

THE KERALA STATE HIGHER EDUCATION COUNCIL  
REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO  
REVIEW THE ACTS OF UNIVERSITIES IN KERALA

**The Task of the Committee**

The Committee constituted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council for the review of the Acts of the Universities in Kerala (Appendix-I) considered the terms of reference assigned to it (Appendix-II) at its meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> Jan., 16<sup>th</sup> Feb., 30<sup>th</sup> Mar., 21<sup>st</sup> May, 30-31<sup>st</sup> Aug., and 27-28 Oct., 2010. The Committee had the benefit of several earlier studies and reports, references to which are made at the end of this report. The Committee made an extensive review of the existing Acts of various universities, with the help of a comprehensive note (Appendix-III) prepared by N.K. Jayakumar, a member of the committee. The committee also considered notes/reports on specific issues submitted by its members. The Committee was assisted by the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) in organizing the meetings and recording the proceedings.

The drafting of the report was undertaken in two stages. The committee prepared a draft report, which was put up on the website of the Higher Education Council, inviting responses from the stakeholders. The response was enormous. The Higher Education Council organized a discussion with representatives of students, teachers, non-teaching staff, private aided college managements and other academics. The committee reviewed the draft report in the light of the feedback. What has emerged from the review is a less radical but perhaps more consensual final report, which, hopefully, would set in motion a set of structural reforms in higher education in the state that could bring about greater equity and excellence in Kerala's higher education.

The committee has not drafted a Model Act for all universities in the State. It would indeed be difficult to suggest a uniform pattern, which would be applicable to all universities. As a matter of fact, a certain degree of diversity among the legal instruments of various universities is not only inevitable, but desirable as well. Even so, the committee has not proposed a set of comprehensive amendments to the Act of each University.

The task undertaken by the committee is much less arduous and broader. Notwithstanding the requirement of variety, there are certain basic principles which should inform the Acts of all universities, which the committee has tried to identify and set forth. The committee has also indicated areas where major differences would be required, as between different types of universities, such as large affiliating universities and small unitary universities. While the recommendations are generally stated in terms of broad principles, specific recommendations are made in areas where the committee thinks that a deviation from existing practices is highly desirable.

### **Broad Thrust of the Report**

#### **The committee has taken the following principles into account while formulating its recommendations:**

\* The broad goals of a university have been best summed up by Jawaharlal Nehru who said, *“a university stands for humanism, for tolerance, for reason, for the adventure of ideas and for the search for truth. It stands for the onward march of the human race toward even higher objectives. If the universities discharge their duties adequately, then it is well with the nation and the people”*.

\* The Act of a university should be such as would provide an appropriate and adequate academic, administrative and governance structure that would enable it to achieve the above goals by performing a variety of functions connected with teaching-learning, research and extension in a complementary and integrated manner.

\* Though the dimensions of teaching, research and extension were all recognized by the Kothari Commission and largely implemented in universities, the tendency to marginalize the dimension of extension has become characteristic of post-globalization reforms. The notion of higher education as a non-merit good is being promoted today with a view to sanitizing universities from their societal responsibilities. It is necessary to re-establish the links of university education with societal development, not only by way of long term contributions through creation and dissemination of knowledge but also through direct intervention of the academics in an organized manner in tackling immediate problems confronting society.

\* The national goals of enhancing access, quality and equity should inform all attempts to revamp the legal framework of the universities with a view to maximizing human potential for economic and social development of the State.

\* The Acts should help strengthen autonomy and accountability of all higher educational institutions, teachers and students, within a framework that would ensure decentralisation and democratisation of educational administration in such a way as to ensure collective and democratic decision making and effective delegation of academic, financial and administrative powers at appropriate levels.

\* The Acts of all universities should provide for laying benchmarks in infrastructure ,teaching and learning , research and extension and academic and social accountability of all higher education institutions and personnel as also provisions for mandatory compliance with such benchmarks by the university concerned and all its constituent , affiliated and recognized units.

\* The roles of the State in the formulation of general policies and of the Government in setting goals in accordance with such policies, fixing targets for specified periods for the realization of such goals and monitoring their implementation by the universities should be recognized while making the legal framework for the institutionalisation of autonomy and accountability of universities and other higher educational institutions.

\*The recognition that a university is the universe of all knowledge is fundamental to any project that sets generation of knowledge as the most important function of a university. New knowledge is often created at the intersections of disciplines. It is facilitated by crossing the boundaries of traditional disciplines and making interdisciplinary enquiries. Providing greater and greater avenues for interdisciplinary explorations should be one of the cardinal principles that should guide any endeavour to generate knowledge, as recommended by Prof Yashpal Committee on the Renovation and Rejuvenation of Higher Education. A critical appraisal of the increasing tendency to set up uni-disciplinary universities, which erect barriers across disciplines, is therefore necessary. The possibility of restructuring existing University Departments and Faculty Councils into Centres and Schools should also be explored.

\* The Acts should provide a legal basis for seamless curricular reforms to promote academic flexibility and cross- and inter- disciplinary academic explorations by enabling mobility of students and teachers across disciplines and institutions.

\* The legal framework should be such as would enable all higher educational institutions in the State perform the functions of teaching, research and extension in an atmosphere of collaboration rather than competition, with a view to enhancing the intensity of academic engagement on the part of the teachers and students and of sharing the benefits of academic processes with the rest of the society.

\* Even as it is necessary to recognize the distinct identities of Government, aided and unaided streams, with a view to strengthening public-funded institutions in higher education, there should be provisions to enable close collaboration among all higher educational institutions in the State.

\* The Acts should provide for a radical departure from the affiliating system in such a way as to create smaller clusters of colleges under large universities, with sufficient academic, administrative and financial autonomy and accountability, which will promote diversification of courses and improvement of quality of education through creative collaboration among neighbouring institutions

\* The Acts should provide adequate provisions for broadening the linkages between higher educational institutions and other economic and social institutions, centres of Planning, Research and Social Service.

\* The Acts should have provisions committing the State Government to providing necessary public facilities and finances to the State universities, benchmarked with the best universities in the country, as investments in universities carry spin-off benefits and yield social dividends through enhanced quality of life, reduction in poverty, improved health, better education, empowerment of women and weaker sections of society and the pursuit of happiness.

In pursuance of the above objectives, the acts of various universities in the State should be suitably modified incorporating the following specific recommendations.

### **Vision and Mission**

\* The Acts of each university should incorporate a preamble defining the vision and mission of the university concerned. The vision statement would state the broad philosophy and aspirations of the university within the overall framework of the national and State policies and programmes in higher education. The mission statement would be more specific and spell out the direction of the activities that the university would undertake for the realization of its vision.

Based on these considerations, the statement of objects in each university Act shall include the commitments

- to stand for humanism, for tolerance, for secularism, equity and excellence;
- to seek to understand and appreciate nature and its laws for the well-being and happiness of present and future generations;
- to seek and cultivate new knowledge, to engage vigorously and fearlessly in the pursuit of truth, and to interpret old knowledge and beliefs in the light of new needs and discoveries and especially to promote generation and dissemination of knowledge in regional languages;
- to seek to provide society with competent men and women to meet the knowledge needs of the nation, by training professionals and researchers for the purpose, imbued with a sense of social purpose for performing service to the nation and to humanity by cultivating moral and intellectual values;
- to develop in the youth physical, intellectual and moral qualities ,especially social and environmental orientation to provide leadership for the future;
- to strive to promote equality and social justice and to reduce social and cultural differences through diffusion of education;
- to provide an ambience of learning comparable to the best universities within and outside the country and to enable the fruits of research to be disseminated in society through promotion of robust linkages with economy and civil society.

### **Autonomy and Accountability**

The Act of each university in Kerala may include specific provisions enabling the university to exercise **autonomy** in respect of the following:

- to provide for instruction in such branches of learning consistent with its objects as such university may, from time to time, determine and to make provisions for research and for the advancement and dissemination of knowledge and to award academic distinctions;
  - to institute teaching, research or other academic positions, required by such university with such designations as it may deem fit, and to appoint persons on tenure, term or otherwise to such positions;
  - to approve the staff pattern of teachers and non-teaching staff in Government , aided and unaided institutions, approve appointments of aided college teachers and non-teaching staff and monitor the qualifications of unaided college teachers in accordance with colleges/courses approved by the Government and workload norms mandated by UGC regulations, 2010.
  - to organize, promote and conduct research in the university or in collaboration or association with any other University, institution of research or body corporate;
  - to appoint persons working in any other university or academic institution or involved in research of significance in any industry as adjunct, guest or visiting teachers of the university on such terms and for such duration as the university may decide;
  - to create administrative and other posts and to make appointments thereto;
  - to make provision for dissemination of knowledge emerging from research and for that purpose to enter into such arrangements with other institutions, industry, civil society or other organizations, as such university may deem necessary;
  - to determine and receive payment of fees and other charges, as such university may deem fit for instruction and other services provided by such University;
  - to establish chairs of studies through benefactions, donations and collaborations for seminal research;
  - \* to receive benefactions, donations and gifts and to acquire, hold, invest and manage, and to dispose off any movable property for the purposes of the University;
  - \* to do all such other Acts and things as may be necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of all or any of its objectives;
- provided that the concurrence of the State Government would be mandatory for implementing decisions which would require additional financial support from the State Government.

The Act of each university should commit every higher education personnel/ institution to the following norms of **accountability**:

\*Recognizing the distinct attributes of different categories of institutions such as recognised/constituent/ private aided/ private unaided/ public unaided colleges etc., fixing the norms of accountability for each category of institutions and monitoring the observance of such norms by each category of institutions.

- Setting up Social Accountability Cells (SAC) in all institutions for higher education, including universities and colleges, which would include publication by each University/

higher education institution of details of infrastructure, teachers, their qualifications, courses run, fees collected, examination conducted, marks awarded, research activities, extension undertaken etc on the website of the university /institution should be mandatory.

- Institution of Single Window System (SWS) in the admission to all seats in public institutions and to merit/reservation /community quota seats of all courses in affiliated colleges, both aided and unaided
- Fixation of fees that can be levied from students in Government/ aided/unaided institutions from time to time, with the concurrence of the Government and enforcing the fee structure thus determined
- Institution of grievance redressal mechanism for students/teachers at the department /college/University level
- Incorporation of UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education 2010.
- Setting up a system of monitoring the qualifications of staff, teaching and non-teaching, in unaided colleges by the university concerned and a mechanism to ensure proper scale of pay and service conditions to such teachers and non-teaching staff appointed in accordance with the staff pattern approved by the University.
- Ensuring adequate security of service for teaching and non-teaching staff in aided and unaided institutions by insulating them against arbitrary disciplinary proceedings, especially those involving major penalties.
- Ensuring the democratic and organizational rights of students, teachers and non teaching staff.

Changing the nomenclature of private colleges to private aided colleges, as it would reflect the character of such colleges better, in contradistinction with Government and unaided colleges

- Submission of annual performance appraisal report by each individual teacher showing his/her contributions to teaching, research and extension along with student feedback to the Departmental Council and for the submission of the annual performance report of each Departmental Council to the College Council/ University and for taking follow-up actions on such reports in accordance with the norms of academic accountability laid down in UGC Regulations 2010.
- Submission of annual performance report of the university departments/constituent/ recognized/ affiliated colleges in a format provided by the university concerned and for posting such reports on the website of the department/institution.
- Setting up mandatory Internal Quality Assurance Cells (IQAC) on the model proposed by NAAC in all higher educational institutions, as mandated by UGC Regulations ,2010
- Assessment of the performance of affiliated colleges by the affiliating university once in five years and for taking ameliorative/ deterrent/punitive actions, wherever required.

- Submission of annual performance report by each university showing details of achievements made in teaching, research and extension work to the Visitor, Chancellor, Pro-Chancellor, State Legislature and the State Higher Education Council.

### **Participatory Governance**

There are three management agencies that come under the purview of university Acts. They are: (1) Government (2) Universities (3) Educational agencies of affiliated colleges, both aided and unaided. These three agencies are now viewed hierarchically. However this should not be so. They have their distinct and mutually complementary roles which should enable them to operate autonomously in their respective spaces and to work in collaboration with one another for the promotion of access, equity and excellence in higher education. The roles of the Government, universities and affiliated colleges may be clearly defined in the respective Acts of universities, in accordance with the following principles.

### **State Government**

The macro- level management of education is the responsibility of the Government. This responsibility involves formulation of policies in higher education, setting of over-all goals and targets for specified periods, deciding on priorities, making available finances, general co-ordination of activities undertaken by various universities etc. As Amartya Sen says, the question is not whether 'less State or more State' but 'more State where it is needed more and less State where it is needed less'. There should not be any interference of the Government in the day-to-day administration of universities and colleges.

One of the major responsibilities of the State towards higher education is to make available adequate finances for its development. The quantum of financial support for education as a percentage of budgetary allocation has been steadily declining for the last 20 years partly due to financial crunch and partly due to ideological considerations. The following observations of Prabhat Patnaik Commission are extremely relevant in this context.

*A view is commonly held, even among distinguished and progressive thinkers that in an underdeveloped country Higher Education constitutes a white elephant that such a country can ill afford to spend much on Higher Education. This view is often sought to be buttressed by asserting that the meagre resources at the disposal of such an economy are better spent on primary and secondary education rather than on Higher Education. This view however is erroneous. Presenting a choice between Higher Education and School Education, as if spending more on the former can only be accommodated at the expense of the latter (or of some other part of the education budget such as eradication of illiteracy) is wholly illegitimate, since underdeveloped countries habitually spent vast amounts of their resources for purposes which have much lower priority than either form of education.*

*As regards the argument that Higher Education itself is a low priority item per se, is based on a misconception. No country if it wishes to become independent, and hence, capable of preserving democracy and addressing its own pressing social and economic problems, can afford to let others do the thinking for it. And a necessary condition for generating independent thought within the country itself is the development of Higher Education. In short, developing Higher Education is an essential prerequisite for preventing the atrophy of thought, for promoting independence of thought, for avoiding foreign intellectual, and hence economic and political domination and hence for preserving democracy.*

The university Finances Review Committee 2009, appointed by the State Government, has made a detailed study of the chronic financial problems faced by universities and has recommended that the following steps be taken to resolve the issue on a permanent basis.

*The Committee noted that, over the years, the Plan funds allocation to the universities has been grossly inadequate. For example, during the year 2009-10, from the total Plan outlay of Rs.9, 000 crore, the share of universities (Rs.70 crore) was only a meagre 0.77 per cent. Just as 40 percent of the total Plan funds are earmarked for development schemes of the Local Self-Government institutions, there is a case for earmarking a definite percentage of the Plan funds for the universities. The Committee recommends that the Government may consider fixing this at five per cent, considering the overriding importance of university education as an investment in human capital.*

*The Committee would like to conclude by recommending that the Government may constitute every five years a **State university Grants Commission** with an eminent economist as chairman, a former Vice-Chancellor and a senior Government official as members to assess inter alia the financial problems of the universities and suggest remedial measures.*

A provision for constitution of a State University Grants Committee every five years to review the financial position of universities on the lines recommended by the University Finances Review Committee may be incorporated in the Acts of all universities.

Government should retain the power to sanction new colleges/ courses, taking into account the overall developmental needs of the State and regional aspirations, leaving the universities concerned to fix the staff pattern in accordance with UGC regulations and approve appointments of staff /monitor their qualifications, wherever required.

## **Universities**

As recommended by the Kerala Education Commission, de-centralisation, de-bureaucratisation and autonomy are to be the guiding principles of educational management within the broad parameters of societal determination of goals and priorities.

The following provisions based on the recommendations of the UGC Committee on Educational Management, 1990 should be incorporated in the Acts of Universities.



1. The Government should normally perform the role of a partner in the promotion of higher education and not that of an authority exercising control.
  2. The universities should have complete autonomy in academic and administrative matters. They should also have financial autonomy as per guidelines formulated by the UGC/ State Council for Higher Education and agreed upon by the universities and the Government.
  3. The universities should have the power to frame statutes subject to the provisions of the respective Acts and with the concurrence of the Chancellor.
  4. The powers of affiliation/disaffiliation of colleges should rest with the University. The Government's approval for grant purposes to follow affiliation given by the university and not vice-versa. The university should however seek the opinion of the Government before granting affiliation.
  5. The appointment of all executive officers like Registrar, Finance Officer, Controller of Examinations etc should vest with the university and not with the Chancellor / State Government
- Debureaucratization of academic administration cannot be achieved by replacing administrative bureaucracy with academic bureaucracy. It cannot also be achieved by implementing corporate management practices in educational institutions. The praxis of academic administration would require structures for decentralized decision making and devolution of the responsibility for implementation of such decisions at various levels.
  - The members of various university authorities other than ex-officio members could be chosen through a process of nomination/ rotation/ election. While societal representatives and experts could be nominated by the Chancellor or the Government or the University as the case may be, the teacher representatives may be chosen through election. Representation may be made through rotation where the available slots could be shared for specific periods by eligible persons.
  - While there should be provisions for institutionalizing external expert advice and periodic review, the responsibility for decision making should vest largely with authorities in which internal members will have a decisive role.
  - While authorities like the Syndicate, Academic Council, Deans' Council, and Senate etc should collectively take decisions in their respective spheres, implementation of the decisions should be entrusted with officers/functionaries at various levels

including the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Heads of Departments, Secretaries of Academic Councils and Boards of Studies. The Acts should also expressly provide that the officers/ chairpersons of various authorities shall exercise their powers only in consultation with and subject to the concurrence of the respective bodies/ authorities.

