GROWTH OF UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS AND CENTRES
Following the Travancore University Act the departments of the Maharaja's College, Trivandrum, became departments of the university. But there was also a tendency towards interdepartmental co-operation and handing over to the university of several applied science centres which began to operate under an interdisciplinary umbrella. The typical departmental organisation associated with the teaching cum research in the university becomes conspicuous after the University Act of 1957.

It would be seen that in different stages of the Travancore University many practical and applied centres became merged with the university and hence the university, at least in the science and technology faculties, was in functional transaction with the society around. In fact the university was envisaged to give leadership to the development of technology and utilising the resources around. With the formal organisation of university departments around academic discipline, there was also a
tendency for the university to get isolated from the society around to counteract the tendency and to bring the university back into live transaction with society, a number of centres were also organised. Sometimes centres were organised within a department in order to give it a practical mooring.

Occasionally a practical centre has acquired academic depth and grown into a Department. Not all the centres have realised to an optimum extent the objectives for which they have been started. Apart from the teaching departments there are also a number of auxiliary departments and services which have enriched university life.

This chapter presents the salient features regarding the growth of university departments, other departments and services and centres.

**GROWTH OF UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENTS.**

The University Act of 1957, transferred the administrative control of eleven institutions as mentioned in Chapter V to the State Government. Consequently the university had very few academic institutions or departments left under its control. This led the university to
start several departments anew. Following the establishment of the University Centre at Calicut and Ernakulam (1962) the university established the Departments of History, Chemistry, Zoology and Botany at the Calicut Centre and the Departments of Law, Hindi, Management Studies and Physics at the Ernakulam Centre. The University Department of Marine Biology and Oceanography was already functioning at Ernakulam since the reorganisation of Travancore University into Kerala University. When the Calicut University started functioning in 1968 the departments in Calicut came under the new University. Similarly following the emergence of Cochin University, the departments at Ernakulam were transferred to that University. The majority of the departments and institutions now functioning under the University of Kerala were built up during the period from 1957 to 1990.

The University had, as in 1990, 33 departments of study and research. The Departments under the University located at the University Campus at Kariavattom, Trivandrum are Bio-Chemistry, Botany, Demography and Population Studies, Economics, Geology, History, Institute of Correspondence Courses, Communication and Journalism, Linguistics, Malayalam, Oriental Research Institute and Manuscript Library, Psychology, Philosophy, Mathematics,
Sanskrit, Sociology, Statistics, Tamil and Zoology. The Department of Education and Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries are located at Thycaud and Sankumugham respectively in Trivandrum. All other departments of the University are located in the University Office Campus, Trivandrum. The University Library and Department of Library and Information Science are located in the University Library Building nearby.

**FACULTY OF ARTS**

Department of Communication and Journalism

Master's Degree course in Journalism (M.J.) was started during the year 1977-78. A one-year course of Bachelor of Journalism was started in August, 1982. The response to the B.J. course was not so favourable. In 1984 the university decided to introduce a new Master of Communication and Journalism (MCJ) degree in the place of M.J. Degree. The Department also provides facilities for Ph.D. programme.

Institute of English

The Institute of English of the university at the C.M.S. College, Kottayam, was inaugurated on 14th July, 1962

by Shri. V.V. Giri, Governor of Kerala. The Institute was shifted to Trivandrum on 13th July, 1964. The Institute is at present a full-fledged teaching and research department of the university. The courses offered at present are M.A., M.Phil, and Ph.D.

**Department of German**

The University started Diploma and Certificate courses in German in 1960. The Department became a full-fledged teaching department when the regular M.A. course in German language and literature was instituted on 4th November, 1974. Research programme leading to Ph.D. degree was started in 1975. The scheme for introducing a new advanced Post-Diploma course was started from 1981 onwards. The Department now offers:

1. Certificate in German
2. Diploma in German
3. Post-Diploma in German
4. M.A. (Part-time) in German
5. M.A. (Full-time)
6. Ph.D.

**Library and Information Science**

A Bachelor's degree course in Library Science (B.Lib.Sc.) was started in the University Library building on 26.7.1961. The B.Lib.Sc. course was redesignated as Bachelor of Library and Information Science (B.L.I.Sc.)

course in pursuance of a recommendation to that effect from the University Grants Commission in 1979. A Master's Degree course in Library and Information Science (M.L.I.Sc.) was instituted in the same year.¹

Department of Philosophy

The Department of Philosophy was started with one Professor in 1984. The Department admitted candidates for Ph.D. degree only.² Sanction was accorded by university to start M.Phil course in 1990.³

Department of Russian

A Department of Russian with Certificate and Diploma courses in Russian on a part-time basis, was started by the university in 1969.⁴ M.A. course in Russian was started in 1973⁵ and Ph.D. programme in 1979.⁶ A new course namely "Integrated Diploma in Russian" was started in the Department during the academic year 1990-91.⁷

¹ K.U.A.R. - 1979, p.89.
⁶ K.U.A.R. - 1979, p.82.
Department of Economics

This Department started functioning in the year 1959. The activities of this Department during the period 1959-'62 was confined mostly to teaching (Public Administration and a few other related subjects) of the post-graduate of the Department of Politics, enrolment of students for doctoral research and preparation of a blue print for research activities and teaching programmes. M.A. course was started in 1963 and M.Phil in 1979. From the very beginning the Department has been admitting candidates for Ph.D. programme.

