

# The Assam Royal Global University

## Seventh Meeting of the Academic Council

24<sup>th</sup> November 2020

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### Minutes of the Meeting

**Start time:** 11:00 AM

**Venue:** Blended Mode (D' Royal Auditorio, A Block and Online Platform through Zoom App)

#### 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. Ms. Sikha M. Pansari, Member, GB, RGU
7. Prof. K.K. Baruah, Dean, RSLSC, RSBSC, RSEES, Royal Global University (Member)
8. Dr. Soumitra Sen, Professor i/c Dean, RSHM & RSTTM (Member)
9. Dr. Hiren Nath, Head/Principal, RSLA (Member)
10. Dr. Biswajit Sarma, HoD, Deptt. of Chemistry, RSAPS (Member)
11. Dr. Baishalee Rajkhowa, Coordinator, RSL (Member)
12. Ms. Florence H. Rabha, Head, Deptt. of Electronic Media & Anchoring, RSCOM (Member)
13. Dr. Aniruddha Deka, HoD & Coordinator – CSE/IT (Member)
14. Dr. Susmita Dey, Assistant Professor, Zoology & Coordinator, RSLSC (Member)
15. Dr. Prateeti Barman, Coordinator, Dept. of Social Work, RSHSS (Member)
16. Dr. Ranjan Dutta Kalita, Coordinator, Biotechnology & Microbiology, RSBSC (Member)
17. Sri Amit Kumar Jain, Aroma India Pvt. Ltd. (Member)
18. Mr. Ankur Pansari, Member, GB, RGU (Member)
19. Sri R.S. Joshi, Former Chairman, FINER & Member, BoM, RGU (Member)
20. Prof. Hemanta Kumar Baruah, Professor Emeritus, RSAPS (Member)
21. Prof. Krishna Barua, Former HoD, IIT Guwahati and Professor, RSL (Member)
22. Prof. P.J. Mahanta, Professor, RSL (Member)
23. Prof. Amarendra Rajput, Professor, RSAPS (Member)
24. Dr. Sujata Deb, HoD Physics, RSAPS (Member)
25. Prof. O.K. Medhi, Professor Emeritus, RGU (Member)
26. Prof. (Dr.) Swabera Islam, Deptt. Of Economics, RSHSS (Member)

#### Special Invitee Present:

1. Prof. Manoj Jain, Professor & Deputy Dean, RSB
2. Dr. Sudip Chakraborty, Assistant Professor & Dy. Dean i/c
3. Dr. Subhashis Debnath, i/c Principal, RSP
4. Dr. Rahul Nandi, Asst. Prof, RSB & Dy. CoE, RGU
5. Dr. J. Boro, Coordinator, RSBAS
6. Dr. Pubalee Sarmah, HoD, Deptt. of Chemistry, RSAPS
7. Dr. Devika Phukan, Dy. Dean, RSAPS & HoD, Deptt. of Physics, RSAPS
8. Mr. Jugal Kishore Bhattacharyya, Assistant Professor & Coordinator, GE, AEEC & AFCC courses
9. Ms. Arpee Saikia, Assistant Professor & Coordinator, Behavioural Science Course



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### Leave of Absence of members:

1. Dr. Gitumoni Konwar, Principal cum i/c Dean, RSN & RSMAS
2. Prof. H.C. Gautam, Department of Commerce, Gauhati University
3. Sri Shivaji Jaiswal, JDB Group

### PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETING

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

#### 7.1. 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 as well as special invitees of the Academic Council. He informed the House about receiving Leave of Absence from Prof. H C Gautam & Prof. Gitumoni Konwar. Prof. Singh then acknowledged the satisfactory performance of the faculty members in maintaining the academic rigor of the University during the period of pandemic. Further a minute's silence was observed by all members as a mark of respect to the departed soul of Sri Tarun Gogoi, Former Chief Minister of Assam who was very instrumental in the development of the University, right from laying the foundation stone to inauguration of the Institution during his tenure as Chief Minister.

