SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

Minutes of the 29th meeting of the Academic Council (AC) held on 31 August 2019 in the Conference Room No. D-330

The following members were present in the meeting:

1	Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh	Vice-Chancellor—Chairperson, & Director, School of Natural Sciences
2	Col. Gopal Karunakaran (Retd.)	President
3	Dr. Shubhro Sen	Director, School of Extended Education and Professional Development (SEEPD) and School of Management and Entrepreneurship (SME)
4	Dr. Sandeep Sen	Director, School of Engineering (SoE)
5	Dr. Suneet Tuli	Director, Research & Faculty Affairs
6	Dr. Dinkar Prasad	Associate Director (Academics), Professor & Head, Department of Electrical Engineering, SoE
7	Dr. Amber Habib	Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Professor & Head, Department of Mathematics, School of Natural Sciences (SNS); & Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
8	Maj. Gen. G. Jaishankar (Retd.)	Dean, Student Affairs
9	Dr. Deepak Sehgal	Professor & Head, Department of Life Sciences, SNS
10	Dr. Parthapratim Munshi	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry, SNS
11	Dr. J.P. Gupta	Distinguished Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, SoE
12	Dr. Jaya Menon	Professor & Head, Department of History, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SHSS)
13	Dr. Sambudha Sen	Professor & Head, Department of English, SHSS
14	Dr. Partha Chatterjee	Professor & Head, Department of Economics, SHSS
15	Dr. Santanu Mitra	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
16	Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu	Professor & Head, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SHSS
17	Dr. Sailesh N. Behera	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Civil Engineering, SoE
18	Mr. Sudhir Naudiyal	Registrar – Non-Member Secretary

The following AC Members could not attend the meeting:

1	Dr. Ajay Dandekar	Director, SHSS
2	Dr. Sankar Dhar	Professor & Head, Department of Physics, SNS
3	Prof. Shahid Jamal	Professor & Head, Department of Communication, SHSS

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Special Invitees who attended the meeting:

1	Dr. N. Sukumar	Director, Centre for Informatics, & Professor, Department of Chemistry, SNS

Graduate Advisors:

2	Dr. Vishwanth S R	Professor, School of Management and Entrepreneurship (SME)
3	Prof. Atul Bhalla	Professor, Department of Art & Performing Arts, SHSS
4	Dr. Dolly Sharma	Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
5	Dr. Venkatramani Jagadish	Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
6	Dr. Jagabandhu Dixit	Assistant Professor Department of Civil Engineering, SoE
7	Dr. Urmila Bhirdikar	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, SHSS
8	Dr. Vikash Kumar	Assistant Professor, Department of Design, SHSS

Undergraduate Advisors:

9	Dr. Gautama Polanki	Assistant Professor, Department of English, SHSS
10	Dr. Sonia Khetarpaul	Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, SoE
11	Dr. Meera Vishvanathan	Assistant Professor, Department of History, SHSS
12	Dr. Samarendra Pratap Singh	Associate Professor, Department of Physics, SNS
13	Dr. Dhiraj Garg	Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, SoE
14	Dr. Susant Padhi	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, SoE

Academic /Administrative Heads:

15	Dr. Karthik Krishnan	Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies
16	Dr. Nishant Mishra	Associate Dean, Student Affairs, & Associate Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
17	Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh	Associate Dean, UG Studies, & Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
18	Dr. Sudeepto Bhattacharya	Controller of Examinations, & Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, SNS
19	Dr. T.R.B. Sarma	Librarian
20	Mr. Ashish Mittal	Head, Human Resources

Item No. 1   Welcome address by Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh, Vice-Chancellor & Chairperson, Academic Council

Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh, Chairperson, Academic Council welcomed all the members and invitees to the 29th Academic Council meeting, especially the following new members and Invitees:

1) Col. Gopal Karunakaran (Retd.) - President
2) Dr. Sandeep Sen   - Director, School of Engineering
3) Dr. Suneet Tuli   - Director, Research & Faculty Affairs
4) Maj. Gen. G. Jaishankar (Retd.) - Dean, Student Affairs
5) Dr. Dolly Sharma   - PG Advisor, Dept. of CSE, SoE
6) Dr. Sonia Khetarpaul   - UG Advisor, Dept. of CSE, SoE
7) Dr. Tuhina Ganguly   - UG Advisor, Dept. of Sociology, SHSS
8) Dr. Dhiraj Garg   - UG Advisor, Dept. of Chemical Engg., SoE
9) Dr. Susant Padhi   - UG Advisor, Dept. of Civil Engineering, SoE
10) Dr. Shekhar Singh   - UG Advisor, Dept. of IRGS, SHSS
11) Dr. Bimlesh Lochab   - UG Advisor, Dept. of Chemistry, SNS

Before taking up the agenda items, the Chairperson presented a brief account of major activities of the University during the period from the last meeting of the AC to date. She highlighted that SNU is progressing in the right path, which is vivid from the satisfactory scoring the University obtained in the NIRF ranking, and the University Grants Commission's recommendation for the **'Institute of Eminence' (IOE**) tag recently. She also brought to the notice of the members that the faculty and students of the University have continued to earn several professional laurels during the period under report. The details of the highlights regarding the progress made by the University in the interim period reported by the VC are attached at **Annexure-1.**

The Chairperson informed that some of the AC members have regretted not being able to attend the meeting. She urged all the Directors, Department Heads and Advisors to ensure that the *proceedings of the meeting be conveyed to all those who could not attend the meeting, and also to all stakeholders*. She further stated that the AC meeting scheduled for 4 May 2019 could not take place due to the NAAC Peer Team visit and the busy schedule in preparation for the Convocation, and as such, some important agenda items were approved by circulation, and the same were being reported in this meeting.

Item No.2   Confirmation of the minutes of the 28th meeting of the Academic Council held on 19 January 2019

The Registrar informed that the minutes of the 28th Academic Council meeting held on 19 January 2019 were circulated to the members, and since no comments were received, he requested the Chairperson to approve the minutes. The AC then approved the minutes. The minutes as approved by the AC are enclosed at **Annexure-2.**

Item No. 3   To report matters arising out of the minutes of the 28th AC meeting held on 19 January 2019 and action taken thereof on matters, which needed action:

Item No. 28.8   To discuss and approve an Interim Report of the CCC Committee on future transition for offering CCC courses

The Registrar reported about the Sub-Committee constituted based on the deliberations of the 28th AC meeting to finalize the CCC course structure. The said committee consists of the following members:

1. Dr. Partha Chatterjee, Professor & Head, Department of Economics - Chair
2. Dr. Amber Habib, Dean, UG Studies
3. Dr. Rajeev Kumar, Associate Dean, UG Studies
4. Dr. N Sukumar, Professor, Department of Chemistry, & Director, Center for Informatics, SNS
5. Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu, Professor & Head, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SHSS
6. Dr. Shalu Kalra, Associate Professor, Department of Finance, Accounting and Control, SME
7. Dr. Sri Krishna Jayadev Magani, Assistant Professor, Department of Life Sciences, SNS
8. Dr. Sajal Kumar Ghosh, Assistant Professor, Department of Physics, SNS

He further reported that the Sub-Committee in its meeting held on 19 April 2019 had deliberated to institute at least one CCC course from the recommendations of the previous CCC committee. The committee decided to examine the current CCCs to identify some of the good ones and to come up with a set of criteria for selection of CCCs. The Registrar also reported that the recommendations of the sub-committee were circulated to AC members and Special Invitees, along with the minutes of the last AC meeting. The AC noted the progress made in this regard and advised that the sub-committee may further suggest improvement in this area in consultation with all stakeholders, in a time-bound manner.