Department of History

A Department of History was started in the year 1969. At that time there were some research students who had registered for Ph.D. programme in History.¹ The Department developed into a full-fledged one when it started M.A. course in History in 1977-78.² In addition to these two programmes, the Department started M.Phil. course in History in 1990.³

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Department of Islamic Studies

This Department started functioning in December, 1990. Decision was taken to start M.A. in Islamic History and Ph.D. programme during the academic year 1990-'91.¹

Department of Politics

The Department of Politics came into existence in 1957 and students were admitted to the M.A. course with special papers in Public Administration and Local Government.² At present the Department offers M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses.

Department of Psychology

This Department was started in 1957-'58 under the Second Five Year Plan and students were admitted for M.A. Course. Besides this course there were research students one working for the M.Litt. Degree and the other for Ph.D. Degree.³ The University permitted to start M.Phil. course in the Department in 1989.⁴

¹. ibid., p.165.
Department of Sociology

The Department of Sociology began to function from 3rd January, 1969 and students for M.A. course in Sociology were admitted in September, 1969.¹

FACULTY OF ORIENTAL STUDIES

Department of Linguistics

The Department of Linguistics started functioning in 1963. In the beginning it offered facilities for Post-graduate Certificate course in Linguistics and research leading to Ph.D.² At present the Department offers the following courses of study: (1) M.A. (Linguistics) started in 1965, (2) M.A. in Applied Linguistics started in 1972, (3) M.Phil. started in 1976-77 and (4) Ph.D. since the inception of the Department.

Department of Malayalam

One of the aims of the University is 'the development of Malayalam literature and conservation of what is best in Kerala arts and culture'. Realising this need, the university decided to start a full fledged department of Malayalam. As such the Department of Malayalam was started from 1.6.1963. The Department provided facilities

for research leading to M.Litt. and Ph.D. Degrees in Malayalam in the Faculty of Oriental Studies.\(^1\) M.A. programme was being offered from 1969 onwards.\(^2\) During the year 1975 the M.Phil. course was started.\(^3\)

To promote the renaissance of Kerala Society and Culture, a seven day World Malayalam Conference was organised by the University with the financial assistance of the Governments of the State and Centre and the U.G.C.\(^4\) This Conference not only helped the Malayalees to re-discover their rich heritage but also to stir profoundly their pride in their culture and to strive hard to attain new heights in their march forward.

**Oriental Research Institute And Manuscript Library**

The Travancore University Oriental and Manuscript Library was started during the year 1938. In 1966 the University Manuscript Library was reorganised and upgraded as Oriental Research Institute and Manuscript Library.

\[\begin{align*}
1. & \ K.U.A.R. - 1963, \ p.69. \\
2. & \ K.U.A.R. - 1975, \ p.75. \\
3. & \ K.U.A.R. - 1977, \ p.94. \\
4. & \ K.U.A.R. - 1984, \ p.3. 
\end{align*}\]
Department of Sanskrit

The Department of Sanskrit was started in June, 1963. In the beginning it provided facilities for research leading to Ph.D. and M.Litt. Degrees in Sanskrit in the Faculty of Oriental Studies.¹ M.Phil course was started in 1974.² The Department undertook the responsibility of teaching Sanskrit (Subsidiary) for the Post-graduate course conducted in the Department of Malayalam.³ M.A. course in Sanskrit was started in 1984.⁴

Department of Tamil

The Department of Tamil has evolved out of the Tamil Research Department started in 1944 under the Dr. R.M. Alagappa Chettiar Endowment Fund. Facilities are provided in the Department for doing higher research for the Ph.D. in Tamil with interdisciplinary approaches. The Department is also offering an M.A. Degree Course in Tamil Language and Literature since 1961-62.⁵ From 1975

onwards it has been conducting the M.Phil. course in Tamil with scholarship for three scholars. The Department has the unique distinction of having produced the first Ph.D. in the Faculty of Oriental Studies in Kerala University.

Department of Hindi

The University started a Department of Hindi in December, 1990. It has been decided to start Ph.D. programme in January, 1991 and M.A., M.Phil. courses in June, 1991.

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

Department of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries

Owing to the special aquatic status of the state it was felt to institute a stimulative and creative department seeking to improve the then existing primitive fishing industry by increasing the quantity and quality of fish available as food supply for the masses, and also by investigating possibilities of organising and stimulating new subsidiary industries directly or indirectly connected with the fish trade. Thus a Department of Marine Biology

and Fisheries was opened in the University in 1939.\textsuperscript{1} This Department became one of the units of the Travancore Central Institute and Council of Research in 1939.\textsuperscript{2}

The Aquarium which was constructed in 1938 was primarily intended to facilitate research activities on the habits and life histories of aquatic organisms. It was thrown open to visitors in October, 1940 at a nominal fee.\textsuperscript{3} In 1959 the Department extended its activities to Cochin.\textsuperscript{4} The two year degree course in Marine Biology and Oceanography were started in 1958 and 1959 respectively.\textsuperscript{5} The M.Phil. and M.Sc. courses in the field of Aquatic Biology and Fisheries were started in 1976 and 1984 respectively.

