NAAC Assessment and Accreditation

Webinar Report

Jointly Organized by

IQAC, University of Kerala

and

NAAC, Bengaluru

July 8, 2020

Report

IQAC, University of Kerala, in association with NAAC, Bengaluru organized a Webinar entitled **NAAC Assessment and Accreditation** on 8th July 2020. The objective of the Webinar was to create awareness on the NAAC accreditation process and help Higher Education Institutions, more specifically, the unaccredited colleges in securing accreditation and thereby promoting quality in their processes.

The Webinar was formally inaugurated by Prof. V. P. Mahadevan Pillai, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of University of Kerala. Prof. Pillai stated that the COVID-19 pandemic had imposed several challenges in higher education and NAAC is working on the New Normalcy to address these challenges. He congratulated NAAC for their efforts in this regard and for their association with University of Kerala. This is an opportunity to understand and incorporate the Revised Accreditation Framework which is data driven based on the quantitative and qualitative metrics. Our familiarization and internalization on the same is crucial, he added, we need to reciprocate the keen interest that NAAC is manifesting in promoting quality among Higher Education Institutions.

Dr. M. S. Shyamasundar, Adviser, NAAC, delivered the introductory remarks where he gave a detailed presentation on the relevance of Accreditation and the role NAAC is playing, specifically in the back drop of the COVID-19 pandemic. Accreditation supports funding for HEIs and it creates a standard which is accepted not just in India but also abroad. Institutions should take advantage of the accreditation process and its benefits, students from accredited institutions find it easy to secure admission in internationally reputed institutions. The unaccredited colleges need to understand the significance of such initiatives and take all steps to ensure accreditation.
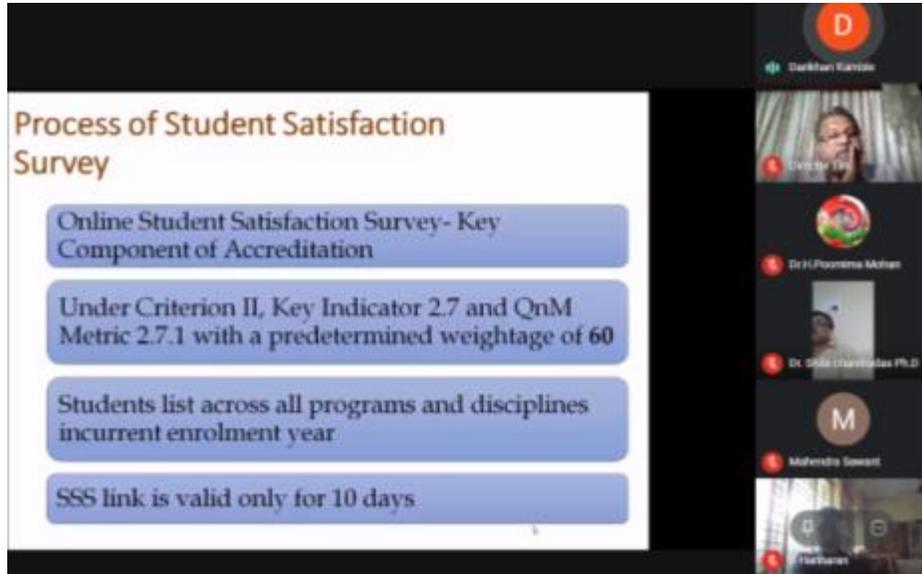

The Webinar had three technical sessions as follows:

1. Revised Accreditation Framework: Introduction, IIQA,SSR   - Dr. Pratibha Singh, Deputy Adviser, NAAC
2. Data Validation and Verification for Accreditation - Dr. K. R. Vishnu Mahesh , Assistant Adviser, NAAC
3. Student Satisfaction Survey, Logistics and Peer team visit management – Dr. D. K. Kamble, Assistant Adviser, NAAC
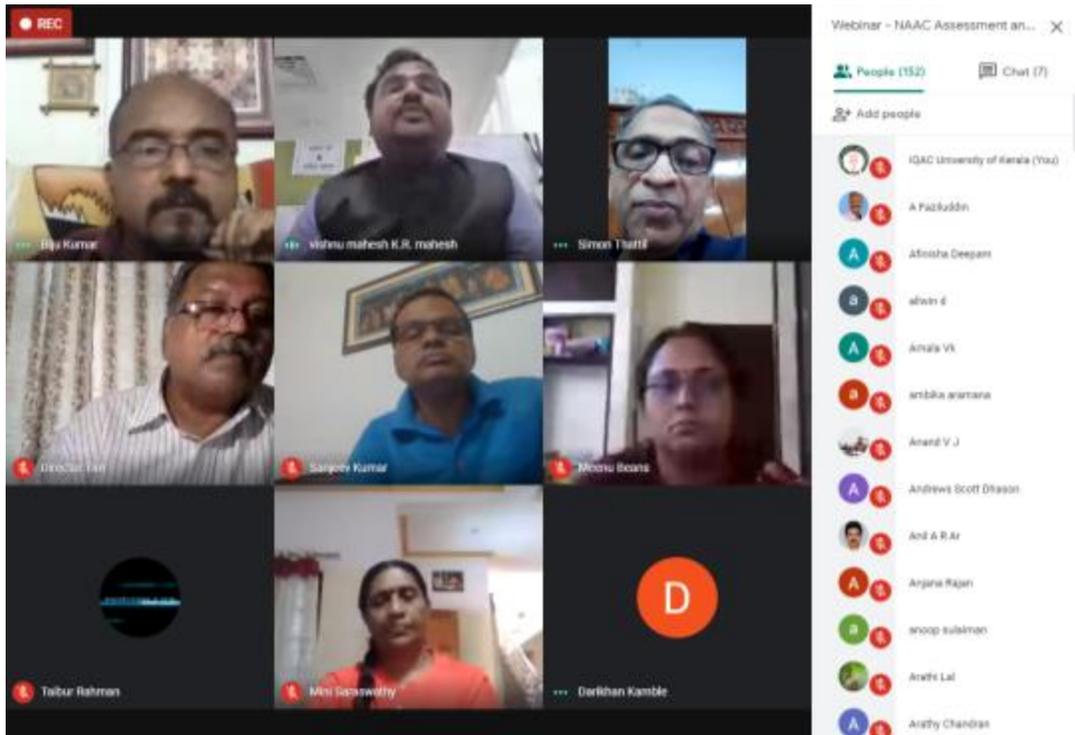
Dr. Pratibha Singh explained in detail the steps involved in the preparation of IIQA and the factors to be considered. She also gave a criteria–wise presentation on preparation of SSR with the key indicators and the Quantities Metrics as well as the Qualitative metrics involved. The weights assigned and the factors that deserve consideration were illustrated in a lucid style.

Dr. K. R. Vishnu Mahesh emphasized on the need to be truthful and precise in the preparation of SSR as all data would the subject to Validation and Verification through third party experts. The system driven process would look for accuracy while assigning points for each of the metrics. Need for documentary support and careful verification for all the quantitative data was stressed by him. He also spoke of the NAAC initiatives to deal with corrections sought under DVV.

Dr. D. K. Kamble spoke on SSS, where the process of seeking feedback from students was illustrated. The data on students was to be correctly uploaded. He gave details on how students were to be selected from each HEIs and the need to giving exact data of students. The logistics for the visit was also covered.

This was followed by a Q & A session where several questions were raised by the participants. The NAAC team clarified on the doubts raised and agreed to support the Institutions on all accreditation clarifications through their Help Desk and other supportive interventions.

Prof. Gabriel Simon Thattil, Director IQAC, University of Kerala welcomed the dignitaries to the Webinar and proposed the vote of thanks. He expressed special gratitude to NAAC for their support. 170 delegates participated. The delegates expressed satisfaction and happiness on the Webinar in terms of the inputs they received.