



## UNIVERSITY OF MADRAS

### INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

**Teachers Feedback 2019-20**

#### **About University of Madras**

University of Madras is one of the three affiliating institutions established by the British in 1857. The University was organised on the model of London University. It takes pride in being the mother to all Universities in South India. The enactment of the Madras University Act, 1923 greatly encouraged the research and teaching functions of the University. Keeping in line with the motto of this great institution '*Doctrina Vim Promovet Insitam*' which means *Learning Promotes one's own innate knowledge*, the University has been striving to deliver quality higher education to the masses for the past 164 years. Keep furtherance of knowledge in various disciplines and subjects as its primary goal, the University with 73 Departments offers Post Graduate courses as well as research and development activities through Post-Doctoral (D.Sc./D.Litt./LLD), Doctoral and M.Phil. degrees to the students. The prime objectives of the University are to encourage and support continuously: (a) socially relevant education, (b) improvement of the quality of education and (c) an equitable access to all sections of the society to higher education.

The University under the capable leadership of the Vice-Chancellor supported by the Syndicate, Senate, Academic Council and the faculty of the Departments take holistic decisions and actions bearing in mind its primary goal. The mission and vision statements are framed such as to remain accountable to all the stake holders including the students, teachers, employees, employers, alumni, the society as a whole and the Government. The Vision statements of the University are

- To inculcate values of Equality, Unity and Justice.
- To make our education relevant and excellent.

- To promote educational programmes in various disciplines of knowledge with synergistic interaction with society and industry.
- To contribute to the advancement of knowledge through research, publication and disseminations.
- To provide leadership in higher education by imparting quality and socially relevant knowledge.
- To develop aptitudes and skills of students to equip them to face the challenges and needs of fast changing society.
- To give greater opportunity to women in order to prepare them to be effective leaders.
- To make students to be conscious of their duty to the country and to fellow human beings.

University of Madras is one of the top ranked Universities in India. To maintain the quality standards and to carry out periodic checks to the education system, the University Authorities conduct the Academic Audits, Student Feedbacks and so on every year through the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), for the Students, Research Scholars, Faculty and Administrative Staff. This periodic internal assessment helps in updating the Syllabus/curriculum on a timely basis and also address any shortcomings in the academic process. During the year 2019-20 the IQAC audit and feedback mechanism was carried out using questionnaires through the online format. The feedback data was analysed and the results are discussed in the following sections.

The subsequent section details about the IQAC and its functions at the University of Madras.

### **About IQAC**

The National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) proposes that all accredited institutions must establish Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) as a post-accreditation quality sustenance measure. Since, quality enhancement is a continuous process; the IQAC is a part of the institution's system and work towards realization of the goals of quality enhancement and sustenance. The prime task of the IQAC is to develop a system for conscious, consistent and catalytic improvement in the overall performance of institutions.

In line with the NAAC mandate, the University of Madras has established IQAC with effect from 01.07.2005. The University has been accredited by NAAC with 5-star status in 2000 followed up the IInd and IIIrd Cycle with 'A' grade in 2007 and 2014 respectively.

The IQAC plays a vital role in the re-accreditation process, as the cell reviews the quality of education in the University in following ways:

➤ **Conduct of Academic Audit:**

The IQAC conducts academic audit for all the University Departments, by inviting subject experts from other Universities/Institutions to review the syllabus, question paper and answer scripts of the students of the respective Department. The report submitted by the expert is placed before the IQAC Advisory Committee and the same also placed before the Syndicate. Following which, as per the recommendation of the Syndicate, the report submitted by the experts will be sent to the Heads of the concerned Departments for further action.

➤ **Feedback Mechanism:**

The IQAC being at the helm of maintaining Quality at the University has a robust feedback mechanism in place. Feedback is collected from all stakeholders including Students, Scholars, Faculty, Administrative Staff, Employers and Alumni. Feedback is collected in the form of questionnaires. The questions are designed to quantitatively assess the performance and quality indicators of the process and infrastructure at the University. The periodic feedback assessment helps to maintain quality and foster a healthy environment between the stakeholders. The feedback is based on 5-point scale. This feedback is again scrutinized and placed before the IQAC Advisory Committee and the same is placed before the Syndicate. Subsequently the scrutinized feedback is sent to all faculty through the Heads of the Departments.

