



Minutes of the 8th Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: June 16, 2017 at 10.00am
Venue: Board Room

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Eighth Meeting of the Academic Council of the University was held on June 16, 2017 at 10.00 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. Maj. Gen S.C. Pareek
2. Dr. K.K. Kalra
3. Dr. Sanjeev Kumar
4. Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar
5. Dr. Ashok Kaushik, Dean Academics
6. Dr. D.K. Mangal, Dean, Research
7. Dr. P R Sodani, Dean, Training
8. Dr. C. Ramesh, Dean, School of Pharmaceutical Management
9. Dr Goutam Sadhu, Dean-in-charge, School of Rural Management
10. Shri Hem Bhargava, Controller of Examinations
11. Dr. Neetu Purohit, Faculty Nominee
12. Dr. Tanjul Saxena, Faculty Nominee
13. Dr. Monika Choudhary, Special invitee
14. Bajrang Lal Sharma, Registrar and Member Secretary

At the outset, Dr. Vivek Bhandari, the chairman of the Council greeted all the members of the Council. The Chairperson granted leave of absence to Dr. Ram Narain, Dr. Jai Deep Gupta, Dr. Sanjiv Muthal, Shri Brijendra Vats, Brig. S K Puri, Shri N K Bhoi and Shri Preet Matani. Dr. Bhandari apprised the members of the Council about the significant developments taken place after the seventh meeting. He stated that the opinion sharing of faculty members in the faculty retreat; observations of the expert team of the National Board of Accreditation and the recommendations of the subcommittee of the Council were very useful in giving shape and direction to the processes of curricular revision. He assured the Council that the revised curricula of the academic programmes housed in the Schools will be delivered with rigour and utmost sincerity.

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 seventh meeting of the Academic Council

The members of the Council confirmed the minutes of the seventh meeting of the Council held on October 22, 2016.

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

The members of the Council expressed their satisfaction on the action taken report shared by the Member Secretary of the Council except the following observations:

- (i) Maj. Gen. S C. Pareek was of the view that the University should prepare strategies for placement and marketing of the MPH programme as the programme is very prestigious and has immense growth potential.
- (ii) The Council appreciated the initiative of the university to review the PhD programme. The Council underlined the need of continuous monitoring of various processes relating to quality of the programme.
(Action: Coordinator, MPH and PhD)

3. Reporting Items

(i) Presentations by the Deans of the Schools

- (i) A** Dr. Ashok Kaushik, Dean of the IHMR made a brief presentation on the activities of the institute. The observations of the members of the Council on the presentation are as under:
 - (a) Dr. K K Kalra pointed out that International Classification of Diseases (ICD) may be added in the curriculum of the MBA programme. After a brief deliberation, the Council unanimously observed to include ICD in the curriculum with adequate weightage.
 - (b) Dr. Neetu Purohit observed that the students who are from non-medico backgrounds may be oriented with health and hospital vocabulary/ terminology. It was decided in the meeting to organize remedial classes after taking stock of the needs of the students.
 - (c) Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar observed that the students be given a choice to opt for elective courses from a basket of courses. The contents of courses and their credits should explicitly be articulated in the curriculum.
(Action: Dean, IHMR)
- (i) B** Dr. C Ramesh, Dean School of Pharmaceutical Management made a brief presentation on the core activities being performed under the School. The members of the School offered following comments on the presentation:
 - (a) Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar stated that nomenclature of some modules in the curriculum are almost similar whereas the academic programmes are distinct. He further clarified that even the modules on generic management be taught in the respective school with School specific context. He was of the view that maintaining rigour in the sectoral MBA program by the generic faculty seems quite difficult. The University may think over this issue.
 - (b) The Council was of the view that the research activities be pursued actively as there is tremendous potential of research under the School.

- (c) The activities under the research centre be commenced.
(Action: Dean, SPM)

- (i) C** Dr. Gautam Sadhu made a detailed presentation on the activities relating to School of Rural Management (SRM). The members of the Council offered following comments:

