

Central University of Punjab, Bathinda

Proceedings of Sixth Meeting of the **ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

held on **05.03.2015 at 11:00 a.m.**

at Conference Room of the University at City Campus, Mansa Road, Bathinda

Following members were present:

Prof. R. K. Kohli	:	Vice Chancellor (Chairman)
Prof. S. K. Salwan	:	Member
Prof. Abdul Wahid	:	Member
Prof. Veer Singh	:	Member
Prof. R. K. Tuli	:	Member
Prof. P. Rama Rao	:	Member
Dr. Zameer Pal Kaur	:	Member
Mr. R. C. Sharma	:	Registrar (<i>Secretary</i>)

Welcome address by the Vice Chancellor (Chairman)

The Vice Chancellor (Chairman) heartily welcomed the members of the Academic Council and opined that the university would benefit immensely from their visionary advice. He further welcomed them to the Sixth meeting of the Academic Council and thanked them for sparing their valuable time from their busy schedule to participate and help the university in taking appropriate decisions.

Item No. AC:6:2015:1 To confirm the minutes of Fifth Academic Council meeting held on 15.11.2014.

The Secretary proposed to confirm the minutes of the Fifth meeting of Academic Council as there had been no comments from any of the members except for Item No. AC:5:2014:12 (placed at Current Agenda Item No. AC:6:2015.14.1. It is requested that the title "Proposed Title for 2015-16 onwards" may please be treated as "Proposed Title for 2014-15 onwards".

The Committee **RESOLVED** to confirm the minutes of the Fifth Academic Council meeting held on 15.11.2014 after incorporating in the item No. 14.1.

Item No. AC:6:2015:2 To note Actions Taken on the decisions of the Academic Council in its Fifth Meeting held on 15.11.2014.

The Secretary presented the Actions Taken Report on the decisions of the Academic Council in its Fifth Meeting held on 15.11.2014. **Annexure-1**

After discussions on the items, the Council noted and **RESOLVED** to confirm the Actions Taken on the decisions of the Academic Council in its Fifth Meeting held on 15.11.2014.

Item No. AC:6:2015: 3 To note the report of Vice Chancellor on the progress of university since the last meeting of the Academic Council held on 15.11.2014.

The Vice Chancellor made a PPT presentation before the Academic Council to demonstrate the progress of the University since the last meeting of the Academic Council on 15.11.2014. **Annexure-2**

The members appreciated the progress made by the university and complemented on best research output in comparison to other Central Universities

Item No. AC:6:2015:4 Choice based Credit System to be followed from Academic Session 2015-16.

The Secretary presented the matter before the Council for consideration and approval to adopt Choice based Credit System to be followed from Academic Session 2015-16.

The Chairman shared that the University Grants Commission (UGC) has initiated several measures to bring equity, efficiency and excellence in the Higher Education System of country. The UGC has therefore formulated various regulations and guidelines from time to time to improve the higher education system and maintain minimum standards and quality across the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) in India.

Annexure 3

While the HEIs must have the flexibility and freedom in designing the examination and evaluation methods that best fits the curriculum, syllabi and teaching-learning methods, there is a need to devise a sensible system for awarding the grades based on the performance of students. Presently the performance of the students is reported using the conventional system of marks secured in the examinations or grades or both.

The conversion from marks to letter grades and the letter grades used vary widely across the HEIs in the country. This creates difficulty for the academia and the employers to understand and infer the performance of the students graduating from different universities and colleges based on grades.

The grading system is considered to be better than the conventional marks system and hence it has been followed in the top institutions in India and abroad. So it is desirable to introduce uniform grading system. This will facilitate student mobility across institutions within and across countries and also enable potential employers to assess the performance of students. To bring in the desired uniformity, in grading system and method for computing the **cumulative grade point average (CGPA)** based on the performance of students in the examinations, the UGC has formulated these guidelines.

The Vice Chancellor further informed the Council that during the Conference of the Vice Chancellors held on 4-5 Feb 2015 at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi, it was recommended that Choice Based Credit System must be implemented from the academic year 2015-16 in all the Central Universities.

Accordingly, it is proposed to adopt Choice Based Credit System from Academic Session 2015-16 as per UGC Guidelines on Adoption of Choice Based Credit System.

The Council **RESOLVED** to recommend the Choice based Credit System to be followed from Academic Session 2015-16.

