EXECUTIVE SUMMARY AND SWOC ANALYSIS

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Executive Summary:

St. Peter's Institute of Higher Education and Research was started in May 2008 with the approval of MHRD based on the recommendation of the UGC. Earlier it was functioning as St. Peter's Engineering College since 1993 and was affiliated to Anna University with all the programs in Engineering, Technology and Management studies approved by AICTE and accredited by NBA.

The University was conceived with the basic objective of providing education in engineering, technology and management studies at undergraduate and postgraduate levels, and conduct research programs in traditional and specialized areas for the advancement of knowledge.

On the academic front, the University has framed curriculum and syllabus for all the programmes which have been approved by the Boards of Studies, Academic Council and Board of Management. New programs and innovative courses were introduced at the undergraduate and post graduate levels to enable students to acquire latest knowledge in core areas as well as new and emerging areas. M.E./ M.Tech programmes in Bio Medical Engineering, Bio Technology, Chemical Engineering and Thermal Engineering along with M.Sc. in Physics and Chemistry have been started in the last three years. B.Arch. course was started in 2012 with the approval of the Council of Architecture. Infrastructure has been updated in all the departments to meet the requirements of syllabus. Value-added short term courses have been conducted specialized topics for the benefit of the students to gain latest knowledge and work on innovative projects besides making them industry-ready.

Teaching Learning process is improved constantly by continuous and systematic evaluation and improvement as well through technology enabled learning methods. Besides classroom lectures, students attend video lectures through EDUSAT programmes and NPTEL lectures. Besides ISO 9001 Quality Management System, the University has Internal Quality Assessment System for improvement of quality in all its activities.

After becoming deemed university, the University started M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes A number of MoUs were signed with national research laboratories and industries for the benefit of students and faculty to interact with experts and take up projects relevant to the society and industry. New facilities have been created in material characterization, structural testing and advanced manufacturing technologies which are being utilized by students, faculty and research scholars. A sophisticated analytical instrumentation facility has been set up with a budget of Rupees 100 Lakhs. The number of publications has been increasing steadily during the past five years.

The University started centres for disaster management, advanced materials and nanotechnology to create awareness and promote research in

new and emerging areas. Technical programmes are conducted and research work is being carried out in some of these areas. Institution-industry interaction cell and IPR cell have been created.

The university has been encouraging innovation, technology development and entrepreneurship among the students and faculty. Technology Business Incubator has been set up in the year 2009 at a total cost of Rs. 4.40 crores with 50% grant by the Department of Science and technology (DST) in the area of refrigeration and cold chain. The Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Government of India, sponsored the SPIHER – MSME Business Incubator under which ten projects have been sanctioned for Rs.48.15 lakhs. These are carried out in five departments.

Several research project proposals have been submitted to various funding agencies for a total cost of Rs. 26.15 crores. Proposals were prepared and sent to MHRD for establishing Centres of Excellence in the thrust areas of disaster management, solar energy, biomedical engineering and super capacitors.

The leadership and management are percolated from the top to all the levels to facilitate efficient and optimum resource management, and to achieve best results.. Several initiatives have been taken to promote creativity and innovation among students to become useful citizens after completing the programme to serve the society and industry by undertaking challenging assignments.

SWOC Analysis:

The strength of the University is its dedicated faculty and effective teaching learning process, research culture and the number of publications, good infrastructure with library facilities with NPTEL and EDUSAT link. Technology Business Incubator supported by the Department of Science & Technology and MSME Business Incubator supported by the Ministry have given a fillip to the entrepreneurship development in the university. The establishment of Sophisticated Analytical Instrumentation Facility has given a boost to research and consultancy in the fields of science and technology.

Weakness is the depleting strength of students and difficulty in getting faculty in specialized areas. The extension activities need to be improved. Funded research projects are not being sanctioned. The communication skill of the students is poor since they are from rural and academically weaker background. Lower number of patents in the university is another weakness.

Opportunity is there for collaboration at national and international levels for academic and research.

Challenges are enhancing the quality of students, which is depleting at entry level and improving their communication and soft skills.

The University is poised for tremendous growth with the implementation of steps already taken and with the support of all stakeholders.