

Minutes of 19th meeting of Academic Council: 16th September 2021

19th meeting of the Academic Council of the University was held on 16/09/2021 through online mode.

The following were present:

- 1 Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan, Chairman
- 2 Dr. Indira Parikh
- 3 V. P. Sharma
- 4 Dr. Sunil Khanna
- 5 Dr. R. K. Vij
- 6 Dr. Nigam Dave
- 7 Dr. T. P. Singh
- 8 Dr. Pramod Paliwal
- 9 Dr. Rajesh Patel
- 10 Dr. Ritu Sharma
- 11 Prof. S. S. Kachhwaha
- 12 Dr. Indrajit Mukhopadhyay
- 13 Dr. Ashvin Dave
- 14 Dr. Anirbid Sircar
- 15 Prof. Tarun Shah

The Heads of the Departments also attended the meeting as shadow participants.

The following members could not join in the meeting:

1. Dr. S. A. Bari
2. Dr. Jayant Kelkar

Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan - Director General & Council Chairman extended a cordial welcome to the members. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up in seriatim for discussion.

- 1/19: To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 11th November 2020. (The minutes of the meeting have already been circulated to all the members; a copy of which is placed at Annex. - 1)

Resolved that the minutes of previous meeting of Academic Council held on 11/11/2020 be confirmed.

- 2/19: To consider the following Action Taken Report on the decisions taken at the previous meeting:

| Agenda No. | Particulars of decision | Action Taken |
|------------|---|----------------------|
| 1/18 | Minutes of the 17 th meeting of Academic Council were confirmed. | Noted. |
| 2/18 | Noted and approved the Action Taken Report of the 16 th meeting. | Noted & implemented. |

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|------|---|--|
| 3/18 | <p>To approve the list of the students who completed successfully the following programmes, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 8th Convocation:</p> <p><i>Resolved to approve the list of the 2608 students who completed successfully the following programmes, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 8th Convocation.</i></p> | Noted and implemented. |
| | <p><i>The council Chairman appraised to the members about the detail discussion held with Dr. Jayant Kelkar for introducing B. Tech. Program in the branch of Petrochemicals. He also briefed on new disciplines (Cyber Security / Data Sciences / Energy & Environmental Mgt. / Material Sci. & Engg.) getting offered for M. Tech. programs with effect from the current admission year.</i></p> <p><i>It was also informed that the semester end examinations of December 2020 are getting planned out through Online Proctoring. Along the discussion, Dr. Kelkar appreciated the University for recording online classes delivered by the faculty under the COVID-19 situation. He also expressed his concern whether to reposition the Department of Chemical Engg. under the School of Petroleum Technology. Dr. R. K. Vij informed that the SPT and the Dept. of Chemical Engg. have started taking up the projects jointly.</i></p> <p><i>The Council Chairman also appraised on five no. of facilities (Sports Complex, 45 MW Production Plant of Monocrystalline Solar PV, Translational Research Centre, Innovation & Incubation Centre- Technology Business Incubation and Centre of Excellence on Water Technology) to be unveiled by the Prime Minister at the Convocation on 21st November, 2020.</i></p> | <p>Noted.</p> <p>This year B.Tech. (Petro. Chem.) included in the admission process.</p> <p>50 MW Solar PV panel production unit is getting set up.</p> <p>Translational Research Center also getting its shape.</p> |

Resolved to consider the Action Taken Report as mentioned above.

3/19: To ratify various approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20 (3) of the PDPU Act, as mentioned in the Annex. - 2.

- i. New Programs to be offered from the A. Y. 2021-22
 - a) Part time M. Tech. (Petro. Engg.) Program.
 - b) New program of M. Tech. (GeoTech. & GeoEnv.)
 - c) New program of B. Tech. (Petro. Chem.)
- ii. Ph. D. course work
- iii. Recommendations of Academic Audit Committee. e.g. Carry forward of continuous evaluation score, question paper review committees in every discipline, 40% weightage

to the end sem. examination and 60% to the continuous evaluations - in view of Online mode of class delivery due to Covid constraints.

- iv. Introduction of a course on "Communication Skills" applicable to all PG programs as per its requirement.
- v. Introduction of two majors, i.e. Indic Studies and Digital Humanities for B. A. (Hons. Sem. 5 to 8) program w.e.f. the admission batch 2021.
- vi. Academic Calendars
- vii. Rules for Admissions 2021 for every program
Distinct points compared to the previous years:
 - (a) For MBA admissions, GD/PI process conducted through online mode & the written test in the form of SoP.
 - (b) For UG SLS admissions, the online interview in place of the written test.
 - (c) M. Tech. interview online.
 - (d) Ph. D. written aptitude test online besides the interview.

The Registrar briefed the Council for the above referred approvals granted by the Director General of the University, then it was resolved to ratify the approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20 (3) of PDPU Act, as presented in the Annex. - 2.

4/19: To consider and approve the new/modified courses/syllabus for FoET programmes as per Annex.- 3.