Item No. AC:6:2015:5 To seek approval regarding rounding off the Weighted Average Marks (WAM) in existing system and implementation of 10 Point scale system w.e.f. next academic session i.e. 2015-16.

The Secretary brought to the notice of the AC members the matter of rounding off Weighted Average Marks (WAM) in existing system and implementation of 10 Point scale system.

He explained that vide Clause 6.1 (ii) of UGC Guidelines on Adoption of Choice Based Credit System, the UGC recommended all Central Universities to adopt 10 point grading system with the following letter grades

Annexure 4

After discussions, the Council **RESOLVED** to recommend the WAM in existing system and implementation of 10 Point scale system as per the UGC guidelines from academic session 2015-16 and **FURTHER RESOLVED** to amend correction at Page No. 11 as detailed below.

Letter Grade (As per UGC)	Grade point (As per UGC)
O Outstanding	10
A+ Excellent	9
A Very good	8
B+ Good	7
B Above Average	6
C Average	5
P Pass	4
F Fail	0
Ab Absent	0

Item No. AC:6:2015:6

To consider minor amendment in the Rules and Regulations for M.Phil.-Ph.D. Integrated Programme already approved vide item No. AC:3:2012:13.4 in the Third Meeting of the Academic Council held on 10.03.2012.

The Secretary informed the Council in view of the requests and career of the students the clause No. 13.15 of the rules and regulations for M.Phil.-Ph.D. Integrated Programme (Annexure 10 of item No. AC:3:2012:13.4) minor amendment in the Rules and Regulations for M.Phil. – Ph.D. Integrated Programme. He requested that this amendment may be allowed as under:

<u>Existing</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
<p>13.15 A student with a backlog can repeat End Semester Examination of a course for maximum of two chances, excluding the 1st appearance, in the subsequent supplementary examination or regular End Semester Examination without putting in any additional attendance. The marks of Continuous Internal Assessment as applicable shall however, be carried forward in such cases.</p>	<p>13.15 A student with a backlog can repeat End Semester Examination of a course for maximum of two chances, excluding the 1st appearance, in the subsequent supplementary examination or regular End Semester Examination without putting in any additional attendance. The marks of Continuous Internal Assessment as applicable shall however, be carried forward in such cases. <i>*Provided that on the recommendation of the Coordinator of centre and Dean of concerned School, the vice chancellor, on merit of individual case, may consider giving one final chance (mercy chance) to the student.</i> <i>*amendment</i></p>

The Council considered and **RESOLVED** to recommend the amendment in the Rules and Regulations for M.Phil.-Ph.D. Integrated Programme already approved vide item No. AC:3:2012:13.4 in the Third Meeting of the Academic Council held on 10.03.2012.

Item No. AC:6:2015:7

To approve and recommend the adoption of rules for awarding the Gold Medal and Merit Certificate and to recommend the names of those students who became eligible for Gold Medal/Merit Certificate.

The Secretary brought to the notice of the Academic Council that a Committee was constituted to frame the rules for awarding the Gold Medals and Merit Certificates to the meritorious students.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the following recommendations of the committee and recommend the EC for its approval: **Annexure 5**

1. The student should have secured highest OWAM/OGPA in his/her programme but not less than OWAM of 75.
2. OWAM of two or more student are same then OWAM will be calculated in decimal Point.
3. If OWAM as calculated in point 2 above also happens to be same then gold medal will be shared among such students.
4. To be eligible for gold medal, a student must have passed in each paper in first attempt i.e. has not taken any re-appear or supplementary examination. The student should have not repeated any course.
5. In case a student has taken improvement examination, his/her marks before the improvement will be considered for awarding of gold medal.
6. Any student found indulged in misconduct, indiscipline or ragging or have been rusticated/suspended/expelled will not be eligible award of gold medal.
7. The student must have passed the programme in minimum stipulated time i.e. has not availed extension of one or more semester.
8. The gold medal shall be made of 9 carat gold weighing 15-20 grams. On one side the insignia of the university and of the other the name of the student, year of completion of the programme shall be inscribed.

The Council **FURTHER** suggested that if more than one student is eligible for Gold Medal, both will get the Medal of same size and specifications as recommended in the proceedings of the internal committee. It further approved the names of students from different courses of the batches 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13 wherever applicable as per the list (annexure-6)

Annexure 6

Item No. AC:6:2015:8

To consider the list of students to whom degrees are to be awarded in the First Convocation of the University.

