



ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

MAY 30 2016

Venue: Hadrian Hall

MINUTES OF THE 6th ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING, MAY 30 2016

- Prayer
- Leave of absence, if any

Item No: 1

Chairman's remarks:

Chairman observed that this was likely to be the last meeting of the present AC. He thanked all the members, especially, the nominated ones.

Item No: 2

Approval of minutes

The minutes have been circulated and some corrections were received from some of the members which were incorporated and re-sent to all the members by email.

The report was confirmed.

Item No: 3

Review of Academic Activities under Autonomy (Curriculum, Environment Science & Results)

3.1. Curriculum Development

Designing and developing curriculum and new courses and conduct of examinations are the most important challenges of autonomy. We are very happy to report that to a certain extent we could achieve these tasks during the first two years of autonomy. We revised the curriculum of UG programmes and those were implemented from 2015 admission onwards. The curriculum revision is very effective and the responses from the stakeholders are very encouraging. The revised PG curriculum will be implemented from 2016 admission onwards.

During the last academic year, we started four programmes, viz., M.A. in Sociology, M. Phil in Commerce, Economics and Physics.

This year we will be starting two UG programmes (BBA and BCA) and PG programmes M.Sc Environmental Science and M.A. Digital Animation. The existing M.A. Multimedia is being

dropped wef 2016 admission on the basis of the recommendation of the BoS concerned. The new UG programmes were designed as highly job oriented programmes and we expect 100% placement for those who complete the course with good academic records. The number of applications received for these programmes exceeds our expectation. But lack of space is a major constraint and therefore we are planning to conduct these courses only after 4 P.M.

The matter was placed before the AC for information.

3.2. Environmental Science Course – Evaluation Pattern - Ratification reg.

While designing the UG curriculum, we gave utmost importance to the directions of the Hon. Supreme Court and the UGC in including a four-credit additional core course on environmental science for all our UG programmes. Even though it has an additional burden for both students and teachers, we are proud to report that we are the only autonomous college in the state to introduce this course. Now it is learnt that other colleges as well as the university itself are following our steps. Further, we should appreciate the sincere efforts taken by our research scholars for teaching this course without any remuneration. The classes were conducted in the second semester by creating an extra hour from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm. Some field related exposures were also incorporated.

Course evaluation was carried out by Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) and by an End Semester examination (ESE) for 25 and 75 marks respectively. The end semester examination consisted of 50 multiple choice questions each carrying 1 mark and 5 (out of 8) short answer questions each carrying 5 marks.

The matter concerning the change introduced in the examination pattern of Environment Science course was ratified by the AC.

3.3. Admissions

Admission process to the various UG programmes has been started and classes will be commencing on 15th June. So far more than 8000 applicants have registered for admission which is more than the 35% of last year's figure. Notifications for PG admissions will be made on 31st

May. Prospectuses of admissions have been already circulated. As the universities have not given any date for publishing the UG results, the PG admission schedule may have to be changed. **Since the first batch of students under the CBCSS with indirect grading system is coming out from this year onwards, suitable modifications in the eligibility criteria and computation of index marks have been made in the prospectus for PG admissions.**

The matter was placed before the AC for information and discussion.

3.4. Academic Audit

The academic audit of various teaching departments was held on 18-19 February 2016 as per the decision of the Academic Council of the college. The main objective of the academic audit was to ascertain the presence and adequacy of quality assurance procedures, their applicability and effectiveness in guaranteeing quality of input processes and outputs. There were three teams for the conduct of the academic audit of the faculty of Science, Arts and Commerce. The Audit teams were headed by Dr. Babu Joseph, former Vice Chancellor of CUSAT, Dr Joseph I. Inchodey, and CA Sri Venugopal C. Govind respectively who were supported by the subject expert of the concerned subject and the IQAC team.

The Audit team held separate meetings and discussions with the members of the Faculty and the students of various Departments. The performance of the Departments was assessed based on the alignment of the academic activities of the department to the seven quality criteria put forth by NAAC. Evaluation of the departments was also streamlined based on the feedback from students. A close scrutiny of all the achievements of the Departments, the faculty profile and the awards received by them were made. The faculty were also queried about the best practices of the department and about those followed by them. Evidences and records were verified. It was reviewed how classes were engaged and if not, what alternative was taken. The pedagogy followed in engaging classes was discussed and reviewed for effectiveness.

The SWOC analysis conducted by the departments was analysed. Both documentary and other evidences were checked. The discussion with the members of Departments helped in

understanding the future plans, sharing the findings and in making suggestions as to how the Department can improve. Separate audit reports were furnished to each department for follow up action and planning.

On review, it was found that the quality of the education offered in terms of designed curriculum, methodology, teaching process, research etc. is reasonably good. The extension programmes were noteworthy. The teams strongly felt that there is scope for improvement to become a high rated centre of higher learning in India.

The matter was placed before the AC for information and discussion. The report was accepted by the AC. The two auditors present – Dr. Babu Joseph and Venugopal C Govind – further elaborated the process and the findings.

1. Correction in minutes

Agenda item No. 3 of the fourth AC held on May 8, 2015. The title of the new programme proposed in Computer Science was recorded as BCA (Mobile Applications). As per the suggestion of the Board of Studies, this is to be corrected as **BCA -Mobile Applications and Cloud Technology.**

The proposed correction was accepted by the AC.

2. Correction in Terminology

Continuous Internal Assessment (CIA) shall be the term used for the erstwhile internal assessment, for the two tests of CIA, the term shall be Continuous Assessment Test (CAT) and for the Semester End examinations, the term shall be End Semester Examination (ESE) for all programmes.

The proposal was accepted by the AC.

3. Planning for Future Development

Industry linkage to be enhanced – suggestions invited from the members.

It was proposed that this be done on a department basis, that a write up on what happens in the programme in the department be prepared. The Principal said that this could be positively considered, though its feasibility would have to be assessed.

4. Other matters, if any, with the consent of the chair.

The meeting came to an end by 5 pm.


Jc-V. Raju


Dr. Johnson X Palackapp.....
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