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Dated: Oct,26, 2012

The Chairman
NAEAC Secretariat
Room # 2, Old Comsats Building
HEC Sector H-8/1, Islamabad
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Subject: Accreditation Inspection Committee's (AIC) Report
(Department of Food Science & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of
Poonch. AJ&K)

Respected Sir:

The Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC) constituted by your good honor vide letter No. 675-/NAEAC/HEC-2012, visited the Department of Food Science & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture UPR, AJ&K and conducted the accreditation through review meetings, interviews, individual meetings, group consultations and visits, etc. as per schedule given to us.

The Undersigned along with your office team spent two days (Oct. 16-17, 2012) there for accreditation and evaluation of the Dept. of Food Science & Technology and degrees offered by the Dept. as per necessary guidelines and the tool-kit given to us. The prepared draft report is enclosed herewith for your kind information and further perusal please.

The undersigned is thankful for your kind interest and trust. Please acknowledge the receipt of present report and let me know if anything missing or needed from this end. Thanks.

With regards,

Prof. Dr. Tariq Masud
Chairman
Department of Food Technology
PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

Encl: (7 pages + Annexures)

INTRODUCTION

Department of Food Science & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Poonch, Rawalakot.

- **Department History and Main Features**

The University College of Agriculture at Rawalakot was established as a sub campus of University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir in 1980. Later on, department of Food Science & Technology initiated its graduate programme as B.Sc (Hons) as major in 1983. Based on its teaching and research activities it has been given a status of full fledge department in 2007. The department has started its post graduate programme as M.Sc (Hons) classes in 2007.

Currently, Ph.D programme has also been initiated and at the moment the students are perusing their degree programs at B.Sc (Hons.), M.Sc (Hons.) and Ph.D levels respectively. The department has put up a positive input in the form of creation of new knowledge through their research activities and production of man power for different institutes and industries.

The Department of Food Science & Technology is well known throughout the country. As a result of this the number of students from different provinces enrolled. As a result, well trained food technologist are being produced and they are playing a vital role in economics of the country.

Degree programs offered

- B.Sc (Hons) Agriculture with major Food Technology
- M.Sc (Hons) Food Technology
- Ph.D Food Technology

3. CRITERION ANALYSIS

Criteria I: Strength and quality of Faculty

The faculty members of the department of Food Science and Technology, Faculty of Agriculture UPR, are well qualified and skilled and have the potential to educate students in an amicable manner by enhancing their research potential and developing output. Presently, two Professors, two Assistant Professors and two Lecturers are serving in the department. Two of them have completed their Ph.D while three have already been enrolled in Ph.D and expected to complete their degrees shortly. The range of experience of these faculty members vary from 3 to 26 years. The department is running degree programs at graduate and post graduate levels. The department also arranged many short training programs in the area of fruits and vegetable processing and their preservation. Through these training programs hundreds of local women as well as farmers are trained properly to utilize their local food resources and reduce post harvest losses. The faculty members of this department are also providing a technical know how to different organization such

as NRSP, Islamic Relief Organization; Women Welfare Organization etc. Based on their commitment, the University administration assigned two important additional duties as Controller of Examination and Director Sports to two Professors. Keeping in view the additional duties assigned to the Professors, multidisciplinary aspects and interest of the students in the department, there is need to increase the number of faculty members having different specializations for quality education as well as to justify the work load. The Faculty is adequately using teaching and evaluation instruments such as frequent use of net plus multimedia, quizzes, assignments, projects, seminars/presentations, sessional, mid and final examination. A committee is present for monitoring the existing system of student evaluation at the department.

Participations of students in seminars and conferences are limited up to the university only. There are no funds and facilities available at department for participation of students in seminars/conferences at other institutions or internationally.

The participation of the Faculty to the seminars and conferences is limited and dependent to the support of HEC or any organization. The contributions of the Faculty toward research publications in national and international journals are appropriate. However, contribution toward publication of books, chapters and proceedings is inadequate and needs improvement. The perception of the Faculty about degree program is clear. The student teacher ratio is quite good and teacher can focus the students in a better way by giving more session to question answer and presentations etc.

