



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN) Website: www.hec.gov.pk

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Subject: MANDATORY ACCREDITATION OF PROGRAMMES

My dear Sir/Madam,

The Higher Education Commission has entered into an era of quality assurance and enhancement, especially in the area of accreditation. Accreditation Councils are being set up in various subject areas where these did not exist previously, with the objectives of programme accreditation. These Accreditation Councils are responsible for programme accreditation in the respective subject with complete autonomy in terms of implementation under policy guidelines of HEC.

As we know that Accreditation is a significant factor in the success of higher education because it serves as a focal point for establishing a culture of quality in Universities and its constituent and affiliated Institutes. Accreditation offers a primary incentive to improve quality through the requirement for periodic review of institutions and programs and a strong focus on achieving quality through constructive criticism and consultation and ultimately build public confidence in Institutions of higher learning. Accreditation must be committed at its core to institutional improvement, but accreditation must also be a transparent and credible process accountable to institutions and society for quality assurance.

It is matter of great satisfaction that our Universities/Degree Awarding Institutions have realized the value of accreditation and had accredited programmes from the concerned Accreditation Councils. However, it has been also observed that degree programs of some universities are being initiated /continued without obtaining accreditation from the respective Accreditation Councils. Non-registration/accreditation of such graduates/programmes by the Councils is not only affecting the future of students, but also resulting in mistrust of stakeholders on higher education sector.

Therefore, in the larger public interest, it is imperative that commencement of new professional programs be only undertaken after complete observance of all the requirements prescribed by the Councils and the continued programmes must be accredited, re-accredited as per policy by the concerned Councils on priority.

Together we can ensure that our students receive a quality education and play an effective role in the socio-economic development of the country.

Kind Regards


(Dr. Mohammed Rafiq Baloch)

**All the Vice Chancellors/Rectors/Presidents
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