Shikshana Prasaraka Mandali's

Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College

Matunga, Mumbai 400019

Minutes of the 10th meeting of the

Academic Council

Held on Thursday, 28 April 2022

The 10th meeting of the Academic Council of the Ramnarain Ruia Autonomous College was held on Thursday, 28 April 2022, at 1600 hours via Zoom Meetings Platform.

The status of the Council members was as follows.

Sr. No.	Name of the Person	Designation & Department	Present/Leave of absence Granted
1.	Dr. Anushree Lokur	Principal	Present
2.	Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki	Member Secretary	Present
3.	Prof. Vilas Gaikar	VC Nominee Professor from ICT, Mumbai	Present
4.	Dr. Anuradha Majumdar	VC Nominee Dean, Faculty of Science and Technology, University of Mumbai	Granted Leave of Absence
5.	Prof. Mala Lalwani	VC Nominee Professor, Dept. of Economics, University of Mumbai	Present
6.	Dr. Jessy Pius	IQAC Coordinator	Present
7.	Dr. Aditi Abhyankar	Senior Teacher	Present
8.	Dr. Bhavana Nerula	Senior Teacher	Granted Leave of Absence
9.	Dr. Nana Pradhan	Senior Teacher	Granted Leave of Absence
10.	Dr. Sunil Shankhadarwar	Exam In- charge	Present

11.	Dr. Sybil Thomas	Professor, Education Department University of Mumbai	Present
12.	Dr. Rajanish Kamat	Professor, Shivaji University	Present
13.	Dr. Amol Dighe	Professor, Physics, TIFR	Present
14.	Dr. Uday Salunkhe	Director of the Welingkar Institute of Management Development & Research, Mumbai	Granted Leave of Absence
15.	Dr. Urmila Moon	Head, Dept. of Commerce	Present
16.	Ms. Varsha Malwade	Head, Dept. of Economics	Present
17.	Dr. Arjun Kharat	Head, Dept. of English	Present
18.	Ms. Anjore Deshpande	Head, Dept. of French	Present
19.	Dr. Pravinchandra Bisht	Head, Dept. of Hindi	Present
20.	Dr. Louiza Rodrigues	Head, Dept. of History	Present
21.	Ms. Priyanka Desai	Head, Dept. of Mass Media	Present
22.	Ms. Leena Kedare	Head, Dept. of Marathi	Present
23.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Head, Dept. of Philosophy and	Present
24.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Head, Dept. of Psychology	Present
25.	Dr. Vaibhavi Palsule	Faculty, Dept. of Political Science	Granted Leave of Absence
26.	Dr. Vaishali Dabke	Head, Dept. of Sanskrit	Present
27.	Dr. Sachin Palekar	Head, Dept. of Bioanalytical Sciences	Present
28.	Mr. Prashant Masali	Head, Dept. of Biochemistry	Present
29.	Ms. Supriya Kale	Head, Dept. of Biotechnology	Present

30.	Dr. Sucheta Ketkar	Head, Dept. of Statistics	Present
31.	Dr. Jessy Pius	Head, Dept. of Botany	Present
32.	Dr. Manish Hate	Head, Dept. of Chemistry	Present
33.	Ms. Megha Sawant	Head, Dept. of Computer Science and Information Technology	Present
34.	Dr. Seema Shinde	Head, Dept. of Life Science	Present
35.	Dr. Rajeshwar Andhale	Head, Dept. of Mathematics	Present
36.	Dr. Varsha Shukla	Head, Dept. of Microbiology	Present
37.	Dr. Vijay Mayekar	Head, Dept. of Physics	Present
38.	Dr. Jessy Pius	Head, Dept. of Zoology	Present
39.	Ms. Amrita Gokhale	Head, Dept. of Tourism and Travel Management	Present
40.	Dr. Sasikumar Menon	Head, Dept. Of Pharma Analytical Sciences	Present
41.	Dr. Sanchita Chaudhari	Head, Dept. Of Greenhouse Management	Present
42.	Dr. Himani Chaukar	Chairperson, Foundation Course	Present

Honourable Principal, Dr. Anushree Lokur opened the 10th Academic Council meeting by warmly welcoming everyone. She thanked everyone for making time again for attending the Okur meeting within a short span of few weeks from the last meeting.

The Member Secretary, Dr. Suvarnapathki followed with the meeting proceedings post the Principal's address. She informed the members that the minutes of the 9th AC meeting held on 12 April 2022, had been shared via email with the Council and requested them to confirm the same. The resolutions passed therewith were reiterated by the Council.

