

# **Fifteenth Meeting of the Senate**

**7<sup>th</sup> August 2015, 10:30hrs.**

## **AGENDA**



### **ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH**

**Headquarters:** Training and Development Complex,  
CSIR Campus, CSIR Road, Taramani, Chennai- 600 113

**Coordination Office:** CSIR-Central Road Research Institute,  
CRRRI P.O., Delhi-Mathura Road, New Delhi- 110 025

# Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research

## Agenda for the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate

7<sup>th</sup> August 2015; 10:30 hrs.

Venue: ISSH Conference Room, CSIR - IGIB, Mathura Road, New Delhi 110025

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## **Initiation of the Meeting**

**Item No. 1            Condolence for Prof. Rakesh Mohan Jha, Associate Dean, MIS**

**Item No. 2            Welcome address by the Chairman of the Senate and Acting Director, AcSIR**

The Acting Director and Chairman, Senate AcSIR welcomes all the members of the Senate attending the meeting. A brief update on the current activities of AcSIR will be given.

**Item No. 3            Confirmation of the minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate**

The 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate of AcSIR was held on May 8, 2015 at Conference Room, CSIR-CRRI, Mathura Road, New Delhi 110025.

The Proceedings of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting were accepted by the Chairman and circulated among the members of the Senate by e-mail on July 2, 2015 for their comments/ observations. No comment was received on the Proceedings.

The minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate are being put to the Senate for confirmation at **Annexure A-1**.

**Item No. 4            Action Taken Report (ATR) on the 14<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate**

The Action Taken Report on the Proceedings of the 14<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate of AcSIR held on May 8, 2015 is furnished at **Annexure A-2**.

## Item for Ratification

### Item No. 5      **M.Tech results (2013-15 batch) for the award of the Degree**

The fifth batch of 2+3 year fulltime residential Integrated MTech-PhD program of AcSIR took admission in 2013. Out of a total 85 students who had taken admission, **66** have successfully completed the MTech part of the program and are graduating in 2015. 10 students have resigned from the program before completion. The programs were offered in the following areas:

- Building Engineering and Disaster Mitigation (CSIR-CBRI)
- Advanced Semiconductor Electronics (CSIR-CEERI)
- High Power Microwave Devices and System Engineering (CSIR-CEERI)
- Advanced Electronic Systems (CSIR-CEERI)
- Glass and Ceramic Engineering (CSIR-CGCRI)
- Mine Safety Engineering (CSIR-CIMFR)
- Mechatronics (CSIR-CMERI)
- Applied and Computational Mechanics (CSIR-CMERI)
- Transportation Engineering (CSIR-CRRI)
- Advanced Petroleum Science & Technology (CSIR-IIP)
- Advanced Automotive Technology (CSIR-IIP)
- Materials Resource Engineering (CSIR-IMMT)
- Materials and Metallurgical Engineering (CSIR-NML)
- Advanced Materials Physics and Engineering (CSIR-NPL)
- Engineering of Structures (CSIR-SERC)
- Renewable Engineering (CSIR-SERC)

The results of **9** students of Advanced Instrumentation Engineering offered by CSIR-CSIO is yet to be finalized.

The results, enclosed as **Annexure A-3**, of the 66 students have already received approval of the Dean of Engineering Sciences and the Chairman, Senate and are being placed to the Senate for ratification. The MTech degree is to be conferred to the successful students at the 5<sup>th</sup> Convocation of the Academy.

## Item for Ratification

### Item No. 6      **PhD (Science) and (Engineering) results for the award of the Degree**

The PhD program of AcSIR has formally begun from the January 2011 session across all the CSIR laboratories. Currently the program have around 2500 students enrolled/registered across the Labs in the five faculties of study.

Since the last Convocation of AcSIR held in August 2014, **137** students have completed all the academic requirements for the award of the PhD in Science or Engineering degree. The Chairman, Senate has already approved the award of the degree. The results are being placed for ratification by the Senate for the award of the formal degree to the students.

