faculty have published research papers. However, publications per teacher are low during the year.
- 4. There is no research project in operation in the department.

14. Library and Information Science

The School of Library and Information Science was one of the new academic programs of Gangadhar Meher University which was introduced in the academic session 2019-2020. Given the importance of Library and Information Science education, research, and practice, the School intends to furnish the libraries in the region with skilled manpower. The school currently offers a two years Master's level Programme in Library & Information Science (MLIS) and a Doctoral program in Library and Information Science (PhD). Furthermore, the school also offered a one-year Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) program and a one-year Post Graduate Diploma in Library Automation and Networking (PGDLAN) program, both of which were discontinued in the year 2022. The course is designed, keeping in mind the current development in the field of LIS in India to prepare library and information professionals in the knowledge society of the 21st century. Our students are proactively taking part in national seminars and conferences and co-curricular activities organized in the University and other Universities adding feathers to the school from time to time.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The facilities for teaching-learning activity of the department are inadequate.
- The department needs to engage more number of teachers.

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- 3. The faculty have published good number of research and review papers.
- 4. No research project is in operation in the department.

15. Mathematics

The School of Mathematics was started in the year 1957 with the graduation program. The Postgraduate, M.Phil., Ph.D. programs were subsequently added to the School from the year 1964, 1983, and 2018, respectively. The Mathematics education under the aegis of the School has come to a long way and boost of producing excellent teachers and researchers besides scores of successful people in other allied professions. Consequently, the alumni of the School are well established in many renowned institutions of India. Now the department has attracted faculty with diversified expertise, for example, Functional Analysis, Operator Theory, Number Theory, Fractional Calculus, Mathematical Modelling, Numerical Analysis, Sequence spaces, Summability. Now the School keeps a vision to pursue teaching, improve the quality of research & service in the areas of Mathematics and provide an environment, where the students can learn and become competent users of Mathematics & Mathematical tools.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. There is no dedicated practical laboratory for students.
- 2. The subject shows high and encouraging demand ratio. The student enrolment to the course is also good.
- 3. A few faculties have published research paper during the year. Other are advised to make regular research publications for visibility of the university in the national and international level.

16. Management

The School of Management has started its functioning in the year 2003, offering a diverse range of programs that include MBA, MBA in Financial Management, and BBA. Committed to fostering the professional growth of our students, it facilitates successful placements of a significant number of graduates in different industrial units and institutions nationwide. The dynamic learning environment extends beyond traditional classrooms, with a rich calendar of events such as national seminars, workshops, webinars, and extramural talks. Embracing best practices, the school actively engages in organizing outreach programs to enhance the overall educational experience for our students. It attempts to cultivate a research-oriented culture, with students actively participating in various research projects. As part of the curriculum, third-semester students embark on transformative summer internship projects, gaining real-world experience in diverse industries across the country.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The classrooms and laboratory facilities are inadequate and need to be expanded.
- There are some publications but not in the highly reputed journals. The publications need to be improved.
- 3. Faculty should be encouraged to apply for external funding for research and consultancy.

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17. Odia

The under graduate course on Odia was started with the establishment of Sambalpur college in the year 1944. Subsequently it expanded with various courses and classes. In 1993 Odia MA class opened with 16 seats. Now the PG Department of Odia is a full-fledged department with Ph.D research programme. The odia e-magazine *Sabdaganga* has been published from 2020. *Sabdaganga* is helping students to develop their creative work. This magazine helped students to maintain the education, culture and heritage in the corona situation. It is a monthly magazine and yet 48 issues have published. This magazine publishes religious, culture and social life by eminent writers and artists of Sambalpur.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. A good number of Ph.D.s have been awarded.
- 2. A number of publications; but quality of papers needs to improve.
- 3. Only one project is funded from outside; should get more projects.
- 4. Data on student progression and placement need to improve.
- 5. Should try to collaborate with Odia University.

18. Philosophy

The department of philosophy was established with undergraduate program in 1956. The Post-Graduate program was introduced in 1993 in erstwhile G.M. (Autonomous) College. This School is one of the most accomplished centers of learning and research in the field of Philosophy, especially in the Western part of Odisha. The School of Philosophy introduced M.Phil. Programme in 2018 and Ph.D. research program in 2020 to enrich the philosophical discourse in different areas. The Department aims to create an environment for teaching, training and research in Philosophy at par with national and international level through extensive teacher- student interaction; inculcate critical thinking and value awareness among the faculty, scholars and students associated with the department.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Organised a number of seminars.
- 2. Need to get more research projects.
- 3. There is a need to publish more papers.
- 4. No Ph.D. students.