Criteria II: Curriculum Design and Development

Currently, the Department of Food Science & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, UPR AJ&K is providing teaching/research to the B.Sc (Hons), M.Sc (Hons.) and Ph D degree program. The curriculum has been revised frequently by the Department/Faculty as per requirement of HEC.

Required text books are available but their number is limited. A limited budget for books is also available for the main library. No separate departmental budget for research journals is available. A meager amount of budget is allocated to the Faculty to justify the needs of the department. A separate budget for books and journals can provide better learning opportunities. On line accesses is available but inter link library system does not exist. Credit hours and contact hours are fine. Faculty is able and tried their best for completion of course with in the given limits of the semester.

The students of both graduate and post graduate levels are well aware about course program, admission policy, enrolment, withdrawal and course break up. Course file verified by the AIC are maintained by the Department. Meetings of the departmental BOS held routinely record has been verified by AIC. QEC of the university has evaluated teachers, course satisfaction, and teacher evaluation by the student.

Criteria III: Infrastructure and Learning Resources

There were two labs and two lectures rooms in the department. The size of the labs and class rooms is appropriate for the sitting of students. Although the laboratory facilities are appropriate for the undergraduate program but there is a dire need to strengthen the laboratory facilities and establishment of Hi-tech lab to increase the research capabilities of the post graduate students. Equipments available in the department are insufficient. There is a need of more separate budget or research grants for purchase of important laboratory equipments. Supporting staff is insufficient and not fully trained. Provision of better equipment and well trained supporting staff can boost up the quality of higher education. Whatever, the equipment is available in the labs are properly utilized. The share of the department, in annual budget of the Faculty for books, chemicals and glassware is not enough to fulfill the genuine demand of a degree program.

Number of subscribed local journals was 2 while none of international journal has been subscribed by the department due to unavailability of funds. The main library has insufficient equipment and seating capacity. The number of subscription of both local and international journals needs improvement.

Criteria IV: Students Support and Progression:

At present the strength of the students at post graduate level (M.Sc. Hons/Ph.D) is comparatively less. Students are taken on merit and keeping in view the capacity of the department. Average CGPA at B.Sc (Hons) is 3, at M.Sc (Hons) is 3.4 and at Ph.D 3.5.

Scholarship to the students are available on merit and need basis however, their number is insufficient at the University. Students are also getting scholarships from different organizations (Army welfare board, Suddhan Education, Kashmir Affairs, and Benevolent Fund etc). Loan without interest from banks are also available. Private hostel accommodations only for girls are available, because during earthquake hostel buildings were damaged badly. Convocation and sports facilities are insufficient. There is a good atmosphere for co-curricular activities. Student attendance has taken regularly and there is restriction for presence of 80 %. Record of attendance has been verified by the AIC as course files. Medical and transport facilities are adequate. However, there is need in improvement of transport and computing facilities, research funds, internship allowances etc to motivate the students for general plus practical education.

Criteria V: Research and consultancy Activities

The department has produced about a reasonable number 92 publications including national and international, and proceedings. Although the published work is appropriate but it needs further improvement. Only two small research projects from the University Research Support program have been completed while no mega projects have been approved from any donor agency by the faculty members. Despite, limitation of institutional budget, there is a dire need that the faculty members of the department focus on projects grant from every donor agency to improve the research and publication work. Department has collaboration with NARC, NIBGE, PCSIR, Arid Agriculture University and many food industries to carry out the student's research work and internship. Contribution of the faculty in writing of books is low. There is need of more funds to raise the quality of the research work.

Criteria VI: Governance and Leadership

A well defined organization set up for administration and governance is established by the University at the Department level. The chairman has given administrative powers to implement rules and regulations. University rules and regulations are well defined. Resources (budget) given to the department is limited however, given funds have been properly utilized.

Student record of the department is well maintained however, some lacks in student alumni has been observed. Graduates of the department are rendering their services at national and international level of having very good reputation. Annual calendar of the activities is well formed at the department.