The reports of the viva-voce examination committee of all the 137 students along with the approval of the Chairman, Senate are being placed to the Senate for ratification of the results for the award of the formal degree at **Annexure A-4**.

## Item for Ratification

### Item No. 7      **Post Graduate Diploma in Patinformatics (2014 batch) for the award of the Degree**

The first batch of 10 students in Post Graduate Diploma in Patinformatics conducted by CSIR-URDIP has completed all the academic requirements for the award of the Diploma to the successful candidates.

The results have been duly endorsed by the Dean of the concerned faculty and approved by the Chairman, Senate. The same is being placed, as **Annexure A-5**, for ratification of the Senate.

## Item for Ratification

### Item No. 8      **PhD Admissions in Jan 2015 session at CSIR-CCMB, CSIR-CDRI and CSIR-NCL**

The Coordinators of CSIR-CCMB and CSIR-CDRI have informed that these Labs have not taken any students in the January 2015 session.

The proceedings of CSIR-NCL (**total 62 students**; Bio-13; Chem-46; Phy-03) for the January 2015 session, duly approved by the Deans of the concerned Faculty and the Chairman, Senate is enclosed as **Annexure A-6** for ratification of the Senate.



## Item for Ratification

### Item No. 9 Admissions for the August 2015 session

- (i) PhD program in Science and Engineering
- (ii) Integrated MTech-PhD program in Engineering
- (iii) Integrated MSc-PhD program in Nutritional Biology
- (iv) Integrated MSc-PhD program in Clinical Research and Health Informatics (AcSIR-PHFI)
- (v) Post Graduate Diploma in Patinformatics

#### *(i) PhD program in Science and Engineering*

The admission for the PhD program in Science and Engineering for the academic session August 2015 has been completed at different participating CSIR laboratories.

In all **569** students have been selected for PhD program (**458** students in Science and **111** students in Engineering) at the different Labs. The Lab-wise list of selected candidates in the form of the Proceedings of the Selection Committee meeting for the PhD programs with proper approval from cluster Deans and the Chairman, Senate are being placed to the Senate for ratification at **Annexure A-7(a)**.

#### *(ii) Integrated MTech-PhD program in Engineering*

The admission for the Integrated MTech-PhD program in Engineering for the academic session 2015 has been completed at different participating CSIR laboratories. In this session **09** Engineering Laboratories have participated offering courses in **13** specialized areas of study.

In all **52** students have been selected across the laboratories. The Lab-wise list of selected candidates in the form of the Proceedings of the Selection Committee meeting for the Integrated MTech-PhD program with proper approval from the Dean, Engineering Sciences and the Chairman, Senate are being placed to the Senate for ratification at **Annexure A-7(b)**.

#### *(iii) Integrated MSc-PhD program in Nutritional Biology*

The Senate in its 10<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2014 approved the introduction of Integrated Masters-PhD program in Nutritional Biology at CSIR-CFTRI, to be funded by Department of Biotechnology (DBT). The proposal also received the

approval of the Board of Governors (BoG) at its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> August 2014 subject to certain clarification which was provided by the CSIR Lab. On 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015, Chairman, BoG accorded his approval for initiation of the program from August 2015 session.

Accordingly **10** students have been selected as per AcSIR guideline for the first batch starting in August 2015. The list of selected candidates in the form of the Proceedings of the Selection Committee meeting with proper approval from the Dean, Biological Sciences and the Chairman, Senate are being placed to the Senate for ratification at **Annexure A-7(c)**.

**(iv) Integrated MSc-PhD program in Clinical Research and Health Informatics (AcSIR-PHFI)**

The joint academic program of AcSIR and PHFI for Integrated MSc-PhD in *Health Informatics* and *Clinical Research* has formally started from the August 2013 session. The third batch of students for the programs have been selected this year and the session will start from August 2015.

Accordingly **6** and **14** students have been selected for the programs in *Health Informatics* and *Clinical Research*, respectively. The list of selected students, with due approval from the Dean, Biological Science and the Chairman, Senate are being placed at **Annexure A-7(d)** for ratification.

