GURU GHASIDAS VISHWAVIDYALAYA

(A Central University)
BILASPUR (C.G.)

गुरु घासीदासविश्वविद्यालय

(केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय)
बिलासपुर (छ.ग.)

PERSPECTIVE PLAN/STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

(DRAFT-2020)

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur (CG)

PERSPECTIVE PLAN / STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
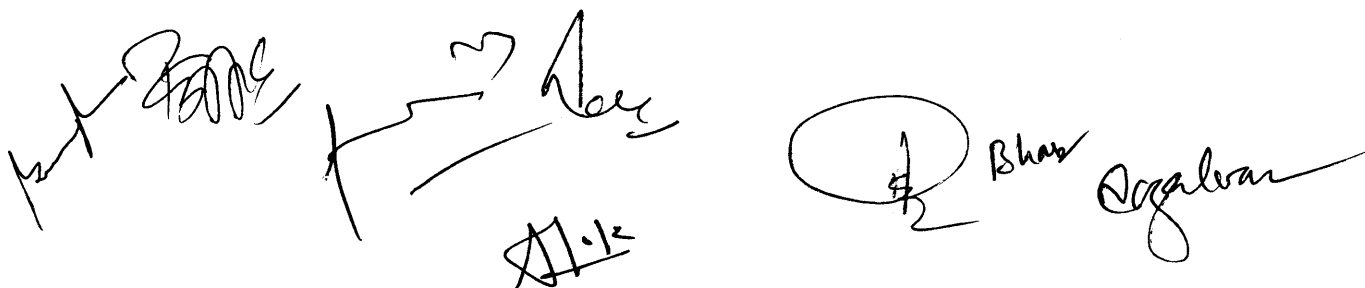
VISION PLAN AND STRATEGIES

The Vision Plan and various strategies of Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur have been contemplated keeping in view the comprehensive approach of long-term development of the university. Through this, the university envisions to undertake its prime agenda of teaching, research and community engagement to ensure its role as a leader.

UNIVERSITY AT A GLANCE

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, established as a state University in 1983, is a residential University, named after Guru Ghasidas, an Eighteenth Century Satnami saint. The University was upgraded to a Central University under the Central Universities Act, 2009 during the XI Five Year Plan. The University is an active member of the Association of Indian Universities and Association of Commonwealth Universities. National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has accredited the University with a B status.

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya is located on the outskirts of the city of Bilaspur, popularly known asNyayadhani (the city of Justice) and Sanaskardhani (the city of culture). Bilaspur is a cosmopolitan city, which houses the High Court of Chhattisgarh, the headquarters of South East Central Railways and South Eastern Coalfields Limited. The journey of the University began in a humble way with a few departments in temporary buildings in Bilaspur city. Subsequently, it was shifted to the old army barracks which was constructed from the times of Second World War in the Koni area, located on the left bank of the river Arpa. The University campus is spread over 656 acres of land. Nature has bestowed the campus with unmatchable beauty, immaculate blend of green areas, and water bodies.

The University offers opportunities to young minds and facilitates the accomplishment of their creative talent with emphasis on character building through various streams of knowledge. The University comprises of 32 established University Teaching Departments under 11 Schools of Studies. It offers a number of undergraduate and postgraduate programs, besides diploma and postgraduate diploma courses. Admissions to all the programs are made through a competitive All-India Entrance Test conducted by the University. Admissions to the Institute of Technology (IT) and
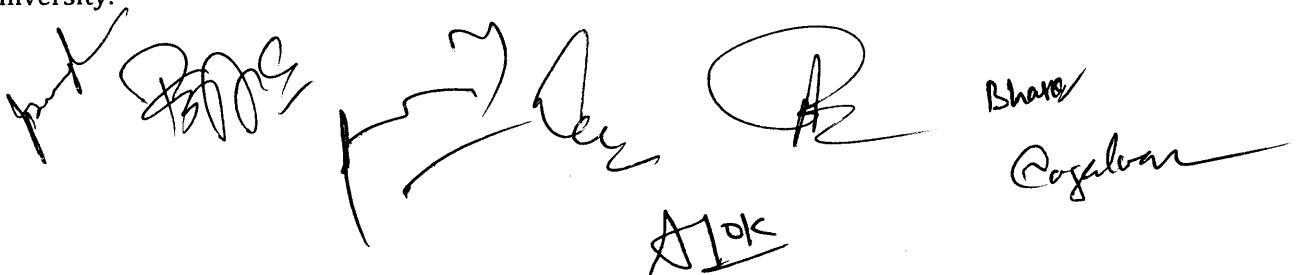
Department of Management Studies are made through All India Engineering Entrance Examination (AIEEE) and Management Aptitude Test (MAT), respectively.

