

KARNATAK UNIVERSITY, DHARWAD



Strategic Plan (2022 to 2030) Progressing Towards MERU

Internal Quality Assurance Cell

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Strategic Plan:

Karnatak University is the second oldest and one of the largest teaching and research Universities in Karnataka state. A sprawling, green campus spread across 888 acres land is University's home and a heritage Tower Clock overlooks the campus.

Over the past few years, the University has anchored newer initiatives and reforms across a spectrum of its activities, from academics to research to infrastructure. The challenges posed by the fourth industrial revolution, COVID-19 pandemic and the implementation of NEP-2020 demand a massive transformation in the mind set of the stakeholders and their activities. The increasing resource crunch - human as well as financial – is another serious challenge that the Karnatak University is staring at. In this backdrop, University is trying to bring in consistency, deeper collaboration and uniformity in the newer aspects administration. The present document is a roadmap that highlights some of the key initiatives and reforms the University envisions to undertake over the next eight years. The roadmap and its implementation thereof is initially being coordinated by the Syndicate, PMEB and the IQAC. They will be guided by the Strategic Policy Committee that has drafted this Policy, for speedy implementation of newer initiatives.

SCOPE

The Strategic Plan of the Karnatak University sets out a framework of commitments and priorities for the University and its departments. The plan has been drafted after consultation with all stake holders. The objective of preparing this strategic plan is to ensure quality in all activities done by the various departments and sections.

VISION:

To strengthen multi-disciplinary, technology-enabled education; promote research for innovation and excellence; train students as responsible future citizens who will strive towards creating a sustainable society.

MISSION:

- To deliver outcome-based quality education, emphasizing experiential learning with state-of-the-art infrastructure
- To create a conducive environment for multi-disciplinary research and innovation.
- To develop professionals through holistic education focusing on all round growth, discipline, ethics, and social sensitivity
- To nurture industry-institution collaboration leading to competency enhancement and entrepreneurship
- To strengthen the adoption of technology ensuring a sustainable and inclusive society, benefiting all sections of the society
- To adopt and strengthen e-governance for time-bound delivery of educational services

In tune with the objectives of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020, the Karnatak University will provide quality education and experience with the values, skills, innovation and intellectual discipline which will enable students to make a positive contribution to society.

Goal 1: To strengthen the teaching, learning and research capabilities to grow as a true MERU (Multidisciplinary Educational and Research University)

Strategies:

- Create new educational programme & improve existing programmes in emerging areas of knowledge in different disciplines; matching with the global trends.
- Ensure that educational programmes have international quality standards and shall advance towards international Accreditation.
- Foster academic programmes with Multidisciplinary approach with quality consciousness and open access to knowledge
- Design postgraduate programmes in emerging strategic subjects and promote a greater number of inter-departmental postgraduate programmes with prestigious universities
- Guarantee that subjects are taught mother tongue or local language in all postgraduate programmes and create postgraduate programmes in a second language.
- Improve career counseling in UG programmes and stimulate interest in new areas of knowledge, as well as their social and production potential.
- Strengthen the UG education system, with a comprehensive medium- and long-term program focused on creating conditions for all colleges to have quality standards.
- Create innovative environments that facilitate teaching and learning processes and contribute to developing students' skills and competencies.
- Promoting comprehensive student training by reinforcing tutorial, sport, culture and health programmes that contribute to their wellbeing and development of global skills needed in life.
- Strengthen collegiate academic work and foster educational innovation.
- Set up learner friendly infrastructure for research with latest innovative and advance equipments

Goal 2: To create an enabling and encouraging research ecosystem to meet global standards

Strategies:

- Promoting connections among research, teaching and extension by fostering better linkages between undergraduate and postgraduate programmes.
- Setting higher academic selection and evaluation standards for research faculty that will ensure that only candidates with the best credentials and achievements become part of the University.
- Define priorities and directions for research and postgraduate studies at the Institution that are strategically oriented and use competitive regional and international advantages.
- Increase resources for research, both budgetary and self-generated, simplifying administrative and financial processes and making them more flexible and easier to attain and use by researchers.
- Promote Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral studies for research faculty through national and international mobility.
- Increase scientific productivity by establishing relevant criteria and promoting its

visibility and international impact

- Developing research collaborations with foreign universities, agencies, and industries.

