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**SUGGESTIONS FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT OF EDUCATION
IN THE FACULTY OF ARTS, UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA**

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This survey was carried out with a sample of 300 final year undergraduates of the Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya in the academic year 1998/99, to identify the deficiencies in the present education they receive.

The responses of the students' questionnaire revealed some important suggestions for the improvement of education. These ideas were further investigated by interviewing a sample of administrators and senior lecturers of the faculty of Education, University of Colombo, Faculty of Arts, University of Peradeniya, specialists in education in the Ministry of Education and Higher Education. A sample of managers in public and private sector organizations was also consulted.

This study revealed the following important suggestions for quality improvement of Arts students:

1. Establishing guidance and counselling service to satisfy the vocational aspirations of students.
2. Introducing a practical orientation to the curriculum by linking education programs with public and private sector organizations during vacations.
3. Encouraging students to study industrial, agricultural and technical subjects as optional subjects, by inviting specialists in these areas to teach these subjects.
4. Integrating subjects within the university by allowing students to offer subjects from other Faculties of studies, according to their desire.
5. Improving the method of teaching English to cater to the needs of students for increasing conversational abilities.
6. Introducing Computer Science as a subject in the curriculum and provide opportunities in the timetable for studying that subject from the first year.
7. Maintaining cumulative records through out the university career, with a view to maintain a record of co-curricular activities the students have participated when they were in the university.

This study is still in progress.