

Minutes of the meeting of the Academic Council held on 12TH October '21

Meeting of the Academic Council of R. J College autonomous was held on Tuesday 12th October, 2021 at 11.00am via online mode of Zoom platform. Chairman Dr. Himanshu Dawda first extended a warm welcome to the new members of the Academic Council which included the Vice Chancellor nominee, Governing body nominees, Industry Experts, Senior members of the teaching staff, Chairpersons of BoS in different subjects and teacher members and continued with the deliberation of the meeting. .

Total Members present: 41

Following members were present:

Chairman - Dr. Himanshu Dawda

Experts Nominated by Governing Body.

1. Dr. Rajendra Singh – Trustee Entrepreneur
2. Shri Umesh Singh – Industrialist
3. Prin. Dr Madhura Kalamkar, HVPS College of Law, Ghatkopar.
4. Prin. Dr Uma Shankar, Principal, SIES College, Sion, Mumbai
5. Dr Usha Mukundan, Director- Academics, HVPS

Vice Chancellor Nominee:

1. Prin Dr Ranjan Kumar Patra, Vikas College of Arts, Science and Commerce, Vikroli
2. Prin Dr Shrimant Rathod, H S College of Arts and Science, Chowpati
3. Prin Dr Vitthal Rokade, T K Tope Arts & Commerce Night 9 Senior) College

Four Senior Teachers from Teaching Staff:

1. Dr Baisakhi Dutta
2. Dr Nisha Muni
3. Dr Saraswathi Moorthy
4. Shri indra Singh Saud

Faculty Member Nominated by the Principal (Member Secretary):

1. Capt. Pravin Nayak.

Head's & In-charge of various Departments (Chairman of respective BOS)

(Listed on the next page)

Sr. No.	Name	Department
1	I/C Principal Dr. Himanshu Dawda	Botany
2	Dr. Pratibha Sardesai	Zoology
3	Dr Ram Sevak Dubey	Chemistry
4	Ms. Ratna Jadhav	Physics
5	Ms. Chhaya Pinge	Statistics
6	Ms. Mary Jossey	Mathematics
7	Prof Subodh Barve	Commerce
8	Dr Sucheta Joshi	Economics
9	Mr Jitendra Jha	Accountancy
10	Dr Kamalini Bandekar	Geography
11	Dr. Meher Mistry	History
12	Dr. Shashi Mishra	Sociology
13	Mr. Bhushan Arekar	Political Science
14	Dr Amita Valmiki	Philosophy & FC
15	Dr. Sneha Deuskar	Marathi
16	Dr. Neeta Chakravarty	English
17	Dr. Mithilesh Sharma	Hindi
18	Dr. Suchita Golwalkar	Biotechnology
19	Ms. Archana Bhide	Information Technology
20	Ms. Vaidhei Deshpande	Computer Science
21	Ms. Nandini Jagnaryan	Banking and Insurance
22	Ms. Kalaiselvi Nadar	Bachelor of Management Studies
23	MS Rekha Shetty	BAF
24	Ms Pooja Bhardwaj	BAMMC
25	Ms Soni Khemani	BVoc
26	Mr Akash Pursnani	MAEMA

The following business was then transacted:

Item 1: Conformation of minutes of the meeting held on 26th March, 2021.

Minutes of the meeting were read and confirmed.

Item 2: Report on the deliberations made on revision of syllabus by respective BOS.

Item 2.1: The Board of Studies in Hindi in its meeting held on 17th August, 2021 proposed changes in the syllabus of both the Language and Ancillary papers in Hindi at FYBA level. The proposal was made to incorporate both Gadhya and Padhya in more or less equal proportions to balance out the syllabus. The members of BOS also approved the changes in MA Syllabus of Part I paper IV and the Chairman presented the same in front of members of the Academic council in its meeting held on 12th October, 2021 for their approval and implementation from the academic year 2021-22.

Resolution 2.1: It was resolved that the recommendations of BOS in Hindi for the revision in the syllabus of FYBA, both compulsory and Ancillary papers as well as changes in the MA Part I, Paper IV syllabus to be implemented from the academic year 2021-22 be accepted and passed unanimously.

Item 2.2: The Chairman, Board of Studies in English in its meeting held on 17th July 2021, placed the revision of syllabus of Semester I and Semester II for FYBA English Language as well as Ancillary papers in order to incorporate more of the world literature than the focus being only on British Literature so far., the Chairman also proposed revision of syllabus for Semester I and Semester II of FYBA Communication skills paper and Business Communication paper for FYBCom program for both the semesters to introduce more practical aspects of the subjects that students can make use of in their day to day life for improved communication personality development with effective use of the language. The changes were accepted by the members of BOS and recommended to be placed in Academic Council meeting to be held on 12th October, 2021 for their approval.

