

**Peer Team Report on
Institutional Re-Accreditation of**

**KUMAUN UNIVERSITY,
NAINITAL, UTTARAKHAND**

18 - 21 NOVEMBER, 2015

National Assessment & Accreditation Council
(An autonomous Institution of the University Grants Commission)
P.O. Box 1075, Nagarbhavi, Bangalore-560 072

PEER TEAM REPORT ON
Institutional Re-accreditation of
Kumaun University
 Nainital- Uttarakhand

Section I: GENERAL	Information
1.1 Name & Address of the Institution	Kumaun University Sleepy Hollow, Mallital Nainital -263001, Uttarakhand
1.2 Year of establishment:	1973
1.3 Current Academic Activities at the institution (Numbers):	
• Faculties/Departments:	07
• Departments/Centres:	29
• Programmes/Courses offered:	12 UG, 32 PG, 31 PhD and 7 others
• Permanent Faculty Members:	264
• Permanent Support Staff:	Technical Staff - 122 Administrative - 323
• Students:	U.G - 6,175 P.G - 1,254 Ph.D - 279 Total: 7, 708
1.4 Three major features in the institutional Context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An affiliating state University, located in three different campuses in about 160 acres offering higher education and research programmes to students especially in semi-urban, hill / region. • A major center of learning in the State of Uttarakhand with qualified faculty • University is an ISO - 9001 : 2008 certified
1.5 Dates of visit of the Peer Team	18 - 21 November, 2015
1.6 Composition of the Peer Team which undertook the on-site visit	
Chairperson	Prof. R. P. Tiwari
Members	Prof. Bharti Singh Prof. H. P. Mathur Prof. Vandana Chakrabarti Prof. V. Vijayakumar (Coordinator) Prof. Kanika Sharma Prof. A. K. Singh Prof. Neeru Vasudeva Prof. Vilas Kharat
NAAC Co-ordinating Officer	Dr. (Mrs) K. Rama

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Section II: CRITERION WISE ANALYSIS	
2.1 Curricular Aspects: 2.1.1 Curricular Design & Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12 UG, 32 PG, and 35 research programmes are offered • University interacts informally with industry and research bodies to enrich the curriculum every 2 to 3 years with the last one carried out in 2013 – 2014 for conventional courses • Skill development courses have been designed in consultation with industry • University encourages the introduction of new courses at the affiliated colleges also
2.1.2 Academic flexibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University offers UG on annual pattern and PG programmes in semester pattern • University facilitates the Departments to have SFS courses • Some inter-disciplinary courses in select programmes are offered • No overseas programs, add-on courses or credit accumulation and transfer facility
2.1.3 Curriculum Enrichment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Curriculum reviewed every 2 to 3 years. • A few UG and PG programmes were introduced under the SFS during the last four years • In Bio-technology PG programme, significant modifications in the curriculum on the recommendations from DBT and BCIL • CBCS yet to be implemented in all programmes [Implemented only in five courses and that too from the current academic year]
2.1.4 Feedback System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback obtained from students informally • Informal method of collecting inputs from stakeholders • No formal or institutional set up for receiving, analyzing and recommending improvements in place so far
2.2 Teaching- Learning & Evaluation 2.2.1 Student Enrolment and Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wide publicity given through University website as well as National and local print media. • Admissions are based on merit and in a few programmes through entrance test • Reservation policy of the state is strictly adhered to
2.2.2 Catering to Student Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate representation to SC, ST, OBC and women candidates in all programmes. • Scholarship for single girl child as per UGC norms • Financial assistance to economically weaker students is provided by the University

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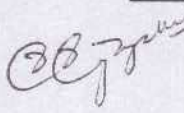

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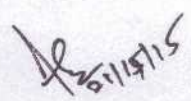
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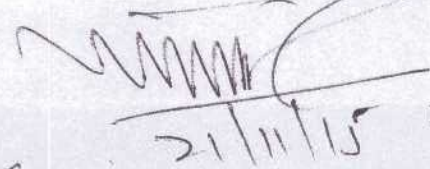
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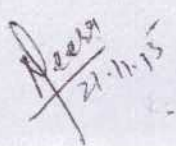
2.2.3 Teaching-Learning Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Teaching plan and scheme of evaluation as per the University rules • Moderate e learning resources are available • Audio-visual teaching aids available in some and Smart Class in a few Departments • Limited association with external institutions for students' projects
2.2.4 Teacher Quality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Majority of teachers possess Ph.D. • More than 10 teachers have received national awards and recognition • A large number of teachers have completed the Refresher courses or Orientation courses during the past four years • Two Emeritus Professors are appointed
2.2.5 Evaluation Process and Reforms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continuous internal and external evaluation • Results are declared within 6 weeks • A few examination reforms have been initiated by the university recently • Mechanism for redressal of grievances with reference to end term examinations is in place and the Controller of Examination has been designated for redressal • Answer books are given to students under RTI
2.2.6 Student Performance and Learning Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teaching, learning and assessment strategies are present • Class tests, Seminars, Assignments are in place for some courses • Internship and placement support are made available in a few courses • Use of ICT in University Academics is visible
2.3 Research, Consultancy & Extension:	
2.3.1 Promotion of Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research Board to promote and monitor research • Five DST -FIST and 3 UGC – SAP and 2 CAS departments • Research work is reflected in major and minor research projects undertaken in many Departments • Teachers participate in national and international seminars and conferences • Large number of teachers are approved research guides • Research culture needs to be strengthened in a few Departments
2.3.2 Resource Mobilization for Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciable number of external funding agencies, including Center and State • Rs. 15.69 cr. and Rs. 17.8 cr. through research projects and RUSA respectively • Resource mobilized from MPLAD scheme • No patents obtained so far
2.3.3 Research Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Infrastructure for research in many departments in place • Access to online resources available • E-Library and ICT need to be strengthened

