

# INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

203 B. T. Road, Kolkata 700 108



## 79th MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Date: JANUARY 23, 2023

Time: 3.30 p.m.

## PROCEEDINGS

<b>Members/Invitees Present</b>			
1	Dipti Prasad Mukherjee (Chair)	21	Mahuya Datta
2	Amita Pal (Convener)	22	Malay Bhattacharyya (invitee)
3	A L N Murthy	23	Mathew Francis
4	Amartya Kumar Dutta	24	Mausumi Bose
5	Anil K. Ghosh	25	Mohan Delampady
6	Ansuman Banerjee	26	Nabanita Das
7	Antar Bandyopadhyay	27	Partha Sarathi Mukherjee
8	Anuj Bhowmik	28	Pradip Bhattacharyya
9	Arijit Chakrabarty	29	Pradipta Maji
10	B Ramakrishnan	30	Prasun Das
11	Biswabrata Pradhan	31	Rituparna Sen (invitee)
12	B S Daya Sagar	32	S M Bendre
13	Debasis Sengupta	33	S M Subhani
14	Dibakar Ghosh	34	Sabyasachi Karati
15	G Murali Rao	35	Smarajit Bose
16	Gomatam Ravindran	36	Sumitra Purkayastha
17	Gopal K Basak	37	Suparna Mandal Biswas
18	Isha Dewan	38	Susmita Sur Kolay
19	Issan Patri	39	Swagata Nandi
20	Krishnendu Mukhopadhyaya	40	Swagam Das (invitee)

### Agenda item 1.1 Opening Remarks by the Chairperson

In the absence of the Director, the Deputy Director, Prof. Dipti Prasad Mukherjee, chaired the meeting. He welcomed the members present and requested the officiating Dean of Studies to start the proceedings.

## **2 GROUP A: REPORTING MATTERS**

The following were reported to the Academic Council in connection with the previous meeting of the AC:

**2.1 Proceedings of the 78th meeting of the Academic Council finalized through circulation by email**

**2.2 Action Taken Report for the 78th meeting of the Academic Council**

The following were reported pursuant to a resolution taken in connection with item no. 3.1 on the agenda the 78<sup>th</sup> meeting of the AC:

**2.3 Action Taken Report for the Special AC Meeting held on March 11, 2022**

**2.4 Action Taken Report for the Special AC Meeting held on March 21, 2022**

**2.5 Report on the delay in admission to the B.Stat. and B.Math. programmes in the academic year 2022-23**

One member took exception to the fact that the committee which had investigated the incident that led to the delay in admission to the two programmes in 2022 was not constituted formally and wanted this lapse to be recorded. The then Dean of Studies confirmed that though no office order was issued, an official email was sent to the members. Another member opined that the first member was justified in making the objection, but pointed out that technicalities should not be given greater importance than content. Yet another member pointed out that this lapse happened in an emergency situation and should therefore be viewed in this spirit. The first member further objected to the fact that the report on the investigation was missing, as was the mandate of the investigating team and the names of persons in the team. It was variously pointed out that the report was not mandated to be submitted to the AC, that the issue under discussion was an administrative one and decisions were taken and acted upon in this spirit. The Chairperson declared the matter closed, summarizing that the AC is satisfied with the report, and that the views of the first member are duly noted.

## **3 GROUP B: FOR DISCUSSION AND DECISION**

**Agenda item 3.1 Confirmation of Proceedings of the 78th meeting of the AC**

**Resolution: The proceedings were confirmed as circulated.**

**Agenda item 3.2 Confirmation of the Proceedings of the Special meetings of the AC held on March 11 and 21, 2022.**

**Resolution: The proceedings were confirmed as circulated.**

**Agenda item 3.3 Updated proposal for multi-centre five-year programme in Statistics and Data Science**

Dr. Rituparna Sen, the joint convener of the committee constituted by office order no. DS/2021-22/911 dated February 4, 2022 (the Course Structure Committee), presented the

