

# INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

203 B T Road, Kolkata – 700 108



## PROCEEDINGS OF THE 57<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

HELD ON 12<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2013 AT 2 P.M.  
AT PLATINUM JUBILEE ACADEMIC BUILDING AUDITORIUM, ISI

The following members were present:

Sl. No.	N A M E	Sl. No.	N A M E
1	Bimal K. Roy	36	Rana Barua
2	Pradipta Bandyopadhyay	37	Amarty K. Dutta
3	Amitava Bandyopadhyay	38	P. Pal Choudhuri
4	Prasun Das	39	A Sengupta
5	Mausumi Bose	40	S. K. Parui
6	S. M Bendre	41	Bidyut K. Paul
7	Ashish Ghosh	42	Gopal K. Basak
8	Pradipta Maji	43	Anup Dewanji
9	Alok Goswami	44	Subir Ghosh
10	Amita Pal	45	Banasri Basu
11	Rita Saha Ray	46	Anjana Dewanji
12	Goutam Mukherjee	47	Pradip Kumar Das
13	Tarun Kabiraj	48	Smarajit Bose
14	Rudra Pada Sarkar		<b>Following members were present via Video Conference</b>
15	Saurabh Ghosh		
16	Mandar Mitra	49	
17	Subhas Ch. Nandy	50	U. H. Acharya
18	Susmita Sur Kolay	51	Ashim Roy Chowdhury
19	Nabanita Das	52	Madhura Swaminathan
20	Bhargab B. Bhattacharya	53	T.S.S.R.K. Rao
21	Debashish Goswami	54	Mohana Delampady
22	C.A Murthy	55	B.V. Rajarama Bhat
23	B.P. Sinha	56	B. Rajeev
24	A.K. Chakraborty	57	Siva Athreya
25	Somnath Ray	58	Tridip Ray
26	A.L.N Murthy	59	Isha Dewan
27	Bhabatosh Chandra	60	Satya P. Das
28	Aditya Bagchi	61	Arup K. Pal
29	Rahul Roy	62	Abhay Gopal Bhatt
30	Mahuya Datta	63	Samir K. Neogy
31	Nityananda Sarkar	64	Arunava Sen
32	Premananda Bharati	65	E. Somanathan
33	Manoranjan Pal	66	Bharat Ramaswami
34	Sandip Das	67	S. Ponnusamy
35	Krishnendu Mukhopadhyaya	68	A Rajagopal

Contd...2/-

**Agenda Item 1: Confirmation of the proceedings of the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council, held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.**

**DECISION:** Prof. Krishnendu Mukhopadhyaya suggested the following addendum to the proceeding of the 56<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council, held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013, as circulated:  
*“It was decided that in every meeting of the Academic Council, there will be a status report on all committees formed by the AC whose reports are awaited.”*  
Modulo this addendum, the proceedings was confirmed.

**Agenda Item 2: Matters arising out at the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council, held on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013.**

**DECISION:** The actions taken on matters that arose out of 56<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AC were reported.

**Status report on existing committees:**

The Dean of Studies presented the status report of the different committees whose reports are awaited.

Prof. Rajarama Bhat commented that members of any committee should consult other faculty members and the committee decisions should be based on these rather than personal views of the committee members. Chairman of the AC opined that this should be understood and reiterated that the committee decisions should reflect the collective wisdom of the faculty members as a whole.

Prof. Alok Goswami, Chairman of the B Stat-M Stat Syllabus Review committee, informed the AC that the committee has currently reached an impasse and further work of the committee cannot progress unless these contradictions are sorted out. Chairman of the AC, after asking other members of the committee present, requested all members of the committee to seat together again and try to resolve the issues. If such meetings still fail to break the impasse, the Chairman should report it to the Chairman of the AC. Only then the AC may intervene.

Chairman of the AC informed that as of now, he is withdrawing his proposal to offer a **“Post Graduate Diploma Programme** in Cryptology and Information Security” in ISI (Misc Agenda Item (iv) of 56<sup>th</sup> AC) and dissolving the committee formed to look into the feasibility & sustainability of such a Programme.

Chairman of the AC also informed that after considering a broad spectrum of views across the institute, he and the Dean of Studies have jointly decided to dissolve the committee to consider “whether a structure consisting of four subjects per semester was acceptable in principle and if so, under what condition” and continue with the present course structure, i.e., five subjects per semester, at least for another two years. The MS (QE) syllabus review committee was requested to submit a modified syllabus taking this into consideration.

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**Agenda Item 3: Consideration of the report submitted by the committee, set up vide Office Order no. DO/19694 dated May 4, 2012 [as suggested by the 54<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AC (Agenda Item 3)] to look into the proposal for Uniform Academic Calendar for all ISI centres.**

**DECISION:** Prof. Susmita Sur-Kolay presented the report which was accepted by the AC with some modifications. IT WAS DECIDED THAT THE MID-SEMESTER EXAMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED PREFERABLY WITHIN 5 CONSECUTIVE WORKING DAYS, OR AT LEAST, WITHIN MINIMUM POSSIBLE NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE DAYS REQUIRED TO ACCOMMODATE ALL OPTIONAL/ELECTIVE PAPERS. IT WAS DECIDED THAT, INCLUDING THE STUDY LEAVE, IF ANY, THE END SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS SHOULD BE COMPLETED WITHIN AT MOST THREE WEEKS. THE BACKPAPER EXAMS SHOULD BE COMPLETED THE WEEK BEFORE THE NEXT SEMESTER BEGINS. THE EXACT SCHEDULING, INCLUDING THE STUDY LEAVE, OR NOT, WAS LEFT TO THE CENTRES.