19. Physics

The department was established in 1957. The department has a long-standing history of excellence in teaching and research. At present, the school offers Doctorate programme (PhD), two years master degree course (M.Sc.) and three years under graduate course in physics area (B.Sc.). Faculties are associated with research activities in the LASERS/optoelectronics, theoretical condensed matter physics, cosmology (theory and data analysis), Polymer/FRP composites, industrial waste utilization, Nano materials, piezoelectric materials, photonics/Metamaterials, solid state physics (experimental). About 35 research papers were published in Scopus/WoS reputed journals since 2020. The average number of citations of the papers published by all the faculties is 332. At present, about 11 numbers of

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PhD scholars are continuing their doctorate programme. Two PhD scholars are being awarded with Biju Pattanaik research fellowship award. Out of twelve numbers of procured projects of total grant 45.34 Lakhs (5 as extra mural and 7 as university supported seed grant), three projects are completed successfully. Apart from regular academic activities, the school offers preparatory classes for national level competitive examinations like NET/GATE/JAM/JEST/CPET. Since 2020, about 30 students have qualified such competitive examinations and also continuing their higher academic studies in reputed institutes of National importance.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The department has adequate floor space for teaching and research.
- 2. The faculty publications are satisfactory. There is global visibility of publications.
- 3. There is a high drop out of students.
- External funding should be obtained to augment research infrastructure and publications and patents.
- 5. The department is advised to apply for infrastructure grant from DST, Govt. of India, under DST-FIST programme.

20. Political Science

The School of Political Science (Earlier Department of Political Science) has a venerable past, a dynamic present, and a bright future. It came into existence in the year 1964. Post-graduate teaching was introduced in the year 1983. M.Phil & Ph.D programmes were introduced in the year 2017. It offers not only traditional courses required for different competitive examinations, but also many thought-provoking courses to encourage creativity among the students, including experiential courses like the Model United Nations and Mock Parliament. The School of Political Science is dedicated to the formation of intellectually deep, civically-engaged, globally-aware, and ethically-minded students. The school actively pursues the objective of being multidisciplinary in nature and at the same time respecting human values irrespective of one's identities. It provides an academically rigorous, critical, intellectually diverse, and praxisoriented set of educational degree programs in political science, human rights studies, and policy studies intended to properly educate and equip our students for lifelong learning, faithful citizenship and positions of conscientious leadership and service to their professions, community, and the world.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Good record of publications.
- 2. Organised seminars; the faculty attended many seminars and presented papers.
- Syllabus revision done.
- 4. No research projects. Should try to get external funding.

21. Psychology

The School of Psychology is one of the oldest units in Humanities and Social Sciences. It was established in 1st August 1962. Subsequently, the postgraduate teaching in psychology was added to the Honours department in academic year 1980-81 with 16 (Sixteen) seats and M.Phil

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in Psychology was added in the academic session 2010-11 with 8 seats. The department also offers Ph. D programme from the session (2020-21). The school of Psychology assures quality education which fulfils the students' needs and aspirations. In the process of growth, it has witnessed several transformations from time to time. This department aims to be an island of excellence and provides superior education of merit and distinction inclined with new developments and challenges and advanced scientific knowledge through the basic and applied research. The department has synergistic interaction with other departments of the institution as well as other institutions in the state.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. Organised several seminars.
- 2. Good outreach activities.
- 3. Syllabus is updated.
- 4. The faculty presented papers at seminars.
- 5. A number of publications; but should publish in highly reputed journals.
- 6. May consider opening a counselling centre for GMU students.

22. Sanskrit

The School of Sanskrit is one of the Oldest Department of Gangadhar Meher University. Teaching was initially imparted in both Intermediate and Undergraduate Courses. Sanskrit M.A Course was introduced in 1977, M.Phil in 2010 and Ph.D. in 2019. The School has introduced MA special papers in three branches of School of Sanskrit: Grammar, Veda and Vedic Literature, and Classical Literature. The Students are also trained in Indian Philosophies, Dharmashastras, Linguistics, Indian Poetics and different branches of Literature like Prose, Poetry, Dramas, Fables and Fairy tales, Jyotisha, Vastushastra etc. The present curriculum empowers the learners to have glimpses of varieties of knowledge treasure stored in the Sanskrit Language. This will help them to explore more and more existing resources of different knowledge tools. They can go for higher research and unravel the important text and significant ideas not explored till date.

Observations and recommendation

- 1. The syllabi are reviewed from time to time.
- 2. Reasonably good publications; but there is scope to improve.
- 3. Got a number of research projects; should try to get funding from external sources.
- 4. Student progression is good; should look for data on placement record.
- 5. Should collaborate with Sanskrit universities in Odisha and outside.

23. Sociology

The School of Sociology was opened in the year 2019. The vision of the School is to promote the discipline Sociology as a viable pursuit academically and vocationally with due emphasis on quality, rigor, and scholarship, concerning teaching, research, and excellence. The School has a mission to apply Sociological approach in studying the society, economy, polity, and culture of Odisha. The school offers UG, PG and Ph.D programmes.

