

6TH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY 6/4/2021

Minutes of the meeting of Governing body of R J College of Arts, Commerce and Science (Autonomous)
held on 6/4/2021 at 2.00pm.

A meeting of the members of Governing Body of R J College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous), also known as Hindi Vidya Prachar Samiti's Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous) , affiliated to the University of Mumbai was held on 6/4/2021 at 2.00pm via Zoom online meeting platform.

The following members were present:

1. Dr Rajendra Singh (Chairperson of the meeting Management)
2. Prof Dr Namita Singh (UGC Nominee)
3. Prof Dr Vibha Surana (University of Mumbai- VC Nominee)
4. Dr S K Upadhyay – Management
5. Shri Chandra Mohan- Management
6. Shri Rajdeep Singh- Management
7. Capt Pravin Nayak Teacher of the College- Member
8. Dr Seema Ratnaparkhi IQAC Coordinator, teacher of the College- Member
9. I/C Principal Dr Himanshu Dawda (Ex-officio Member)

Leave of absence:

Shri Beni Prasad Singhji - Management

Dr Rohidas Kale (Government of Maharashtra- Nominee)

The following business was then transacted.

Item 1. Minutes of the fifth meeting held on 31/12/2020 were read and confirmed.

Resolution 1: The minutes of the meeting held on 31/12/2020 confirmed and passed.

Item 2. The recommendations made by the subject Board of Studies and further approved by the Academic Council meeting held on 26/3/2021 were presented by I/C Principal. The major highlights being –

- a. To increase the number of credits from 120 to 132 for all the undergraduate programs to be implemented in a phase wise manner from 2021-22 as proposed by different subject BoS were approved by the Academic Council and unanimously passed.
- b. The draft syllabus of proposed MSc program in Statistics Semester I, II, III and IV presented by the Chairman, Board of Studies in Statistics was unanimously approved and passed by the members of Academic council.

- c. The I/C Principal & the Chairman consolidated the proposal received from different Board of Studies in terms of starting of new programs. BA in Psychology with an intake capacity of 60 in the additional division of 120 students on a self financed basis. The proposal for an additional batch for BSc IT with an additional intake of 60 and additional batch in MSc IT with an additional intake of 20. The recommendation of the Board of Studies in Zoology for an additional batch of 10 students for the specialization of Animal Physiology at the MSc program. The recommendations of Board of Studies in Biotechnology to start Post Graduate Diploma Course in 'Industrial safety & Hygiene' with intake capacity of 40.

Resolution 2: After a long fruitful discussion, the following resolution was passed-

'Resolved that all recommendations made by the Subject BoS and duly passed by the Academic Council be accepted and the same is passed to be implemented from the academic year 2021-22'.

Item 3. The minutes of the meeting of the sixth academic council held on 26/3/2021 was presented for the approval by the members of the Governing body.

Resolution 3: The members of the Governing body unanimously approved and passed the minutes of the fifth Academic Council held on 26th March, 2021. The resolution was then passed that the minutes of the meeting of Academic Council held on 26/3/2021 be accepted.

Item 4: Proposed new programs from the academic year 2021-22.

I/C principal informed the committee that three new programs shall be implemented from the academic year 2020-21, one undergraduate program, one post graduate program and one Post Graduate Diploma. In undergraduate category, BA program in Psychology as core subject at FY level and further continued at SY & TY level. In Post graduate category, MSc in Statistics. In the category of PG Diploma, one year 'Industrial safety & Hygiene' diploma program, coordinated by the department of Biotechnology will commence from the academic year 2021-22. These programs shall run as self-financed programs with 70 percent of teaching faculty on board coming from the industry, thus opening a window for the students to peep into actual world wherein they would be entering with the acquired skills and the knowledge in future.

Item 5: the report of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of R J College was presented by the I/C principal for the period of 2nd January 2021- 31st March 2021. The committee was informed about the role of college IQAC as Mentor in the UGC 'Paramarsh' scheme based on the principle of 'Hub & Spoke' in successfully providing guidance to mentee colleges by holding weekly meetings with them. Research Advisory Committee of the college organized a unique activity of 'Anusandhan' wherein students from different disciplines reviewed classical papers in their own words and interpreting the same highlighting its relevance in the modern times research. All science departments under DBT Star college scheme, effectively engaged students in online webinar, workshops, hands on training and activities like small video making, competitions like explaining concepts through cartooning and quiz. A number of student centric activities to keep their mental and physical health were organized which included 'Harith Sapath', seven day lecture series on 'Health in your hands', counseling sessions, budget analysis, introduction to Finoment- a virtual online stock trading portal, role of artificial intelligence in relation to the growth in financial services, environmental awareness and conservation, world wetland day celebration, alumni engagement etc. RJ Incubation and Innovation cell organized Innovatex 2.0 – a competition on business ideas and proposals from young budding entrepreneurs. I/C Principal shared with the members the excellent work the NSS and RJ Rotract students did in engaging children in activities that would make them self confident, compassionate and good members of the society. Activities like 'gully classes', or 'colors' or 'Sharing & Caring' undertaken by the NSS and Rotract of RJ College brought smiles on the face of many children. With great sense of proud, the I/C Principal shared with the committee the words of praise for