**(v) Post Graduate Diploma in Patinformatics**

The proposal from CSIR-URDIP for introduction of a *Post Graduate Diploma in Patinformatics* received the approval of the Senate at its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting held on December 19, 2013 and subsequently of the Board at its 5<sup>th</sup> meeting held on March 24, 2014.

The second batch of **10** students have been selected at CSIR-URDIP for the August 2015 session. The list of selected students for the program, duly approved by the Associate Director (Academic) on behalf of the Associate Dean, MIS and the Chairman, Senate is placed at **Annexure A-7(e)** for ratification.

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## Items for Ratification

## **Item No. 10      Course Related Items**

The Course Committee of AcSIR at its meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> Sept 2015 recommended revision of the Course Numbers for all the labs. As per the recommendation, each Lab is now assigned a block of 100 course numbers in each level for all 5 faculty of studies. Also, the Committee recommended introduction of 4 digit number for all courses. The recommendation of the Course Committee was approved at the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate held on 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2014.

Accordingly, the Associate Deans of all the faculty, in consultation with the Coordinators of the different Labs have revised the course nomenclature and brought uniformity in the course content of different Labs. The final courses compiled by the Associate Deans have received the approval of the concerned Deans and the Chairman, Senate. The revised course documents for all the five faculty are being placed for ratification of the Senate at **Annexure A-8** as follows:

- (a) Biological Sciences,
- (b) Chemical Sciences,
- (c) Engineering Sciences,
- (d) Mathematical & Information Sciences
- (e) Physical Sciences

## Item for Information

### Item No. 11      **Transfer of students between CSIR Labs**

The request of the following students have been received for approval of the Dean/Associate Dean of Engineering Sciences and the Chairman, Senate for transfer of Lab:

Name of the Student	Faculty	Enrollment No.	CSIR Lab	
			From	To
Ramendra Pandey	Engineering Sciences	32EE14A41008	CSIR-SERC	CSIR-NCL
B. S. Somesh*	Engineering Sciences	20EE13A12006	CSIR-CMERI	CSIR-NAL

\*TRF-INAE Sponsored Candidate

Members may kindly take a note of the transfer of the above students. Necessary approvals are enclosed as **Annexure A-9**.

### Item No. 12      **Student completing PhD as Part-time student**

The following student of CSIR-IGIB has received approval of the concerned Dean to complete her PhD as 'Part Time PhD student' after completion of all academic requirements including Open Colloquium:

Student	Registration No.	Lab	Faculty	Open Colloquium	Dean's approval on
Meghna Singh	10BB12J02005	CSIR-IGB	Biological Sciences	02.01.2015	18.05.2015

The Senate is to record the current "Part-time" status of the student.

## Item for Information

### Item No. 13 **Updates on Faculty List of AcSIR** (Modifications received since 14<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting)

The Senate in its eighth meeting on August 2, 2013 had approved the *Faculty Guidelines of AcSIR*. The collated list of faculty was placed and approved in the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate.

AcSIR routinely receives requests for modification of faculty list based on participation of newly hired CSIR scientists in the Academy, promotion, superannuation or resignation of the existing staffs. Approval of the Chairman, Senate (as authorized at the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate) has been obtained for appropriate changes in the Faculty for the following Labs:

Sl. No.	CSIR-Lab Name	Status
1	4PI	Modification
2	CSIR-CECRI	Addition
3	CSIR-CEERI	Addition; Deletion
4	CSIR-CFTRI	Addition; Modification; Deletion
5	CSIR-CIMFR	Modification;
6	CSIR-IGIB	Addition;
7	CSIR-IIIM	Modification; Deletion
8	CSIR-IMMT	Addition; Modification;
9	CSIR-IIP	Addition;
10	CSIR-NCL	Addition; Modification;
11	CSIR-NIIST	Addition
12	CSIR-NML	Addition

Details are placed at **Annexure A-10** for information of the Senate.

## Item for Information

### Item No. 14 Recommendation made by the Finance Committee in its 9<sup>th</sup> meeting

As per Clause 10.1 of Statute 10 of AcSIR, the Finance Committee is to make recommendations to the Senate in respect of all financial matters. The 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Finance Committee was held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2015 at AcSIR HQs at Chennai.