Resolution 2.2: It was resolved that the syllabus for both semesters of FYBA English Language, Ancillary, CS and BC be accepted for the recommendations made by the BOS and passed unanimously for its implementation from the academic year 2021-22.

Item 2.3: The Board of Studies in Political Science in its meeting held on 20th August, 2021 proposed major changes in syllabus of Political Science for both Semester I and II and introduction of new chapters in the paper titled 'Indian Political System'. Proposal was also made to introduce new modules on Fundamental Rights, Indian Judicial System and Indian Federal System to make syllabus more relevant to Indian politics. The members of the board approved the proposed changes and recommended its implementation after placing it in the academic council meeting to be held on 12th October, 2021.

Resolution 2.3: The members of the Academic Council unanimously accepted the recommendations made by the BoS in Political Science and resolved that the revised syllabus be implemented from the academic year 2021-22.

Item 2.4: The Board of studies in Accountancy in its meeting held on 12th August 2021 approved and recommended the revision in SYBCom Semester IV syllabus for the incorporation of the topics like Issue of Shares- practical problems, new concepts of Small company and One person company etc as there are contributory elements in the Finance Budget of the country 2021..

Resolution 2.4: The members of the Academic Council unanimously accepted the recommendations made by the BoS in Accountancy in the second year UG program for its implementation from the academic year 2021-22.

Item 2.5: The Board of studies in Chemistry in its meeting held on 30th August, 2021 deliberated and recommended the revision of curriculum at both UG and PG level to replace absolute techniques by the updated techniques to strengthen the hands of the learner to remain acquainted with the developments in the respective branch of chemistry. The said proposal was for its implementation from the academic year 2021-22 and was recommended by BOS for the perusal of the academic council in its meeting to be held on 12th October, 2021.

Resolution 2.5: It was resolved that the recommendation made by the BOS in Chemistry be approved and accepted for the implementation from academic year 2021 – 22.

Item 2.6: The department of Zoology in its BOS meeting held on 14th August, 2021 deliberated and recommended the curriculum revision at PG level for the specialization of Animal Physiology. The curriculum was revisited and reorganized in order to introduce both classical zoology as well as applied aspects of the subject which would help students crack though the competitive exams and other entrance examinations of national level.

Resolution 2.6: It was resolved that the recommendation made by the BOS in Zoology be accepted and implemented from academic year 2021-22.

Item 2.7: In view of the progression from 120 to 132 credits and accommodation of subject specific electives in SYBSc syllabus that was proposed and passed by the academic council in its meeting held on 26th March, 2021, the Chairman, BOS in Botany in the meeting held on 27th August, 2021 proposed a revision of semester II syllabus in FYBSc program in order to accommodate more applied aspects of the subject and importance of plants in human welfare and health that would create awareness among students about the importance of plants and they remain inclined towards the conservation of plants around. This was proposed to be implemented from the academic year 2021-22.

Resolution 2.7: the recommendations made by the BoS in Botany were approved and passed unanimously.

Item 2.8: The Board of Studies in Physics in its meeting held on 26th August, 2021 deliberated and recommended the revision of entire curriculum of FYBSc program for Semester I and Semester II. The board proposed and recommended the major change of having 3 units of a given paper from

the same course, like all units of mechanics make one paper, all units of a given course be related only to Newtonian mechanics, like a module. The Board of studies in Physics also recommended the increased number of PhD seats from 4 to 12 in view of the increased number of guides in the department from 1 to 3.

Resolution 2.8: It was resolved that the recommendation made by the BOS in Physics for the revision of UG course work and for increasing seats for PhD in Physics be unanimously accepted and passed for its implementation from the academic year 2021-22. .

Item 3: Any Other Matter:

