

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Proceedings of the 48th Academic Council meeting
held on 18th February, 2009.

The meeting was held at 10:30 a.m. in the New Seminar Room on 7th Floor of the S.N. Bose Bhavan (Library Building). The following members were present.

Sl.	Name	Sl.	Name
1	Sankar K. Pal	19	Arni S.R. Srinivasa Rao
2	Amitava Datta	20	Anup Dewanji
3	Sushmita Mitra	21	Anup Majumdar
4	Mahuya Datta	22	Goutam Mukherjee
5	Shibdas Bandyopadhyay	23	M.Z. Anis
6	Nityananda Sarkar	24	Biswabrata Pradhan
7	Subhamoy Maitra	25	B.K. Sinha (Special Invitee)
8	Rana Barua	26	S.M. Srivastava
9	Tarun Kabiraj	27	Saurabh Ghosh
10	B. Rajeev	28	Mausumi Bose
11	Utpal Garain	29	Debapriya Sengupta
12	Bimal Roy	30	S.C. Bagchi
13	Palash Sarkar	31	S.K. Parui
14	Smarajit Bose	32	T.K. Chandra
15	Arijit Chakrabarti	32	D.P. Mukherjee
16	Rita Saharay	34	B.B. Chaudhuri
17	Bhabatosh Chanda	35	A. Bagchi
18	Debdulal Dutta Roy	36	B.S. Mazumder

The Chairman welcomed all the members to the 48th Academic Council meeting.

Agenda Item 1: To confirm the proceedings of the 47th Academic Council Meeting held on 25th April, 2008.

The proceedings of the 47th AC meeting were confirmed by the Academic Council.

Agenda Item 2: Matter arising out of 47th AC meeting held on 25th April 2008.

In Agenda item 13 for instituting medals and prizes from both internal and external members, it was decided by the AC to set up a standing committee to review the requests and then forward them to the Director. The committee should also study the conditions that may be raised by the donating agencies/persons to consider their acceptability for the institute.

Agenda Item 3: Approval of the results of B.Stat./B.Math./M.Stat./M.Math./M.S.(QE)/M.Tech.(CS)/M.Tech.(QROR)/ADIS/Ph.D. etc.

The AC approved the award of degrees, associateships, certificates and prizes to the students as per the list circulated among the AC members, to be conferred in the 43rd Convocation of the institute to be held on 24th March, 2009. For two Ph.D. candidates whose reports have arrived but viva-voce not yet been held, AC resolved that the degrees might be awarded if the viva-voce exams be held before 43rd Convocation and approval of AC members obtained by circulation.

The Chairman suggested that two different dates be mentioned on the Ph.D degree certificate; one being the date of the Council approval and the other being the date of Convocation when the degree is conferred. Dean informed that such practice is common among different universities. The AC accepted the proposal.

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Agenda Item 4: Consideration of the recommendations of M. Math. Syllabus Review Committee.

Prof. S.M. Srivastava, the Chairman of the M.Math Syllabus Review Committee presented the revised syllabus. Prof. B.Rajeev and a few other members suggested some modifications. The AC requested Prof. Srivastava to review the proposed suggestions and to submit a revised syllabus, preferably within a month.

Agenda Item 5: Consideration of the report of the Committee for introducing "Financial Engineering" as a specialization in M.Stat. programme.

Prof. Nityananda Sarkar presented the report of the Committee for introducing "Financial Engineering" as a specialization in M.Stat. programme. Prof. Sarkar explained the importance of the specialization but at the same time emphasized the difficulty of getting competent faculty for such specialization. Even for other related papers in the course, the institute might find difficulty in assigning classes to existing faculty members in addition to their present class load. After deliberation, the AC members decided not to introduce "Financial Engineering" at this moment as a specialization in M.Stat. programme for non-availability of competent faculty to teach the course.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration of the report regarding rules for supplementary examination scores.

Prof. Bikas K. Sinha presented the report regarding the rules for supplementary examination scores. After deliberation, the AC opined that the existing committee should study the proposal again and submit some modified rules, easy to compute and implement.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of the application by Mr. Arkaprava Bandyopadhyay.

