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## **Let us prepare for NAAC Peer Team Visit**

*Dear Colleague,*

Osmania University, celebrating the Centenary, stands on the threshold of being evaluated by the NAAC very shortly and I wish to take this opportunity to reiterate the rigorous methodology of NAAC and appeal to all of you to prepare and showcase the strengths of the departments/ centers/ colleges etc

We have waited for five years for this momentous occasion. As you are all aware, the NAAC methodology is quite typical as the process includes a self-study and peer review, and a regularized, structured mechanism for quality assurance and improvement for the higher education.

The assessment promotes within institutions a culture of evidence where indicators of performance are regularly developed and data collected to inform institutional decision making, planning, and improvement. In the current environment, given the broad challenges confronting the University, national, state, and institutional pressures for fiscal constraint, accountability, attention to learning outcomes assessment, productivity measurement, mission clarity and distinctiveness, and institutional structure all converge in the accrediting process.

Current accreditation standards and practices give increasing attention to *measurement and outcomes*, Greater emphasis is also being given to assessing the effectiveness of the institution or program, holistically, as an *organization*. Also, the processes are focusing more on student learning and the “value added” by the teaching/learning experience (and for colleges and universities, the living experience) provided by the institution. With growing concerns about accountability, value, access, and transparency, accreditation has come to serve an increasingly significant “gatekeeper” function for external constituencies, including central and state governments and the general public.

Accreditation acknowledges the contribution of all component units and functions -academic, but also student affairs, services, and administration - to the overall success of a program or institution. Today, however, a multifaceted and nuanced perspective is increasingly required, and is contingent on many factors beyond the excellence of individual faculty members.

Be that as it may, Osmania University has been a role model for other Universities in the State. Let us retain this leadership position and aim for higher goals.

I am fully convinced that the University, colleges and research establishments have their own strengths in terms of infrastructure, programs offered and research.

I appeal to you all to project the strengths and ensure the University bags the highest rating which will catapult us on to the global academic map. The time has come for all of us to respond in unison.

  
**PROF. S. RAMACHANDRAM**