Report of the external Academic & Administrative Audit of KLS Institute of Management Education and Research, (Autonomous) Belagavi held on 12th June 2024.

An External Academic and Administrative Audit of KLS IMER, was conducted on 12th June 2024, by the honorable members of the audit team.

Since, 1991, the IMER has stepped in providing need based, quality education in the management. The institution has an objective of molding the students to empower with global skills & fit to be an international manager. The Institution has excellent qualified faculty, state of infrastructure with ICT enabled classrooms. The College is affiliated to Rani Channamma University (RCU), Belagavi & recognized by the UGC under 2(f) & 12(b), also recognized by the AICTE.

The college has established linkages with institutions & industries, which has helped the faculty & students for their industrial exposure & exchange programs, facilitating for collaborative projects & internships. Under autonomous system, the students' performance is excellent bagging ranks & gold medals.

As a part of continuous quality movement the college has assessed by NAAC in the year 2016 & awarded 'A' grade in the first circle. With the back drop Quality initiatives, & sustenance the college has granted the Autonomous status. The institute is serving the community by organizing community outreach programs helping the society. The IMER serving the students community & providing quality education, preparing the young minds for global competence.

After the successful grant of Autonomy, the institution is following the guidelines of the UGC for autonomy constituted committees & system has been evolved, which has an addition towards the design of curriculum on par with global standards & beyond curriculum courses also for strengthening the students' skills.

Observations on Academic Matters.

Admissions.

- The admission details are published in leading newspapers, on the website of the college & through the social media.
- The institution strictly adhered to the rules & regulations laid down by AICTE, Government of Karnataka & RCU affiliating university.

Curriculum

- An autonomous institution flexible in designing the globally relevant curriculum.
- Offer's post-graduation studies in management.
- The curriculum designed is relevant & measurable & updated regularly through a well constituted Board of studies involving industry experts.

- The college functions with outcome based education with well-defined PEOs, POs &
 COs & are mapped are regularly which are shared to the students by the display on notice
 boards & institutional website.
- The curriculum development is robust taking into consideration the suggestions & needs of all stakeholders, through a structured feedback mechanism.
- The board of studies has also taken care of incorporating, Gender & environmental issues. Human Values, Professional Ethics, Indian Knowledge system & Employability skills that are the cross cutting issues.
- The Board of studies has made a provision & weightage for community projects also.
- The faculty is putting efforts for pedagogical diversity.
- The college has established MOU with several industries & institutions.
- Regular FDP'S are organized by the college to update their faculty.
- The college prepares the structured calendar of events encompassing all the activities of the college & is made available to all the students.
- The credit distribution is balanced across core; Elective & foundation courses.
- Value added courses are also designed in a scientific way that are added knowledge to the students' basket.

Teaching, Learning & Evaluation

- The college believes in the mantra quality, teaching & learning.
- At the begin of the academic, the college receives the revised syllabus by board of studies & Academic council of the college.
- All the faculty before the Commencement of the semester prepares well defined teaching plan & lesson plan, which will be displayed for the students' information.
- The college practices student centric teaching methods & tools, & each classroom is provided with ICT teaching tools for observational learning.
- Classroom interactions, group discussions are also part of participative learning.
- The institution has adopted computerized software for attendance & internal assessment assistance.
- Wi-Fi enabled campus & also helps in online resources to support teaching learning.
- The College has adopted 360° feedback system for quality enhancement.
- The institution has established MoUs with several industries & institutions.
- The examination section is well equipped with digital mode, maintaining transparency & early announcement of the results.
- The student grievances with reference to examination are addressed regularly.
- Special care is taken to encourage slow learners.
- The College has a robust mentor-mentee system. The external councilors are part of the counseling system attending to chronic cases.
- Advanced learners are motivated to take seminars to their peer group.
- Students learn through hands-on training, industrial visits, projects & interaction with experts.

- Academic competitions like debates & quizzes are conducted to encourage participative learning MoUs with renowned institutes & industries help the students to get into internships & gain rich experience.
- Provision of photocopy of answer scripts, revaluation & retotaling facilities exist to strengthen the evaluation process.

Research, innovation & extension:

- The institution has well defined policies on research and extension activities with clear objectives. Some MoUs and license agreements have been signed for bilateral research collaboration with several organizations & industries.
- The faculty with Ph.D. are mentoring other faculty to undertake research.
- There is a need to improve the research data.
- There is strong evidence showing faculty projects & their outcomes.
- There is a need for students' encouraging towards research & their projects.
- Faculty need to adhere strictly to the institutional research policy.
- There shall be movement of faculty towards industry consultancy; however, the college shall have a structured mechanism for consultancy.
- The college has undertaken social activities in neighboring villages & communities, such as awareness camps, fests, and blood donation camps.