➤ **Annual Quality Assurance Report**

As per the direction of NAAC, the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) must be submitted according to the prescribed format every year. The AQAR consists of the data of the University for the academic year, which includes details of academic activity, research activity, financial resources, publications details and etc. IQAC prepares the report diligently.

➤ **Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for faculty:**

IQAC provides supports the promotion activities of faculty in various cadres under Career Advancement Scheme, by screening applications according to the API (Academic Performance Indicators) guidelines provided by the UGC.

➤ **Capacity Building Activities:**

From time to time, the IQAC conducts programmes for faculty regarding promotion under CAS. It also conducts programmes for IQAC Coordinators and Principals of affiliated colleges as well as for faculty members of the Departments of the University.

All the reports prepared by the Cell are scrutinised by the IQAC Advisory Committee and the same is placed before the Syndicate. Thus, the IQAC ensures the quality of the institution is maintained and helps for the betterment of the students. University of Madras adheres to the NAAC mandate and the IQAC team coordinates and tenaciously works to uphold the quality at the University level.

**Scope of IQAC**

The major aim of IQAC is to ensure quality at the university level, the IQAC team collects feedback from various stakeholders including Students, Faculty, Administrative Staff, Employers and Alumni. The feedback is collected using various questionnaires designed to assess the performance based on a Likert scale. From the academic year 2017-18 onwards, the student feedback is collected through the Online mode, prior to this the student feedback was collected through printed questionnaires for the academic years 2016-17 and 2017-18. The significance of IQAC, University of Madras are listed below:

- IQAC at the University of Madras acts as the nodal agency to ensure quality teaching, research and extension activities.
- It enhances adoption and dissemination of best practices.
- It warrants periodic conduct of academic and administrative audit and its follow up.
- Builds an organised system of documentation and internal communication.
- Enhances dynamic changes to quality improvement and assists in decision making for the University Departments.

**Limitations**

1. Although IQAC attempts to collect data from all sectors, there are certain limitations to the survey that is carried out. Some of the limitations are listed below:
2. Since the survey is not mandatory, hence achieving 100% participation from all stakeholders is not possible.

3. The questions are designed as closed response rating scales, hence the analysis is more quantitative in nature.
4. The rating scale is prone to subjective evaluation and hence sometimes provide unreliable results.
5. The rating scale questionnaire may not reveal accurate results.

### **Methodology**

The methodology adopted to determine the quality includes data collection using questionnaire and data analysis using appropriate techniques. The IQAC collects data from all stakeholders to analyse the performance and to ensure quality for all University Departments/Centres. There are separate questionnaires that are prepared to analyse the performance and effectiveness of the various stakeholders. Each questionnaire is thoughtfully prepared to quantitatively assess the quality indicators. The questionnaires are closed ended responsive, which provides the respondent to choose from the best possible options to reveal their thoughts and feelings. The options are on a 5-point rating scale, similar to a Likert scale that ranges from 1-5 as defined below:

1-Strongly Disagree; 2-Disagree; 3-Neutral; 4- Agree; 5- Strongly Agree

The questionnaire helps to measure the satisfaction levels and acts as an input measure to make necessary changes towards improvement of academic activities at the University. The various questionnaires are analysed and the results are documented and discussed in the forthcoming sections.

### **Analysis:**

The questionnaire to assess the Teachers Feedback for the academic year 2019-20 consists of 10 closed ended questions with a 5 point rating. The feedback is not a compulsory task however it is the choice of the teachers. This tool enables to measure the satisfaction levels of the teachers and give a lead for corrective actions. The related questionnaires are analysed and the results are documented as follows:

## **1. University encourages to update the curriculum regularly and conduct the research projects.**

Curriculum is the core for all other activities engaged in the educational institution. 81% of the teaching faculty of University of Madras has strongly agreed with the encouragement provided by the university to update the curriculum regularly. This in turn geared up the research projects. The rest 19% consist of agreed at the rate of 18% and 1% strongly disagreed respondents.

