

ACADEMY OF SCIENTIFIC AND INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

Fifteenth Meeting of the Senate

7th August 2015; 10:30hrs

Venue: Conference Room No. 104, ISSH, CSIR-IGIB, Mathura Road, New Delhi 110025

Sl.No.	Name of the Member	Mode of Participation
1.	Prof. Ram Rajasekharan	In person
2.	Prof. Amitabha Chattopadhyay	In person
3.	Prof. K. S. Krishna	In person
4.	Prof. Raj Hirwani	In person
5.	Prof. G. Parthasarthy	In person
6.	Dr. Shantanu Sengupta	In person
7.	Dr. Souvik Maiti	In person
8.	Dr. Anurag Agrawal	In person
9.	Prof. B. D. Kulkarni	Video Conference
10.	Prof. A. Ajayaghosh	Video Conference
11.	Prof. D. Ramaiah	Video Conference
12.	Prof. A.K. Tripathi	Video Conference
13.	Prof. Suman Kumari Mishra	Video Conference
14.	Prof. Raj Singh	Video Conference
15.	Dr. Rajender Singh	Skype
16.	Ms. Arpita Sengupta, Non-member Secretary	In person

The quorum requirement, as per Statute No. 3.3 (d), of 'One-third of the total strength of the Senate' (i.e. presence of minimum 9 members) to conduct the meeting was fulfilled.

The members participating through Video Conferencing or Skype, could follow the proceedings of the meeting with complete clarity.

Dr. Manmohan Dass Goel, Dr. Ramanuj Narayan, Prof. S. Chandrasekhar, Prof. Partha Banerjee, Prof. K.V. Raghavan, Prof. D.D. Sarma and Prof. S. Parasuraman could not attend the meeting due to prior commitments. Prof. Kunal Ray also could not attend the meeting due to indisposition. They were granted leave of absence. Prof. T.S. Balganes, Prof. R. Nagaraj and Prof. S.K. Bhattacharyya have superannuated from their respective positions.

INITIATION OF THE MEETING

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

All Senate members observed silence of two minutes to pay respect to departed soul of Prof. Rakesh Mohan Jha, Associate Dean, Mathematical and Information Sciences. It was also agreed that a formal letter giving the condolence resolution passed by the senate as well as lauding and appreciating the AcSIR-related work done by Dr. Rakesh Mohan Jha will be sent to his family as well as to Director, CSIR-NAL.



Item No. 2: Welcome Address by Chairman of the Senate and Acting Director, AcSIR:

Prof. Ram Rajasekharan, Acting Director, AcSIR welcomed the members of the Senate and updated them about the current activities of AcSIR.

Ms. Arpita Sengupta updated all the Senate members about the three outgoing members, Prof. T.S. Balganesh, Prof. R. Nagaraj and Prof. S.K. Bhattacharyya, due to superannuation or completion of term at CSIR. The Chairman, Senate on behalf of the Committee put on records appreciation for their involvement and the efforts taken in various matters of AcSIR.

The Chairman, Senate informed that the process of nomination of members to replace them will be done by identification of names by AcSIR office in consultation with AcSIR Director. The proposed names will then be circulated among the Senate members for their approvals. Similarly, filling-up of all the vacant positions of Deans and Associate Deans of AcSIR will also be done by circulation among the Senate members. The proposed nominations will then be forwarded to Chairman, Senate for obtaining approval from the Vice Chairman, BoG, AcSIR and DG-CSIR.

Item No. 3: Confirmation of the minutes of the 14th meeting of the Senate: The minutes of the 14th meeting of the Senate held on May 8, 2015 was circulated by e-mail on July 2, 2015. No comment was received from any of the members. The minutes were accepted by the members of the Senate.