Summary points:

- Course curriculum of newly introduced programs of B. Tech. (Petro Chem.) & M. Tech. (GeoTech & GeoEnv.)
- Two more electives introduced in M. Tech. (Chem. Engg.)
- 112 no. of courses as Ph. D. course work in different disciplines.
- Core/Electives/Open Elective courses in B. Sc. (Maths) and B. Tech. (Civil/Computer)

The Dean FoET explained the details of the proposal to introduce new courses and also to modify some of the courses as presented in the Annex. - 3. The Dean FoM seconded to the proposal which then the council resolved to approve.

5/19: Agenda items pertaining to Faculty of Management

- i. To consider and approve the new/modified courses/syllabus (towards offering an Analytics Specialization to MBA students) as per Annex. - 4.

The Dean FoM explained the details of the proposal to introduce new courses as presented in the Annex. - 4. The Dean FoLS seconded to the proposal which then the council resolved to approve.

- ii. To invite view points from the council members for starting a Master Degree programme on Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Venture Development.

The Dean FoM appraised the council about the scope of starting a Master Degree programme on Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Venture Development. He also sought the inputs from the members for it. The council member- Dr. Indira Parikh offered to undertake the psycho-metric testing for the students of the University which can help in determining their readiness to go for the entrepreneurship or employment as the case may be.

6/19: Agenda items pertaining to Faculty of Liberal Studies (Annex. - 5)

- i. FoLS is proud to introduce 16 open elective courses for FoET students aligning with vision and spirit of NEP as detailed in the Annex - 5.
- ii. To constitute a dissertation committee for all disciplines of PG program, consisting of the Supervisor evaluation, one faculty member concerned to the subject, and an external expert.
- iii. To consider and approve the change in the existing degree nomenclature of M. A. (Political Science-International Relations) as M. A. (Politics and International Relations).
- iv. To offer electives from the SWAYAM platform with the required syllabus match of FoLS. The same would be initiated with following two electives:
 - Basics of Photography; Credit: 3
 - Introduction to Advertising; Credit: 3
- v. To consider and approve the new/modified courses/syllabus as detailed in the Annex. - 5.
- vi. Introduction of Centre for Critical Thinking under the mentorship of SLS.

The Dean FoLS explained the details of the proposals to introduce new courses and to modify some of the courses as presented in the Annex. - 5. The council appreciated the concept of Centre for Critical Thinking. While discussing on the agenda, the Dean FoM reminded to adhere with the direction given by the council in its earlier meeting for the degree nomenclature of the PG programs offered at SLS. Consequently, the Dean FoET seconded to the proposals, which then the council resolved to approve.

7/19: Envisaging to introduce a new program on M. Tech. (Machine Learning & Data Analytics) w.e.f. 2022-23.

Also to offer Vocational / Skill Development programs related to Solar PV Panel Making and Solar PV Maintenance. Few other programmes also identified from the programme basket prepared by the NSDC- National Skill Development Corporation, which will also include on Women Empowerment with financial support of M/s British Petroleum. Enclosed herewith the sample contents of such programmes as Annex. - 6.

The council agreed to the vision of introducing M. Tech. (Machine Learning & Data Analytics) programme. While discussing on Vocational / Skill Development programs, the Director General apprised that about 120 no. of women may be granted the financial assistance from M/s British Petroleum to pursue the PG programs related to the different areas of Skill Development.

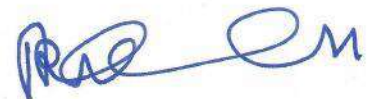
8/19: To note the UGC letter requesting to encourage the students to opt for the SWAYAM platform courses, with the enabling provision upto 40% of the total courses (Annex. - 7).

The Council noted the request letter of the UGC to optimize the usage of the SWAYAM platform particularly amidst the covid19 constraint compelling for the Online education. It was apprised to the council that presently the UG students have to pass at least a three course during their life cycle through a MOOC platform.

Over the discussion in the meeting Dr. Indira Parikh expressed her concerns for the issues of youngsters, in particular reference of Covid19 situation – suffering from the loss of life of family member or friends. The students when return on the campus they should be provided time and space to relieve their grief, it requires their re-induction for sharing their emotion, helplessness, sadness in order to bring back mental stability.

She also expressed that the scope of education institutions should not just be limited to information and knowledge, but should provide also for self-reflection. While echoing the concern of Dr. Parikh, the Director General apprised that the University will definitely try to address such mental issues of the students with the involvement of the faculty and of Centre for Counseling Services of the University. Dr. Nigam Dave apprised that the courses on Indic Studies and on Digital Humanity will complement in addressing such issues.

The Director General of the University appreciated the Council Members for their immense contribution in capacity building. He also referred that the admission intake of B. Tech. has significantly risen from 780 to 1080 in 2020 and then 1200 this year, besides the phenomenal rise in the full-time Ph. D. students totaling to 164. He also informed that during last six months about 45 faculty members in different disciplines have been recruited, while referring to the achievement in the State Institutional Rating Framework – SIRF 2021 and also in NIRF 2021. He described the year as transformative, now aspiring for the NAAC assessment with A++ rating. The Council Chair concluded the meeting with thanks to all for attending the meeting.



Registrar



Director General