

PANDIT DEENDAYAL ENERGY UNIVERSITY, GANDHINAGAR

Minutes of 24th meeting of Academic Council: 6th March 2023

The following were present at the meeting:

1	Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan, Chairman	2	Dr. Gopal Mahapatra (ONLINE Presence)
3	Dr. Ramkumar J. (ONLINE Presence)	4	Dr. Pradip K. Tewari (ONLINE Presence)
5	Dr. Dhaval Pujara	6	Dr Shubhasheesh Bhattacharya
7	Dr. Anirbid Sircar	8	Dr. Nigam Dave
9	Dr. T. P. Singh	10	Dr. Vivek Pandya
11	Dr. S. S. Kachhwaha	12	Dr. Indrajit Mukhopadhyay
13	Dr. Ashvin Dave	14	Dr. Manoj Pandey
15	Dean - Academic Affairs	16	Dean - SoET
17	Dean - R&D	18	Dean - SoM (ONLINE Presence)
19	Dean - FoLS	20	Registrar

The Heads of the Departments / Chairman of all the Board of Studies also attended the meeting as invitees.

Dr. S. Sundar Manoharan - Director General & Council Chairman extended a cordial welcome to all and also introduced the new external members of the Council, viz. Dr. Gopal Mahapatra, Dr. Ramkumar J. and Dr. Pradip K Tewari. He also expressed sincere thanks to the previous external members of the Council for their valuable contributions. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up in seriatim for discussion.

1/24: To confirm the Minutes of the previous Meetings of the Council held on 7th November, 2022.

Resolved that the minutes of previous meeting of Academic Council held on 7th November, 2022 be confirmed.

2/24: To consider the following Action Taken Report on the decisions taken at the previous meetings i.e. 23rd Meeting held on 07/11/2022:

Agenda No.	Particulars of decision	Action Taken
1/23	Minutes of the 21 st & 22 nd meetings of Academic Council were confirmed.	Noted.
2/23	Noted and approved the Action Taken Report of the 21 st & 22 nd meetings.	Noted & implemented.
3/23	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.	Implemented.

4/23	<p>To approve the list of the students who have successfully completed the respective academic programme, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 10th Convocation to be held on 22nd November, 2022, as mentioned in the Annex.-3.</p> <p><i>Resolved to approve the list of the 1659 students who completed successfully the respective academic programmes, for conferring upon them the respective Degree/Diploma at the 10th Convocation to be held on 22/11/2022.</i></p>	Implemented.
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Resolved to consider the Action Taken Report as mentioned above.

3/24: To ratify various approvals granted by the Director General u/s 20 (3) of the PDPU Act, as mentioned in the Annex.-2.

- i. Ph. D.: Course Work / Additional eligible branch/es for admissions / Widening the Research Areas.
- ii. M. Tech.: Additional eligible branch/es for admissions.

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.

4/24: To discuss and decide on the following key points prescribed by the UGC, related to the NEP-2020 (Annex.-3).

- i. Exit Options
- ii. Minimum Credit requirement to award UG Degree

The Registrar apprised the Council about the following recommendations presented in the "Curriculum and Credit Framework for UG Programmes" by the UGC in line with the NEP-2020:

Exit Options:

- i. UG Certificate: Exit option after completion of the first year, if secured 40 credits. In addition, one vocational course of 4 credits, re-entry within three years and complete the degree within seven years.

The Council discussed and decided that this option can be exercised for Engg. & SLS Programs.

- ii. UG Diploma: Exit after completion of the second year, if secured 80 credits will be awarded the UG diploma if, in addition, they complete one vocational course of 4 credits, re-entry within three years and complete the degree within seven years.

The Council noted that presently the Diploma in Engineering is of three years duration and hence this UG Diploma exit option after the second year of study is not relevant to the Engg. programs.

The Director - SLS apprehended for disruption in the present four year structure of academic programs of SLS, if this exit option is implemented for UG programs of SLS.

After deliberations, the Council concluded to implement appropriately this exit option, when it would be made compulsory by the UGC to follow.

- iii. 3-year UG Degree: UG Degree in the Major discipline after successful completion of three years, securing 120 credits and satisfying the minimum credit requirement.

The Council noted that presently the UG degree Engineering programs are of four years duration and hence this UG Degree exit option after the third year of study is not relevant to the Engg. programs.

For this exit option also, the Director - SLS apprehended for disruption in the present structure of academic programs of SLS, if it is implemented for UG programs there.

After deliberations, the Council concluded to implement appropriately this exit option, when it would be made compulsory by the UGC to follow.

- iv. 4-year UG Degree (Hons.): Hons. degree in the major discipline who completes 160 credits.

The Council noted that 4-year UG Degree (Hons.) option is already extant in SLS at the University.

- v. UG Degree Programmes with Single Major: Minimum of 50% credits from the major discipline (core) for the 3-year / 4-year UG degree as the case may be.