Chhattisgarh, formerly an undeveloped region, is one of the fastest growing states in the country. As an industrial hub, the state requires sizeable pool of skilled manpower. The denizens of this area can tap these opportunities in a better manner by attaining quality education and training. The University has taken extensive steps to transform both teaching and learning process in order to meet contemporary global standards. To boost the quality of teaching, the University has appointed nationally and globally trained faculty members. The University is also committed to meeting an ideal student-teacher ratio. 07 smart classrooms and 28 semi-smart classrooms have been recently developed. Students are continuously evaluated through internal assessment, assignments and end-semester examinations. A transparent and dynamic evaluation process, where answer-sheets of the internal assessments are shown in the classrooms, helps the students to improve their performance. To maximize student's potential, the University has arranged excellent support facilities including hostels, cafeteria, gymnasium, student amenities center, and Wi-Fi connectivity. Through various classes–remedial, spoken English, personality development and free coaching for competitive examinations–the University is committed to provide equal opportunities to students belonging to marginalized Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribes, and Other Backward classes.

Special measures have been taken to provide an environment that is conducive for over-all personality development of students. The Central Library has more than one lac forty thousand books and subscribes to a number of national and international e-journals and e-books. Apart from the Central Library, most of the departments have their own departmental libraries. Excellent sports facilities are available on the campus and in the hostels. The University has planned to extend sport facilities by constructing a new gymnasium. Many activities are organized throughout the year, including the celebration of Republic Day, Independence Day, Foundation Day, Education Day, Swami VivekanandJayanti, SardarVallabhBhai Patel Jayanti, Teachers' Day, Guru Ghasidas Jayantietc to make the campus vibrant. Along with sports and cultural activities, students are also encouraged to participate in social outreach initiatives of the University. Through these activities, students are initiated into participatory ways of life. International and national level events are organized to expose students to new ideas of eminent persons from all walks of life. The University teaching departments organize fieldwork, industrial visits and educational tours to impart practical knowledge. To inculcate leadership qualities among students, the University has successfully constituted the Students' Council. The Students' Council represents all the students of the University.

To face challenges posed by the process of development, the University community is all set to contribute to the larger society through quality research and development in the various areas including energy security, food security, biodiversity management, pollution management, forest management and developmental policy. The UGC Human Resource Development Centre College regularly organizes orientation and refresher courses, short-term courses and workshops for the capacity building of teachers and staff. During these courses, expertise of senior faculty members of the University and practitioners from diverse fields is utilized.

In the coming years, the University aims to act as a role model for the central Universities and to provide simultaneously an educational opportunity to the growing number of the students of the region. The University is on the path of realizing twin goals envisioned by the National Knowledge Commission "of making higher education more relevant to the needs and opportunities of a knowledge society" and "to make higher education more accessible to all sections of the society."
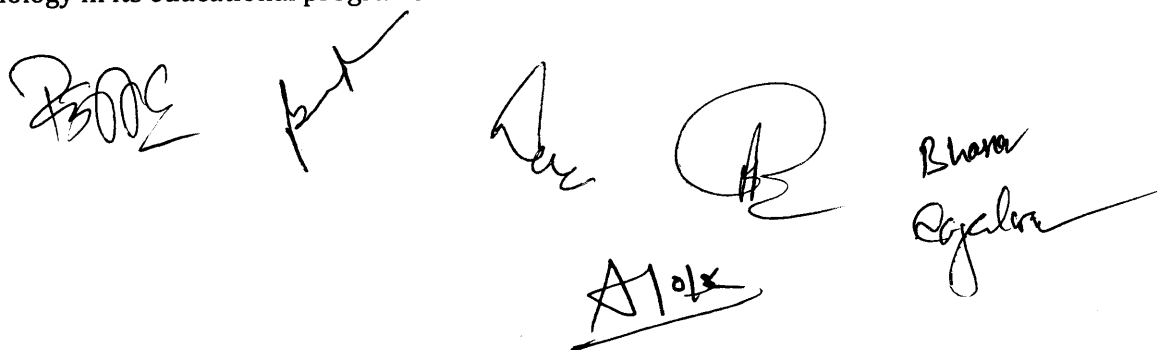
VISION AND OBJECTIVES

VISION

Motivated by the thoughts and teachings of Guru Ghasidas, a great Satnami Saint of 18th Century, Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya, Bilaspur (CG) is committed to social empowerment, particularly of the weaker sections of the society with the help of quality higher education and training. The focus of the University is on offering and strengthening innovative academic programs in emerging interdisciplinary areas of Science, Social Science and Humanities with quality assurance so as to contribute to the growth of the knowledge base of the University in particular and of the academia in general. The University aims to provide value-based holistic education, which will lead to the growth and development of the community better equipped to serve the mankind.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the University are as follows.

To disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit

To make special provisions for integrated courses in Humanities, Social Sciences, Science & Technology in its educational programs

To take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching-learning process and inter-disciplinary studies and research

To educate and train manpower for the development of the country; to establish linkages with industries for the promotion of Science and Technology

To pay special attention in improving people's social and economic conditions, as well as their intellectual, academic, and cultural development.
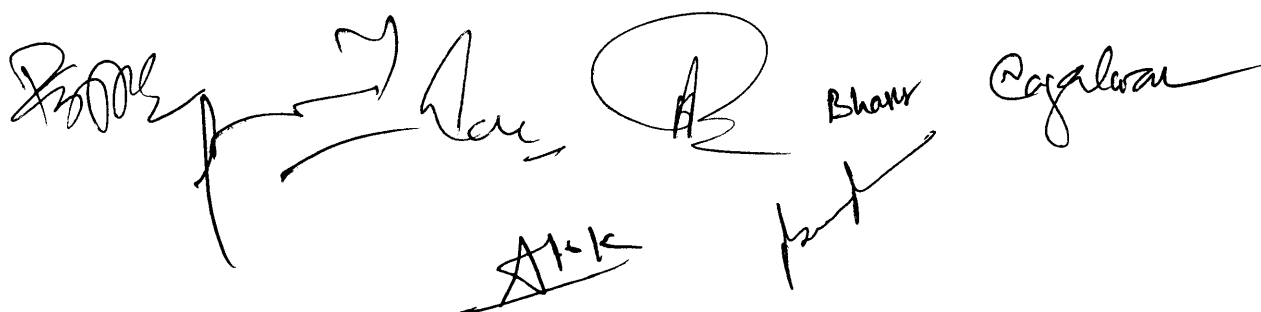
OUR INSPIRATION

Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya is named after Saint Guru Ghasidas (1756-1836), a visionary social reformer. Guru Ghasidas ji founded Satnam Panth, a socio-religious sect, which challenged contemporary discriminatory social order and advocated for social equality by taking up a stand against the exploitative and hierarchical caste system. With his holistic vision and systematic reforms, Guru Ghasidas contributed significantly in removing prevailing social injustice and inequality.

Satnam Panth believes that truth is God and there is only one God, which is formless *(nirguna)* and infinite *(ananta)*. Individual reformation was achieved by prohibiting consumption of liquor and non-vegetarian food in the university campus. Guru Ghasidas ji also formulated principles, which show his love for fauna and his desire to put an end to the cruelty towards animals. The partisans of Satnam Panth have been following these dictates for hundreds of years now. After its up-gradation into a Central University, many steps have been taken by the university to translate Guruji's philosophy into reality. Now, our campus is an alcohol and tobacco free campus. The vibrant university campus, where students from diverse caste, creeds and classes come together from all over India, provides an egalitarian environment based on Guruji's teachings.

CORE VALUES

The academic processes in Guru Ghasidas Vishwavidyalaya are governed by the following sets of core values that enable the Vishwavidyalaya to form the wider canvas of various academic activities to achieve it's vision and mission, as envisaged in the Act. The core values are also commensurate with the goals of National Education Policy 2020.
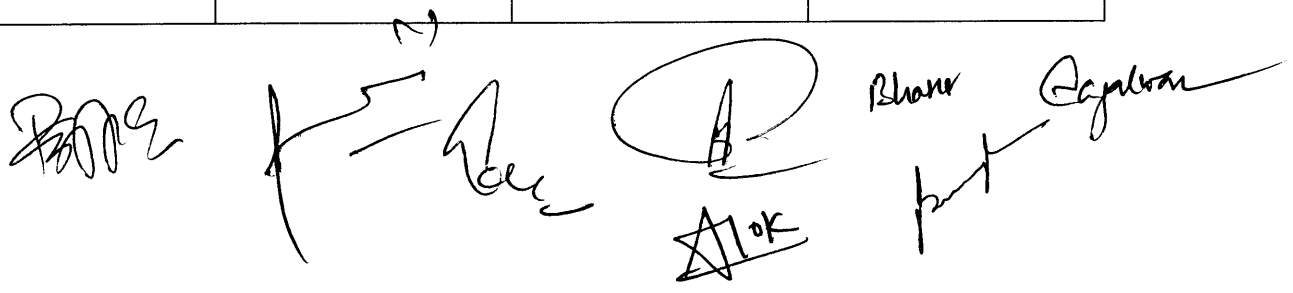
1. **Creativity:** -Developing character, ability, and creativity through adherence to academic integrity and human dignity.

2. **Excellence:** -Striving for wisdom and excellence through knowledge and innovation, with specific thrust upon promoting regional / traditional knowledge and ethnic values.

3. **Innovation:** -Instilling a spirit of entrepreneurship and innovation.

4. **Scientific temper and constitutional values:** -Inculcating scientific ethos and democratic values.

5. **Global Citizenship:** -Promoting values such as tolerance, truth, forgiveness and *VasudhaivKutumbukam.*

6. **Diversity:** -Inculcating respect for cultural and social diversity.

7. **Freedom of expression:**Encouraging expression of thoughts and ideas.

8. **Equity and Inclusion:** -Promoting access, equity and inclusiveness and developing learner-centric academic ambiance.

9.**Patriotism:** -Infusing national values and integration among learners.

10. **Value aided Education:** - Promoting educational endeavors for achieving national development goals.

11. **Basis of the Strategic Plan**: Identifying Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges of the University.