The Secretary requested for approval of the Academic Council the following number of students in different courses (as on 27-02-2015) as per the list of names (annexure-7) who are eligible for the award of degree in forthcoming first convocation of the university:

Annexure 7

Name of Course	No. of students
M. Phil.	120
M. Tech.	17
M. Pharm.	16
M. Sc.	24
LL. M.	13
Total	190*

***Out of 190, dissertation reports of 3 students are awaited.**

During discussion, the Vice Chancellor shared with the members that vide directions from the worthy Chancellor, the university had written letters to the MHRD and the Secretary of the Visitor requesting for an appointment for extending a formal invitation to His Excellency, Shri Pranab Mukherjee, Hon'ble President of India to visit our university for laying the foundation stone of new campus and be Chief Guest of the First Convocation Ceremony of the university.

He shared that on 11th March at 3:00 p.m. he had met Madam Omita Paul, Secretary to the Hon'ble President of India, in her office in Rashtrapati Bhavan to request for some early date for the visit of the Visitor.

She acceded to the request and consented to work out for an early date for the visit. The members appreciated the efforts.

The Council considered and **RESOLVED** to recommend to the EC the list of students to whom degrees are to be awarded in the First Convocation of the University.

Item No. AC:6:2015:9 To approve the Rules and Regulations for Ph.D. programme.

The Secretary proposed that there is a requirement of Rules and Regulations for stand-alone Ph.D. programme. He also shared that till date we have M.Sc./M.A.-M.Phil.-Ph.D. Integrated programme. Since it is a new university with limited faculty and infrastructure and the courses are of different duration, we need to introduce standalone Ph.D. programme to attract meritorious budding students. For such students we have no Rules/Regulations in place so far.

Annexure 8

The Council **RESOLVED** to recommend the Rules and Regulations for Ph.D. programme which are as per UGC guidelines to govern the Ph.D. rules and suggested that in Rules and Regulations for Ph.D. Programme.

Item No. AC:6:2015:10 To consider transfer of the M.A. Sociology programme from the Centre of South and Central Asian Studies to the Centre for Social Studies in the School for Social Sciences.

The Secretary requested the members to consider the for transfer of M.A. Sociology programme from the Centre of South and Central Asian Studies to the Centre for Social Studies in the School for Social Sciences.

The Council after discussion **RESOLVED** to approve to recommend to the EC the transfer of the M.A. Sociology programme from the Centre of South and Central Asian Studies in the School for Social Sciences to the Centre for Social Studies under the same School for Social Sciences.

Item No. AC:6:2015:11 To start the Ph.D. programme in the following:

- a) Ph.D. in Comparative Literature
- b) Ph.D. in Economics

The Secretary requested the Council that the university plans to start the Ph.D. programme in (a) Comparative Literature and (b) Economics.

The Chairman shared with the members that there is a requirement of standalone Ph.D. programmes.

After discussions, the Council unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve to recommend to the Executive Council to start the Ph.D. programme in the above mentioned courses - Ph.D. in Comparative Literature and Ph.D. in Economics.

Item No. AC:6:2015:12 To approve the starting of new courses.

While presenting the item the Secretary requested the members to consider the start of following new courses whenever possible with 15 seats each in various streams from academic session 2015-16.

- a) M.A. in Hindi
- b) Ph.D. in Hindi
- c) M.A. in Music
- d) M.A. in Fine Arts
- e) M.A. in Theatre
- f) M.A. in Philosophy
- g) M.A. in Sociology
- h) M.Sc. in Earth and Geological Sciences
- i) M.Sc. in Physical Education and Sports Science

The Vice Chancellor expressed the need to start these courses in view of their and balanced development of the university, w.e.f. the next session i.e. 2015-16.

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve and recommend the start of the above proposed new courses with 15 seats in each from academic session 2015-16.

Item No. AC:6:2015:13 To consider appointments of the renowned educationists as Visiting Professor.

The Secretary requested the Council to consider the appointments of renowned educationists as Visiting Professors/Adjunct Professors.

The Chairman also suggested the members that some senior educationists/academicians from India and abroad who can contribute a lot in Academic pursuits of the university in different fields and can guide the junior faculty for development of the university in various academic fronts are urgently required. The appointment of Visiting Faculty will add to the ranking of the university as well.

