

Internal Quality Assurance

University of Sri Jayewardenepura

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Overview

- Progress in Internal Quality Assurance (IQA)
- On-going Activities
- Challenges to IQA and proposed mechanisms to overcome the challenges

Progress in Internal Quality Assurance



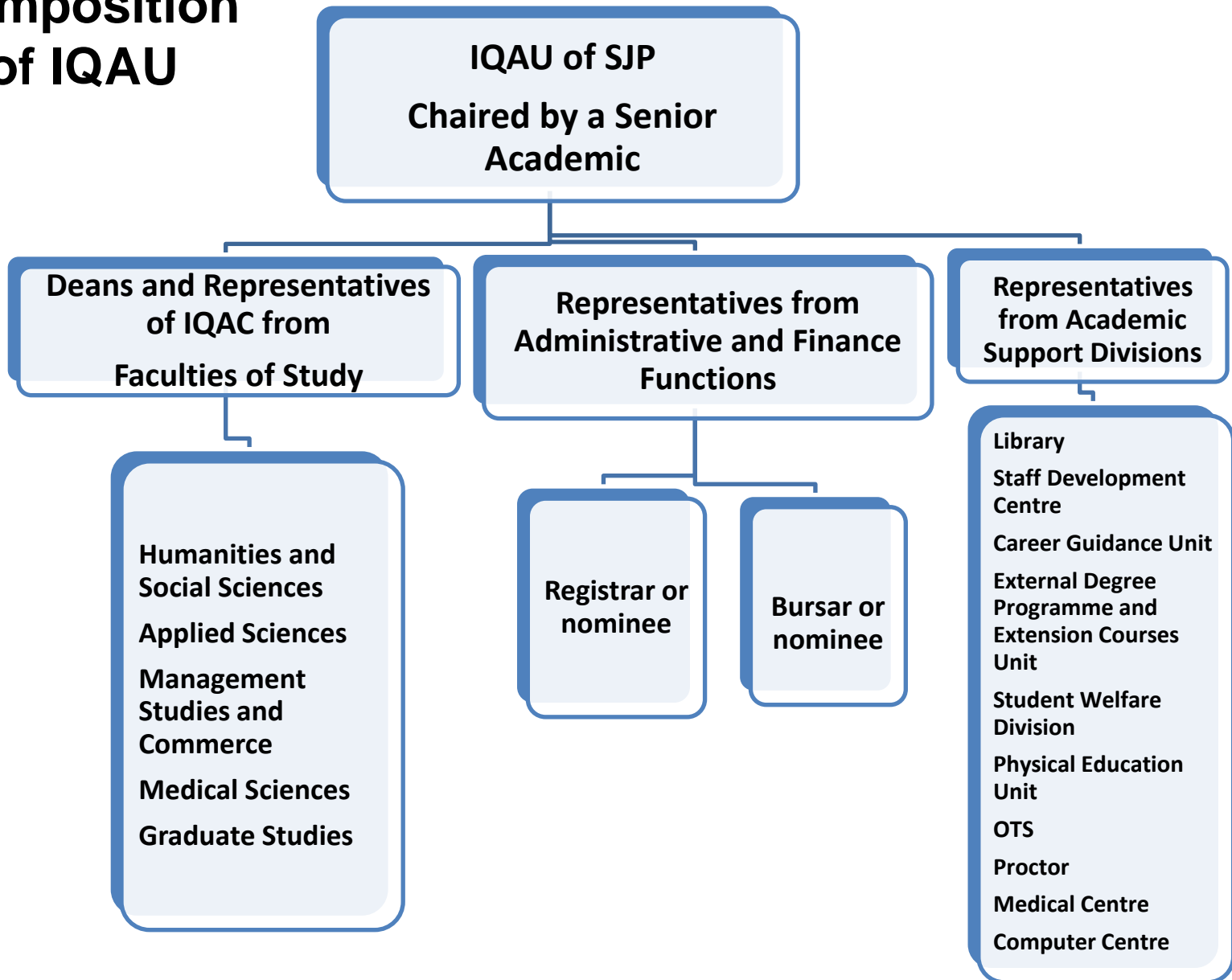
Corporate Planning

- Integrated QA aspects to the University Corporate Plan in line with its mission, goals and strategies.
- Addressed specifically under *Corporate Goal 1 - Produce high quality human resources.*
- Under this goal, *'Quality Assurance and Accreditation'* has been identified as a main strategy.