### **Chancellor and Pro-Chancellor**

Though the committee was initially of the view that institutional structures should be created distancing the Chancellor / Pro-Chancellor from day-to-day administration of the Universities, the committee has dropped the proposal in view of the overwhelming response from the stakeholders who expressed the view that the experience of the State does not warrant the creation of such structures as instances of interference by the Chancellor / Pro-Chancellor in the day-to-day administration of the Universities are unknown in the State. The committee therefore suggests that existing provisions may continue.

### **Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor**

UGC Regulations on minimum qualifications for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in universities and colleges, 2010 prescribe the following qualification and mode of appointment of Vice-Chancellor and Pro-Vice-Chancellor.

*SELECTION OF PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR/VICE-CHANCELLOR OF universities:*

*PRO-VICE-CHANCELLOR:*

*The Pro-Vice-Chancellor may be a whole time Professor of the university and shall be appointed by the Executive Council on the recommendation of Vice-Chancellor.*

*The Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall hold office for a period which is co-terminus with that of Vice-Chancellor. However, it shall be the prerogative of the Vice-Chancellor to recommend a new Pro-Vice-Chancellor to the Executive Council, during his tenure. These Regulations, for selection of Pro-Vice-Chancellor shall be adopted by the concerned university through amendment of their Act/Statute.*

*VICE-CHANCELLOR:*

- i. Persons of the highest level of competence, integrity, morals and institutional commitment are to be appointed as Vice-Chancellors. The Vice-Chancellor to be appointed should be a distinguished academician, with a minimum of ten years of experience as Professor in a university system or ten years of experience in an equivalent position in a reputed research and /or academic administrative organization.*

- ii. *The selection of Vice-Chancellor should be through proper identification of a Panel of 3-5 names by a Search Committee through a public notification or nomination or a talent search process or in combination. The members of the above Search Committee shall be persons of eminence in the sphere of higher education and shall not be connected in any manner with the university concerned or its colleges. While preparing the panel, the Search Committee must give proper weightage to academic excellence, exposure to the higher education system in the country and abroad, and adequate experience in academic and administrative governance to be given in writing along with the panel to be submitted to the Visitor/Chancellor. In respect of State and Central universities, the following shall be the constitution of the Search Committee.*
  - a. *a nominee of the Visitor/Chancellor, who should be the Chairperson of the Committee*
  - b. *a nominee of the Chairman, university Grants Commission.*
  - c. *a nominee of the Syndicate/Executive Council/ Board of management of the University.*
- iii. *The Visitor/Chancellor shall appoint the Vice-Chancellor out of the Panel of names recommended by the Search Committee.*
- iv. *The conditions of service of the Vice-Chancellor shall be prescribed in the Statutes of the universities concerned in conformity with these Regulations.*
- v. *The term of office of the Vice-Chancellor shall form part of the service period of the incumbent concerned making him/her eligible for all service related benefits.*

*The universities/State Governments shall modify or amend the relevant Act/Statutes of the universities concerned within 6 months of adoption of these Regulations.*

Despite some reservations about the mode of appointment and tenure of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, the committee recommends the implementation of the above regulations, recognizing their mandatory character.

### **Senate /Advisory Council**

The Senate /Advisory Council should be a forum where a cross-section of academic community and representatives of different sections of society could meet together periodically and discuss broad policies and programmes of the University, to suggest measures for its improvement and development and to express its views on the annual report and annual accounts. The Senate should be a deliberative and advisory body for reflecting societal aspirations about the university and conducting social audit on the functioning of the University. The representatives of principals, teachers and non-teaching staff could be elected. Representatives of students could be elected from among the members of the University Union. A representative of the affiliated institutions could

be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from among the members of the Council of Affiliated Colleges(CAC). The Syndicate may nominate one of its members to the Senate. The societal representation could consist of members nominated by the Chancellor on the advice of the Vice Chancellor, representing Members of Parliament, State Legislature, Local Bodies, registered trade unions, school teachers, recognized research institutions, recognized cultural organizations, chamber of commerce, industries, experts from different disciplines, State Library Council, eminent citizens representing different creative fields etc and ex-officio members representing departments of education in Government at various levels.

It would be ideal if the number of members could be restricted to a maximum of 60 of which 1/3<sup>rd</sup> should be internal members and 2/3<sup>rd</sup> external members. The composition of internal members of the Senate in affiliating and unitary Universities would differ in accordance with the constituents in the respective Universities.

### **Syndicate /Executive Council**

The Syndicate /Executive Council would be the chief executive and policy making body of the University. The Syndicate may have a maximum of 15 members, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of whom may be the ex-officio members, 1/3<sup>rd</sup> teacher members and the rest of the 1/3<sup>rd</sup> representatives of students, educational agency and experts in various fields. The Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, two representatives of the Government not below the rank of Joint Secretary and a representative of the Higher Education Council could constitute the ex-officio members. In affiliating Universities, the teacher component would constitute of four teachers, one each representing University departments, Government colleges, aided colleges and unaided colleges (elected) and one Dean, nominated by rotation. Apart from a representative of the university Student's Union and a representative of the educational agencies (affiliating Universities only) two experts/educationists and an eminent citizen may be nominated by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor. Of the nominated members, at least one shall be a woman and one a member of the Scheduled caste /Scheduled tribe, if such categories are not otherwise represented. In unitary Universities, the teacher component would consist of teachers from University departments and constituent /recognized institutions and the number of Deans may be increased to two.

The Syndicate shall have power to formulate broad policies, prepare perspective plan for the development of the University, enact statutes in accordance with the Act, with the approval of the Chancellor, approve annual plan and budget, sanction departments, constituent colleges, affiliated colleges and courses, sanction posts of

academic and administrative staff and approve such appointments made, make arrangements for annual academic and financial audit, decide the qualification and mode of appointment of such officers as the Registrar, Controller of Examinations and Finance Officer, prepare annual reports and approve audited Statement of accounts and submit them for the consideration of the Visitor/ Chancellor /Pro-Chancellor /Senate /State Legislature /State Council for Higher Education. The Syndicate shall also enjoy all residual powers relating to policy formulation and general administration not vested with any other authority /officer of the University.

### **Academic Council**

The Academic Council should be the principal academic body responsible for making broad level academic policy formulations and for framing general directives for ensuring academic standards of the University. It shall also take up matters of general academic interest and issue directions. It shall prepare a panel of names of Professors in university departments/ constituent colleges/ affiliated colleges for nomination by the Vice-Chancellor as Deans of Faculties. In all academic matters the decision of the Academic Council shall be final and these could be reported to the Syndicate/ Executive Council.

The Academic Council shall be constituted by the Syndicate. The membership shall not exceed 60.  $\frac{2}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> of the members may consist of ex-officio members including the Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Heads of various Boards of Studies and outside experts nominated by the Syndicate.  $\frac{1}{3}$ <sup>rd</sup> representing principals, teachers of University departments, affiliated colleges and the Students' Council could be elected. Apart from nominating a representative to the Academic Council, the Syndicate may also designate such officer (preferably a Dean) to act as the secretary to the Academic Council. The internal members in the Academic Council in affiliating and unitary Universities would differ in accordance with the difference in the constituent units.

### **Committee of Deans**

The Committee of Deans shall comprise of all Deans of Faculty. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairperson of the Deans' Council and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Vice-Chairperson.

The Committee of Deans shall have powers to make recommendations to the Academic Council on all matters on which the Academic Council has powers to take decisions. It shall also have powers to make recommendations to the Syndicate/Executive

Council on all matters relating to academic planning and administration on which the Syndicate / Executive Council has powers to take decisions. The Academic Council and the Syndicate may also refer academic issues requiring expert opinion to the Committee of Deans for its advice.

### **Faculty Councils**

It is necessary to give faculties comprising of related or cognate departments and subjects a large amount of responsibility, autonomy and accountability, more so in the context of the need to promote inter-disciplinarity in learning. The faculty may comprise of the Dean of Faculty, Heads of Department Councils, Chairpersons of the Boards of Studies included in the particular Faculty and a few eminent academics, both internal and external, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor with the concurrence of the Academic Council. Subject to the directions of the Academic Council the Faculty Councils shall be in charge of the administration of teaching and the courses of study and research in subjects pertaining to that particular Faculty.

Deans of Faculties should be appointed from among the Senior Professors of the university /affiliated /constituent colleges by the Vice-Chancellor from among a panel of names approved by the Academic Council. The term of office of the Dean of Faculties shall be three years. The Dean should perform academic and administrative duties in addition to his normal duties as a Professor. He should preside over the meeting of the Faculty and should assist the Vice-Chancellor in the performance of his administrative duties. He should be assisted by a Secretariat.

### **Department Councils in universities**

The Department Councils should be statutory bodies. All teachers would be members of the concerned Department Council which would be chaired over by the Department Head. There should be provision for rotation of headship once in every three years. The Department Councils could frame the syllabi for the programmes offered by the Department which will have to be vetted by the Faculty Council concerned and approved by the Academic Council.

### **Students' Union**

There shall be a Students' Union consisting of elected representatives of students of University departments /constituent /affiliated /recognized institutions, as prescribed by the statutes. The Students' Union shall be a democratic forum of students for the promotion of students' welfare and extra curricular activities.

## **Students' Council**

The Students' Council shall represent students pursuing studies at different levels and different disciplines. The members shall be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor from a panel constituted by the Academic Council. It shall be a forum for making academic deliberations for providing academic inputs and feed back to various authorities of the University including the Syndicate, Academic Council, Boards of Studies etc.

## **Special Provisions for affiliating Universities**

### **Clusters of Colleges**

The idea of establishing clusters of advanced centres was mooted by the Kothari Commission as one of the possible means for extension of excellence from the centre to the periphery. The UGC has been pursuing the project of clustering higher educational institutions with the objective of optimum utilization of the existing facilities for the expansion of higher education. The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has recommended that autonomous status be given to some clusters of colleges, as a part of restructuring undergraduate education. The clusters of colleges have come up in Western systems, bringing together the advantages of bigness and smallness, that of independence and interdependence. Different models have emerged in the process. Clusters have been set up around administrative structures, which would co-ordinate the functioning of the units. Individual institutions have also grouped together on their own to share the benefits of mutual cooperation. There are also clusters with one dominant member supporting smaller units. Clusters have been formed for specific purposes, like sharing Information Communication Technologies (ICT) in teaching-learning, civic engagement by institutions of higher education etc. Apart from sharing resources, the Clusters have provided opportunities for teachers to develop and offer new courses. Students have gained by exposure to experts in different institutions. The possibilities of opening up new areas of knowledge have emerged in the process. Obviously clusters have developed in response to the infrastructure and academic needs. The College Clusters proposed to be set up in affiliating universities in the State may draw upon the above concepts and practices. The Acts of universities should incorporate enabling provisions to establish clusters of colleges. Physical proximity and prospects of academic collaboration could be the guiding principles for the identification of clusters. Each cluster may have a minimum of ten and a maximum of thirty member colleges. Initially it may not be possible to include all colleges within the cluster system. But the objective should be to bring all

colleges within one cluster or the other and to incrementally grant more and more autonomy to the clusters with a view to enabling them to emerge as independent universities in course of time. The committee recommended the implementation of the model for Cluster of Colleges evolved by the Higher Education Council (Appendix-IV)

The above proposal was met with stiff resistance from representatives of private aided colleges. The representatives of the organizations of teachers and non-teaching staff, who supported the proposal in principle, were sceptical about the prospects of implementation of the scheme in the context of the reservations of the managements. The committee reviewed the proposal in the light of the feedback and decided to reiterate the broad recommendations on the scheme of cluster of colleges. The committee is of the view that the scheme should be tried out as it holds out the prospects of bringing about greater access and diversity in higher education in the State through optimum utilization of existing and new resources, physical and intellectual. The committee however felt that it may not be necessary to impose a uniform model across all universities. Experiments may be made by each university, in accordance with the following guidelines:

(1) Each university may evolve its own governance/administrative/academic structure for the clusters of colleges affiliated to it, provided the principles of democratic and decentralized governance are observed in the constitution of such structures.

(2) The essence of the scheme is a new mode of evolving universities through a process of creative collaboration among neighbouring institutions as distinct from the existing mode of creating a centralized administrative structure and affiliating institutions on geographical/discipline-based considerations. The clusters would gradually evolve into independent universities in such a way as would facilitate maximum academic collaboration among the colleges, while retaining their individual identities as at present.

(3) While a decision on the constituent colleges that would constitute a cluster would be taken by the university concerned, decisions on sharing of resources or introduction of common programmes would be taken by the clusters on their own through a process of consensus among the clustering partners

(4) The common programmes, sharing of resources and building of common resources would be implemented only incrementally, starting with simple forms of academic collaboration like conduct of common seminars, examinations etc. to more complex programmes like organizing common courses, exchange of teachers, sharing of resources like library and laboratory etc. and building up new resources like common instrumentation centres, play fields etc.



(5) The Government should liberally finance the scheme of cluster of colleges and the universities should incrementally make enabling laws, create academic/administrative structures for the proper functioning of the clusters and grant more and more academic and administrative autonomy to the clusters ,in order to facilitate their gradual evolution into independent universities

### **Boards of Studies**

The physical and intellectual resources available and the scope for innovations in teaching, research and extension activities in university departments, clusters of colleges and individual affiliated colleges are so vastly different that it may not be advisable to impose the same programme or even the same courses across these institutions. There could be, for example, greater orientation towards research in university departments, greater flexibility in the courses offered in clusters of colleges and greater incorporation of the component of extension in the curriculum of affiliated colleges. Hence it is advisable to have different programmes and different Boards of Studies for these three institutions. Such an arrangement would also make the Boards of Studies more inclusive and participatory. At the same time all Boards should be constituted in such a way as would facilitate communication and collaboration among the different categories of Boards. It would be advisable to have a representative of the University level Department Councils and Cluster Board in the Board of Affiliated Colleges and vice-versa.

While it would be possible for the University Department Councils to accommodate all teachers, the Boards of Cluster Colleges and Affiliated Colleges cannot be equally inclusive. Hence it should be mandatory for such boards to frame their syllabi organizing workshops by including at least one representative from each constituent department of the cluster colleges/ affiliated colleges. While constituting the Boards care should be taken to give representation to teachers at the level of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors, so that there would be a fair mix of experience and enthusiasm in the working of the Boards.

The Boards of Studies should play a vital role in bringing about an element of dynamism in teaching and learning. Apart from prescribing textbook and syllabi and preparing model question papers the Boards should also be involved in monitoring the implementation of the syllabi at various levels. It should be the statutory responsibility of the Board to review the syllabi every year and to comprehensively revise it once in three years. In view of the additional responsibilities contemplated for the Boards the existing pattern of separate Boards for U.G. and P.G. may continue, provided that there would be proper mechanism for communication between the two Boards by making provisions for mutual representation and joint meetings whenever necessary.

Adequate administrative support must be extended to the Chairman of the Board of Studies to communicate directly with the departments at the university /college levels.

The syllabi framed by Boards of studies should be vetted by Faculty Council concerned before they are put up for the approval of the Academic Council.

### **Affiliated Colleges**

The bulk of teaching and learning in affiliating universities take place in affiliated colleges. Therefore the Acts of affiliating universities should incorporate adequate provisions for the representation of affiliated institutions and teachers in such institutions in decision making bodies of the university and for democratic governance of the affiliated institutions. Apart from recommendations already made in this regard, the following further recommendations are also made.

- There should be a Council of Affiliated Colleges (CAC) in every affiliating university to advice the university in all matters relating to affiliated colleges. Various categories of affiliated colleges such as Government, Aided and Unaided and Professional and Non-professional colleges should be represented in the Council. The members of the CAC may be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the Syndicate / Executive Council. The Vice-Chancellor shall be the Chairman of the Council and the Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Vice-Chairman. The existing College Development Councils (CDC) should be integrated with the CAC.
- `Make College Councils (CC) the decision making body, with the Principal acting as the head of the Council. It should be mandatory for the Principal to execute decisions taken by the College Council in accordance with provisions of Acts/Statutes. The constitution of the Council should be made more inclusive by including one representative each of the non-teaching staff and students. The Council can take decisions on the basis of recommendations emanating from college level statutory Departmental Councils (DC), Academic Councils (AC) and administrative and finance committees for the constitution of which provision should be made in the acts.
- Selection Committees and selection procedure for appointment of teachers in Colleges :

The single most important reform that can bring about improvement in the quality of higher education is one that would ensure a transparency in the selection of teachers. UGC has taken several measures including up-gradation of minimum qualifications and introduction of National Eligibility Test (NET) to improve the quality of recruits. The UGC regulations 2010 has further prescribed mandatory selection committees and issued guidelines for the procedure to be followed by such selection committees. Though not fool

-proof , strict implementation of the above would make the selection process more transparent and quality oriented than at present. Therefore, the Government and the Universities should take effective step to implement the new regulations, both in letter and spirit.

