

# SHIV NADAR UNIVERSITY

## Minutes of the 30th meeting of the Academic Council (AC) held on 25 January 2020 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 (SoNS)
2	Col. Gopal Karunakaran (Retd.)	President
3	Dr. Shubhro Sen	Director, School of Extended Education & Professional Development (SoEEDP) and School of Management and Entrepreneurship (SoME)
4	Dr. Sandeep Sen	Director, School of Engineering (SoE)
5	Dr. Dinkar Prasad	Associate Director (Academics), Professor & Head, Department of Electrical Engineering, SoE
6	Dr. Amber Habib	Dean, Undergraduate Studies, Professor and Head, Department of Mathematics, SoNS
7	Maj. General G. Jaishankar (Retd.)	Dean, Student Affairs
8	Dr. Sankar Dhar	Professor & Head, Department of Physics, SoNS
9	Dr. Deepak Sehgal	Professor & Head, Department of Life Sciences, SoNS
10	Dr. Parthapratim Munshi	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry, SoNS
11	Dr. J.P. Gupta	Distinguished Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, SoE
12	Dr. Saroj Kaushik	Distinguished Professor & Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
13	Prof. Shahid Jamal	Professor & Head, Department of Communication, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SoHSS)
14	Dr. Jaya Menon	Professor & Head, Department of History, SoHSS
15	Dr. Sambudha Sen	Professor & Head, Department of English, SoHSS
16	Dr. Santanu Mitra	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
17	Dr. Siddharth Mallavarapu	Professor & Head, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SoHSS
18	Dr. Sailesh N. Behera	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Civil Engineering, SoE
19	Mr. Sudhir Naudiyal	Registrar - Non-Member Secretary

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<b>The following AC members could not attend the meeting</b>		
1	Dr. Ajay Dandekar	Director, SoHSS
2	Dr. Suneet Tuli	Director, Research & Faculty Affairs
3	Dr. Partha Chatterjee	Dean, International Partnership and Professor & Head, Department of Economics, SoHSS
<b>Special Invitees who attended the meeting</b>		
1	Dr. Mihir Shah	Distinguished Professor and Chair, Water Science and Policy Program, Center for Public Affairs and Critical Theory (C-PACT), SoHSS
2	Dr. Jyoti K. Sharma	Professor & Head, Center for Environmental Science and Engineering, SoNS
3	Dr. N. Sukumar	Director, Centre for Informatics, and Professor, Department of Chemistry, SoNS
4	Dr. Rajeswari S. Raina	Associate Director, C-PACT, and Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SoHSS
5	Dr. Shalu Kalra	Associate Professor, SoME
6	Dr. Abhimanyu Khan	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, SoHSS
<b>Special Invitees - Graduate Advisors</b>		
7	Dr. Atul Vir Singh	Associate Professor, Department of Electrical Engineering, SoE
8	Dr. Vishwanth S R	Professor, SoME
9	Dr. Dolly Sharma	Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
10	Dr. Venkatramani Jagadish	Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
11	Dr. Susanta Sinha Roy	Associate Professor, Department of Physics, SoNS
12	Dr. Jagabandhu Dixit	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, SoE
13	Dr. Urmila Bhirdikar	Associate Professor & Head, Department of Sociology, SoHSS
<b>Special Invitees - Undergraduate Advisors</b>		
14	Dr. Gautama Polanki	Assistant Professor, Department of English, SoHSS
15	Dr. Sonia Khetarpaul	Assistant Professor, Department of Computer Science & Engineering, SoE
16	Dr. Harender Sinhmar	Assistant Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, SoE
17	Dr. Tuhina Ganguly	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, SoHSS
18	Prof. Pradeep Mehra	Professor, SoME

