

To,  
Prof. D.S Rawat  
Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor  
Kumaun University  
Nainital

Subject: Academic Audit Report of the University Session 2022-23

Dear Sir,

In accordance with the Academic Audit Committee that carried out an academic audit of the University on December 19, 2023. Enclosed herein is the Academic Audit Report for your review and necessary action.



Prof M.S.M Rawat  
Former V.C  
HNBGU Srinagar



Prof J.P Pachauri  
Former V.C  
Himalayiya Uni. Dehradun



Prof. P.C joshi  
Former V.C  
Delhi Uni. Delhi



Prof K.N Singh  
Dept. of Chemistry  
BHU Varanasi



## Report of the Academic Audit Committee dated 19th December 2023

The Academic Audit Committee (AAC) met various functionaries of the IQAC, visited various academic departments, interacted with faculty Deans, and had intensive discussions on multiple aspects of teaching and research. The report is prepared based on the observations, discussion, and physical verification on the day of the visit.

### General Observations

Based on interaction with the Honourable Vice Chancellor and Director IQAC, Deans, Directors, and Heads, the following observations and Suggestions are given:

1. Governance and Administration under the dynamic and active leadership of the honourable Vice Chancellor is noteworthy and influential. The committee praises the Vice Chancellor's efforts to motivate and encourage the faculty, researchers, and students.
2. The vice chancellor has initiated many student-centric schemes.
3. The University was established in 1973 and has an area of 89 acres.
4. It has two campuses (DSB Nainital and Sir J.C Bose campus Bhimtal).
5. The University has eight faculties covering 33 departments.
6. The total number of programs offered is 76, and courses in all programs are 2,287.
7. The University has 205 sanctioned posts, out of which 120 are in position and 85 are vacant. However, the University has appointed contractual teachers to fill the vacant posts.
8. The total non-teaching staff are 376, out of which 278 are filled and 98 are vacant.
9. The University has switched over to the National Education Policy 2020 by duly adopting all of its progressive provisions.
10. The Total number of students admitted during the session in all the programs is 2694.
11. The University has introduced value-added courses, skill development, and professional courses following National Education Policy 2020 guidelines.
12. The University has created a corpus fund for research-related activities, the appointment of visiting professors, conference participation, publication charges, filing of patents, talent-hunting activities, and seed money for research to the faculty.

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13. Student intake is good against the total seats available, and the dropout rate is negligible.
14. Infrastructure is satisfactory, having 106 classrooms and seminar halls. 315 computers are also available for academic purposes.
15. Geology and Biotechnology departments are getting grants from DST, FIST & DBT.
16. A total of 16 research projects of Rs 5 crore and 79 Lakhs are ongoing, financed by various government agencies.
17. The Nano-Science Centre of the Chemistry Department has achieved significant technological progress by producing graphene from waste plastic, and the University has signed an MOU with HEXORP Industries Pvt Ltd.
18. Two faculty members, Prof. Santosh Kumar (Geology Dept.) and Prof. NG Sahoo (Chemistry Dept.), got the National Geoscience Award and the J.C. Bose Memorial Award, respectively, for their outstanding research work.
19. The total number of Patents filed by the faculty is nine; four are granted, and five are published.
20. During the last year, 183 research scholars have been awarded Ph.D. Degree.
21. During this period, 379 research papers in Web of Science and 498 in Scopus have been published.
22. Faculty has published 96 Books and 200 Book chapters.
23. h- index of the University is 17 in the academic session of 2022-2023.
24. It is praiseworthy that the Hon. Vice Chancellor is taking classes on campus, which is enhancing and motivating the faculties in their teaching and research.
25. The collaborative efforts of the faculty in developing e-contents signify a progressive approach towards digital learning and imparting education online.
26. The University has generated a good amount from the Consultancy.
27. The University has collaborated with eleven foreign universities for research and exchange programs for students and faculty.
28. The University has twenty-six functional MOUs with National Institutions and Industries.
29. The library is equipped with an Integrated Library Management system.
30. The institution has integrated crosscutting issues relevant to Professional Ethics, Gender, Human values, Environment and Sustainability into the curriculum.
31. An alumni association has been formed.
32. It is noteworthy that most of the departments have introduced value-added components in their curriculum.
33. Some departments have the status of UGC-SAP and CAS and have also received grants under DST-FIST, ICSSR and other national agencies.

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34. The University has also been appreciated and awarded for conducting outreach programs and various extension activities.

### Suggestions

1. Efforts should be made to appoint regular teaching and non-teaching staff for vacant posts.
2. Placement cells need to be made functional.
3. There is a need to develop a mechanism to determine program and course outcomes.
4. Faculty needs to increase the research publications in reputed Journals. Special encouragement and support need to be provided to the social science and humanities faculties.
5. Faculty should be motivated to submit research projects to various funding agencies. Every faculty member should be motivated and supported in submitting Research proposals. Inter-institutional and international collaborations should be further encouraged.
6. The Alumni Association needs to be made more dynamic and functional. Alumni of the University should be motivated for the placements of the students and generate funds for research, teaching, and other developmental activities.
7. The University should make a short and long-term Institutional development plan for future development.
8. More land is required for the proper development of the University.
9. The faculty makes efforts to publish research Journals.
10. Efforts be made to motivate the faculty to conduct interdisciplinary research.
11. The Best Reader award should be given to the students.
12. Best teacher award in teaching and research should also be instituted.
13. The 'Earn While You Learn' scheme should be initiated for the students in each faculty, library and guest house.
14. Coaching classes should be started for the students for competitive examinations.
15. Efforts should be made to attract students across the Country and abroad.
16. More ICT-enabled classrooms and smart classrooms are to be developed.
17. The program should be organized for students' personality development and communication skills.
18. A language lab should be established.
19. Some of the departments' laboratories need to be modernized.
20. The students should try to qualify for NET/JRF/GATE/SRF, etc.
21. The infrastructure modifications for the physically challenged persons/students in the buildings should be made available.

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22. The IQAC need to be more proactive and effective.

23. The faculties are required to spend at least 6-7 hours in their departments.

24. The Kumaun University should encourage documentation, preservation and promotion of Himalayan Culture and Tradition, especially in the Kumaun region. The academic departments of History, Sociology and Geography should collaborate to frame joint strategies and seek funding from agencies like Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts, Rashtriya Manav Sangrhalaya, National Museum, Sangeet Natak Academy, Ministry of Culture and other agencies.

25. Overall, The AAC feels that the University has good potential and the capacity to emerge as a higher educational institution of National importance. It will require arduous work by the faculty, confidence, fruitful collaborations and financial support.

27. The University needs to participate in the NIRF ranking and strive to gain its legitimate place in the international rankings like QS, Times, etc.

28. The University's existing Innovation and Incubation Centre should be made more efficient and result-oriented

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