NSS children written by Capt Swaminathan, in charge of Covid Vaccination Centre at Rajawadi, Ghatkopar praising them for the excellent service delivered by them at the centre. I/C Principal also informed the members that several capacity building programs for both teaching and non teaching staff were conducted. Two day national webinar on 'NAAC Accreditation- A First Step Towards Achieving Quality Education' was organized on 16th and 17th January, 2021 wherein more than 89 participants were present. The chief advisor NAAC, Dr Ganesh Hegde delivered a key note address and Dr Vijay Joshi, Chief Consultant, RUSA was present for the valedictory function. Seven criteria of NAAC were discussed and deliberated during different technical sessions in two days. 'Inquiry based learning' session was arranged for teachers to understand how to set effective Question papers. One day State level online workshop on 'Documentation for CAS' for IQAC coordinators, members of IQAC and non teaching staff participating in CAS was organized by RJC-IQAC.

I/C Principal informed the members that the compliance to UGC Quality Mandate, formation of UPSC Coaching cell, Human value cell, activities under SES-REC National Rural Entrepreneurship Mission is being effectively carried out by all departments.

Resolution 5: the committee appreciated the good work done by IQAC members in the academic engagement of teachers and students during the pandemic and resolved that the report of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell for the period of 7th February 2020 to 31st December 2020 be approved and was passed unanimously.

Item 6: Report on Academic & Administrative Audit 2019-20

The I/C Principal informed the members that the Academic and Administrative Audit 2019-20 of the College was conducted on **Saturday 21/11/2020** from **9.00am** onwards by **online mode**. After a day long interactions with all the stake holders, the experts complimented the management, the I/C Principal and staff for the commendable job they are doing in imparting all round education to students from different strata of society. In light of the fact that the college caters to the wide range of student diversity, the members appreciated the efforts taken by the administration to reach out to them through a good teacher-student mentoring practices. The experts expressed satisfaction over the good efforts put in by all the departments to comply with the quality mandate UGC on value education.

Item 7: Update on the appointment of new principal from 1/4/2020.

I/C principal informed the committee that the process of appointment of new principal from 1/4/2021 could not be completed due to imposed lockdown from 23rd March, 2020. Due to pandemic, the process could not be initiated to complete the final interview after scrutiny committee meeting held on 21st March, 2020.

Item 8: Update on utilization of UGC funds allocated for the year 2019-20 under autonomy.

I/C Principal informed the members of the Governing Body that the funds received from UGC under autonomy for the year 2019-20 have been utilized for the purpose it was sanctioned and the audited statement is submitted to the UGC WRO on 23rd December, 2020. He further informed the members that the budget for the financial assistance from UGC for 2020-21 approved by Finance committee and Governing body has been submitted to UGC WRO for their sanction.

Any other matter:

- a. I/C Principal informed the members of the arrangement of terms for the academic year 2020-21 during the pandemic.

First Term August 7, 2020 to December 31, 2020
Second Term January 2, 2021 to May 31, 2021.

- b. I/C Principal shared with the committee that when blended teaching appears to be the new norms for HEI, preparedness for the blended teaching appears to be the need of the hour. Keeping the happiness quotient high for a student is necessary as the period of Covid-19 has not only been challenging physically but mentally as well and at their age, students are very vulnerable and responsive to the changing situations around. Therefore, the activities of the different departmental associations, organization of departmental festivals by students on an alternate mode of online projection etc have been planned for the second term that would keep students engaged, motivated and in touch with their teachers and batch mates. I/C Principal further stated that if things revert back to normal, apart from class room teaching, emphasis would be given in involving students in research by means of hands on training, mini projects, survey based studies, organizing career fair and campus interviews for the students and sport activities that would all bring back the life on campus.

I/C Principal thanked the management and his mentor Former Principal and now the Director of HVPS Dr Usha Mukundan for their kind and constant support. He also thanked all the teachers for the continuous support given to him during the pandemic by participating in the online mode of teaching, learning and evaluation. He also expressed his gratitude to the non teaching staff who were on campus during the pandemic making the process of online admissions smooth and timely declaration of the results.

There being no other matter, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the chair.

Dr Himanshu Dawda