

Aum Amriteswaryai Namah

AMRITA VISHWA VIDYAPEETHAM
Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Academic Council

Venue: Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham
Amritanagar 641 112,
Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)

Date: 25.02.2014
Day : Tuesday
Time: 2.30 pm

The following members of the Academic Council were present:

1. Dr. P Venkat Rangan, Vice Chancellor
2. Prof. C Parameswaran (Director, CIR)
3. Dr. Bharat Jayaraman (Chair-PG Programmes)
4. Dr. Bipin Nair (Dean, School of Biotechnology)
5. Dr. M P Chandrasekharan (Dean, Engineering)
6. Dr. P Sridhar (Associate Dean)
7. Dr. U Krishnakumar (Director, School of Arts & Sciences, Kochi)
8. Br. Sunil Dharmapal (Mysore Campus)
9. Dr. V Radhakrishnan (Former Director, Amrita)
10. Dr. K Sankaran (Principal, School of Engineering, Amritapuri)
11. Dr. S G Rakesh (Assoc. Dean & Principal, ASE Bangalore)
12. Dr. P Prathapan Nair (Principal, School of Medicine)
13. Prof. K T Moly (College of Nursing)
14. Dr. M Sabitha (Principal, School of Pharmacy)
15. Prof. Vidya Pai (Principal, School of Arts & Sciences, Mysore)
16. Dr. Sriram Devanathan (Coordinator, IQAC & Head AMBE)
17. Dr. T N P Nambiar (Professor, Dept. EEE)

Dr. Balakrishnan Shankar (Associate Dean) attended at Amritapuri campus by using the A-VIEW facility, developed by our University.

Br. Abhayamrita Chaitanya, Dr. S Krishnamoorthy, Dr. Prem Nair (Director) Dr. V S Somanath, Dr. R. Dhandapani, Dr.(Br.) Sankara Chaitanya, Br. Dhanraj, Br. Sudeep, Dr. Shantikumar Nair, Dr. C R Muthukrishnan, Dr. A H Kalro Dr. K N Unni Prof. K V Sridevi, Dr. Vasudevan Nambootiri and Dr. C Gopinathan Pillai could not attend the meeting and had informed in advance. Leave of absence was granted to them.

Dr. Balagopal Varma R (Vice Principal, School of Dentistry, Prof. Jay Mishra, Dr. R Raghu Raman and Dr. Krishnashree Achuthan attended the meeting as special invitees.

The meeting was chaired by the Vice Chancellor Dr. P Venkat Rangan.

The meeting began with a prayer. The Vice Chancellor extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Academic Council.

20.1 Confirmation of the minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 18.08.2013.

Resolved to confirm the Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 18.08.2013.

20.2 Reports on the actions taken / academic progress

20.2.1 Considered the activity reports of the Deans/Principals of the Constituent Institutions.

The reports received from the Deans / Principals of ASE Amritapuri, Bangalore & Coimbatore, CIR, School of Medicine, School of Dentistry, School of Nursing, School of Pharmacy, ASAS Kochi & Mysore. They were noted and taken on record.

20.3 New Academic Programmes

20.3.1 Considered the proposals recommended by the CPGP to start the following M.Tech Programmes in the following Schools/Centres of the University during the academic year 2014-15.

- 1) M.Tech in Instrumentation and Control in the Dept. of EEE, ASE, Amritapuri
- 2) M.Tech in Renewable Energy Technologies by the Dept. of EEE, ASE, Coimbatore
- 3) M Tech in Communication Engineering and Signal Processing by the Dept. of ECE, ASE, Bengaluru and Coimbatore
- 4) M Tech in Material Science and Engineering proposed by the Dept. of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science, Coimbatore, in the Centre for Advanced Materials and Green Technologies.
- 5) M Tech in Robotics and Automation by the AMMACHI Labs & Mechanical Engg. Dept., Amritapuri.

Resolved to start the above listed new M.Tech programmes in the respective Schools/Centres, from the academic year 2014-15 with an annual intake of maximum 30 students, in each programme.

20.3.2 Considered the proposal forwarded by the CPGP to start a Three-year MBA-MS (Research) dual-degree programme, with focus on Rural Development and Innovation by the **University Centre for Sustainable Future.**

Resolved that a Sub-committee with the following members be appointed to study the proposal in detail and submit a report to the Vice-chancellor, at the earliest.