Item No.28.15 Proposal for Amendment of declared Attendance Policy

The Registrar reported that he had circulated the amendments made in the declared Attendance policy to all AC members on 20 January 2019, for their review and suggestions. Dr. Amber Habib, Dean-UGS, based on the deliberations in the 28th AC meeting and consultation with the stakeholders, re-drafted the policy, which was then approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

The AC noted the revised policy, and the same is attached at **Annexure-3.**

| Item No. 4 | To report completion of Ph.D. requirements by Research Scholars since the last AC meeting held on 19 January 2019 |

The Registrar reported that the following Research Scholars from the Departments of Life Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics (SNS); Electrical Engineering (SoE); and Economics (SHSS) completed their Ph.D. since last reported in the AC meeting:

SN	Name of the Research Scholar	Roll No.	Department
1	Mr. Devendra Prasad	1410120056	Mathematics
2	Mr. Naveenkumar M	1310120024	Electrical Engineering
3	Mr. Dandugudumula Ramu	1410120052	Life Sciences
4	Mr. Chandan Jain	1310120005	Economics
5	Mr. Abdur Rahim	1410120037	Chemistry

6	Mr. Gourav Bhattacharya	1310120011	Physics
7	Ms. Nisha Yadav	1510120002	Chemistry
8	Mr. Ramesh Karri	1410120089	Chemistry
9	Mr. Pratip Dutta	1510120036	Chemistry
10	Ms. Tania Luthra	1510120062	Chemistry
11	Mr. Gaurav Dhamija	1510120018	Economics
12	Ms. Monimala Nej	1410120075	Mathematics

The Research Scholars from Sr. No. 1 to 8 have received their degrees in the 5th Convocation of the University in May 2019. The other Scholars mentioned from Sr. No. 9 to 12 have been declared eligible for the award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy, and the University issued their provisional certificates. They will formally receive their degrees in the 6th Convocation of the University in May 2020. With this, a total of 42 scholars have completed the Ph.D. from SNU as on date.

The AC took note of the list for the record.

Item No. 5 **To report and ratify the Honorary Doctorates awarded during the 5th Convocation of the University held on 18 May 2019**

The Registrar reported that four eminent achievers were awarded Honorary Doctorates during the 5th Convocation of the University. The Registrar had forwarded the Vice-Chancellor's message on 24 March 2019, regarding Honorary Doctorates (D.Sc.) to be awarded during the 5th Convocation, and possible recipients for Honorary Doctorates in future, for information and comments, if any, of the AC members. The recipients of Honorary Doctorates (D.Sc.) were:

1. **Lord Charles Powell**: Eminent diplomat, politician and businessman, served as a key foreign policy adviser to British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher during the 1980s, has been on boards of various companies such as Caterpillar, LVMH, Schindler, & Rolls-Royce
2. **Mike Lawrie**: President, CEO & Chairman of DXC Tech (one of the largest IT companies globally)
3. **Dr. Ashok Seth**: Globally renowned cardiologist and Chairman of Fortis Escorts Heart Institute, *Padma Shr*i (2003) and *Padma Bhushan* (2015), a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians of London
4. **Dr. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan**: Eminent space scientist and former Chairman of ISRO (1994-2003); *Padma Shri* (1982), *Padma Bhushan* (1992) and *Padma Vibhushan* (2000).

The AC ratified the Honorary Doctorates awarded during the 5th Convocation.

Item No. 6 **To report the list of graduates (UG, PG and Ph.D.) who were awarded degrees in the 5th Convocation of the University held on 18 May 2019**

The Registrar reported about the final list of graduates (UG, PG, & Ph.D.) who were awarded degrees during the 5th Convocation.

The Chairperson informed the members that since the AC meeting scheduled on 4 May 2019 could not take place, a tentative list of graduands was approved by circulation on 17 May 2019, as a matter of statutory practice. The final list of

graduates is now being reported for the ratification of the AC. The list of graduates as ratified by the AC is attached at **Annexure-4**

Item No. 7 **To report new admissions during the Academic Session 2019-20 for UG, PG & Ph.D. courses across all the Schools**

The Registrar presented a summary of new admissions of 2019-20 for UG, PG & Ph.D. programs along with a comparative list of admission details in 2018-19, as attached at **Annexure-5**. The Chairperson commented that there is an improvement in the total number of admissions this year; however, this is still not up to the expectation. The Chairperson suggested that when the details of admissions are reported in the future, sanctioned *intake* of all the programs should be there in the list.

