

<b>Peer Team Report on Institutional Re-Accreditation of Union Christian College, Aluva, District Ernakulam, Kerala-683102</b>	
<b>Section I: GENERAL</b>	<b>Information</b>
1.1 Name & Address of the Institution:	Union Christian College, Aluva, District Ernakulam, Kerala-683102.
1.2 Year of Establishment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1921</li> </ul>
1.3 Current Academic Activities at the Institution (Numbers):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B.A/B.Sc-14 and PG Courses- 12</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Faculties/ Schools:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arts, Computer Applications &amp; Sciences (UG &amp;PG)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Departments/ Centres:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programmes/ Courses offered:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>U.G. 5-Arts, 9 Sciences; P.G. 5 Arts, 6 Sciences, 1 Computer Applications; and 4 Vocational</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent Faculty Members:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sanctioned-87, Permanent – 81</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Permanent Support Staff:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sanctioned-46, Permanent-42 and one Technical</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students:</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>UG- 464 Male &amp; 976 Female: Total 1440; PG- 62 Male &amp; 417 Female: Total 479; Research Scholars- 14 Male &amp; 19 Female; Total 33</li> </ul>
1.4 Three major features in the Institutional context (As perceived by the Peer Team):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Institution with an illustrious legacy and acclaimed educational contribution.</li> <li>Grant-in-aid, Minority, UGC 2(f) and 12(B) recognized co-educational institution permanently affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala.</li> <li>Semi-urban in nature, offers good number of UG and PG programmes which caters to the needs of socially &amp; economically weaker sections of the society.</li> </ul>
1.5 Dates of visit of the Peer Team (A detailed visit schedule may be included as Annexure):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>16<sup>th</sup> -18<sup>th</sup> March 2011</li> </ul>
1.6 Composition of the Peer Team which Undertook the on- site visit:	
<b>Chairperson</b>	Dr. Latha Pillai Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068
<b>Member</b>	Dr. N. D.Wani Former Director Colleges, Department of Higher Education, Jammu & Kashmir
<b>Member</b>	Prof. Muthukalingan Krishnan Professor and Head of Department of Environmental Biotechnology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchchirappalli-620024, Tamil Nadu
<b>NAAC Coordinator</b>	Mr. B. S. Ponnudiraj Assistant Adviser, NAAC, Bangalore-560072, Karnataka

<b>Section I: CRITERION WISE ANALYSIS</b>	
<b>2.1 Curricular Aspects:</b>	
2.1.1 Curriculum Design & Development:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curricula design aimed to develop global competencies.</li> <li>• Faculty involved in Boards of Studies of the Parent University.</li> <li>• International linkages promoted through Human Potential and Community Development, and United Board of Christian Higher Education.</li> </ul>
2.1.2 Academic Flexibility:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good number of programs at UG, PG level along with few certificate / Diploma courses.</li> <li>• Scope to introduce new schemes like Commerce, Law, self-financed courses.</li> </ul>
2.1.3 Feedback on Curriculum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mechanism adopted for obtaining feedback from students</li> <li>• Community and alumni feedback are collected systematically.</li> </ul>
2.1.4 Curriculum Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Curriculum adopted as per University's norms.</li> <li>• About 10 faculty members on Boards of Studies of the University take initiative on curriculum revision.</li> </ul>
2.1.5 Best Practices in Curricular Aspects (If any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Involvement of students in academic and physical activities of the institution.</li> <li>• Coaching classes for SC/ST and minority sections of the society.</li> </ul>
<b>2.2 Teaching-Learning &amp; Evaluation:</b>	
2.2.1 Admission Process and Student Profile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Admission process is transparent and merit based.</li> <li>• Social equity guaranteed as per University and Government norms.</li> </ul>
2.2.2 Catering to the Diverse Needs:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students entry level knowledge are assessed</li> <li>• Remedial classes for disadvantaged students and appropriate arrangements for advanced learners are available.</li> <li>• Tutorials for slow learners conducted.</li> </ul>
2.2.3 Teaching-Learning Process:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic Calendar and Teaching Plan prepared by all departments.</li> <li>• Departmental Library facilities are available.</li> <li>• Field visits / exploration studies form a part of experiential learning.</li> </ul>
2.2.4 Teacher Quality:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The staff recruitment is as per the guidelines of UGC, Government and University.</li> <li>• Active participation of faculty in seminars/workshops/conferences at national and international level.</li> <li>• Few faculty members have received National and State Awards.</li> </ul>
2.2.5 Evaluation Process and Reforms:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students and Parents are kept well informed about the progress.</li> <li>• Choice Based Credit and Semester System (CBCSS) is followed at UG level.</li> <li>• Examination guidelines are adhered to.</li> </ul>