1. **Dr. Bharat Jayaraman, Dean (PG Programmes) - Chairman**
2. **Prof. C Parameswaran, Director, Corporate and Industry Relations**
3. **Dr Balakrishna Shankar, Associate Dean, ASE, Amritapuri**
4. **Prof. Raghuraman, Director, CREATE, Amritapuri**
5. **Prof. Manoj, Chairman, ASB, Bengaluru.**

20.3.3. Considered the proposal to start a new M.Tech programme in Multimedia Systems and Networking jointly by the Dept. of CSE and IT, Coimbatore.

Resolved to start the new M.Tech programme in Multimedia Systems and Networking by the Dept. of CSE, Amrita School of Engineering, Coimbatore, from the academic year 2014-15 with an annual intake of maximum 30 students. The program will reside in the CSE Department but will be offered collaboratively between faculty in CSE and IT Departments.

The Chairman, University level CPGP is requested to get the proposal, curriculum and syllabus reviewed.

20.3.4 Considered the proposal forwarded by CPGP to start a new M.Pharm programme in Pharmacology with an annual intake of 10 students in Amrita School of Pharmacy, Kochi from the academic year 2014-15.

Resolved to start the new M.Pharm. programme in Pharmacology, in the Amrita School of Pharmacy, Kochi, from the academic year 2014-15 with an intake of 10 students. This is subject to approval, if any required from statutory bodies.

20.3.5 Considered the CUGP recommended proposal for approval to start a new B.Com degree programme – B.Com (Taxation) in Amrita School of Arts & Sciences, Mysuru from the academic year 2014-15.

Resolved to start a new B.Com degree programme with specialization on Taxation - B.Com (Taxation) in Amrita School of Arts & Sciences, Mysuru from the academic year 2014-15, with an annual intake of 60 students.

20.3.6 Considered the CUGP recommended proposal for approval to start B.Sc (Visual media) degree programme, in the Amrita School of Arts & Sciences, Mysuru from the academic year 2014-15.

Resolved to start B Sc (Visual Media) degree programme, in Amrita School of Arts & Sciences, Mysuru from the academic year 2014-15, with an annual intake of 50 students.

20.3.7 Considered the proposal to start MA & PhD Programmes in Spirituality, Religion and Philosophy, under the Centre for Studies and Research in Indian Culture and Thoughts, at Amritapuri Campus.

Resolved to start MA & PhD Programmes in Spirituality, Religion and Philosophy, under the Centre for Studies and Research in Indian Culture and Thoughts, at Amritapuri Campus, from the academic year 2014-15. This Centre was approved by the 17th Academic Council (Ref. 17.7.2).

20.4 Regulations of the academic programmes:

- 20.4.1 Considered the recommendation of the CUGP & CPGP to modify the regulations for all UG and five year Integrated PG programmes in Arts and Sciences.

Resolved to approve the amendment to the regulation R.13 for all UG and five-year Integrated PG programmes in Arts and Sciences.

The amended regulation shall now read as –

A. All UG Programmes in Arts and Sciences:

R.13 Eligibility to continue the Programme

At the beginning of an odd semester, a student shall not have more than six arrear courses (excluding Lab. courses, Courses in Cultural Education and Soft Skills) Those who have more than six arrear courses, at the beginning of the odd semester, shall first register for all the available arrear courses, during the semester and then register for the possible courses of the higher semesters, with the approval from the course coordinator, subject to a maximum of 28 credits.

B. All Five-year Integrated PG Programmes in Arts and Sciences:

R.13 Eligibility to continue the Programme

At the beginning of an odd semester, a student shall not have more than six arrear courses (excluding Lab. courses, Courses in Cultural Education and Soft Skills) Those who have more than six arrear courses, at the beginning of the odd semester, shall first register for all the available arrear courses, during the semester and then register for the possible courses of the higher semesters, with the approval from the course coordinator, subject to a maximum of 28 credits.