Annexure 9

After discussions, the Council **RESOLVED** to recommend the list of the renowned educationists as Visiting Professor and also authorized the Vice Chancellor to form an internal sub-committee to consult, recommend/select and invite Visiting Professors/Adjunct Professors from the list and from amongst the following:

1. Distinguished academician
2. Fellows of Academics
3. Professor Emeritus
4. Distinguished Scientists of National/International Laboratories/ Institutes.
5. Former Vice Chancellors and Directors

Item No. AC:6:2015:14 Current agenda, if any.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.1 To consider the change in the nomenclature some of the courses. (As per the minutes of the Board of Studies)

The Secretary informed the Council to consider the change in the nomenclature of some of the courses, which were approved in the 5th meeting of the Academic Council dated 15.11.2014.

The Council **RESOLVED** to recommend to the EC the request for the change of title as "**Proposed Title for 2014-15 onwards**".

Item No AC:6:2015:14.2 To consider the proposal of teaching positions in Centre for Education to initiate the two year M.Ed. program from academic session 2015-16.

The Secretary requested the Council to consider the urgent need of teaching positions in Centre for Education to initiate the two year M.Ed. program from academic session 2015-16.

The Vice Chancellor explained the members that the university is in process to start two year M.Ed. program from the academic session 2015-16. In view of NCTE Regulations 2014 notified vide letter No. 51-1(2014)-NCTE (N&S) dated 28.11.2014 (copy enclosed), the sanction for the following faculty is required from UGC/MHRD, in addition to the present faculty in the Centre for Education:

S. No.	Position	Approval required
1	Professor	01
2	Associate Professor	0
3	Assistant Professor	02

The Council considered and **RESOLVED** to recommend the proposal of teaching positions in Centre for Education to initiate the two year M.Ed. program from Academic Session 2015-16.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.3 To consider the utilization of sanctioned faculty positions of some non-functional Centres (6 Nos.) out of approved Centres (20 Nos.) as faculty in new courses to be introduced in academic session 2015-16.

The Secretary informed the House that in the second meeting of Academic Council, 20 Centres were approved (list appended) under various Schools of the university. However, the following Centres are not functioning presently:

Annexure 10

1. Centre for Waste Management
2. Centre for Green Architecture and Landscape Design
3. Centre for Ancient and Modern Architecture
4. Centre for Museology, Archaeology and Conservation
5. Centre for Information Technology and Management
6. Centre for Historical Studies

It was also informed to the members that in the agenda **Item No AC:6:2015:14.3**, due to typographical error "*non-functional Centres*" was wrongly written as "*Non functional Courses*". The same may please be read as "**Non-functional Centres**" forthwith. The correction was allowed.

It is proposed that the sanction of faculty positions in each of the above mentioned Centres (*Professor 1, Associate Professor – 2 and Assistant Professor – 4*) be utilized as faculty in new courses to be introduced in academic session 2015-16. The university may be allowed to send proposal to the UGC, New Delhi, in this regard so that the same may be implemented at the earliest.

He also requested that in lieu of the above non-functional Centres the new courses be approved and resources allowed to be utilized. The AC **RESOLVED** to approve the re-nomenclature of the Centres at CUPB placed at **Annexure-11** and accordingly recommend new courses/centres as per Annexure-11.

Annexure 11

The Council **RESOLVED** to **allow** the Vice Chancellor to send proposal to the UGC, New Delhi with respect to sanction of faculty positions for the above mentioned Centres.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.4 To inform the Council about the proposal of establishment of Centre of Hindi under 12th Five Year plan.

The Secretary brought to the notice of the Council that in view of the UGC letter dated 22.8.2014 regarding the establishment of Centre of Hindi under 12th Five Year plan, the university plans to establish the Centre for Hindi and has sent proposal to UGC on 9.2.2015.

Annexure 12

The Council considered, **noted** and approved the proposal of establishment of Centre of Hindi under 12th Five Year plan.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.5 To consider the proceedings of the Meeting of the Committee constituted to look into the Maternity Leave Rules of the University for Ph.D. Students.

The Secretary requested the members to look into the Maternity Leave Rules of the University for Ph.D. Students. He stated that for framing these rules the Vice Chancellor had constituted a committee which made the following recommendations.

The observations and recommendations of the committee as also the UGC Rules which says *"JRFs are entitled for a maximum period of 30 days of leave in a year in addition to public holidays. They are not entitled to any other vacations. Women candidates are eligible for maternity leave of 180 days at full rates of fellowship once during the tenure of their award. Beside this an 'Intermittent Break' for a maximum period of 2 years may also be permissible to the women candidates. This Flexi Time Period should not be counted towards the tenure of the fellowship and effectively the total period of fellowship should remain the same"* (copy of rule enclosed).