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19	Dr. Samarendra Pratap Singh	Associate Professor, Department of Physics, SoNS
20	Dr. Dhiraj Garg	Assistant Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, SoE
21	Dr. Susant Padhi	Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, SoE
22	Dr. Sruthi Muraleedharan	Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SoHSS
23	Dr. Bimlesh Lochab	Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, SoNS
<b>Special Invitees - Academic /Administrative Heads</b>		
24	Dr. Karthik Krishnan	Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies
25	Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh	Associate Dean - UG Studies, and Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE
26	Dr. Sudepto Bhattacharya	Controller of Examinations, and Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, SoNS
27	Dr. T.R.B. Sarma	Librarian
28	Mr. Anil Kumar Nair	Director, Admissions
29	Dr. Amrish Tony	Director, Physical Education

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

Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh, Chairperson, welcomed the members and the invitees to the 30th Academic Council meeting. She further introduced and welcomed Dr. Sruthi Muraleedharan, Assistant Professor & UG Advisor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SoHSS, as a Special Invitee, and Dr. Saroj Kaushik, Distinguished Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, SoE, who has also recently taken charge as Head, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, as a member of the AC.

The Chairperson also thanked the outgoing UG Advisor, Dr. Shekhar Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of International Relations and Governance Studies, SoHSS.

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. Members noted with satisfaction that the Executive Council

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of the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) has considered our appeal, and SNU has been accredited with Grade 'A' by NAAC.

The details of the highlights on the progress made by the University in the interim period as briefed by the Chairperson are attached at **Annexure-1**.

**Item No.2 Confirmation of the minutes of the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Academic Council held on 31 August 2019**

The Registrar informed that the minutes of the 29th Academic Council meeting held on 31 August 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 29<sup>th</sup> AC meeting held on 31 August 2019 and action taken thereof on matters that needed action:**

*Item No. 29.16 To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Art and Performing Arts for curriculum and credit change*

Dr. Karthik Krishnan, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, told the AC that the Department had submitted the updated naming mechanism for independent studies courses. The course codes were changed according to the current practice and the faculty specific tagging for each course code was removed.

*Item No. 29.20 To ratify continuation of Ph.D. registration of scholars beyond 5 years of their registration*

Dr. Karthik Krishnan, Associate Dean of Research and Graduate Studies, told that as per AC's guidance, a formal application format would be given to collect data and information from the Advisors and the Doctoral Committees while recommending for extension. In addition, recommendations of the Dean's office would be added.

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**Item No. 4 To report completion of Ph.D. requirements by Research Scholars since the last AC meeting held on 31 August 2019**

The Registrar reported that the following Research Scholars from the Departments of Life Sciences, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Sociology completed their Ph.D. since last reported in the AC meeting:

SN	Name of the Research Scholar	Roll No.	Department
1	Karishma Bakshi	1410120065	Life Sciences
2	Basharat Ahmad Bhat	1510120012	Life Sciences
3	Ashish Kumar Chalana	1510120001	Chemistry
4	Utsav Sen	1410120116	Life Sciences
5	Nishpriha Thakur	1410120078	Sociology
6	Shashankaditya Upadhyay	1410120095	Mathematics
7	Sreeraj Surendran	1410120105	life Sciences
8	Raja Sen	1410120087	Physics
9	Tasaduq Hussain Wani	1410120114	Life Sciences
10	Rahul Agarwal	1210120023	Life Sciences

The above Research Scholars will formally receive their degrees in the 6th Convocation of the University to be held on 23 May 2020. With this, 52 scholars have completed the Ph.D. from SNU so far.

The AC took note of the same.

**Item No. 5 To report the 'Grade Analysis' of the University results for Monsoon 2019**

Dr. Sudepto Bhattacharya, Controller of Examinations (CoE), presented the grade analysis reports for Monsoon 2019 before the AC. He made a detailed presentation on GPA comparison of all UG (including CCC) and PG courses, and also of First-Semester SGPA, for the last four semesters (Spring 2018, Monsoon 2018, Spring 2019 & Monsoon 2019). The members had detailed discussion on the Grade Analysis report, and the AC noted the same. The following points emerged during the discussion on which the CoE office needs to act and comply:

1. The CoE is to share Department-wise Grade Analysis data with the Heads of the Departments and UG Advisors.

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2. For subsequent Grade Analysis presentation, the CoE is to prepare:
  - (a) An Executive Summary of the Grade Analysis
  - (b) An analysis of grades for Majors and UWEs separately.
3. The CoE should review each 'grade change' request and reasons, before it reaches the concerned Director for approval.