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Observations and recommendation

- 1. This department is in a bad shape: all are guest faculties.
- 2. No research output.
- 3. No publications

24. Statistics

School of Statistics of Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur (Previously G.M. (Auto) College) Odisha started in the year 1973 with Intermediate Science and Arts and in the year 1975. The Department currently offers a three-year BA/B.Sc. (Hons.), two-year MA/M.Sc. in Statistics as regular courses. The Department also offers Ph.D. programmes in Statistics with specialization in Survey Sampling, Operations Research, Applied Statistics and Econometrics. The faculty members have published books, and a good number of research articles in peer-reviewed journals with National and International repute. The alumni of this Department have been serving in maximum national level institutions in the country and abroad as well. The Course Curriculum has been updated as per the requirements of the industry, health, finance, corporate sectors etc.

Observations and recommendation

- The infrastructure needs to be expanded. Laboratory facilities and software need to be provided to students.
- 2. The students' enrolment and the pass-out are good.
- 3. There should be adequate engagement of faculty for teaching.
- The faculty have good number of publications. However external research funding is lacking in the department.

25. Zoology

This Department was established in the year 1971 as department of Zoology. Initially the department offered ISc & B.Sc courses but later on in the year 1991 three-year UG course (both pass & Hons), two-year PG course and one-year M.Phil course were introduced. Ph.D course was introduced in 2018. Till date two scholars have successfully completed the course and were awarded Ph.D in 2020. The school also organizes regular extra and co-curricular activities to boost overall development of the students.

Observations and recommendation

- The department has adequate number of classrooms and laboratories for teaching and research.
- 2. Number of faculty in the department is inadequate, considering the number of students enrolled. The department has some supporting staff.
- 3. Faculty participation in seminar and symposia is advised.
- 4. The faculty has not published any research paper during the year.
- 5. No externally funded research project is in operation in the department/

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26. University Library

Dr. Mayadhar Mansingh Library has 12,766 books in total. The total number of books purchased throughout the year (2021-23) was 2177, and they were all in English. Total number of e-resource databases are Elsevier, Ebsco, Kurukshetra, Yojana, and Current Science make up the total number of journals. Dr. Mayadhar Mansingh Library has enrolled in Inflibnet.

Observations and recommendation

- Foot-fall in the Library is impressive; but documentation on the foot-fall needs to improve.
- 2. Frequency of issuing books to a student could increase; a few students requested this.
- 3. Students expressed that they do not find text-books needed by them; coordination between syllabus-teachers and book-acquisition is necessary.
- 4. E-resources need to expand; this is the request from almost all the social sciences and humanities departments. The explanation of the library staff that there is less usage is not quite valid. It is like chicken first or egg first dilemma. If facilities exist, the number of users will improve gradually. The library could organise e-resources awareness programs for Ph.D. and M.A./M.Sc. students.

Specific recommendations

- The submission of student grievances needs to be streamlined and addressed. The website
 of the University should mention the facilities for the students and should provide scope
 for online submission of grievances. All statutory and academic and administrative
 committees and the staff with the contact details should be properly displayed in the
 university website.
- 2. Publications by research scholars and guest faculties should be included. The publication rate of the faculty needs to improve. Special mentoring is necessary for those who do not have adequate publications. There is a need to counsel the faculty to publish in qualitatively better journals in order to gain better professional visibility.
- 3. There should be a structured mechanism for receipt of feedbacks from all stakeholders. The feedback should be analysed and the findings should be communicated back to the concerned teachers and departments.
- 4. Almost no department has adequate data on students' progression, off-campus placement and students' achievements. Students may be made partners in data collection, especially in these areas.
- 5. The reading facility in the library is adequate and there is good footfall in the reading facility. However, the committee found that foot-fall record is not maintained properly. The students need to be sensitized to sign the entry and exit registers.
- E-resources, especially for social sciences and humanities, need to be expanded and made accessible.
- 7. There is scope for reducing the gap between last date of last examination in a semester and the declaration of results.

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Observations on interaction with the students

The committee interacted with the students in order to receive their feedbacks and their experience on the teaching-learning environment of the university. The committee observed the following:

- 1. The committee was impressed by the students' strong emotional connect with the University.
- 2. The students raised their concern about the shortage of experienced faculty and the inadequate infrastructure for research.
- 3. There is shortage of standard text-books as compared to the number of users.
- 4. The cleaning and maintenance of the departments, common areas and toilets are not adequate.
- 5. Medical facility for the students needs to be provided on campus.
- 6. There should be adequate facilities for the day scholars, viz., canteen and common room facilities
- Many departments have no library and/or reading room facility. The number of ICT enabled classrooms need to be enhanced.
- The internet connection network in the university campus is inadequate. It needs to be augmented.

The committee thanks the Vice-Chancellor, Director, IQAC, the faculty, staff and students for their cooperation during the visit and for their help in preparing this report.

Prof. Prakash Chandra Sarangi

Prof. Pradipta Kumar Mohapatra