Item No. 4: Action Taken Report (ATR) on the 14th Meeting of the Senate: With respect to ATR the following discussion took place:

- I. Board of Studies: Member of Board of Studies (BoS) have been intimated. However, some of the key positions are yet to be filled up (e.g. Deans/Associate Deans) which need to be filled up before the BoS meeting could be convened.
- II. Establishment of a Summer Training program: Recommendations received from the committee were noted and presented along with the detailed discussion by Senate member in the Agenda #18.
- III. Proposal for Online Thesis submission: Prof. Raj Hirwani volunteered to help in establishing such a system and also offered to provide servers, if needed.
- IV. Course related items: Senate was informed about the latest status of coursework which has been appropriately modified by the Associate Deans of respective faculties. (Agenda # 10)
- V. To revisit the guidelines for Direct PhD and Sponsored PhD programs in Engineering Sciences: Recommendations received from the sub-committee were noted and presented in the Agenda # 19.
- VI. Research Orientation program for MTech students of IMP program: Senate was informed that CSIR-HRDC has been requested to issue the Certificate to the participating students.
- VII. Creation of Online repository of Thesis: Recommendations received from the sub-committee were noted and presented in the Agenda # 17.
- VIII. Status of Joint PhD program with RMIT, Australia: This item was discussed as a separate Agenda # 25.

- IX. Status of application for membership in academic bodies and recognition: Senate members were apprised about the efforts for recognition of degrees of AcSIR by UGC. It was also felt by the Senate members that this process needs to be hastened up for the benefit of the students.
- X. Discussion of AcSIR policy on issuance of Merit Certificate to topper of MTech program: Senate members were informed that as decided at the 14th Senate meeting, this item has been put on hold for now.
- XI. Eligibility of MTech students for short term academic leaves for attending highly competitive career programs: Prof. KV Raghavan had kindly volunteered to prepare a guideline on the same during the 13th meeting of the Senate held on 23rd January, 2015. The Senate was informed that the report from Prof. K.V. Raghavan is yet to be received.
- XII. Mandatory requirement of Tuition fees submission to AcSIR Bank account by students: Senate agreed to collect tuition fees on half-yearly basis and suggested it to be adopted at the earliest. As this is only a modification in the modality of fees collection, it does not need to be reported to BoG.
- XIII. Proposal for modification in the format for PhD and MTech certificates and Grade cards: This item was discussed as a separated Agenda # 21.
- XIV. Initiation of proposed AcSIR Engineering Sciences program on "Computational Biology and Bioengineering" at CSIR-NCL: Senate was apprised about the initiation of course "Computational Biology and Bioengineering" under PhD (Engineering) program of AcSIR at CSIR-NCL from August 2015 session.
- XV. Issues related to PhD program:
- a. *Proposal for modification in thesis submission and examination process*:
It was informed that modified processes have been implemented appropriately. To this Dr. Shantanu Sengupta, suggested that to reduce time and duplicated efforts proposal for constitution of Oral Examination Board (OEB) may be sent directly to the Dean/ Associate Dean of respective faculty of studies. However, AcSIR Office shall be kept in loop in this process. The suggested change in process has been implemented.
 - b. *Proposal for suitable modification of PhD certificate to accommodate studies undertaken in interdisciplinary areas*
Senate reconsidered its earlier decision to mention only PhD in the certificate and suggested to modify it as "PhD in Science" or "PhD in Engineering" along with retaining the tile of the thesis. This step appeared to be the best compromise to accommodate divergent needs.
 - c. *Honorarium payable to foreign examiners of theses*
Members were informed that the Finance Committee has agreed to the proposal of payment of USD 200 to Foreign Thesis Examiner(s).

ITEMS FOR RATIFICATION

Item No. 5: MTech results (2013-15 batch) for the award of the Degree:

The results of 66 students were ratified by the members of the Senate. And, the pending ratification for result of 6 students of CSIR-CSIO would be obtained through circulation among Senate members.

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

The results of 137 doctoral students were ratified by the members of the Senate for the award of the award of formal degree.

Out of the 137 students who have completed their PhD, following is the faculty-wise distribution:

- o Biological Sciences: 42
- o Chemical Sciences: 85
- o Engineering Sciences: 03
- o Physical Sciences: 07

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

The results of 10 students were ratified by the members of the Senate.

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

The proceedings of admission at CSIR-NCL in AcSIR PhD program of January 2015 session were ratified by the Senate. It was recorded that CSIR-CCMB and CSIR-CDRI did not take any students in the PhD program of January 2015 session.

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

The admission proceedings of the programs as above in August 2015 session were ratified by the Senate members.

