

USHA MARTIN UNIVERSITY, RANCHI, JHARKHAND

Minutes of the 4th Meeting of the Academic Council dated 27- March-2018

The meeting of the 4th Academic Council was held on 27-March-2018 at 2.30 pm in Conference Hall in the University Campus. Following members were present in the meeting:

1. Prof. S. C. Garg, Vice Chancellor, UMU – Chair
2. Prof. Vandana Bhattacharjee, BIT Mesra, Ranchi, Member
3. Prof. Swarat Choudhury, St. Xavier College, Ranchi, Member
4. Prof. Madhulika Kaushik, PVC, UMU
5. Dr. Sharmistha Roy, A.P., UMU
6. Dr. Anupama Verma, AP., UMU
7. Dr. Vinay Singh (Special Invitee)
8. Dr. Viplaw K. Pandey, Registrar, Member Secretary

Following members could not attend the meeting due to their prior commitments:

1. Prof. L. N. Bhagat, Former Vice Chancellor, Ranchi University

AC.4.1 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 informed the Council that

- (i) Since the time we met in the last meeting of AC, Ms Anupama Verma, Ms. Jayantika Pal and Mr. Vinay Singh have been awarded PhD degree by their respective institutions in Management, mathematics and Computer Science. He congratulated them for their success.

(ii) The examinations for the first semester were held as per guidelines approved by the AC for the 2017-18 academic session of the University. However, we are in the process of constitution of moderation boards. The second semester began as per schedule on 8th January, 2018. The University intends to propose a few more programmes for the consideration and approval of the AC in this meeting.

(iii) The University launched its PhD programme as per guidelines approved by the AC earlier.

AC.4.1.1 A member suggested that the University should (i) use external paper setters, and (ii) engage an external observer during the final semester examinations to begin with. To meet the requirements of visiting UGC/NAAC teams. Also, IQAC and such other committees be constituted.

AC.4.1.2 The VC informed the AC that committees like, Antiragging squad committee, student grievance handling and prevention of sexual harassment have already been constituted. Also a formal process of getting course wise student feedback has been put in place.

Thereafter, the Vice Chancellor requested the PVC or the Registrar to present the agenda items. The Registrar requested the PVC to do the needful. The Council then took the agenda items for its consideration.

AC.4.2 To consider and approve minutes of the Third meeting of AC and matters arising out of minutes

AC 4.2.1 Prof. Madhulika Kaushik PVC informed the Council that the minutes of the third meeting of the Academic Council held on 8.9.17 were circulated by the Registrar on 11.9.17 to all members and no comments were received or amendments proposed by any

member within a fortnight. Therefore, the minutes may be deemed to have been confirmed as circulated. These are placed as Annexure.

She then invited members to raise any matter arising out of the minutes for the betterment of the University and its stakeholders.

AC 4.2.2 The Council approved the minutes as circulated. No issue was raised under matters arising out of minutes.

(Annexure:1)

AC.4.3 To consider and approve the Action Taken Report

AC 4.3.1 The AC pursued the action taken and expressed satisfaction on compliance of its decisions.

AC.4.4 To note the minutes of the Research Council

AC.4.4.1 The PVC informed the Academic Council that the University conducted its entrance test for the PhD programmes in Commerce, Management and Computer Science on 24.9.17 and 19.11.17 2017 in accordance with its approved research guidelines. The candidates qualifying the admission test conducted by the University or having cleared the NET/SLAT tests were invited for interview **discipline-wise** on the 1st and 2nd of December 2017. The interviews were conducted with the support of eminent external experts who were invited subject-wise.

AC.4.4.2 Prof. Kaushik informed the Council that UGC guidelines stipulate that every scholar should be assigned research supervisor by the University out of its regular faculty members.

The AC was informed that Vice Chancellor had advised all scholars to submit their research proposals in consultation with their research supervisors, preferably by February end.

AC.4.4.3 The item was taken up for discussion. The Academic Council appreciated the University for strictly adhering to UGC guidelines and advised that it should continue with this practice for quality control and keep away from spurious practices in its offerings.

AC.4.5 To consider and approve list of programs, eligibility criterion with maximum intake to be offered by all the Faculties/ Departments of the University for the Academic Year 2018-19.