**Department of Botany**

It was started in April 1959. In the beginning the Department offered facilities for research leading to Ph.D. in Cytology, Genetics and Plant Breeding. A new M.Sc. course in Genetics and Plant Breeding was started in the beginning of the academic year 1966-67. This is the

\begin{itemize}
\item[1.] T.A.R. - 1937-'38, p.192.
\item[5.] ibid., p.3.
\end{itemize}
first instance of an Indian university starting a
specialised course in Genetics and Plant Breeding, which
has great significance in relation to agricultural develop-
ment in the country.\(^1\) An M.Phil. Degree course was
started in 1977.

**Department of Bio-chemistry**

The Department of Bio-chemistry was instituted in
1970.\(^2\) It offers M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Bio-chemistry.

**Department of Chemistry**

The Department of Chemistry came into being in
August, 1939 as a department of Applied Chemistry. In
1957, a full-fledged University Department of Chemistry
came into vogue. In 1960-61 the Department provided instruc-
tion for M.Sc. course in Analytical Chemistry. Facilities
were also provided for research work leading to M.Sc. and
Ph.D. Degrees in the Faculty of Science.\(^3\) The M.Sc.
course in Analytical Chemistry was discontinued in 1973-'74.
But it was resumed during the academic year 1984-'85.
The Department also offers M.Phil. course.

**Department of Computer Science**

An IBM Computer termed as 'Educational Computing
Facility' lent by the ISRO to Government was installed in

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the University Office Campus in 1974. In 1985 this Computer Centre was converted into a Teaching Department of Computer Science and a Post-graduate Diploma course in Computer Science and Application (PGDCA) started from May 15, 1985. The Department started M.Sc. (Computer Science) course in 1989. It co-ordinates the activities of Future Studies programme of the University. An M.Phil. course in Future Studies was introduced in 1990.

Department of Demography and Population Studies

Credit goes to the University of Kerala in starting M.Sc. and Ph.D. programmes in Demography for the first time in India. These programmes were started in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics from October, 1963. Three students were admitted to M.Sc. course and six to research studies. A separate Department of Demography and Population Studies started functioning from 1.10.1979. The Department introduced M.Phil. course in 1982.

Department of Geology

The Department of Geology was started in the University Office Campus, Trivandrum in 1963. It has been conducting

6. ibid., p.259.
7. ibid.
a two year M.Sc. course from the very beginning. In 1971 there were two full-time and two part-time candidates working for Ph.D. degrees.

**Department of Mathematics**

The Department of Mathematics and Statistics was separated into two in 1965-'66 for administrative convenience and smooth functioning of the Departments. The Department of Mathematics started M.Sc. Course in Mathematics during the academic year 1965-'66. M.Phil. course was started in 1977-'78. It also provides facilities for research leading to the Ph.D. Degree and Post-Doctoral studies.

**Department of Physics**

The Department of Physics instituted in 1967 with the object of encouraging studies in Space Physics, in collaboration with the ISRO at Thumba, Trivandrum, started functioning at the University Campus at Kariavattom in 1970. M.Sc. course in Physics in the Department was started soon. It also offers research studies leading to Ph.D. degree.¹ Again, it offers a Post M.Sc. Diploma Course in Space Physics of one year duration in 1974. In 1977 this course was replaced by M.Sc. course in Space Physics and Applied Electronics. The Department introduced M.Phil. course in Physics in January, 1980.

Department of Statistics

The admission of a few students in the Department of Mathematics of the University College for research in Statistics in the early years of the University of Travancore was the beginning of the Department of Statistics in the University. In 1946, the University Department of Statistics and Mathematics was formed. In 1965-'66 the Department of Mathematics and Statistics was bifurcated. The Department of Statistics offers following courses: (1) M.Sc., (2) M.Phil., and (3) Ph.D.

Department of Zoology

The Department of Zoology started functioning from 23rd July, 1968. In the beginning the Department conducted research activities only. M.Sc. Zoology course was started only in September, 1971. Besides, it offers M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses.

FACULTY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

Department of Future Studies

Future Studies (Futurology) has emerged as an important academic programme with tremendous applications in a variety of situations directly connected to human progress. The U.G.C. has selected ten universities to

implement an academic programme at the post-M.Sc. level in Future Studies and Kerala University is one of these ten centres. Recognising the importance of the new discipline Kerala University has decided to implement the programme. As a temporary arrangement the Department of Computer Science was entrusted with the implementation of the programme. The Vice-Chancellor of the University declared open the M.Phil. classes on 17th July, 1990. A separate Department for Future Studies was formally inaugurated by the Hon'ble Minister for Education on 28th November, 1990.¹

FACULTY OF COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce was started in the University during 1985. It offers M.Com., M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses.

FACULTY OF EDUCATION

The University started the M.Ed. course in the Training College on 10th August, 1956. The M.Ed. course began to function as a separate department from 25th November, 1957. The Department offers M.Phil. and Ph.D. courses as well.