❖ **Agenda item No.01: To confirm the minutes of the previous Academic Council Meeting held on 27th May 2021**

The Minutes of the last meeting were shared with all the new members and resolutions passed therewith were reiterated.

The present members all unanimously passed the resolution.

Proposed by: Dr. Seema Shinde   **Seconded by:** Dr. Vijay Mayekar

❖ **Agenda item No.02:**
1) **To seek approval for the revision of the syllabi for FY/SY/TY BA/BSc/BVoc/BMM/BACM and for the academic year 2022-23.**
2) **To seek approval for the implementation of the Choice Based Credit System which includes a) the change in the total number of Credits for the Post Graduate program for science and b) to classify the Courses as Core Courses, Ability Enhancement Courses, Skill Enhancement courses, Discipline specific electives for all the postgraduate programs (M.Sc.)**
3) **To seek approval for the revision of the syllabi for M.Sc. Programs for the Academic Year 2022-23.**
4) **To seek approval for the syllabus for M.A. Psychology for the academic year 2022-23.**

For Agenda 2.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that a second round of Board of Studies (BoS) meetings, in an online mode were conducted by all departments in the 3rd week of April 2022.She informed the Council that no new recommendations were made by most departmental Boards. She was delighted to inform the Council that in tandem with the recommendation of the members to incorporate topics related programming, data analysis and digitization, the Department of Statistics incorporated the same in their revised syllabi by introducing two new Applied Component papers at T.Y.B.Sc. Semester 5 and 6 viz. Elements of Operations Research-RUSACOR501, Data Analysis Using Python-RUSACDA601. She also requested the members to go through the detailed copy of the syllabi for these papers, shared via email.

Such prompt response to their recommendations was highly appreciated by the members and they wished the department a fruitful teaching-learning process.

For Agenda 2.2, she shared the detailed excel sheet and explained that the college intended to increase total credits for the MSc. program from 96 to 100. This was to be accomplished by adding 02 credits for Semester 1 & Semester 2 with no additions to Semester 3 & 4 credits. Principal Dr. Lokur emphasized that students had a wide range of choice within clusters of subjects, making the entire program multi-specialization.

***Please find attached in appendix, the individual data sheet for every department*

On reviewing syllabi and course modules for different departments, Dr. Rajanish Kamat suggested revising nomenclatures for certain papers. Giving the example of successive papers in different semester, he recommended, rather than calling them papers I & II, it would be apt to incorporate the terms Basic and Advanced in the paper titles, defining them and highlighting the skill progression through the semesters.

Dr. Amol Dighe particularly wanted to know the focus of the Department of Physics as all the Discipline-specific papers were leaning towards Electronics with few other choices. Dr. Vijay Mayekar, Head of the Department of Physics explained to the members that they intended to include Material Sciences in the syllabi gradually. At present the DSCs were Microprocessor-focused with 8 bit, 16 bit and 32 bit introduced at semester 1, 2 & 3 respectively, thus ensuring steady advancement of technical skills of students. He further justified that since the MSc. program admitted students from diverse graduating colleges with differing syllabi, they wanted to give exposure first to 8 bit and gradually grow the students' skills over the course of the program. Dr. Lokur also added that the department intended to introduce Nanotechnology eventually but since the current resource-persons all belonged to the field of Electronics, the department wanted to capitalize on their skillset and eventually develop more discipline specific electives by next year

Another change recommended and approved by all BoS was to make Ability Enhancement courses compulsory for students. In sync with the same, Principal Dr. Lokur informed the Council that the college intended to introduce two new courses from academic year 2022-23:

a) Emotional Well-Being Through Logic-Based Thinking for all students.
b) MA Psychology- specialization in Clinical Psychology (Intake capacity- 25 seats)

Understanding the after-effects of the pandemic and the emotional stress that students had to undergo with sudden changes to online learning and hybrid teaching practices, such courses would certainly benefit their overall mental capacities and well-being.

Separate departmental excel sheets for all the above programs shared in Appendix below

Following the above, the Council concluded the discussion for AGENDA 2. All the above modifications, were unanimously passed.

Resolution numbers for Syllabi changes as below:

Resolution Numbers: PG Courses

Sr.no	Name of the department	Resolution Number for Academic year 2022-23 syllabus
1.	Bio-Analytical Sciences	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS1
2.	Bio-Chemistry	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS2
3.	Biotechnology	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS3
4.	Botany	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS4
5.	Chemistry	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS5
6.	Computer Science	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS6
7.	Information Technology	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS7
8.	Life Science	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS8
9.	Microbiology	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS9
10.	Physics	AC/I(I21-22).2(iii).RPS10
11.	Zoology	AC/II(21-22).2(iii).RPS11

RESOLVED THAT the changes in the syllabi of all subjects of PG Programs whereby changes in syllabi were reflected, as recommended by the respective Board of Studies, are approved with the requisite credits and corresponding number of lectures.