At the beginning of the seventh and ninth semesters, a student shall have not more than three arrear courses (excluding Lab. Courses and Courses in Cultural Education and Soft Skills. Those who have more than three arrear courses, at the beginning of the seventh and ninth semesters, shall register for all the available courses of earlier semesters and then register, if possible, for courses of the higher semester, with the approval from the course coordinator, subject to a maximum of 28 credits.

The above amendment shall take effect from the academic year 2014-15.

20.4.2 **Publications by students of all Masters Programmes:**

Considered the recommendation of the CPGP that all Masters programmes students of the University must submit a paper in a Conference or Journal (preferably Scopus-indexed) in order to qualify for their degrees. Students going on internships and participating in exchange programmes are also expected to fulfill the paper requirement.

Resolved that the above requirement shall apply to all Post-graduate students graduating from 2015 onwards and for the students under the disciplines of Engineering and Medicine, it shall apply for students graduating from 2014 onwards.

Resolved further that this requirement shall not apply to the students of the MFA programme.

20.4.3 Boards of Studies:

Considered approval of the revised criteria proposed by CPGP for the composition of the Boards of Studies (programme-wise) for various PG Programmes in Engineering -

Resolved that the revised criteria proposed by CPGP for the composition of the Boards of Studies (programme-wise) for all PG Programmes in the University -

- i. A total of ten to twelve members;**
- ii. At least one member from a University outside India;**
- iii. At least one member from a leading Indian University, e.g. IIT, IISc., etc;**
- iv. At least one member from Industry;**
- v. At least one alumnus who excelled in the programme;**
- vi. At least one member from each campus offering the Programme, or a related programme;**

The Board and the Chairmen shall be nominated by the Vice-chancellor. The Boards shall have a tenure of two years.

The above shall take effect from the future reconstitutions of the various Boards of Studies.

20.4.4 Evaluation for M Tech programmes:

Considered approval of the recommendation of the CPGP that the Campuses are permitted to conduct independently, the internal assessment tests and end semester examinations of all the M Tech programmes. However, the University level Chief Mentor of the course, identified by the University, shall have to approve the test or examination, before it can be administered in any campus

Resolved that the different campuses be permitted, with immediate effect, to conduct independently, the internal assessment tests and end-semester examinations of all the M Tech programmes. However, the University-level Chief Mentor of the course, identified by the University, shall have to approve the test or examination, before it can be administered in any campus.

20.4.5 M Tech Dissertation Research:

Considered approval of the recommendation of the CPGP that the M.Tech students be permitted to commence their Dissertation Research, even if they have arrears of upto 2 courses, which are not related to the topic of Dissertation.

Resolved that the M.Tech students be permitted, with immediate effect, to commence their Dissertation Research, even if they have arrears of upto 2 courses, provided these courses are not related to the topic of Dissertation.

20.4.6 Ph D Programme –

Considered approval of the recommendations of the CPGP:

a. External Candidates and Guides:

Resolved that all external candidates must fulfill the one-year residency requirement. However, this can be met through multiple (up to a maximum of five) visits, with atleast one semester of continuous stay at the campus.

Resolved that the Ph D Thesis Advisors shall be appointed only from AMRITA. External Faculty/Researchers may serve as Co-Advisors after being appointed as Adjunct Professors/Faculty in the University.

All research publications, related to the thesis shall have Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham affiliation.

b. New requirements:

Resolved to approve the following new requirements, in respect of the Ph.D programme:

- i. Comprehensive examination shall be administered by the Doctoral Committee and shall examine only the course work undergone by the candidate and not his/her research. No external examiner is required for the Comprehensive Exam.**
- ii. Qualifying Examination will be done within one year of the Comprehensive examination and shall consist of a written Thesis Proposal followed by an oral defense. External examiner from a reputed Institution shall be required.**
- iii. Online courses may qualify for academic credit, only if approved by the Doctoral Committee. This requires registration in a ‘Special Studies’ course at Amrita, completion of 45 hours of online lectures and passing a final examination set by the Doctoral Committee and administered through the Controller of Examinations. The evaluation of these courses shall be similar to that done for all other Ph.D courses.**
- iv. Candidates admitted to the Ph.D programme with B.Tech/ BE/ BS or equivalent, are required to complete 36 credits of course work, in addition to the mandatory Research Methodology and Mathematical Foundation courses.**
- v. Ph.D. students should earn an average of ‘B’ grade in their coursework, in order to qualify for the degree.**

