

Minutes of the 9th Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: February 3, 2018

Venue: Board Room, IIHMR University

The 9th meeting of the Academic Council was held on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, 2018 at 10 AM in the Board Room of the University. Dr. P.R. Sodani, President of the University chaired the meeting. The following members of the council were present in the meeting.

- 1) Dr. P.R. Sodani – President
- 2) Maj. Gen. S.G. Pareek – Member
- 3) Dr. K.K. Kalra – Member
- 4) Dr. Sanjeev Kumar – Member (Through Skype)
- 5) Brig. S.K. Puri – Advisor, Member
- 6) Col. (Dr.) Ashok Kaushik – Member (Dean, Academic and IHMR)
- 7) Dr. D.K. Mangal – Member
- 8) Dr. Goutam Sadhu – Member (Dean SDS)
- 9) Dr. Neeti Kasliwal – Member (Dean In-charge, SPM)
- 10) Dr. Tanjul Saxena – Member
- 11) Mr. Hem Bhargava – Member (Officiating COE)
- 12) Dr. Gautam Mukherjee – Member Secretary (Registrar)

At the outset, Dr. P.R. Sodani, the Chairman of the Council greeted all the members of the Council and granted leave of absence to Dr. Ram Narayan, Dr. Jaydeep Gupta, Dr. Sanjeev Muthal, Sh. Brijendra Vats, Dr. Neetu Purohit, Sh. N.K. Bhoi, and Sh. Preet Matani. Dr. Sodani apprised the members of the council about the significant developments taken place after the 8th meeting.

Thereafter the Registrar was asked to take up the agenda for discussion.

- 1) Confirmation of the minutes of the 8th meeting of the Academic Council. The Registrar informed the members that the minutes were sent to the members for their inputs and no comments have been received. The members of the Council confirmed the minutes of the 8th meeting held on June 16th, 2017.
- 2) Review of the Action Taken Report on decisions taken in the 8th meeting.

S#	Decisions/Observations of the Council	Action Taken
1	IIHMR	
	(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.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The university in order to obtain good placements of MPH students have printed publicity material in national and international print media and also are making aware the possible employees through social media posts. We have also engaged PR agencies to place information in both print and electronic media to promote hiring of our students. Our MPH coordinator is also advising students on probable openings.

	<p>(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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PhD coordinator is monitoring each step to be followed by the research scholar i.e. preparation of synopsis, collection of tools, reading material, coordination of students and guide and corresponding with individual scholar regarding his research work.
	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The module of international classification of diseases has been included in the curriculum of the MBA Health and Hospital streams. Remedial classes for non-medico background students have been started to orient them with health and hospital vocabulary/ terminology. Students are being given a choice to opt for elective courses from basket of courses from the current academic session.
2	School of Pharmaceutical Management	
	<p>a) Dr. Sanjeev Phansalkar observed that nomenclature of some modules in the curriculum are almost same in Health & hospital and Pharma but the academic programmes are distinctly different. He also suggested that modules on generic management be school specific context and needs to be addressed by the school.</p> <p>b) The council has also observed that there is tremendous potential of research in the school and action should be initiated at the earliest.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The curriculum of pharma management has been revised as per school specific content from the current academic session. The faculty of School of Pharmaceutical Management is identifying suitable research projects and developing project proposals to be submitted to the funding agencies.
3	School of Development Studies (SDS)	
	<p>a) It was suggested that field immersion and exposure of the students be guided by faculty members.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The faculty of SDS have been sensitized regarding field immersion and field exposure of the students. Final year students were send to RCAEP (World Bank Supported project), FES, Bhilwara

	<p>b) More credits on WASH may be given as 1.5 credits seems inadequate.</p> <p>c) Climate Change, Energy Conservation, New technologies must be make part of the curriculum.</p> <p>d) The present curriculum is very exhausted grassland regeneration, commons forest rights etc. so it should be make module specific with option of choice of electives.</p> <p>e) Centre for Water Sanitation, Hygiene and Nutrition be commenced.</p>	<p>and IBITIDA Alwar in three different occasions. The performance of the students has been measured in the field assignments as it is a credit course.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The credit on WASH has been increased to 3. • The module of Climate Change was introduced as a elective but was not opted by any student. We intend to introduce Energy Conservation and New technologies in the next semester as elective. • The course curriculum of the new modules as elective are being introduced from the current semester. • The present status of SDS school needs improvement therefore the Centre for WASHN has been deferred.
4	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.	It is an ongoing process and the university is striving hard to inculcate values among all concerned.
5	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.	A core committee has been constituted to suggest a revised mission and vision of the University.
6	<p>The Council approved the curriculum recommended by the Boards of Studies of IHMR, SPM and SRM with the following caveat:</p> <p>a) The curriculum should incorporate the suggestions/ observations and comments of the Council.</p> <p>b) 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.</p> <p>c) The curricula should also have sufficient provision and space for co-curricular activities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The suggestion/ observations and comments of the council are sacrosanct to the University and are being incorporated regularly. • The total teaching hours and the credits of the course satisfy the mandatory requirements of the UGC as 80 credits are required for post graduate degree. • The students are given sufficient space for co-curricular activities. We organize various co-curricular activities such as sports meet, conferences, seminars and special centers for the students. • The faculty is devoted to rigorous and highly effective delivery and Deans and mentors are vigilant to the learning process.