The Salient recommendations of the Finance Committee that the Senate should take notice of are as follows:

- (i) Policy on waiver of tuition fees: The FC recommended consideration of the waiver on a case to case basis taking into account the academic performance and economic status of the candidate. However, any student availing any fellowship/any other monetary assistance or the Sponsored Candidates will not be eligible for a waiver. (Refer to Item No. 8 on Minutes)
- (ii) Review of policies: Remuneration of EAs, ECs & Sr. ECs: The FC recommended the increment in salary having two components:
  - a) Performance based component
  - b) Cost-index related component

FC also recommended to work out a methodology for fixation of remuneration of the existing employees of AcSIR under the revised pay scale. Approval of the BoG is to be obtained. (Refer to Item No. 9 on Minutes)

- (iii) Review of policies: Review of tuition Fee status (Refer to Item No. 10 on Minutes)

The FC recommended the following changes/increments with respect to fees and other charges:

- a) Introduction of non-refundable application fee of Rs. 100 for all categories of students excepting SC/SC candidates, who would be exempt from payment of application fees.
- b) Increase the tuition fee by 20% for PhD candidates. The increased rate would be Rs. 14400/- per annum payable at the rate of Rs. 7200/- at the beginning of each semester.
- c) The existing tuition fee of Rs. 48000/- per annum for the MTech degree to be increased to Rs. 56000/- per annum payable at the rate of Rs. 28000/- at the beginning of each semester.
- d) Introduction of Convocation and handling fees of Rs. 1000/- per graduating student.
- e) Amount payable to Labs for their internal budget to be reduced from 40% to 25%. This will not include TA of Lab Coordinators,

Deans/Associate Deans, Senate and other members of Committees which will be met centrally by AcSIR.

- f) A separate distribution of up to 10% of the total amount due to the laboratory as per item e) above, will be made on reimbursement basis towards social/societal projects/programs taken up by the student(s) concerned.
- g) A separate fund/head of account need to be created to meet the travel requirements
- h) All the payments by the students are to be made/received directly to AcSIR account.

The recommendation of the FC is to be put forward for approval of the Board.

- (iv) Purchase policy of AcSIR (Refer to Item No. 11 on Minutes)  
As authorized by the FC, the Chairman has recommended the Purchase Policy to be placed to the Board of Governors at its next meeting for approval.
- (v) Fixation of reduced amount of Tuition fees for students who exceed the maximum stipulated period for completion of a Program (Refer to Item No. 12 on Minutes)  
FC recommended that those students who could not submit their PhD thesis within 5 years and whose Fellowship expired or have no other means of support, may be charged a reduced tuition fee at the rate of 25% of the standard chargeable fee. Such requests received with approval of the Lab Director are to be decided on a case to case basis. However, there will be no relaxation for Sponsored candidates.
- (vi) Honorarium payable to foreign examiners of theses (Refer to Item No. 17 on Minutes)  
The FC approved payment of an equivalent amount of USD 200 to the foreign examiners for evaluation of PhD thesis with the stipulation that amount payable should be a tax and other charges-paid. The FC also opined that since sufficient talent for evaluation of thesis is already available in India, it is not needed to encourage foreign examiners for that purpose.

The Minutes of the meeting of the Finance Committee is enclosed at **Annexure A-11** along with all the relevant annexures for review of the Senate.

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 15 Proposal for Adjunct Faculty

AcSIR has received requests from **CSIR-CECRI** and **Public Health Foundation of India (Indian Institute of Public Health - IIPH)** for inclusion of the following faculty as Adjunct Faculty of AcSIR.

As per the guidelines of AcSIR, an Adjunct Faculty of AcSIR will spend substantial time for the activities of the Academy in terms of teaching, supervising Master's thesis, guiding PhD scholars, development of curricula etc. or any other work that the Institute he/she is associated with, deem fit.