- c. **When special 3-credit courses are developed for Ph.D. scholars and offered in an Independent- Self-Study mode (i.e., 800-level courses), the material should not have substantial overlap with the Masters-level courses and the Ph.D. scholar taking the course must submit a Scopus-indexed conference/journal paper for successful completion of the course.**
- d. **Up to 50% of the credits of the coursework for Ph.D. students may consist of a combination of Online courses, Special Studies courses and Transfer courses..**
- e. **Ph.D. thesis work will carry 60 credits. Regular students to register for 10-15 credits per semester (part-time students shall register for a lesser number of credits). Thesis registration for each semester shall be considered as a separate course. Satisfactory progress will result in an 'O' grade (for ongoing) and unsatisfactory progress will result in an 'I' grade (for incomplete), which is to be made up within one semester. A second 'I' grade in thesis research will result in the student being dropped from the programme.**

All the above requirements shall take immediate effect.

20.4.7 Considered clarifications on the 'Arrear Count' in the UG programmes.

Resolved that for counting the arrears, for applying the Clause R.13 of the UG regulations, only the Laboratory courses, Cultural Education courses and Soft Skill courses shall not be counted.

Certain courses like Engineering Drawing, CAD/CAM laboratory, English courses (under Humanities Electives) though offered in the Laboratory mode are to be considered as theory courses for the arrear count.

20.5 Curriculum and Syllabi

20.5.1 Considered approval of modifications to the Curriculum of the MBA programme

Resolved that the thesis requirement shall be of six credits, in respect of the MBA programme, effective for the students graduating in the year 2015 onwards.

20.5.2 Considered approval of certain criteria in the structure for every M Tech programme, in the University:

- i. Shall have 42 – 44 credits of course work;
- ii. In the first three semesters, there shall be 5 + 5 +2 theory courses, respectively;
- iii. Additionally there may be Laboratory courses, subject to the maximum of 44 credits for course work;
- iv. The Dissertation shall be spread over the last two semesters and shall have 10 + 12 = 22 credits;
- v. Each programme shall have total credits of 64 to 66 credits.

Resolved that the following criteria be adopted in the structure of every M Tech programme, in the University, effective from 2013 admissions onwards. The respective Boards of Studies may rework the curricula in accordance with the above criteria.

- 20.5.3 Considered approval of the Curricula and Syllabi (for semesters 7 to 10) for the Five-year Integrated M.Sc. in Physics programme, effective from 2013 admissions onwards, as recommended by the CPGP.

Resolved to approve the CPGP recommended Curricula and Syllabi (for semesters 7 to 10) for the Five-year Integrated M.Sc. in Physics programme, effective from 2013 admissions onwards.

- 20.5.4 Considered approval of introduction of a core course in the final year – INTRODUCTION TO AIRPORT MANAGEMENT (1cr) in the B.Tech. (Aerospace Engineering) programme, effective from 2010 admissions, as recommended by the CUGP.

Resolved to approve the introduction of a core course in the final year – INTRODUCTION TO AIRPORT MANAGEMENT (1cr) in the B.Tech. (Aerospace Engineering) programme, effective from 2010 admissions. The total credit for B.Tech. (Aerospace Engineering) will be 178.

- 20.5.5 Considered approval of the Curriculum for the new B.Com (Taxation) Degree Programme, effective from 2014 admissions, as recommended by the CUGP

Resolved to approve the Curriculum for the new B.Com Degree Programme with specialization on Taxation, effective from 2014 admissions.