Infrastructure learning resources

- The college is situated in the center of a city, in an area of 2 acres easily accessible to all stakeholders.
- The institution ensures adequate facilities for curricular and co-curricular activities.
- The physical infrastructure includes administrative buildings, library canteen, girls hostel classrooms, seating, computer lab, etc.
- Classrooms are equipped with ICT & enabled teaching aids. The computer laboratory is equipped with the latest versions of computers & software.
- The Wi-Fi campus with 150mbps leased line symmetric internet connectivity, AMC for the computer lab.
- The library has adequate space, with bar-coding, partially completed, OPAC.
- Sufficient number of books are added regularly; national & international journals are subscribed well-maintained systems of issue & borrowing of books.

Student Support & Progression

- The students are extended various scholarships like management, government, and non-government.
- The college has initiated steps towards capacity building through career counseling, entrepreneurship development, and placement cells. The placement cell conducts various skill-based training programs to prepare the students for company interviews.
- Regular health check-up camps /blood donation are organized for the benefit of students and staff.
- The college has registered alumni association that extends support to the college in its various activities.
- The college organizes special training to help students improve their communication skills and personality development training.
- Various sports & cultural events are organized regularly, resulting in awarding champion and university blues.

• The institution has a structured student council and student representation in various committees.

Governance, Leadership & Management

- The college has a visionary management with well-defined goals & plans.
- There is a strategic plan & development documents are available. A centralized & participative management.
- The college, being autonomous, has constituted statutory committees as per UGC guidelines to carry out the activities reflecting the vision & mission of the institution.
- The management collects inputs from various committee & formulates a developmental plan of action for the institution.
- The college ensures stakeholder participation in the division of duties.
- The quality initiatives suggested by the stakeholders are discussed in the IQAC, & the institution has formulated qualitative strategies.
- The compliance of NAAC audits are addressed & corrective measures are suggested. The management supports the welfare of the faculty. The institution follows flexible procedures & makes changes to its systems based on the analysis of feedback given by stakeholders. e-governance is adopted significantly in all administrative aspects, ensuring student-friendly administrative services.

Institutional values & best practices

- There is a phenomenal growth in the stakeholders, strength evidence surrounding the society's perception of the institution as the values & ethics personified. The college achieves its principal objective of building character, values, responsibility & personality in students by strategically implementing the conceptual framework directed by the regulatory bodies. The college is inclined to treat gender equity as the key social well-being indicator & constant sensitization where safety measures are effectively implemented & monitored.
- The college implements multiple green campus initiatives & constant sensitization on the issues of energy conservation. The institution has a strategic system for the management of solid waste, liquid waste & has a well-structured rainwater harvesting system. All the supportive facilities are extended to help persons with disabilities on the campus. The college organizes various programs on cultural, regional to nurture the hope in the harmonious coexistence of diversities. The campus is eco-friendly, plastic-free & runs a significantly paperless administration. The institution celebrates national days, birth & death anniversaries of prominent leaders.

Institutional Strengths:

- An autonomous, recognized institution.
- Progressive, and committed management.
- State-of-the-art infrastructure facility.
- Qualified and committed faculty.
- Students discipline.

- Student-centric ICT-based teaching aids.
- Zeal for institutional social responsibility initiatives.
- Incubation Center

Weaknesses:

- Research culture among students.
- A very few innovative globally needed add-on courses.
- Considerably less motivation among students for competitive examinations.

Opportunities:

- Strengthening of MoUs and converting them into functional MoUs.
- Opportunities for rural research schemes.
- Opportunities to undertake "Make in India", "Skill India" & other government schemes.
- Scope for strengthening research.
- Alumni-sponsored student & faculty research programs.
- Research projects from funding agencies.
- Strict implementation of research policy.

Challenges:

- Training the students for global competence.
- Preparing the students for competitive examinations.
- Strengthening of industry-institute interaction for academic & placements.

Major Recommendations for Quality Enhancement:

- More globally needed certificate courses.
- ICT thrust in teaching-learning may be augmented.
- Need to enhance institute-industry linkage.
- More vibrant placement cell.
- Need to strengthen the functioning of the autonomous status.
- More effective alumni participation.
- Faculty development programs to update the faculty.
- Initiatives to strengthen research proposals and publications.

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