

The Assam Royal Global University

Sixth Meeting of the Academic Council

29th May 2020

Minutes of the Meeting

Start time: 11:30 AM

Venue: Online Platform (Zoom)

Members Present (without any order):

1. Prof. (Dr.) S P Singh (Chairperson)
Vice Chancellor, The Assam Royal Global University
2. Ms. Angira Mimani, (Member-Secretary)
Registrar, The Assam Royal Global University
3. Prof. Alak Kumar Buragohain, Chairperson – Academic, Royal Global University (Member)
4. Prof. Anuradha Devi, Dean, RSAPS (Member)
5. Ar. Anita PY, Dean, RSA, RSFT, RSFA (Member)
6. Prof. K.K. Baruah, Dean, RSLSC, RSBSC, RSEES, Royal Global University (Member)
7. Dr. Soumitra Sen, Professor i/c Dean, RSHM & RSTTM (Member)
8. Dr. Hiren Nath, Head/Principal, RSLA (Member)
9. Dr. Gitumoni Konwar, Principal cum i/c Dean, RSN & RSMAS (Member)
10. Dr. Devika Phukan, Dy. Dean, RSAPS & HoD, Deptt. of Physics, RSAPS (Member)
11. Dr. Pubalee Sarmah, HoD, Deptt. of Chemistry, RSAPS (Member)
12. Dr. Baishalee Rajkhowa, Coordinator, RSL (Member)
13. Ms. Florence H. Rabha, Head, Deptt. of Electronic Media & Anchoring, RSCOM (Member)
14. Dr. Aniruddha Deka, HoD, Deptt. of Computer Science & Engineering, RSET (Member)
15. Dr. Susmita Dey, Assistant Professor, Zoology & Coordinator, RSLSC (Member)
16. Dr. Prateeti Barman, Coordinator, Dept. of Social Work, RSHSS (Member)
17. Dr. Ranjan Dutta Kalita, Coordinator, Biotechnology, RSBSC (Member)
18. Prof. H.C. Gautam, Department of Commerce, Gauhati University (Member)
19. Sri Amit Kumar Jain, Aroma India Pvt. Ltd. (Member)
20. Mr. Ankur Pansari, Member, GB, RGU (Member)
21. Sri R.S. Joshi, Former Chairman, FINER & Member, BoM, RGU (Member)
22. Prof. Hemanta Kumar Baruah, Professor Emeritus, RSAPS (Member)
23. Prof. Krishna Barua, Former HoD, IIT Guwahati and Professor, RSL (Member)
24. Prof. P.J. Mahanta, Professor, RSL (Member)
25. Prof. Amarendra Rajput, Professor, RSAPS (Member)

Special Invitee Present:

1. Dr. Mihir Kanti Chaudhuri, Former Vice-Chancellor, Tezpur University
& Hony. Principal Advisor, RGU
2. Prof. (Dr.) Arnab Sarma, Professor & HoD, CE, RSET
3. Prof. Manoj Jain, Professor & Deputy Dean, RSB
4. Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Assistant Professor & Dy. Dean i/c
5. Dr. Subhashis Debnath, i/c Principal, RSP
6. Dr. Rahul Nandi, Asst. Prof, RSB & Dy. CoE, RGU
7. Dr. J. Boro, Coordinator, RSBAS

Leave of Absence of members:

1. Prof. O.K. Medhi, Professor Emeritus, RGU
2. Sri Shivaji Jaiswal, JDB Group
3. Ms. Sikha M. Pansari, Member, GB, RGU



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PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING

Prof. (Dr.) S.P. Singh, Vice-Chancellor, RGU presided over the meeting and called the House to order.

6.1. Agenda: Welcoming the members & special invitees of the Academic Council.

The meeting commenced with the welcome address by Prof. S.P. Singh, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, RGU. He extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Academic Council present. He further informed that for the first time in the history of Royal Global University, the meeting is being conducted online and hence any glitches may kindly be excused by all members. He also welcomed the special invitees and informed the House about receiving Leave of Absence from Prof. O.K. Medhi, Sri Shivaji Jaiswal and Ms. Sikha M. Pansari.

6.2. Confirmation of the Agenda

Deliberation: The Registrar informed the members present that the agenda was mailed prior to the meeting and since, members have not raised any suggestions/modifications, the agenda was considered to be confirmed/accepted.

Resolution: The agenda was confirmed and accepted by the Council (Annexure A).

6.3 Agenda: Ratifying the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting & Action Taken Report

Deliberations: Minutes of the last Academic Council meeting was mailed earlier to all the members for perusal and comments, if any. Resolutions passed during last meeting along with the Action Taken Report was read out by the Registrar.

