

Minutes of 22nd meeting of Academic Council: 27/08/2022

22nd meeting of the Academic Council of the University was held on 27/08/2022

The following were present at the meeting:

- 1 Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan, Chairman
- 2 Dr. J. V. Kelkar : Online presence
- 3 Dr. V. P. Sharma: Online presence
- 4 Dr. Indira Parikh: Online presence
- 5 Dr. Nigam Dave
- 6 Dr. Pramod Paliwal
- 7 Dr. T. P. Singh
- 8 Dr. Ritu Sharma
- 9 Dr. S. S. Kachhwaha
- 10 Dr. Indrajit Mukhopadhyay
- 11 Dr. Anirbid Sircar
- 12 Dr. Vivek Pandya
- 13 Dr. Ashvin Dave
- 14 Prof. Tarun Shah

Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan - Director General & Council Chairman extended a cordial welcome to the members. Thereafter, the following single agenda item was taken up for the discussion.

Review of renaming the School of Petroleum Management (SPM)

Regarding the renaming of School of Petroleum Management-SPM, the Director – SPM brought some concerns to the notice of the Academic Council vide his email 24/5/2022. The committee discussed the same in the meeting, there at the following viewpoints were expressed:

At the start of the meeting, the Director General of the University mentioned the background that the Board of Governors in its meeting sought for the re-organization of the Academic Deptt./ Schools, in support of achieving the mandate of the University as Energy University, should not remain confined merely to the Petroleum, rather it should broaden its functioning in different areas of Energy Education and Research.

Prof. Paliwal then expressed his fear that repositioning of SPM due to change of name would be difficult. Presently the “General Management” program though not directly relevant to the term Petroleum out of SPM, now it is quite settled even with the name as SPM. Hence, the name changing may affect the admission in “General Management” program and also the revenue of SPM. He also told that changing the name of the school as Energy School may be viewed limitedly as the programs on Energy Conservation / Energy Audit only.

Dr. Nigam Dave opined that the eco system of admission and placement is very much settled with the name of SPM, this is reflecting from 100% admission and 100% placements. Prof. Kachhwaha viewed that the SPM name should be continued as it is, as it would be very hard for building the brand due to the name change. Prof. Mukhopadhyay opined that SPM now should reflect the perspective of Energy in its name.

Prof. Kelkar (RIL) viewed that name of the school should be reflective of character of energy. Dr. V. P. Sharma (ISM – Dhanbad) recommended to change the name of the school without losing the acronym of SPM, the way ISM Dhanbad got changed with name “IIT (ISM)”. Dr. Indira Parikh (IIM-A) viewed that if we change the name, the curriculum also should be changed; then the name should be kept the same if we are continuing with the same present academic offerings.

The Director General intervened that the recent ACPC Mock Round of B.Tech. admissions shows the Engineering admissions at our University not affected even with the change of PDPU to PDEU, that too in the low preferred braches. He also consoled that all efforts would be from the University not to let SPM face trouble in case of its name-change. He also viewed that the Prime Minister who gave birth to the University, looked at the broad perspective while advising for the name change of the University. The Board is also looking the scene with macro perspective. He opined that even presently Energy & Infrastructure part is contained in SPM Programs, so there is no harm in changing its name with the term “Energy”. We should look at the thing with telescopic view rather microscopic, with overall transformation viewpoint.

When Prof. Paliwal suggested for the same acronym but with P for Policy and thereby “School of Policy and Management”, Dr. Nigam Dave raised the concern on the usage of term Policy as the SLS also runs the program on Public Policy / Public Admin. Then Prof. Paliwal clarified that in that case the SPM would not go beyond Policy for Energy Sector.

Dr. Indira Parikh expressed that in an education institute the quality of academic programs matters the most, so the name change may not have adverse impact. She also told that the agenda point of the name change is indeed a dilemma for us.

The Director General expressed that in the process of ranking, assessment and accreditation; only the resources and outcome plays the role, irrespective of the name. Dr. Kelkar viewed that SPM is an important brand, hence the acronym of any new name should remain as the SPM. However, the term "Policy" should not be used while renaming SPM, as the term "Policy" has very broad meaning and perspective. In view of this, we may think of name "School of Power & Infrastructure Management" and thereby its acronym the same, i.e. SPM.

With this discussion the Director General concluded that all these suggestions will be examined by the internal stake holders, the Standing Committee and also the Board.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair and Members.



Registrar



Director General