The Grade Analysis report attached at **Annexure-3** was taken on record.

## **Item No.6 To report about the new Centers**

The Chairperson informed the AC that in the 'Institution of Eminence' Readiness Report submitted to UGC-MHRD recently, the University had committed to establish the following three new Centers:

- (1) **Center for Advanced Materials**
- (2) **Center for Economics, Mathematics & Data Analytics**
- (3) **Center for Archaeology, Heritage & Museum Studies**

The Chairperson further told the AC that these Centers are already in operation and that no new investments are required. These Centers will consolidate and foster high-impact interdisciplinary research in priority areas, drawing on the strengths of experts from multiple disciplinary departments of the University as needed. The matter was discussed in detail, and several members were of the opinion that these Centers should fall under the Schools/Departments to facilitate research and optimum utilization of the pooled facilities, including faculty. The Chairperson suggested to Associate Dean-Research and Graduate Studies to discuss the issues related to the functionalities of these Centers with the Director, Research & Faculty Affairs.

## **Item No. 7 To report establishment of Dassault-SNU Design & Innovation Experience Center (DS-DIEC)**

The Chairperson informed the members that an MOA was signed in December 2019 between Shiv Nadar University and Dassault Systèmes India Private Limited to create a 'Dassault-SNU Design & Innovation Experience Center (DS-DIEC)'. SNU is the first University to have a DIEC in the country. DIEC, to be placed administratively under the School of Engineering, aims to take up the education at SNU to the next level by providing a virtual environment to students for learning and research activities and thereby introduce the concept of design thinking among the students. Dassault Systèmes, the 3DEXPERIENCE Company, provides businesses and people with virtual universes to imagine sustainable innovations.

The AC noted this. A copy of said MOA is attached at **Annexure-4**.

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**Item No. 8 To report and ratify the Honorary Doctorates awarded during the 6th Convocation of the University, to be held on 23 May 2020**

The Chairperson informed the AC members about the names of the recipients regarding Honorary Doctorates (D.Sc.) to be awarded during the 6th Convocation as recommended by the University leadership:

- (1) **Dr. Alain Aspect:** Dr. Alain Aspect (born 1947) is an outstanding French physicist, a Foreign Member of the Royal Society (ForMemRS), and recipient of the CNRS Gold medal (2005), Wolf Prize in Physics (2010), Albert Einstein Medal (2012), Niels Bohr International Gold Medal and UNESCO Niels Bohr Medal (2013), Ives Medal / Quinn Prize- the highest award of the Optical Society of America (2013), Balzan Prize (2014), etc.
- (2) **Ms. Arpita Singh:** Ms. Arpita Singh née Dutta (born 1937) is known to be a figurative artist and a modernist, her canvases have both a story line and a carnival of images arranged in a curiously subversive manner. She was a founder member of the artists' group 'The Unknown', along with other alumni of the Department of Fine Arts of Delhi Polytechnic in the 1960s.
- (3) **Ms. Neelam Dhawan:** Ms. Neelam Dhawan (born 1961) has over 35 years of experience in the information technology industry. Starting from 1982, she has held various positions across HCL, IBM, Microsoft and Hewlett Packard. She has been Managing Director and leader of the Country businesses for 11 years for Microsoft and later Hewlett Packard in India.
- (1) **Mr. Richard R. Burt:** Ambassador Richard R. Burt (born 1947) was a partner with McKinsey & Company from 1992 to 1995, the global management consulting firm. Ambassador Burt came to McKinsey after successfully concluding a nuclear arms treaty as the US Chief Negotiator in the Strategic Arms Reduction Talks with the former Soviet Union. Prior to this, Mr. Burt was US Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany from 1985 to 1989.