Name of Faculty	Designation	Organization	Adjunct Faculty at	Adjunct Faculty Designation
Prof. Sourav Pal	Professor	IIT Bombay	CSIR-NCL	Professor
Dr. T.N. Narayanan	Reader	TIFR Centre for Interdisciplinary Sciences, Hyderabad	CSIR-CECRI	Associate Professor
Prof. Sanjay Zodpey	Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Professor
Dr. Sutapa B Neogi	Additional Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Additional Professor
Dr. Niveditha Devasenapathy	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Dr. Tanica Lyngdoh	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Dr. Shifalika Goenka	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Dr. Subhojit Dey	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Ms Anjali Singh	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Dr. Ranjana Singh	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Assistant Professor
Dr. Himanshu Negandhi	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Dr. Suparna Ghosh Jerath	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	PHFI-IIPH, New Delhi	Associate Professor
Prof. G.V.S. Murthy	Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Professor
Dr. Suresh Munuswamy	Assistant Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Assistant Professor
Dr. Raghupathy Anchala	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Associate Professor
Dr. Srikrishna SR	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Associate Professor
Dr. J.K. Lakshmi	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Associate Professor
Dr. Neena John	Associate Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Associate Professor
Dr. Samiksha	Assistant Professor	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	PHFI-IIPH, Hyderabad	Assistant Professor

Approval of the Senate is sought for the Adjunct Faculty positions at CSIR-CECRI and PHFI. Relevant documents are placed at **Annexure A-12**.



## Items for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 16      **Issues related to admission and continuation in IMP and PhD (Engineering) programs**

#### **(i) Proposal for modification in entry level eligibility criteria for admission to IMP program**

The eligibility criteria for admission to IMP program of AcSIR are Engineering Graduates (BE/BTech) under 10+2+4/10+3+3 system with minimum 70% marks or 7.0 CGPA and the candidates need to have a valid tenable GATE/NET (Engineering) Score. Currently students can only apply as JRFs having GATE or NET (Engineering) score or as Sponsored Candidates.

Considering the quality and number of applications received from students for the IMP program in the last two sessions, a proposal has been received from Dr. Raj Singh for the Senate to consider applicants having:

(a) BE/BTech (or even ME/MTech) degrees who have NET-JRF in non-engineering subjects e.g. Physics, Chemistry, Life Sciences, etc. for admissions to IMP program and also to the PhD (Engineering) programs; and

(b) Similarly, there are BE/BTech students that take GATE in other "non-core engineering" subjects e.g. Physics, Life Sciences, Material Science, Biotechnology, XE, etc.

This option will provide opportunity to candidates who have BE/BTech in Engineering Physics, Material Science, Biotechnology, etc. as well as "standard" engineering branches for admission to IMP and PhD programs.

#### **(ii) Credit requirements for students with break after MTech in IMP program**

Recently a few cases have been pointed out by Coordinators where the IMP students while appearing at selection interview for PhD as a continuation of IMP program, did not perform well and were not selected for the PhD program at the August Session. However, they re-applied for PhD (Sciences) program at the next January session and performed well enough to be selected for the PhD program.

The Senate is requested to consider whether these students selected for the January session will have to undertake the full 12 + 8 credit coursework or they may be considered as a continuing student for IMP program and take 4+8 credit coursework as is required by the IMP students.

The Senate is requested to provide clear guidelines on the status of such students with respect to their credit requirements for the PhD program.

**(iii) PhD Fellowships after MTech (non-IMP cases)**

CSIR has discontinued "Engineering Sciences" option from CSIR-UGC-NET exams from December, 2015 onwards. Some MTech students used to also appear for these exams to avail fellowship for PhD. However, this route of availing fellowship for PhD for students will only remain valid for another 2 years for students who had cleared previous NET (Engineering) exams.

Other options presently available for fellowships to MTech students (of non-AcSIR institutes) typically take 1 year after MTech - CSIR-SRF, UGC-RGNF, UGC-MANF, DST-Inspire, etc. The GATE result validity has now been increased to 3 years from February, 2015 exams. Some MTech students had started writing GATE exams again for PhD admissions as some IITs had started to require it for their PhD admissions as well.