12. **Promoting Indian knowledge system:** Instilling ethical/moral values and preparing learners for societal engagement.
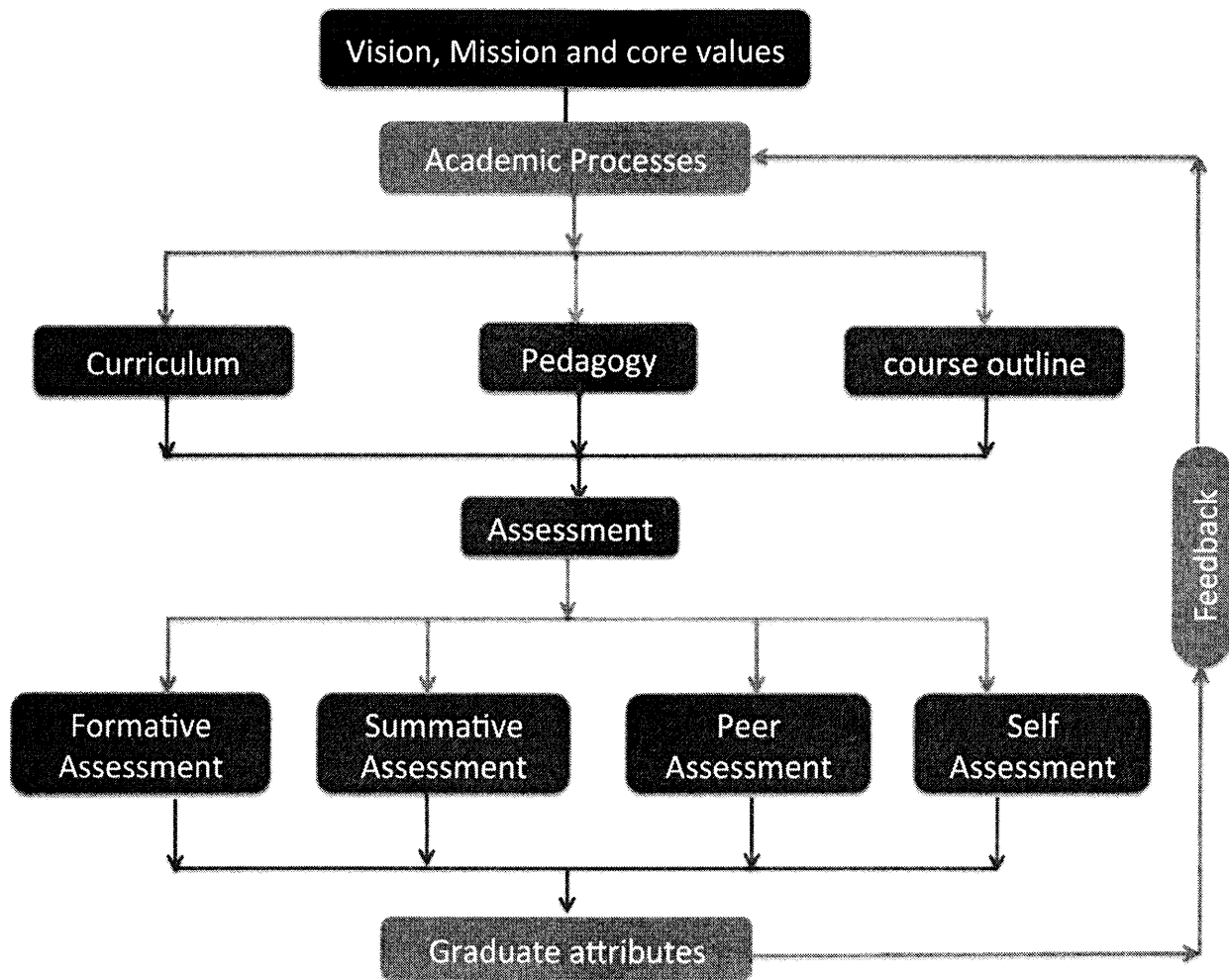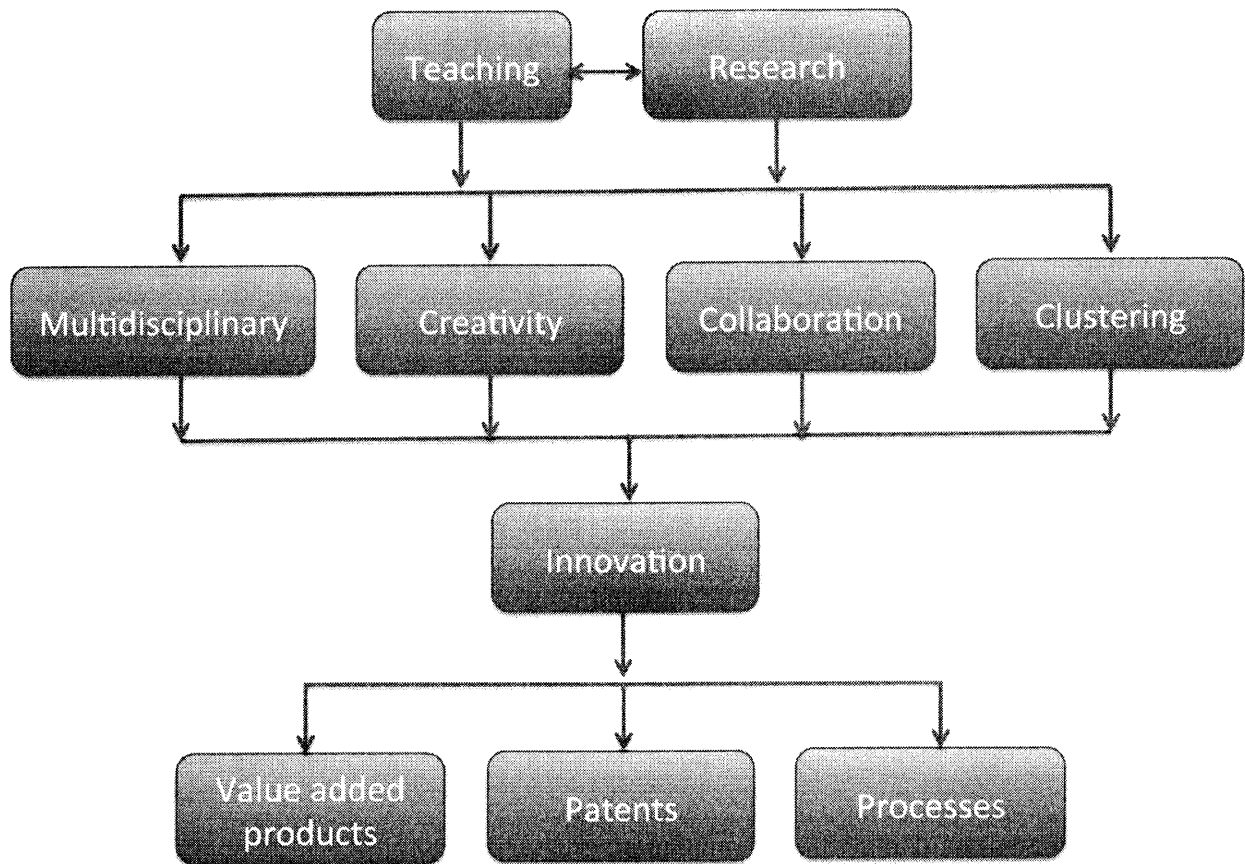
The Graduate Attributes of the University