#### 7.2. 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).

#### 7.3 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.

Points further discussed -

- Prof. S P Singh enquired whether any HOD or faculty members have incorporated courses through MOOCS or SWAYAM platform in their ongoing course. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor also advised all departments to notify the office of Chairperson-Academic regarding the usage of MOOCs and SWAYAM platform and further added that the contents of the prescribed syllabus / part of the course, through the online platforms, which should be properly checked by the department w.r.t. the equivalence of the contents before mapping. The revised and mapped syllabus of each school/department, with 20%-30% of the course covered by the online platforms, has to be put up in the upcoming Board of Studies' meetings, to be scheduled from the month of Feb/March 2021, for approval.
- Prof. K K Baruah requested for a workshop to be organised school-wise, before the onset of the next semester, to familiarize faculty members regarding MOOCs or SWAYAM platforms which



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will guide them in preparing the University syllabus accordingly. Prof. Singh advised the Deans & HoDs to conduct such workshops.

**Resolutions:** After in-depth deliberation, the Council ratified the minutes of its last meeting along with the Action Taken Report (Annexure B & C respectively) and also resolved that minimum 20%-30% of the syllabus in each course has to be covered through online portal (Swayam, MOOCS etc.) and the modified mapped syllabi must be approved in the upcoming BOS' meetings, prior to the next Academic Council meeting.

### 7.4.i) Agenda: To discuss & approve the Academic Calendar of the University for the Academic Year 2020-21

**Deliberations:** The Registrar informed the members that the academic calendar of AY 2020-21 has been put up for approval in the current meeting due to the uncertainties caused by the pandemic as well as the delayed guidelines of UGC/state government in this regard (issued after last Academic Council meeting).

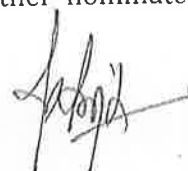
Points further discussed -

- The Academic Calendar for AY 2020-21 has been prepared on the basis of the guidelines by UGC/State Government and includes 3 series of examinations in each semester, since classes for the existing batches, UG 1<sup>st</sup> Semester and PG 1<sup>st</sup> Semester started/will start separately due to the pandemic and there shall be brief Summer break.
- In compliance with 90 working days for each semester, classes will have to be conducted on two Saturdays for UG new batch and four Saturdays for PG new batch, (can be conducted in online/blended/physical mode).
- The Council members were requested to authorize Hon'ble Vice Chancellor (in consultation with Registrar) to make further changes, if required, in the Academic Calendar w.r.t to the current pandemic or any Government/ UGC directives to educational institutions in this regard.
- Prof. Singh reiterated that the last working hour of the University (4:30 PM onwards) should be utilized for conducting various workshops and seminars for students and faculty members.
- Hon'ble Vice Chancellor stated that in case the pandemic condition resurfaces again in future, then only proctored online examination or physical examination maintaining proper social distancing will be conducted by the University, as feasible.

**Resolution:** The Council approved the Academic Calendar of the University for the Academic Year 2020-21 (Annexure D) and further resolved to authorize Hon'ble Vice Chancellor to make further changes, if required (in consultation with the Registrar), in the Academic Calendar 2020-21 w.r.t to the current pandemic or any Government/ UGC directives to educational institutions.

### 7.4.ii) Agenda: To discuss & approve nomination of external members to University Research Committee (URC)

**Deliberations:** Dr. Rahul Nandi shared with the Council Members the names of four senior faculty members from prestigious Institutions/Universities of Assam who have been shortlisted (in consultation with Chairperson Academic and other senior members of RGU) to be nominated as external members for the University Research Committee (URC) of The Assam Royal Global University. He then requested the Council members to either nominate two names out of the



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shortlisted four names proposed or suggest any other renowned academicians as external members to the URC, preferably one from science/technology background and one from humanities background (as resolved in the earlier Academic Council meetings). The shortlisted names presented by Dr. Rahul Nandi are -

1. Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee, MBBT, Tezpur University
2. Prof. S.S. Sarkar, Business Administration, Tezpur University
3. Prof. Nalini Devi Misra, Sanskrit, Gauhati University
4. Prof. Samanta Moni Hazarika, Mechanical Engineering, IIT G

Points further discussed -

- Few senior members of RGU observed that the name suggested by them for putting up in this Council was Prof. Malinee Goswami, Department of Assamese, Gauhati University instead of Prof. Nalini Devi Misra, Sanskrit, Gauhati University and it needs to be rectified. Further, a typographical error was also pointed out that the name of Prof. Samanta Moni Hazarika, Mechanical Engineering, IIT G was misspelt and should have been Prof. Shyamanta Moni Hazarika.
- Members recommended the names of Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee, MBBT, Tezpur University & Prof. Malinee Goswami, Department of Assamese, Gauhati University as external members to URC of the University.
- Few members suggested that Prof. Nalini Devi Misra, Sanskrit, Gauhati University is also a learned researcher and renowned academicians and as such may be involved at some stage in the University by Royal School of Languages.

