



USHA MARTIN UNIVERSITY, RANCHI, JHARKHAND

Minutes of the 2nd Meeting of the Academic Council dated 20-June-2017

The 2nd meeting of the Academic Council was held on 20-June-2017 at 5.30 pm in Conference Room of Le Lac Hotel, Ranchi. Following members were present in the meeting:

1. Prof. S. C. Garg, Vice Chancellor, UMU – Chair
2. Prof. L. N. Bhagat, Former Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University, Member
3. Prof. Vandana Bhattacharjee, BIT Mesra, Ranchi, Member
4. Prof. Swarat Choudhury, St. Xavier College, Ranchi, Member
5. Prof. Madhulika Kaushik, Special Invitee
6. Dr Viplaw K. Pandey, Registrar, Member Secretary

AC 2.1 Chairman's comments and welcome

At the outset, Prof. S. C. Garg, Vice Chancellor, extended a very warm and cordial welcome to all present on behalf of the University and on his own behalf. Thereafter, he introduced Prof. Madhulika Kaushik, PVC, UMU and Dr Viplaw K. Pandey, Registrar, UMU who joined the University in May, 2017.

He informed the Council that the 2017-18 academic session of the University has been scheduled to begin from August and currently, the process of registration for the eight programmes approved by the Academic Council at the Diploma, Bachelors and master's levels was on. The university intends to propose a few more programmes for the consideration and approval of the AC in this meeting. Thereafter, the Council took the agenda items for its consideration

AC.2.2 To confirm the minutes of the first meeting of the Academic Council

AC 2.2.1 The Registrar informed the Council that the minutes of the first meeting of the Academic Council had been circulated to all members much in advance. He informed that no comments on the minutes or suggestions for amendments had been received so far from the members. He again invited members to comment in case they had any corrections or amendments to suggest. There being no amendments, the minutes as placed at Annexure were approved by the members as such.

(Annexure:1)

AC 2.2.2 The Chairman proposed that in future, if no comments were received within a fortnight of the circulation of minutes, these would be deemed to have been confirmed. The Council approved the proposal.

AC.2.3 To consider and approve the Academic Calendar for the Year 2017-18

AC 2.3.1 The Registrar placed before the AC, the Academic Calendar of the University for Year 2017-18, proposing two semesters each comprising 17 weeks and a mid-semester break of one week for its consideration and approval. The Academic Calendar also proposed the schedule of the mid semester examination and the continuous as well as term end evaluation of the University. The suggestions of the members of the BOM, held earlier the same day, were also shared by the Chairman.

AC 2.3.2 Presenting the item, the Registrar highlighted that

- Each semester calendar is for 17 weeks.
- The first semester begins on 7th August and classes will finally disperse on 7th December.
- Provision of one-week mid semester break from 1st Oct. to 7th Oct. and one-week preparatory leave after dispersal of classes on 8th December has been made.
- The semester exams shall be conducted from 18th December to 24th December, 2017.
- The University proposes to conduct centralized evaluation so that results can be declared by 4th January 2018.
- The second semester begins on 8th January, 2018 and classes will finally disperse on 4th May, 2018.

- As in first semester, provision of one-week mid semester breaks from 4th March to 11th March and one-week preparatory leave after dispersal of classes on 4th May, 2018 has been made.
- The semester exams shall be conducted from 14th May to 26th May, 2018 and semester results shall be declared by 20th June.

AC 2.3.3 During their deliberations, members commended the details presented in the calendar. The issue of actual dates of the vacations was raised and it was decided that each year the schedule of the vacation will be declared by executive order at the beginning of the year.

Subject to these observations, the Academic Council approved the Academic Calendar for the Year 2017-18.

AC 2.4 To consider and approve offer of Ph.D. programme by the University

AC 2.4.1 The Academic Council in its first meeting had advised that new programmes may be added in future depending on the need in the region. Ever since the University advertised its academic offerings, there have been several queries about the offer of PhD programme by the University. The proposal that the University may initiate steps for offer of research degree programme to cater to its second dimension of creating new knowledge was placed before the council.

AC 2.4.2 While deliberating upon the item, the Council underlined the need for following the UGC guidelines strictly in force at the time, particularly in respect of

- Entrance examination;
- Number of students to be admitted;
- Qualifications and eligibility of Research supervisors;
- Course work requirement, which may be exempted for those coming in with MPhil degree;
- Availability of full time faculty in the discipline areas of research; and
- Existing offer of PG programmes by the University in the discipline area of research.

Subject to these stipulations, the AC approved the proposal of offer of PhD programme by the University.

AC 2.5 To deliberate on prospective academic programmes by the University

AC 2.5.1 The Academic Council in its first meeting had decided that in future, programmes in different subjects may be put on offer to diversify offerings and raise the profile of the University. Placing the item for the consideration of the Council, the Registrar informed the members that several inquiries have been received for programmes such as Diploma in Mechanical and Diploma in Computers, BSc (MLT), MLib, BLib and MCA. Moreover, it is felt that to have a competitive product profile in the region Integrated Programmes such as BBA/BA LLB, BBA-MBA, BSc/MS-IT may be offered in due course of time.

AC 2.5.2 The Council deliberated at length on the proposal and suggested that

- All proposed programmes may be initiated only after qualified faculty as per UGC stipulations has been appointed on a full time basis;
- The programmes should only be offered only if adequate registrations exist to ensure economic sustainability of the same; and for integrated law programmes, prior approval of the Bar Council may be obtained.

AC 2.5.3 The Chairman informed members that MHRD, GoI is considering permitting universities to offer online programmes to use technology to increase access and reach the last mile. Therefore, as a pro-active institution, UMU would like to prepare with all necessary wherewithal and offer online programmes due overcome the disadvantage of distance.

AC 2.5.4 The Academic Council welcomed this idea but advised that online programmes be offered in subjects that are being offered at master's level in F2F situation. Subject to these stipulations, the Academic Council approved the offer of the above programmes by the University.

AC 2.6 Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

AC 2.6.1 Dr. Pandey informed the Board that the University proposes to offer Merit Scholarship Scheme wherein graded Tuition fee based scholarships will be granted to students as per following details:

1. 30% for all students enrolled in any course and having more than 80% marks in their qualifying examination.

2. 20% for all students enrolled in any course and having marks in the range 70-80% in their qualifying examination.
3. 20% for girl students enrolled in any course and having marks more than 60% in their qualifying examination.
4. 10% for students having domicile of Jharkhand and enrolled in any programme

Members were also informed that the BOM held earlier that day had accepted the proposal with the amendment that fee waiver for girl students should be 30% for those enrolled in any course and having marks in the range 60-70% in their qualifying examination. Moreover, it was suggested that the University should be open to additional fee waiver in case of very deserving candidates.

AC 2.6.2 The members appreciated the initiative of a merit based scholarship especially in view of the socio-economic status of students in the region and the need to support local merit as well as women aspirants.

The item was approved along with the amendments suggested by the Board

With no other items for discussion, the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Dr. Viplaw Pandey)

Registrar and Member Secretary

Registrar
Usha Martin University

CC to:

- VC
- PVC
- External members
- All HOD's
- Special Invitees