The Council noted that UG Degree Programmes with Single Major option is already extant in the SLS programs and the Engineering programs as well at the University.



Minimum Credit Requirements to Award Degree under Each Category prescribed by the UGC:

Sr. No.	Broad of Category of Course	Minimum Credit Requirement	
		3-Year UG	4-Year UG
1	Major (Core)	60	80
2	Minor Stream	24	32
3	Multidisciplinary (from other disciplines)	9	9
4	Ability Enhancement Courses (AEC)	8	8
5	Skill Enhancement Courses (SEC)	9	9
6	Value Added Courses common for all UG	6 – 8	6 – 8
7	Summer Internship	2 – 4	2 – 4
8	Research Project / Dissertation	–	12
Total		120	160

The Council directed the Board of Studies to classify the present set of courses, into the above referred broad categories prescribed in the Curriculum and Credit Framework by the UGC.

At this juncture, Dr. Ramkumar suggested to explore common course curriculum in the first year across all UG programs viz. Engineering and Liberal Studies; the NIT Delhi has evolved such model which can be studied. It was directed to Dean - Academic Affairs of the University to review this suggestion.

5/24: Agenda items pertaining to Faculty of Engineering & Technology

- i. To introduce new academic programme B. Tech. (Biotechnology and Biochemical Engineering) with admission intake of 30 seats w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24 (Annex.-4).

The Director - SoET, Dr. Anirbid Sircar briefed the Council about the scope of the proposed B. Tech. (Biotechnology & Biochemical Engineering) programme, as one of the emerging technology areas.

*Dr. Pradeep Tewari pointed out that the University is already offering the B. Tech. in the area of Chemical Engineering. So, it would be fair to avoid the overlap contained in the proposed program of Biotechnology & Biochemical Engineering with the existing Chemical Engineering program, and hence it may be revamped as Biotechnology & Bioengineering. The Council agreed to the suggestion to offer the new program as **B. Tech. (Biotechnology & Bioengineering)**.*

- ii. To discontinue the admissions in the branches of Automobile Engg. and of Petrochem. Engg. on account of poor admission turnout in the previous admission year resulting into unviability of running those programmes, till further review.

The Council reckoned the fact of low demand prevailed for admission in the branches of Automobile Engg. and of Petrochem. Engg. in the previous years and hence the non-viability in continuing these branch admissions. In view of this, the Council agreed to discontinue the admissions in these branches till further review.

At this juncture, Dr. Ramkumar recommended to offer Minor Degree Specialization in both of these branches, using its existing infrastructure and faculty; to which the Council agreed.

- iii. To increase the admission intake for B. Tech. (ECE) programme from 60 to 120 w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24.

The Director - SoT, Dr. Dhaval Pujara briefed the council that the high demand for admissions in this programme has inspired us to increase the admission intake for it from 60 to 120 seats. Dr. Gopal Mahapatara inquired about the demand of this program in the State and also at the national level, to which Dr. Pujara apprised that the industry demand is there in different areas related to Electronics and Communications, which is evident from the Space Research Programs and the Semiconductor mission initiated by the Government and also from the advancement in 5G & 6G technologies, seen over the globe.

In view of the above, the Council approved to increase the admission intake for B. Tech. (ECE) programme from 60 to 120 w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24.

- iv. To offer Minor Specialization (Minor Degree) in UG Engineering Programs. w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24. (Annex.-5).

The Director - SoT, Dr. Dhaval Pujara briefed the council about the Minor Degree Specializations for the students of UG Engineering programmes, as prescribed by the AICTE. It was apprised that about 11 Minor Degree Specializations have been identified to offer to the interested students from Sem. III with effect from the A. Y. 2023-24, as detailed in the Annex.-5. The students aspiring for a Minor Degree Specializations shall have to earn minimum additional credits in the range of 18-20, to get the Minor Degree in other discipline.

Dr. Ramkumar recommended that the courses to be offered under the Minor Degree Specialization, should be the part of the courses being offered to the Major Degree students of that discipline, to the best possible extent.

- v. To rename M. Sc. (Mathematics) programme as M. Sc. (Mathematics & Computing), in view of proposed new course structure and syllabi w. e. f. A.Y. 2023-24 (Annex.-6).



The HoD - Dept. of Mathematics, Dr. Poonam Mishra pointed out to the wide spread usage of Computer Applications in many human endeavors. Hence, it would be worth revamping the present M. Sc. (Mathematics) program as "M.Sc. (Mathematics & Computing)" by redesigning its course structure and syllabi, which will widen the scope of its graduates for their professional and career growth.

Dr. Gopal Mahapatara mentioned that, as this University is Lab Rich, it would be fair to revamp the program as M. Sc. (Applied Mathematics), rather confining it to Mathematics traditionally; which may also provide an edge to the students.