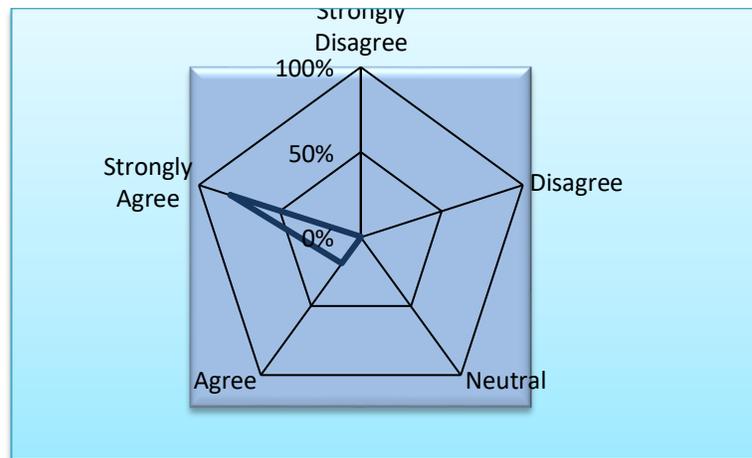


Figure 1: University encourages to update the curriculum regularly and conduct the research projects.

## **2. Curriculum has academic flexibility**

In every aspects of the curriculum transaction, the teaching faculty members have strongly agreed (75%) about the academic flexibility practiced in the day to day practice. This is also witnessed by 25% of the members who have opted for agreed as their option. It is interesting to noted that 1% of the faculty members stayed with neutral and 1% in strongly disagreed.

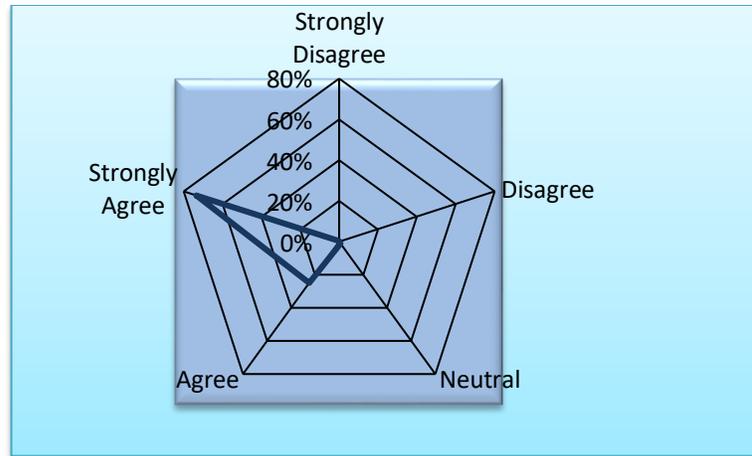


Figure 2: Curriculum has academic flexibility

### **3.Course content fulfils the need of students and ensures employability**

Ensuring employability is the end result of any course. The faculty members of University of Madras have strongly agreed (72%) on the fact that the course content fulfils the learners need and guaranteed employability. This is again reaffirmed by 24% of the members who have opted agreed as their choice of reply. Neutral voters are at the rate of 3% and 1% stood up with strongly disagreeing.