1. The I/C Principal & the Chairman informed the members that in the previous meeting of Academic Council that was held on 26th March, 2021, proposal for the progression from 120 credits to 132 credits at the undergraduate program in a phase wise manner starting from the academic year 2021-22 was approved as recommended by the respective subject BOS . This was in line with UGC recommendations which stated that the undergraduate program should be designed and reinvented in the manner that will prepare the students for both , academia and employability. Starting from the academic year 2021-22, at FY level, all students will complete 2 credits, 30 contact hour module encompassing Computer literacy. Department of Information Technology and department of Computer Science have designed the modules for a blended mode of learning and with inbuilt evaluation for these additional academic credits. All students of FYBA/BSc/BCom shall complete these two modules on computer literacy. Students of management program will have module on leadership quality, students of IT and CS will have module on Life skills and human value and Biotechnology, BBI and BAF will have modules on interpersonal skills and effective communication for their students. Meanwhile, all departments are preparing modules in their respective subjects to be offered as subject specific electives to these students when they come in their second year study in the year 2022-23.
2. The I/C Principal shared the arrangement of terms with the members as received from the University. First term starting from 14th June, 2021 to 31st October, 2021 and the second term from 15th November 2021 to 1st May, 2021. He further informed the members that the Academic Calendar of the college is made available on college website so that teachers can execute their effective teaching plan.
3. I/C Principal while giving an update on curricular aspects, curriculum designing and development expressed satisfaction on every department meticulously mapping their syllabus for Pos, PSOs, Cos and course attainment. He thanked every department in conducting value added course for their students in the last three weeks of May 2021 academically engaging them in skill based learning that would help them in employability. In all, 35 value added courses were conducted for which 2360 students registered and 1546 students successfully completed this 30 hour 2 credit evaluative value added course.
4. The I/C Principal & the Chairman shared with the members that the vibrant IQAC of the college, in consultation with every department , through their departmental activities got students and teachers engaged in fulfilling the UGC Quality Mandate. **CARE- Consortium for Academic Research and Ethics-** students were motivated to participate in the Research Convention of the University of Mumbai 'Aavishkar', and National level 'Anveshan'. The Research Advisory Committee of the college organized Anusandhan- an academic engagement for UG/PG students in making presentation of the classic papers from different

disciplines in their own words. **Social Responsibility and Community engagement-** the RJ-Rotract club organized 102 different programs which included reviving the college compost unit, colours festival to engage small children in drawing activity and the unique program of ‘ Sharing and Caring’ and ‘Gali Classes’ specially designed to engage street children in learning ethics, good habits, hygiene and compassion. **SATAT-** Sustainable development-‘SAFAI Bank’ –an initiative to reduce use of plastics and proper disposal management of MLP is the initiative taking by the college involving large number of students. The college is recognized Social Entrepreneurship, Swachata & Rural Engagement cell (SES REC) institution. **Apprenticeship/ Internship embedded degree course-**At second year BMS program, internship is compulsory. In BVoc program, internship is a part of curriculum fulfilment. In majority of PG programs, intership is made compulsory. For the benefit of students, the college has tied up with *Internshala*- an internship partner which helps students in internship. Itsa platform where in 80.,000 companies are listed. **Good academic research practices-** the college gives seed money to the newly recruited young teachers to take up research with the facilities available on campus. This motivates them to then apply for university funded projects and confidently engage large scale projects. All science departments are inducted under DBT Star Cllege Scheme and four departments, namely, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry and Physics are already DBT Star departments. The funding under the scheme enables departments to give hands on training to students of UG class and involve them in small projects that imparts them skills. **Paramarsh-** a unique initiative of UGC wherein NAAC accredited Institute identified by the UGC does mentoring of aspirant colleges for their NAAC accreditation. R J College has been identified as Mentor college and has five mentee colleges, of which Annalila college has already submitted their SSR. **Deeksharambh-** A week long induction program for new entrée FY students and three day induction program for SY and TY students is arranged by every department in the beginning of the academic year. There are sessions arranged for mental health, stress management, career opportunities and alumni interactions. **LOCF for UG education-** Learning Outcome Curriculum Frame work has been taken up by all departments as a task to be fulfilled from immediate effect and the proposed progression from 120 to 132 credits is the first step towards it wherein, apart from curriculum enrichment and knowledge in the subject domain, the student will be empowered with more skills. **Jeevan Kaushal-** life skills – The partnership with TCS and TISS-NUSSD has widened the horizons for the students in terms of acquiring skill sets that makes them employable. **Evaluation reforms-** Under autonomy, the continuous mode of evaluation coupled with the online mode of teaching has brought in more than one evaluation reforms in testing student knowledge. Several modes of evaluation have been successfully used by departments. **Inclusion of Human values-** human values have been a part of first year BA,BSc, BCom Foundation course syllabus. In addition, all departments have been asked to design and deliver at least one value added course for their students before the end of current academic year. Departments can take up examples or models depicted in their own subjects and explain the importance of such values.

Prin Dr Parta appreciated the efforts taken by the college in academic engagement of students during the period when the campus activities were on hold and online mode of teaching was the only means of engaging students. Prin Dr Rathod and Prin Dr Rokade appreciated the IQAC efforts of designing different activities for the benefit of both students and teachers. Competitions conducted online, multiple modes of evaluation adopted by different departments, , proctored examinations, variety of quality value added courses to enhance skill based learning are all

indicative of proactiveness of the college administration in offering to the students the best that can help them in their life and career. Prin Dr Uma Shanker congratulated the Principal for the perfect planning and execution of progressive additional academic credits from 120 to 132 , specially in the first year with R J College having such a high intake of students. She appreciated the thought of computer literacy as the module for regular BA/BSc/BCom students because they often have no such simple skills which are now a must for any job they are looking for .

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

Date: 12/10/2021

Dr Himanshu Dawda
Chairman