**Resolution:** The Council after in-depth deliberation, nominated the names of Prof. Ashis K. Mukherjee, MBBT, Tezpur University & Prof. Malinee Goswami, Department of Assamese, Gauhati University as external members to the University Research Committee (URC) of The Assam Royal Global University.

**7.4.iii) Agenda: To discuss & approve award of Provisional Certificates/degrees to students passing out in AY 2019-20**

**Deliberations:** Dr. Rahul Nandi informed the Council Members that due to the pandemic situation the 1<sup>st</sup> convocation has been postponed by the Governing Body to November 2021 (tentative). However, since successful students require pass certificates/degrees to apply for various higher studies/jobs he sought approval from the Members to issue the Provisional Certificates/degrees to students passing out in AY 2019-20, as and when requested.

Points further discussed -

- Prof. S P Singh appreciated the efforts of the examination committee during the pandemic period for conducting the online examinations and declaring the results seamlessly.
- Hon'ble Vice Chancellor further stated that each & every department should have one representative in a subcommittee under the examination committee so that students are guided properly regarding the RGU examination ordinance, rules and regulations. He



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also suggested that a workshop for all faculty members should be conducted twice in one semester on the RGU examination ordinance, rules and regulations.

**Resolution:** The council approved awarding of Provisional Certificates/degrees to students passing out in AY 2019-20, as and when requested by them.

**7.5 Agenda: To place the important decisions taken w.r.t. Examinations, along with other decisions taken by the Examination Committee, since last Academic Council meeting for concurrence**

**Deliberations:** Dr. Rahul Nandi presented before the Council members the important decisions taken w.r.t. Examinations, along with other decisions taken by the Examination Committee, since last Academic Council meeting

**Resolutions:** The Council accorded its concurrence to the important decisions taken w.r.t. Examinations, along with other decisions taken by the Examination Committee, since last Academic Council meeting. (Annexure E)

**7.6 Agenda: To recommend the list of awardees (passed out in 2020) for award of degrees/diplomas in the First Convocation, scheduled in November 2021**

**Deliberations:** Dr. Rahul Nandi shared the list of awardees (passed out in 2020) for awarding degrees/diplomas in the First Convocation, scheduled in November 2021 (Annexure F) with the Council Members for their recommendations.

**Resolutions:** The Council recommended the list of awardees (passed out in 2020) for award of degrees/diplomas in the First Convocation, scheduled in November 2021 without any modification. (Annexure F)

**7.7 i) Agenda: To apprise about 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 research activities since the last Academic Council meeting, along with action plan for the coming year, of each school/department. (Annexure G)

Points further discussed –

- Prof. A K Buragohain informed the members that there were a total of 148 publications from the University over a period of 6 months, including 18 student publications. Chairperson – Academic also acknowledged that faculty members were working hard to develop and submit various research projects.
- To demarcate number of publications between faculty and students, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor suggested that henceforth publications can be bifurcated, based on the first author, if it is a joint publication between faculty and students, to avoid duplication of number.
- Prof. A K Buragohain appreciated the efforts and contribution of Prof. H.K. Baruah towards research work and further apprised the members about the innovative activities carried out by



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the Institutions Innovation Council (IIC-RGU) which included International webinars and industry-academia activities etc.

- Prof. Singh further advised that departments should encourage post graduate students (at least 50% of total class strength) to write research papers and appreciated Royal School of Commerce, who have made it compulsory for post graduate students to write research papers.

### 7.7 ii) Agenda: To apprise about Major activities undertaken since last Academic Council Meeting

**Deliberations:** Ms. Prajyeeta Kashyap presented the activity report about the major activities undertaken since the last Academic Council Meeting, which was appreciated by all (Annexure H)

### 7.7iii) Agenda: To apprise about 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 I).

### 7.7 iv) Agenda: To apprise about MoUs/Tie-ups

**Deliberation:** Ms. Pahi Bhagawati gave a brief presentation on the various MoUs/ Tie-ups of the University. (Annexure J)

Points further discussed –

- Prof. S.P. Singh advised all concerned departments to make the MoUs more functional through regular meetings (may be through virtual mode) for planning of joint activities, follow ups along with systematic and proper record keeping of the activities under the collaboration. Further, he advised that the MoU Implementation Committee should meet monthly whereby Hon'ble Vice Chancellor shall also be a part of the meetings to understand the advancements made in accordance to the MoUs.
- Prof. S.P. Singh asked all the faculty members to promote the B.Sc Aviation and B.Sc Aviation with CPL Programme amongst potential stakeholders as it is a complete package offering flying as well as RT training for DGCA examination preparation at an affordable / reasonable fee structure.
- Under the collaboration with The Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), Prof. Singh suggested that the departments can collect the list of all the companies with the institute where Company Secretaries have been hired (through ICSI) for signing of new MoUs with them along with student internships etc.