2.2.6 Best Practices in Teaching-Learning and Evaluation (If any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Interactive teaching-learning methods are used.</li> <li>Language laboratory is made use of.</li> <li>Free Open Source Software(FOSS) is made use of.</li> </ul>
<b>2.3 Research, Consultancy &amp; Extension:</b>	
2.3.1 Promotion of Research:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many members of the faculty significantly involved in research – major and minor research projects.</li> <li>8 departments are recognized for research, 24 recognized guides, and 9 have guided 20 scholars.</li> <li>Management supportive in terms of financial assistance for encouragement of research.</li> </ul>
2.3.2 Research and Publications Output:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Over 54 research publications, 2 research journals, 107 research articles published.</li> <li>16 Ph.Ds' produced during last five years and others involved in completing research programmes.</li> <li>Five departments have made good contribution in research field. Two departments have DST-FIST.</li> <li>Research projects sanctioned in 2011 is approximately Rs.28/- lakhs</li> </ul>
2.3.3 Consultancy:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limited consultancy provided without honorarium.</li> <li>Expertise needs to be built up for Consultancy.</li> </ul>
2.3.4 Extension Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NCC, NSS, Nature Club, Science forum, all subject associations / clubs involved in outreach programmes.</li> <li>Institution has set a good network with different Social Service Organizations, viz., Kudumbasree, Energy Conservation Club, Pollution Control Board.</li> </ul>
2.3.5 Collaborations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The college has collaborations for international academic exposure</li> <li>The linkages / collaborations are utilized.</li> </ul>
2.3.6 Best Practices in Research, Consultancy & Extension (If any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research atmosphere in the Campus</li> <li>Significant publications made by a few departments–Botany, Chemistry, and Malayalam.</li> <li>The college publishes two journals.</li> </ul>
<b>2.4 Infrastructure and Learning Resources</b>	
2.4.1 Physical Facilities for Learning:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adequate infrastructure in pace with academic growth in the campus.</li> <li>Hostel accommodation in 5 girls hostels and one boys hostel</li> <li>Campus in 42 acres eco-friendly with sufficient additional support facilities.</li> <li>Concerted attempts to promote green campus and waste disposal management systems.</li> </ul>
2.4.2 Maintenance of Infrastructure:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sufficient budgetary provision made for necessary maintenance.</li> <li>Works Department maintains college infrastructure.</li> </ul>
2.4.3 Library as a Learning Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>College Library accession is automated.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• N-List in library started.</li> <li>• Online journals are available.</li> </ul>
2.4.4 ICT as Learning Resources:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Computers with internet facility to be enhanced.</li> <li>• Audio-visual facilities are available.</li> <li>• Faculty and students are engaged in computer training.</li> </ul>
2.4.5 Other Facilities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separate Hostels for girls and boys.</li> <li>• Health Centre is available.</li> <li>• Parking and Canteen facilities are available.</li> </ul>
2.4.6 Best practices in Infrastructure and Learning Resources(if any)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beautiful campus with healthy atmosphere.</li> <li>• Library facilities extended to neighbouring college students.</li> </ul>