The AC ratified the Honorary Doctorates to be awarded during the 6th Convocation of the University scheduled to be held in the month of May 2020. The Registrar informed that as per the provisions of the new Uttar Pradesh Private Universities Act, 2019 (U.P. Act No. 12 of 2019), the details of the proposed Honorary Doctorates have to be sent to the State Government for approval, 30 days prior to the Convocation. The AC noted and approved the same.

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**Item No. 9 To discuss and approve a proposal received from Department of Physical Education regarding introduction of Sports Scholarship in SNU**

Maj. General G. Jaishankar (Retd.), Dean, Students Affairs (DSA), presented a proposal for the introduction of sports scholarships in SNU. He proposed that ten (10) extraordinary sports persons based on the criteria laid down might be considered admission in the Bachelor of Management Studies (BMS) program, SoME. This will be with Merit-Cum-Means scholarship, and the students offered scholarships should maintain the requisite CGPA.

The idea of a Sports Scholarship was hailed by the members, but there were reservations about *assigning* such students to only one of the existing programs. After detailed discussions, the Chairperson requested Dr. Amrish Tony, Director, Sports, to conduct a market survey and suggest a suitable UG program for such students, and also study the model being followed by SSN College.

The proposal as presented before the AC is attached at **Annexure-5**.

**Item No. 10 To approve a tentative list of Graduands (UG, PG and Ph.D.) who are to be awarded degrees in the 6<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the University to be held on 23 May 2020.**

A tentative list of Graduands (UG, PG and Ph.D.) who are to be awarded degrees in the 6th Convocation of the University to be held on 23 May 2020 was placed before the AC for ratification, for onward submission to the State Government as required under the provisions of the new State Private Universities Act 2019. The AC ratified the matter.

The tentative list of graduates as ratified by the AC is attached at **Annexure-6**.

**Item No. 11 To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Sociology, School of Humanities and Social Sciences (SoHSS) regarding revised UG curriculum for B.A. (Research) in Sociology**

Dr. Urmila S. Bhirdikar, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Sociology, SoHSS, presented the revised UG curriculum for B.A. (Research) in Sociology and informed the AC that the curriculum has been supplemented by more theoretical courses and some courses has been split. In this way, the program is being made interdisciplinary. She further informed that the approval of the School BoS has been accorded by circulation on 23 January 2020. The AC approved the revised UG curriculum, and the Chairperson advised Dr. Bhirdikar to coordinate with the Dean-UGS to have it implemented.



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The revised UG curriculum for B.A. (Research) in Sociology is attached at **Annexure-7**.

- Item No. 12 To discuss and approve the proposals received from Department of Economics, SoHSS, and School of Management and Entrepreneurship (SoME) regarding introduction of new UG and PG programs**

The proposal to introduce new UG and PG programs, B.Sc. in Economics and Finance & M.Sc. in Economics and Finance, was presented by Dr. Vishwanath S.R., Professor, SoME.

After detailed discussion, the AC, in principle, approved the UG program only as of now. The Chairperson formed a sub-committee consisting of Dr. Vishwanath S.R., Professor, SoME. Dr. Partha Chatterjee, Dean, International Partnership and Professor & Head, Department of Economics, SoHSS, and Dr. Karthik Krishnan, Associate Dean, Research and Graduate Studies, to look into the feasibility of implementation of the M.Sc. program. The new UG program topic seemed to be in demand, and the Chairperson advised Mr. Anil Kumar Nair, Director, Admissions, and Ms. Anubha Bali, Director, CDC, to help in the benchmarking and demand assessment in the market. Since the Viability Assessment report was not made available with the proposal, the Chairperson asked Dr. Vishwanath to send the same to the Registrar within seven days. She advised the Registrar to re-circulate the complete proposal to all AC members. [Dr. Vishwanath later shared the Viability Assessment report, and the same was sent to the members for their suggestions, if any.]