	<p>d) The academic programmes be delivered with high rigor and it should be closely monitored.</p> <p>e) The learning across Schools be facilitated as an innate design of delivery of academic programmes.</p> <p>f) 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The faculty expertise is utilized across schools so that the students benefit from the innate design of delivery of academic programmes. • The learning objective of dissertation and summer training has been clearly articulated to the faculty again. The mentors have been encouraged to be more proactive. Now individual faculty is required to guide dissertation, field exposure and summer training and respective Deans keep track of activities through feedback system.
7	Consideration of Academic Calendar and examination Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approved academic calendar and examination schedule were strictly adhered
8	Guidance on new academic programmes, research work and capacity building activities under the University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Chairman, President and respective Deans are constantly vigilant about academic programmes, research work and capacity building through review meetings, one-to-one discussion and explicit directions.
9	Open Online Courses in Quality Management and Healthcare and Finance for Non-Finance Managers for a duration of one month. The Council had advised that the Programmes be tested on a small group of stakeholders. Pre-testing guidelines and standard operating procedures be prepared and NHSRC and health care financing institutions be involved. Kindly let me know what follow up action has been taken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Short-term MOOC's on Swayam is required to be given free of cost. However, the topics of Quality Management and Healthcare and Finance for Non-Finance Managers for a duration of one month did not seem to be popular with the clientele. Therefore, testing on stakeholders and related activities were not pursued and it was decided that University shall work on Distance-cum-online courses for a duration of 1 year. Accordingly, a core committee has been constituted which is working on the contents, financial implications and other issues. The committee is making a presentation in the meeting today.
10	<p>Modifications in the Examination Regulations</p> <p>1. 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.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High sanctity is being maintained in the examination system. Paper setting, conduct of exam and evaluation is being done with meticulous secrecy.

	<p>2. There is no relevance of grace marks in MBA Programme.</p> <p>3. The number of Supplementary Exams be reduced to one.</p> <p>4. The provision of external paper setter and evaluation by other than the module teacher.</p> <p>5. Transparency in evaluation process and sharing with students.</p> <p>6. The modified exam regulations implementation.</p> <p>7. The Plagiarism check be made mandatory.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grace marks provision has been abolished in Post graduate MBA programmes from the 2017-19 session. • The Controller of Examination feels that the students should be given one main examination and two supplementary examinations. This point was discussed with Deans of the schools who were also of the same opinion. The decision now given will be followed from the 2018-20. • Examination papers are being collected from external paper setter. The process of evaluation by external examiner has been introduced. • Transparency in evaluation process has been adopted partially and the evaluated answer sheets is shared with the students on demand. • The modified exam regulations have been implemented. • The plagiarism check has been made mandatory.
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3) Reporting and Ratification items:

- 3.1 3rd Annual report of the University; the 3rd annual report published in Aug. 2017 was made available to all the members
- 3.2 The student's strength in 1st and 2nd year of MBA in all the 3 schools, for MPH degree and Ph.D. was communicated to the council members. Year wise status of all the Ph.D. cohorts was also shared and program of summer training, dissertation and internship of 2nd year students was informed.
- 3.3 The information regarding placements status of the 3 schools of Batch 2016/18, salary details (Highest salary, Average salary and Minimum salary) was also reported
- 3.4 In all 39 organizations visited the University for campus recruitments and offered to 1 to 24 students in their organization.
- 3.5 The admission schedule of 2018/20 batch including information regarding last date to apply, last date for submission, GD and interview, dates of uploading the admitted list and starting of academic session was shared with the members.
- 3.6 Convocation – The next convocation of the University is scheduled to be held on June 2nd,2018. The proposed chief has been invited and we are waiting for his confirmation.

3.7 New courses – The BOM has recommended to create a Distance Education Department. In the University. Also, it is proposed that new courses of MPH, MHA and MPS may be started from next academic session. Key faculty members have been nominated to make presentations of the new courses today before the Academic Council. The core team of Distance Education Department. Shall also make a presentation of starting a Post Graduate Diploma program in Hospital Management for a duration of 1 year which will be 80% offline and 20% online.