The selection committees for the post of Asst. Professors and Principals in accordance with UGC regulations 2010 are as follows:

Selection Committee for the post of Asst. Professors in colleges

(a) The Selection Committee for the post of Assistant Professor in Colleges including Private Colleges shall have the following composition, as stipulated in UGC Regulations,2010.

*1. Chairperson of the Governing Body of the college or his/her nominee from among the members of the Governing body to be the Chairperson of the Selection Committee.*

*2. The Principal of the College.*

*3. Head of the Department of the concerned subject in the College.*

*4. Two nominees of the Vice Chancellor of the affiliating university of whom one should be a subject expert. In case of colleges notified/declared as minority educational institutions, two nominees of the Chairperson of the college from out of a panel of five names, preferably from minority communities, recommended by the Vice Chancellor of the affiliating university from the list of experts suggested by the relevant statutory body of the college, of whom one should be a subject expert.*

*5. Two subject-experts not connected with the college to be nominated by the Chairperson of the governing body of the college out of a panel of five names recommended by the Vice Chancellor from the list of subject experts approved by the relevant statutory body of the university concerned. In case of colleges notified/declared as minority educational Institutions, two subject experts not connected with the University to be nominated by the Chairperson of the Governing Body of the College out of the panel of five names, preferably from minority communities, recommended by the Vice Chancellor from the list of subject experts approved by the relevant statutory body of the College.*

*6. An academician representing SC/ST/OBC/Minority/Women/Differently-abled categories, if any of candidates representing these categories is the applicant, to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor, if any of the above members of the selection committee do not belong to that category.*

*(b) To constitute the quorum for the meeting, five of which at least two must be from out of the three subject-experts shall be present.*

*(c) For all levels of teaching positions in Government colleges, the State Public Services Commissions / Teacher Recruitment Boards must invite three subject experts for which the concerned University, be involved in the selection process by the State PSC.*

*(d) For all levels of teaching positions in Constituent college(s) of a university, the selection committee norms shall be similar to that of the posts of departments of the university.*

*\*Selection Committee for the appointment of principals in colleges*

*(a) The Selection Committee for the post of College Principal shall have the following composition, as stipulated under UGC regulations,2010*

*1. Chairperson of the Governing Body as Chairperson.*

*2. Two members of the Governing Body of the college to be nominated by the Chairperson of whom one shall be an expert in academic administration.*

*3. One nominee of the Vice Chancellor who shall be a Higher Education expert. In case of Colleges notified/declared as minority educational institutions, one nominee of the Chairperson of the College from out of a panel of five names, preferably from minority communities, recommended by the Vice-Chancellor of the affiliating university of whom one should be a subject expert.*

*4. Three experts consisting of the Principal of a college, a Professor and an accomplished educationist not below the rank of a Professor (to be nominated by the Governing Body of the college) out of a panel of six experts approved by the relevant statutory body of the university concerned.*

*5. An academician representing SC/ST/OBC/Minority/Women/Differently-abled categories, if any of candidates representing these categories is the applicant, to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor, if any of the above members of the selection committee do not belong to that category.*

*(b) At least five members, including two experts, should constitute the quorum.*

*(c) All the selection procedures of the selection committee shall be completed on the day of the selection committee meeting itself, wherein, minutes are recorded along with the scoring proforma and recommendation made on the basis of merit with the list of selected and waitlisted candidates/Panel of names in order of merit, duly signed by all members of the selection committee.*

*(d) The term of appointment of the college principal shall be FIVE years with eligibility for reappointment for one more term only after a similar selection committee process.*

- **Shared Responsibilities:** There should be provision for rotation of heads of departments once in three years. Headship could be rotated among Professors/ Associate Professors within the same department.
- **Limited autonomy for affiliated colleges:-** Provision should be made enabling affiliated colleges to run short term add-on certificate courses outside regular working hours with the permission of the university with the proviso that no Government/Aided college would run fulltime unaided courses, as the running of unaided courses would defeat the object of aid ,which is to provide greater access to higher education by charging only minimal fee. Affiliated colleges should have autonomy in matters relating to internal evaluation within the broad parameters prescribed by the University. The affiliated colleges should also have the freedom to make proposals for new courses/ modification of courses to the BOS. The BOS could permit changes with the concurrence of the Deans' Council, provided the changes do not require modification in the staff pattern of aided colleges and impose excessive burden on the University for the conduct of examinations.

### **The Task ahead**

The recommendations of the committee should ideally generate intense discussions in each university for giving the Higher Education Council adequate feedback on the reforms specific to each university. Comprehensive reform of each university Act will have to wait until such an exercise is completed.

Meanwhile, the Government, the Higher Education Council and the Universities may take further steps for the implementation of the following:

1. Immediate incorporation of UGC Regulations, 2010 in the university Acts/ /Statutes/Regulations. There is indeed a genuine case for making the UGC regulations more flexible in tune with the diverse educational, cultural and geographical requirements of this vast country and federal principles of the constitution. The Government, the Higher Education Council and the Universities may take appropriate steps to bring about such wholesome changes in the regulations. But such an exercise would be no justification for delaying the implementation of the regulations, which have come into effect w.e.f.30/6/2010 in consideration of the following:

(1) The revised UGC regulations are non-negotiable and legally binding on every university and every institution including affiliated colleges recognized by the UGC. The regulations have come into effect w.e.f 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2010. Any appointment/promotion made in contravention of the regulations is unlawful.

(2) G.O.(P) No. 58/2010/H.Edn dated 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2010 stipulates that UGC regulations on selection process, appointment, service, working conditions, work load of teachers etc. would be made applicable to all teachers as and when they are framed. It follows that the

Government has to issue orders incorporating UGC regulations 2010 as part of the above orders issued for payment of salary and further direct all the universities to incorporate the above regulations in full in their Acts/Statutes/Regulations with immediate effect.

(3) Implementation of the UGC Regulations, 2010 is one of the conditions for the release of 80% Central Assistance for the implementation of the revised scales.

(4) Immediate incorporation of the regulations in the University Acts/ Statutes /Regulations is the single most important step that can be taken to improve the quality of higher education in the State, more so as more than 1500 posts of teachers are about to be filled up in aided colleges soon.

2. The committee is of the view that the reform process could be initiated without delay may be on an experimental basis, by implementing a set of reforms on which a reasonable degree of consensus has already emerged without waiting for a complete convergence of views, which is unlikely to emerge in an area so contentious as higher education. There can be no progress without change and no meaningful change would be possible without taking bold steps, undaunted by the fear of failure.

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## Appendix – I

### THE COMMITTEE FOR REVIEW OF UNIVERSITY ACTS

The Kerala State Higher Education Council at its meeting held on 9.12.2009, constituted a Committee to review the Acts of universities in Kerala, with the following members:

1. **Dr. M.Anandkrishnan**, Chairman, IIT, Kanpur (Chairman)
2. **Dr. JAK Tareen**, Vice-Chancellor, Pondicherry university
3. **Dr. Debashish Chatterjee**, Director, IIM, Kozhikode
4. **Dr. N.K. Jayakumar**, Vice-Chancellor, NUALS
5. **Dr. R.V.G. Menon**, Retired Principal, Govt. Engineering College
6. **Dr. Joy Job Kulavelil**, Syndicate Member, CUSAT
7. **Dr. K.V. Kunjkrishnan**, Former Registrar, CUSAT
8. **Dr. A.R. Rajan**, Syndicate Member, university of Kerala
9. **Dr. M.P. Kannan**, Member, Kerala State Higher Education Council, (Convenor)

K. N. Panikkar, Vice Chairman, KSHEC was invited to participate in the deliberations of the Committee. Thomas Joseph, Member Secretary, provided substantive support to the work of the Committee.

### TERMS OF REFERENCE

The terms of reference assigned to the committee for the review of University Acts were as follows:

The Committee for the review of university Acts will make **specific recommendations for modification of the Acts of various universities** in the State with a view to revamping them taking into account the following general principles.

- (1) Promotion of quality and equity in higher education by injecting greater flexibility, efficiency, autonomy and accountability in the administration of institutions of higher education.
- (2) Participation of higher educational institutions in regional/national socio-economic development and in inculcating constitutional values of democracy, secularism, diversity and tolerance.
- (3) Incorporation of the above broad objectives into an educational programme by performing teaching-learning, research and extension activities.
- (4) Establishing linkages between the concepts of autonomy and accountability in the administration of higher educational institutions at different levels through a system of mandatory social and academic auditing.
- (5) Democratization of the administration of higher educational institutions at all levels through a system of participatory management in which teachers, students and representatives of the larger community have a major role.
- (6) Decentralization of educational administration by sharing responsibility for decision making and implementation of decisions at different levels by making provisions for appropriate delegation of academic, financial and administrative powers and provision for collective and democratic decision making at different levels.
- (7) Restructuring the affiliating system in such a way as to create smaller clusters of colleges under large universities, with sufficient academic, administrative and financial autonomy and accountability to promote diversification of courses and



improvement of quality of education through creative collaboration among neighbouring institutions.

- (8) Broadening the linkages between the higher educational institutions and other economic and social institutions and centers for Planning, Research and Social Service.
- (9) Maintaining the linkages and differences between face-to-face and distance education streams with a view to keeping the distinctive features of each mode, while providing for convergence of modes within well defined limits.
- (10) Maintaining the distinct identities of Government, Aided and Unaided institutions and spelling out the norms for social control of each category of institutions and making provisions for enforcing them.
- (11) Making provisions for the financing of educational institutions, Government, Aided and Unaided in such a way as would ensure mobilization of adequate financial resources, without resorting to commercialization of education or compromising principles of quality and equity
- (12) Demarcating the roles of the Government, universities and affiliating institutions in such a way as to avoid conflict of powers and ensure complementarities in the roles of different agencies in higher education.
- (13) Enunciating of the rights and responsibilities of students, teachers and the non-teaching staff who constitute the bulk of the personnel operating in the higher education system
- (14) Providing provisions for periodic review of university laws

**A NOTE ON THE GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE OF Universities**

**Dr.N.K.Jayakumar,  
Vice-Chancellor, NUALS, Cochin**

1) Calicut University Act, 1975 .....	26
2) Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986.....	31
3) Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971 .....	35
4) Kerala University Act, 1974.....	40
5)Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985 .....	45
6) National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005 .....	50
7) Shree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994 .....	54
7) Kannur University Act, 1996 .....	58

1) Calicut University Act, 1975

1.Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

Powers and Functions:

- a) May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- b) In public interest, the Chancellor has the right to suspend or dismiss any authority and take interim measures for the administration.
- c) Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- d) Appellate authority against any order of dismissal passed by the Syndicate/Vice Chancellor.
- e) Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour.
- f) Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- g) Power to appoint a Pro-Vice Chancellor
- h) Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

2.Pro Chancellor: Education Minister

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor.

3.Vice Chancellor: Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the University.

Eligibility: Not more than 60 years of age.

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) elected by the Senate (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominated by the Chancellor. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

Powers and Functions:

- a) The VC shall be the Chairman of the Syndicate, Academic Council, Students Council & Finance Committee and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- b) Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and report any violation of the Chancellor.
- c) Visitation and Inspection of colleges and institutions affiliated to the University.

- d) Can take emergency action when the Syndicate and Academic Council is not in session and then report the action for approval.
- e) Power to appoint, suspend or dismiss any member of the University below the rank of Deputy Registrar.

#### 4.Pro Vice Chancellor:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Chancellor

Eligibility: Not more than 56 years of age.

Term of Office: 4 years.

#### 5.Registrar:

Method of appointment: Appointed by the Syndicate.

Terms and Conditions of service prescribed by the Statutes.

#### 6.The Controller of Examinations.

Method of appointment: Appointed by the Syndicate.

Terms and Conditions of service prescribed by the Statutes.

#### 7. Finance Officer

Method of appointment: Appointed by the Syndicate.

Terms and Conditions of service prescribed by the Statutes.

#### 8.Senate:

Composition:

Ex-officio members: The Chancellor; The Pro-Chancellor; The Vice-Chancellor; Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Finance Secretary to Government or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him; Director of Public Instruction; Director of Collegiate Education; The Secretary to Government or the Additional Secretary to Government, General Education Department, to be nominated by the Government.]; Secretary to Government or the Additional Secretary to Government Higher Education Department, to be nominated by the Government.];The Secretary to Government Information Technology Department or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, nominated by him]; The Director of Technical Education; Chairman, State Advisory Board of Education.; The Mayor of Calicut; Seven heads of University departments who are not otherwise members of the Senate, to be nominated in the order of seniority by the Chancellor by rotation; Four Deans of the Faculties of the University who are not otherwise members of the senate, to be nominated in the order of seniority by the Chancellor by rotation; Chairman of the University Union.

Elected Members:

- Seven principals elected from among themselves, of whom two shall be from among principals of Government Colleges, one from among principals of professional colleges and one from among principals of junior colleges.
- Six members elected by the members or the Legislative Assembly of Kerala from among the members representing the electorate of the University area, of whom one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste, and one shall be a member of a Scheduled Tribe.
- Three members elected by the teachers of the University from among themselves.
- Five members elected by the teachers of government Colleges from among themselves.
- Sixteen members elected by the teachers of private Colleges from themselves.
- One member elected by the members of the local authorities of each district in the University area from among themselves.

- Two members elected by the registered trade unions in the University area designated by Statutes, from among their members
- One member elected by members of the non-teaching staff of the University from among themselves.
- Three members elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the affiliated colleges from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of the non-teaching staff of a Government College.
- Four members elected by the managers of the private colleges in the University area from among themselves.
- Ten members elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among full-time students, of whom one shall be a post-graduate student, one shall be a research scholar, one shall be the student of a professional college and one shall be a lady student.

#### Other Members:

- Two headmaster of High Schools and two teachers of schools, situated within the University area, nominated by the Chancellor
- Not more than eight members nominated by the chancellor representing (i) recognised research institutions; (ii) recognised cultural associations; (iii) chambers of commerce; (iv) industries; (v) authors; (vi) journalist; (vii) lawyers; and (viii) sports.
- Two members representing linguistic minorities in the University area nominated by the Chancellor-one representing Tamil speaking people and one representing Kannada speaking people.
- Four students nominated by the chancellor, one having outstanding academic ability in humanities, one having outstanding ability in science, one having outstanding ability in sports and one having outstanding ability in fine arts.
- Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio-technology

Reconstitution of the Senate: Every 4 years.

#### Powers and Functions:

- Power of review over the actions of the Syndicate, Academic Council not within the purview of the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.
- To determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University;
- to make Statutes regulating the method of election to the authorities of the University, the procedure at the meetings of the Senate, the Syndicate and other authorities of the University and the quorum of members required for the transaction of business by the authorities of the University other than the Senate and to make, amend or repeal Statutes either of its own motion or on the motion of the Syndicate;
- to cancel or amend any Ordinance passed by the Syndicate or any Regulation passed by the Academic Council;
- to institute fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes and organize exhibitions in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations;
- to institute professorships, readerships, lecturerships, and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary ;
- to establish and maintain such institutions, as it may from time to time deem necessary;
- to prescribe with the previous concurrence of the Government the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the University; to regulate the emoluments and prescribe the duties and conditions of service of teachers and non-teaching staff in private colleges
- to review and take such action as it may deem fit on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and to consider and pass the budget according to the provisions of the Statutes;
- to cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted to any person in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;
- to appoint Committees and to delegate to them such functions of the Senate as it may deem fit
- to make statutes regulating the methods of election to the authorities of the University, the procedure at the meetings of the Senate, the Syndicate and other authorities of the University and the quorum of members required for the transaction of business by the authorities of the University other than the Senate.
- to recommend to the Government the recognition of any local area within the University area as a University Centre; to co-operate with other Universities and other authorities in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

## 9.Syndicate:

Composition: Ex-Officio Members: Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Secretary to Government, Higher Education or an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary nominated by him, Director of Public Instruction, Director of Collegiate Education, Secretary to Government, Information Technology Department or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, nominated by him.