Dr. T. P. Singh remarked that the program revised nomenclature as the "Mathematics & Computing" would be recognized more for placements and research studies, and it may inspire more students for admissions in the proposed M. Sc. Program. Dr. Poonam Mishra stated that the academic program being proposed in the name of "Mathematics & Computing" is offered at few other reputed institutions also.

Dr. Ramkumar also recommended to include practice oriented courses related to Simulation and Optimization in the proposed program which will add value to it. Dr. Indrajit Mukhopadhyay opined that the term Mathematics is inclusive of the Applied Mathematics.

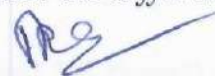
With a view to provide broader perspective, the Council approved the new course structure and its syllabi as presented in the Annex.-6 with its degree nomenclature as M. Sc. (Mathematics & Computing) w. e. f. A.Y. 2023-24.

- vi. To consider and approve the new / modified subjects / syllabus for the Engg. programmes to be presented by the Dean / Director. (Annex.-6)

The Dean - SoT, Dr. Surendra Singh Kachhwaha briefed on the proposal of new courses and of syllabus modification in some of the courses of B. Tech., M. Tech., B. Sc. and M. Sc. Programs of respective disciplines as presented in the Annex.-6. The Dean - SoT stated that the need of keeping pace with the fast changing world of technology is the objective behind the proposed course revisions.

- vii. To introduce Value-added professional Certificate Courses (each of 30 hrs.) for B. Tech. students of various engineering disciplines, offered by the Department of Petroleum Engineering w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24. (Annex.-7)

Director – SoET, Dr. Anirbid Sircar explained the purpose of offering the Value-added Professional Certificate Courses, each of about 30 hours duration, i.e. to broaden the perspective to understand the different technology areas.



Dr. Ramkumar recommended to include demonstration and practices in the delivery of such short term professional courses for the sake of experiential learning.

The Council appreciated the initiative to offer the short term professional courses for the students of different disciplines of engineering.

6/24: Agenda items pertaining to Faculty of Management

- i. To increase the admission intake for M. B. A. admissions from 120 to 150 seats.

The Director - SoM apprised the Council that the MBA program being offered by the School of Management has remained quite successful for admissions on its 120 seats and also in providing competitive placements to its all pass outs. In view of this, it would be fair to increase the admission intake from 120 to 150 seat w. e. f. A. Y. 2023-24.

The Dean - Academic Affairs seconded this proposal, which the Council approved.

- ii. To consider and approve the new / modified subjects / syllabus for the M. B. A. programme to be presented by the Dean/ Director. (Annex.-8)

The Dean - SoM explained the details of the proposal to introduce new courses and also to modify some of the courses as presented in the Annex.-8. The Director - SoM apprised that the Industry Relevance, Global Economy, Entrepreneurship and Climate Change also have been included in the proposed revisions in the courses.

Dr. Ramkumar suggested to decide over the benchmarking and the directions for M. B. A. program of the school - where we want to go further. The Council Chair, Dr. S. S. Manoharan apprised that the institution like IIT Gandhinagar can well serve as yardstick for Engineering programs and IIM Ahmedabad for Management programs of the University.

7/24: Agenda items pertaining to Faculty of Liberal Studies

- i. To introduce the new programme Master of Commerce (M. Com.) with effect from Academic Year 2023-24. The candidates having passed the B. Com. / B. B. A. or equivalent degree or awaiting to get the degree by 30th September may be eligible to apply for admission in proposed M. Com. Programme.
- ii. To consider and approve the teaching scheme and syllabus for First Year of the above proposed Master of Commerce (M. Com.) programme. (Annex.-9)

The BoS Chair - Business Administration & Commerce Dr. Ashvin Dave apprised the Council that SLS runs the UG Program in Commerce since 2013-14 successfully, hence it would be fair now to introduce also the PG Program in Commerce, i.e. M. Com.. The proposed program would contain also the modern courses related to the Fintech, Block-chain and such others to meet the latest trends in the market.

The Dean - Academic Affairs seconded this proposal to introduce M. Com. program with an intake of 20 seats, its admission eligibility and also the course structure and syllabus of its first year as proposed, which then the Council approved.

- iii. To consider and approve the new / modified subjects / syllabus for SLS programmes to be presented by the Dean / Director. (Annex.-10)

The Dean - FoLS briefed the details of the proposal to introduce new courses and also to modify some of the courses as presented in the Annex.-10. The Dean - FoM seconded the proposal which then the council approved.

- iv. To offer B. A. Major to the first ten meritorious B. Com. students at the end of their fourth semester.

The Dean - FoLS proposed to provide a scope to the students of B. Com. to opt B. A. Major on merit. The Dean - Academic Affairs seconded this proposal, which then the Council approved.

The Director General concluded the meeting with a request to the external members of the council to get more familiarized with the University by visiting it in-person.

The meeting ended with thanks to all.

Director General