Accomplishment and enlightenment	Inter-Personal development	Professional and ethical development	Societal engagement and national development
Up-to-date knowledge and Skills of specific domain Academic competency and intellectual curiosity Critical thinking and analytical analysis Analytical and research skills in understanding real world problems Interdisciplinary and holistic approach Experiential learning	Professional and personal integrity and honesty Effective communication Development of team spirit Networking and collaboration Time and leadership management Perpetual learning Mutual respect, adaptability and resilience Inculcating core human values	Sensitivity towards Constitutional values, environmental issues, climate change Exhibit self awareness and self reflection through ethical values Vocational and entrepreneurial space 21st century skills such as use of AI, IoT, machine learning etc. Exposure to multidisciplinary knowledge Synergizing teaching and research with innovation	Sensitivity towards diversity and inclusion Technology enabled uses for social development Exposure to global perspective and sustainable development goals Understanding and application of appropriate technologies

```
┌─────────────────────────────────┐
│   Vision, Mission and core values│
└─────────────────────────────────┘
              │
              ▼
      ┌───────────────────┐
      │ Academic Processes │◄──────────────────┐
      └───────────────────┘                    │
              │                                 │
   ┌──────────┼──────────┐                      │
   ▼          ▼          ▼                      │
┌─────────┐ ┌─────────┐ ┌──────────────┐        │
│Curriculum│ │ Pedagogy│ │course outline│        │
└─────────┘ └─────────┘ └──────────────┘      ┌──────────┐
   │          │          │                    │ Feedback │
   └──────────┼──────────┘                    └──────────┘
              ▼                                 │
       ┌────────────┐                           │
       │ Assessment │                           │
       └────────────┘                           │
              │                                 │
   ┌──────┬───┴────┬──────┐                      │
   ▼      ▼        ▼      ▼                      │
┌────────┐┌────────┐┌────────┐┌────────┐         │
│Formative││Summative││  Peer  ││  Self  │         │
│Assessmt ││Assessmt ││Assessmt││Assessmt│         │
└────────┘└────────┘└────────┘└────────┘         │
   │      │        │      │                      │
   └──────┼────────┼──────┘                      │
          ▼                                       │
   ┌──────────────────┐                           │
   │Graduate attributes│───────────────────────────┘
   └──────────────────┘
```

Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Challenges of the University

Strengths:

We derive inspirations from the teachings and philosophy of Saint Guru Ghasidas. It is aptly envisaged in our Vision and Objectives too, which has resulted in shaping a value-based institution. This strength is clearly visible in all aspects of working of the university.

- Well qualified, experienced, committed and passion driven faculty.

- For all the programs the average faculty-student ration is 1: 17.