4) Presentation by different faculty members for starting new courses.

4.1 Col. (Dr.) Pramod Kumar made the 1st presentation for starting Master's in Hospital Administration. There is a felt need for Professionals for handling corporate hospitals. Many universities are offering MHA for 2 years duration. The eligibility for admission is any graduate in medicine, dentistry, bio sciences, nursing, and para medics with minimum 55% marks. It is proposed that this will be common curricula without electives and combined training in hospital regarding Marketing, Logistics. Students will be required to submit 4 case studies and 1 dissertation. There will be only 1 exam at the end of 2 years comprising of theory, practical and viva. Students will be required to undergo hospital training daily from 2nd semester onwards. The University may sign an MOU with a corporate hospital in Jaipur for attachment of students. We have already resources of faculty, classroom, computer facility in the University. The proposed intake capacity is 30.

The job opportunities for this specialization is growing and the students will be trained in hospital-centric syllabi along with con-current training. Dr. S.K. Puri expressed that MBA in Health and Hospital Management is the flagship of the University. By starting a similar course there is a possibility that students may get attracted to MHA more which may hamper our admissions in MBA (HHM). This view may not be very appropriate because the focus of MBA HHM and MHA are different as the management education is more specific and there is a need for diversion.

4.2 MPS Dr. Arindam Das made the second presentation regarding Master's in Population Studies. The diversity in India's population and emerging interest in population studies have created employment opportunities in this sector. The course trains students in demography and social science concepts and health statistics. Students having graduate degree in social science or physical sciences can opt for this course. This will be an 80-credit course followed with a dissertation. There shall be 7 electives and student have to opt for only 4. Many NGO's require the services of demographers and several universities have started this course. The proposed intake capacity 30 and the university already has internal faculty, classrooms, teaching instruments and books for conducting this course at no additional investment.

Dr. D.K. Mangal was of the opinion that there are very few openings in the job market regarding this specialty. However, we shall be able to offer an alternative to the aspiring students at practically no cost.

4.3 MPH Dr. J.P. Singh made the third presentation for this new course.

Although the University is already running an MPH course in collaboration with John Hopkin's University, USA but the admissions are finalized as per requirement of JHU and the fees are comparatively very high to Indian conditions and only a few seats are filled.

The MPH program provides in depth understanding of public health principles and practice and their application at several levels. It also enhances competencies and skills in analyzing and developing health issues and a qualified professional gets offer of program and project manager, research associate and consultants. UNO, WHO, State and Central governments, NGO's, Hospitals, Insurance Companies engage these professionals. The faculty of IIMRU is already conversant with the USP and have experience of teaching in MPH. While MPH of JHU is a 2-year program including capstone and 1-year practicum. The proposed MPH of IIMR will be a 2-year program in which 1st year will be core courses including internship and 2nd year will be specialized and dissertations. The focus of teaching will be on epidemiology, behavioral sciences, bio-statics, environmental health and health care system. There will be some non-credit courses also and total 85 credits for 2 years on different modules and 2 electives from given 8. The eligibility for admissions for science graduates, medical graduates, nursing and para-medical graduates. The proposed intake capacity is 30. It was observed that there may be objection raised by JHU for running a parallel course but since there was no such clause in the MOU signed with JHU and we could always run such a course as we have the capability.

4.4 Presentation by Dr. Seema Mehta:

As per directions of BOM the Chairman constituted a committee comprising of Dr. Seema Mehta, Dr. Tanjul Saxena, Dr. Neeti Kasliwal, Mr. Rahul Ghai and Dr. Alpana Gupta. The committee had several rounds of discussion and finally decided to start a Post Graduate Diploma in Hospital Management for a duration of 1 year for which the presentation was made. It observed that we could start a hybrid blended course with 40 credits in 10 modules out of which 8 modules could be imparted through offline and 2 modules through online. It will be a 2-semester program. To start the program 6 months prior permission from DEC is required and the earliest we could start in January 19 if we apply by July 18. Prior to applying there is a need to prepare a project report and self-learning material. We need to offer 20% of the total course through online instructions and the remaining portion could be covered through published/ printed books and contact program. The online component will include mix of recorded online sessions with ppt and e-learning sessions wherein students would login from their location. Virtual classroom facility, video lectures and chat facility need to

be developed. The fee structure in other universities running online courses is Rs. 40,000 for the whole course while the investment cost is very high. We must hire 1 professor, 1 associate professor and 2 assistant professors who would work whole time in the distant education. The writing of modules and recording of online courses need considerable time and investment. Therefore, the committee asked for some extra time and President permitted them to prepare further details till the next meeting of BOM.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.