Point/s further discussed -

- The Council deliberated upon the suggestions of Governing Body (made during 9th GB meeting held on 7th December 2019) on the Academic Council resolution no. 5.8.iii w.r.t. 'publishing research papers mandatorily by PG students before completion of his/her course'. The members accepted the suggestions of Governing Body that publishing of research papers by PG students may not be made mandatory, rather the faculty members/project guides should be directed to motivate students towards research activities from the beginning of their course of study, which will eventually lead to publication of research papers by most of them. The Council further proposed that if publication of research paper is not mandatory, then the RGU students who get their papers published on their own may be awarded/certified separately. It was therefore proposed that a committee of 7-8 members may be constituted, comprising Prof. Alak Kumar Buragohain, Prof. Anuradha Devi, Prof. Krishna Barua, Prof. P.J. Mahanta, Prof. K.K. Baruah, Dr. Devika Phukan, headed by Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, to decide on the modalities of separately certifying/awarding those RGU students who publish their research papers in journals/in other suitable publications platforms. The committee may also decide on giving extra credits etc. to those students whose research papers are published in Scopus Index journals or UGC listed journals. Prof. H.C Gautam suggested that one faculty from each school should be a part of the proposed committee to properly judge the quality of the research paper



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by students. To this, Prof. S P Singh suggested that a core committee may be formed, including all Deans as members or special invitee so that all schools/departments are represented.

Resolutions: The Council ratified the minutes of its last meeting along with the Action Taken Report (Annexure B & C respectively) except resolution no. 5.8.iii. The Council further decided to accept the suggestions of Governing Body regarding AC resolution no. 5.8.iii and resolved that contrary to earlier resolution, the 'publishing of research papers by PG students will not be mandatory, rather the faculty members/project guides should be directed to motivate students towards research activities from the beginning of their course of study, which will eventually lead to publication of research papers by most of them'. The Council also resolved to form a core committee of 7-8 members, under headship of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor to decide on the modalities of separately certifying and awarding the students with good research publications.

6.4 Agenda: To discuss & approve -

- (i) **Modified course structure (if any) and detailed syllabi of all existing courses/programmes, launched since 2017 - 18**

Deliberations: Prof. A.K. Buragohain briefed the members that Board of Studies of few schools (of existing courses/programmes, launched since 2017-18) have proposed minor changes in their syllabi, which have been put up for the information of the Council. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor further added that the syllabus, passed through BoS (Board of Studies), must be in conformity with the structure followed at RGU. He also suggested the Deans/HODs/Coordinators that under the prevailing pandemic situation, each department/school should map some portions of their syllabus (20-30%) with the online classes offered through platforms such as MOOCS, SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA etc. (ANNEXURE D)

Resolution: The Council in-principle approved the minor modifications proposed by respective Board of Studies in the course structure and detailed syllabi of all existing courses/programmes, launched since 2017 - 18 and further authorized Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in consultation Chairperson Academics to make minor modifications, if required. The council also resolved that each department/school will map some portions of their syllabus (20%-30%) with the online classes offered through platforms such as MOOCS, SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA etc. (ANNEXURE D)

- (ii) **Course structure and detailed syllabi (of first year only) of all the new courses, proposed to be launched from AY 2020 - 21**

Deliberations: Prof. A.K. Buragohain briefed the members about the Course structure and detailed syllabi (of first year only) for about 50 new courses/programs proposed to be launched from AY 2020 - 21. He further added that the syllabi has been endorsed by experts and appreciated the efforts of the faculty members towards developing the new syllabi, incorporating the Learning Outcome based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) which is a mandate of UGC.

Points further discussed -



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- Prof. H.C. Gautam briefly informed the council about LOCF (Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework) and its basic philosophy i.e. the outcome should be measurable in nature.
- Prof. S.P. Singh appreciated the incorporation of LOCF in the syllabi but opined that further fine tuning, modification & upgradation of the same is required. He proposed that Prof. Alak Kr. Buragohain, Registrar and his good self, with the able guidance and advice from Prof. H.C. Gautam would examine the syllabus once again and be authorized to make minor modifications (if any) in the syllabus with respect to LOCF, before conducting the next BoS in the month of October/November.
- Prof. Mihir. K. Chaudhuri suggested that the syllabi should be accepted provisionally at present, if there may be any discrepancies, the same can be incorporated and approved by the appropriate authority.

Resolution: The Council approved the course structure and detailed syllabi (of first year only) of all the new courses, proposed to be launched from AY 2020 – 21 (Annexure E) provisionally, and authorized Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the Chairperson Academics to incorporate minor modifications w.r.t. LOCF etc., if required. The Council also resolved that each department/school should map some portions of their syllabus (20-30%) with the online classes offered through platforms such as MOOCS, SWAYAM, SWAYAM PRABHA etc.