Other Members: Thirteen members elected by the Senate from among themselves, of whom (i) seven shall be persons who are not teachers, of whom one shall be a person belonging to Scheduled caste or a Scheduled Tribe (ii) two shall be principals of first grade colleges, of whom one shall be the principal of a Government College, and (iii) four shall be teachers who are not principals, of whom one shall be a University teacher and one shall be a teacher of a government college

Term of Office: 4 years

Powers and Functions:

- To affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Act and Statutes
- To make, amend and repeal ordinances.
- To propose Statutes for the consideration of the Senate.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspectors for that purpose.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts.
- To fix and regulate fees in colleges affiliated by the University.
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To submit financial estimates of the University to the Senate as well as borrow money with prior approval of the Government.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To appoint teachers in private colleges
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or any other Committee thereof.
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To exercise all powers of the Senate except the power of review until the new Senate is reconstituted.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

## 10.Academic Council:

Composition: Vice-Chancellor; Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Director of Public Instruction; Director of Technical Education; Director of Collegiate Education; Director of Research and Studies; Director of Physical Education; Deans of Faculties; General Secretary of the University Union ;all the Heads of University Departments of study and research who are not deans of Faculties; all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic council; five members (other than Deans of Faculties) of whom at least one shall be the principal of a Government professional college, elected by the principals of professional colleges from among themselves; seven members (other than Deans of Faculties) of whom at least one shall be the principal of a Government College, elected by the principals of first grade colleges, other than colleges of oriental languages, from among themselves; two members (other than Deans of faculties) elected by the principals of junior colleges from among themselves;the principal of a college of oriental languages, not being a Dean of faculty, nominated by the Chancellor by rotation according to seniority; one member each of every subject of study (not being a Dean of Faculty or head of a University department or principal) elected by the teachers of that subject from among themselves; one headmaster and one teacher of secondary school in the University area nominated by the chancellor; one member representing each faculty, elected by the full-time post-graduate students of the faculty from among themselves; five external experts to be nominated by the Chancellor.

Term of Office: 4 years (except for ex-officio members)

Powers and Functions of the Academic Council

- Advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.

- To prescribe courses of studies, qualification of teachers, qualifications for the admission of students
- To make proposals for the instruction and training, research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge, for the institution of professorships, readerships, lectureships, various fellowships and scholarships.
- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To decide what examinations of other Universities maybe recognised and accepted
- To arrange for the co-ordination of studies and teaching in affiliated colleges and recognised institutions.
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act, Statute, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules or Bye laws.

#### 11. Faculty:

Composition: Chairman of the Boards of Studies comprised in the Faculty, 2 members each elected from the Board of Studies, not less than 5 and not more than 10 members nominated by the Syndicate.

Tenure: 3 years from their date of nomination.

Dean of Faculties: Nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice Chancellor. Term of Office: 2 years.

#### 12. Board of Studies:

Composition: As prescribed by the Statutes; Tenure: 3 years from the date of entering into office

#### 13. Students Council:

Composition: Ex-Officio Members: Vice-Chancellor (Chairman); Chairman of the University Union.; General Secretary of the University Union; Director, National Cadet Corps; The officer-in-charge of the National Service Scheme in the University.; The Director of Physical Education; The Dean of Youth Affairs who shall be the Vice-Chairman of the Council;

#### Elected Members:

- Ten members, not being members of the Senate or the Academic Council, elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among themselves, of whom two shall be women.
- Three members elected from among the full-time students of the departments of the University in such manner as may be prescribed.
- Two members, other than students, elected by the members of the Senate from among themselves.
- One member elected by the members of the Syndicate from among themselves.
- One member elected by the members of the Academic Council from among themselves.

#### Other Members:

- Five students who have distinguished themselves in academic field, sports or fine arts, nominated by the Vice-Chancellor after giving due consideration to the representation of special interests.
- A member nominated by the Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the Chairman of the University Union, from among the elected student members of the Council shall be the Secretary to the Council.
- The members of the Students' Council other than ex-officio members shall hold office for a term of one year from the date of their election or nomination, as the case may be.

#### Powers and Duties:

- To make recommendations to the Syndicate and Academic Council with respect to academic life and general welfare of the students.
- To communicate its views, observations and recommendations in respect of any matter which concerns the students

14. Finance Committee: Composition: Vice Chancellor (Chairman); Pro Vice Chancellor; One member elected from the Senate; One member elected from the Syndicate; One member elected from the Academic Council;

Finance Secretary to the Government (Secretary); Secretary to the Government, Higher Education; Powers: Give advice to the University on any matter affecting its finances.

15. Statutes: Subject Matter:

- a. Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- b. Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- c. procedure for election of members to the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council and other authorities.
- d. Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e. Maintenance of a register of registered graduates
- f. Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.
- g. Conferment of Honorary Degrees
- h. Conditions and procedure for affiliation to colleges.
- i. Maintenance of accounts, preparation and passing of annual budget.

16. Ordinances: Subject Matter:

- a. Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- b. Residence and Discipline.
- c. Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- d. Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers

17: Regulations: Subject Matter:

- a. Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- b. Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- c. Qualification of teachers.
- d. Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- e. Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.

18. Affiliation: An application for affiliation to the University of any College shall be sent by the educational agency to the Registrar as prescribed by the Statutes and such affiliation shall be granted by the Syndicate according to the procedure prescribed in the Statutes.

Non compliance with the provision of this Act can result in discontinuation of aid/ disaffiliation.

19. Unaided Colleges: A committee shall be appointed by the Government to look into the scales of pay and other conditions of service as well as the admission, selection of and the fees payable by students.

20. Power of the Government: Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. Also a commission may be appointed by the Government at any time after the expiration of ten years. The Government also has the power to make rules in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

## 2) Cochin University of Science and Technology Act, 1986

### 1. Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

#### Powers:

- May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- The Chancellor has the right to suspend or dismiss any authority and take interim measures for the administration.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Appellate authority against any order of dismissal passed by the Syndicate/Vice Chancellor.
- Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour or any good and sufficient reason.

- Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- Power to appoint a Vice Chancellor/Vice Chancellor

2.Pro Chancellor: Minister administering the subject of Higher Education.

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor.

3.Vice Chancellor:

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) elected by the Syndicate (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominated by the Chancellor. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Eligibility: Not above 60 years of age.

Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

Powers & Functions:

- The VC shall be the Chairman of the Syndicate, Senate, Academic Council, Students Council and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and report any violation of the Chancellor.
- Can take emergency action when the Syndicate and Academic Council is not in session and then report the action for approval.
- Visitation and Inspection of colleges and institutions affiliated to the University.
- Power to appoint, suspend or dismiss any member of the University below the rank of Deputy Registrar.
- Take disciplinary action against the students.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

4.Pro Vice Chancellor: Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Chancellor; Eligibility: Not more than 60 years of age; Term of office: 4 years

5.Registrar:

- a) Method of Appointment: A person selected by the Government from the names given to it by the Syndicate.
- b) Suits by or against the university shall be instituted by or against the Registrar.

6.Finance Officer

- c) Whole time salaried officer
- d) A person selected by the Government from the names given to it by the Syndicate and appointed by the Syndicate
- e) Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.
- f) Whole time salaried officer
- g) Appointed by the Syndicate

7.Syndicate:

Composition: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Director of Technical Education, Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department, Chairman of the Kerala State Committee of Science and Technology, 3 Deans of Faculties of the University by rotation, An expert from the field of industry and commerce nominated by the Chancellor, 5 members of the Senate nominated by the Government of whom 1 shall be a member of the SC/ST community, an official representative of the University Grants Commission, 2 persons nominated from the members of the Legislative Assembly of Kerala.



Term of Office: The last four categories shall hold office for a term of 4 years and shall not be eligible for renomination.

Powers and Functions:

- To manage the University so that the objectives are fulfilled.
- To admit as institution as a Recognised institution.
- To make Statutes for the consideration of the Chancellor
- To make, amend or repeal ordinances.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To provide infrastructure and to that end enter into, vary and cancel contracts.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspection for that purpose.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts.
- To fix and regulate fees in colleges affiliated by the University.
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To consider and pass Financial estimates, Annual Accounts, Audit Report and Annual Report of the University.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies and Faculties.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor
- To arrange for and direct the investigation of recognised institutions
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To negotiate with other Universities for the recognition of examinations of the University.
- To establish in collaboration with industries, research facilities and service training for the students.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act, Statute and Ordinances.

8.Senate:

Composition: Ex-officio members: Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Mayor of Cochin, 2 officers nominated by the Government, Chairman, State Advisory Board of Education, One nominee each of the Vice Chancellors of other Universities in the State, Members of the Syndicate who are not members of the Senate, member of the Legislative Assembly and Lok Sabha representing the area in which the Headquarters of the University is situated, Chairman, University Students Union.

Elected Members:

- 5 members elected from among the Principal of all engineering colleges of the State, Head of Departments and Head of Branches of Studies in the University of whom 2 shall be Principals of Engineering Colleges.
- 4 members elected by the members of the Academic Council from among themselves.
- 5 members other than those mentioned other than those mentioned under ex officio members elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly from among themselves of whom one shall be a member of the Scheduled Caste Community.
- 3 Deans of Faculties to be elected from among themselves.
- 10 members elected from among themselves by the teaching staff of the University Departments and Recognised institutions.
- 2 members elected by the registered Trade Unions in the State from among themselves.
- 2 members elected by the non teaching staff of the University from among themselves.
- 7 members elected from the student community from among themselves.

Other Members:

- 4 experts representing Industries and Commerce nominated by the Government of whom one shall be a representative of any of the chamber of commerce situated within the area of the GCDA.
- 2 members nominated by the Government of whom one shall be a Principal of any of the Engineering Colleges in the State and other shall be a teacher of a Polytechnic in the state.
- Not more than 7 members nominated by the Chancellor representing
- recognised research institutions
- recognised cultural institutions.
- Authors
- Journalists
- Advocates
- Eminent Educationists
- SC/ST and OBC's
- 6 graduates nominated by the Government who are domiciled in the State.

Reconstitution of the Senate: Every 4 years.

Powers and Functions of the Senate:

- To review from time to time the policies and programmes of the University.
- To suggest measures for improvement and development.
- To consider and pass resolutions on the annual report, annual accounts and audit report.
- To advise the Chancellor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice.

#### 9.Academic Council

Composition: Ex Officio Members: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, nominee each of the Vice Chancellors of other universities representing the Faculties of Engineering, Science, Technology and Social Science, Director of Technology Education, Deans of Faculties, all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council, Heads of Departments/Schools of study and research, Chairmans of the Boards of Studies who are not members of the Academic Council.

Nominated Members:

- 3 Senior Professors who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council nominated by the Vice Chancellor for a term of 2 years.
- 3 Senior Readers who are not members of the Academic Council nominated by the Vice Chancellor for a term of 2 years.
- 5 outstanding scholars of national/international repute from outside the state nominated by the Chairman, University Grants Commission
- 1 representative from each of the following national institutions/organisation to be nominated by the Chancellor on the recommendation of the Vice Chancellor for a period of 2 years a) Council of Scientific And Industrial Research b) Department of Science and Technology (Govt of India) c) Indian Council for Agricultural Research d) Indian Space Research Organisation e) National Institute of Oceanography f) Defence Research and Development Organisation.
- 3 experts in the field of Industry and Commerce to be nominated by the Chancellor for a term of 2 years.

Elected Members: 2 members elected by the Students of the University for one year from among themselves.

Powers and Functions :

- Advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.
- To prescribe courses of studies, scheme of examinations, qualification of teachers as per the norms of University Grants Commission as well as guides for research, qualifications for the admission of students, standards of evaluation, conditions for admission of research students

- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University and conferment of honorary degrees.
- To institute teaching posts and upgradation of the same as well as fellowships and scholarships.
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Statute.
- To delegate to the Vice Chancellor any of its powers.
- To consider annual reports and make suggestions.

10. Faculty: All Faculties from time to time shall be prescribed by the Statutes and there shall be a Dean for each faculty nominated by the Vice Chancellor. The Dean shall be responsible for the due observance of Statutes, Regulations and Ordinances. Term of Office: 3 years.

11. Board of Studies: Depends on the Syndicate and shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

12. Finance Committee: To advise the University on any question affecting its finances and all matters relating to this Committee shall be prescribed by the Statutes.

13. Statutes: Subject Matter:

- a) Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- b) Appointment, conditions of service, powers and duties of the employees of this University.
- c) Conferment of Honorary Degrees.
- d) Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e) Institution of fellowships, scholarships, studentships, exhibitions, medals and prizes.
- f) Procedure and quorum to be followed at meetings.
- g) Classification of teachers of the University and other employees
- h) Acceptance and management of bequests, donations and endowments.
- i) Constitution and jurisdiction of an appellate tribunal.
- j) All other matters which are to be prescribed by the Statutes.

14. Ordinances: Subject Matter:

- a) Levy of fees to be charged for the courses as well as services rendered by the University.
- b) Conditions relating to the award of fellowships, scholarships, exhibitions, medals and prizes.
- c) Conduct of examinations including the terms and conditions of service of examining bodies, examiners and moderators.
- d) Terms and conditions of service of employees not prescribed by the Statutes.
- e) Recognition of institutions.
- f) Supervision of students engaged in research and special studies.

15. Regulations: Subject Matter: Anything in exercise of the powers and duties of the Academic Council.

16. Power of the Government: Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. Also a commission may be appointed by the Government at any time after the expiration of ten years.

### 3) Kerala Agricultural University Act, 1971

1. Chancellor: Governor of Kerala.

Powers:

- Head of the University and when present shall preside at the meetings of the General Council/Convocation.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Acts/Statutes.

2. Pro Chancellor: Minister in charge of Agriculture Department.

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor or any such power that may be delegated to him by way of an order.

### 3. Vice Chancellor

Method of Appointment: Shall be appointed by a Selection Committee consisting of a nominee of the Chancellor (Chairman), Director General of the Indian Council and a nominee of the General Council. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the opinion of the majority of the members shall be taken into consideration. On failure to make a recommendation, the Chancellor shall make the appointment on the advice of the Government.

Tenure: Hold office for a term of 5 years and eligible for reappointment for additional term.

Retirement age: 65 years.

Powers and Functions:

- The Vice Chancellor shall be the Chairman of the Executive Committee & Academic Council and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- Exercise general control over the affairs of the university, proper administration, close co-ordination and integration of teaching, residence and discipline of the students.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and take necessary action.
- Action in any emergency which in his opinion call for immediate action.
- Presentation of budget estimate and statement of accounts of the Executive Committee.
- Vice Chancellor shall have the power to suspend and take disciplinary action against teachers and employees as well as give effect to the orders of appointment and dismissal of the same.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Acts.

### 4. Registrar:

Method of appointment: Shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Powers and Functions:

- Due custody of the records of the University and the common seal.
- Ex officio Secretary to the General Council, Executive Committee, Academic Council and place all necessary information for the transaction of business.
- Receive applications for entrance to the University and keep a permanent record of all courses, curricula, academic performance of the students and other information.
- Any other functions assigned by the Vice Chancellor or Executive Committee.

### 5. Comptroller:

Method of Appointment: Shall be appointed by the Government.

Powers and Functions: Shall manage the funds and investments of the University and shall give advice with respect to its financial policy; Responsible for preparation of budget and statement of accounts of the University as well as revision of the same; Ensure that no unauthorised expenditure takes place and no expenditure in contravention of the Act and Statutes.

### 6. General Council

Composition: Ex Officio Members:

Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Agricultural Production Commissioner, Principal Secretary, Secretary or the Special Secretary to Government (Department of Agriculture, Finance, Fisheries & Animal Husbandry), Director of Agriculture, Director of Animal Husbandry, Director of Dairy Development, Director of Fisheries, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Chairman, Rubber Board, Chairman, Spices Board, Chairman, Marine Products Export Development Authority, Director, Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Director, Kerala Forest Research

Institute, one representative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Member of Legislative Assembly representing the constituency in which the headquarters of the University is situated.

Elected Members:

- 4 members elected according to the principles of proportional representation by the Members of the Legislative Assembly from among themselves of which one shall be a member belonging to SC/ST.
- 1 member elected by the Deans of Faculties of the University from among themselves.
- 4 members elected by the teachers of the University among themselves according to the principles of proportional representation.
- 2 members elected by the students of the University from among themselves according to the principles of proportional representation.
- 2 members elected by the non teaching staff of the University from among themselves according to the principles of proportional representation.
- 2 members elected by the permanent labourers of the University from among themselves according to the principles of proportional representation.

Nominated Members:

- 4 eminent scientists in the field of agriculture and allied subjects.
- 4 farmers of whom one shall belong to a SC/ST and one shall be a woman.
- 1 member from the association of the Planters Kerala.
- 2 Presidents of the Grama Panchayat.

Other Members:

- 3 members to represent the University of Calicut, Cochin and Kerala elected by their respective Senates.
- 1 representative of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.
- The member of the legislative assembly representing the constituency in which the headquarters of the University is situated.