The detailed list of syllabi changes in various Programs instituted in this academic year is attached in Appendix.

Proposed by: Dr. Sasi Menon   **Seconded by: Dr. Jessy Pius**

❖ **Agenda Item No. 3: To approve the regulations (entrance examination) regarding the admission of the students for the Post Graduate program (M.Sc.) for the academic year 2022-23.**

Vice Principal Academics, Dr. Varsha Shukla opened the discussion on conducting entrance exams for PG courses offered by the College. She intimated the Council that there was consensus from all the BoS members that entrance exam will be mandatory for all applications to PG programs. She listed the following proposed admission protocol:

- Eligibility criteria for admission will be same and have appeared for entrance –
- Entrance exam will be conducted for admission to all subjects offering MSc. Admissions will be according to merit in entrance exam ONLY
- Eligibility criteria for appearing for entrance test- 50 % marks for Open category and 45% marks for reserved category at Semester V examination in respective subject with no ATKT in any course
- Eligibility criteria for admission to PG course- 50 % marks for Open category and 45% marks for reserved category at Semester V examination in respective subject with no ATKT in any course AND appearance for entrance exam
- Entrance exam will be conducted in On-line mode with proctoring
- Entrance exam will be of 50 marks, 1 mark allotted for each question, duration 60 mins
- Paper pattern- MCQ based exam. 10 questions of general aptitude, 40 questions that are subject specific, out of which at least 10 will be of higher difficulty level, such that the analytical ability and high order thinking skill of the student will be assessed.
- Students will be admitted on the basis of their merit in the Entrance exam ONLY
- Only provisional admission will be given. Admission to the course will be confirmed subject to student clearing all courses in Semester VI examination.
- In case of a tie, scores of main subjects at Semester V/ VI will be considered.

She also emphasized that since Semester VI results are usually delayed, further delaying the PG admission process.

Both, Dr. Amol Dighe and Dr. Rajanish Kamat agreed that it would be appropriate to consider Semester V marks, but also pointed out a minor technical challenge - since grading varies in every institute, final SGPA conversion would also vary. But Dr. Vilas

Gaikar reiterated that this was a practical problem with no viable solution at present.

Dr. Lokur added that to ensure complete transparency in the admission process , in event of a tie after the grading from MCQ exam, college will consider an average of semester I, II, II, IV &V marks. Dr. Rajanish Kamat also suggested keeping a provision of 10% excess admissions which was seconded by Dr. Lokur.

The Council unanimously passed the above points and requested to be sent the final admission protocol passed and approved by the college.

Proposed by: Dr. Manish Hate   Seconded by: Dr. Himani Chaukar

❖ **Agenda Item No. 4: Any other matter with the permission of the chair**

Principal, Dr. Lokur took this opportunity to put forth to the Council the proposal to consider NCC and NSS enrollment of students instead of the compulsory Foundation Course paper at First and Second year UG level. She informed the Council that presently the college had 02 Girls units and 01 Boys unit for NCC, all students thereby earning an additional 10 marks for their participation. She assured the members that after reviewing eligibility and evaluation modalities, the college would send across the details of the same to them for approval before the next Academic Council meeting.

Dr. Rajanish Kamat also opened discussion for the college policy on Dual Degree award as initiated by UGC. Principal Dr. Lokur, informed the members that the college had a separate Academic Reforms Committee to discuss and devise plans for NEP and that the members will be regularly updated on the proceedings through the Academic Council meetings.

The Council unanimously passed the above points.

Proposed by: Dr. Anushree Lokur   Seconded by: Dr. Supriya Kale

Following the above, as there were no further points for discussion, the Member Secretary, Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki concluded with a Vote of Thanks to all the present members and closed the meeting at 5 pm IST.

Dr. Sujata Suvarnapathki

Dean, Academic Affairs and Member Secretary, Academic Council

Minutes Approved by

Prof. Dr. Anushree Lokur

Principal, Chairwoman, Academic Council

Appendix:

Please refer to attached documents for:

1. *List of syllabi changes in existing and newly instituted programs*
2. *Separate departmental excel sheets for details on new programs to be started in 2022-23*