



**Minutes of the 7th Meeting of the
Academic Council**

**Date: October 22, 2016 at 11.00am
Venue: Board Room**

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Seventh Meeting of the Academic Council of the University was held on October 22, 2016 at 11.00 AM in the Board Room of the University. Dr. Vivek Bhandari, President of the University was in the Chair. The following members participated in the meeting:

1. Dr. Ram Narain
2. Maj. Gen S.C. Pareek
3. Dr. K.K. Kalra
4. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar
5. Mr. Bijender Vats
6. Dr. Ashok Kaushik, Dean Academics
7. Dr. D.K. Mangal, Dean, Training
8. Dr. P R Sodani, Dean, Training
9. Dr. C. Ramesh, Dean, School of Pharmaceutical Management
10. Dr. Seema Mehta, Controller of Examinations
11. Dr. Neetu Purohit, Faculty Nominee
12. Dr. Tanjul Saxena, Faculty Nominee
13. Dr. S K Puri, Advisor, Academics
14. Bajrang Lal Sharma, Registrar and Member Secretary

At the outset, Dr. Vivek Bhandari, President of the University extended warm welcome to all the members of the Council. He apprised that after IIHMR's transitioning to the University, three Schools have been created and the Schools need to work closely under the guidance of the respective Boards of Studies and the Academic Council especially on the issues pertaining to curriculum and its delivery. He stated that the Schools are the primary depositories of knowledge and they seek perennial guidance and direction from the respective Board of Studies. The Boards of Studies generate ideas on curriculum and cross domain

learning whereas the Academic Council reviews and gives directions to the University on delivery of the core services.

Dr Bhandari further stated that the second generic element of the University system is to be sensitively answerable to its stakeholders-students, faculty, civil society and the industry. He was of the view that the delivery of the academic programmes and other services require to be recalibrated in the fast changing environment. He emphasized that IIHMRU is a knowledge institution and this august body has a critical role in planning the future of the University.

The Chairperson granted leave of absence to Dr. Jai Deep Gupta, Dr. Sanjiv Muthal, Dr Sanjiv Phansalkar, Dr Gautam Sadhu, Shri N K Bhoi and Shri Preet Matani. After having confirmed the quorum, the agenda was taken for discussion. The record of discussions held and decisions taken in the meeting is as under:

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the sixth meeting of the Academic Council

The Council unanimously confirmed the minutes of the sixth meeting of the Council.

2. Review of the action taken report on decisions taken in the sixth meeting

The Council expressed its satisfaction on the action taken report tabled by Shri Bajrang Lal sharma, the Member Secretary of the Council except the following observations:

Dr. Ram Narain observed that The Master of Public Health Programme is a prestigious programme and the results of the latest admission process reveal that the programme could not attract adequate number of students. Therefore, the University requires analyzing the reasons for the consistently poor enrolment. The admission process for the MPH programme was deliberated in detail. It was decided in the meeting that the University shall in-house deliberate on all the related aspects of the

programme and a detailed analysis focusing on the following points will also be shared in the next meeting of the Council:

- (i) Positioning of the programme
 - (ii) Reasons for low conversion to actual admission against applications/ enquiries received
 - (iii) Whether the outreach endeavours are adequate?
 - (iv) Credentialing problems, role of Sophas and JHU
 - (v) Quality delivery of the Curriculum by IIMRU and JHU
 - (vi) Whether MCI approval of the programme has any bearing on the admissions in the programme?
 - (vii) Admission fee, Scholarship, Sponsorship and education Loan facility
 - (viii) Placements
- (Action- Coordinator, MPH programme)**

3. Presentations by the Deans of the Schools

- (i) After the consideration of the action taken report, there were presentations on the activities of the Schools. Dr. Ashok Kaushik, Dean, Academics made a brief presentation on the core activities of the Institute of Health Management Research (IHMR). The Council observed as under on the activities of the IHMR:
 - (a) The class size of the MBA programme becomes about 90 and in such a case the quality of effective delivery by a teacher in long spells of modular teaching deteriorates substantially. Therefore adequate steps be taken to adhere to the AICTE norms on the class size.
 - (b) The University should consider seriously rationalizing intake in PhD programme. The PhD programme may be offered as a full time programme and the PhD scholars may be engaged in teaching assistantship and research with remuneration. Looking to the size and other

engagements of the faculty the intake and nature(full time/ part time) of the programme may be reconsidered.

