



UNIBEN QA NEWSLETTER

Special Edition | Volume 4, June 2023

Quality Assurance Approach

Quality assurance is a holistic approach covering all the processes in a higher education institution, in order to serve the students and other stakeholders in expected quality standards.

With a view to establishing Internal Quality Assurance, University of Benin established an internal quality management system for assuring quality in teaching, research and organisation. Based on this, the Directorate of Quality Assurance has deployed several approaches and arrangements which best suit UNIBEN's needs.



QUALITY ASSURANCE BI-ANNUAL SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Updating UNIBEN QA Webpage

The DQA updated its webpage on the UNIBEN website (qa.uniben.edu) with report of its activities and UNIBEN QA related resources.

Implementation Strategies for Teaching Learning and Assessment Framework

The DQA proposed strategies for the implementation of the University's Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy Framework which was developed in December 2022.

Community Service Policy

A Community Service Policy was recommended for UNIBEN. A Community Service Policy is required to increase the number of students and academic staff serving the community, as well as increase co-operation and partnerships with nearby actors in Edo State. This will help the University fulfill its social and intellectual responsibilities to the society and disadvantaged groups. The policy would be available on the QA webpage following its approval.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

LESSON OBSERVATION PILOT

As part of implementing UNIBEN the Teaching, Learning and Assessment Policy Framework, a pilot lesson observation was launched by the DQA from 17th to 25th April, 2023. The observations were carried out by staff of the DQA in conjunction with academic members of the UNIBEN QA Steering Committee who are representatives of the unites (Faculties and Institutes) visited. A total of fifteen (15) Faculties and three (3) Institutes were visited with a maximum of two (2) lessons observed per Faculty, being a pilot exercise.

ANNUAL SELF-EVALUATION DOCUMENTS (ASED)

The ASED is a performance review document for academic and non-academic units in UNIBEN. The DQA summarised the SWOT analyses in all the ASEDs submitted by all the units, and articulated short and long term proposals in an Annual Quality Assurance Review (AQAR). The AQAR is an ongoing process with specific (practicable) action plans that would be monitored and evaluated on quarterly and bi-annual bases.

BEST PRACTICES HANDBOOK

The DQA has completed a zero draft of a QA Best Practices handbook.

QUALITY ASSURANCE FOCUS

Safety and Security

By their very nature, University campuses are open and accessible to all. Although this fosters an ability to learn, it also presents security challenges that must be addressed. Therefore, safety and security of the University will be maintained at high standards to allow students, staff and University visitors to study and work without fear and under minimum stress. To achieve the above, the University shall:

- i. Have a written policy that deals specifically with campus safety and security.
- ii. Students and staff shall be taught the elements of the University safety and security policy.
- iii. Focus on prevention and preparedness initiatives for critical safety and security incidences on campus.
- iv. Use surveillance cameras (CCTV) to monitor activities around the University and Student Hostels.

UNIBEN QA Updates

- Plans for full scale Lesson Observations are underway, with the observation activities projected for first week in August, 2023
- Evaluations for the 2022/2023 sessions are scheduled to be launched at the end of July 2023
- A Book of Rules is currently being drafted by the DQA. The objective is to have the Quality Assurance Policy and Quality Assurance Best Practices articulated in a compendium.
- Sensitisation of staff and students to participate in the joint improvement of Quality Assurance strategies in UNIBEN.

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.