**Agenda Item 4: Consideration of the report submitted by the committee, set up vide Office Order no. DO/20517 dated February 1, 2013 [as suggested by the 56<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AC (Agenda Item 8)] to look into the proposal to formulate a comprehensive Policy and guideline for Moderation of the questions papers of all courses (except research course) across all the centres.**

**DECISION:** Prof. B. P. Sinha presented the report which was accepted by the AC with some pending decisions on the external/internal moderator issue. The Chairman of the AC proposed that moderation should normally be only internal unless a suitable internal moderator is not available. Prof. Alok Goswami warned that doing away with external moderation may have legal implications on the recognition of ISI degrees by Indian universities and the UGC. Dr. Tridip Ray pointed out that Delhi centre have been doing only internal moderation for several years now and there have been no complications. Prof. Siva Athreya, on the other hand, noted that the Bangalore centre have been doing only external moderation without problems. Prof. Mausumi Bose informed that Calcutta University has external moderation. The Chairman of the AC assured that he will look into the UGC rules & regulations and he will take the advice from the legal expert on this issue. IT WAS FINALLY DECIDED THAT IF THERE ARE NO ADVERSE LEGAL IMPLICATIONS, THEN WE WILL HAVE INTERNAL MODERATION ONLY. AND IF THERE IS ANY LEGAL PROBLEM, THE CHAIRMAN WILL GET BACK TO THE AC FOR FURTHER COURSE OF ACTION.

IT WAS DECIDED THAT IF ANY PAPER-SETTER DOES NOT AGREE WITH THE SUGGESTIONS GIVEN BY THE MODERATOR, HE/SHE WILL HAVE TO INFORM THE DEAN OF STUDIES OR THE CONCERNED ASSOCIATE DEAN IN WRITING AND DEAN OF STUDIES/ ASSOCIATE DEAN WILL TAKE NECESSARY ACTION IN THIS REGARD.

**Agenda Item 5: Consideration of the report by the committee set up vide Office Order no. DO/19692 dated May 4, 2012 & DS/2030 dated October 30, 2012 [as suggested by the 53<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the AC (Misc. Agenda Item 23/7) and 55<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AC (Agenda Item 2)] to review Teaching Policy of the Institute.**

**DECISION:** Prof. B. P. Sinha presented the report which was accepted in principle by the AC but the Dean of Studies will work out the methodology to implement these recommendations in future.

**Agenda Item 6: Consideration of a proposal by Prof. Susmita Sur-Kolay et al. for change in the Course Structure for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester of the M. Tech (Computer Science) Programme.**

**DECISION:** AC decided to constitute a committee consisting of the following members to look into the matter and submit a report to the AC at an early date. If they agree with the proposal, it may be introduced from the next Academic year.

1. Prof. Aditya Bagchi
2. Prof. Bhargab B. Bhattacharya
3. Prof. Swapan Kr. Parui

**Agenda Item 7: Consideration of feasibility & sustainability report along with a recommendation to start MS (QMS) Programme at Bangalore & Hyderabad from the next Academic year, submitted by the Head, SQC&OR Division as requested by the 56<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council (letter no. DS/196, dated April 2, 2013).**

**DECISION:** The AC decided to form a committee consisting of the following members to undertake a more comprehensive study of the feasibility & sustainability of the MS (QMS) Programme at Bangalore & Hyderabad from the next Academic year. The committee will consider the infrastructural facilities, faculty strength, class rooms, hostel etc. and submit a report to the AC. The committee was also requested to consider the report of the Head, SQCOR Division in this regard. The committee was requested to submit a report to the AC at the earliest, so that the programme, if feasible, may start from the next academic year.

1. Prof. Kalyan Kr. Chowdhury (Chairman)
2. Prof. Anup Dewanji
3. Prof. B. P. Sinha
4. Dr. D. Sampangi Raman (Convener)

**Agenda Item 8: Consideration of a proposal by Prof. Susmita Sur-Kolay et al. for modification in 'Joint Supervision of Ph D Students' clause in 'Thesis Supervisor' section of the existing "Rules & Regulation for Registration for a Ph D Degree" of the Institute.**

**DECISION:** After some deliberation, the AC decided to form a committee consisting of the following members to look into the proposal of introducing co-supervisor who may be either a faculty member of the institute or an external supervisor for our Ph D students. The committee is requested to submit a report to the AC at the earliest.