- (c) Some new programmes (executive or certificate) may be launched under the School.
- (ii) Dr. C Ramesh made a presentation on the core activities of the School of Pharmaceutical Management (SPM). The Council observed as under:
- a) Efforts may be made to attract meritorious students from Science background and serious efforts be made to increase the size of class.
 - b) There may be a new academic programme for clinical pharmacists. Already there is high demand of such professionals in hospitals.
 - c) The placements of students in all schools may be moved to the month of January- February in place of October to December because if the placement process starts in the month of October it disrupts the academic calendar and learning environment.
 - d) There are ample opportunities for research activities in Pharmaceutical sector. Therefore, the School may initiate research activities.
 - e) The research centre proposed under the School may have detailed concept note, mandate and the work plan.
- (iii) Dr Tanjul Saxena, Associate Professor in the School of Rural Management (SRM) made a detailed presentation on the activities undertaken by the SRM. The Council appreciated the efforts made by the SRM team and observed as under:

- (a) The SRM may in-house deliberate on the positioning of the programme and may make efforts to increase the number of prospective students under the programme.
- (b) The Centres proposed under the School may have detailed concept note containing mandate and the work plan.
- (c) The joint certificate programme with the BRLF apparently has a potential to provide rich experience and credibility to the SRM. Therefore the School may undertake the programme with all seriousness.

The Council appreciated the pattern of the meeting wherein the Deans made brief presentation on the activities of the School. The Council observed that such presentation may be made more relevant and useful.
(Action- Deans of the Schools)

3. Reporting and ratification items:

- (i) Second Annual Report of the University**
The Council noted the information.
- (ii) Examinations and convocation, 2016**
The Council noted the information.
- (iii) Academic Programmes being offered in 2016-17**
The Council noted the information.
- (iv) Status of admission in various academic programmes and the approved intake**
The Council noted the information
- (v) Research projects undertaken**
The Council noted the information.
- (vi) Training programmes**
The Council noted the information.

(vii) Pradanya- the annual conference

The Council noted the information.

(viii) Regulatory approvals and accreditations

The Council noted the information

(ix) Research Publications

The Council noted the information

(x) MOUs and Collaborations

The Council noted the information

(xi) India Today Safaigiri Award, 2016

The Council congratulated Dr. Goutam Sadhu on receiving the award and noted the information.

4. Matters for discussion and decision

(i) Major Takeaways from the KPMG Report

The Council deliberated on the takeaways from the KPMG report and the *Utkarsh* in detail. The observations made by the members of the council as under:

- a) Dr. Ram Narain observed that looking to the trends of admissions and other core activities, it can easily be inferred that we have a legacy of more than three decades, but our efforts to protect the brands are negligible. He categorically stated that companies like Abbot and others are partnering with IIMs who do not have core competencies to handle that business. He stated that the University should introspect that why the big organizations do not knock our door for our core competencies? He also observed that number of applications for admission is also on decline and the brand is eroding. He suggested that the University should go for

reality check as our MDPs, Research and prospective students are being taken away by other organizations.

- b) Dr. Sanjeev Kumar stated that the University will have to see that the Institutions with whom it is partnering has a brand name across the country? Whether the faculty members were engaged in consultancies and research activities are well known in the market and whether they have credible published work which can help in fetching more research projects? Dr. Kumar further stated that the faculty is the core for the image of the University and the University has to invest in them.
- c) Maj. Gen. Dr. S.C. Pareek was of the view that the University needs internal audit for all of its processes as the indicators are alarming.
- d) Dr. Tanjul Saxena, Dr. Neetu Purohit and Dr. Seema Mehta observed that quality and quantity in the faculty is not optimal and the faculty members are involved in too many activities which compromise faculty time. It was also reported that support services are also inefficient and inadequate. It was also stated that the role of faculty may be reengineered and their cognitive abilities be utilized in the areas of their interest. and proficiency.
- e) After having deliberated on the serious concerns of the members, the chairman finally took a decision to constitute a subcommittee to suggest measures to improve the academic activities and to protect the brand of the University. The subcommittee will be headed by Dr. Ram Narain and its others members will be Dr. Sanjiv Kumar, Dr. Sanjeev Phansalkar. The other faculty members- Dr. Barun Kanjilal and Dr. Anoop Khanna will be the insider members.. A detailed notification will be issued by the Registrar containing terms of reference of the committee.
(Action- Registrar)

(ii) Consideration and approval of recommendations made in the meetings of the Boards of Studies

The minutes of the meetings of the Boards of Studies were considered in the council. The Deans of the Schools also shared the major takeaways of the meetings while making the presentation in the Council meeting. The council approved the minutes of the meetings of the Boards of Studies while observing that curricula of the academic programmes are innately dynamic in nature, therefore, the meetings of the Boards be held periodically for reviewing the curricula and its effective delivery.