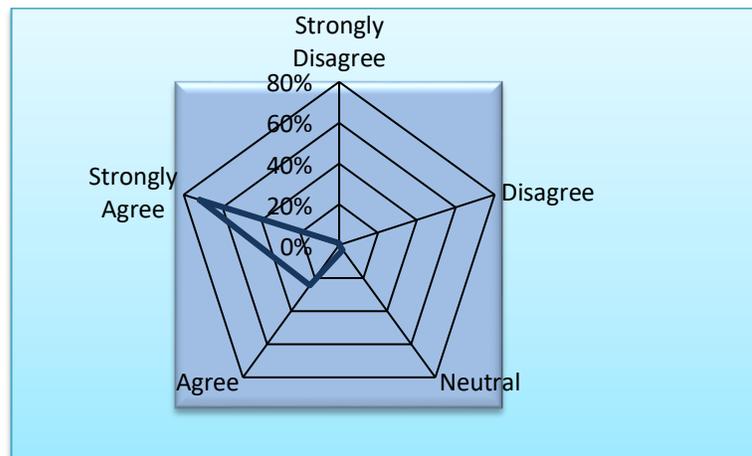


Figure 3: Course content fulfils the need of students and ensures employability

### **4. Syllabus review carried out at regular intervals**

On the whole 67% of the teaching faculty strongly agreed the fact of carrying out syllabus review on a particular period with intervals. This is also agreed by 30% of the faculty members. Moving further, 2% of neutral and strongly disagreed are found at 1% each.

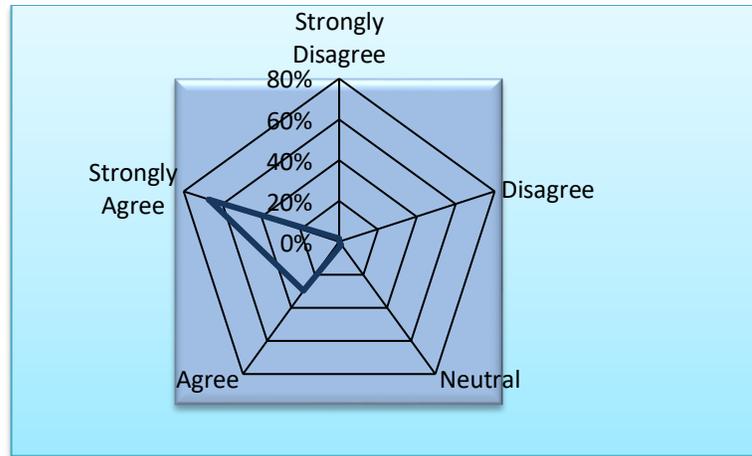


Figure 4: Syllabus review carried out at regular intervals

### **5. ICT and other computational facilities are available**

52% of the teaching faculty members of University of Madras have strongly agreed on the availability of ICT and other computational facilities in the campus. This is also reaffirmed by the members who have opted for agreed at 41%. The other scoring were stated as follows: 4% of neutral opinion and 2% of disagreed and 1% of strongly disagree members

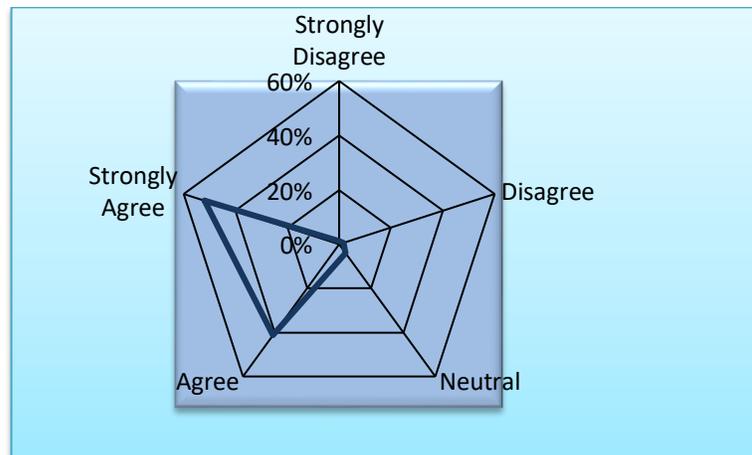


Figure 5: . ICT and other computational facilities are available

### **6 .Libraries, classrooms, laboratories, rest rooms are well maintained**

To be specific, 90% of the faculty members have expressed strongly agreed at 50% and agreed at 40% in terms of the well maintenances of libraries, classrooms, laboratories and rest rooms. Though there are 2 % of the members who have expressed strongly disagree, the remaining 8% stays with neutral opinion