The Viability Assessment report along with the proposal presented before the AC is attached at **Annexure- 8A & 8B** respectively.

- Item No. 13 To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Chemistry, SoNS, regarding revision in B.Sc. (Research) in Chemistry curriculum**

The members briefly discussed the proposed revision in the curriculum and credit requirements for B.Sc. (Research) in Chemistry, and the AC approved the same. The Chairperson advised Dr. Parthapratim Munshi, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry to have these items post-facto approved by the School Board of Studies (BoS) in due course of time and provide a copy of the BoS minutes to the Registrar for records.

The proposal as approved by the AC is attached at **Annexure-9**.

- Item No. 14 To discuss and approve a proposal received from the Department of Chemistry, SoNS, regarding introduction of Integrated B.Sc. (Research)-**

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## M.Sc.-Ph.D. program at Department of Chemistry from the academic session Monsoon 2020

Dr. Parthapratim Munshi, Associate Professor & Head, Department of Chemistry, SoNS, presented before the AC an 'Integrated B.Sc. (Research)-M.Sc.-Ph.D.' program structure proposed by the Department of Chemistry to start from the academic session Monsoon 2020. The Chairperson informed that the AC in two of its previous meetings had already approved the structure of five-year integrated Bachelor's-Master's as well as integrated Master's-Ph.D. programs. This was one good example from Chemistry being brought to the notice of the AC members. Similar proposals might be discussed in other Departments. She remarked that the only important point to be checked by the Departments and Dean-Graduate Studies office in such exercises was that the integration did not dilute the academic value of the sandwiched Master's degree vis-à-vis its accepted stand-alone version.

The details as presented before the AC are attached at **Annexure-10**.

- Item No. 15** To discuss and approve the recommendations of the Board of Studies, SoE, meeting held on 11 January 2020, on the following matters related to curriculum revision and Ph.D. program

Dr. Rajeev Kumar Singh, Associate Dean, UGS, informed the AC the recommendation of the BoS, of School of Engineering, regarding the curriculum revision of SoE's UG/PG programs and Ph.D. program in the CSE as mentioned in the agenda and enumerated in the BoS minutes.

The AC approved the recommendations of the BoS of School of Engineering. The minutes of the BoS along with other details are attached at **Annexure-11**.

In this context the Chairperson made a point that whenever the curriculum revision of this kind is proposed, the School should clearly mention adherence to the *minimum* and *maximum* credit limits per semester for regular students.

- Item No. 16** To discuss and approve a proposal received from the C-PACT, SoHSS, regarding introduction of a Master's program in 'Rural Management'

Dr. Mihir Shah, Distinguished Professor, C-PACT, SoHSS, made a detailed presentation on the proposed new Master's program in 'Rural Management'. He explained its viability assessment and other important aspects before the AC. He mentioned that the proposed program is in accordance with the Government of India's initiative for rural development like National Rural Employment Mission, National Water Resource Program, National Rural Education Mission, National Rural Sanitation Mission, National Rural Livelihood


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Mission, etc. He said that more than 50% of the population of India would be going to live in rural areas by 2050, and such a program would be imperative. He added that it would be very different from a typical business management program and would be the first management program happening in the world in this area.

After a detailed discussion, the AC, in principle, approved the proposal for an M.A. program in 'Rural *Management*'. It was noted that there should not be any confusion with an MBA program, which stands for Master of '*Business Administration*'. However, the Chairperson urged the members to send their observations expressed in the meeting in the form of positive feedback to the Director, SoHSS.

She further informed that after clarifications, the proposal would be placed before the Executive Council through the Operations Committee (OC). A copy of Viability Assessment, program description and costing of the program are attached at **Annexure-12A, 12B & 12C**, respectively.

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



**Dr. Rupamanjari Ghosh**  
Chairperson