



भारतीय विज्ञान शिक्षा एवं अनुसंधान संस्थान बरहमपुर  
**Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur**  
 Established by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India

### Minutes of the 2023-1/17<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate of IISER Berhampur

The meeting of the Senate of IISER Berhampur (2023-1/22<sup>nd</sup>) was held in hybrid mode in the Boardroom and through Zoom at 11:00 hr on Thursday, May 18, 2023. The following members were present:

• Professor Ashok Kumar Ganguli, Director	Chairperson
• Professor Yogender Sharma, Dean, Faculty Affairs, HoD Biological Sciences	Member
• Professor Joydip Mukhopadhyay, Dean, Academic Affairs, HoD EES	Member
• Professor Vishwas Chavan, Dean, R&D, IR & Outreach, Chair, Computer & Data Science	Member
• Professor Surendra Nath Mishra, Visiting Professor and HoD, Physical Sciences and Mathematical Sciences	Member
• Dr. Sanghamitra Pati, Director, Regional Medical Research Centre (ICMR) Bhubaneswar	Member
• Professor P. Radha Krishna, Professor and HoD, Computer Science & Engineering, NIT Warangal	Member
• Professor Bedangadas Mohanty, Dean, Faculty Affairs, Professor School of Physical Sciences, NISER Bhubaneswar	Member
• Professor Jaikumar Radhakrishnan, Professor of School of Technology and Computer Science TIFR Mumbai	Member
• Sri. Sandeep Ranade, Software Engineer, Hindustani Classical, Vocalist, Composer and Teacher	Member
• Dr. Sulakshana P Mukherjee, Associate Professor and HoD Department of Chemical Sciences, Coordinator, Academic Affairs IISER Berhampur	Member
• Dr. Nihar Kanta Patra, Librarian, IISER Berhampur	Member
• Dr. Natasha Sharma, Warden, Assistant Professor, Department of Physical Sciences	Member
• Dr. Prabhat Singh, Coordinator Student Affairs, Scientific Officer Department of Biological Sciences	Member
• Sri B. J. Acharyulu, Acting Registrar & Secretary, Senate (ex-officio)	Non-Member

The following members could not attend the meeting due to pre-occupation and were granted leave of absence:

• Professor Achanta Venugopal, Director, CSIR- National Physical Laboratory (NPL) New Delhi	Member
• Professor Challa Vijay Kumar, Professor of Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Connecticut, USA	Member
• Professor C. S. Rajan, Professor, Ashoka University, New Delhi	Member

The following attended the meeting as special invitees:

- Dr. Jose Sebastian, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Biological Sciences
- Dr. Vivek Tiwary, Assistant Professor, Convener, DPGC, Biological Sciences
- Dr. Adinarayana Doddi, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Chemical Sciences
- Dr. Prosenjit Daw, Assistant Professor, Convener, DPGC, Chemical Sciences
- Dr. Sandeep Chatterjee, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Physical Sciences
- Dr. Bikashkali Midya, Assistant Professor, Convener, DPGC, Physical Sciences
- Dr. Kasi Viswanadham G, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Mathematical Sciences
- Dr. Senthil Raani K S, Assistant Professor, Convener, DPGC, Mathematical Sciences
- Dr. Azhar M Shaikh, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Earth and Environmental Sciences
- Dr. Vyas Akondi, Assistant Professor, Convener, DUGC, Computer and Data Sciences
- Shri Indra Kumar Banerjee (2140101), PhD Student Representative
- Shri Advait Menon (19007), SAC Senate Representative-UG
- Shri Soumya Ranjan Parida (19127), President SAC

The Secretary, Senate informed that Prof. Ashok Kumar Ganguli took over as Director of IISER Berhampur on May 02, 2023 and will be the new (Ex-officio) Chairperson of the Senate. He welcomed the members and requested the Chairperson, Senate to present the overview report.