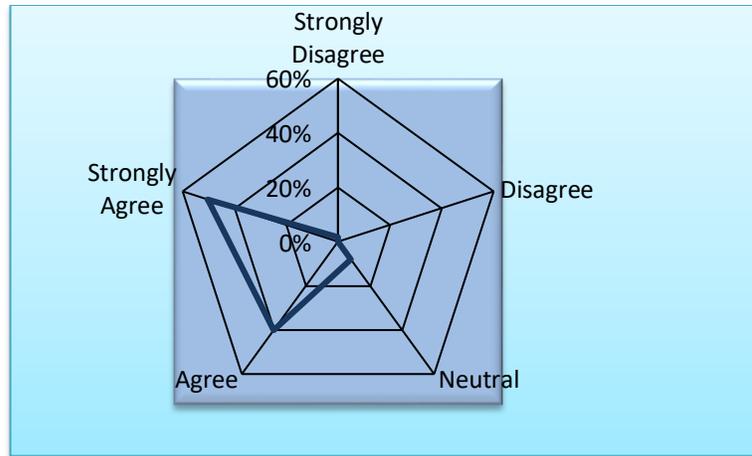


Figure 6: Libraries, classrooms, laboratories, rest rooms are well maintained

### **7. Adequate facilities are available for teaching and research**

Teaching and research are the two main components of higher learning. 59% of the teaching faculty have expressed their view as strongly agreed to support the fact of adequate facilities which are available for teaching and research. To be noted 33% of the teaching members have also agreed the same views whereas 7% expressed their opinion as neutral and 1% with disagree.

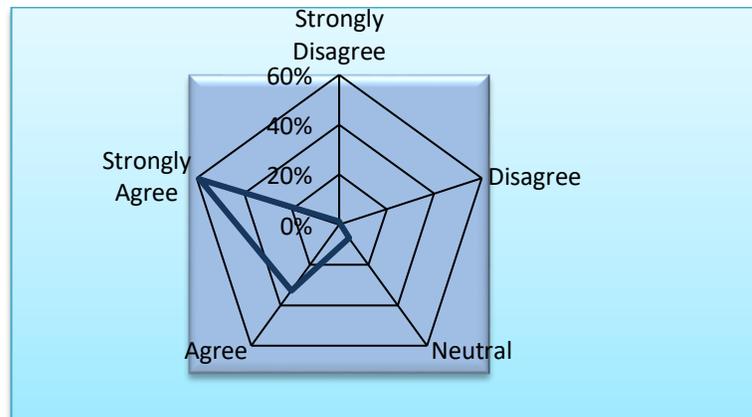


Figure 7: Adequate facilities are available for teaching and research

### **8. The Head / Director of the department/ centre is teacher friendly**

The strong bonding of the team ensures its success. 69% of the faculty members of University of Madras have strongly agreed the fact of cordial relationship which they maintained with their heads and directors. 22% of the faculty members have also agreed the same. However 6% found to be neutral and 3% represents disagree at the rate of 1% and strongly disagree with the rate of 1%

