Quality Assurance

Quality assurance (QA) enables a university/faculty/department/school/program and its members to:

- Bring internal benefits to the university/faculty/department/school/program and the staff.
- Bring external benefits to the students and the reputation of the institution.
- Continuously improve themselves, the students, and the work of the university. Continuous improvement is both the medium and outcome of quality assurance.
- Serve accountability and accreditation requirements.
- Enhance the reputation of the faculty/department/school/university, and meet external demands for demonstrating quality, quality assurance and quality enhancement.

UNIBEN Quality Assurance Policy

The purpose of the University of Benin quality assurance policy is to maintain and enhance the quality of core activities of teaching, learning and research; and to promote service delivery to our community as well as the national and international community.

Functions of the UNIBEN Directorate of Quality Assurance (DQA)

The Directorate of Quality Assurance (DQA) was established to coordinate the quality assurance policies of the University of Benin, thereby developing a culture of quality and excellence that permeates all aspects of the University for the benefit of its students, staff, national, and international communities. It involves:

- Monitoring the implementation of the University's strategic plan while ensuring that the quality assurance and enhancement activities remain closely aligned to and compliant with the university's strategic objectives and mission.
- Developing, applying, and periodically reviewing the quality benchmarks/parameters for various academic and administrative activities of the University.
- Developing and ensuring the implementation of appropriate procedures for the identification, assessment and management of risks in order to safeguard and sustain the integrity of the university's academic excellence.
- Developing self-assessment strategies to encourage self-assessment of programmes and staff of the University of Benin.
- Coordinating training of staff in line with global standards of quality; Providing tools for systematic coordination of quality assurance and improvement strategies.
- Providing feedback mechanisms for students, employers, and other stakeholders on quality assurance issues.
- Organizing inter and intra institutional workshops, seminars on Quality Assurance related themes.
- Preparing check lists of procedures for performance evaluation; Monitoring and assessing quality, adequacy, currency of facilities and resources in Departments, Faculties, Schools and Institutes.

Quality Assurance

Quality Assurance Focus

Best Practices for Research and Innovation

To promote good practices in research and innovation, the University shall:

- Aim to be a centre of excellence in research and innovation
- Promote ethical conduct of research by students and staff as per University policy and guidelines.
- Continuously monitor and evaluate quality of research done both at the University and in the field/industry.
- Recognize students and staff outstanding contribution to research.
- Promote Public-Private Partnership (PPP) funding of research.
- Promote contract research with industry.
- Promote problem solving research.
- Ensure timely dissemination of research results/findings.
- Enhance through training, coaching and mentorship students and staff's grant winning research proposal writing skills.
- Disseminate innovations developed by students and staff through outreach programmes.
- Ensure that students and staff provide accurate information on research funding/grants.
- Ensure students and staff; meet the required deadlines as per research funding criteria/Institution.
- Provides administrative assistance to students and staff preparing applications for research grants.
- Ensure that students and staff effectively liaise with the Directorates of Postgraduate Studies, Research, Technology Transfer and Consultancy.
- Accurate records are maintained.
- Publications added to database to meet relevant timelines.
- Accurate records for funding and publication are maintained.
- Communication of results/findings with relevant stakeholders is timely and effective.
- Relevant reports are provided as required.
- University policies, rules and guidelines are adhered to.

Quality Assurance Updates

Training of Staff

An in house training of administrative staff has been scheduled to hold from the 3rd to 5th April 2023. The purpose of the training is to imbibe/emphasise work-related skills or knowledge to employees with the aim of improving their efficiency and productivity of the university as a whole.

Lesson Observations

Pursuant to its mandate to implement quality assurance related policies, the Directorate of Quality Assurance is set to commence random lesson observations from 10th April 2023-19th of May 2023. The lesson observations are aimed at assessing the quality of teaching to ensure students are receiving the most effective learning experience.

Bluebook Review

The University Bluebook (almanac) is currently being reviewed by the Directorate of Quality Assurance.

Useful Information and Links

For questions, comments or interactions on the Quality Assurance Focus section of this newsletter or other Quality Assurance Related matters, please contact the Directorate of Quality Assurance via email: quality.assurance@uniben.edu | The UNIBEN Quality Assurance Office is located in the Senate Chambers, behind the Vice Chancellor's Office.