- a) The Council greatly appreciated the field immersion of the students annually but put a word of caution that such field exposure should not be unguided. It was also suggested that guided field exposure in other Schools may also be increased.
- b) Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar was of the view that the field exposure of the faculty members is equally required. He also stated that it will add to quality of delivery of the programme.
- c) Dr. D.K. Mangal was of the view that there should be more credits on WASH as the existing 1.5 credits seem apparently inadequate.
- d) Dr. K.K. Kalra was of the view that climate change, energy conservation, new technologies etc. should be made part of the curriculum not only in SRM but in all the Schools.
- e) Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar further observed that the curriculum is very exhaustive (grassland regeneration, commons, forest rights etc.) therefore, the School will require module specific experts to deliver the program. He also stated that the ideological position of the School, its faculty and the students on the entitlements etc. be made clear.
- f) The activities under the centre for Water, Sanitation, Hygiene and Nutrition (WASHN) be commenced.
(Action: Dean, SRM and other Deans)

- (i) D** The Council also offered following comments on the core activities of the University:

- a) Dr. Sanjiv Kumar strongly advocated that the Institution is known by its values. Here we don't only teach but inculcate values also. He stated that the faculty and the students should reflect- Quality, Transparency, Trust, Accountability and Knowledge sharing in their day-to-day conduct of business and behavior.
- b) The mission and vision of the University may be modified as its original version exclusively exhibits the health focus whereas now the activities of the University have diversified.
(Action: Deans of Schools/ Core activities, President's office)

(ii) Convocation, 2017

The Council noted the information.

(iii) Joining of the new faculty Members

The Council noted the information and welcomed the new faculty members.

(iv) Visit of the NBA expert team and its observations

The Council noted the information.

(v) Research publications

The Council noted the information.

(vi) New collaborations

The Council noted the information. The Council also appreciated the collaborative initiatives of the University specially with the Khesar Gyalpo University of Medical Sciences of Bhutan and University of Pennsylvania.

4. Report of the subcommittee of the Academic Council

The Council noted the information and appreciated the job done by the sub-committee.

5. Matters for Discussion and Decision

(a) Consideration of the minutes of the Boards of Studies and approval of the revised curricula

The Council approved the curriculum recommended by the Boards of Studies of IHMR, SPM and SRM with the following caveat:

- (i) The curriculum should incorporate the suggestions/ observations and comments of the Council.
- (ii) The total teaching hours and the credits of the course should necessarily satisfy the mandatory requirements of the UGC/ AICTE. Therefore, the credits and teaching hours given in the curricula may be modified accordingly.
- (iii) The curricula should also have sufficient provision and space for co-curricular activities.
- (iv) The academic programmes be delivered with high rigour and it should be closely monitored.
- (v) The learning across Schools be facilitated as an innate design of delivery of academic programmes.
- (vi) The Council also observed that learning objectives of dissertation and summer training be clearly articulated. The role of the mentor may also be redefined. The faculty should be made more responsible for guiding the dissertations, field exposure and summer trainings.

(Action: All Deans of the Schools)

(b) Consideration of Academic Calendar and examination Schedule

The Council considered the academic calendar and examination schedule prepared by the University. The Council unanimously approved the academic calendar and the

schedule. The Council observed that the calendar and the schedule be strictly adhered.

(Action: All Deans of the Schools)

(c) Guidance on new academic programmes, research work and capacity building activities under the University

The Chairman informed the Council that the flagship program of the IHMR is more than 20 years old and the traditional feeders of the programs are drying up. He further stated that the numbers of admission in other schools are also shrinking.

Therefore, the University is required to explore the new potential areas in mandated disciplines. The Council deliberated on probable academic programmes to be launched under the Schools. The Council was of the uniform opinion that School of Social and Behavioural Sciences has immense scope for launching integrated and Masters programmes.

It was suggested in the meeting that integrated Masters programme in popular areas of humanities and social sciences have ample scope. Dr. Sanjiv Phansalkar suggested that the IHMR University has the territorial jurisdiction of Rajasthan state for academic instructions. Therefore, programmes related to Rajasthan + Health and other disciplines may be taken up. It was also suggested that tie-up and collaborations with under graduate institutions may be actively initiated.

The Council finally opined that it is high time to prepare a strategy on creating new schools and launching new programmes to enhance the volume and direction of core activities under the university. The Council suggested that looking to the importance of the issue, a sub-committee headed by the Chairman of the University may be constituted by the Board of Management, which should have President and 3-4 eminent academicians as members. The sub-committee may be given a time frame and explicit terms of reference.

(Action: All Deans of the Schools and Registrar)

(d) Discussion on MOOCs and Distance Learning Programmes

Dr. Monika Chaudhary, Associate Professor made a brief presentation before the Council on the open online courses. She informed the Council that the University has its dedicated server for open online courses and uploaded following one month long programmes:

- (i) Quality Management and Healthcare
- (ii) Finance for Non-Finance Managers – Hospitals and Healthcare.