Members of the Senate are requested to discuss the possible ways for providing fellowships to Engineering students who wish to pursue PhD after MTech and avoid the hiatus of 1 year between MTech and PhD admission due to PhD fellowship not being available to students immediately after completion of MTech.

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 17      **AcSIR Policy on Online Repository of Theses**

The Senate at its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014 approved the creation of an Institutional Online Repository of all theses of AcSIR whose degrees have been awarded. A link for an Institutional Repository (IR) has been created for AcSIR by CSIR-URDIP which is accessible at <http://acsir.csircentral.net/>. The Senate in its 13<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2015 directed that a policy needs to be developed by AcSIR for activation of the same.

In consultation with the Associate Deans of Biological and Chemical Sciences, Dr. Shantanu Sengupta, Dr. Ramanuj Narayan and Dr. Souvik Maiti, Senate member, a policy has been formulated for consideration and approval of the Senate. The draft policy is placed at **Annexure A-13** for consideration and approval of the Senate

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 18      **Guidelines for Summer Training Program of AcSIR**

The proposal for introduction of a Summer Training/Internship Program was raised at the 10<sup>th</sup> Senate meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> April, 2014, similar to the ones offered by National Academies that would help AcSIR to achieve wide publicity. The item was referred to the Finance Committee meeting held on July 21, 2014 at Chennai. The Finance Committee accepted the proposal in-principle and approved any expenses that may require to be incurred for the purpose and referred the case to the Senate for formulation of a detailed proposal. The Board at its 6<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> August 2014, accorded in principle approval to the proposal.

A Committee was formed by the Chairman, Senate under the Chairmanship of Prof. Kunal Ray, to prepare a formal proposal having complete details related to selection criteria, distribution of students among various Labs, duration etc. and its total financial impact on the budget of AcSIR. The Committee has deliberated on the various issues through online meetings and through extensive e-mail communication and has finalized the proposal for the Summer Training Program.

The Chairman, Senate has proposed naming the Summer Fellowship program as “**Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Summer Training Program**”.

The formal proposal having complete details on selection criteria, distribution of students among various Labs, duration etc. and its total financial impact on the budget of AcSIR is being placed at **Annexure A-14** for the approval of the Senate. Subsequently the proposal would require approval of the Board for initiation of the program from 2016.

## Items for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 19      **Modifications in Guidelines for Direct PhD and Sponsored PhD programs in Engineering Sciences**

The Senate in its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting recommended that Direct PhD (Engineering) for students with undergraduate degree in Engineering and Sponsored PhD (Engineering) shall need to be revised by a committee under Chairmanship of Prof. S.K. Bhattacharyya.

The Subcommittee has finalized the guidelines through multiple rounds of circulation among the members.

The recommended guidelines for Direct & Sponsored PhD in Engineering are being placed at **Annexure A-15** for discussion and approval by the members of the Senate.

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 20      **Issues related to Direct PhD and Sponsored PhD in Science and Engineering**

#### (i) **Correction in requirements for appearing in Comprehensive for Industry Sponsored & Direct PhD (Science) program in light of recommendations by Senate in its 12th meeting**

The guidelines for Sponsored Candidates in PhD (Sciences) and Direct PhD (Sciences) approved on 15 October 2014 states that the candidates can appear for Comprehensive Examination after completion of prescribed academic coursework, as under:

Quote

*Comprehensive Exam:*

- *Candidates in PhD program shall only be allowed to take Comprehensive Examination after completing 8 credits of coursework as a residential student at the CSIR Lab.*
- *Candidates in Direct PhD program shall only be allowed to take Comprehensive Examination after completing 20 credits of coursework as a residential student at the CSIR Lab.*

Unquote

However, the Senate in its 12<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 17 November 2014, approved the recommendations of Course Committee, which stated that the Sponsored candidates shall be required to complete Project Proposal, Review Article and CSIR-800 Project in addition to the credit requirement from academic coursework.