Annexure 13

The Council considered and **RESOLVED** to recommend that the Maternity Leave Rules for Ph.D. students, should be followed strictly as per UGC guidelines.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.6 To consider the start of following certificate courses under region relevant B.Voc programmes:

- a) Vermiculture technology
- b) Sericulture technology
- c) Apiary
- d) Food Processing
- e) Typing and Shorthand

The Secretary informed the Council that on the initiative and suggestion of UGC, the university plans to start Bachelor of Vocational (B.Voc.) programmes initially in the above mentioned sectors, if possible.

The Chairman shared with the members that during the Conference of the Vice Chancellor's held on 4th-5th February 2015 at Rashtrapati Bhawan, New Delhi, it was discussed that B.Voc. programmes must be introduced by all the CUs to promote the skill development in the country/region.

After discussions, the Council also suggested that following courses under B.Voc. programme may also be included to attract good number of candidates from the region:

- a) Animation
- b) Hardware (Motor binding, TV repair, Mobile repair)
- c) Origami (Japanese Paper Arrangement)
- d) Office Secrecy (Academic Administration)
- e) Polyhouse
- f) Bio fertilizer
- g) Bio pesticides

There were apprehensions that these courses are so small to match 3 year study. It was suggested that to attract adequate number of students to make them viable, we could think of clubbing complimentary traits. In the alternative, instead of 3 year B.VOC. programme, we can try short part-time courses like Certificate Courses for campus students or from anywhere irrespective of age or academic background at a very nominal fee. For this, infrastructure and suitable faculty/experts will have to be employed.

The Council **RESOLVED** to recommend to the EC to approve for the time being initiation of the certificate courses (part-time) proposed by the university and **FURTHER RESOLVED** to include the courses suggested by the AC under B.Voc programmes.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.7 To consider the creation of Database of Alumni by the Central Universities under the Alumni involvement initiative of MHRD.

The Secretary explained the Council that during the Conference of Vice Chancellor's held on 4th -5th February 2015, the MHRD has taken as initiative to create the Database of Alumni by all the Central Universities.

The Council **considered and approve** the creation of Database of Alumni by the Central Universities under the Alumni involvement initiative of MHRD as soon as the students will graduate from the University.

Item No AC:6:2015:14.8 To recommend to EC the subject experts for interviewing candidates for faculty positions.

The Secretary requested the Council to recommend names of experts for conducting the interviews for faculty positions in the university.

Initiating discussions, the Chairman brought to the information of the AC that as per the Act & Statutes of the university, section 27 clause 18(2) the constitution of the Selection Committee should have 3 subject experts (for Professor) and 2 experts (for Associate Professor and Assistant Professor) who are not from the university. These experts are to be nominated by the EC from the list of academicians recommended by AC.

The Chairman requested that the experts should be of high academic standards and foresighted visibility in terms of academic pursuits who can't be influenced by external pressures and recommendations for the task of selecting faculty.

He further admitted that the list of suggested subject experts earlier approved by the EC for selection of faculty positions is insufficient, because they are only the members of Executive Bodies of INSA. As they are very senior people they might not be available for selecting junior level faculty positions.

He suggested that the subject experts should be, as far as possible, well known and be the Fellows of any of the official Academies in India i.e. Indian National Science Academy, New Delhi, National Academy of Sciences India Allahabad, Indian Academy of Sciences, Bangalore, National Academy of Agricultural Sciences, New Delhi, Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, New Delhi and Sahitya Academy. He reiterated that the subject experts should be such, who could not be influenced or yield to pressures or recommendations.

Appreciating the request of the Chairman it was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the suggestions of the Vice Chancellor and recommend to the EC the names of current Fellows of any of the official National Academies – INSA, IAS, NASI, NAAS, ICSSR, SA and further **RESOLVED** to recommend authorization to the Vice Chancellor to invite any expert depending upon availability.

Item No. AC:6:2015: 15 **Any other item with the permission of the Chair.**

Item No. AC:6:2015: 16 **Fixing date of the next meeting of the Academic Council.**

The Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to fix the date for the next meeting of the Academic Council.

Sd/-
Prof. R. C. Sharma
Registrar (*Secretary*)

Proceedings Approved

Sd/-
Prof. R. K. Kohli
Vice Chancellor & Chairman Academic Council