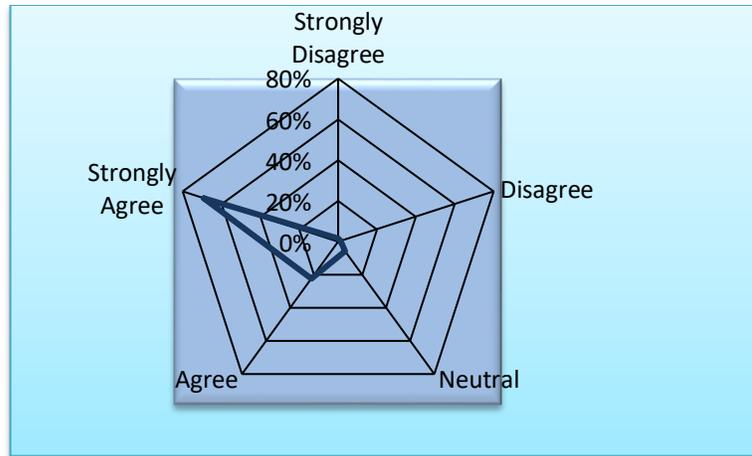


Figure 8: The Head / Director of the department/ centre is teacher friendly

### **9. There is a recognition/ appreciation for the work accomplished**

Little appreciation leads to large achievements. This view is being strongly endorsed by 56% of the teaching faculty. Apparently 33% of the members agreed with the fact that members are being recognized and appreciated for their work in the University of Madras. Though 10% of the members are neutral it is also recorded 2% respondents with strongly disagreement.

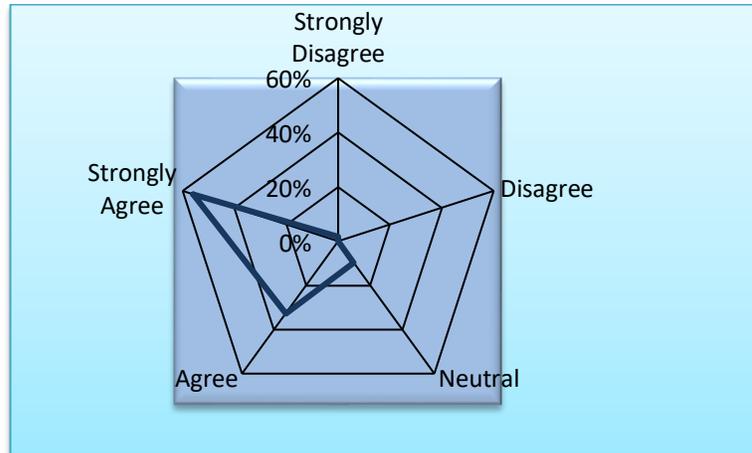


Figure 9: There is a recognition/ appreciation for the work accomplished

### **10. University Environment is Persons with Disabilities Friendly**

Patronizing inclusive policy is in practices in University of Madras. However, this opinion is strongly agreed by 54% of the teaching faculty. Almost 34% of the faculty members expressed their views as agrees whereas 10% stays neutral in their opinion. The corrective actions need to be taken since there remains a 3% of disagree and strongly disagree people.

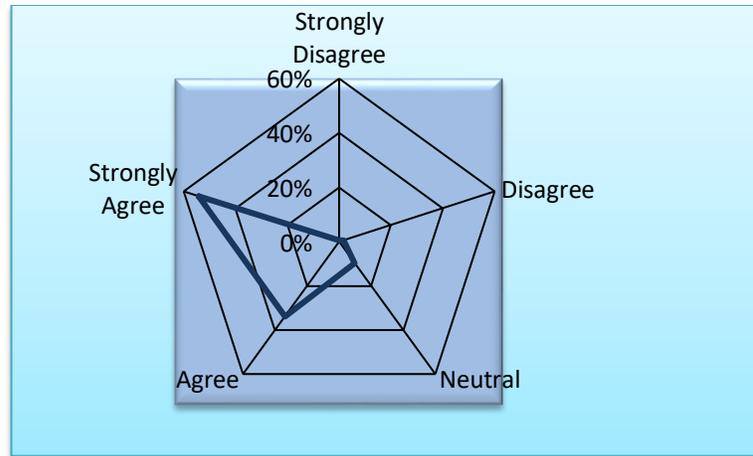


Figure 100: University Environment is Persons with Disabilities Friendly

### **Overall Conclusion:**

The above data were collected from 178 Teachers feedback for the academic year 2019-2020 and the following points are taken to the concern authorities for corrective actions:

1. University department are advised to maintain their infrastructure with due care.
2. More focus is need to improvise ICT facilities.