FACULTY OF LAW

The Department of Law was inaugurated by the Hon'ble Chief Justice R.S. Pathak on 8th October, 1988. With limited facility available, LL.M. Degree (Semester) course was started in the Department. In 1990 one student was granted full-time registration to work for Ph.D. in Law.

OTHER FACILITIES FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

The yearly mounting rush for college education, a trend which set in with the political independence of the country, continues unabated and unchecked. There has not been corresponding increase in the library and laboratory facilities and in the number of qualified teaching personnel. Hence alternate means for higher education different from the conventional ones offered by the day colleges, had to be explored. This paved the way for the University to start Evening Colleges, Private Registration for University examinations and Correspondence Courses. This was a boon to those candidates who had failed to get good marks in the qualifying examinations and were refused admission in colleges, those who had dropped out of colleges as a

2. ibid.
consequence of their having got jobs and those who had discontinued their studies owing to financial stringencies.

EVENING COLLEGES

For the benefit of those in employment and who were eager to acquire higher qualifications, evening classes for B.Sc. (Mathematics) and B.A. (Philosophy, History, Economics, Malayalam, and Hindi) were started in the University College, Trivandrum during 1965-'66. In the same academic year the University Institute of English started evening classes for M.A. (English). The duration of the B.A./B.Sc. course was four years and that of M.A. three years. ¹ Evening classes for B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. were also started in the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the C.M.S. College, Kottayam (1967-'68) and the F.M.N. College, Quilon (1967-'68).²

The Academic Council at its meeting held on 11th August, 1971 decided that the duration of the evening Degree Courses, viz., B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. be reduced from four to three years.³ The subjects like Malayalam, Hindi, Philosophy and English did not receive sufficient response. So the University was constrained to discontinue such

evening classes conducted in Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the C.M.S. College, Kottayam and the F.M.N. College, Quilon. As a matter of fact evening colleges were started presumably for the sake of employed persons. In actual practice, it was found that the students from among the unemployed section of the community also enjoyed this facility to a great extent. The position as of 1990 in regard to evening colleges under the University of Kerala is as follows: B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. and M.A. (Eco.) courses are offered by the University (Evening) College, Trivandrum, B.Tech. (Engg.) Part-time degree course is offered in the Government Engineering College, Trivandrum, the three year LL.B. (Part-time) Degree Course is offered in the Law College, Trivandrum and the Kerala Law Academy, Trivandrum. The F.M.N. College, Quilon offers evening classes for B.Com. Degree courses. The T.K.M. College of Engineering conducts both part-time B.Tech. Degree course and Part-time M.B.A. course.

PRIVATE APPEARANCE

Permission was also granted to any Master's Degree holder of the University to appear privately for the Master's Degree examination in the Faculties of Arts, Science, Commerce and Oriental Studies in subjects for
which there were no practical, as per the Academic Council decision dated 8.2.1972. Private candidates were allowed to take M.A., M.Com. Degree Examinations for the first time in April/May 1977. The minimum marks prescribed for admission to the B.A., B.Com., M.A. and M.Com. degree courses in respect of regular students are not applicable to private registration.

SHIFT SYSTEM

The shift system was introduced in 25 colleges in 1980. This system started with the intention of weaning away as many students as possible from coaching shops has only been partially successful. The effort in this direction was, however, continued with unabated enthusiasm. In 1981 five more colleges newly introduced shift system. By 1983, sixtytwo affiliated colleges had shift batches ranging from a minimum of three to a maximum of five. The shift system enabled the optimum utilization of the existing facilities, with only the salaries due to the additional hands appointed to the teaching staff having to be met by way of extra expenditure. As per this new system there were to be two shifts for the Pre-Degree course, the first shift from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and the second from 2.00 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

The unsatisfactory way in which the shift system functioned in colleges was criticised by the students, teachers, principals and the public. This led the University to permit ten colleges to abolish shift system during the period 1983-86. Again, the University permitted two colleges in 1989\textsuperscript{1} and five colleges in 1990 to abolish this system.\textsuperscript{2} In spite of its handicaps, the shift system continues to operate in several colleges where it was originally started.

**INSTITUTE OF CORRESPONDENCE COURSE**

The Institute of Correspondence Courses was formally started in April 1976. However, it started its regular functioning only in the academic year 1977-78. It provided facilities for the Pre-Degree Course by correspondence with five optionals. One thousand and eighty students have got themselves enrolled in the various groups of the Pre-Degree Course. These students were scattered throughout the State of Kerala, although a few of them reside outside the State.\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1} K.U.A.R. - 1989, p.82.
\textsuperscript{2} K.U.A.R. - 1990, p.81.
A significant academic event of the year 1979-’80 was the extension of the facilities for correspondence course to candidates for B.A. and B.Com degrees of the University. It satisfied one of the long felt academic needs of the community. The B.A. degree course included three disciplines, viz., Political Science, History and Economics. More teachers were also appointed. A library started functioning with more than four thousand volumes.

The Institute provided facilities for the M.A. degree course in Political Science, History and Economics and M.Com. degree courses in 1984-’85. It also started degree courses in Languages - English and Malayalam.

The Institute has been recognised as a teaching and research department of the University. Two types of research activities are being carried out at the Institute: (i) research for Ph.D. degree in various disciplines such as History, Politics etc. under the guidance of teachers in the Institute, and (ii) research in the field of distance education.