Item No. 8 **To report important collaborative MoUs/agreements signed by SNU since the last AC meeting**

The Registrar reported about collaborative MoUs /agreements signed by SNU since the last AC meeting for research works and student exchange programs partnered with Universities abroad. The AC noted the same.

The list of the MoUs executed by the University since the last academic meeting held is attached at **Annexure - 6**.

Item No. 9 **To report the grade analysis of the University results for Spring Semester 2019**

Dr. Sudeepto Bhattacharya, Controller of Examinations, presented the report of grade analysis for Spring 2019 before the Council. The AC, while discussing re-evaluation requests received from the students, expressed concern on the higher percentage (52.54%) of grade changes. The CoE explained that, in most cases, it is due to some calculation errors. The Chairperson advised the CoE to circulate the grade change requests and evaluation requests of students received along with grade analysis reports to all HoDs to be discussed within the respective departments.

The Grade Analysis report attached at **Annexure-7** was taken on record.

Item No. 10 **To discuss launching of Integrated Bachelor's-Master's programs from the Academic Year 2020-21**

Dr. Amber Habib, Dean, UG Studies, presented before the AC members a proposal for launching integrated Bachelor's-Master's programs from the academic session 2020-21. He introduced the draft New Education Policy that recommends a 4-year Undergraduate program and 1-year Master's program. He further explained that in the context of SNU's IoE status there is a strong possibility that SNU could launch one-year Master's either stand-alone or as part of an integrated program.

The matter was discussed in detail, and the possibility to launch such Master's level programs across the Schools in the next academic year was discussed. The Chairperson suggested that every School should conduct their BoS meeting before December 2019, and discuss the proposals threadbare to forward the decisions taken in this regard, to be placed in the next AC meeting. The Chairperson said that a similar proposal from the Dept. of Physics was earlier discussed in the 22nd AC meeting.

The AC approved the proposal structure. The Chairperson further advised all HoDs to circulate their detailed program-specific proposals to all faculty members of their respective departments to get suggestions and views in this matter and submit the fine-tuned documents to the Registrar within a week, so that the same could be incorporated in the minutes as necessary. The proposal presented in the meeting is attached at **Annexure-8.**

Item No. 11   **To discuss incorporating online courses in the University curriculum**

Dr. Amber Habib, Dean-UGS, presented before the AC a proposal for incorporating MOOCs in SNU curriculum. He informed the AC about the UGC directives to incorporate online learning courses offered through the SWAYAM platform (*20% of the total courses offered in a particular program in a Semester*) for credit transfer. In this context, he put forward the following proposal for the approval of AC:

1.   Academic Council approves the use of MOOCs within the SNU curriculum, subject to conditions given below:

   a.   No restrictions are placed on usage of MOOCs or other online material as supplementary material within an SNU course taught and assessed by SNU faculty members. In this case, online assessment provided by the MOOCs will not contribute more than 30% to the assessment scheme of the course for the purpose of allotting SNU grades.

   b.   SWAYAM courses may be taken for direct transfer of credits and grades. Students can earn SWAYAM credits only for courses pre-approved by SNU for this purpose.

   c.   Within 4 weeks from the date of notification by SWAYAM, the Academic Council shall consider the online learning courses being offered through the SWAYAM platform; and decide upon the courses, which it shall permit for credit transfer. Provided that courses being offered by any program in a Semester through SWAYAM shall not exceed 20% of the total courses in that program.

   d.   An individual student may not earn more than 10% of their total credits through SWAYAM courses.

   e.   Students who have transferred to SNU from other institutions can transfer SWAYAM credits earned through that institution, subject to the same conditions as other credits.