Thus, in light of the recommendations of Senate, the relevant section of guidelines for Sponsored PhD & Direct PhD (Sciences) program is proposed to be modified as under:

*Comprehensive Exam:*

- *Candidates in PhD program shall only be allowed to take Comprehensive Examination after completing **Project Proposal, Review Article and CSIR-800 Project in addition to 8 credits of coursework as a residential student at the CSIR Lab.***
- *Candidates in Direct PhD program shall only be allowed to take Comprehensive Examination after completing **Project Proposal, Review Article and CSIR-800 Project in addition to 20 credits of coursework as a residential student at the CSIR Lab.***

**Recommendation:** Necessary approval is sought from the Senate for the above mentioned amendment of the relevant section of the existing guidelines for Sponsored PhD & Direct PhD (Sciences) programs.

**(ii) Proposal for reduction of course-work credit requirements for industry sponsored PhD candidates**

- a) The following two Industry Sponsored candidates have been selected in PhD (Engineering) program of AcSIR at CSIR-NML in August 2014 session:

Sl. No.	Student Name
1.	Mr. G. Senthil Kumar
2.	Mr. Sundara Bharathy R

Both the candidates have completed PG Diploma in Steel Technology from IIT, Kharagpur as Sponsored Candidates in addition to undergraduate degree in Engineering. It has been observed by Associate Dean, Engineering Sciences that the PGDST program is exhaustive in addition their experience in the plants at Tata Steel can be counted towards consideration of them equivalent to candidates with M.Tech degree. The candidates may be required to fulfill requirements of regular Ph.D program for Sponsored candidates. In that context, the proposal has received approval from Dean, Engineering Sciences.

The Senate is to provide guidance whether students completing similar programs from other institutes of repute should also be eligible for such relaxations.

- b) A request has been received from Ms. Arpita Ghosh, a Project Scientist in Xcelris since 5 years, who wants to pursue PhD (Science) from CSIR-CDRI. However, the candidate has indicated that the company would not agree to the compulsory coursework while being a resident student for one semester. Ms. Ghosh has requested for an exemption from the coursework since she has 5 years work experience.

It is to be noted that the Guidelines for PhD (Science) for Sponsored candidates indicate a reduced coursework of 8 credits plus 8 credits of 400 level courses (Total 16 credits, all of that has to be completed during the period of residence at the CSIR Lab) due to the experience of a Sponsored candidate (please refer to Item No. 20 of the Agenda). The Senate is to provide its opinion on the request.

**Recommendation:** The relevant files are placed at **Annexure A-16** for consideration by Senate for approval.

## Item for Discussion & Approval

### Item No. 21      **Modification in the format for PhD Certificate as per recommendation of the Senate**

As per the recommendation of the Senate at its various meetings, the following changes have been done in the final degree certificates issued by AcSIR:

- (i) PhD certificates to include “**PhD in Science**” or “**PhD in Engineering**” along with the **title of the** thesis to accommodate studies undertaken in interdisciplinary areas
- (ii) The certificate issued for MTech should include the name of the CSIR Laboratory from where the program was completed along with a mention of the Specialization.
- (iii) The Security features to be adopted for the Gradecards and Certificates issued by AcSIR have been finalized. The various security features that are to be included in the Gradecards and Certificates issued by AcSIR are enclosed at **Annexure A-17** for approval of the Senate



## Item for Discussion & Approval

### Item No. 22      **Proposal to rename CSIR-800 project to “Societal Program”**

The mandatory Societal Program for the PhD program in AcSIR is called CSIR-800 to align its activity with the CSIR activity under the project with same name. This has created two problems:

- (i) Coordinators at CSIR Labs are facing problem in reimbursement of expenses incurred by students for undertaking CSIR-800 project, since there is an independent program in CSIR with same name as mentioned above.
- (ii) The content and goal of the program as a PhD credit course by this name is not intuitively obvious as being a Societal Program to the outside world.

The name of the mandatory 400 level credit course described as CSIR-800 may be changed to '**Societal Program**' or some other name that clearly conveys the nature of the course.