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

The Department of Physical Education started functioning in 1938 under the University of Travancore. Among the Universities in India the Travancore University was the first to organise a Department of Physical Education. The Department has shifted to the present premises in G.V. Raja Pavilion in 1963. It advises and controls physical education in all affiliated colleges Inter-collegiate and Inter-university competitions in various games are being organised by the Department.

The Department of Physical Education has become the first Department in any University in the country to win a stadium with synthetic track and auxiliary facilities.

A sports hostel under the Department of Physical Education was started by utilising the space in the Students' Centre and the available space in the University Stadium. Eligible sports women from the city colleges and talented sports women seeking admission to the Pre-degree course were given admission to the sports hostel.¹

¹ K.U.A.R. - 1990, p.73.
The Lakshmi Bai National College for Physical Education was started in 1986. It offers instruction for the three year Bachelor of Physical Education (BPE) course of the University of Kerala. Its motto is to meet the needs of the South Indian states and provide necessary leadership in the region in the field of Physical Education, sports and games. The college is under the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resources and Development, Government of India. Its overall administrative control is vested in the Lakshmi Bai National College of Physical Education, Gwalior, which is governed by the Society for the National Institute of Physical Education and Sports Board, Government of India. It is affiliated to the Kerala University basically only for purposes of examination and award of Degrees.

Sanction has been granted to this college to start Master of Physical Education (MPE) course with an intake of 15 students from 1989-'90.¹

The Department of Publications was started as early as 1939 with the object of enriching Malayalam Language and Literature. Several books in Malayalam, English, Tamil and Hindi have so far seen published. The publication of text books for University students is one of the major projects of this Department. In July, 1970, the Department was reorganised and it is functioning under the Director of Publications.

The Department has been making steady progress. It has published a number of valuable books and reprints which are reasonably priced. The Department has participated in a number of book exhibition conducted by the National Book Trust of India and other organisations. The glossaries in Malayalam terms in subjects like Zoology, Botany, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Education brought out by department represented a pioneering venture in the field.

The compilation of a comprehensive, etymological-cum-historical dictionary of the Malayalam Language was a pressing demand of the people of Kerala. In 1953, the States of Travancore, Cochin and Madras jointly started the Malayalam Lexicon Project. Its administration was entrusted to the Travancore University.¹

The scheme for the preparation of the Lexicon envisages a comprehensive Malayalam-Malayalam-English Dictionary on historical and philosophical principles, including as far as possible all words written and spoken during all periods of development of the language.²

The Project was supported by the UGC and State Government. In the early days the Government of Madras also gave a grant.³ Upto 1990 six volumes had been published from the letters 'a' (அ) to 'de' (ඉශ).

The Lexicon Department has started a Research forum to discuss various problems in Lexicography and to invite scholars to deliver special lectures on lexicography and allied topics.⁴ The Department also provides facilities for research studies leading to Ph.D. degree.

3. ibid., pp.85-86.
GANDHI BHAVAN

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, the former President of India, laid the foundation stone of the new University Campus and Gandhi Bhavan at Kariavattom at 9.30 a.m. on 30th September, 1963.¹

The main activities of Gandhi Bhavan are organisation of seminars, lectures, elocution and essay competitions in Gandhian thought. It also maintains a Reference Library.

CENTRE FOR ADULT EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

With a view to bringing the common people into lively contact with the latest developments in the various fields of knowledge, so as to enable them to enjoy life at a higher level of culture and intellectual development, steps were taken for the establishment of University Extension Services. As a first step in the direction popular extension lectures were delivered on in subjects of scientific and current interest by college teachers in four centres, viz., Parassala, Quilon, Ernakulam and Calicut during 1958-'59.² However, the scheme was not followed up since then.

In accordance with the declared policy of the University and in line with the suggestions of the University Grants Commission, a full-fledged Centre for Adult Education

and Extension was started with the full financial assistance of the U.G.C. The centre was formally inaugurated on 14th March, 1980 by Neelam Sanjeeva Reddy, the then President of India, at a function held in the University Senate Hall. The Centre will co-ordinate the adult education programmes of affiliated colleges and act as a clearing house of new ideas in adult and non-formal education extension work.¹

The CAEE continues its active involvement in adult and continuing education, organising Adult Centres, College level Population Education Clubs and Adult Education Centre level Population Education Clubs. It also organises rural convocation for conferring neoliterates and presenting them with book kits for further reading and inservice reorientation programmes for functionaries.²

The CAEE which was housed in the University Students’ Centre, Trivandrum was shifted to Gandhi Bhavan, Kariavattom in February, 1986. This Centre was selected by the UGC as one of the institutions where Population Education Resource Centre (PERC) were to be located under the UGC-UNFPA collaboration in Population Education Activities.³ This was commissioned during 1987.⁴

² ibid.
A Post Master's Diploma course in Adult and Continuing Education was started in June, 1988.¹

COMPUTER CENTRE

The Computer Centre which started in 1974 continued to extend the computer facility, programming and data preparation support, consultancy for computer installation to other departments both at Kariavattom Campus as well as the University Office Campus.²

UNIVERSITY SERVICE AND INSTRUMENTATION CENTRE

Established as per the guidelines of the UGC, the University Service and Instrumentation Centre (USIC) started formally functioning from 25.10.1977.³ The principal objective of the Centre is to provide adequate repairs and maintenance service to sophisticated scientific equipments in the various laboratories of the University, offer certain centralised analytical and other services to different departments, conduct training course in instrumentation and perform research and development activities in science and technology.⁴

The USIC has two wings, viz., Electronics and Mechanical Engineering. It is headed by the Instrumentation Engineer.