(iii) Revised academic calendar of the University for the even semester i.e. January 2020 to July/August 2020, based on the current Pandemic Situation

Deliberations: The revised Academic Calendar of the University for the even semester i.e. January 2020 to July/August 2020, based on the current Pandemic Situation (Annexure F) was read out by the Registrar. She further informed the members that the dates of the Academic Calendar may further change based on prevailing situation and Government directives regarding examinations/resuming classes in campus.

Resolution: The council approved the revised academic calendar of the University for the even semester i.e. January 2020 to July/August 2020 with a scope to further change the same, based on prevailing situation of the COVID 19 pandemic and Government directives in this regard.

6.5 Agenda: To place the decisions taken by the Examination Committee since the last Academic Council meeting for concurrence

Deliberations: Dr. Rahul Nandi placed before the Council members the decisions and the major resolutions taken by the Examination Committee since the last Academic Council meeting.

Resolutions: The Council accorded its concurrence to the decisions taken by the Examination Committee in its 11th & 12th meeting held on 17th March 2020 & 21st May 2020, respectively. (Annexure G).



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6.6. Agenda: To apprise about -

- (i) **Status of research activities since the last Academic Council meeting, along with action plan for the coming year, of each school/department**

Deliberations: Prof. A. K. Buragohain apprised the status of department wise research activities since last Academic Council Meeting. He opined that there is a big mismatch between the number of human resource available to the number of publications and advised that faculty members should publish more research publications rather than book chapters. He appreciated the efforts put in by the Department of Biotechnology, School of Nursing, Department of Environmental Sciences and Royal School of Applied & Pure Sciences who have come out with many good publications.

Points further discussed -

- Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor appreciated the departments with good publications and added that it was made mandatory for every faculty member to publish at least two research papers per year in the Scopus Index Journal or UGC listed Journal and that increments and appraisal will also be subject to their research publications.
- Hon'ble Vice Chancellor also suggested monthly review meetings with all Deans/Heads/Coordinators to be held on the last Friday of every month whereby he himself, along with Chairperson-Academic and the Registrar would evaluate the research publications and projects of each department/school. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor was also of the opinion that the number of research publications should commensurate with the number of faculty members, PG students, research scholars and total strength of the department/school.

Resolution: The Council resolved that a monthly review meeting be conducted with all Deans/Heads/Coordinators on the last Friday of every month to evaluate the research publications and projects of each department/school.

- (ii) **Major activities undertaken during the lockdown period**

Deliberations: Ms. Indrakshi B presented the activity report about the major activities undertaken during the lockdown period, which was appreciated by all (Annexure I).

- (iii) **Major policies/process ratified by other Authorities since the last Academic Council meeting**

Deliberations: The Registrar gave a brief presentation on the few major policies/process ratified by the other authorities since last Academic Council meeting (Annexure J). The proposed Programmes/Courses (which have been approved by the Governing Body) to be introduced in the academic year 2020-21 were shared with the Council members for information.



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6.7 Agenda: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair

Deliberations:

- **Sri. R.S. Joshi** raised a concern whether the virtual Academic Council Meeting conducted through the online platform would require any endorsement or ratification to be legally accepted. To this Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor has informed that all statutory bodies are conducting all meetings online and the consent for the same has also been taken from RGU authorities. He further took the consent/affirmation by all members and it was decided that the said meeting would be treated as a valid & legal meeting under the extraordinary circumstance of the global pandemic and proper records (audio/video/screenshots/emails) of the said meeting will be maintained in keeping with the compliances.
- **Prof. H.C Gautam** shared that to facilitate quality research activities in RGU, more research facilities, space, incubation centers and labs should be established. Prof. S.P. Singh informed that RGU has already established few high-end research labs including two computer research labs with high end computer facilities have been provided for data interpretation, research work etc. However, investing in very high-end equipment for research activities will be possible in later stages. Faculty members are thereby, regularly encouraged and have been visiting institutions like IASST, IITG and NIPER with whom RGU has signed MoUs for extensive research activities on high-end equipment. Prof. H.C Gautam also stressed that the element of LOCF should be incorporated in the syllabus in true spirit and not just for namesake. Prof. S P Singh assured that the elements of LOCF shall be gradually incorporated with utmost sincerity and as per requirements of LOCF.

Resolution - The Council resolved that the 6th Academic Council meeting (today's meeting) conducted through online platform will be treated as a valid & legal meeting under the extraordinary circumstance of the global pandemic and proper records (audio/video/screenshots/emails) of the said meeting will be maintained in keeping with the compliances.