Goal 3: To invest in teachers and to support them with world class environment

Strategies:

- Upgrade the faculty's academic credentials and implement mechanisms used to evaluate, update and train them.
- Carry out systematic studies on teaching practices and students' academic performance and learning, with a focus on generic competencies and life skills.
- Strengthen evaluation mechanisms for educational programmes, emphasizing academic results and not simply input.
- Create a comprehensive teacher training and development program that creates incentives for strengthening student-centered educational approaches.
- Strengthen the UG education system, with a comprehensive medium- and long-term program focused on creating conditions for all colleges to have quality standards.
- Create innovative environments that facilitate teaching and learning processes and contribute to developing students' skills and competencies.
- Strengthen collegiate academic work and foster educational innovation.

Goal 4: To have international collaborations

Strategies:

- One of the ambitions of Karnatak University is to have a deep roots locally, nationally and internationally. The University will have an international collaboration in the field of placement, research, cultural exchange, economics, social and skills
- The University currently has associations and relationships in Universities in USA, Japan, China, UK and other countries. Dialogues are underway to strengthen these relationships. Such specific partnerships are envisioned to result into several kinds of mutually beneficial models.
- It is expected to undertake partnerships that result into student, faculty, researcher and innovator exchanges, double degree cohorts, hosting foreign campuses, and extension of university campuses.
- Institute of Post-Doctoral Research (IPDR): Through setting up of the IPDR, it is envisioned to host foreign post- doctoral fellows to involve them in the ongoing academic research at the University.
- Entering into MOU with reputed academic institutions, research institutions, industries, NGO's and other academic forums for creating opportunities for students and faculty
- Exploring the possibilities of collaborations with Companies for training and employment opportunities for students.
- Developing a facility for "One Point Communication" between foreign nationals and University.
- Creating opportunities for exchange programmes of students and teachers with foreign universities.
- Developing online course content and modules and making it available at international level for open source sharing.

Goal 5: To contribute Maximum in Social Outreach / Extra Curriculum activities

Strategies:

- Strengthen educational programmes linked to culture and arts at university centers and schools to promote masterful artistic and cultural expressions within the University network.
- Improve linkages between high school and higher education, especially as to the shared use of infrastructure and academic collaboration between students and teachers.
- Position the University Cultural District as a world-class hub of development that has multiplying effects on society and on the regional economy
- Launching outreach and interdisciplinary programmes among different parts of the University Network, encouraging students to have academic experiences at other university centers.
- Create a cultural circuit within the University network so that culture promoting activities benefit all the university centers, the virtual University system and the high school Education system.
- Reinforce social service by revitalizing its redistributive and compensatory nature, as well as the university's values of solidarity and social responsibility with respect to vulnerable and socio-economically disadvantaged groups.
- Develop a university code of ethics that incorporates values such as respect, tolerance and equity, and that does not tolerate discrimination or bullying among others.
- Implement a comprehensive promotion plan of the university's identity and values.

Goal 6: Partnership with Stakeholders

Strategies:

- Ensure that students have the skills for innovation, entrepreneurship and attention to social and economic needs.
- Provide incentives to promote business training for students, through early integration in the labor market and professional experiences with curricular value.
- Involve identified Industrialists and Alumni in curricular frame work and designing PG programmes & Research projects
- Design better outreach programmes with other universities and research centers in the city and region with the goal of creating a cluster of technological development through higher education.

Goal 7: To attract, recruit and retain the highest caliber faculty members

Strategies:

- Attracting rewarding and retaining talented faculty and staff to ensure quality in academics as well as administration.
- Providing opportunities and facilities for developing teaching and research skills of faculty members.
- Developing IT skills to teaching faculty and non teaching staff members.
- Organizing staff training for behavioural modifications and developing technical skills.

- Promoting its faculty members to participate in conferences and publish in reputed and peer reviewed journals.
- Sharing of research laboratories and other resources with other prominent bodies for mutual benefits.
- Encouraging contribution to knowledge by developing new content and making it available in the form of books, e-content and other learning resources.
- Providing opportunities to faculty and staff for updating themselves on a regular basis.
- Organizing social and cultural events for faculty and staff to cultivate a sense of belongingness to the University.

Goal 8: Alumni funding

Strategies:

- Create an Alumni Centre at the Institute to support alumni visits, activities and engagement.
- Initiatives for supporting alumni needs for continued learning and career improvement.
- Engage alumni as adjunct faculty.
- Establish Industry Institute Interface (III) Cell in the University, to foster academic collaboration with Industry.
- Invite learned Industrialists as Adjunct faculty to teach courses in Commerce and Management.
- Attract Alumni funding for Infrastructural and facility development at the university.