SURVEY RESEARCH CENTRE

The Survey Research Centre started in May 1979 was attached to the Department of Politics. It is an interdisciplinary institution of study and research.

CENTRE FOR POLICY STUDIES

The Centre for Policy Studies was established in 1980 as per the decision of the Syndicate at its meeting held on May 24, 1980. Its main function is to undertake policy studies and publish the results of these studies.

POPULATION RESEARCH CENTRE

The Population Research Centre was formed with effect from 1.7.1983.

THE CENTRE FOR VEDANTA STUDIES

Special assistance for starting a Centre on Vedanta Studies in the Department of Sanskrit was sanctioned by the U.G.C. in 1984. As such the Hon. Chief Minister, K. Karunakaran, inaugurated the Centre on 26th October, 1985. The Centre provides facilities for research studies leading to Ph.D. Degree.

CENTRE FOR WOMEN'S STUDIES

With a view to understanding a leadership role in curriculum, material, human resource development as also research in the promotion of women's studies a Women's Study Centre started functioning in 1986 in the University Department of Sociology. The Centre was formally inaugurated in January, 1987. It has later been transferred to the University Department of Education.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR KERALA STUDIES

The University started an International Centre for Kerala Studies in 1987. The Centre is mainly meant for the conservation, promotion and development of Kerala Arts, Culture and the Malayalam Language.

SREE NARAYANA STUDY CENTRE FOR SOCIAL CHANGE

The Sree Narayana Study Centre for Social Change started functioning from 17.2.1986. Its formal inauguration was done by V.R. Krishna Iyer, Retired Justice of the

3. ibid., p.97.
Supreme Court on 1.12.1986. Its aim is to undertake in-depth-studies on the impact of the life and teachings of Sree Narayana Guru in social, cultural, educational and political fields. The stress will be on social change.

**FILM STUDY CENTRE**

With a view to increase an awareness of film as a modern art form and to promote the use of medium of cinema for social communication and education among students, the U.G.C. has selected Kerala University for setting up a Film Study Centre. Thus a Film Study Centre was established in the University in 1987.\(^1\)

**CENTRE FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE TEACHING**

A Centre for English Language Teaching was formally inaugurated on 30th July, 1988. The main aims and objectives of the Centre as envisaged by the U.G.C. are: (1) to introduce new need-based courses, (ii) to provide remedial courses for the weaker students at their level of competence in this language, (iii) to provide for programmes in English teaching relevant to the needs of other subject/discipline and (iv) to equip the university/college students to use English Language effectively for professional and communicational purposes.\(^2\)

\(^1\) ibid., p.121.

\(^2\) ibid.
CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTRE FOR CULTURAL AND SOCIAL CHANGE

The Christian Study Centre for Cultural and Social Change was inaugurated in November, 1988. It has been conducting one-day seminars, public lectures etc.

CENTRE FOR HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

The University established the Centre for Human Resource Development (HRDC) in 1990. The basic objective of the Centre is to improve productivity of the University's administrative machinery by organising professional, result-oriented training and development programmes for the employees at all levels. In June, 1990 the Centre started functioning with the Public Relation Officer of the University as its Co-ordinator.

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

The Government of Travancore transferred to the University on 22nd August, 1938 the Trivandrum Public Library which had been in existence for 93 years. But a University Library with book resources to function effectively as a Central research and reference Library

for the staff and students of all colleges, students of University departments, research scholars and registered graduates of the university was an ideal towards the realisation of which the first concrete step was taken when in 1942 the University Library was formed with the stock of less than 20,000 volumes of the Arts College Library left behind after transferring a part of the library to the University College, as the nucleus.¹

The University Library was shifted to the newly constructed building in the eastern compound of the University College in 1946. The number of volumes at that time was 30,354.² The Library shifted to the present buildings with adequate Reading Rooms and storage facility in 1960.

The Library is a recognised Research Centre of the University. In 1990 there were 138 full-time and 50 part-time Research Scholars. Besides there were two full-time researchers working under the post-doctoral Research scheme.

Three computers (PC/AJ) were acquired for the Library in 1990 for computerising library services. The Library was selected as the resource centre of the National Network of Women Development Studies in Kerala.³

¹ Silver Jubilee Volume-1963, op. cit., p.117.
The U.G.C. sanctioned Rs.1,00,000 for the establishment of a Centre for Women's Studies in the Library with the aid received from the 'Ford Foundation'. This Centre collected a good number of books relating to women's studies. Moreover, photocopies of 100 Ph.D. theses on various aspects of women's studies were also acquired.