<b>2.5 Student Support and Progression:</b>	
2.5.1 Student Progression:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good performance in University Examinations.</li> <li>• Many University ranks are obtained consistently over the years by the College.</li> <li>• The College has produced 3 IAS/IPS officers in the last 5 years.</li> </ul>
2.5.2 Student Support:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commendable contribution in sports and physical education at University and National level</li> <li>• Satisfactory contributions of Placement and guidance cells.</li> <li>• Good number of scholarships are awarded.</li> </ul>
2.5.3 Student Activities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strong Students Union exists.</li> <li>• Good cultural and sports activities.</li> <li>• College Magazines facilitates creative writings.</li> </ul>
2.5.4 Best Practices in Student Support and Progression (If any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Active Alumni participation in the development of the college.</li> <li>• Subject specific students activities through different associations / clubs</li> </ul>
<b>2.6 Governance and Leadership:</b>	
2.6.1 Institutional Vision and Leadership:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A proactive management.</li> <li>• Responsive leadership.</li> <li>• Vision 2020 - developed by the college.</li> </ul>
2.6.2 Organizational Arrangements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well defined administrative and academic structure.</li> <li>• Internal Quality Assurance Cell networks effectively with all constituents</li> </ul>
2.6.3 Strategy Development and Deployment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Well planned development projects.</li> <li>• Good office automation.</li> </ul>
2.6.4 Human Resource Management:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Most of the sanctioned posts are filled.</li> <li>• Career development programs are encouraged.</li> </ul>
2.6.5 Financial Management and Resource Mobilization:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Self-financing courses were introduced.</li> <li>• Optimal utilization of budget.</li> <li>• Strong financial support from alumni and parents.</li> </ul>
2.6.6 Best Practices in Governance and Leadership (If any):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Democratic structure of governance.</li> <li>• Training the young faculty for leadership.</li> </ul>
<b>2.7 Innovative Practices:</b>	
2.7.1 Internal Quality Assurance System: (IQAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• IQAC is effective with academic requirements of the college.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Endowments by Alumni and faculty are appreciable.</li> <li>• Initiative in institutionalizing best practices demand attention.</li> </ul>
2.7.2 Inclusive Practices:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representation of disadvantaged section of society quite high.</li> <li>• The ratio of boys to girls is 1:3 among the students.</li> </ul>
2.7.3 Stakeholder Relationships:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very healthy relationship with stakeholders.</li> <li>• More efforts are required to meet the expectations in the teaching-learning and overall progression of stakeholders.</li> </ul>

<b>Section III: OVERALL ANALYSIS</b>	<b>Observations</b>
3.1 Institutional Strengths:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A premier institution of higher education in semi urban location with secular outlook.</li> <li>• Excellent academic ambience at campus.</li> <li>• Strong alumni and parent contribution to the academic and financial growth of the institution.</li> <li>• Good academic performance at UG and PG level.</li> </ul>
3.2 Institutional Weaknesses:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More efforts to be made for students progression.</li> <li>• Only few Job oriented/Add on courses introduced.</li> <li>• Placement and Counseling cell need to be strengthened.</li> </ul>
3.3 Institutional Opportunities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Scope for introduction of self employed/vocational courses is high.</li> <li>• More academic and collaborative programmes may be initiated.</li> <li>• Scope to take up minor and major research projects and benefit other neighboring institutions through expertise.</li> <li>• The college can explore the possibilities of getting more funds from UGC/DST/DBT, etc.</li> <li>• Coaching centre for competitive examinations may be strengthened further.</li> </ul>
3.4 Institutional Challenges:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Institution may explore the possibility of getting autonomous status.</li> <li>• Expansion of programmes in terms of management and commerce, Law, Food Science &amp; Technology, Fine Arts for benefit of student community.</li> <li>• Residential facilities for staff and boys students need to be considerably increased.</li> <li>• Vision and Mission with Action in planned manner.</li> </ul>

**Section IV: Recommendations for Quality Enhancement of the Institution**

1. Range of programmes need to be broadened to include Commerce, BBA, Food Science & Technology, Fashion & Designing, farming, dairy, Piggery, Poultry, Mushroom cultivation and horticulture.
2. Department of Music and Fine Arts may be set up to sustain and promote the regional culture.
3. Vocational programs need to be expanded and made effective.
4. Wi-fi campus and technology integration may be established.
5. College may endeavour to identify and seek scholarships and grants from various funding agencies.
6. Active academic collaborations between the departments of the college may be encouraged.
7. Students' support system needs augmentation which may make them to participate more at national and international level.
8. The institution may make concerted efforts to transform into an Autonomous College.

I agree with the observations of the Peer Team as mentioned in the Report.

*Name and Signature of the Head of the Institution with Office Seal and date*

***Signatures of the Peer Team Members:***

<b>Name and Designation</b>		<b><i>Signature with date</i></b>
Dr. Latha Pillai Pro.Vice Chancellor, Indira Gandhi National Open University, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-110 068.	Chairperson	
Prof. Muthukalingan Krishnan Professor and Head of Department of Environmental Biotechnology, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchchirappalli-620024, Tamil Nadu	Member	
Dr. N. D.Wani Former Director Colleges, Department of Higher Education, Jammu & Kashmir	Member	
Mr. B. S. Ponmudiraj Assistant Advisor, NAAC, Bangalore – 560072, Karnataka	NAAC Coordinator	