AC.4.5.1 The PVC informed the Academic Council that in its previous meeting, it had decided that the University should diversify its offerings and advised that need based job oriented programmes in different subjects be added gradually, subject to availability of highly qualified faculty. The list of programmes introduced in the Academic Year 2018-19 with maximum intake is attached as Annexure.

AC.4.5.2 The Council was further informed that new session of the University would start from August 8, 2018 and students enrolled in MBA programme last year are to be offered specializations from third semester onwards. Being the first time for offering specializations, it is proposed to confine as of now to HR, Marketing and Finance, provided a minimum of five students opt for a particular stream. Every student would be required to take at least three courses in that area as well as undertake his/her final semester project in the same area. We would like to add International Business, Entrepreneurship and small business management and such other specializations in due course.

AC.4.5.3 The Council deliberated on the proposal at length and approved it while reiterating its earlier decision of obtaining approvals of statutory national bodies before launch of LLB. Moreover, as far as offering specializations to MBA students is concerned, the Council decided that the proposed condition of minimum of ten students in a specialization should not be enforced in the initial few years. Further, computer laboratory with adequate no. of PCs and genuine software be made available to offer AI&ML programme. The Council was highly appreciative of the modularity of the programme with provision for multiple entry and exit points and the eligibility of the programmes. They also commended the University for such Innovative Programmes, which are not being offered by any institution in the region. It was also suggested that the University should consider offering Diploma programmes in areas such as Cyber security, Cyber Analytics and Applications of Big Data. The entry qualifications for all Diploma programmes should be 10+2.

(Annexure:2)

AC.4.6 To consider and approve Academic Calendar for the Academic Year 2018-19

AC.4.6.1 The PVC informed the Council that Academic Calendars had approved academic calendar two semesters of the academic year 2017-18.

AC.4.6.2 Prof Kaushik then informed the council that academic calendars for the Year 2018-19 have been prepared based on the philosophy approved earlier and are placed at annexure for consideration and approval.

(Annexure:3)

AC.4.6.3 The Council approved the academic calendars as proposed.

AC 4.7 To consider and approve the Value Added Course for the students for the Academic Year 2018-19.

AC 4.7.1 The members of the Board confirmed the same. The list of Value Added Courses is attached as Annexure.

(Annexure:4)

AC 4.8 To consider and approve the minutes of meeting of Library Advisory committee

AC 4.8.1 The academic council reviewed and approved the minutes of Library Advisory committee (LAC) meeting.

(Annexure:5)

AC 4.9 To report the books/journals and online database procurement and expenditure statement of University Library.

AC 4.9.1 A detailed report on the procurement of books, journals and online databases along with expenditure statements was presented by the University Library.

AC 4.9.2 The Academic Council reviewed the report for transparency and accountability.

(Annexure:6)

AC 4.10 To report the ODD semester result of various programmes.

AC 4.10.1 The Academic Council received a report on ODD semester result from various programmes. The Council noted the outcomes for discussion and future planning.

(Annexure:7)

AC.4.11 Any other matter with the permission of Chair

AC4.11.1 The PVC, with the permission of the Chair proposed, that to reach out to the underprivileged population in the state and give the benefits of higher education to all, the University may like to explore the possibility of enrolling private students.

The second issue raised under this item related to the appointment of adjunct faculty at senior level at UMU. Citing international practice, the PVC proposed that in view of the specializations at the post graduate level and need for supervisory expertise for the research degree programme, the University would like to appoint adjunct professors/ Associate Professors on contractual basis. They would be responsible for certain number of specialization courses or supervising specific research students. Their remuneration, in the cadre to which they are appointed, would be made proportionate to their workload. This would enable the University to get the benefit of senior academics at relatively viable costs.

AC 4.11.2 While deliberating the issue of enrolling private students, the members suggested that the idea of extending the offerings of the University to private candidates may be considered, provided the existing UGC regulations do not prohibit it. The University should therefore formally write to the UGC and obtain clearance before taking this initiative forward so as to avoid unforeseen difficulties associated with the recognition of University degree. One member quoted instances of some institutions in the Region offering programmes without due approvals leading to their investigations by the state government agencies.

The Council approved the second proposal and appreciated the efforts of the University to raise its profile.

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.



Dr. Viplaw Kishore Pandey
Registrar and Member Secretary

CC to:

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

Registrar
Usha Martin University