(Action- Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

(iii) Consideration of minutes of the third Meeting of the Academic Audit Committee

The Council considered the minutes of third meeting of the Academic Audit Committee which was held on May 20, 2016. The Council observed that the recommendations made by the committee are very relevant to the delivery of the programmes, therefore, the recommendations may be implemented and the actions be taken in accordance of the recommendations.

(Action- Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

(iv) Discussion on New academic programmes, SPOCs, Distance Learning programmes

The Council considered the observations made in the 8th meeting of the Board of Management of the University on Small private Online Courses (SPOCs). Dr. Monika Chaudhary made detailed presentation on SPOCs before the Council. The Council appreciated the initiative of the University and observed as under:

- a) The University has the expertise to deliver healthcare related programmes online or in Distance Learning mode, therefore, it should prepare curricula for at least three specialized courses. Furthermore, it should also manage the updation/ review of the curricula and calendar with a sense of discipline.

b) Initially the SPOCs may be uploaded for free public use to enhance the visibility of the University on SWAYAM and other appropriate platforms and after having obtained the competent approval from appropriate regulatory authority it may launch the programmes while charging fee.

c) The University may also create basic infrastructure and organize training etc. for delivery of online/ distance programmes.

(Action- Deans of the Schools, Dr Monica Choudhary and Registrar)

(v) Guidance on improvement in quality of delivery of the academic programmes and other services

The Council considered the steps taken by the University for improvement in quality of delivery of the academic programmes. The Council was of the opinion that monitoring systems should be put in place to ensure quality delivery.

(Action- Deans of the Schools)

(vi) Strengthening Alumni relations

The Council appreciated the initiatives taken by the University for better relations with the alumni. The Council observed as under:

a) There should be a full time alumni executive posted in the University.

b) The alumni association may be activated and regular meetings of the association be ensured.

c) The members of the alumni may be involved in various processes like admission, marketing, placement, teaching, etc.

(Action- Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

(vii) Promotional Policy of the University

The Council deliberated on the promotional activities. The Council is of the opinion that the University requires to make appropriate strategies to promote the brand and protect it. The Council also appreciated the constitution of admission and outreach committees at the School level. The Council observed that such committees should actually start working in light of their mandate.

(Action- Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

(viii) Modifications in Regulations on Examinations

The Council approved the modifications in the Regulations on examinations. The Council is of the unanimous view that examination is a very important process, therefore its sanctity be maintained. The Council directed that the modified regulations be shared with students and faculty members and should also be put in public domain.

(Action- Controller examinations, Registrar)

(ix) Discussion on establishing new Schools/ Centres under the Schools

The Council members discussed on the new centres being created under the Schools. The Council observed that the respective Dean of the School should prepare the concept document containing mandate, activities, research, academic programme, members, work plan etc. of the centre in consultation with the faculty members. The Council also opined that in the next meeting of the Council the respective directors of the centres may make brief presentation on the activities of the respective centre. The Council put a line of caution that the creation of the centres may not be allowed to exist only on papers but they should turn into an energetic nucleus of research and academic activities under the aegis of the School.

(Action- Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

5. Any Other matter with the permission of the Chair.

a) Approval of the plagiarism policy

The Council deliberated on the draft policy on plagiarism prevention. The Council approved the draft policy and observed that the percentage of permitted plagiarism may be reconsidered at the level of the President and Deans of the University. The Council further observed that finalized policy on plagiarism prevention be exhibited on the website of the University and also be shared with faculty members and students of the University for ensuring compliance.

(Action- Deans of the Schools, Dean Research and Registrar)

b) Modified PhD Guidelines

The Council considered the modified PhD guidelines prepared in light of the Minimum Standards for Award of M.Phil/PhD Degrees Regulations, 2016, notified by the University Grants Commission. The Council approved the modified guidelines and observed that the guidelines be manifestly exhibited on the university website and be shared with faculty members and students.

(Action- Deans of the Schools, Dean Research and Registrar)

c) Calendar of the Academic Council meetings

The Chairman of the Council requested the members to decide the calendar of the Academic Council meeting in the academic year. It was decided in the meeting that the Academic Council will meet on **Saturday, December 24, 2016 and on Saturday, February 25, 2017**. The members were requested to save the dates.

(Action- All the Members of the Council and the Registrar)

The meeting ended with thanks to Chair.

Registrar

Member Secretary