ACCELERATING HIGHER EDUCATION EXPANSION AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (AHEAD), ELTA- ELSE FACULTY GRANTS

Faculty of Applied Sciences (FAS) South Eastern University of Sri Lanka (SEUSL)

Inviting Applications for Consultancy for Mapping Honor Degrees Curricula in alignment with SLQF guidelines (AHEAD/RA2/ELTALESE/SEUSL/FAS/CON/01)

1. BACKGROUND

The development of the higher education sector is of central importance to enable Sri Lanka to make the transition from a Lower-Middle Income Country (LMIC) to an Upper Middle-Income Country (UMIC). Recognizing this, the Government of Sri Lanka and the World Bank have agreed to support the higher education sectors through a Bank funded Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development (AHEAD) operation.

The AHEAD programme will have three results areas including the Enriching Learning, Teaching, Assessment and English Language Skills Enhancement (ELTA-ELSE) Development Project (DP). This DP aims at improving the quality of higher education which has two main components: (a) academic and socio-emotional skills development and (b) enhancement of English language skills. There is also a global trend towards promoting the integration of academic excellence and enhanced socio-emotional skills among university students so that they are well prepared for the world of work, and for wider social and civic life upon graduation. The ELTA component of the DP seeks to address this area through the meaningful integration of socio-emotional skills into the academic programmes of Sri Lankan universities.

One of the main goals of the higher education is to produce employable graduates that integrate into the workforce and positively contribute to the development of the nation. The General Degree of FAS curriculum which has been implemented in 2016 has all characteristics adopting the SLQF requirements. The global demand for Honors Degree is greater than the General Degree and it is the same in Sri Lanka. The graduate survey at FAS found that students who completed Honors Degree were employed immediately after graduation due to the training and knowledge they acquired.

2. THE OPERATION

Consultants for Curricula Revision: Honors Degree Programme

There will be one consultant for each Degree programme (**50 credits**). Based on consultant reports/suggestions, the course coordinators of each course will map the Honors Degree programme with the help of respective academics. Consultants are expected to provide necessary expertise and guidance to the Departments/Faculty for mapping the courses in alignment with SLQF guidelines to improve the existing Honors Degree curricula. Consultants should visit the FAS at the beginning of the revision process and continue to work with the respective Heads of the Departments/ subject Coordinators or Curriculum Development Committee at the Faculty level. They should also arrange visits for the academic staff to consultant's university or other suitable higher educational institutes to expose the FAS academics to better practices and to gain firsthand information on implementing revised curricula. Following Degree Programme are to be mapped against SLQF;

- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Applied Biology
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Applied Statistics
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Botany
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Chemistry
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Computer Science
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Mathematics
- Bachelor of Sciences Honors Degree in Physics

3. THE OBJETIVE OF THE CONSULTANCY

The Honors Degree programs of FAS have been started with mandatory credit requirement developed by the SLQF guidelines, which need to be properly mapped with ILOs proposed by SLQF. Currently, the FAS offers eight Honors Degree programs namely, Applied Biology, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Applied Statistics, Computer Science, Mathematics and Applied Sciences. The FAS proposes to enrich the Honors Degree program with ILOs proposed by the SLQF to increase the number of students enrolling into the Honors Degree program resulting in increase in the employability. Therefore, FAS seeks to get External Experts as Consultants to provide the following services.

- 3.1 Mapping the Honors Degree courses in line with the learning out comes, number of hours etc, in alignment with SLQF guidelines
- 3.2 Revise/introduce new professional courses according to the stakeholder needs into the curriculum.
- 3.3 Incorporate the soft skills in the Honors Degree courses.

4. SCOPE OF THE CONSULTANCY

Mapping of courses must be done according to the standards of developing the course specifications as mentioned in the Sri Lanka Qualification Framework. It should be covered all the contents proposed in the course specification which will be structuralize under the objective 3.1.

Submission of Revised Courses

Courses should be submitted to the Project Coordinator of the AHEAD ELTA ELSE Faculty DP in accordance with the following schedule.

4.1. Draft of revised courses in soft & hard versions should be submitted within 60 working days from the date of signing the contract to the Project Coordinator for submission to the Curriculum Development Committee (CDC) of the faculty.

4.2 Draft of revised courses after amending the course following the receipt of reviewer's input 120 working days from the date of signing the contract to the Project Coordinator for submission to the CDC of the faculty.

4.3 Final copies in soft & hard versions should be submitted to the Project Coordinator within 45 working days of receipt of reviewer's comments.

5. REVIEW MECHANISM

The review process is specified as below

5.1 Firstly, the revised version will be reviewed by the committee appointed by the CDC of the Faculty. The consultant's report is aimed to check for compliance with the format and the alignment with the SLQF Guidelines.

5.2 Secondly, final version of the courses incorporating the suggestions and comments from the committee appointed by the CDC should be submitted to the CDC for further recommendation. Finally, the CDC recommended revised courses should be approved by Faculty Board before distribution – uploading to the LMS.

6. DURATION OF THE ASSIGNMENT

The contract will run for nine (09) months from the date of signing the contract.

7. MODE OF PAYMENT

Consultancy payment per Honors Degree programme: Rs. 150,000 *Payments and conditions:*

The schedule of the payments is specified as below.

- 10% of the total value will be paid after signing the contract.
- 40% of the total value will be paid after submission of the draft versions of the curricula.
- The remaining 50% of the total value will be paid on acceptance of the Final Version of curricula and on the approval of the Faculty Curriculum Development Committee as well as the Faculty Board.

8. REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE

- Professors or Senior Lecturers Grade I with a Ph.D. in the field of Pure (Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics or Applied Sciences (Applied Biology and Applied Statistics).
- Should be able to map the Honors Degree courses in alignment with SLQF guidelines.
- Should be able to revise the curriculum in subjects; Applied Statistics, Applied Biology (Botany and Zoology), Chemistry, Computer Science, Mathematics and Physics.
- Academics who have experience in multi disciplines and incorporation of the soft skills in the curricula are highly preferred.

9. METHOD OF APPOINTMENT

We request the interested Academics to send their CVs along with any documents that portray their credentials in curricula revision to the Activity Coordinator.

10. COORDINATOR OF THE ASSIGNMENT

Dr. M.H. Haroon, Project Coordinator/PCP & Coordinator for Activity-2/curricula revision/AHEAD ELTA ELSE Faculty DP <u>haroonmh@seu.ac.lk</u> - 0772091105

11. OWNERSHIP OF THE REVISED COURSES

The ownership of the final version of Honors Degree curricula belongs to the Faculty of Applied Sciences, South Eastern University of Sri Lanka.

12. APPLICATION PROCEDURE

Applicant should send a detailed CV by email to <u>haroonmh@seu.ac.lk</u> to reach before 04.00 pm on 28.02.2020. Late submission of CV will not be considered.

Director Operations Technical Secretariat AHEAD Operation South Eastern University of Sri Lanka