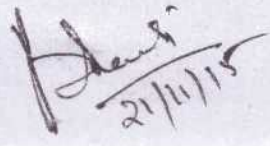


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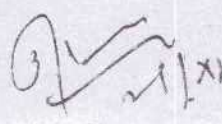

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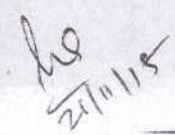
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2.3.4 Research Publications and Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of National Conferences organized • Good number of national and international publications in refereed journals • Some of the teachers have won awards and recognition • Few Departments publish the research journals • A large number of books have been published by the faculty members • About 50 teachers are in Editorial Boards of National and international journals
2.3.5 Consultancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultancy to Panchayat Raj Department and other departments of Government of Uttarakhand is noteworthy • GIS data base for Uttarakhand is being developed and officials trained • Informal consultancy offered
2.3.6 Extension Activities and Institutional Social Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large number of extension lectures and programmes organised for social awareness • Extension activities conducted through NSS • NCC, NSS and YRC programmes are in place
2.3.7 Collaborations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited Academic collaboration at national and international levels • University has collaborated with NGOs and charitable organizations on diverse issues • Limited and informal collaborations with industry is visible in conventional courses and visible in skill development / vocational courses
2.4 Infrastructure and Learning Resources: 2.4.1 Physical Facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate infrastructure for teaching, learning and research in Science, Law, Education and Management departments. • Moderate IT infrastructure and Wi-Fi facility. • Hostel facilities for boys and girls are adequate. • 1,000 seat auditorium • Limited facility for Indoor and outdoor sports and Yoga.
2.4.2 Library as a Learning Resource	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Library is enriched with a number of books, journals, periodicals, magazines etc • The Library partially automated • Bar-coding has been completed and OPAC operational • Few Departments have a library • UGC-INFONET, INFLIBNET and DELNET facilities are there. • Limited E- content and resources.

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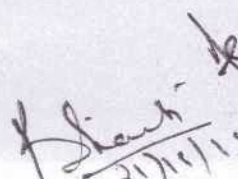
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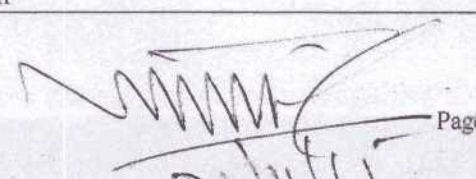
2.4.3 IT Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate IT infrastructure • Computer facilities are in university, but few courses are running with ICT enabled learning process. • Computer facility in each departments but needs up-gradation • LCD and other Audio Visual Resources including a few smart boards are available. • The university has a website. • Computer student ratio has to be improved.
2.4.4 Maintenance of Campus facilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green campus and eco-friendly maintenance • The Engineering Division looks after the maintenance • Adequate budget for maintenance
2.5 <i>Student Support and Progression:</i> 2.5.1 Student Mentoring and Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grievance redressal, anti-ragging, anti sexual harassment and health care are in place • Personalized counseling service, academic support and career guidance for students is limited • Placement Cell needs to be formalized and strengthened
2.5.2 Student Progression	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dropout rate is minimal • Good number of students clear NET / SET and other competitive examinations • Reasonably good progression from PG to PhD • University has to collect verifiable data from the Alumni for assessing their progression • Progression from UG to PG needs more attention
2.5.3 Student Participation and Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students receiving gold / silver / bronze medals in intervarsity sports competitions • A democratically elected students union to promote democratic culture. • University encourages the students to participate in co-curricular and sports activities and competition • Significant number of students regularly selected for participation in the NCC, YRC and NSS camps for Republic Day parade
2.5 <i>Governance Leadership and Management:</i> 2.6.1 Institutional Vision and Leadership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vision and mission in line with knowledge creation and management • Sufficient number of committees in place to plan and review the working of the University • Interaction with the IQAC on its recommendations has led to realization of some of the vision statements
2.6.2 Strategy development and deployment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The University has a well defined organizational structure and decision making process • Delegation of powers and functions at different levels in the University hierarchy practiced • Coordination among the three campuses of the University need to be further strengthened • CDC needs to be set up for University – college coordination