highlights of all changes incorporated in the structure and curriculum of the proposed programme, in the light of comments and suggestions received through email and in the all-faculty meeting held on January 02, 2023. In the subsequent discussion, suggestions regarding nomenclature of certain courses were accepted. Some members expressed the opinion that the syllabus of some of the Computer Science courses need to be modified further, though the structure of the Computer Science part was acceptable overall. One member highlighted the fact that the vision of the proposed programme is significantly distinct from that of the B.Stat. programme and hence it should be taught differently from the latter. Another member enquired about the possibility of summer internships. There was general agreement that summer internships should be allowed and encouraged, and this should be clearly mentioned in the curriculum as is done in the case of the M.Tech. programmes.

Prof. Isha Dewan, convener of the standing Feasibility Committee (last reconstituted by office order no. DS/2022-23/821 dated November 10, 2022), presented the salient features of the changes incorporated consequent to comments and suggestions received through email and in the all-faculty meeting held on January 02, 2023. She summarized the extent of infrastructural support available at the centres and reiterated that teachers were available for the first 2-3 years, but this solution cannot be sustained beyond this unless faculty recruitment is pursued judiciously. Several members separately highlighted the need for smart classrooms at all centres, as well as adequate computer labs, and good internet connectivity. A suggestion was also put forth to recruit retired faculty with more attractive remuneration.

Several members strongly felt that the programme should not start until all issues related to feasibility can be addressed satisfactorily. Large number of recruitments are needed, and a specific study should be made of number of teachers needed for this programme each year from the third year onward, presuming that teachers currently available will be sufficient for the first two years. One member wanted clarity on a number of related issues like the extent of hybrid teaching involved, the number of teachers expected to teach online only, the total requirement of tutors over five years, the expected number of external/retired faculty required over five years, hardware/software requirements and available infrastructure. After considerable discussion, it was decided that the course structure of the proposed programme be approved, but syllabus details should be finalized and the issues raised in this meeting related to feasibility of the programme which have not been satisfactorily addressed, should be looked into by the Feasibility Committee and must be reported back to the Academic Council.

**Resolution:** It was resolved that the course structure of the proposed programme be approved, but syllabus details should be finalized and the issues raised in this meeting related to feasibility of the programme which have not been satisfactorily addressed, should be looked into by the Feasibility Committee and must be reported back to the Academic Council.

**Agenda item 3.4 Policy to be followed regarding waiver of written tests for admission in 2023 to the B.Stat., B.Math., M.Tech. (CS+CrS) and JRF programmes in ISI**

After some discussion, the following decision was taken, in view of the fact that classes and examinations were conducted in the online mode for at least one semester during 2020-23 for all Master's degree programmes leading to qualification for JRF programmes:

**Resolution: It was resolved that, for admission to various programmes of ISI in 2023, written tests will be waived**

- 1. for INMO awardees who apply for the B.Stat./B.Math. programmes,**
- 2. on the basis of GATE scores for applicants to the M.Tech. (CS+CrS) programmes.**

However, there will be no waiver of written tests for applicants to the JRF programmes who are Master's degree students of ISI or have been awarded a Master's degree by ISI in 2022 by ISI, on the basis of their performance in the respective qualifying examinations.

**Agenda item 3.5 Policy regarding participation of ISI faculty in admission-related activities in case near relations are possible candidates in the Selection Test for admission in 2023.**

**Resolution: It was resolved that a committee would be formed by the director in consultation with the Dean of Studies to formulate a reasonable and rational policy regarding participation of ISI faculty in admission-related activities in case near relations are possible candidates for admission in a given year .**

Sd/-

**AMITA PAL**

Officiating Dean of Studies, ISI

and

Convener of the AC

Sd/-

**DIPTI PRASAD MUKHERJEE**

Deputy Director, ISI

and

Officiating Chairman of the AC