The Kerala Studies Section in the Library started in 1973 is being developed as a specialised comprehensive collection comprising books and other materials dealing with subjects relating to Kerala such as its history and culture, language and literature, religious education, politics, economics, sociology, etc. This collection is being built up primarily to meet the requirement of the growing number of research scholars of Kerala Studies.

The Library is a depository for U.N. and World Bank Publications. In co-operation with the Indian National Commission for Co-operation with UNESCO, New Delhi, the library functioned as one of the UNESCO Information Centres. With these additional acquisitions the library is again having problems of space.

Each Department of the University has Departmental Library with qualified staff.

1. K.U.A.R. - 1984, p.188.
STUDY CENTRES

The Study Centres at Quilon and Alleppey have been functioning at the S.N. College, Quilon and S.D. College, Alleppey respectively and form part of the University Library system.\(^1\) Another Study Centre started functioning in the campus of the N.S.S. College, Pandalam in 1989.\(^2\)

Some Study Centres including old ones at Ernakulam, Calicut, Kottayam, Changanacherry and Palai were transferred to the newer universities.

UNIVERSITY UNION

In 1939-'40 it was proposed to establish a University Union for promoting corporate life among students. As such the Union was inaugurated in 1940-'41 by Sir Maurice Gwyer, the then Chief Justice of India and Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University. With the passing of the Kerala University Act, 1957 the Travancore University Union was renamed as the Kerala University Union. The Union's main activities include (a) to provide for its members the usual amenities of a club, (b) to hold debates and arrange for lectures of general interest, (c) to give

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entertainment, (d) to organise indoor games, (e) to maintain a Reading Room and Library, (f) to conduct a Restaurant and co-operative store, (g) to organise centres for social services and (h) any other activity approved by the syndicate.¹

The University Union was revived with a new constitution in 1969.² With some changes introduced in later years, this has remained the basic document in regard to the structure and functioning of the Kerala University Union. It made the Union a fully democratic body representing the entire student community comprised in the territorial jurisdiction of the University of Kerala.

STUDENT WELFARE SCHEME

At the instance of the Ministry of Education, Government of India, a University Welfare Committee with the Vice-Chancellor as Chairman and representatives of the staff and students of the colleges in the four revenue districts of the state as members was constituted to advise the University on Youth Welfare Programmes. Area Youth Welfare Committee in the four revenue districts of the

state, viz., Trivandrum, Quilon, Kottayam and Trichur were also constituted in 1955-56. In 1958-'59 the University inaugurated a scheme for aid to poor students (Poor Students' Aid Fund).

In February 1961, a Department of Youth Welfare was started by the University with Dr. E.I. George as Honorary Director. It was entrusted with the task of administering the various Youth Welfare Schemes sponsored by the Government of India such as Campus Work Projects Labour and Social Service Campus, Leadership Training Camps for College Teachers, Students' Tours and Youth Festivals and of formulating and implementing the University scheme of youth welfare.

In 1965 the Department of Youth Welfare started functioning in the "University Students' Centre." The year 1987 saw a new phase in the activities in the Department of Student Services. Unlike in the past where the activities of the Department were co-existent with the University Union the Department of Student Services took many new steps during this year to increase the facilities

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for the student community. These include steps taken to improve facilities for college hostels, decision to institute gold medals and cash awards, increase in the amount of scholarship for sports and other talented students.¹

**NATIONAL CADET CORPS**

The National Cadet Corps seeks to mould the youth of the country, and develop in them qualities of leadership, comradeship and devotion to service in the national cause.

The chief objectives of the NCC are (a) development of leadership, character, comradeship, spirit of sportsmanship and the ideal of service (b) to create as a force of disciplined and trained manpower, which in a national emergency and could be of assistance to the country, and (c) to provide training for students with a view to developing in them officer-like qualities, thus also enabling them to obtain commission in the Armed Forces. The NCC, besides imparting military-oriented training, inculcates the feeling of oneness among its members, it instills in the youth excellent discipline, spirit of adventure and a strong desire to be of service to the society. NCC plays an important role in propagating the ideas of secularism and national integration.²

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The Travancore University Labour Corps was organised in September, 1939. The chief objectives of the Corps were to give its members military training and to instil in their minds a true idea of the dignity of manual labour. His Highness the Maharaja was pleased to be the Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps and His Highness the Elaya Raja the Colonel.¹

To facilitate training, the Corps was divided into three companies instead of two in 1940-41. Three parades a week were arranged for the Corps.²

As the name of the University Training Corps in other Universities was changed to Officers' Training Corps, the name of the Travancore University Labour Corps was changed to "Travancore University Officers' Training and Labour Corps" in 1943-44.³ This name was further changed to "Travancore University Officers' Training Corps" in 1944-45.

