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Criterion 7 - Institutional Values and Best Practices

- 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness
- 7.3.1 Describe/Explain the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its vision, priority and thrust

Link to Relevant Document

https://ksu.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/KSU 7.3.1-1.pdf

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Samskrit and its rich repertoire of knowledge has been largely neglected in the last few centuries. If we need to safeguard our culture and instill a sense of pride in our ancient Knowledge systems, we need to educate and share the rich repertoire of Samskrit language and literature in the context of modern times. With this objective in mind, Karnataka Samskrit University, has initiated several programmes for the **Application of Traditional Knowledge Through Modern Technologies and Systems**. This initiative aims to encourage interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary/cross disciplinary research that benefit not just the students but general public. This is in line with the new National Education Policy, 2020.

The initiatives in the area of Application of Traditional Knowledge Through Modern Technologies and Systems are elaborated below:

i. Research on Samskrit Computational Linguistics: Sanskrit Computational Linguistics is an emerging cross-disciplinary area of knowledge which involves three major disciplines namely state of art Information Technology, Samskrit Vyakarana and Modern Linguistics. The core of this new multidisciplinary field of study is Panini's Ashtadhyayi model of grammar. KSU is one of the very few institutions in India that is researching in the field of Sanskrit Computational Linguistics.

Computational linguistics is an evolved branch of Artificial Intelligence or AI that works towards giving computers the ability to understand text and speech just as human beings do. Together with Natural language processing (NLP), computational linguistics uses computer science techniques to analyse and synthesize language and speech. For this purpose, rule-based modelling of human language—with statistical, machine learning, and deep learning models are developed to enable computers to process human language in the form of text or voice data and to 'fully understand' what the speaker or writer's wishes to communicate.

A dedicated team consisting of computational linguistics, samskrit scholars, researchers, data scientists, and other subject matter experts work towards developing computation tools on Samskrit and allied subjects for the benefit of not just students of the university but also general public. These tools are made available through an online web portal viz., Sambhāsha

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(https://sambhasha.ksu.ac.in/). Aayussamskritam Courseware for Ayurvedic Medical Students, Sāṅgaṇikapāli, Pali language tools, Vaijayantīkośa knowledge net: This webtool helps users to search words in Vaijayantīkośa, understand their meaning and various semantic relations to the given word, Building a Namadhatu Generator and Analyzer tool, Anvaya Chitrana, Ontological representation of Tarka Sangraha, Mahakośa etc., are some of the tools developed by this team.

This multidisciplinary field of study gives equal importance to the theory and application aiming at problem solving with the help of technology. The tangible results are working systems like Machine Translation, Morphological Analyser, Morphological Generator etc.

ii. Post Graduate Diploma in Samskrit Computational Linguistics:

In order to encourage multidisciplinary research and application of IKS, KSU offers a unique Post Graduate Diploma in Samskrit Computational Linguistics (PGDSCL).

The PG Diploma in Samskrit Computational Linguistics course introduces the practical systems to the students with the philosophical, historical and theoretical background along with the design and the algorithms of these systems. This will enable the students not only to use the Sanskrit computational tools but also to undertake the development of such tools. Through the projects undertaken by the researchers in this field, Paninian Vyakarana has found real-time applications.

iii. Provision for interdisciplinary research through Ph.D programme: The university gives opportunity to students from non-samskrit disciplines to carry out interdisciplinary research connecting Science, Politics, Economics, Performing Arts, Mathematics, Medicine etc., to Traditional Knowledge.

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This programme has attracted many students from medicine, Ayurveda, Yoga, Economics, Politics, Arts, Computer Sciences, Dance to pursue research as a part of Ph.D. programme.

iv. **Shastra Mapping and Graphical Representation of Shastras**: Images uploaded.

There is a renewed interest in understanding what traditional Indian Knowledge Systems have to say with respect to modern disciplines. In order to cater to this growing need, a research team at KUS is working on mapping the traditional Shastras in the modern perspective for the benefit of non-Samskrit public.

As a part of this effort, traditional shastras are represented in modern way to make it easy for modern students to understand the concepts of traditional knowledge and apply them to their respective disciplines. As a model, traditional texts of Mahabhashya, Yoga Sutra and Tarka Sangraha are being taken up for this exercise.

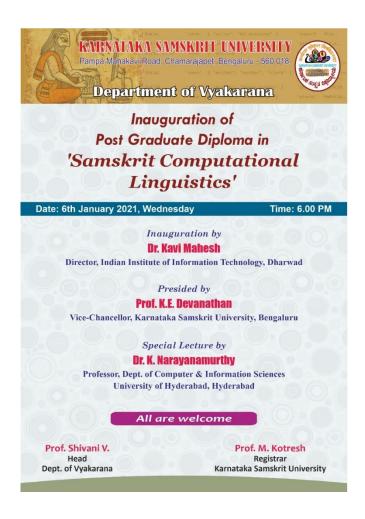
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Brochure for PG Diploma in Computational Linguistics



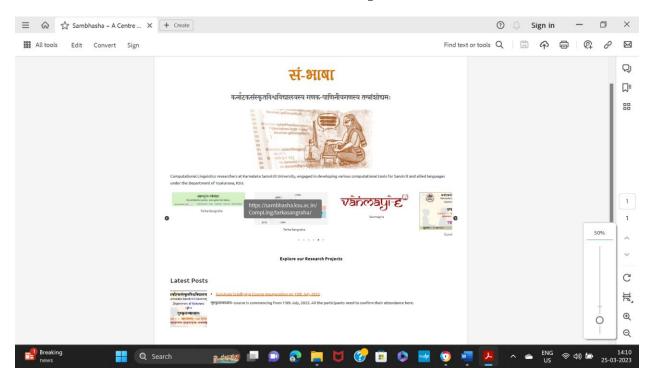
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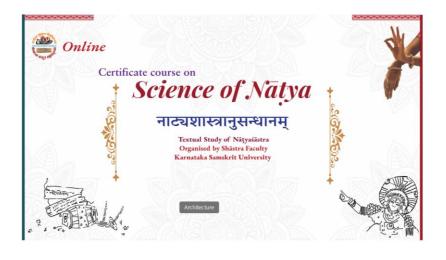


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