6.8 Agenda: Vote of Thanks: The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Minutes recorded by Ms. Pahi Bhagawati, Ms. Tamsin Islam & Ms. Mary Das



6th ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING
29th May 2020; 11:30 AM
Agenda Points

- 6.1 Welcoming the members & special invitees of the Academic Council.
- 6.2 Confirmation of Agenda
- 6.3 Ratifying the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting and Action Taken Report.
- 6.4 To discuss and approve –
 - i) modified course structure (if any) and detailed syllabi of all existing courses/programmes, launched since 2017-18
 - ii) course structure and detailed syllabi (of first year only) of all the new courses, proposed to be launched from AY 2020-21
 - iii) revised academic calendar of the University for the even semester i.e. Jan 2020 to July/August 2020, based on the current Pandemic situation
- 6.5 To place the decisions taken by Examination Committee since last academic council meeting for concurrence.
- 6.6 To apprise about –
 - i) Status of research activities since the last Academic Council meeting, along with action plan for the upcoming year, of each school/department
 - ii) Major activities undertaken during the lockdown period
 - iii) Major policies/process ratified by other Authorities since last Academic Council Meeting
- 6.7 Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.
- 6.8 Vote of Thanks.

The Assam Royal Global University

Fifth Meeting of the Academic Council

16th October 2019

Minutes of the Meeting

Start time: 11:30 a.m.

Venue: D' Royal Conferencia, 5th Floor, A Block, Royal Global University.

Members Present (without any order):

1. Prof. (Dr.) S P Singh (Member-Chairperson)
Vice Chancellor, The Assam Royal Global University
2. Ms. Angira Mimani, (Member-Secretary)
Registrar, The Assam Royal Global University
3. Prof. Alak Kumar Buragohain, Chairperson – Academic, Royal Global University (Member)
4. Prof. (Dr.) T. Ashok Kumar, Dean, RSET & RSIT (Member)
5. Prof. Anuradha Devi, Dean, RSAPS (Member)
6. Prof. Swabera Islam, Professor, RSHSS (Member)
7. Dr. Hiren Nath, HoD, RSLA (Member)
8. Dr. Devika Phukan, Dy. Dean, RSAPS & HoD, Deptt. of Physics, RSAPS (Member)
9. Ms. Florence H. Rabha, Head, Deptt. of Electronic Media & Anchoring, RSCOM (Member)
10. Dr. Pubalee Sarmah, HoD, Deptt. of Chemistry, RSAPS (Member)
11. Dr. Aniruddha Deka, HoD, Deptt. of Computer Science & Engineering, RSET (Member)
12. Prof. O.K.Medhi, Professor Emeritus, RGU (Member)
13. Prof. H.C.Gautam, Department of Commerce, Gauhati University (Member)
14. Mr. Ankur Pansari, Member, GB, RGU (Member)
15. Sri R.S. Joshi, Former Chairman, FINER & Member, BoM, RGU (Member)
16. Prof. Krishna Barua, Former HoD, IIT Guwahati and Professor, RSL (Member)
17. Prof. P.J. Mahanta, Professor, RSL (Member)
18. Prof.K.K. Baruah, Dean, RSLSC, RSBSC, RSEES, Royal Global University (Member)
19. Dr. Soumitra Sen, Professor & Coordinator, RSHMCT (Member)
20. Dr. Gitumoni Konwar, Principal/Dean, RSN (Member)
21. Dr. Baishalee Rajkhowa, Coordinator, RSL (Member)
22. Dr. Susmita Dey, Assistant Professor, Zoology & Coordinator, RSLSC (Member)
23. Dr. Prateeti Barman, Coordinator, Dept. of Social Work, RSHSS (Member)
24. Dr. Ranjan Dutta Kalita, Coordinator, Biotechnology, RSBSC (Member)
25. Sri Amit Kumar Jain, Aroma India Pvt. Ltd. (Member)
26. Prof. Hemanta Kumar Baruah, Professor Emeritus, RSAPS (Member)
27. Prof. Amarendra Rajput, Professor, RSAPS (Member)

Special Invitee Present:

1. Prof. B.Banerjee, Professor, RSET/RSIT
2. Prof. (Dr.) Arnab Sarma, Professor & HoD, CE, RSET
3. Prof. Manoj Jain, Professor & Deputy Dean, RSB
4. Dr. J. Boro, Coordinator, RSBAS
5. Dr. Subhashis Debnath, i/c Principal, RSP
6. Dr. Rahul Nandi, Asst. Prof, RSB & Dy. CoE, RGU
7. Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Assistant Professor & Dy. Dean i/c

Leave of Absence of members:

1. Sri Shivaji Jaiswal, JDB Group
2. Ms. Sikha M. Pansari, Member, GB, RGU
3. Ar. Anita PY, Dean, RSA, RSFT & RSFA