

যাদবপুর বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

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OFFICE OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR : AUROBINDO BHAVAN ANNEXE

9 June 2021

Professor Jaume Fortuny  
University of Barcelona

Sub: Letter of commitment for EQUAM-BI Project

Dear Professor Fortuny,

I am writing to you in the context of the Project Meeting for the EQUAM-BI project, which was held online on 14 May 2021.

The EQUAM-BI Project, of which Jadavpur University has been proud to be a partner, has helped us in gathering important inputs on quality parameters through various interactions and disseminations with international and national partner institutions. The Toolkit, developed under the project, will be useful in helping us to adopt quality assurance as a regular internal process. We hope to utilize the Toolkit as a capacity building tool for quality assurance in order to (a) ascertain to what degree our university's internal processes reflect quality concerns; (b) determine how it may help in furthering the Vision and Mission of Jadavpur University; and (c) understand how the Toolkit may best be adjusted and adapted to make quality sustainable for our university.

As you are aware, administrative action regarding the implementation of the Toolkit or other measures for quality improvement could not be put into place as a result of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, and this, unfortunately, is likely to remain the case until such time as the pandemic's likely effects on higher education in general, and JU in particular, become more clearly visible. In keeping with the ethos of Jadavpur University, whatever we do will be done after due consultation with, and agreement from, all stakeholders and statutory bodies, especially the Executive Committee of the University, and any far-reaching change in our functioning will depend on assent from the Government of West Bengal, since we are a State University.

Thanks in large part to the EQUAM-BI Project, the following three areas have been identified that need to be addressed: (i) greater integration and collaboration of research activities, especially those with an international component; (ii) more collaboration with partner institutions in India, including learning from their experiences, and best practices; and (iii) better data gathering, analysis, management, and implementation both for internal and external purposes.

In brief, the EQUAM-BI Project has had a positive impact on Jadavpur University's quest to improve quality in all aspects of the University's functioning, and to set benchmarks to sustain such quality-enhancement efforts, even despite the ongoing global pandemic which has acted as a major barrier to achieving the proposed quality-enhancement targets of the Project. We hope to take forward the learnings and lessons of the EQUAM-BI Project as soon as some semblance of normalcy is restored in the day-to-day functioning of our university.

Let me end by thanking you for enabling Jadavpur University to be a part of this important project, which will have a long-term impact on our quality enhancement efforts.

I hope that you are keeping safe and in good health in these difficult times.

Best regards,

*Suranjan Das,*  
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