- Diversified range of programs is offered with emphasis on job-oriented programs.
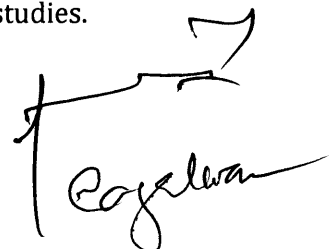
- University departments are transforming into centers of excellence having UGC-SAP, DST-FIST, DBT-BUILDER and there is a thrust on establishing centers in niche areas such as National Centre of Accelerator based Research and Centre for Endangered Languages.

- Conducive and outcome driven research ecosystem reflected by:

  - Average impact factor of research publications, which is 2.5.
  - Ongoing research projects 20.
  - No of patents awarded and/or filedxxxx .

- Strengthening collaboration/networking through MoUs with research, industry, non-profit organizations and academic institutions.

- Strong outreach activities through Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA), National Social Service (NSS) and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat (EBSB) etc.

- Technology enabled online academic and administrative activities including online examination, evaluation, declaration of results, e-governance for student related documentation, admission and financial transactions.

- A transparent and dynamic examination and evaluation system is established which has done away with the practice of revaluation.

- Departments are equipped with state-of-the-art physical infrastructure to facilitate modern teaching-learning processes.

- Smart class rooms/semi smart classrooms and strong online teaching learning facilities are established and are in use.

- Periodic update of the domain knowledge and skills through specialized training for teaching, non-teaching staff and research scholars.

- Despite limited sports infrastructure and specialists in different sports events, excellent results in terms of sports achievements at National level.

- Fast growing academic amenities and infrastructure will bring remarkable changes in academic ambience of the university.

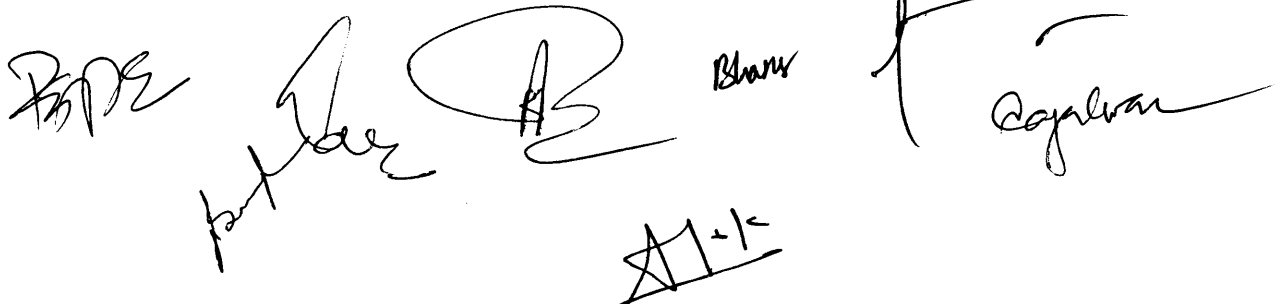- Impressive student progression is visible in terms of result outcome and higher studies.

- 650⁺ Acres lush green campus having ample flora and fauna.

- Excellent academic infrastructure including state-of-the-art auditoriums, e-classroom, smart classroom, semi-smart classroom, specialized laboratories etc. for providing blended mode learning.

 Excellent learner's facilities such as campus residence (Hostels), 24 hours medical care (Health center), Canteen, Psychological Counseling Cell and effective mentor mentee-program.

University caters to the needs of the weaker sections of the society by promoting inclusiveness.

Weaknesses:

- Lack of timely reform to improve the processes for the speedy implementation of projects and programs.

- Availability of limited laboratory and workshop infrastructure for experiential and project based learning.

- Low academia-industry interaction and need to improve the placement activity.

- Limited incubational and entrepreneurial activity to motivate the students for more and more startups and innovation.

- Lack of enrolment of international students.

- Lack of consultancy projects and programs.

- Lack of collaborations in teaching and research with International institutions.

- Lack of air-connectivity creating a hindrance in visit of many academic and research specialists.

- Absence of Visiting Professors owing to the locational disadvantage of the campus

- Lack of international/ national sports facilities

- Need of Strong and active industry-institution interface..

- Limited number of technical staff.

Opportunities:

- University is in the growth phase and has attained a critical level in terms of faculty, infrastructure and large campus and has the potential to transform into a word-class institution.

- University is situated in a Schedule V area which facilitates the university to focus upon inclusiveness in such a way as will promote the educational development of weaker sections, especially of the area inhabited dominantly by Scheduled Tribes.

- The university has developed academic programs and research in areas that are primarily interdisciplinary in nature, and it has the potential to develop a conduciveresearch eco-system that promotes innovative ideas and leads to an increase in the number of patents.

- The university is located in Chhattisgarh, which is a rapidly growing industrialized state withab undant natural resources, surplus power, and a large number of heavy industries in the power, mining, and steel sectors. This provides a unique opportunity for developing strong academic industry interactions leading to skill-based professional programs in collaboration with various industries.

