** Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics**

**AT Report of M.Sc(Hons) Program**

The Assessment Team (AT) comprised of following members visited the Department of Agricultural applied Economics in order to assess its M.Sc (Hons) degree program on June 02, 2016:

1. Dr. Abbasullah Jan Focal Person

Chairman A&AE

1. Dr. Madeeha Gohar External AT Member

Assistant Professor SBBWU

1. Dr. Ayesha Abrar External AT Member

Assistant Professor SBBWU

1. Mr. Muhammad Bilal AT Member

Deputy Director QA UAP

The above team during their assessment/review met in the office of Director QA, where, the Self-Assessment Report was presented and reviewed. Later on, the team visited classrooms, Laboratories, Main Library and Offices at Department of Agriculture & Applied Economics. In the department, they also met with faculty members.

During their assessment visit, AT identified the following Strengths and Weaknesses of the Program:

**Major Strength of Academic Program**

1. The department has qualified and experienced teaching staff, among ten faculty members, eight possess Ph.D degrees from well reputed universities of the advanced countries and four faculty members have also completed Post Doc fellowship from abroad.
2. The faculty is actively involved in academic research and have adequate amount of research publications in peer reviewed journals.
3. The faculty is in close communication with the students.
4. The main strength of the department is its ability of involving their students in research during their internship.
5. Availability of seminar room with latest laptops
6. The curriculum is updated and complies with current needs of the field and market.
7. The career counseling services offered by the department
8. Online journals are available for the faculty which is essential for their research.
9. University research grants are available for the faculty

**Major Weaknesses of Academic Program**

1. Small number of books, national and international journals in relevant areas of agriculture and applied economics for graduate research program.
2. The department lacks adequate number of class rooms and common room.
3. Lack of well-equipped departmental library.
4. The current lab in the department is not sufficient to cater the needs of the students.
5. The lab needs expansion to allow large number of students. The current lab is not available to the full time students for whole day. The use of the departmental lab is restricted which can hamper the productivity of the students.
6. Course files of the courses offered are not maintained by the faculty.
7. Lack of departmental research funds for the faculty and graduate research

**Opportunities:**

1. Since Pakistan economy is agrarian economy, so there exists positive chances of employability of the students of agricultural university.
2. Opportunities exist for technical collaboration with private sector in the relevant areas of agriculture and applied economics.
3. The faculty may extend consultancy and advisory services to private sector, particularly in the areas of agriculture and applied economics.

 **Threats:**

1. Existence of department of economics in other public and private sector universities are creating competitors for the students of Agriculture and Applied Economics.

**Actionable Recommendations**

1. The institution mission in the SAR report needs serious revisions. Consequently, the objectives of the program and outcomes would also need revisions. The strategic plan points should also be revised.
2. Table 2.2 needs revision. Titles of the courses in table 2.3 needs to be specified Table 4.2 needs revision.
3. The department is in need of expanding their current computer lab. In addition, full time

lab assistant would be needed to look after the lab.

1. The department needs development of departmental library and addition of more books to

 the central library.

1. The user manuals should be available in labs for the software.
2. The department at the moment does not have a generator facility. This should be provided as electricity breakdowns can hamper the productivity of the faculty members.
3. The internet facilities needs up gradation to make it more efficient.
4. Additional working space is required for class rooms
5. Multimedia may be installed in classrooms with better furniture and ventilation arrangements.
6. Funds should be arranged for faculty members to participate in conferences, seminars and

workshops to improve exposure and interactions with peer groups worldwide.

1. The proper course files should be maintained by the faculty members.
2. The department should have the required and updated licensed software