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 23      **Whether Project Assistant enrolled in PhD program in one CSIR Lab can retain the privilege on joining fresh to another CSIR Lab**

An application has been received from a Project Assistant of CSIR-NISTADS, **Mr. Mahesh Kumar Saini** (10MM15J30002) New Delhi who was enrolled for PhD (Science) at the Lab in the January 2015 session. Subsequently, the student has resigned from CSIR-NISTADS and has joined CSIR-CSMCRI, Bhavnagar as a Project Assistant and wish to continue his enrollment at AcSIR in the field of Biological Sciences. The former Supervisor at CSIR-NISTADS and the Coordinators of both the Lab have no objection and have forwarded the application to AcSIR for consideration.

Opinion of the Associate Deans of MIS and Biological Sciences were sought on the case.

- Associate Dean, Biological Sciences opined that when a student has resigned from a position his AcSIR enrolment automatically gets cancelled and enrollment cannot be transferred.
- Associate Dean, MIS opined that stipulated conditions (project assistantship currency in a project, etc.) may be a pre-requisite to the admission. But once the student is admitted, the currency of the project, or continuation in the project should not be a sustaining condition. The Enrollment/registration of a student should not get cancelled unless the AcSIR Statutes say so. It can be continued elsewhere.

The members are requested to discuss and provide guidelines on the specific case and similar situation that may arise in future.

## **Item for Approval and Discussion**

### **Item No. 24      Proposal for introduction of admission fee for IMP and PhD program of AcSIR**

Currently AcSIR does not charge any Admission Fee for admission to its PhD or IMP. During the admissions of students at the PGRPE program, the Labs used to charge Rs. 4000 as Admission Fee and Rs. 6000 as Caution Money. This practice is continuing till date, however, it is to be noted that AcSIR does not charge any Admission Fee from any students.

A proposal has been received from Prof. Raj Singh that an admission fee is imposed on all admissions of AcSIR. Since AcSIR does not currently charge any Admission Fee, It is therefore proposed that Senate considers the proposal and also consider whether an admission fee of Rs. 4000 may be charged from all students taking admission in any program offered by AcSIR.

The Senate is to discuss and accord its views/approval on the proposal. The decision of the Senate will be taken up appropriate forum for implementation.

## Item for Approval and Discussion

### Item No. 25      **AcSIR-RMIT Draft Agreement for Joint Badged Program**

The Academy of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR) in India and the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology University (RMIT) in Australia have entered into a MoU to synergize their research efforts in trans-disciplinary areas. The Academy's focus on interface areas of science attracts highly talented pool of students to join the CSIR labs and work towards the award of PhD in AcSIR. RMIT, as a university of technology and design, is focused on working with partners to create innovative solutions to transform the future. It is envisaged that the AcSIR-RMIT Academic Collaboration would create the research ambiance to provide solutions to critical problems impacting human comfort and the environment.

AcSIR has entered into a non-binding MoU on 15.04.2013 for a partnership with RMIT after receipt of an in-principle approval of the Senate by circulation. The academic requirements for introduction of the program have been extensively discussed and formulated. The Agreement to be signed between AcSIR and RMIT is in the final stage of formulation. A few minor issues related to IPR are being currently finalized. Certain terms and conditions of IPR related issues are in final stages of preparation now.

The Senate is requested to examine and approve, as appropriate, the Agreement between AcSIR and RMIT. Once approved by the Senate, it would be placed to the BoG, AcSIR for final approval for formalization and initiating the joint program. The Draft Agreement is enclosed at **Annexure A-18** for consideration and approval of the Senate.

## **Item for Approval and Discussion**

### **Item No. 26      Modification in general recruitment policy of AcSIR**

It has been noticed that in the recent past, the turn-out of candidates for the AcSIR interviews are meagre, especially at HQs in Chennai & at Coordination Office in New Delhi. To ensure AcSIR gets good response against their advertisements for recruitment so that they can select the most capable and skilled personnel, a modification in the recruitment/hiring policy is required.

It is proposed for the consideration of the Senate that a clause is added in the recruitment policy that, if the number of candidates appearing for the interview, walk in or otherwise, is less than 5 in number, the interview shall be thus considered null & void and hence the lab/office has to re-conduct the interview.

The Senate is requested to examine and approve the proposal as appropriate.