Referring to the high intake in some of the CSIR-Lab/ Institutes, Chairman, Senate expressed his concern that AcSIR guidelines with respect to number of students registered with an AcSIR faculty need to be monitored. Following the concerns raised by a few Senate members on the limitation on number of students, Chairman, Senate suggested to hold special meeting of the Senate to re-visit the current Faculty guidelines of AcSIR.

Item No. 10: Course Related Items:

The final courses compiled by Associate Deans and endorsed by the concerned Deans and the Chairman, Senate, with revised nomenclature and other modifications were ratified for both Engineering and Science Faculties.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**Item No. 11: Transfer of students between CSIR Labs:**

The Senate noted the transfers of two students:

- (i) Mr. Ramendra Pandey (32EE14A41008) from CSIR-SERC to CSIR-NCL, and
- (ii) Mr. BS Somesh (20EE13A12006) from CSIR-CMERI to CSIR-NAL

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

The Senate also recorded the part-time status of Ms. Meghna Singh (Registration No. 10BB12J02005) at CSIR-IGIB.

Item No. 13: Updates on Faculty List of AcSIR

The Senate noted the updated Faculty list of AcSIR at different CSIR Labs/ Institutes, which has been uploaded in the AcSIR website.

Item No. 14: Recommendation made by the Finance Committee in its 9th meeting

The Senate was apprised on the following recommendations of Finance Committee:

- (i) *Policy on waiver of tuition fees:* The recommendation was approved by the Senate members, in addition, Senate empowered Deans to take final decision about the possible waiver amount on a case to case to basis. It was agreed that no waiver would be permissible for candidates who receive any type of Fellowship.
- (ii) *Review of policies: Remuneration of EAs, ECs & Sr. ECs:* It was agreed by the Senate that the proposal of the Finance Committee for review of remunerations of Executive Assistants, Executive Consultants and Senior Executive Consultants be circulated among the Senate members along with the Recruitment Rules for these positions for the review of existing eligibility criteria. The comments received may be compiled and forwarded to the Chairman, Senate for further necessary action.
It was also agreed that if an advertisement for recruitment of EA/EC/Sr. EC does not receive sufficient response and minimum of 5 applicants do not turn up for interview, then the process should be repeated with a fresh advertisement.
- (iii) *Review of policies: Review of tuition Fee status:* All the recommendations made by the Finance Committee were approved to be placed before the Board. PhD tuition fees has been proposed to be increased to Rs. 14,400 per year (as Rs. 7,200 payable every 6 months) from the current Rs. 12,000, and MTech tuition fees to be enhanced to Rs. 56,000 per year (as Rs. 28,000 payable every 6 months) from the current Rs. 48,000.

The Senate suggested modification of the Finance Committee proposal that the "Non-refundable Application Fees" of Rs. 100 be increased to Rs. 1000.

The Senate approved the proposal of the Finance Committee for introduction of Convocation and handling fee of Rs. 1000/- from the students.

Prof. Raj Hirwani suggested to explore the 'Power Jyoti', an online facility provided by the SBI for processing of application fee.

(iv) *Purchase policy of AcSIR*: The recommendation of Finance Committee shall be circulated to all the Senate members for perusal and comments which will be compiled for the Chairman, Senate for necessary action before it can be placed before the Board for approval.

(v) *Fixation of reduced amount of Tuition fees for students who exceed the maximum stipulated period for completion of a Program*: The Senate members approved the proposal.

(vi) *Honorarium payable to foreign examiners of theses*: It was deliberated in detail in the ATR No. XV(c) under Agenda Item No. 4.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION & APPROVAL

Item No. 15: Proposal for Adjunct Faculty

Senate members approved the proposal received from CSIR-NCL, CSIR-CECRI and Public Health Foundation of India (PHFI) for recognition of Adjunct Faculty at the respective Labs.

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**
Senate suggested that this proposal should be vetted through Admission Committee before placing for approval to Senate. The recommendation of the Admission Committee is to be placed to the Senate at its next meeting.

(ii) **Credit requirements for students with break after MTech in IMP program**
Senate discussed in details on the Credit requirements for students with break after MTech in IMP program on account of non-performance in admission interview for PhD part of IMP program. And, it was agreed by all Senate members that such candidates, if selected for PhD program shall be considered as a fresh candidate for PhD (Engineering) and would be required to undertake the prescribed minimum of 12+8 credit coursework.