2.   Academic Council approves the following modification of the L: T: P (Lecture: Tutorial: Practical) credit structure:

   a.   A fourth type of credit will be created to enable courses to have self-study components. The L: T: P scheme will become L: T: P: S.

   b.   The "S" credits for any course will be part of its proposal document and will be approved by the relevant authorities.

   c.   Each "S" credit will typically represent 3 hours of self-study.

This proposal was in principle approved, subject to departments' discussion and feedback on the matter. The Chairperson advised formulating a Department-wise core committee to discuss and finalize the feasibility of adding MOOCs in the SNU curriculum. This committee would make a mapping of the courses and decide how

many courses could be considered. The Dean UGS was requested to take this further and the progress made in this regard may be reported in the next meeting.

| Item No. 12 | **To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Center for Informatics and other Departments of the School of Natural Sciences for introduction of 'Minor in Scientific Computation & Informatics'** |

Dr. N. Sukumar, Director, Centre for Informatics, presented a proposal from the Center for Informatics and other Departments of the School of Natural Sciences for the introduction of Minor in Scientific Computation & Informatics. The Chairperson viewed that this was a new and positive proposal, and was accepted for implementation. However, she also suggested that the members could send their views and suggestions, if any, within one week so that the same could be incorporated in the minutes. The proposal presented in the meeting is attached at **Annexure-9**

Item No. 13	**To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Civil Engineering for introduction of specialization in 'Civil Engineering' for UG students of existing final-year students (2020 graduating batch) and successive batches**
&	
Item No. 14	**To discuss and approve proposal for changing the name of a UG major core course, CED103 from 'Materials Science and Engineering' to 'Building and Construction Materials' from the Academic Year 2019-20**

The Chairperson advised the HoD, Civil Engineering, to place the proposals to the School BoS, through the Director, and AC approval was not needed.

| Item No. 15 | **To discuss and approve the proposed Ph.D. course curriculum in the Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SHSS.** |

Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu, HoD, IRGS, presented before the AC, a course curriculum for Ph.D. in the Department of IRGS, SHSS. He explained that the said course curriculum was approved in the School Board of Studies (BoS) meeting held on 16 April 2019. The details of the course curriculum approved by the BoS are attached at **Annexure-10.**

The AC approved the course curriculum as proposed.

| Item No. 16 | **To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Art and Performing Arts for curriculum and credit change** |

Prof. Atul Bhalla, Dept. of Art & Performing Arts, presented the proposal for change in curriculum and credit structure in the Department of Art and Performing Arts, SHSS. He explained that the proposal was discussed in the departmental meeting with external experts held on 4 & 5 February 2019.

The changes recommended in the meeting were discussed in the AC meeting. The Chairperson observed that the course codes for 'Independent Study' (Art 691, 692, 791,792) are not correct and need revision according to the current process and faculty tagging is not required. The Chairperson asked Dr. Karthik Krishnan, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, to ensure the same and to update in the ERP.

The proposal received from the Department of Art and Performing Arts is attached at **Annexure-11.**

Item No. 17 **To discuss and approve proposal received from the Department of English for introduction of 2 UG courses and 3 PG courses from the academic session 2019-2020**

Dr. Sambudha Sen, Professor and Head, Department of English, SHSS, presented the proposal before the AC for the introduction of 2 UG courses and 3 PG courses in the Department of English from the academic session 2019-20 as given below:

UG courses:
- ENG447 Literary Culture of the Enlightenment and Romanticism,
- ENG347 Popular Fiction

PG courses:
- ENGxxx Incipient Modernities
- ENG663 Imperial Possession in Victorian Literature
  ENG660 Photographic Objects: From Curation to Cultural Analysis

The minutes of the BoS held on 28 August 2019 for introduction of UG and PG courses in the Department of English, School of Humanities and Social Sciences are attached at **Annexure-12** along with course details at **Annexure-13(a), 13(b) & 13(c).**

The AC after discussion approved the proposal.