1. Prof. B. B. Bhattacharya (Chairman)
2. Dean of Studies (Convener)
3. Prof. E. Somanathan
4. Prof. S. Inamdar
5. Prof. Tapas Samanta

**Agenda Item 9: Extract from the proceedings of the Council Meeting of the Institute held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2013:**

"It was resolved by the Council that One year Post Graduate "Diploma in Computer Programming & Application" (DCPA) with some modifications in the already existed two year "Diploma in Computer Programming & Application" (DCPA) be reintroduced at the Giridih Branch of the Institute from the Academic Session 2014-15 subject to the approval of the Academic Council of the Institute".

**In view of this, the AC may consider the proposal for the reintroduction of the One year Post Graduate "Diploma in Computer Programming & Application" (DCPA) at Giridih Branch from 2014-15 and form a committee to review and modify the Course Structure for the said programme.**

**DECISION:** The Chairman, AC explained the background of the proposal and views of the council. The AC decided to form a committee consisting of the following persons to study the feasibility & sustainability of a **One year Post Graduate "Diploma in Computer Programming & Application"** Programme at Giridih Branch. The committee was requested to submit a report to the AC at the earliest.

1. Prof. S. C. Nandi (Chairman)
2. Dr. Amitava Bandyopadhyay
3. Shri Subhasish Kr. Pal
4. Prof. Pabitra Pal Choudhury
5. Shri Rabindra N Das (Convener)

**Contd...6/-**

**Agenda Item 10: Miscellaneous.**

- i) Clarifications regarding waiver of written tests for an applicant with an ISI degree to any JRF Programme of our Institute.**

**DECISION:**

The Dean of Studies recalled the rule regarding waiver of written tests for an applicant with an ISI degree to any JRF Programme of our Institute. The Chairman clarified that the qualifying percentage of marks should be 75% rather than 70%. The Dean of Studies added that (i) for students of final year, this should be the aggregate of first three semesters; (ii) apart from final year students, this should be applicable only for applicants who obtained his/her degree from the ISI within the previous two years, (iii) this should be applicable only if the Master's degree is in a field relevant to the JRF programme applied for, (iv) an applicant can take advantage of this waiver only once. Moreover, the applicants should clearly mention it in their application forms if they are eligible for waivers and it should not be left to the Dean's office to verify who, among all applicants are eligible for such waivers.

**Agenda Item 10: Miscellaneous.**

- ii) Consideration of a proposal from the Dean of Studies to add a clause in "Procedure for Registration for a Ph. D Degree" section of the existing "Rules & Regulation for Registration for a Ph. D Degree" of the Institute.**

"In the event of any student failing to successfully complete the mandatory coursework within the stipulated two years from the date of joining due to medical or other emergencies, the Dean of Studies, in consultation with the concerned RFAC, may allow him/her a grace period of 6 months for completing all coursework and subsequently register for Ph. D subject to approval of the concerned Ph. D-D. Sc committee."

**DECISION:**

After deliberation among the members, it was decided that this issue should be discussed after the report of the committee chaired by Prof. Isha Dewan (formed to formulate the salient features of an Institutional Policy regarding mentally/physically ill students and their academic responsibilities) is placed before the AC. The committee was requested to submit their report at the earliest. Meanwhile, the Chairman of the AC and the Dean of Studies were authorised to decide the pending cases, and other cases which may arise in the meantime.

**Contd...7/-**

**Agenda Item 10: Miscellaneous.**

- (iii) **Consideration of a proposal by Prof. Siva Athreya et al. for having a common 1<sup>st</sup> year curriculum in B. Stat & B. Math Programme** so that students of B. Stat/B. Math programme may be given an option to switch stream at the end of the 1<sup>st</sup> year subject to approval of the Teachers' Committee.

**DECISION:** Prof. Siva Athreya presented the proposal and explained the background. He also informed that to implement this proposal, the 1<sup>st</sup> year course structure of B. Stat/B. Math should be the same. Prof. Rahul Roy agreed with the proposal by the Chairman to form a committee to look into the various aspects of the issue. Prof Alok Goswami expressed his strong reservation about the proposal. He requested the AC to first decide whether the proposal is rational enough to be considered. He also pointed out that B. Stat is time-tested, well-structured course. If there are any changes in the basic course structure of the B. Stat, it may destroy the very nature of the B. Stat programme. Prof. Goutam Mukherjee was of the view that since we had just reviewed the B Stat curriculum, there is no reason to alter it so soon. Prof. Anup Dewanji also opposed the move to change the course structure of B. Stat/B. Math. There was extensive discussion on this issue. The Chairman of the AC conceded that this should not have come as a misc agenda item and THE PROPOSAL WAS POSTPONED TO SOME LATER AC.

**Agenda Item 10: Miscellaneous.**

- (iv) **Consideration of a proposal submitted by Dr. S Varadan to the Director on behalf of the N. S. Iyengar family for introducing the 'N. S. Iyengar Award for Excellence in Econometrics'**

**DECISION:** The Chairman presented the proposal. THE AC DECIDED TO SEND THIS PROPOSAL TO THE AWARDS COMMITTEE. If the Awards Committee agrees to introduce this award, it may be sent directly to the Dean of Studies for implementation, without going to the AC again.

The AC expressed its thanks to the members of the committees which submitted their reports.

**The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.**

(Bimal K. Roy)  
Director &  
Chairman, Academic Council