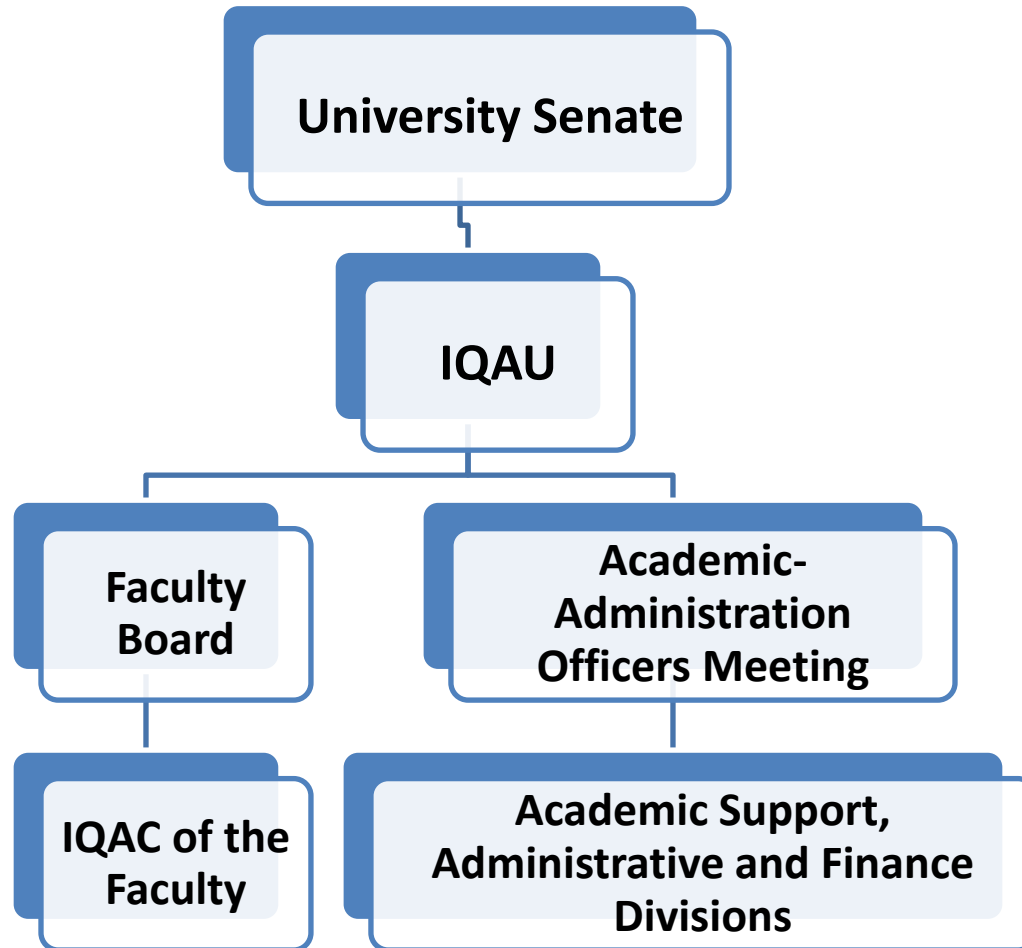
Mechanism for Internal Quality Assurance

- Internal Quality Assurance Unit (IQAU)
 - Apex body responsible for Internal Quality Assurance of the University.
 - Responsible to carry out quality assurance activities of SJP and coordinate these activities with the QAAC of UGC.
- Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of Faculties of Study

Composition of IQAU



Reporting Structure



Responsibilities of IQAU

- Co-ordinate all QA related activities of the University
- Monitor and guide Faculty level QA activities via IQAC
- Liaise with the QAAC and other relevant external agencies
- Incorporate QA aspects to the University Corporate Plan
- Implement QA reviews and pursue follow-up action
- Prepare Institutional Self-evaluation Report and Guidelines on QA
- Organize awareness programmes on QA for staff members
- Identify and share good practices among Departments