Reconstitution: Every 3 years (except for ex-officio members)

Powers and Functions:

- Power of review over the actions of the Executive Committee and Academic Council not within the purview of the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.
- to determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University;
- To make, amend or repeal any Statutes of its own motion or on the motion of the Executive Committee.
- to cancel or amend any Ordinance passed by the Syndicate or any Regulation passed by the Academic Council:
- to institute fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes and organize exhibitions in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations;
- to institute professorships, readerships, lecturerships, and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary ;
- to establish and maintain such institutions, as it may from time to time deem necessary;
- to prescribe with the previous concurrence of the Government the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the University; with the previous concurrence of the Government,
- to regulate the emoluments and prescribe the duties and conditions of service of teachers and non-teaching staff in private colleges
- ;to review and take such action as it may deem fit on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and to consider and pass the budget according to the provisions of the Statutes;
- to cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted to any person in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;
- to appoint Committees and to delegate to them such functions of the Senate as it may deem fit
- to make statutes regulation the method of election to the Authorities, procedure at the meetings and quorum.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

7.Executive Committee:

Composition: Ex- Officio members:

Vice Chancellor, Agricultural Production Commissioner and Principal Secretary, Secretary or Special Secretary to the Government, Finance Department.

Other Members:

- Member representing the Indian Council of Agricultural Research in the General Council.
- 1 Dean of Faculty elected by the General Council.
- 1 member elected from among the teachers in the General Council by the Council.
- 5 non official members elected by the General Council of whom one shall be a member belonging to a Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe and one shall be a woman.
- The member of the legislative assembly representing the constituency in which the headquarters of the University is situated.

Term of Office: All members (except ex officio members) shall cease to hold office on the day immediately preceding the reconstitution of the General Council.

Powers and Functions:

- To make, amend or repeal ordinances.
- To propose Statutes for the consideration of the General Council.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts. To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To submit financial estimates of the University to the General Council To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or any other Committee thereof.
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

8.Academic Council.

Composition: Vice Chancellor, Deans of Faculties, Director of Research, Director of Extension, Director of Students Welfare, Librarian, 6 members from among the Heads of Department nominated by the Chancellor on a rotational basis, 3 members from among the staff of the research stations of the University nominated by the Chancellor, 2 members from among the Post Graduate students and one member from among the research students of the University, 1 member elected by the teachers of each Faculty from among themselves, Registrar and any other member that may be prescribed.

Powers and Functions:

- Advise the General council and the Executive Committee on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.
- To prescribe courses of studies, qualification of teachers, qualifications for the admission of students
- To make proposals for the instruction and training, research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge, for the institution of professorships, readerships, lecturerships, various fellowships and scholarships.
- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To decide what examinations of other Universities maybe recognised and accepted

- To formulate, modify or revise schemes for the constitution or reconstitution of departments of teaching, research and extension education.
- To make recommendations regarding post graduate teaching, research and extension education.
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act, Statute, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules or Bye laws.

#### 9. Faculties:

There shall be faculties of a) Basic Sciences b) Humanities c) Agriculture d) Co-operation d) Veterinary and Animal Sciences e) Home Science f) Forestry g) Agricultural Engineering and Technology. Each Faculty shall consist of departments and with such assignments of subjects of study.

10. Board of Studies: There shall be a Board of Studies of each faculty, the constitution, powers of which shall be prescribed.

#### 11. Finance Committee:

Composition: The Executive Committee shall constitute a Finance Committee of the Vice Chancellor, Finance Secretary, Comptroller, 2 non official members chosen by the Executive Committee and 1 ex officio member.

#### Powers and Functions

- Examine annual accounts and budget estimates and advice the Executive Committee
- Review the financial position of the University from time to time.
- Make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all financial matters.

#### 12. Statutes: Subject Matter:

- Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- Procedure for election of members to the General Council, Executive Committee, Academic Council and other authorities.
- Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- Maintenance of a register of registered graduates
- Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.
- Maintenance of accounts, preparation and passing of annual budget.
- Classification and manner of appointment of teaching and non teaching staff.

#### 13. Ordinances: Subject Matter:

- Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- Residence and Discipline.
- Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers.

#### 14. Regulations: Subject Matter:

- Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- Qualification of teachers.
- Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.
- Power of the Government
- Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. The government will then advise the University upon the action to be taken and fix a time limit for taking such action.
- The Government can also ask for an explanation if the University activities are not in accordance with the Act, Statute, Ordinances and Regulations.

## 4) Kerala University Act, 1974

1.Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

Powers of the Chancellor:

- May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- In an emergency, the Chancellor has the right to suspend or dismiss any authority and take interim measures for the administration.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Appellate authority against any order of dismissal passed by the Syndicate/Vice Chancellor.
- Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour.
- Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- Power to appoint a Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

2.Pro Chancellor: Education Minister of Kerala

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor.

3.Vice Chancellor: Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the University.

Eligibility: Not more than 60 years of age.

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) elected by the Senate (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominated by the Chancellor. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

Powers & Functions:

- The VC shall be the Chairman of the Syndicate, Academic Council, Students Council & Finance Committee and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and report any violation of the Chancellor.
- Visitation and Inspection of colleges and institutions affiliated to the University.
- Power to appoint, suspend or dismiss any member of the University below the rank of Deputy Registrar.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

4.Registrar: Whole time salaried officer; Appointed by the Syndicate; Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

5.Controller of Examinations: Whole time salaried officer; Appointed by the Syndicate; Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

6.Finance Officer: Whole time salaried officer; Appointed by the Syndicate; Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

7.Senate:

Composition:Ex Officio Members: Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Finance Secretary to the Government of Kerala ( or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary), Director of Public Instruction, Director of Collegiate Education, Secretary of the Government of Kerala or Additional Secretary, General Education Department to be nominated by the Government, Secretary of the Government of Kerala or Additional



Secretary, Higher Education Department to be nominated by the Government, Secretary to the Government of Kerala, Information Technology Department (or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary), Director of Technical Education, Chairman, State Advisory Board of Education, Mayor of Trivandrum, Seven heads of University Departments who are not otherwise members of the Senate (to be nominated in order of their seniority by the Chancellor on rotation), Four Deans of the Faculties of University who are not otherwise members of the Senate (to be nominated in order of their seniority by the Chancellor on rotation), Chairman of the University Union.

Elected Members:

- 11 Principals elected among themselves of whom 2 shall be from Government Colleges, 1 from a Professional College one from a Junior College.
- Six members elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly from the electorate of the University area of whom one shall be a member of a Schedule Caste.
- Three members elected by the Teachers of the University
- Five members elected by the Teachers of Government Colleges by themselves.
- Sixteen members elected by the Teachers of Private Colleges from among themselves.
- One member elected by the members of the local authorities of each District in the University area from among themselves.
- Two members elected by the registered Trade Unions in the University area designated by Statutes, from among their members.
- One member elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the University from among themselves.
- Three members elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the affiliated colleges from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of the non-teaching staff of a Government College.
- Four members elected by the managers of the private colleges in the University area from among themselves.
- Ten members elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among full-time students, of whom one shall be a post graduate student, one shall be a research scholar, one shall be the student of a professional college and one shall be a lady student.

Life members: Persons who were life members of the Senate of the Kerala University immediately before the commencement of this Act shall be deemed to be life members of the Senate under this Act.

Other Members:

- Two headmasters of High Schools and two Teachers of Schools, situated within the University area, nominated by the Chancellor.
- Not more than nine members nominated by the Chancellor representing (i) recognized research institutions; (ii) recognized cultural associations; (iii) chambers of commerce; (iv) industries; (v) authors; (vi) journalists; (vii) lawyers; (viii) sports; and (ix) linguistic minorities.
- Four students nominated by the Chancellor, one having outstanding academic ability in humanities, one having outstanding ability in science, one having outstanding ability in sports and one having outstanding ability in fine arts.
- Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio-technology.

Powers and Functions:

- Power of review over the actions of the Syndicate, Academic Council not within the purview of the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.
- to determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University;
- to make Statutes regulating the method of election to the authorities of the University, the procedure at the meetings of the Senate, the Syndicate and other authorities of the University and the quorum of members required for the transaction of business by the authorities of the University other than the Senate and to make, amend or repeal Statutes either of its own motion or on the motion of the Syndicate;
- to cancel or amend any Ordinance passed by the Syndicate or any Regulation passed by the Academic Council:

- to institute fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes and organize exhibitions in accordance with the provisions of this Act and the Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations;
- to institute professorships, readerships, lecturerships, and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary ;
- to establish and maintain such institutions, as it may from time to time deem necessary;
- to prescribe with the previous concurrence of the Government the terms and conditions of service of the employees of the University; with the previous concurrence of the Government,
- to regulate the emoluments and prescribe the duties and conditions of service of teachers and non-teaching staff in private colleges
- ;to review and take such action as it may deem fit on the annual report and the annual accounts of the University and to consider and pass the budget according to the provisions of the Statutes;
- to cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted to any person in accordance with the provisions of the Statutes;
- to appoint Committees and to delegate to them such functions of the Senate as it may deem fit
- to recommend to the Government the recognition of any local area within the University area as a University Centre; to co-operate with other Universities and other authorities in such manner and for such purposes as it may determine;
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

Term: Senate shall be reconstituted every four years

#### 8.Syndicate:

Composition: Ex Officio Members: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Secretary to the Government, Higher Education (or an officer not below the ranks of Joint Secretary nominated by him.)Director of Public Instruction, Director of Collegiate Education, Secretary to the Government of Kerala, Information Technology Department( or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary)

Other Members: 1)Thirteen members elected by the Senate from among themselves of whom 7 shall be persons who are not teachers and of whom one shall be SC/ST, 2 shall be Principals of First Grade Colleges, 4 shall be teachers who are not Principals

2) One member elected by the Senate from among the members referred to under the heading a) ex officio members b) elected members c) Other members (item 3) d) Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio-technology.

Tenure: Members other than ex officio members shall hold office for a period of four years.

#### Powers and Functions:

- To affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Act and Statutes
- To make, amend and repeal ordinances.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspectors for that purpose.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts.
- To fix and regulate fees in colleges affiliated by the University.
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To submit financial estimates of the University to the Senate as well as borrow money with prior approval of the Government.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To appoint teachers in private colleges

- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or any other Committee thereof.
- To arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges regarding efficiency, conditions of employment and modify the terms and conditions of affiliation and recognition accordingly.
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To exercise all powers of the Senate except the power of review until the new Senate is reconstituted.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

#### 9. Academic Council:

Composition: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Director of Public Instruction, Director of Technical Education, Director of Collegiate Education, Director of Research and Studies, Director of Physical Education, Deans of Faculties, General Secretary of the University Union, Head of University Departments who are not Deans, all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council, 5 members (other than Deans) of whom at least one shall be a Principal of a Government professional college elected by the Principals of professional colleges, 7 members (other than Deans) of whom at least one shall be a Principal of a Government College, elected by the Principals of first grade colleges, 2 members (other than Deans) elected by the Principals of Junior Colleges from among themselves, 1 principal of a college of oriental languages (other than Deans) nominated by the Chancellor by rotation according to seniority, one member each of every subject of study elected by the Teachers, one headmaster and one teacher of secondary school in the University area nominated by the Chancellor, one member representing each faculty elected by the full time post graduate students from among themselves, 5 external experts to be nominated by the Chancellor

Tenure: All members after the Director of Physical Education shall hold office for a term of 4 years.

#### Powers and Functions:

- Advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.
- To prescribe courses of studies, qualification of teachers, qualifications for the admission of students
- To make proposals for the instruction and training, research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge, for the institution of professorships, readerships, lecturerships, various fellowships and scholarships.
- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To decide what examinations of other Universities maybe recognised and accepted
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act, Statute, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules or Bye laws.

#### 10. Faculty

Composition: Chairman of the Boards of Studies comprised in the Faculty, 2 members each elected from the Board of Studies, not less than 5 and not more than 10 members nominated by the Syndicate.

Tenure: 3 years from their date of nomination.

Dean of Faculties: Nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice Chancellor

Tenure: 2 years and shall be eligible for renomination

#### 11. Board of Studies:

Composition: As prescribed by the Statutes.

Tenure: 3 years from the date of entering into office

#### 12. Students Council:

Composition: Ex-officio members: Vice Chancellor (Chairman), Chairman of the University Union, General Secretary of the University Union, Director, National Cadet Corps, Officer in Charge of the National Service Scheme in the University, Director of Physical Education, Director of Youth Affairs ( Vice Chairman).

Elected Members: 10 members not being members of the Senate or the Academic Council, elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among themselves of whom 2 shall be women, 3 members elected from among the full time students of the university, 2 members (other than students) elected by Senate from among themselves, One member elected from the Syndicate, One member elected from the Academic Council

Other members: 5 members nominated by the Vice Chancellor who have distinguished themselves in the academic field, sports, fine arts.

Powers and Duties:

To make recommendations to the Syndicate and Academic Council with respect to academic life and general welfare of the students and to communicate its views, observations and recommendations in respect of any matter which concerns the students.

13.Finance Committee:

Composition:Vice Chancellor (Chairman);Pro Vice Chancellor;One member elected from the Senate;One member elected from the Syndicate;One member elected from the Academic Council;Finance Secretary to the Government (Secretary);Secretary to the Government, Higher Education

Powers: Give advice to the University on any matter affecting its finances.

14.Statutes:Subject Matter:

- a) Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- b) Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- c) procedure for election of members to the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council and other authorities.
- d) Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e) Maintenance of a register of registered graduates
- f) Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.
- g) Conditions and procedure for affiliation to colleges.
- h) Maintenance of accounts, preparation and passing of annual budget.

15.Ordinances:Subject Matter:

- a) Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- b) Residence and Discipline.
- c) Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- d) Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers.

16.Regulations:Subject Matter:

- Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- Qualification of teachers.
- Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.

17.Affiliation: An application for affiliation to the University of any College shall be sent by the educational agency to the Registrar as prescribed by the Statutes and such affiliation shall be granted by the Syndicate according the procedure prescribed in the Statutes.Non compliance with the provision of this Act can result in discontinuation of aid/ disaffiliation.

18.Unaided Colleges: A committee shall be appointed by the Government to look into the scales of pay and other conditions of service as well as the admission, selection of and the fees payable by students.

19.Power of the Government: Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. Also a commission maybe appointed by the Government at any time after the expiration of ten years. Power to make rules in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

## 5) Mahatma Gandhi University Act, 1985

1.Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

Powers of the Chancellor:

- May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- In an emergency, the Chancellor has the right to suspend or dismiss any authority and take interim measures for the administration.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Appellate authority against any order of dismissal passed by the Syndicate/Vice Chancellor.
- Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour.
- Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- Power to appoint a Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

2.Vice Chancellor: Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the University.

Retirement Act: 65 years.

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) elected by the Senate (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominated by the Chancellor. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

Powers & Functions:

- The VC shall be the Chairman of the Syndicate, Academic Council, Students Council & Finance Committee and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and report any violation of the Chancellor.
- Visitation and Inspection of colleges and institutions affiliated to the University.
- Power to appoint, suspend or dismiss any member of the University below the rank of Deputy Registrar.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

3.Pro-Vice Chancellor:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Chancellor from among the names submitted by the Vice Chancellor.

Eligibility: Not more than 56 years of age.

4.Registrar:

Method of Appointment: A person selected by the Government from the names given to it by the selection committee appointed by the Syndicate

5. Controller of Examinations:

Whole time salaried officer

Appointed by the Syndicate

Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

6. Finance Officer

Whole time salaried officer

Appointed by the Syndicate

Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

7. Senate:

Composition

Ex Officio Members: Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Finance Secretary to the Government of Kerala ( or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary), Director of Public Instruction, Director of Collegiate Education, Secretary of the Government of Kerala or Additional Secretary, General Education Department to be nominated by the Government, Secretary of the Government of Kerala or Additional Secretary, Higher Education Department to be nominated by the Government, Secretary to the Government of Kerala, Information Technology Department( or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary), Director of Technical Education, Director of Medical Education, Chairman, State Advisory Board of Education, Mayor of Trivandrum, Seven heads of University Departments who are not otherwise members of the Senate (to be nominated in order of their seniority by the Chancellor on rotation), Four Deans of the Faculties of University who are not otherwise members of the Senate (to be nominated in order of their seniority by the Chancellor on rotation), Chairman of the University Union.

Elected Members:

- 11 Principals elected among themselves of whom 2 shall be from Government Colleges, 1 from a Professional College one from a Junior College.
- Six members elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly from the electorate of the University area of whom one shall be a member of a Schedule Caste.
- Three members elected by the Teachers of the University
- Five members elected by the Teachers of Government Colleges by themselves.
- Sixteen members elected by the Teachers of Private Colleges from among themselves.
- One member elected by the members of the local authorities of each District in the University area from among themselves.
- Two members elected by the registered Trade Unions in the University area designated by Statutes, from among their members.
- One member elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the University from among themselves.
- Three members elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the affiliated colleges from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of the non-teaching staff of a Government College.
- Three members elected by the managers of the private colleges in the University area from among themselves.
- Fifteen members elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among full-time students, of whom one shall be a post graduate student, one shall be a research scholar, one shall be the student of a professional college, five shall be lady students, one shall be a member of a Scheduled Tribe and one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste.

