

INDIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE

Proceedings of the 49th Academic Council meeting held on 18th February, 2010.

The meeting was held at 11.00 AM in the New Seminar Room on 7th floor of the S.N.Bose Bhavan (Library Building). The following members were present.

Sl.No.	Name	Sl.No.	Name
1	Sankar K. Pal		
2	A. Bagchi	22	Subir Ghosh
3	Arun K. Adhikary	23	Dilip Saha
4	C.A. Murthy	24	Alok Goswami
5	Sushmita Mitra	25	Goutam Mukherjee
6	Sanghamitra Bandyopadhyay	26	Malay K. Kundu
7	Nabanita Das	27	Ranjan Gupta
8	Madhura Swaminathan	28	Bhargab B. Bhattacharya
9	Arunava Goswami	29	Barun Mukhopadhyay
10	Ratan Dasgupta	30	Susmita Sur-Kolay
11	Manoranjan Ghose	31	Mahuya Datta
12	Saurabh Ghosh	32	Subhas Chandra Nandy
13	Bidyut Roy	33	Palash Sarkar
14	Sisir Roy	34	Subhamoy Maitra
15	T.S.S.R.K. Rao	35	Smarajit Bose
16	Kalyan Kumar Chowdhury	36	P. Pal Choudhury
17	Biswabrata Pradhan	37	Utpal Garain
18	M.Z. Anis	38	Bhabatosh Chanda
19	Manoranjan Pal	39	Arni S.R. Srinivasa Rao
20	Pinaki Roy	40	Anup Dewanj
21	B.S. Mazumder	41	Tapas Kr. Chandra

Dr. Arunava Goswami attended the meeting as an invitee.

The Chairman welcomed all the members to the 49th Academic Council meeting.

Agenda Item 1: To confirm the proceedings of the 48th AC meeting held on 18th February, 2009 and the proceedings of the Special AC meeting held on 30th October 2009.

The proceedings of the 48th AC meeting and the proceedings of the Special AC meeting were confirmed by the Academic Council.

Agenda Item 2a: Matters arising out of 48th AC meeting held on 18th February, 2009

and

Agenda Item 2b: Matters arising out of Special AC meeting held on 30th October 2009.

The actions taken on matters that arose out of the two AC meetings were reported.

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

The Academic Council 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 44th Convocation of the Institute to be held in March 2010.

Agenda Item 4: Consideration of possible amendments in ISI Admission Tests and the courses to be offered according to UGC guidelines for subjects for which Research Fellows of ISI submit Ph.D. thesis to other universities.

Research fellows of ISI working in different subject areas, where ISI does not offer degrees or even otherwise, submit their Ph.D. theses to universities outside ISI. Now, recent UGC proposal for Ph.D. registration has introduced a set of new rules and different universities are implementing them. So, it has become necessary for ISI to arrange with different universities for registration of its research fellows. The affected units of ISI have already contacted some universities and submitted some proposals to the Dean of Studies. Now the institute needs to form a uniform set of policies and methods and negotiate with different universities for their acceptance. A committee with the following members was proposed in the AC meeting for the formulation of the necessary policies and methods:

Sisir Roy (PAMU) (Chairman), P S Ghosh (GSU) (Convener), Ranjan Gupta (BAU), Bidyut Roy (HGU), V K Ramachandran (SRU), Anup Dewanji (ASU), I K R Rao (DRTC), R K De (MIU), G Mukherjee (SMU), Dean of Studies.

The Chairman requested that the committee should submit its report as early as possible, preferably within one month.

Agenda Item 5: Consideration of a proposal to revise the courses for Biology-I and Biology-II in B.Stat. 2nd Year from the academic year 2010.

The proposal was presented by Prof. M. Ghose, Head, AERU. Dr. Arunava Goswami (AERU) explained the need for such changes. After deliberations, the proposal was accepted by AC and it would be implemented from the academic year 2010.

One of the AC members pointed out that the Biology-II course did not provide any list of text books. AC suggested that a list of text books be added and if such books are not available in the institute library, they should be procured before the beginning of the course.

Agenda Item 6: Consideration of a proposal for B.Stat. and M.Stat. courses in Agricultural Statistics to be offered at Kolkata with practical classes in Giridih.