The University Officers' Training Corps was disbanded by His Highness the Chancellor, the Colonel-in-Chief of the Corps with effect from 15th March, 1949 and formed a

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senior division of the National Cadet Corps. The 1st Travancore Battalion National Cadet Corps was inaugurated on 15th March, 1949. The Corps consisted of two companies. ¹

An independent company of the Senior Division Boys (Army Wing) National Cadet Corps was raised during 1955-56 with its headquarters at Ernakulam. The 19th Travancore Medical Company National Cadet Corps was formed in the Medical College, Trivandrum during the same year.²

First Kerala Battalion N.C.C. Trivandrum became, with the formation of the Kerala State in 1956-57, the First Kerala Battalion N.C.C. The strength of the N.C.C. as on 1956-57 was 33 Officers and 1425 cadets.³

Kerala Air Squadron N.C.C. with Headquarters at Trivandrum, Kerala Naval Unit N.C.C. with Headquarters at Calicut and N.C.C. Rifles for giving military training to students on a large scale were started during 1960-61.⁴

The students of the colleges affiliated to the University of Kerala are enrolled in the NCC Units functioning under the control of NCC Group Headquarters,

Trivandrum and Quilon (except for one, which is under NCC Group H.O. Kottayam). NCC Training is carried out in conformity with the training directives and syllabus issued by the Directorate General of NCC, New Delhi.¹

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

In pursuance of the recommendation of the Education Commission (1964-'66), the Government of India decided to introduce the National Service Scheme on a selective-cum-voluntary basis for students in colleges with a view to developing a spirit of national consciousness and a sense of social responsibility among them in 1969-'70. The Kerala University Syndicate at its meeting held on May 26, 1971 decided to implement the N.S.S. in the affiliated colleges in 1971-'72. As such it was implemented in 25 colleges in the first instance.

The general objective of the N.S.S. is: Education through community service. The specific objectives are:

(1) to arouse social consciousness of the students by providing them opportunities to work with and among people,
(2) to develop an awareness of the social realities around them,
(3) to provide rich and meaningful educational experience to them in order to make their education complete and

meaningful, (4) to give opportunities to the students to engage themselves in creative and constructive social action for social welfare, (5) to develop skills needed in the exercise of democratic leadership and programme development, and (6) to give them opportunities for developing their own personality.\textsuperscript{1}

COLLEGE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The College Development Council was constituted in 1978 with a view to improving the standards of higher education and to ensuring the proper planning and integrated development of colleges to provide necessary help and guidance to the affiliated colleges. The full-fledged Council was reconstituted during the year 1983.\textsuperscript{2}

THE RESEARCH DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

The Research Development Council was formed with a view to effecting a meaningful interaction among researchers in the University, autonomous research centres and industries.\textsuperscript{3}

\textsuperscript{1} University of Kerala, \textit{N.S.S. Diary}, n.p., p.1.
\textsuperscript{3} K.U.A.R. - 1988, p.119.
**SHRAMIK VIDYAPEETH**

The Shramik Vidyapeeth was established with effect from 31.3.1984. It is a fully aided scheme of the Ministry of Education. The Shramik Vidyapeeth started functioning in the building of the Department of Chemistry in the University Campus from December 1984.¹

**ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE**

The U.G.C. has formulated a scheme for the orientation of teachers in colleges and universities. According to this scheme the U.G.C. identified Kerala University as one of the 48 universities selected for starting the Academic Staff College. This was established in this University on 22.7.1987. The aim in establishing this institution is to raise the standard of higher education by giving proper training to teachers through a series of orientation courses of four week duration to update their knowledge and to equip them for the task entrusted to them.

UNIVERSITY EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE BUREAU

The Government of Travancore sanctioned the formation of the Students' Advisory Bureaux on 5th August, 1945. It later became the University Employment Information and Guidance Bureau. It is an institution designed to cater to the special needs of the alumni of the University.

The University Employment Information and Guidance Bureau has organised over the years several activities with a view to the welfare of the students community. It has conducted several courses, training programmes etc. for the registrants, students and teachers.

THE EDUCATIONAL STATISTICS UNIT

The Central Research Institute consisted of a Bureau of Statistics. It had undertaken the work of the compilation of Statistics of colleges under the University of Travancore from 1953. The Educational Statistics Unit started functioning as a separate unit in the Department of Statistics during 1962 for the collection and compilation of educational statistics.2

INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT

With U.G.C. financial assistance an Institute of Management, Kerala was established in the University of Kerala vide U.O.No.AI-3953/88 dated 23.9.1988.¹

UNIVERSITY ENGINEERING UNIT

The Engineering Unit was constituted in 1955 with a nucleus of staff partly taken from the University personnel and partly deputed from the Public Works Department and Electricity Department, on foreign service condition.² At present the Unit functions with two Sub-Divisions. There are now six Sections including an Electrical Section and a Mechanical Section. The major construction works are carried out by this Unit. The Unit has made significant contributions to the growth of the University.

UNIVERSITY HEALTH CENTRE

The University Health Centre at Trivandrum started functioning on 5th December, 1962.³ There is an Honorary Director with Medical Officers, Nurses, Attenders and Laboratory workers at the Centre. In addition to this Centre there is a University Health Centre at Kariavattom.

³ K.U.A.R. - 1963, pp.120-121.
A scheme for financial aid to students in affiliated colleges and departments of the University for treatment of a large number of diseases in Government medical institutions in the State or in the Sree Chitra Medical Centre was started.

The University Health Centre at Kariavattom campus was started in 1975.¹

HOSTELS

Both the university and many of the private affiliated colleges have been providing facilities for accommodation of students in hostels even from the beginning.

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Printing and binding works of the University were undertaken by the University Press from April, 1964.²