Subject: Protecting Academic Interest of Students During Corona Pandemic: Sharing Best Practices

Dear Vice Chancellors/Directors,

Greeting from Association of Indian Universities!

It is heartening to see that our universities have taken it upon themselves to face the Corona Challenge by effectively combating its impact by protecting the interests of the students by appropriately using the digital space by using latest technologies like Zoom, TCS Digital Glass Room, SWAYAM, Remote Digital Teaching Tool (RDTT), e-PG Pathshala, Google Classroom etc. to deliver online content to the students.

The Association of Indian Universities (AIU) has also created a blog and a WhatsApp group of Vice Chancellors to enable them to share the experiences, strategies and innovations adopted by them to minimize the academic loss of our stakeholders, the student, during this pandemic. We are getting very good suggestions and every university is adopting its unique set of strategies to effectively communicate with the students and to keep them engaged. It is becoming a good learning platform to learn from the experiences of each other.

Emboldened by this, it is proposed that post-corona, AIU may bring out a volume entitled “Protecting Academic Interest of Students During Corona Pandemic: Sharing Best Practices” wherein we can indicate the multiple ways adopted by our member Universities through various strategies, action plans, innovative methods for engaging the student community, and continue their assessment and evaluation with the aim of protecting the interests of our students. I am sure, this will prove to be a very useful document for the future generations to help them to cope up with the similar situations should they arise in future.

In view of the foregoing, it is requested that a write-up of up to 2000 words, on the issue narrating the innovative ways adopted by your university to combat the menace of Corona pandemic in three areas --- Gainfully engaging the student community, Assessment and Evaluation and Online placements may be forwarded on email id sgoffice@aiu.ac.in; meetings@aiu.ac.in; rama.pani2013@gmail.com. We expect to bring this volume within 15 days of lifting of the lock down and therefore will request you to send your articles at the earliest convenience to allow us to include them in the Volume.

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Also, if you are so far not a member of AIU Vice Chancellors’ WhatsApp group and wish to be a member of the group; you may share your WhatsApp number along with your name and name of the university through email on meetings@aiu.ac.in and sgoffice@aiu.ac.in;

Your cooperation is valuable. Your contribution and motivation will help us in fulfilling the task of bringing out a very informative volume on the issue at the earliest.

Your health and safety is of paramount importance to us. Please take care.

With warm regards,

Yours sincerely,

(Pankaj Mittal)

The Vice Chancellor / Director of all Member Universities.