### 7.7 v) Agenda: To apprise about activities undertaken by HRDC of RGU

**Deliberation:** Dr. Sujata Deb presented the activities undertaken by HRDC of RGU (Annexure K). Hon'ble Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts of HRDC team for seamlessly organising the faculty colloquium. Further, he acknowledged the endeavours of all the faculty members who have presented as well as participated in the same.



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**7.7 vi) Agenda: To apprise about minor modification incorporated in syllabus of few programmes/courses**

**Deliberation:** Chairperson (Academic) apprised the Council Members about the minor modifications incorporated in syllabus of few programmes/courses. He informed the members that except for the syllabus of Department of Pharmacy, Physiotherapy, Biotechnology, Computer Science & Engineering, Civil Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and B.Des. Communication Design, all other departments followed the University norms as well as UGC guidelines, while preparing the syllabi and also abided by the philosophy of Learning Outcomes based Curriculum Framework (LOCF). The syllabus of all the above departments were scrutinized and necessary minor modifications were incorporated as per required norms and guidelines. The above mentioned departments are also modifying their syllabi as per the the guidelines of LOCF and will in few days.

**Resolutions:** The Council approved the modification incorporated in the syllabi of few programmes/courses.

**7.8 Agenda: Any other matter with the permission of the Chair**

**Prof. S.P. Singh:**

- i) made it mandatory to incorporate the few recommended points of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in the present syllabi of RGU w.r.t the curriculum, (particularly mapping 20-30% of the syllabi/course with online platforms viz. MOOCs and SWAYAM etc) and emphasizing on Industry institute collaboration paving scope for the students to go for 3-6 months/ year-long internships to the Industry. The revised syllabi must get approved in the respective Board of Studies (BOS) prior to the next Academic Council meeting.
- ii) shared that in due course of time the subject of India-Land of Diversity can be incorporated in the syllabus as the subject provides a multi-disciplinary approach of learning, which is also suggested in NEP 2020.

**Resolutions:** After in-depth deliberation, it was resolved that to mandatorily incorporate the few recommended points of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 in the present syllabi of RGU w.r.t the curriculum, (particularly mapping 20-30% of the syllabi/course with online platforms viz. MOOCs and SWAYAM etc) and to emphasize on Industry institute collaboration paving scope for the students to go for 3-6 months/ year-long internships to the Industry. The revised syllabi be approved in the respective Board of Studies (BOS) prior to the next Academic Council meeting.

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

**Minutes prepared by-** Ms. Pahi Bhagawati & Ms. Mary Das





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ROYAL GLOBAL UNIVERSITY

**7<sup>th</sup> ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING**  
**24<sup>th</sup> November 2020; 11:00 AM**  
**Agenda Points**

- 7.1 Welcoming the members & special invitees of the Academic Council.
- 7.2 Confirmation of Agenda
- 7.3 Ratifying the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting and Action Taken Report.
- 7.4 To discuss and approve
- i) the Academic Calendar of the University for the Academic Year 2020-21
  - ii) Nomination of external members to University Research Committee (URC)
  - iii) Award of Provisional Certificates/degrees to students passing out in AY 2019-20.
- 7.5 To place the important decisions taken w.r.t. Examinations, along with other decisions taken by the Examination Committee, since last Academic Council meeting for concurrence.
- 7.6 To recommend the list of awardees (passed out in 2020) for award of degrees/diplomas in the First Convocation, scheduled in November 2021.
- 7.7 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 since last Academic Council Meeting.
  - iii) Major policies/process ratified by other Authorities since last Academic Council Meeting
  - iv) MoUs/tie-ups
  - v) Activities undertaken by HRDC of RGU.
  - vi) Minor modification incorporated in syllabus of few programmes/courses
- 7.8 Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.
- 7.9 Vote of Thanks.