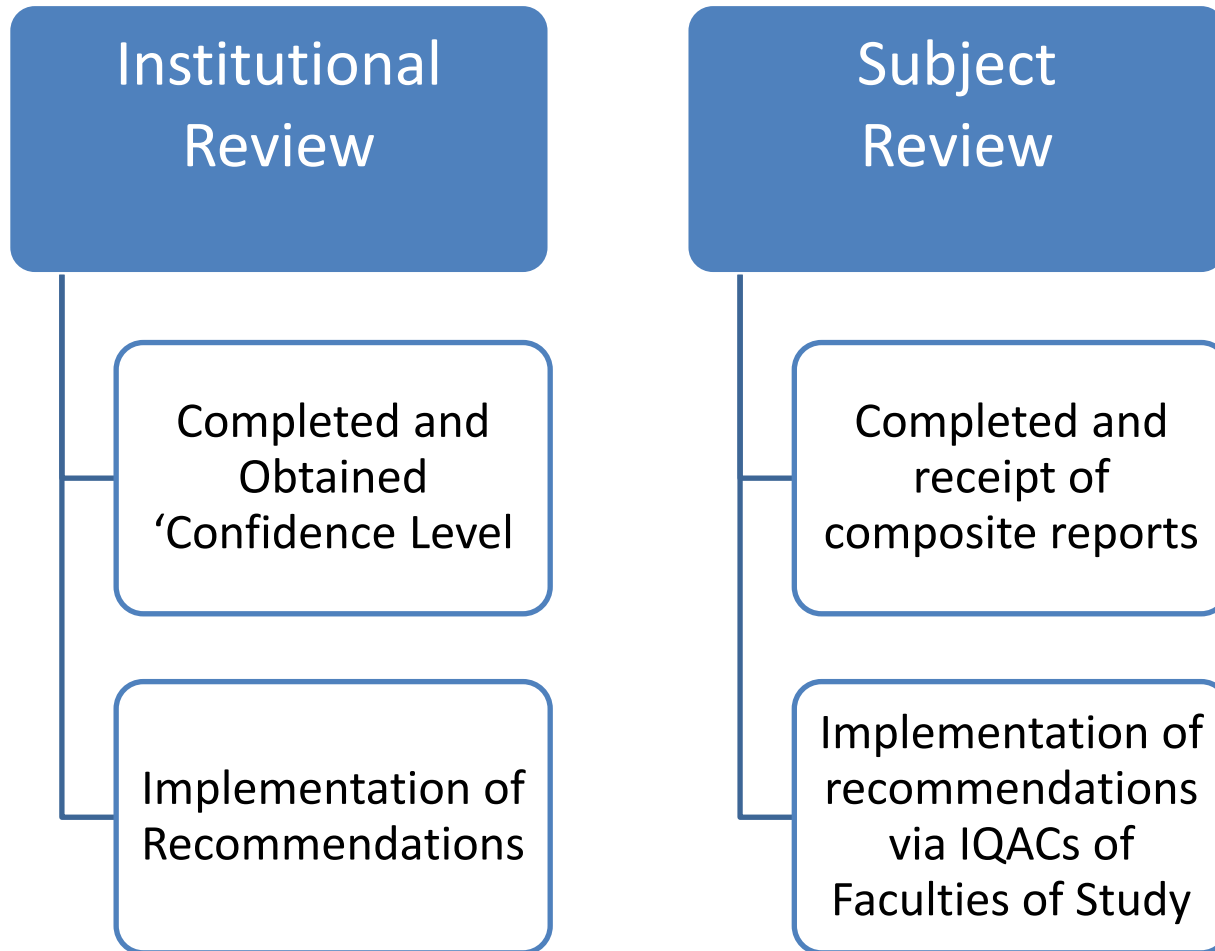
Role of IQAC of a Faculty of Study

- Composition – Faculty specific
- Responsible for the following activities at Faculty Level :
 - Curriculum development, management and review
 - Teaching, learning and assessment methods
 - Learning environment (learning opportunities, resources and locations)
 - Academic staff (staff training, upgrading knowledge and skills, student and peer observation, reflection etc.)
 - Administrative staff (including preparation of time tables, payments, documentation)
 - Student support services (including academic guidance and counseling)
 - Students (including student progress and their achievements)

Role of Administrative, Finance and Academic Support Divisions

- Develop the guidelines for the conduct of functions of respective divisions
- Develop the relevant operating manuals required in carrying out the respective functions
- Oversee the implementation of these functions in the respective divisions in line with guidelines and procedures
- Take remedial action when required

External Reviews on Quality Assurance



Documentation and Awareness

- Policy document on Internal Quality Assurance of SJP
- Awareness programmes for Faculties of Study
- Discussions at University level on IQA (both internally and with external experts)
 - Internally via IQAU, IQAC and Academic-Administration Forum
 - Workshop on SLQF with Prof. Colin Peiris (January 2014)
 - Dr. Stephen Jackson, Head, QAA, UK and representatives of HETC Project (October 2013)
 - Australian Mission to Colombo: Implementation of Sri Lanka Qualification Framework (October 2013)
 - World Bank Mission on the HETC Project (May 2013)

Staff Training

- Carry out via Staff Development Centre (SDC)
- Focused on developing positive attitudes towards work and life for both academic and non-academic staff

Ongoing Activities

Faculty Level

- Implementation of recommendations of Composite Reports on SR
- Develop procedures for QA of the Faculty

University Level

- Assess the current situation relating to internal QA
- Take remedial action where necessary
- Create Awareness of QA

Sharing Good Practices

- Develop guidelines and manuals to share good practices among faculties of study, academic support, administration and finance divisions

Challenges to IQA

- Diversity in discipline, culture and context
- Perception and commitment towards QA
- Lack of understanding of QA and its link with role of a university
- Transitional issues (Change from existing to new)

How to Face Challenges – Agree on Principles

- QA should identify diversity as a condition for change and should not be managed by QA.
- While appreciating diversity, promote open-minded discussion to build trust on QA.
- QA should rely on multiple methods and perspectives, thus diversity within the institution is not affected.

How to Face Challenges – Starting from Department Level



How to Face Challenges – Change via Training

- Training programmes via SDC to make the staff understand the importance of IQA
- Training programmes on specific areas under IQA

Conclusion

- It is an ongoing process.
- Every one of the University is responsible for this process.
- Creates a progressive quality culture through IQA.

Thank You

Q & A