- 20.5.6 Considered approval of the introduction of New Elective courses in the PG programmes, as recommended by the CPGP: :

Resolved to approve the introduction of the following new elective courses in the respective PG programmes, in the University, with immediate effect –

i) Engineering:

1. CN719 Machine Translation - 4 0 0 4
2. CN720 Computation Linguistics - 4 0 0 4
3. CN721 Paninian Perspective for Natural Language Processing - 4 0 0 4
4. SN708 Mobile Computing and Security - 3 0 0 3
5. VL723 VLSI Signal Conditioning Circuit - 3 0 0 3
6. VL724 Synthesis and Verification of VLSI Logic Design - 3 0 0 3

ii) Department of Sciences:

1. SS813 Micro fluidics- 3 1 0 4
2. SS918 Introduction to Photochemistry - 4 0 0 4
3. SS919 Frontiers of Photochemistry - 4 0 0 4

iii) Department of Communication:

1. CJ800 Communication Research Methods - 4 0 0 4
2. CJ801 Information and Communication Technology in Higher Education - 4 0 0 4

iv) Department of Social Work:

- 1. SW800 Social Work Research Methodology - 3 0 0 3**

v) M Sc (Computer Science):

- 1. Software Quality Assurance - 3 0 0 3**
- 2. Computational Intelligence- 3 0 0 3**
- 3. Bioinformatics - 3 0 0 3**
- 4. Distributed Computing - 3 0 0 3**
- 5. Cloud Computing - 3 0 0 3**

vi) M J M C Programme:

- 1. Photojournalism - 3 0 0 3**
- 2. Creative Expression in Regional Languages - 3 0 0 3**
- 3. Online Journalism- 3 0 0 3**

20.5.7 Considered approval of the introduction of New Elective courses in the UG programmes, as recommended by the CUGP: :

Resolved to approve the introduction of the following new elective courses in the respective UG programmes, in the University, with effect from the academic year 2014-15 onwards:

a. BCA

- 1. LAN Switching and Advanced Routing**
- 2. Architecture and Deployment of Secure & Scalable WAN**

b. B Sc Visual Media

- 1. Content Writing for Web and New Media**
- 2. Media and Cultural Theory: An Introduction**
- 3. Introduction to Iconography**
- 4. Illustrations – an Introduction**
- 5. Copywriting for Advertising**

20.6 Ratification of approvals

20.6.1 Consider ratification of Vice-Chancellor's approval to conduct independent End-term examinations for MBA programs at Amritapuri, Bangalore, and Kochi campuses.

Resolved to ratify, with immediate effect, the Vice-Chancellor's approval to conduct independent End-Term examinations for MBA programs at Amritapuri, Bangalore and Kochi campuses.

20.6.2 Considered ratification of the offer of new elective courses in the B.Tech. programme.

Resolved to ratify of the offer of following new elective courses in the respective Branches of the B.Tech programme

1. CVL460 Architectural Science 3 0 0 3 Aerospace Engg.
2. CVL477 Advanced Foundation Engineering 3 0 0 3 Civil Engg.
3. ECE352 Sparse Signal and Image Processing 3 0 0 3 E C Engg.
4. ECE486 Analog Signal Processing 3 0 0 3 E C Engg.
5. ECE487 Analog and Mixed Circuit Design 3 0 0 3 E C Engg.
6. ECE488 Introduction to Radar Systems 3 0 0 3 E C Engg.
7. HUM261 The Message of Bhagwad Gita 1 0 2 2 Humanities Elective
8. PHY278 Astronomy 3 0 0 3 Science Elective

20.7 Other Items

20.7.1 Considered Norms for conducting Conferences.

The following norms proposed by the Vice Chancellor were approved.

1. Proceeding should be published in a well known publishers which is Scopus indexed.
2. Amrita Faculty members should get ample opportunity to publish papers in the conference.
3. Faculty and departments from all of the Amrita campuses should be actively encouraged to take part.
4. Programme committee should involve faculty members from all of our campuses
5. Conference Registration fee, mode of payment should be through Amrita Tech. or sponsoring organizations.
6. Date should not conflict with other events

20.7.2 Considered Norms for Funding for the faculty/students to present papers at Conferences within India and outside India.

Consideration deferred.

20.7.3 Considered introducing the requirement that Results of various programmes will be published only after it is approved by the Academic Council.

Resolved to defer the consideration of the item.

20.7.4 Considered approval of the recommendation to levy a fee of Rs. 1000/- for each duplicate Degree certificates, applied by the students.

Resolved to approve a fee of Rs.1000/- for each Duplicate degree Certificate, issued to the students of the University.

The meeting ended with the chanting of the Shanthi Mantra.



Dr. S Krishnamoorthy
Registrar & Secretary, Academic Council