She further stated that the IHMR (the then Institute) used to offer online certificate programmes before its transitioning to the University. The University has completed three years and it intends to apply for the competent approval before the Distance

Education Bureau of the UGC before launching of the programmes. The members of the Council offered following comments:

- (i) Presently the open online programmes are on a very raw stage. The programmes be tested in a small group of stakeholders and their feedback may be taken and suggestions, if any, may be incorporated.
- (ii) Pre-testing guidelines and standards operating procedures be prepared. An appropriate committee headed by the President may also be constituted for approval of the programmes.
- (iii) The University may involve NHSRC, Healthcare Financing Institutions etc. for better spread of the online programmes.
(Action: Dr. Monika Chaudhary and Registrar)

(e) Modifications in the Examination Regulations.

Shri Hem Bhargava, Controller of Examinations (CoE) shared the proposed modifications in the examination regulations with the Council. He made a detailed presentation before the Council. The Council unanimously approved the proposed modifications and observed as under:

- i. The credibility of the examination process is central to the brand name of the University. Therefore, the sanctity of highest order be maintained in this process.
- ii. There is no relevance of grace marks in Post graduate MBA programmes.
- iii. The number of supplementary examinations be reduced to one.
- iv. The provision of external paper setters and evaluation by other than the module teacher be provided.
- v. Transparency in evaluation processes be adopted and the evaluated answer sheets be shared with the students in the class.
- vi. The modified examination regulation be shared with the students. The modified regulations shall be applicable to the students being admitted in the academic year 2017-18.
- vii. The plagiarism check should be made mandatory for all the documents prepared by the students for evaluation purposes.
(Action: Controller of Examination)

(f) Academic Programmes for 2018-19 and their approved intake

The University offered 05 academic programmes during the academic year 2016-17. The intake in the 05 academic programmes to be offered by the University in the year 2017-18 was approved by the Board of Management in its seventh meeting held on March 19, 2016. The Academic Council recommended the following intake in various academic programmes to be offered by the university in the academic year 2018-19

S #	Programme	Existing Sanctioned Intake of by the BOM Board of Management	Students admitted in 2016-17	Students offered admissions in 2017-18 as on June 10	Academic Council's recommendation for the intake in the academic year 2018-19
(i)	MBA Hospital and Health Management	180	151	128	180
(ii)	MBA Pharmaceutical Management	60	32	15	60
(iii)	MBA Rural Management	60	12	10	30
(iv)	Master of Public Health	60	11	151* Pre-screened	30
(v)	Ph.D	25		11	15

** Actual number of admissions in MPH will be available after deposition of fee*

The Council also opined that if any new programme is launched in the year 2018-19, the President of the university may recommend the intake in the programme and the Academic Council may be apprised accordingly.

(Action: All Deans of Schools and Registrar)

(g) Change of nomenclature of the School of Rural Management

Dr. Vivek Bhandari, the Chairman of the Council informed the members that the nomenclature of the School of Rural Management may be changed as School of Development Studies (SDS). He stated that the mandate of the new nomenclature will be more inclusive and will address the changing dynamics of the development discipline. He articulated the following reasons for change of nomenclature:

- Appropriate response to changing dynamics of rural urban interrelationships and issues of urbanization
- Engage with multiple disciplines, their exclusivities and overlaps in domains of 'development' to develop a robust culture of inter disciplinary reflection and inquiry.
- Develop newer and creative degree, diploma, and certificate programs to serve the needs of multiple stakeholders ranging from fresh students to in-service professionals.
- Position IIHMR University as a genuinely inter- and multidisciplinary knowledge institution committed to the health and well-being of people everywhere.

The Council discussed this agenda point in detailed and unanimously agreed that the nomenclature of the School of Rural Management may be changed to School of Development Studies in official records of the university.

(Action: Dean, SRM, the Registrar and the President's Office)

(h) Calendar of Meetings of the Council

The proposed calendar of the next two meetings of the Academic Council was shared with the members. The members were requested to save the dates of the proposed meetings. The Council approved the following calendar.

(i) Saturday, October 21, 2017

(ii) Saturday May 19, 2018

(Action: Registrar)

(i) Any other matter

The Council discussed the matter of dissertation and placement in detail. It was decided in the meeting that the issue requires threadbare discussion. Therefore, it should be one of the agenda point for next meeting of the Council.

(Action: Registrar)

The meeting ended with thanks to chair.

Registrar

June 17, 2017