Item No. 18 **To discuss and approve proposal received for certain changes in M.Sc. (Economics) and Minor in Economics programs in the Department of Economics, SHSS**

Dr. Partha Chatterjee, HoD, Department of Economics, presented before the AC the following proposals for making changes in M.Sc. (Economics) program in the Department of Economics:

1. Two core courses have been added - **Statistics and Game Theory**
2. The number of electives has been reduced from **8 to 6**
3. One course on Programming, which will be graded on the basis of satisfactory/unsatisfactory, has been added.

For UG **Minor in Economics**, among the required courses, students can take either **EC0203 or ECO213**.

The new prospectus and the syllabi of the courses, along with other details as presented in the meeting, are attached at **Annexure-14(a),14(b) & 14(c).**

The AC approved the proposed changes after discussions.

Item No. 19 **To discuss and approve increase of credit for two Economics courses in the BMS curriculum of the current batch**

Dr. Shubhro Sen, Director, School of Management and Entrepreneurship, presented before the AC the following two changes in the BMS curriculum in SME:

1. Economics for Business I (credits revised from 3 to 4)
2. Economics for Business II (credits revised from 3 to 4).

He explained that the above proposed changes were discussed and approved in the BoS meeting held on 4 April 2019. The minutes of the BoS is attached at **Annexure-15.**

The AC, after discussion, approved the proposed credit revisions.

Item No. 20 **To ratify continuation of Ph.D. registration of scholars beyond 5 years of their registration**

The AC discussed the Scholars, who could not complete their Ph.D. program within 5 years of registration, as the list attached at **Annexure-16.** The AC noted that according to SNU's Ph.D. regulations, "*any re-registration [after 5 years] must have the approval of the Academic Council.*" The Chairperson informed that these students could not complete their program due to some genuine reasons like health issues, Research Guide Changing, etc. The Chairperson advised Dr. Karthik Krishnan, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, to get committed timelines for finishing their theses (through the Doctoral Committees), and report to the AC.

Item No. 21 **To consider and approve the proposal received from the Department of Chemical Engineering, SoE, regarding curriculum changes in Chemical Engineering**

Dr. J.P. Gupta, Distinguished Professor, Chemical Engineering presented before the AC a proposal for curriculum change in Chemical Engineering effective for batches starting from 2017. He briefed that based on the deliberation in the 26th AC meeting, the proposed changes were discussed in the Departmental meeting held on 12 August 2019 to ensure that the changes in the curriculum are in consonance with 'Model Curriculum' framed by the AICTE. Accordingly, in the Departmental meeting, the following changes were recommended for curriculum changes:

- Total credits reduced from 163 to 160 (according to an earlier AC directive).
- No changes in Basic Sciences and Engineering Sciences Courses taught in 1st and 2nd Semesters as common program across School of Engineering
- In Major Core courses (Chemical Engineering), 6 courses had a Lab component of 1 credit each integral to the lectures (L: T: P: 3:0:1). These were CHD 210, 221, 222, 313, 317, and 321. The lab component has been removed (these courses become 3:0:0) and 3 lab courses of 2 credits each added (0:0:2). These are CHD 319, 323, 418. This is in line with AICTE and practice at all IITs. In the existing system, the lectures could not be synchronized with the labs in the same semester.
- Tutorials of 1 credit each in 3 courses, viz; CHD 211, 315, 322 (L:T:P::3:1:0) dropped to introduce a much needed 3-credit course CHD 223 Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (3:0:0). The earlier courses become (3:0:0). Tutorials, in general, got poor attendance, and thus the purpose of tutorials was lost. The new course is a much-needed course.
- The 3-credit minor project CHD 417 in the 7th semester was dropped to bring the total credits to 160. There was limited interest in the minor project among students, and credits were not fully utilized.
- No change in Major Elective Courses.

After discussions, AC approved the proposed changes. The Chairperson urged the School to review the quality and effectiveness of tutorials. The details as presented before the AC are attached at **Annexure-17.**

Since there was no other item to be discussed, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh
Chairperson