

Minutes of 20th meeting of Academic Council: 2nd February, 2022

20th meeting of the Academic Council of the University was held on 02/02/2022 through Hybrid mode.

The following were present at the meeting:

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

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

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.

1/20: To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 16th September, 2021.

Resolved that the minutes of previous meeting of Academic Council held on 16/09/2021 be confirmed.

2/20: To consider the following Action Taken Report on the decisions taken at the previous meeting:

| Agenda No. | Particulars of decision | Action Taken |
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| 1/19 | Minutes of the 18 th meeting of Academic Council were confirmed. | Noted. |
| 2/19 | Noted and approved the Action Taken Report of the 17 th meeting. | Noted & implemented. |
| 3/19 | Ratified and noted of the approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20(3) of the PDPU Act, as presented in the Annex. – 2. | Noted. |
| 4/19 | Resolved to approve the following items for FoET: ▪ Course curriculum of newly introduced programs of B. Tech. (Petro Chem.) & M. Tech. (GeoTech & GeoEnv.) | Noted and implemented. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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) | |
| 5/19 | <p>i) Resolved to approve the new/modified courses/syllabus towards offering an Analytics Specialization to MBA students.</p> <p>ii) The Dean FoM appraised the council about the scope of starting a Master Degree programme on Innovation, Entrepreneurship & Venture Development. 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.</p> | Noted and implemented. |
| 6/19 | <p>Resolved to approve the following items for FoLS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Introduction of 16 open elective courses for FoET students aligning with vision and spirit of NEP. To constitute a dissertation committee for all disciplines of PG program. To change in the existing degree nomenclature of M. A. (Political Science-International Relations) as M. A. (Politics and International Relations). To offer electives from the SWAYAM platform with the required syllabus match of FoLS, starting with following two electives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basics of Photography; Credit: 3 Introduction to Advertising; Credit: 3 New/modified courses/syllabus as presented. Introduction of Centre for Critical Thinking under the mentorship of SLS. | Noted and implemented. |
| 7/19 | <p>i) The Council agreed to the vision of introducing M. Tech. (Machine Learning & Data Analytics) programme.</p> <p>ii) 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. the Director General apprised that about 120 no. of women may be granted the financial assistance from M/s British Petroleum to pursue</p> | Noted and implemented. |

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| | the PG programs related to the different areas of Skill Development. | |
| 8/19 | <p>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 credit course during their life cycle through a MOOC platform.</p> <p>The council member Dr. Indira Parikh advised that the students when return on the campus after the covid situation, they should be provided time and space to relieve their grief.</p> <p>She also expressed that the scope of education institutions should not just be limited to information and knowledge.</p> | Noted and implemented. |

Resolved to consider the Action Taken Report as mentioned above.

3/20: DG's briefing on Accreditations.

The Director General informed the Council about the following Accreditations and Rankings awarded to the University in recent:

1. Atal Ranking for Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) – 5th Rank in University / Deemed University (Self-financed / Private) Category
2. Gujarat State Institutional Ranking Framework (GSIRF) – Rated 5 Star with CGPA 4.3 out of 5 in the category of University
3. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) – 68th in Engineering, 73rd in University and 66th in Management Category
4. National Board of Accreditation (NBA) – Granted NBA to Petroleum Engineering for 3 years
5. Centre of Excellence (CoE) – Awarded the status of CoE by the Government of Gujarat
6. ISO Certification – ISO 9001:2015 (Quality Management System) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental Management System)

The Director General extended his sincere compliments and congratulated to the faculty, HoDs and Directors for these achievements.

The Council Member Dr. Indira Parikh also appreciated the faculty and staff of the University, for getting awarded with the Centre of Excellence status from the State Government.

4/20: To ratify various approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20 (3) of the PDPU Act, as mentioned in the Annex. – 1.

The Registrar briefed the Council about the approvals granted by the Director General of the University.

While discussing the points of ratification, the Director General appraised that the programs of M. Tech. (Material Science & Engineering) and M. Tech. (Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Energy) are put on hold and suspended from the admission for the reason of no admission in these courses.

It was resolved to ratify the approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20 (3) of PDPU Act.

5/20: Agenda items pertaining to the Faculty of Management/Faculty of Engg. & Tech., as mentioned in the Annex.-2.

- i) To introduce new M. Tech. programme in Artificial Intelligence.

The Council directed to submit the proposal through the Faculty of Engineering and Technology.

- ii) To introduce a 2 Year Executive MBA programme with concentration options in Energy Sector Management, General Management and Business Analytics; to be offered in Hybrid Mode for working executives having a 3 years of minimum work experience with graduation degree in any discipline recognized by relevant regulatory authorities.

While discussing the agenda, the Council member Dr. Indira Parikh suggested to identify the purpose of study from the aspirants of this PG program.

The Dean, Faculty of Management appraised that the program aspirants would be of the Age more than 25 years as it requires three years professional experience post the graduation.

The Dean - FoLS seconded to the proposal which then the council resolved to approve.

6/20: Whether to offer the M. Tech. degrees with the broad subject/discipline/area, instead of micro level subject area as its degree nomenclature e. g. instead of offering a M. Tech. in Transportation Engg., whether to offer it as M. Tech. (Civil Engg.) with major as Transportation Engg. i.e. to offer the M. Tech. degree under the title of the respective General Discipline/Program rather with the standalone title of a specialized discipline. This will help in improving the faculty student ratio and also the faculty cadre ratio.

While discussing the agenda, the Council member – Dr. V. P. Sharma expressed his view point that the scope of employment opportunities would be wider if the degree programs are offered in broad disciplines, instead in specialized disciplines.

The Council directed to review the matter to the School Directors with the HoDs and Senior faculty at the earliest and to submit the report to the Director General by the end of the 1st Week of April, 2022.

7/20: To approve the list of the students who completed successfully the following programmes, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 9th Convocation:

While discussing the agenda, the Director General intimated the Council that the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MOP&NG), Govt. of India has consented to be the chief guest on the Convocation.

Resolved to approve the list of the 1537 students who completed successfully the following programmes, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 9th Convocation.

8/20: Empowered Committee for approval to AQAR

As it has been stated in the "Guideline of IQAC and submission of AQAR for Universities" issued by the NAAC dated 20/02/2020, that "The AQAR shall be approved by the statutory bodies of the HEIs (such as Syndicate, Governing Council/Executive Council/Board of Management) for the follow up action for necessary quality enhancement measures." Accordingly, the AQAR is to be approved by a Statutory Body of the University; it may be the Academic Council in our case. As the date of AQAR submission to the NAAC generally varies from year to year and additionally also the preparation of the AQAR, it may not be in sync with the meeting of the Academic Council. Hence it is proposed to the Council to constitute a Committee as follows empowering to review and approval to the AQAR prepared by the IQAC office:

- i) Director General
- ii) School Directors
- iii) Faculty Deans
- iv) Director – Academic Affairs
- v) Registrar

Subsequently the AQAR thus approved by the proposed committee, shall be placed before the Academic Council in its meeting for ratification to the same.

The Council member – Dr. S. A. Bari seconded to the proposal which then the council resolved to approve.

While concluding the meeting, the Director General extended his sincere thanks to the members of the council, Directors, Deans and HoDs for their immense contribution in raising the quality of academics at the University. He particularly invited external members of the council to visit the campus after the pandemic settles down. He also requested them to render valuable advice for effective implementation of New Education Policy 2020. Council member Dr. Indira Parikh recommended for proper orientation of faculty for New Education Policy. The Council Chair appraised that the Director - Academic Affairs and Dean - R&D are taking lead for the same.

Registrar

Director General