In the last couple of decades, a variety of tourism-based activities have developed in India, which has opened new vistas in eco-tourism, health tourism and cultural tourism etc. The university is situated in the central zone of India, which provides ample opportunities to develop trained human resources by way of offering new programs catering to the needs of the area.

The recent pandemic has shown us that there is a need of integrated wellness approach and way of living. Chhattisgarh, where the university is situated is surrounded by states characterized by natural habitats, dominant tribal populations and large number of natural resources. The "lokvidya" tradition and culture mainly followed by tribal population has remained untapped and there is a need to transform it into a systematic knowledge. This has the potential of providing an alternate approach towards development as well as contributing significantly towards integrated wellness approach. The university seriously plans to approach this ambitious program in collaboration with other agencies having expertise in this area.

The law faculty of the university is collaborating with the State High Court situated in Bilaspur with a view to making use of the expertise and experience of quality law professionals and to provide to law-graduates quality training and exposure for enhancing their professional competence, placement opportunities, and confidence.

- The young tribal population of the adjoining districts is genetically more athletic and anthropometrically suitable for excellence in sports. As such, there is ample opportunity for harnessing their potential in producing sports talents of national and international repute as well as of propagating sports culture in society including propagation of yoga and naturopathy.

- Over a period, the university has developed a number of academic programs in various sciences, technology and professional streams. As per the guidelines of NEP 2020, the university is planning to develop critical human resources from these departments as well as from humanities to develop multi-disciplinary cluster based programs as well as research initiatives to provide innovative solutions for the societal challenges.

- Being the only Central University in the state with rapidly growing infrastructure and amenities, there is great opportunity for the university of establishing strategic alliances and collaborations with international and national educational institutions, industries, government bodies and NGOs for teaching, research, student-faculty exchange, training and consultancy.
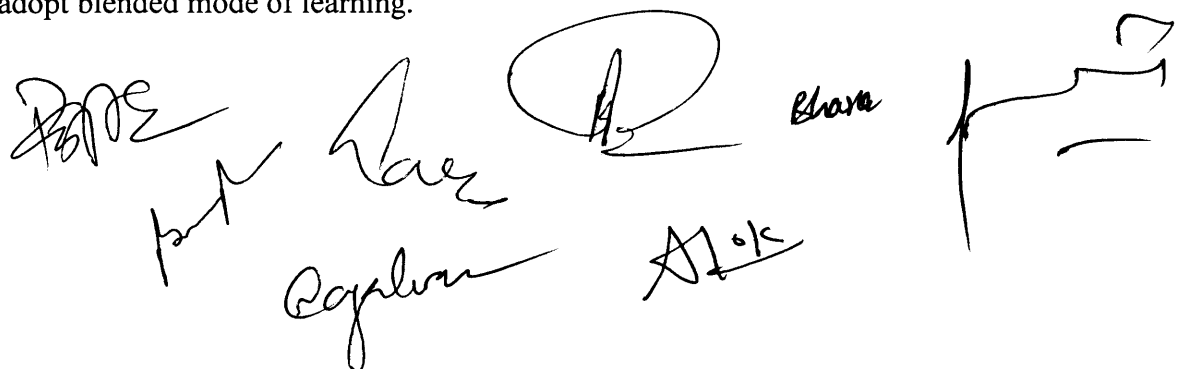
Challenges:

- The university attracts a wide spectrum of students including those coming from deeply remote places, the socially and academically challenged areas. Assimilating and integrating the students coming from various sectors into a uniform and cohesive learners group is one area where concentrated efforts are required.

- Finding a viable medium of instruction for heterogeneous group of learners is a challenge.

- Attracting international students in various programs offered is a major challenge and appropriate efforts are being made to design academic programs (In collaboration with foreign partners, if need be) that attract such students.

- University is in the developmental phase and requires heavy investment to create the new infrastructure for academic and campus development as well as for sustaining the existing infrastructure.

- Developing suitable infrastructure and quality human resources in order to design and offer innovative academic programs that are demand-driven, having adequate employment opportunity, possibilities for developing startups and are dominantly based on 21st century skills sets.
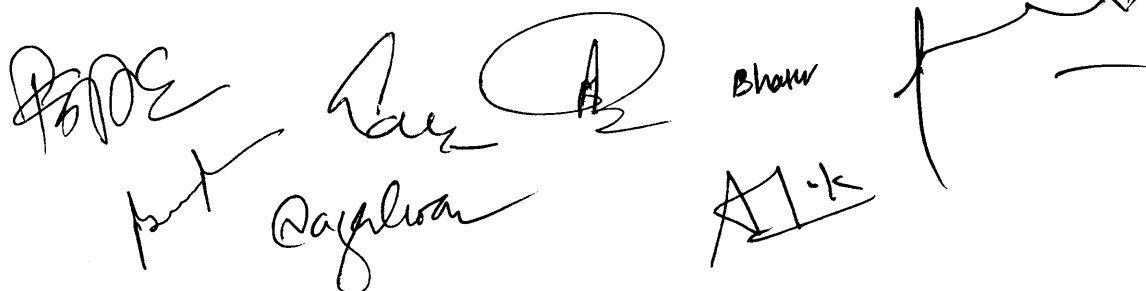
- Transforming the university into a research based world-class organization requires large scale networking at various levels and professional collaborations at national and international stage; that remains a challenge.