Other Members:

- Two headmasters of High Schools and two Teachers of Schools, situated within the University area, nominated by the Chancellor.
- Not more than eleven members nominated by the Chancellor representing (i) recognized research institutions; (ii) recognized cultural associations; (iii) chambers of commerce; (iv) industries; (v) authors; (vi) journalists; (vii) lawyers; (viii) sports; and (ix) linguistic minorities.
- Four students nominated by the Chancellor, one having outstanding academic ability in humanities, one having outstanding ability in science, one having outstanding ability in sports and one having outstanding ability in fine arts.
- Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio-technology.

Reconstitution: The senate shall be reconstituted every four years.

Powers and Functions of the Senate:

- To review from time to time the policies and programmes of the University.
- To suggest measures for improvement and development.
- To consider and pass resolutions on the annual report, annual accounts and audit report.
- To advise the Chancellor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice.

8.Syndicate:

Composition.

Ex Officio Members: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Secretary to the Government, Higher Education (or an officer not below the ranks of Joint Secretary nominated by him.) Secretary to the Government, Finance Department (or an officer not below the ranks of Joint Secretary nominated by him.) Director of Public Instruction, Director of Collegiate Education, Secretary to the Government of Kerala, Information Technology Department (or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of Joint Secretary)

Other members: 2 eminent Educationists/ Scientists nominated by the Government.

3 Deans of Faculties nominated by the Chancellor by rotation.

2 principals of colleges affiliated to the University nominated by the Government.

3 teachers of colleges nominated by the Government of whom one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste/Tribe.

Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio-technology.

Term of Office: 4 years other than ex officio members.

Powers and Functions:

- To affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Act and Statutes
- To make, amend and repeal ordinances.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspectors for that purpose.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts.
- To fix and regulate fees in colleges affiliated by the University.
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To submit financial estimates of the University to the Senate as well as borrow money with prior approval of the Government.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies.

- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To appoint teachers in private colleges
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or any other Committee thereof.
- To arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges regarding efficiency, conditions of employment and modify the terms and conditions of affiliation and recognition accordingly.
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To amend or cancel any Regulation passed by the Academic Council.
- To institute professorships, readerships, lectureships and such other teaching or research posts as it may deem necessary.
- To prescribe terms and conditions of service of employees of the University and staff of private colleges (both teaching and non teaching)
- To prepare the budget in accordance with the Statutes.
- To cancel any degree, diploma, title or any other distinction granted.
- To appoint committees and delegate functions to them.
- To make Statutes regarding method of elections, procedure of meetings, quorum.
- To recommend to the Government the recognition of any local area within the University area as a centre.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

#### 9. Academic Council:

Composition: Vice Chancellor, Pro Vice Chancellor, Director of Public Instruction, Director of Technical Education, Director of Collegiate Education, Director of Research and Studies, Director of Physical Education, Director of Medical Education, Deans of Faculties, Head of University Departments who are not Deans, all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council, 5 members (other than Deans) of whom at least one shall be a Principal of a Government professional college elected by the Principals of professional colleges, 7 members (other than Deans) of whom at least one shall be a Principal of a Government College, elected by the Principals of first grade colleges, 2 members (other than Deans) elected by the Principals of Junior Colleges from among themselves, 1 principal of a college of oriental languages (other than Deans) nominated by the Chancellor by rotation according to seniority, one member each of every subject of study nominated by the Government by rotation according to seniority, one headmaster and one teacher of secondary school in the University area nominated by the Chancellor, one member representing each faculty elected by the full time post graduate students from among themselves, 7 external experts to be nominated by the Government of whom 2 shall be experts in the field of commerce, business management or industrial technology.

Tenure: All members after the Director of Physical Education shall hold office for a term of 4 years.

#### Powers and Functions:

- Advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.
- To prescribe courses of studies, qualification of teachers, qualifications for the admission of students
- To make proposals for the instruction and training, research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge, for the institution of professorships, readerships, lectureships, various fellowships and scholarships.
- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To decide what examinations of other Universities maybe recognised and accepted
- To arrange for the co-ordination of studies and teaching in affiliated colleges and recognised institutions.
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act, Statute, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules or Bye laws.

#### 10. Faculty

Composition: Chairman of the Boards of Studies comprised in the Faculty, 2 members each elected from the Board of Studies, not less than 5 and not more than 10 members nominated by the Syndicate, 2 members to be nominated by the Syndicate who are from outside the University on the basis of their expert knowledge.



Tenure: 3 years from their date of nomination.

Dean of Faculties: Nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice Chancellor from among the Heads of Departments or Professors of other Universities or affiliated Government Colleges with Professional Courses.

Tenure: 2 years and shall be eligible for renomination

#### 11.Boards of Studies:

Composition: Head of the Department (chairman), such number of members as may be prescribed by the Statutes nominated by the Chancellor from among the teachers, such number of members as may be prescribed by the Statutes nominated by the Chancellor from among persons who are experts in the field of education.

Term of Office: 3 years.

#### 12.Students Council

Ex officio members: A senior member from among the Faculties nominated by the Chancellor who shall be the Chairman, Chairman of the University Union, General Secretary of the University Union, Director, National Cadet Corps, Officer in Charge of the National Service Scheme in the University, Director of Physical Education, Director of Youth Affairs ( Vice Chairman), Dean of Students.

Elected members: Elected Members: 15 members not being members of the Senate or the Academic Council, elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among themselves of whom 5 shall be women,2 shall be SC/ST, 3 members elected from among the full time students of the university, 2 members (other than students) elected by Senate from among themselves, One member elected from the Syndicate, One member elected from the Academic Council.

Other members: 5 members nominated by the Vice Chancellor who have distinguished themselves in the academic field, sports, fine arts/

Powers and Functions:

- To make recommendations to the Syndicate and Academic Council with respect to academic life and general welfare of the students.
- To communicate its views, observations and recommendations in respect of any matter which concerns the students.

#### 13.Finance Committee:

Composition:

- a) Vice Chancellor (Chairman)
- b) Pro Vice Chancellor
- c) One member elected from the Senate
- d) One member elected from the Syndicate
- e) One member elected from the Academic Council
- f) Finance Secretary to the Government (Secretary)
- g) Secretary to the Government, Higher Education

Powers: Give advice to the University on any matter affecting its finances.

#### 14.Statutes:Subject Matter:

- a) Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- b) Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- c) procedure for election of members to the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council and other authorities.
- d) Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e) Maintenance of a register of registered graduates
- f) Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.

- g) Conditions and procedure for affiliation to colleges.
- h) Maintenance of accounts, preparation and passing of annual budget.
- i) Procedure for disciplinary action and termination of service.
- j) Procedure for arbitration in case of a dispute as well as procedure for appeal
- k) Constitution of a grievance committee for the employees and students.
- l) Principles governing seniority of service of employers.
- m) Participation of students and research scholars in the affairs of the University.
- n) Establishment and abolition of Faculties, Departments, Hostel etc.
- o) Delegation of powers vested in various authorities
- p) Creation of any authority or agency for improving the academic life of the University.
- q) All other matters which are to be prescribed by the Statutes.

15. Ordinances: Subject Matter:

- a) Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- b) Residence and Discipline.
- c) Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- d) Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers.

16. Regulations: Subject Matter:

- a) Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- b) Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- c) Qualification of teachers.
- d) Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- e) Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.

17. Affiliation: An application for affiliation to the University of any College shall be sent by the educational agency to the Registrar as prescribed by the Statutes and such affiliation shall be granted by the Syndicate according to the procedure prescribed in the Statutes. Non compliance with the provision of this Act can result in discontinuation of aid/ disaffiliation.

18. Unaided Colleges: A committee shall be appointed by the Government to look into the scales of pay and other conditions of service as well as the admission, selection of and the fees payable by students.

19. Power of the Government: Disciplinary powers of the Government over teachers in private colleges. The government shall constitute an appellate tribunal for the purposes of this act. Can withhold grant or aid upon recommendation from the Syndicate because of non compliance with act, statute and regulations. Also a commission maybe appointed by the Government at any time after the expiration of ten years. Power to make rules in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

## 6) National University of Advanced Legal Studies Act, 2005

1. Chancellor: Chief Justice of Kerala High Court

Powers: Preside over convocation & Appoint Vice-Chancellor.

2. Visitor: Chief Justice of India or a Senior Judge nominated by him.

Powers:

- Has the right to call for report on any matter pertaining to the affairs of the University.
- Has the right to attend any of the meetings of the executive council, general council or academic council
- Shall preside over the convocation conferring honorary degrees.
- University has to give effect to the directions issued by the Visitor within 90 days.

Powers of Visitor/Chancellor

- Give direction, take action or do anything as required under the provisions of this Act or regulations thereunder

- To cause an inspection by such person as he may direct of any work, activity or examination of the University.
- To give his views or advice to the Vice Chancellor where an inspection or inquiry has taken place.

### 3.Pro-Chancellor: Education Minister, Government of Kerala.

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor.

### 4.General Council

Composition: Chancellor, Pro Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Minister for Law, Government of Kerala, Member of Parliament representing the constituency where the headquarters of the University are situated, 3 members of the Legislative Assembly elected from among themselves, Mayor of Kochi Corporation, 2 sitting judges of the Kerala High Court nominated by the Chancellor, Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Kerala, Law Secretary, Government of Kerala, Principal Secretary, Finance Department, Government of Kerala, A member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council, Advocate General of Kerala, Chairman, Bar Council of India or his nominee, 5 members of the Bar Council of Kerala nominated by the Chancellor, Managing Trustee of the Trust, Dean Faculty of Law, Cochin University of Science and Technology, Principal of a Government Law College in Kerala nominated by the Chancellor, President, Kerala High Court Advocates Association, Not more than 5 members nominated by the Bar Council of Kerala Trust from among advocates have ten years standing at the Bar (1 shall be a woman, 1 shall be from SC/ST and ex bar council members), Not more than 4 members nominated by the government from among educational experts and technical experts (1 shall be a woman and 1 shall be from SC/ST), One senior advocate of the Supreme Court nominated by the Chancellor, 2 senior members of the Teaching Faculty of the University nominated by the Vice Chancellor, 3 students of the University nominated by the Vice Chancellor on basis of academic merit (1 shall be a woman and 1 shall be from SC/ST), Such other members of the Executive Council who not otherwise members of the General Council.

Term of Office: 4 years (except for ex-officio members)

Powers:

- To review from time to time the policies and programmes of the University and suggest measures for improvement.
- To review annual report and audited accounts presented to it by the Executive Council.
- To advice matters relating to the functioning of the University.
- To consider and pass resolutions on the annual report, annual accounts and audit report.
- To advise the Chancellor/Visitor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice.
- To approve, alter, amend or repeal regulations of the University.
- To approve the budget presented by the Executive Council.
- To recommend to the Chancellor regarding conferment of honorary degree.

### 5.Executive Council

Composition: Vice Chancellor (Chairman); Sitting judge of the Kerala High Court who is a member of the General Council nominated by the Chancellor, Advocate General of Kerala, Chairman of the Bar Council of India or his nominee, Chairman, Bar Council of Kerala, Principal Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department, Law Secretary to the Government of Kerala, A member of the Bar Council of India representing the Kerala Bar Council, Managing Trustee of the Trust, One member each from among the following members of the General Council nominated by the Chancellor a) Member of the Legislative Assembly b) woman member c) a member belonging to SC/ST; One member from among the member of the teaching faculty of the University in the General Council nominated by the Vice Chancellor on a rotation basis for a period of 2 years, One member each from among the following categories co-opted by the Chancellor a) an expert in industrial infrastructure management, a law teacher of national eminence c) a student member of the General Council, Principal Secretary to the Finance Department; a member nominated by the Executive Council of the Higher Education Council from among its members, 2 legal experts nominated by the Government of which one shall be a woman.

Term of Office: 4 years (except for ex-officio members)

Powers and Functions:

- To propose regulations and amendments or repeal thereof for the consideration of the General Council.
- Power to frame regulations to provide for the administration and management of the affairs of the University.
- To establish, maintain and abolish University Centres or Institutions for higher learning or research.
- To institute on the recommendation of the Academic Council teaching and research posts.
- To appoint, suspend, dismiss or punish teachers, heads of departments and other employees in accordance with the University Grants Commission Act, 1956.
- To appoint various persons as may prescribed by the regulations as Visiting and Adjunct Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Lecturers.
- To create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts, determine the numbers, emoluments and minimum qualifications.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To determine what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To approve financial estimates of the income and expenditure of the University.
- To consider the annual accounts with the audit report and take appropriate action.
- To prepare the annual report and budget and present the same for consideration before the Executive Council.
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or a Committee.
- To exercise such other powers or perform other duties as may be conferred or imposed on the University by the Act.

## 6. Academic Council

Composition: Vice Chancellor, A nominee of the Chairman of the Bar Council of India from among its members of the Legal Education Committee, A nominee of the Chairman of the University Grants Commission from among its members of the Law Panel, An eminent jurist nominated by the Executive Council, An eminent educationist drawn from a non law discipline nominated by the Executive Council, All Heads of Departments of the Centres, 2 senior members of the Teaching Faculty nominated by the Vice Chancellor, 2 distinguished law teachers other than teachers of the University nominated by the Vice Chancellor, A senior professor in law from any one of the National Law Universities in India nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice Chancellor, 2 Senior professors in law from the University Law Colleges nominated by the Chancellor; 2 practising lawyers having more than ten years standing at the bar with teaching experience and academic distinction nominated by the Executive Council, One teacher of every subject of study other than law offered under the syllabus.

Term of Office: 4 years (except ex officio members)

Powers and Functions:

- Advice Executive Council on all academic matters.
- To report on any academic matter referred to it by the General/Executive Council.
- To make recommendation to the executive council with regard to the creation, abolition or classification of teaching posts in the University.
- To formulate, modify or revise such schemes for the organisation of various departments
- To prescribe the syllabus and scheme for various courses offered and to constitute committees to make proposals in this regard.
- To promote research within the University
- To recognise diplomas, degrees of other Universities and determine their equivalence in relation to the degrees and diplomas of the University.
- To make recommendations regarding appointment and removal of examiners.
- To make proposals regarding the prescription of regulations relating to courses of studies and examinations.

- To make proposals regarding regulations relating to qualifications of teachers, research and advancement and dissemination of knowledge.
- To prescribe qualifications for the admission of students.
- To exercise such other powers or perform other duties as may be conferred or imposed on the University by the Act.

#### 7.Board of Studies:

Composition: As prescribed by the Regulations

#### 8.Vice Chancellor:

Method of Appointment: The Vice Chancellor shall be appointed by the Chancellor on the recommendation of a Search Committee appointed by him consisting of a) one nominee of the Bar Council of Kerala, One nominee of the University Grants Commission c) One nominee of the State Government. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Term of Office: 4 years or until he attains the age of 65 years whichever is earlier.

#### Powers and Functions:

- Discharge all functions for the effective management and administration.
- Ensure compliance with the Act and Regulations.
- Convene meetings of the General Council Executive Council and Academic Council.
- Appoint examiners
- Have powers necessary to maintain discipline in the University
- Take emergency action and then report the action to the authority which would have ordinarily dealt with the matter.
- Execute contracts on behalf of the University when the value does exceed 20 lakh rupees.
- Visiting and inspecting departments, centres and institutions of the University
- Any other powers and functions prescribed by the Regulations.

#### 9.Registrar:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Executive Council.

#### Powers and Functions:

- Ex-officio Secretary of the General Council Executive Council and Academic Council.
- Suits or legal proceedings by or against the University shall be instituted by or against the Registrar.
- Comply with all the directions and orders of the Executive Council and Vice Chancellor.
- Be the custodian of the records, common seal and other property of the University assigned to him.
- Issue notices for convening of meetings of the authorities.
- Keep the minutes of all the meetings of the authorities
- Conduct official correspondence on behalf of the University.
- Execute contracts on behalf of the University when the value does not exceed 20 lakh rupees.
- Supply the Chancellor with the agenda and minutes of the meetings of the authorities
- Exercise such powers and functions as may be prescribed by the Executive Council, Vice Chancellor or Regulations.

#### 10.Finance Officer:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Executive Council.

Powers, Functions and Terms and Conditions of Service prescribed by Regulations.

#### 11.Controller of Examinations:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Executive Council.

Powers, Functions and Terms and Conditions of Service prescribed by Regulations.

## 12. Power of the Government:

Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. The Government shall have the power to direct the University to consider the instructions of the Government in respect of fees and admission.

## 7) Shree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Act, 1994

1. Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

Powers and Functions:

- May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour.
- Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- Power to appoint a Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Additional powers as conferred on him by this Act or Statutes.

2. Pro Chancellor: Minister in charge of Higher Education.

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor or any such powers by way of delegation.

3. Chief Counsellor: An eminent Sanskrit Scholar having international reputation. Method of Appointment: Nominated by the Government

Powers and Functions:

- The Chief Counsellor shall be the honorary chief advisor of the University.
- The Chief Counsellor shall have the right to visit the University or any institution established or maintained by the University at any time after giving prior intimation to the Vice-Chancellor.

