

## MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF QUALITY ENHANCEMENT CELLS

1 University of Sindh, Jamshoro hosted a two day meeting of Heads of Quality Enhancement Cells with effect from 11-12 June, 2008; in which the QEC's briefed their activities other than Self Assessment exercise.

1.1 The following attended:

1. Prof. Dr. Azam Ali Khwaja, Managing Director (QAA), HEC, Islamabad
2. Air Commodore (R) Muhammad Ismail, Director Quality Assurance, National University of Science and Technology, Rawalpindi
3. Mr. Mohammed Taimur Khan, Director QEC, University of Peshawar, Peshawar
4. Dr. Anwar- ul- Hassan, Director QEC, Agriculture University, Faisalabad
5. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Sajidin, Director QEC, University of Karachi, Karachi
6. Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmed, Director QEC, University of Punjab, Lahore
7. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Ahmed, Director QEC, University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Muzafarabad
8. Dr. Naemul Haque Quraishi, Director QEC, Liaquat University of Medical & Health Sciences, Jamshoro
9. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Suleman Sheikh, Advisor QEC, University of Sindh, Jamshoro
10. Dr. M. Daud Awan, Director QEC, Allama Iqbal Open University, Islamabad
11. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Director QEC, NWFP Agriculture University, Peshawar
12. Dr. Abdul Wahid Usmani, Director QEC, Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi
13. Mr. Qazi Muhammad Saleem, Manager QEC, NWFP University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar
14. Prof. Dr. M. Mansoor Khan, Dean, NWFP University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar
15. Mr. Sarfaraz Pirzada, Director QEC, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, Islamabad
16. Dr. M. Rafiq Baloch, Director QE&A, Balochistan University of Information Technology and Management Sciences, Quetta
17. Mr. Hidayat Ullah Khan, Director QEC, Kohat University of Science and Technology, Kohat
18. Prof. Dr. Naheed Zia Khan, Director QEC, Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi
19. Ms. Iram Sohail, Director QEC, Government College University, Lahore
20. Prof. Dr. Mahmood Memon, Director QEC, Quaid-e-Awam University of Engineering, Science & Technology, Nawabshah
21. Engr. Riasat Ali Kubar, Director QEC, Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam
22. Dr. Abdul Sami Qureshi, Director QEC, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro
23. Mr. Mian Khurram S. Azam, Deputy Director QEC, National University of Modern Languages, Islamabad
24. Ms. Khadija Gul, Deputy Director QEC, FRONTIER Women University, Peshawar
25. Mr. Dawar Hameed Mughal, Deputy Director QEC, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore

26. Ms. Suraiya Khatoon, Assistant Director QEC, Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi
  27. Mr. Abdul Khaliq, Data Analyst QEC, University of Balochistan, Quetta
  28. Mr. Abu Bakar Nazeer Choudhry, Research officer, University of Sargodha, Sargodha
  29. Ms. Fakiha Zafar, Program Coordinator (QAA), HEC, Islamabad
  30. Ms. Tahreem Aslam, Training Coordinator (QAA), HEC, Islamabad
  31. Mr. Amjad Hussain, Office Manager (QAA), HEC, Islamabad
- 1.2 Representatives from Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad; University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore; Bahauddin Zikriya University, Multan; Government College University, Faisalabad and University of Arid Agriculture, Rawalpindi did not attend the meeting.
  - 2 Mr. Mazhar ul Haq Siddiqui, Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh, Jamshoro expressed his pleasure at convening the meeting in Jamshoro. He assured of full support of University of Sindh to HEC in its endeavor of improving the quality of education. VC emphasized on the need of proactive response from the universities in the realm of quality assurance and congratulated QAA on their achievements.
  - 2.1 Prof. Dr. Azam Ali Khwaja, Managing Director (QAA) thanked the Vice Chancellor, University of Sindh for hosting the event and providing excellent facilities for this purpose. He said that implementation of quality assurance procedures is one of the most exciting activity taking place in the educational institutions all over the world. As a new phenomenon it is not only bracing but also very challenging as it demands changing the mindsets of people. The main focus of this activity is the Student; he should be facilitated and supported in such a way that he is able to compete internationally. The most encouraging and pleasing development is that all the QEC's have started functioning. With the passage of time the QEC will stand out as an independent and regular part of the university. No outside force including HEC will intervene in your work but to attain that landmark processes and procedures should be strengthened.
  - 2.2 Prof. Dr. Arif Ali Zaidi, Vice Chancellor, Government College University Faisalabad made a presentation on the topic "Quality in Higher Education". He said that quality is a unique phenomenon for which the feeling need to come from inside but to flourish this emotion a facilitator or convener is imperative. The role of the head of QEC in this domain is of great importance as he is the one striving to achieve the most difficult task of ensuring quality in education.
  - 2.3 The two days meeting was divided into four sessions chaired by Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmed, Mr. Mohammed Taimur Khan, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Suleman Sheikh and Dr. M. Daud Awan respectively. The chairpersons of the meeting appreciated the speakers for presenting the information in a very lucid and refined manner. They also suggested that HEC may now rank the QEC's performance.
  - 2.4 The speakers of the meeting shared the activities undertaken by them other than self assessment. Salient activities of the QEC's other than self assessment in which many of them are now involved are:

- Conducting seminars/ conferences and workshops on varied topics
  - Finalizing list of nominations for academic awards
  - Compilation of Annual reports
  - Assistance in curriculum review
  - Accreditation of Program
  - Answering queries of students/teachers regarding different HEC programs
  - Processing the Calls for Papers for Conferences / Seminars / Workshops etc
  - Collecting valid data for membership with different international organization
  - Preparation of hand books for faculty and students
- 2.5 Responding to a query regarding the inadequacy of the Proformae in some situations, Managing Director, QAA said that if the HEC prescribed Proformae does not cover the required aspects then modifications, according to the needs may be undertaken with prior intimation to HEC.
- 2.6 Responding to another query concerning the efficiency of other QA models being implemented in different countries of the world, MD (QAA) replied that we have crossed the stage of testing and examining various QA models. Every model possesses qualities and weaknesses and the current model was suggested after many deliberations in the Quality Assurance Committee. Modifications according to the needs and requirements of every university are appreciated. However, it is recommended that one model (the present QA model) is adhered to.
- 2.7 Replying to a suggestion regarding external review of the model department, Managing Director, QAA said that HEC can provide help for this but it will need to be undertaken by people from outside the country or university. Therefore much preparation is required before going in to this exercise. He suggested that through awareness campaigns of the teachers and other stakeholders, the resentment and resistance against this novel concept can be mitigated.
- Decision 2.7.1:** It was decided that the QEC's must submit the complete assessment report of the model department/s by the end of June 2008 as the task is already overdue.
- 2.8 The efforts/ cooperation of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Suleman Sheikh and Dr. Naeemul Haque Qureshi for organizing the meeting in University of Sindh was highly appreciated by the participants.

The meeting ended with mutual thanks.

**Prof. Dr. Azam Ali Khwaja**  
**Managing Director QAA**  
**Higher Education Commission**  
**Islamabad**