(iii) **PhD Fellowships after MTech (non-IMP cases)**
Members of the Senate noted the limited fellowships available to student completing their M.Tech program for pursuing PhD and suggested to explore the following options:

- (i) MHRD may be approached to extend their GATE Fellowships to AcSIR students
- (ii) Eventually, AcSIR may also institute such fellowships

Item No. 17: AcSIR Policy on Online Repository of Theses

It was suggested to circulate the draft Policy on Online Repository of Theses among the Senate members for perusal and comments. The Senate authorized the Chairman, Senate to approve the revised policy having the comments received from the Senate members incorporated.

Item No. 18: Guidelines for Summer Training Program of AcSIR

Senate members approved the guidelines for proposed Summer Training Program as “AcSIR-Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Summer Training Program” and the fellowship is to be named as “AcSIR-Kalam Fellowship”. Chairman, Senate suggested to put an appropriate Press Release for on the matter.

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

The Senate members approved the guidelines as proposed by the sub-committee under the chairmanship of Prof. S.K. Bhattacharyya.

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 members were explained that as per the directions of the Senate at its 12th meeting held on 17th November 2014, all Sponsored (both for regular PhD and for Direct PhD) candidates are required to complete their credit requirements from academic course work along with completion of the Project proposal, Review Article and the CSIR 800 project before they can appear for Comprehensive examination. The members accepted the proposed change in guidelines for Sponsored PhD in Science that all the credit requirements have to be completed by the students in Sponsored PhD in Science to be eligible for appearance in Comprehensive examination.

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

The Senate rejected the proposal from CSIR-NML and CSIR-CDRI for reduction of course-work credit requirements for industry sponsored PhD candidates citing the reason that the Sponsored Candidates are already getting advantage by having to complete lesser number of credits. Also, the Senate emphasized that the minimum residency requirement for completing the coursework for the Sponsored candidates is an integral part of the program, which the candidates would have to abide by.

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

The Senate members noted the recommendations of sub-committee for Security Features in grade cards and Certificates. However, the layout and format need be circulated among members for perusal and approval.

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

The Senate members approved the proposal to rename CSIR-800 project to “Societal Program”. However, the existing guidelines for Societal Program (CSIR-800 project) will be reviewed and re-framed by the Senate with inputs from CSIR Labs. In addition, PHFI and LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), with whom AcSIR is already having MoU/MoA, may also be approached for sharing their structure for such similar programs/projects.



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

The Senate members rejected the proposal for transfer from CSIR-NISTADS to CSIR-CSMCRI. A student in such a situation would be considered as a fresh student at the new Lab (under a fresh project) while he/she may avail the credit transfer facility, as per rule.

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

The Senate approved the proposal for introduction of admission fee (Rs. 4000) for all academic programs of AcSIR. The proposal will be placed to the Board of Governors through the Finance Committee for approval before it can be implemented.

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

The members and the Chairman of the Senate suggested to obtain the clearance from Ministry of External Affairs through CSIR before proceeding with the evaluation and recommendation of proposed Draft Agreement for Joint Badged Program.

Item No. 26: Modification in general recruitment policy of AcSIR

This was already discussed and concurred by the Senate under Agenda Item No. 14 (ii).

Item No. 27: Any other item with the permission of the Chair

Chairman, Senate put forward following points for discussion as additional items:

- (i) *Recognition of Group-III staff of CSIR as independent guide to doctoral students of AcSIR*
Acting Director, AcSIR was in receipt of a specific request from CSIR-NCL, after deliberation it was decided that Group-III staff of CSIR can be only considered as co-guide to a doctoral student of AcSIR.
- (ii) Dr. Shantanu Sengupta, suggested to calculate the time-lapse in submission and award of PhD degree.
- (iii) The results of 10 students of PHFI under the Integrated MSc-PhD program on Clinical Research (4 students) and Health Informatics (6 students) are to be circulated among the members for approval for declaration.
- (iv) The Chairman, Senate suggested to explore the possibility of setting up a properly organized Headquarters of AcSIR to carry out academic, administrative and financial activities at an early date.

The Director thanked all the members attending in person and through electronic media for their presence in the meeting and their valuable suggestions to take AcSIR forward.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Ram Rajasekharan)
Chairman, Senate