Prof. Ratan Dasgupta, Coordinator, Giridih Centre, submitted a proposal to open a course in Agricultural Statistics, where the theoretical classes by and large would be at Kolkata and practical/field work would be conducted at Giridih. Section 8(1) committee has also suggested exploring such possibilities to enhance academic activities at Giridih. The proposal had two parts; one is to offer elective papers on Agricultural Science and Agricultural Statistics in B.Stat course and the other is to offer a new specialization on Agricultural Statistics in the M.Stat course to be conducted at ISI, Giridih. An AC member pointed out that some of the elective papers offered in the proposed course have lot of overlap with some existing elective papers. Some members also expressed doubts about getting interested students for this specialization. Dean of Studies mentioned that since the admission announcement for 2010 had already been published, the new course could only be offered from 2011. After deliberations it was decided that the course could be introduced on experimental basis at the B.Stat level from 2011 and depending on the students' response, it could be introduced at the M.Stat level later. It was also decided that a committee would be formed to study the proposed syllabus and other infrastructural requirements needed. Name of Prof. N S S Narayanan of Bangalore Centre was proposed as a member for the said committee. The Chairman was entrusted to suggest other members of the committee.

Agenda Item 7: Consideration of the report submitted by the committee for offering MS (QMS) programme from ISI Bangalore Centre.

The committee entrusted to finalize the syllabus of the proposed Master of Science course in Quality Management Science to be offered from the Bangalore Centre submitted its report for the consideration of the AC. Mr. Kalyan Chaudhury, Head, SQC Division presented the syllabus. While the syllabus was accepted in general, members suggested the following changes in the eligibility criteria:

1. Since no course in ISI specifies any age limit, no age limit would be mentioned for Admission in MS (QMS) course as well.
2. Qualification requirement would just mention, "At least a three-year Bachelor's Degree with Mathematics as a subject". This would automatically make the Engineering Graduates eligible as well.

The course would now be offered from Bangalore Centre only, drawing additional faculty from SQC units at ISI, Chennai and Hyderabad. The course would start from the academic year of 2011.

Agenda Item 8: Consideration of a proposal for offering Ph.D. degree in "Mathematical Sciences" from ISI.

The proposal was placed by the faculty members of PAMU. During deliberation it was pointed out that the proposal was primarily meant for the scholars working in the area of "Mathematical Physics" in ISI so that they could submit their theses at ISI itself. The Chairman mentioned that the term "Mathematical Sciences" would be a

misnomer here since “Mathematical Sciences” should cover Mathematics, Statistics and Theoretical Computer Science as well, for which ISI already offers Ph.D. degrees. However, he suggested that theses in “Mathematical Physics” could well be considered under Ph.D. in Mathematics where ISI offers a degree, if needed, by adding relevant experts in Ph.D./D.Sc. Committee. It was decided that a revised proposal would be made in subsequent AC meeting.

Miscellaneous Agenda 1: Consideration of the proposal of some alumni of the institute to award a prize in memory of late Sabyasachi Roy, an alumnus of ISI.

The proposal was accepted in principle. It was also decided that an amount of Rs. 1.5 Lakhs would be necessary as the endowment amount to institute a Gold Medal. It would be conveyed to the proposers. Dean mentioned that similar proposals were made earlier and it was decided in an earlier AC meeting to form a standing committee for this purpose. A committee with the following members was proposed:

A Goswami (SMU) – Chairman, S Ghosh (HGU) – Convener, S SurKolay (ACMU), N S N Sastry (Bangalore Centre)

Miscellaneous Agenda 2: Consideration of a request of Mr. Arghya Prasun Roychowdhury, a student of M.Stat. (Applications) course at ISI Delhi to repeat the 1st Year M.Stat. at Kolkata.

The concerned student was suffering from acute depression for the serious illness of his mother and he could not concentrate in his studies. The application of the student was forwarded by one of his class teachers, Prof. R. Bhatia through the Students Affairs In-Charge, Delhi Centre with the suggestion that the Dean of studies could consider it. After deliberations, members of the AC decided to allow Mr. Arghya Prasun Roychowdhury to repeat M.Stat first year at Kolkata as Non-B.Stat student in 2010-11 session without scholarship.

Miscellaneous Agenda 3: Consideration of eliminating the list of courses which are no longer offered by the institute.

The Dean of Studies mentioned that different documents published from the institute and also the website of the institute include some courses which are long been discontinued. He proposed to eliminate those courses from the documents and the website. The Chairman and the AC members asked the Dean to make a comprehensive list of such courses and place them in the next AC meeting.

Additional item with the permission of the Chair:

Some members expressed their concern over the amount of scholarships paid in different courses. While in other institutes, the scholarship amounts were revised long back, even much older proposal for such revisions was not approved by the controlling ministry as yet. The Chairman formed a committee to study the scholarships paid in different courses in IISC and IISER and to propose a comprehensive list of scholarships for different courses in ISI. The Chairman also

requested the members of the committee to submit their report so that it could be placed in the Council meeting around May, 2010. The members of the committee are: Alok Goswami (SMU) - Chairman, T S S R K Rao (Bangalore Centre), Mahuya Dutta (SMU), Dean of Studies – Convener.

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