Mr. Arkaprava Bandyopadhyay, a student of B.Math course at the Bangalore Centre of the institute, presently repeating the 2nd Semester of the 2nd Year in the three-year course under the directive of the High Court, applied for a transfer to Kolkata from Bangalore. After deliberation, the AC opined that since the institute had no B.Math. programme in Kolkata, the appeal of Arkaprava Bandyopadhyay could not be accommodated and hence it was turned down.

Agenda Item 8: Discussion on a recent court verdict regarding students' right to access answer scripts.

After deliberation on the preservation of answer scripts for both regular examinations and the admission tests, the AC decided to form a committee to look into the matter and to submit its report to the Chairman of the AC.

Agenda item 9: Consideration of the proposals about admission to M.Tech.(CS) and JRF(CS) programme.

There were two proposals; one to have the same admission test for both M.Tech (CS) and JRF (CS) and the other to give direct admission to JRF (CS) to the brilliant M.Tech (CS) students of the institute. Prof. Bimal K. Roy presented the proposals. After deliberation, it was decided in the AC meeting that the Director would constitute a committee for this purpose.

Agenda Item 10: Consideration of the proposal to change the name of M.Tech. (Quality Management Science) to M.S. (Quality Management).

Dr. Anup Majumdar presented the proposal. In an earlier meeting the AC approved the M.Tech (QMS) programme and asked the concerned committee to provide the syllabus of the course. However, the committee came up with a revised proposal to provide an M.S (Quality Management) course with lower eligibility criteria than an M.Tech course. After deliberation the AC decided that the course name be kept as M.S (Quality Management Science). The Dean of Studies requested the existing

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committee to provide the syllabus of the course for consideration in the next AC meeting.

Agenda item 11: Consideration of the proposal of HBNI, Department of Atomic Energy.

HBNI, an institute under the Department of Atomic Energy, Govt. of India, proposed to ISI to allow its Ph.D. scholars to attend classes in some of its existing courses following the examination and evaluation procedure of the institute. The examination results would be transferred to HBNI. For this purpose, HBNI and ISI would sign an MOU for providing the examination results as credit transfer for the scholars. Some AC members opined that even if the scholars attend some existing courses of ISI, it would add extra burden to the faculty members. However, the AC recommended that HBNI should write to the Dean with their specific requirements for a detailed deliberation in the next AC.

Agenda Item 12a: Discussion on irregular attendance of students in different courses.

The members of the AC expressed concern over the issue and made different suggestions like, asking students to pay fine, informing the parents of the students, stopping the students from appearing in the examination etc. The AC decided to form a committee to look into the issues related to irregular attendance of students in different courses.

Agenda Item 12b: Consideration of the proposal for Teachers' Evaluation.

During deliberation different members placed different opinions over the issue like; the process would help to improve teaching, evaluation should be optional and at the discretion of the teacher, a best teacher award be instituted to encourage teaching, and promotion policy be modified to consider teaching as a parameter. The Chairman suggested formation of a Committee to study the issue.

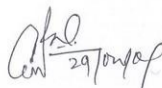
Agenda Item 12c: Consideration of a request from Sumita Garai to repeat M.Math. 1st year programme.

Ms. Sumita Garai, a student of M.Math 1st year appealed for repetition of the 1st year course in the session 2009-10, since she could not attend classes and to appear for examinations for illness. The medical certificate to this effect was also submitted. The AC considered the request and allowed Ms. Garai to repeat the M.Math. programme from the 1st Semester of the 1st Year without stipend. However, the M.Math. programme for the session 2009-10 will be offered at the Bangalore centre of the institute and Ms. Garai will have to join there.

Agenda Item 12d: Additional agenda item with the permission of the Chair.

The AC recommended the inclusion of a special fellowship of Rs. 15,000/- per month for Ph.D. (QR&OR) students, like other similar programmes.

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


(Sankar K. Pal)
Director

Chairman, Academic Council


(Aditya Bagchi)
Dean of Studies

Convener, Academic Council