4. Syndicate: Ex officio Members: Vice-Chancellor; the secretary to Government in charge of the Higher Education Department; Principal Dean of Studies and the Deans of Faculties.

Elected Members: One member elected by the members of the Kerala Legislative Assembly from among themselves for a period of four years:

Nominated Members:

- Four eminent scholars representing Sanskrit, Indology, Indian Philosophy and any of the Indian languages nominated for a period of four years by the Chancellor at a time:
- Four eminent academicians or reputed teachers of the University or affiliated colleges in the State who have made significant contributions in the field of art, education, management or social science nominated by the Government (1 shall be a woman and 1 shall be a member of SC/ST)
- One teacher nominated by the Government
- One Dean of Faculty nominated by the Chancellor in rotation.

Constitution of the Syndicate: Shall be constituted by Chancellor and shall be reconstituted every 4 years.

Powers and Functions of Syndicate:

- Vested with Executive powers of the University
- Control, management and administration of the properties and funds of the University

- To make Statutes in accordance with the provisions of this Act and submit for the assent of the Chancellor;
- To propose Regulations for the consideration and approval of the Academic Council;
- To make Ordinances and to amend or repeal the same;
- To determine the degrees, diplomas, certificates and other academic distinctions to be granted by the University;
- To institute and to award fellowships, scholarships, medals and prizes;
- To establish, maintain and manage such institutions as are deemed necessary for the furtherance of the objects of the University;
- To create such faculties and academic departments as are necessary under the University from time to time;
- To create teaching and non-teaching posts in the University with the prior approval to the Government;
- To arrange for the inspection of the recognised institution
- To exercise disciplinary powers over the teachers and other employees of the University;
- To appoint teachers and other employees of the University, to prescribe their duties and to fix their terms and conditions of services in accordance with the provisions of the statutes, to entertain, adjudicate upon and if thought fit, to redress any grievances of officers of the University, the teaching staff, other employees of the University and the students whom may for any reason feel aggrieved ;
- To prepare and approve the annual budget of the University;
- To review the annual accounts and the annual report of the University and to take such action thereon as it deems fit;
- To conduct examinations and to approve and publish the results thereof; withhold or cancel for sufficient reasons the result of any candidate at any examination or to withdraw or cancel for sufficient reasons, degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions granted by the University;
- To fix the fees, remuneration, the travelling allowance and other allowances to be paid to the examiners, paper-setters and other staff engaged in examination work;
- To accept on behalf of the University any bequest, donation or transfers of any movable or immovable property to the University;
- To provide buildings, premises, furniture, equipments and other requisites for carrying on the work of the University and to that end, enter into, vary, carry out and cancel contracts on behalf of the University;
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University;
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of hostels and other institutions of the University;
- To fix and regulate the fee payable by the students;
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students;
- To negotiate with other Universities for the recognition of the examinations of the University;
- To grant assistance to institutions or individuals for the publication of Sanskrit books or books relating to Sanskrit literature or Indian Philosophy or for the dissemination of Sanskrit learning;
- To exercise any of the powers of the University not specifically conferred on any of the authorities under this Act and the Statutes;
- To delegate any of its powers except the power to make Statutes and Ordinances, to the Vice-Chancellor either temporarily or permanently;
- To exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as are laid down in this Act, the Statutes and the Ordinances.

Academic Council:

Reconstituted every three years

Ex Officio Members: Vice-Chancellor; Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of an Additional Secretary to Government nominated by him; the Secretary to Government, Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of an Additional Secretary to Government nominated by him; Director of Public Instruction; Director of Collegiate Education; Deans of Faculties; Heads of Academic Departments; Registrar; Chairman of the University union; and the members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic Council.

Elected Members: One teacher, other than a Dean or head of department, representing each faculty elected by the members of the faculty from among themselves for a period of three years.

Nominated Members:

- One postgraduate student and one research student, both nominated by the Chancellor for a period of one year at a time;

- Five eminent scholars in Sanskrit, Indology, Indian Philosophy and Indian languages nominated by the Chancellor for a period of three years at a time of whom one shall be a woman.

Powers and Functions:

To advise the senate on all academic matters namely:

1. Courses of study
2. Degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions to be granted.
3. Qualification of teachings, admission of students.
4. Institution of scholarship, fellowship, medals and prizes.
5. Establishment, abolition and reorganisation of academic departments.
6. Scheme of examinations to be conducted.
7. To make, amend or repeal Regulations.

To scrutinise all Statutes in respect of academic matters at the draft stage.  
To exercise such other powers and perform such other duties as are laid down in this Statutes.

6.Faculties:

The University shall have the following faculties: Sanskrit literature; Sanskrit grammar; Indian Metaphysics; Indian Logic; Other Sanskrit Studies; Indology; Indian languages; Foreign languages & Arts and Social Sciences.

Composition: one or more Academic Departments; Composition of Academic Departments: Basic units of the academic studies of the University headed by a Professor or, in the absence of a Professor, by a Reader of that department or, in the absence of both, the senior most teacher of that department.

Term of Office: As prescribed by the Statutes.

7.Boards of Studies. There shall be a Board of Studies for each Academic department of the University having a teaching course. The Dean of the concerned faculty shall be the ex officio Chairman of each Board of Studies. The members of the Boards of studies shall be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor. The constitution, term of office and the powers and functions of the Boards of Studies shall be such as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

8.Finance Committee:

Composition: the Vice-Chancellor; the Secretary to Government, Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him; the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of Joint Secretary nominated by him & the Registrar.

Powers and Functions: to review the financial position of the University, from time to time, and to make recommendations to the Syndicate on all matters relating to the finance of the University; to examine the annual budget estimates of the University and to advise the Syndicate thereon; to make recommendations to the Syndicate on all proposals which involve expenditure not contemplated in the budget or in excess of the provision of the budget; to exercise such other powers as may be prescribed by the Statutes.

9.Vice Chancellor: Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the University.

Eligibility: Not completed 65 years of age.

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) nominee of the Government (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominee of the Syndicate. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.



Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

Powers and Functions:

- The VC shall be the Chairman of the Syndicate, Academic Council & Finance Committee and has the power to convene meetings of these authorities.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Ordinances and Regulations.
- General control over the affairs of the University as well as responsible for the maintenance of discipline.
- Responsible for the proper administration of the University and regular performance of the academic work.
- Can take emergency action when the Syndicate and Academic Council is not in session and then report the action for approval.
- Power to appoint, suspend or take disciplinary actions against employees of the University.
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes and Ordinances.

10.Registrar:

Method of Appointment: As prescribed by the Statutes.

Powers and Functions:

- Due Custody of records, movable and immovable property and common seal.
- Maintain a permanent record of all the courses, curriculum, academic performance of the students and other relevant information.
- Suits by or against the University shall be instituted by or against the Registrar.
- Ex-officio Secretary of the General Council Executive Council and Academic Council.
- Supply the Syndicate with the agenda and minutes of the meetings of the authorities
- Exercise such powers and functions as may be prescribed by the Syndicate, Vice Chancellor or Statutes.

11.Statutes: Subject Matter:

- a) Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- b) Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- c) procedure for election of members to any of the authorities.
- d) Award of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e) Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.
- f) Procedure for recruitment of teaching/non teaching staff.
- g) Maintenance of accounts, preparation and approval of annual budget.
- h) Procedure to be followed for making, amending and repealing ordinances.
- i) Terms and conditions of service relating to teachers, officers and other employees of the University.
- j) All other matters which are to be prescribed by the Statutes.

12.Ordinances:Subject Matter:

- a) Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- b) Residence and Discipline.
- c) Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- d) Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers.

13.Regulations:Subject Matter:

- a) Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- b) Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- c) Qualification of teachers.
- d) Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- e) Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.

14.Power of the Government:

Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University.

## 7) Kannur University Act, 1996

### 1. Chancellor: Governor of Kerala

#### Powers of the Chancellor:

- May by order in writing annul any proceeding of any of the authorities which is not in conformity with this Act, Statutes, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws as long as he/she has given the concerned authority an opportunity to be heard.
- In an emergency, the Chancellor has the right to suspend or dismiss any authority and take interim measures for the administration.
- Every proposal for the conferment of an honorary degree shall be subject to confirmation by the Chancellor.
- Appellate authority against any order of dismissal passed by the Syndicate/Vice Chancellor.
- Power to remove Pro Chancellor/Vice Chancellor on charges of misappropriation or mismanagement of funds or misbehaviour.
- Remuneration and other conditions of service of the VC to be determined by the Chancellor.
- Power to appoint a Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Additional powers as conferred on him by the Statutes.

### 2. Pro Chancellor: Minister in charge of Higher Education in Kerala.

Powers: In the absence of the Chancellor, the Pro Chancellor shall exercise all the powers and functions of the Chancellor.

### 3. Vice Chancellor: Principal Academic and Executive Officer of the University.

Eligibility: Not more than 60 years.

Method of Appointment: The VC shall be appointed by a Committee consisting of three members: (a) elected by the Senate (b) nominated by the Chairman of the University Grants Commission (c) nominated by the Chancellor. In the absence of a unanimous decision, the Chancellor shall appoint the VC from the panel of names submitted to him by the Committee.

Tenure: 4 years and eligible for reappointment once.

#### Powers and Duties of the Vice Chancellor:

- In emergency situations, the Vice Chancellor can take immediate action and report such actions to the Senate.
- Shall perform all the duties of all the authorities until they are nominated and duly constituted.
- Power to convene meetings of the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council, and any other authorities of the University.
- Ensure compliance by various authorities of the Acts, Statutes, Regulations, Rules and Bye Laws and report any violation of the Chancellor.
- Visitation and Inspection of colleges and institutions affiliated to the University.
- Carry on administration of the University in an efficient manner by adopting techniques of modern management and by using computers and other sophisticated equipment.

### 4. Pro-Vice Chancellor:

Method of Appointment: Appointed by the Chancellor from among the names submitted by the Vice Chancellor.

Eligibility: Not more than 56 years of age

### 5. Registrar:

Method of Appointment: A person selected by the Government from the names given to it by the selection committee appointed by the Syndicate

## 6. Controller of Examinations:

Whole time salaried officer

Appointed by the Syndicate

Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

## 7. Finance Officer

Whole time salaried officer

Appointed by the Syndicate

Terms and Conditions determined by the Statutes.

## 8. Senate:

Composition: Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor, Pro-Vice-Chancellor; Finance Secretary to Government or an officer of the Finance Department, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government nominated by the Government; Director of Public Instruction; Director of Collegiate Education; the Secretary to Government, General Education Department, or an officer of the General Education Department, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government, nominated by the Government; the Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, or an officer of the Higher Education Department, not below the rank of Joint Secretary to Government, nominated by the Government; The Secretary to Government, Information Technology Department or an officer of the Information Technology Department not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, nominated by him; Director of Technical Education, Government of Kerala; Director of Medical Education, Government of Kerala; two Heads of University departments who are not otherwise member of the Senate, nominated by the Chancellor, by rotation; two Deans of the faculties of the University who are not otherwise members of the Senate, nominated by the Chancellor, by rotation; chairman of the University Union ; chairman, State Advisory Board of Education.

### Elected members

- Four members elected from among principals, of whom, one shall be a principal of a government college for arts and science, one shall be a principal of a private college for arts and science and one shall be a principal of a professional college;
- Four members elected by the members of the Legislative Assembly of Kerala from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe and one shall be a woman;
- Two members elected by the teachers of the University from among themselves;
- Three members elected by the teachers of Government colleges from among themselves;
- Ten members elected by the teachers of private colleges from among themselves of whom three shall be women;
- President of a District panchayat elected by the members of the district Panchayats, President of a Block Panchayat, elected by the Presidents of the Block Panchayats, three Presidents of Grama Panchayats elected by the Presidents of the Grama Panchayats and Chairman of a Municipality elected by the Chairmen of the Municipalities, within the University area;
- One member elected by the members of the non-teaching staff of the University from among themselves;
- Two members elected by members of the non-teaching staff of the affiliated colleges from among themselves, of whom one shall be a member of the non-teaching staff of a Government college and the other shall be a member of the non-teaching staff of a private college;
- One member elected by the managers of the private colleges in the University area from among themselves;
- Ten members elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among full-time students, of whom one shall be a post-graduate student, one shall be a research scholar,

one shall be a student of a professional college, two shall be lady students, and one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe;

- Two member elected by the registered trade unions within the jurisdiction of the University;
- One member elected by the members of the State Library Council from among themselves.

Other members:

- one member from among the headmasters of High Schools and one member from among the teachers of schools, situated within the University area; nominated by the Chancellor;
- not more than ten members nominated by the chancellor representing (a) recognised research institutions; (b) chambers of commerce and industries; (c) authors; (d) journalists; (e) lawyers; (f) sports and games; (g) linguistic minorities; (h) medical profession; and (i) engineering and technology;
- four members from among students nominated by the Chancellor, one having outstanding academic ability in humanities, one having outstanding academic ability in science, one having outstanding ability in sports and one having outstanding ability in fine arts of whom, one shall be a student of a campus or a University department and another shall be a students of an affiliated college.
- Not more than four experts nominated by the Government from the fields of Information Technology and Bio- Technology.

Reconstitution of the Senate: Every 4 years.

Powers and Functions of the Senate:

- To review from time to time the policies and programmes of the University.
- To suggest measures for improvement and development.
- To consider and pass resolutions on the annual report, annual accounts and audit report.
- To advise the Chancellor in respect of any matter which may be referred to it for advice.

9.Syndicate:

Composition:

Ex officio Members: Vice-Chancellor;Pro-Vice-Chancellor;The Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department or an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, in Higher Education Department, nominated by him;The Secretary to Government, Finance Department or an officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, nominated by him; The Secretary to Government., Information Technology Department or an Officer not below the rank of a Joint Secretary, nominated by him; The Director of Collegiate Education.

Other members:

- Two eminent Educationists or Scientists nominated by the Government;
- Three Deans of Faculties nominated by the Chancellor,by rotation;
- Two Principals of Colleges affiliated to the University, nominated by the Government;
- Three teachers of colleges nominated by the Government of whom one shall be a member of a Scheduled caste or a Scheduled Tribe;
- The members referred to in item (iv) under the heading "Other members" in section 19, nominated by Government".
- Provided that one of the members nominated by the Government shall be a woman.

Term of Office: 4 years (except ex officio members)

Powers and Functions:

- To affiliate institutions in accordance with the terms and conditions prescribed by the Act and Statutes
- To make, amend and repeal ordinances.
- To hold, control and administer the properties and funds of the University.
- To direct the form, custody and use of the common seal of the University
- To arrange for and direct the inspection of colleges, hostels and other institutions and to constitute a Board of Inspectors for that purpose.
- To establish, maintain and manage colleges and institutions of research and higher learning.
- To appoint, suspend, discharge or dismiss teachers and other employees of the University as well as create administrative, ministerial and other necessary posts.
- To fix and regulate fees in colleges affiliated by the University.
- To award fellowships, scholarships, studentships, bursaries, medals and prizes.
- To exercise supervision and control over the residence and discipline of students.
- To submit financial estimates of the University to the Senate as well as borrow money with prior approval of the Government.
- To conduct university exams and publish results as well as withhold or cancel the result of any candidate.
- To appoint members of the Board of Studies.
- To approve examiners and fix their remuneration
- To appoint teachers in private colleges
- To delegate any of its powers to the Vice Chancellor or any other Committee thereof.
- To cancel, modify or amend any regulation of the Academic Council.
- To arrange for and direct the investigation into the affairs of private colleges regarding efficiency, conditions of employment and modify the terms and conditions of affiliation and recognition accordingly.
- To accept endowments, bequests, donations and transfers of any properties to the University on its behalf provided that such transactions are reported to the Senate.
- To exercise all powers of the Senate except the power of review until the new Senate is reconstituted.
- to exercise such other powers and perform such other functions as may be assigned to it by this Act and the Statutes.

## 10. Academic Council

Composition: Vice-chancellor; Pro-vice-chancellor; the Director of Public Instruction; the Director of Technical Education; the Director of Collegiate Education; the Director of Medical Education; the Director of Higher secondary Education; the Director of Vocational Higher Secondary Education; the Director, state Council of Educational Research and Training; the Deans of Faculties; all the heads of University Departments of Study and research who are not Deans of faculties; all members of the Syndicate who are not otherwise members of the Academic council; three members (other than Deans of faculties) of whom at least one shall be the principal of a Government professional college, elected by the principals of professional colleges from among themselves; seven members (other than Deans of Faculties) of whom at least one shall be the principal of a Government college, elected by the principals of first grade colleges, other than colleges of oriental languages, from among themselves; one member (other than a Dean of Faculty) elected by the principals of colleges of oriental languages, from among themselves; one member each of every subject of study, not being a Dean of faculty or head of a University department or principal, elected by the teachers of that subject, from among themselves; one member from among the headmasters and one member from among the teachers of the secondary schools in the University area, nominated by the chancellor; one member representing each faculty elected by the full-time post-graduate students of the faculty, from among themselves and seven members from external experts nominated by the Chancellor of whom two shall be experts in commerce, business management or industrial technology.

