

Executive Summary
Self-Assessment Report of Associate Degree in Supply Chain Management
Self-Assessment Cycle 1 (2017-18)
Directorate of Quality Enhancement (DQE)
Virtual University of Pakistan

Virtual University of Pakistan was established in 2002 with the aim to provide extremely affordable world class education to aspiring students all over the country regardless of their physical location by alleviating the lack of capacity in the existing universities while simultaneously tackling the acute shortage of qualified professors in the country using free-to-air satellite television broadcasts and the Internet. To pursue this aim, the Department of Management Science is designated to initiate and implement Self-Assessment process defined by Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) of HEC. The current document summarizes the findings of self-assessment process of the program Associate Degree in Supply Chain Management.

The department is committed to produce graduates who can lead organizations towards success and prosperity in the global marketplace. The department offers rigorous programs in different areas of specialization at both Masters and Bachelors levels. The department feels satisfied upon completion of the following list of tasks:

1. Development of **Self-Assessment Report (SAR)** by Program Team for Associate Degree in Supply Chain Management
2. Conduct of critical review and submission of **Assessment Report (AR)** by Assessment Team for Associate Degree in Supply Chain Management
3. Development of **Rectification Plan** by Head of Department

The tasks were completed according to the set methodology through Program and Assessment Teams nominated by the Rector on the recommendation of the Department.

Methodology

The following methodology is adopted to complete the whole SAR cycle:

1. HOD of the concerned department nominated a program team (PT) for the current program. The composition of PT is given below. DQE also arranged initial orientation and training sessions for all PT members:

Table 1: Program Team

Sr.#	Name	Designation
1	Ms. Irram Shahzadi	Lecturer, Management Science
2	Ms. Hifsa Farooq (Team Lead)	Lecturer, Management Science

2. All the relevant material such as SAR manual, survey forms, etc. were provided to PT.
3. Continuous support, guidance, and feedback were provided to PT members to prepare SAR for the said program.

4. After completion and submission of the final SAR by PT, the Rector on the recommendation of the HOD approved the formation of an Assessment Team (AT) for critical appraisal of program and SAR. It was ensured that a Subject Specialist from some other institution was also part of this team. The composition of AT is given below:

Table 2: Assessment Team

Sr.#	Name	Designation
1.	Dr. Sohail Chand	Associate Professor, College of Statistical & Actuarial Science, Punjab University
2.	Mr. Muhammad Bilal	Lecturer, Department of Management Science, VU

5. The SAR developed by PT was forwarded to AT for critical review.
6. After completion of critical review and assessment of the SAR, AT members visited the department and had a meeting with PT.
7. After the visit, AT submitted a report and feedback form (Rubric Form) to DQE.
8. DQE forwarded the observations & findings of AT report to the Head of Department for developing a rectification plan.
9. DQE will now monitor implementation of Rectification Plan.

Parameters of SAR:

Following eight (8) criteria prescribed by the HEC are used to develop SAR:

1. Criterion 1: Program Mission, Objectives and Outcomes
2. Criterion 2: Curriculum Design and Organization
3. Criterion 3: Laboratory and Computing Facility
4. Criterion 4: Student Support and Advising
5. Criterion 5: Process Control
6. Criterion 6: Faculty
7. Criterion 7: Institutional Facilities
8. Criterion 8: Institutional Support

Key Findings of the SAR:

Following is a summary of the key SAR findings:

1. The documented mission, objectives, and outcomes of this program are similar to those developed for the program 'Master of Operations and Supply Chain Management'.
2. Variation in the study scheme of this program and that of Master of Operations and Supply Chain Management is minimal.
3. Course contents are overlapping as same video lectures and handouts have been used in both the programs.
4. Curriculum for the program lacks an adequate number of practical courses from the area of Supply Chain Management.
5. More subjects from supply chain discipline should be included in this program such as:
 - i. Negotiation, contracting and law in procurement and supply

- ii. Supplier selection and bid evaluation
6. Some of the courses have outdated video lectures and handouts.
 7. VUP is not providing career counseling opportunities to students; usually, students seek advice from their teachers when required.
 8. There is a shortage of discipline-specific faculty members.
 9. VUP needs its separate and complete library with a sufficient number of books relevant to degree programs offered by the university.
 10. VUP has provided access to HEC digital library to students and faculty members but this access is quite limited. Most of the books and journals available at HEC digital library are not accessible.

Conclusion and Recommendations:

Analysis of the Criteria Referenced Self-Assessment reveals that performance of the department is good in most of the areas. It is reflected by overall good assessment score (79/100) reported by AT. In spite of good performance in almost all of the areas, the University still needs to focus on issues like the faculty has less time for research to remain current in their disciplines, they have fewer opportunities for faculty development, and there are insufficient discipline specific contents in the digital library.

The areas that need corrective actions identified during self-assessment process have been reported to the Head of respective Department for rectification. DQE will follow up the implementation plan as per the specific time-frame to track continuous improvement.



Irfana Aslam Ghouri
Manager QA



Director Quality Enhancement: _____