Criteria VII: Recent Innovations and Best Practices

The department of Food science & Technology has a reasonable contribution in number of research publications in HEC recognized journals, however, the number of publications in impact factor journals need to be improved. The department has a significant contribution in the production of skilled food professionals to fulfill the constant demand of the food technologist by the food industry. The department also organized various training programs of food processing and preservation for the local community to provide technical know how to the grass root level. The department has also developed links between different organizations and NGOs and the faculty members rendered their services to the local community.

4: **SWOT Analysis of the Dept degree programs**

(A brief SWOT of the Deptt. of Food Science & Technology, Faculty of Agriculture, UPR, AJ & K is presented herewith)

SWOT ANALYSIS OF DEGREE PROGRAMS

i. Major Strengths of Degree Programs:

- Qualified and well experienced faculty having learning skills, diversified field of specialization and target oriented research to impart quality education
- Cooperative and peaceful environment for studies, intellectual freedom and counseling facilities.
- Highly supportive attitude of the University management for the uplift of the department.
- Prescribed rules and procedures are followed for admission and conduct of teaching programs.

ii. Major Weaknesses:

- Inadequate laboratory facilities that needs special attention for enhancement of research activities by increasing the number of laboratories according to their subjects.
- Inadequate lab equipments particularly to carry out research at post graduate level.
- Shortage /non-availability of trained support staff for lab to operate and maintain the equipment.
- Non existence of the Food processing unit.
- Inadequate space for class rooms, laboratories and offices.
- Insufficient funds for research and maintenance of lab equipments.

iii. Major Opportunities:

- The department of Food Science & Technology has vast opportunities both at national and international levels due to the constant demand of the trained food technologist in the food industry.
- There is a great potential to produce a variety of processed and value added food products.
- There is a large potential to reduce postharvest losses and extend the shelf life of foods.
- Large potential for export of different food commodities existed and need to be exploited.
- Vast potential to explore and utilize the indigenous resources as functional foods and nutraceuticals.
- Potential to develop products to improve the nutritional status as well as providing health benefits to the people

iv. Major Threats / Challenges:

- High demand for trained and skilled manpower locally and internationally in the food industry.
- Increasing demand for ready-to-eat, processed and value added foods.
- High postharvest losses of fruits and vegetables.

- Safety standards and WTO requirements becoming mandatory for exports to high end markets.
- Malnutrition due to lack of awareness and unavailability of quality food products.

5: ACTIONABLE RECOMENDATIONS

- Laboratories should be equipped with basic facilities and equipments to improve the research work.
- Recruitment of trained supporting staff for the maintenance of lab equipments.
- The class rooms can be improved and maximum teaching aids should be provided.
- Faculty members should focus on target oriented research and to get projects from different donor agencies.
- The strength of faculty should be increased on the basis of different specialization as per requirement of area of food sciences.
- The student and faculty member should be facilitated and encouraged to attend seminars and workshops at national and international level by providing more funds in this head.
- There must be healthy competition among the students for product development.
- Need of more opportunities, scholarships and financial aids.
- Sports and other extra curricular activities should be improved
- Accommodation facilities should be established for both boys and girls.
- In the Labs. Fire Alarms and Fire extinguishers may be installed and Training should be given to the new entrants in the labs.
- Contribution by faculty in writing of the books is low, it needs improvement.

5: List of Annexure

- Evaluation Criteria and Program Ratings
- TOR of the Committee

**STANDARDS & CRITERIA FOR AGRICULTURE DEGREE PROGRAM EVALUATION, DEPARTMENT
OF FOOD SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, THE POONCH UNIVERSITY, RAWLAKOT –AJK.**

S.No.	Criteria	Points Assigned	Points Awarded
a) Major Criteria			
1.	Strength and Quality of Faculty	250	175
2.	Curriculum Design and Development	150	120
3.	Infrastructure and Learning Resources	200	100
4.	Student Support and Progression.	100	60
ssSub-Total (a)		700	455
b) Minor Criteria			
5.	Research and Consultancy Activities	150	75
6.	Governance and Leadership	100	65
7.	Innovative/ Best Practices	50	25
Sub-Total (b)		300	165
Grand Total (a+b)		1000	620

Prof. Dr. Tariq Masud
Chairman
Department of Food Technology
PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi

Convener

Signature of Program Evaluator