- In the present demanding scenario, academic and financial autonomy is the key to success of the institutions, so developing and promoting autonomy with accountability is a challenge.

- Looking at the prospective growth of the university into a bigger campus, developing of adequate amenities and infrastructure for the campus residents like school, advanced medical center, community services, small market and essential services like bank and post office are needed to be established and maintained.

Core Strategies of the Plan

1. **Blended Learning and Academic Excellence:** The recent pandemic situation has changed the teaching-learning processes globally. Moreover, the MOOCs programs on SWAYAM platform have also become an attractive feature of quality learning in the last couple of years. The UGC has also issued guidelines and regulations for implementing blended mode of learning. In the light of the above, the university has adopted the blended mode of learning as a new normal mode.

2. **Engagement with Stakeholders (Industry, Society, Government):** The University recognizes the importance of a multi-way exchange of knowledge and ideas with industry, government, and society. The university plans to strengthen such interactions with industry, society and government in order to reinforce start-up opportunities, research sponsorships, hands on exposure and participation of various stakeholders in the policy related issues.

3. **Technology enabled teaching-learning processes:** In order to implement the blended mode learning, teaching learning technologies and digital platforms for online interactions and data sharing becomes an important tool. Therefore, the University focuses on technology enabled teaching-learning processes. The faculty will be encouraged to undergo training programs and enhance their capabilities so as to enable them to adopt blended mode of learning.
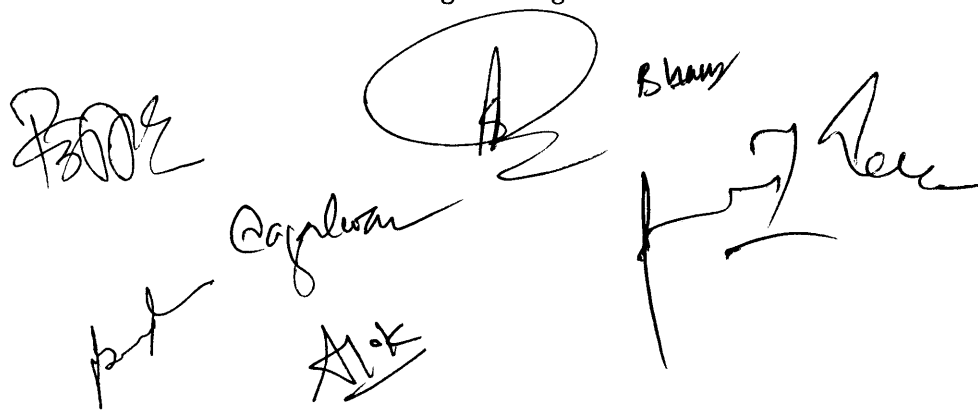
4. **Extension and Community Outreach Service:** The NSS and NCC have been considered as elective courses at undergraduate level in all programs. These will be incorporated into the syllabus of various programs so that the students are motivated for national service, development and instilled with patriotism.

5. **Professional Networking and Collaborations:** In order to strengthen and enhance the quality of teaching-learning process, the university will lay emphasis on collaboration with other universities and institutions and onexchange of visiting professors for boosting teaching and research activities.

6. **Technology enabled Research with Societal Relevance:**In tune with NEP 2020, the University is in the process of considering formation of a critical mass of researchers. This will enhance meaningful research activities in a multi-disciplinary ecosystem, which can provide sustainable solutions for real-life problems in a wide variety of research areas and increase the societal impact. The following life skill programs and activities will be integrated with research problems.

    a. Community based rehabilitation.

    b. Dissemination of constitutional values to rural areas.

    c. Awareness for global citizenship.

    d. Training and education among common people about cyber laws.

7. **Focus on internationalization of higher education:** The University aims at creating suitable infrastructure, relevant academic programs and necessary modifications in the policies related to international students in tune with Govt. of India regulations. This will result in having better representation of international students on campus.

8. **Governance and Integration:** The focus will be on implementing such models of governance, which would enable effective implementation of vision, mission and academic plans. The key points of the model will be maximum academic autonomy, accountability as well as de-centralized administrative mode of governance.

9. **Branding and Communication:** The university would like to increase its visibility among peers, partners, students and alumni through a targeted communications strategy. The

university would like to adopt measurable tactics and regular evaluation to ensure relevance and performance.

10. **Self- Reliance & Sustainability:** The University is focusing on a teaching learning pedagogy coupled with the real-life experience for the learners so that they generate enough funds for sustaining their studies through schemes like Earn While You Learn etc. Alumni and dominant social groups will be approached to provide endowment funds and consultancy programs will also be taken up. The existing academic programs will be appropriately blended so as to include *Lok-Vidhya* (Indian Traditional Knowledge) like local bio-products, folk medicine, traditional model of agrarian economy, traditional Gurukul based education system etc. into the mainstream of teaching learning.