Goal 9: Strategy from Strength

Strategies:

- Adopt the new National Education Policy 2020 (NEP-2020).
- Introduce programmes involving localized skills in UG programmes
- Introduce 4 Years Honors Degree programme in all the disciplines
- Introduce Multi-Disciplinary Programmes in all disciplines
- Introduce Lateral Entry system for Research and PG Programmes
- Introduce Slow Learner and Fast learner facilities in all the Programmes
- Adopt CBCS system in all the UG and PG Programmes.
- Invest resources most heavily in the areas where we have the greatest impact
- Follow-up of graduates with strategic long-term vision that creates mechanisms for academic feedback and impact evaluation.
- Promote comprehensive student training by reinforcing tutorial, sport, culture and health programmes that contribute to their wellbeing and development of global skills needed in life.

Goal 10: Infrastructural Support

Strategies:

- Set up new state of art laboratories and renovate the existing laboratories with latest and state of art equipments and resources
- Establish controlled campus, with smart-card based access for all persons having access to the University for Improved Security and better management of visitors
- Initiating Campus Redevelopment Plan (CRDP)

- Develop top class human resources training centre with an international profile, and state of art infrastructure
- Increase resources and support for internationalization through active participation in conferences of organizations, consortiums, networks and international institutions.
- Renovation of old buildings and premises rejuvenation.
- Institute Infrastructure sharing for private use at a cost to individuals, events and entities, through partners and collaborators, in order to ensure sustainability of the University.
- Setting up of the Karnatak University Hubnet common web, mobile and app-based platform to bring together all the resources for all stakeholders at one common point,

Goal 11: Academic Interventions & Initiatives

Strategies:

- Initiating reforms to examination and assessment structure by introducing online evaluation
- Launching continuous faculty development programmes on teaching methodologies to cater to changing environmental conditions
- Initiating course expansion and digitalization
- Establishing faculty exchange collaborations with National and International Universities
- Establishing Student exchange collaborations with National and International Universities
- Implement scalable learning by introducing MOOCS and other online learning tools
- Improve outreach and interdisciplinary programmes among different parts of the University Network, encouraging students to have academic experiences at other university centers, among other actions.

Goal 12: Administrative Reforms and Initiatives

Strategies:

- Convert the university administration into paperless office by introducing e-governance across all wings of the University viz. Academic, DPAR, Finance and Exam sections.
- Inducing file management system: A new-age, tech-based file management system shall function hand-in-hand with the Paperless KU initiative
- Introduce AI-based scalable Grievance Redressal System,
- Introducing empowered Board of Advisors and Board of Governors leading the University's overall strategy and governance
- Expedite the university administration to advance towards institutional accreditation frameworks, using regulatory updating and procedure simplification, as well as other actions that facilitate achieving the Institution's goals.
- Consolidate the integration of a university information system that includes a platform of academic and management indicators aimed at strategic decision-making.
- Create a comprehensive medium- and long-term internationalization policy that establishes key strategic lines, countries and regions for institutional collaboration and exchange.
- Increase and diversify student mobility options, expanding external resources by way of active participation in conferences of national and international organizations, networks, consortiums and institutions.

Goal 13: Achieving Financial Sustainability

Strategies:

- Introducing policies for savings and efficient university spending and promote the effective use of resources and its impact on substantive functions.
- Diversify and increase sources of income both self generated and external funds, by creating specialized offices for fundraising.
- Promote a culture of on-time payment of university fees and dues for all University network entities and create mechanisms to communicate their performance and impact.
- Put a comprehensive sustainability plan into action in the University network that directs decision making in substantive and lateral day-to-day activities
- Promote a culture of sustainability both within the University and in the social environment.

Goal 14: Other Areas

Strategies:

- To develop new academic programmes that expand the impact of experiential learning and make changes that enable students to earn more credit toward graduation.
- Increase opportunities for students to engage in faculty-supervised research and creative work, internships, civic involvement and other beyond - the - classroom learning experiences and encourage and enable all students to participate.
- Create a year-round educational experience by extending experiential learning activities throughout the summers and between quarters and secure the additional resources required to support these activities.
- Increase the breadth and depth of options we offer students to give them better pathways for learning and find better means of assessing and measuring the outcomes.
- Stimulate academic innovation that results in more modular course sequences and new modes of team - based academic and career advising.
- Expose more students to the extraordinary talents of our faculty by, for example, offering signature courses across different majors, departments and schools and by developing courses for undergraduate and postgraduate students in our professional schools.