Term of Office: 4 years (except ex officio members)

Powers and Duties:

- Advise the Senate and the Syndicate on all academic matters.
- To make, amend or repeal Regulations.
- To prescribe courses of studies, qualification of teachers, qualifications for the admission of students
- To make proposals for the instruction and training, research, advancement and dissemination of knowledge, for the institution of professorships, readerships, lecturerships, various fellowships and scholarships.
- To make proposals for determining what degrees, diplomas and other academic distinctions shall be granted by the University.
- To decide what examinations of other Universities maybe recognised and accepted

- To arrange for the co-ordination of studies and teaching in affiliated colleges and recognised institutions.
- To exercise such powers and perform other such duties as may be conferred or imposed on it by this Act, Statute, Ordinances, Regulations, Rules or Bye laws.

11. Faculty: Composition: Chairman of the Boards of Studies comprised in the Faculty, 2 members each elected from the Board of Studies, not less than 5 and not more than 10 members nominated by the Syndicate, two members, nominated by the Syndicate, who are from outside the University, on the basis of their expert knowledge

Tenure: 3 years from their date of nomination.

. Dean of Faculties: Nominated by the Chancellor in consultation with the Vice Chancellor

Term of Office: 2 years

Functions: To ensure compliance with all the statutes, ordinance, regulations and bye-laws.

12. Board of Studies:

Composition: As prescribed by the Statutes.

Tenure: 3 years from the date of entering into office

13. Students Council:

Ex-officio members: a senior member from among the teachers nominated by the Vice-chancellor, who shall be the Chairman of the Council; Chairman of the University Union; General Secretary of the University Union; Director, National Cadet Corps; officer-in-charge of the National Service Scheme in the University; Director of Physical Education of the University; Director of Youth Affairs of the University who shall be the Vice-Chairman of the Council

Elected members: seven members, not being members of the Senate or the Academic Council, elected by the members of the General Council of the University Union from among themselves, of whom two shall be women and one shall be a member of a Scheduled Caste or a Scheduled Tribe; two members elected from among the full-time students of the campuses or departments of the University in such manner as may be prescribed by Statutes; two members, other than students, elected by the members of the Senate from among themselves; one member elected by the members of the Syndicate from among themselves; and one member elected by the members of the Academic Council from among themselves;

Other members

- five students who have distinguished themselves in academic field, sports or fine arts, nominated by the Vice-chancellor, after giving due consideration to the representation of special interests.
- A member nominated by the Vice-chancellor, in consultation with the Chairman of the University Union, from among the elected student members of the Council, shall be the secretary to the Council.
- The members of the students' Council, other than ex officio members, shall hold office for a term of one year from the date of the nomination or election, as the case may be.

Term of Office: One year (other than ex-officio members)

Powers and Functions:

- To make recommendations to the Syndicate and Academic Council with respect to academic life and general welfare of the students.
- To communicate its views, observations and recommendations in respect of any matter which concerns the students.

## 12. Finance Committee:

### Composition:

- Vice Chancellor (Chairman)
- Pro Vice Chancellor
- One member elected from the Senate
- One member elected from the Syndicate
- One member elected from the Academic Council
- Finance Secretary to the Government (Secretary)
- Secretary to the Government, Higher Education

Powers: Give advice to the University on any matter affecting its finances.

## 13. Statutes: Subject Matter:

- a) Powers and duties of officers not specified in this act,
- b) Constitution, powers and duties of officers not specified in this act
- c) procedure for election of members to the Senate, Syndicate, Academic Council and other authorities.
- d) Award and Cancellation of degrees, diplomas, titles, certificates and other academic distinctions.
- e) Maintenance of a register of registered graduates
- f) Holding of convocation to confer degrees and conferment of honorary degrees.
- g) Conditions and procedure for affiliation to colleges.
- h) Maintenance of accounts, preparation and passing of annual budget.
- i) Procedure for disciplinary action and termination of service.
- j) Procedure for arbitration in case of a dispute as well as procedure for appeal
- k) Constitution of a grievance committee for the employees and students.
- l) Principles governing seniority of service of employers.
- m) Participation of students and research scholars in the affairs of the University.
- n) Establishment and abolition of Faculties, Departments, Hostel etc.
- o) Delegation of powers vested in various authorities
- p) Creation of any authority or agency for improving the academic life of the University.
- q) All other matters which are to be prescribed by the Statutes.

## 14. Ordinances: Subject Matter:

- a) Levy of fees in colleges and other institutions.
- b) Residence and Discipline.
- c) Workload and pattern of teaching staff
- d) Fixation of pay scale and terms and conditions of service of officers.

## 15. Regulations: Subject Matter:

- Courses of studies and conduct of examinations.
- Admission of students to various courses of study and examination.
- Qualification of teachers.
- Appointment and prescription of duties of the Boards of Studies and Examiners.
- Recognition of Diplomas, Degrees and Examinations.

15. Affiliation: An application for affiliation to the University of any College shall be sent by the educational agency to the Registrar as prescribed by the Statutes and such affiliation shall be granted by the Syndicate according to the procedure prescribed in the Statutes. Non compliance with the provision of this Act can result in discontinuation of aid/ disaffiliation.

16. Unaided Colleges: A committee shall be appointed by the Government to look into the scales of pay and other conditions of service as well as the admission, selection of and the fees payable by students.

## 17. Power of the Government:

Government shall have the right to cause an inspection to be made of the University, its buildings, the work done by the University as well as in respect of any matter of the University. Also a commission may be appointed by the Government at any time after the expiration of ten years. Power to make rules in accordance with the provisions of this Act.

### THE SCHEME OF CLUSTER OF COLLEGES

#### REPORT

##### A Vision Statement

- 1 Concepts and Practices: The idea of establishing clusters of advanced centres was mooted by the Kothari Commission as one of the possible means for extension of excellence from the centre to the periphery. The UGC has been pursuing the project of clustering higher education institutions with the objective of optimum utilization of the existing facilities for the expansion of higher education. The National Knowledge Commission (NKC) has recommended that autonomous status be given to some clusters of colleges, as a part of restructuring undergraduate education. The clusters of colleges have come up in Western systems, bringing together the advantages of bigness and smallness, that of independence and interdependence. Different models have emerged in the process. Clusters have been set up around administrative structures, which would co-ordinate the functioning of the units. Individual institutions have also grouped together on their own to share the benefits of mutual cooperation. There are also clusters with one dominant member supporting smaller units. Clusters have been formed for specific purposes, like sharing Information Communication Technologies (ICT) in teaching-learning, civic engagement by institutions of higher education etc. Apart from sharing resources, the Clusters have provided opportunities for teachers to develop and offer new courses. Students have gained by exposure to experts in different institutions. The possibilities of opening up new areas of knowledge have emerged in the process. Obviously clusters have developed in response to the infrastructure and academic needs. The College Clusters proposed to be set up in different parts of the State could draw upon the above concepts and practices.
- 2 Shared Vision and Principles of Association: Each cluster would be a voluntary association of partnering colleges. A shared vision of the broad objectives of higher education and the immediate needs of the partnering institutions are crucial to the conceptualization and implementation of a scheme of cluster of colleges. The national goals of access, equity and quality of higher education should be shared by all partnering colleges as part of a common vision. A governance structure and administrative mechanism for ensuring the realization of the triple objectives through the optimum utilization of existing infrastructure and promotion of new co-operative ventures will have to be evolved. Similarly, the functions of teaching-learning, research and extension should all be promoted by the clusters. But the implementation of the triple functions through various programmes could be taken up incrementally, depending on the feasibility of the programmes and the preparedness of the participating colleges. However, the basic principle of association would be the same for all clusters: the benefits accruing to each institution must be greater than the energy each institution expends.
- 3 Principles of Governance: Apart from the common vision, the following basic principles should inform the governance of all college clusters.
  - (1) Equal Status: Irrespective of the differences in the infrastructure available in the partnering institutions, all institutions joining the cluster will have equal status. This could be institutionalized by incorporating provisions for equal status of all partners in the governance and administration of the cluster and by ensuring equality of opportunity in sharing existing facilities and developing new facilities.
  - (2) Collective Decision Making: All decisions concerning the cluster would be taken collectively through democratic process. Since commonality of purpose is important in the effective functioning of the clusters, all decisions shall be taken unanimously as far as possible and by two thirds majority of those present and voting, in case of a division.
  - (3) Autonomy and Accountability: The academic objectives sought to be achieved by clustering cannot be realized without a certain degree of autonomy in the functioning of the clusters. But the additional freedom has to be earned by incorporating provisions for social accountability in the governance and administrative structures of the clusters. The principles of democratic representation and decision making should be incorporated in the governance systems of the college clusters.
  - (4) Independence and Interdependence: The partnering colleges will have a dual identity, as independent colleges and as partners in the cluster. Necessary adjustments will have to be made by the partnering colleges for the simultaneous implementation of the programmes particular to the college and that of the cluster. The Principal of the college concerned will be responsible for coordinating the cluster programmes in his/her institution along with other regular programmes.



(5) Physical Proximity: The effectiveness of the cluster arrangement is partly dependent upon the physical proximity of the clustering institutions. The sharing of physical and human resources would be possible only if the member colleges belong to the same locality. Only colleges within a radius of 15 kilometers need be considered for partnership within a cluster.

(6) Optimum Size: The size of each cluster should be such as would facilitate the realization of the advantages of interdependence and independence. The principles of togetherness and separateness should be simultaneously recognized in order to preserve the identity of each institution even while being a partner of a larger system. Clusters of five to ten colleges would be ideal for combining the advantages of bigness and smallness.

(7) Partnership of Public Funded Institutions: Since one of the objectives of the cluster would be to enhance social justice in higher education by sharing subsidized public facilities among marginalized sections of the people, the cluster partnership must be limited to government and aided institutions. The question of self-financing institutions forming clusters among themselves may be taken up at a later stage, after reviewing the experience of the working of the clusters of public funded institutions.

(8) Localized Implementation: While all clusters are expected to share the same vision and the same long term agenda of action, the priorities in the implementation of the programmes and the finer details of implementation of the programmes would be decided within each cluster through a process of democratic decision making, taking into account the local needs and aspirations and the preparedness of the partnering colleges.

(9) Incremental Implementation: The success of the cluster experiment would depend on the degree of willingness of all partnering colleges to share existing facilities and to undertake common ventures, on the extent to which they could come together for the common good. The fact that such altruism is slow in developing needs to be appreciated by identifying less complex programmes in the beginning and putting off programmes involving complex relationships to an appropriately later date, giving time for relationships to mature. The principle that patience pays in the long run should be the rule for all clusters, even as there could be exceptions to the rule.

(10) Role of the Affiliating University: The affiliating university would continue to regulate the partnering colleges in the conduct of their individual programmes. But the clusters will be free to design their own programmes. Such programmes need be submitted for the approval of the University, only if they are permanent programmes involving certification by the university. The provision for setting up clusters and the details of the relationship between the affiliating university and the college clusters should be spelt out in the Acts and Statutes of the affiliating universities.

(11) Role of the Government: The Government should facilitate setting up of clusters through liberal grants and encourage joint ventures by the cluster colleges by approving them and financially assisting them. Only aided programmes approved by the Government would be introduced in the clusters on a permanent basis. Preference should be given by the Government in granting NOC to joint ventures under the cluster arrangement.

(12) Memorandum of Understanding: Apart from provisions in the Acts and Statutes of affiliating universities, the partnering colleges in each cluster should enter into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which will clearly specify the nature and extent of the relationship among partnering colleges and lay down the modalities for the functioning of the cluster.

4 Functions and Responsibilities: The cluster of colleges shall progressively share existing facilities in partner colleges and undertake common ventures for promoting access, equity and quality of education. With the above objectives, the Cluster of colleges shall undertake activities for the promotion of teaching learning, research and extension. The following list of possible programmes is illustrative:

- Sharing of resources such as laboratory, library, auditorium, seminar hall, playground etc.
- Faculty exchange programmes.
- Common facilities for research
- Introduction of five year integrated programmes
- Introduction of innovative credit courses at UG/PG level
- Organizing training programmes for teachers and office staff.
- Introduction of e-learning and network connectivity
- Digitization and networking of libraries
- Introduction of add-on / certificate / diploma courses
- Clustering among departments in the member colleges
- Institution of scholarships and measures to promote merit and equity
- Introduction of common examinations and evaluation systems
- Conduct of common sports activities /competitions
- Conduct of common cultural activities /competitions

- Organizing common programmes for NCC/ NSS volunteers
  - Adoption of a village
  - Introduction of other extension programmes
  - Common research publications and news letters
  - Publication of books for popularization of higher knowledge
  - Institution of chairs
  - Conduct of extension lectures
  - Common hostel accommodation
  - Implementing common programmes for entrepreneurship, career counseling and employment
  - Development of special infrastructure programmes for differently-abled students
  - Introduction of any other programme for the promotion of teaching-learning, research, extension
  - Introduction of any other programme for the promotion of access, equity and quality of higher education
- 5 Governance Structures: The governance structures of clusters should be such as would ensure equal and adequate representation of partnering institutions, democratic decision making, effective implementation of academic programmes, functional autonomy and social accountability. The following structures may be common to all clusters:
- (1)Governing Body: The Governing Body will be responsible for taking policy decisions on behalf of the cluster and for approving the annual budget and audited statement of expenditure and for initiating all new schemes. It shall consist of the following members:
- (a) Principal of each partnering college
  - (b) Representative of the management of each partnering college
  - (c) Elected representative of the teachers of each college
  - (d) Elected representative of the college union of each college
  - (e) Nominee of the State Government
  - (f) Representative of the District Panchayath
  - (g) Representative of the Syndicate of the affiliating University
  - (h) Two educationists nominated by the Government

The Principal of a partnering college shall be the chairperson of the Governing Body. The term of the Chairperson will be limited to two years. Vacancies will be filled up on the basis of rotation among partnering colleges. While every effort should be made to fill up the post of the Chairperson through consensus, the principle of seniority among incumbent Principals may be followed, if there is no consensus. The Chairperson- in- waiting shall be the Member Secretary and shall be selected through the same process as that of the Chairman. The Governing Body shall meet at least three times a year. It shall be competent to decide the procedure for its meeting and implementation of the decisions taken by it. The quorum for the meetings of the Governing Body shall be one third of the total membership and decision shall be taken by two third majority of those present and voting.

- (2) Executive Body: The Executive Body shall be responsible for carrying out the decisions of the Governing Body and for preparing the budget and annual statement of expenditure for the approval of the Governing Body. It shall consist of all the Principals of the partnering colleges. The chairperson of the Governing Body shall preside over the meetings of the Executive Body and the Member Secretary of the Governing Body shall be the Member Secretary of the Executive Body as well. The Executive Body shall meet at least once in two months. The administration of the college cluster shall be vested in the Executive Body. The day to day administration shall be carried on by the Member Secretary in consultation with the Chairman. The administration of the funds shall also be vested in the Executive Body. Over head expenditure for the administration shall be budgeted and shared by the partnering colleges. There would be no need for a Central Secretariat, at least initially. As the cluster network grows in complexity, a permanent administrative set up may be established. The Executive Body will be responsible to the Governing Body.

- (3) Academic Committee: The Academic Committee shall be constituted as decided by the Governing Body, observing the principle of equal representation to all partnering colleges and rotation of headship. The functions and responsibilities of the Academic Committee would be as decided by the Governing Body. Sub-committees of the Academic Committee may also be constituted by the Governing Body for the performance of various academic functions, as and when required.
6. Funds: The funds of the college cluster shall include all funds received from the Government, UGC and similar funding agencies as also funds collected by the Cluster and donations /endowments received.

#### B. Programme of Action (P O A)

- 1 The State Government may initiate steps for setting up clusters of colleges at Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Kottayam, Ernakulam, Thrissur, Kozhikode and Kannur over the next three years.
- 2 A three-member Implementation Committee consisting of the representatives of the Government, University concerned and Higher Education Council may identify the partnering colleges at various locations and take steps for the constitution of Governing Bodies of various clusters.
- 3 The Implementation Committee will coordinate with the Governing Bodies of various cluster colleges for setting up the clusters. A mapping of facilities available in the partnering colleges would be undertaken to arrive at an understanding on the facilities which partnering institutions are willing to share and on the common facilities that could be built up over the first two years of the inception of the cluster.
- 4 The State Government may release grant-in-aid @ rupees one crore per cluster to the implementation committees concerned which shall constitute the initial capital investment for setting up the clusters.
- 5 Necessary amendments may be made in the Act and Statutes of the affiliating universities after discussing the proposals in various Universities.
- 6 UGC and Central level funding agencies may be approached by the State Government for special grants.
- 7 Extensive awareness programmes may be organized in the partnering colleges.

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