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2.6.3 Faculty Empowerment Strategies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council of Deans monitors the academic programmes • Financial assistance for attending conferences and seminars • Professional development programmes are organized for the staff • Employees welfare schemes need to be further strengthened • Participation in seminars in other institutions and conducting in house seminars encouraged
2.6.4 Financial Management and Resource Mobilization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resource augmentation from other sources visible • University gets financial assistance from Central and State funding agencies • Internal and external auditing of all accounts in place • SFS needs to be academically audited periodically to enhance resources of the University • Research projects are carried out to raise resources of the University
2.6.5 Internal Quality Assurance System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Functional IQAC, however more periodicity of meetings needs to be in accordance with the Guidelines • AQAR submitted by the Departments • Better co-ordination required between the University administration and the IQAC for implementing the Quality control mechanism • Documentation to be streamlined
2.7 Innovations and Best Practices: 2.7.1 Environmental Consciousness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University campus green and eco-friendly • The State Government has certified the campus as "Green Campus" • Tree plantations and landscaping carried out regularly • Waste disposal management in place
2.7.2 Innovations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DST – INSPIRE programme has brought bright school students to campus • E – Panchayat, G – Governance projects • River rejuvenation programme • Development of indigenous technology in different areas
2.7.3 Best Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research focus on local issues and problems • Support to economically weaker students in addition to free-ships and scholarships • Extension activities through NSS and YRC • Scheme of tree plantation in greening the campus • Resource mapping of the state

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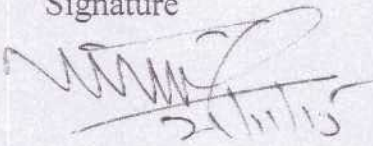

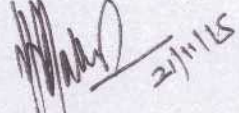


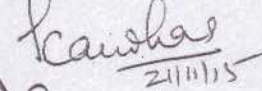
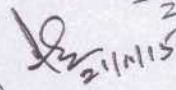
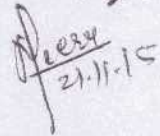
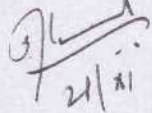
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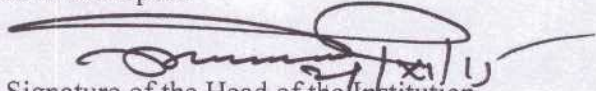
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Section IV: Recommendations for Quality Enhancement of the University

- Immediate steps to be taken to fill-up vacant teaching posts and creation of posts in conformity with statutory regulatory authorities.
- Consultancy to be formalized and Resources generation through consultancy be encouraged
- University - industry interaction cell and technology transfer to be promoted
- Full-fledged counseling and placement cell to be developed for the students
- Integrate the existing centers/departments in a meaningful way with appropriate plans to promote graduate programmes with interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary perspectives
- Perspective plan for future to be created with a road map and strategies for development
- Students mentoring strategies to be created for supportive functions and remedial interventions.
- May have University Central Instrumentation Facility to promote trans-disciplinary research
- Resources of NKN be fully utilized by providing internet and WiFi facilities
- ERP system need to be introduced to promote e governance
- Academic and Administrative Audit and periodic reviews be undertaken to enhance quality education
- International Collaborations and linkages to be further strengthened by increasing exchange of faculty and students
- Tutorials, mentoring strategies and academic and personal counseling need to be strengthened
- Although the University complied with the recommendations of the previous peer committee, a few more still need attention.

Sl. No	Name	Signature
1.	Prof. R. P. Tiwari (Chairman)	 21/11/15
2.	Prof. Bharti Singh	 21/11/15
3.	Prof. H. P. Mathur	 21/11/15
4.	Prof. Vandana Chakrabarti	V. Chakrabarti 21.11.15 
5.	Prof. V. Vijayakumar (Coordinator)	 21/11/15
6.	Prof. Kanika Sharma	 21/11/15
7.	Prof. A. K. Singh	 21/11/15
8.	Prof. Neeru Vasudeva	 21.11.15
9.	Prof. Vilas Kharat	 21/11

I agree with the observations of the Peer Team as mentioned in the report.


Signature of the Head of the Institution
with date & Seal

Vice-Chancellor
Kumaun University
NAINITAL.

Seal of the institution

Name Signature of peer team members with date

Date: 21st November 2015 Place: Nainital, Uttarakhand

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