**1. Overview Report by the Chairperson, Senate, IISER Berhampur**

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members present at the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate of IISER Berhampur. The Chairperson presented his overview report briefing the activities of IISER Berhampur in the recent past. The Senate noted the same with appreciation. Then, he requested the Acting Registrar to start the proceedings.

**2. Confirmation of the minutes of 2022-2/16<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate**

The minutes of the previous Senate meeting were circulated to all members and received no comments from any of them. The Senate resolved to confirm Minutes of the 2022-2/16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate held on November 04, 2022, as circulated and placed on the table for confirmation.

**3. Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 2022-2/16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate**

The Senate resolved to take on record, the Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 2022-2/16<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Senate held on November 04, 2022, with a note of appreciation.

**4. To submit the list of students admitted in BS-MS 2022 batch**

The Secretary presented the State-wise distribution of 193 students admitted to the BS-MS dual degree programme 2022 batch. The Senate resolved to take on record of the same.

**5. To discuss multiple exit options in BS-MS programme in line with NEP-2020**

The proposal was presented and discussed at length. There were several queries put forth by the members:

**Prof. Bedangadas Mohanty**

- What is the upper limit by which a student can exercise the exit option?
- Is there a timeline when a student has to exercise the option of exit?

**Prof. S N Mishra**

- Is it permissible to revoke the request of exit option exercised earlier?

**Dr. Sanghamitra Pati**

- What is the credit framework of awarding Diploma in Science as per the NCrf mandated by NEP 2020?

**Prof. P Radha Krishna**

- The Institute may consider awarding of a certificate to students exiting after 1<sup>st</sup> year.
- In line with the exit option, the Institute may think of entry options too (Initially for the same exited students).
- Credit Bank may be put in place at the earliest

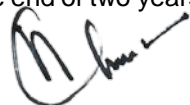
The Chairperson opined that although most of the queries raised by the members are addressed, however, the exit policy needs more deliberations and he requested DoAA to collect more such points from all members so that a robust exit policy can be made. Further, he informed that the Institute will work on Academic Bank of Credit (ABC) soon.

The Senate resolved that after incorporating all options, the exit policy may be put up in the next meeting for consideration.

**6. To Discuss Capping of seats for Major**

The proposal was discussed at length. There were a few suggestions from the members. The queries from the Student Representative were addressed by the Dean and Director. The Dean, Academic Affairs informed that the policy for the capping of major has been taken up considering the present infrastructure in the Transit Campus, faculty strength etc. The policy will be reviewed after one year.

To a query of Prof. Radha Krishna regarding the number of seats in each major, the Institute clarified that the number of major in each discipline is known at the end of two years when a student is eligible



for opting major. However, the percentage distribution of existing disciplines must be informed to the students at the time of admission.

The student representative raised a query that the 2019 and 2020 batch were not informed regarding the percentage distribution of the major disciplines. The Director informed that the Institute will discuss and arrive at a possible solution for it.

The Senate resolved to approve the proposal.

**7. To consider the fee waiver committee recommendation**

The agenda item was withdrawn.

**8. To ratify Academic Calendar for odd semester of AY 2023-24.**

The academic calendar was presented with separate schedule for 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Year students. The schedule for the 1<sup>st</sup> year students is tentative in the absence of firm admission dates.

The Senate resolved to approve the following academic calendar for odd semester of AY 2023-24:

Event	Schedule (2 <sup>nd</sup> to 5 <sup>th</sup> year BS-MS)	Schedule (1 <sup>st</sup> year BS-MS) Tentative depending admission
Registration (for existing and new PhD students)	July 28-31, 2023 (Fri-Mon)	Sept 1-4, 2023 (Fri-Mon)
Classes Commence	Aug 1, 2023 (Tue)	Sept 5, 2023 (Tue)
Late Registration	Aug 7, 2023 (Mon)	Sept 11, 2023 (Mon)
Last date of add/drop	Aug 14, 2023 (Mon)	--
Last date for document submission	--	Sept 29, 2023 (Fri)
Mid-semester examination	Oct 12-20, 2023 (Thu-Fri)	Nov 6-11, 2023 (Mon-Sat)
Mid-semester Vacation	Oct 21-28, 2023 (Sat-Sat)	Oct 21-28, 2023 (Sat-Sat)
Last date for dropping overload course	Oct 30, 2023 (Mon)	
SRS	Nov 20-24, 2023 (Mon-Fri)	Dec 11-15, 2023 (Mon-Fri)
Pre-registration for Next semester	Nov 14-18, 2023 (Mon-Fri)	Nov 14-18, 2023 (Mon-Fri)
Last day of classes	Nov 25, 2023 (Sat)	Dec 15, 2023 (Fri)
End-semester examination	Dec 01-08, 2023 (Fri-Fri)	Dec 18-23, 2023 (Mon-Fri)
Make-up examination	Dec 11-13, 2023 (Mon-Wed)	Dec 26-28, 2023 (Mon-Fri)
Last date for grade submission and conversion of 'I' grade	Dec 18, 2023 (Fri)	Dec 29, 2023 (Fri)
Winter vacation	Dec 09-31, 2023 (Sat-Sun)	Dec 24-31, 2023 (Sun-Sun)

**9. To ratify the award of institute fellowship to PhD student whose 5-year tenure is over as UGC fellow**

The Senate resolved to ratify the sanction of Institute fellowship to a PhD student Mr. Subhasish Halder for six more months w.e.f. January 2023 as a special case.

*Prof. Bedangadas Mohanty suggested that the PhD student must present his research work to a committee for 5-10 min so that the committee takes an informed decision. The Institute clarified that the committee recommended for extension of Institute fellowship to Mr. Halder after the student's presentation.*



**10. To discuss the option for integrated PhD students in 3<sup>rd</sup> year to exit with MS**

The Dean of Academic Affairs presented the case of Mr. Rajneesh Kumar, iPhD student, who wants to exit after the 2<sup>nd</sup> year with MS degree. He clarified that the student has returned the fellowship (PhD) that he got in the 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

The Senate resolved to ratify the decision of the Institute as a special case and suggested to make a policy on the exit of iPhD students in 3<sup>rd</sup> year.

**11. To discuss the revised contingency guidelines applicable to PMRF scholars**

The existing guidelines on Institute contingency for PhD students were discussed. The PMRF contingency is Rs. 2,00,000/- per year and the guidelines for claiming the contingency are same as applicable for PhD students on Institute fellowship, which restricts a PhD student to visit abroad for attending seminars/symposia or presenting the research work etc.

The Senate resolved to approve the proposal of removing the restriction on "foreign travel and any other related expenses to visit abroad" in the Guidelines for "Claiming Contingency by PhD Scholar".

To a query of PhD representative for enhancing the amount of contingency, the Director clarified that the fellowship is given by the Govt. of India. Any enhancement in this amount is done through Institute Revenue Generation (IRG). Presently, our IRG is not sufficient to cater for the enhancement of the fellowship.

**12. To ratify the acceptance of Chairperson Senate regarding resignation of Shri V Jagan Mohan from the senate w.e.f. May 15, 2023**

The Senate resolved to ratify the acceptance of resignation of Shri V Jagan Mohan from the Senate and thanked him for his contribution during his membership in the Senate of IISER Berhampur.

**13. To Consider and approve revision of BS-MS Manual for Re-Examination**

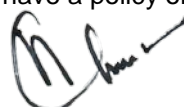
The agenda pertains to the issue of mentioning "RE" on the grade sheet for re-examination or repeat examination under the grading policy of Re-examination (Clause 8.5(b) of BS-MS Manual). The matter was discussed at length and the Dean of Academic Affairs opined that this grading policy is not in use by any other IISERs and requested the Senate to advise.

The Senate resolved that an amendment be made for removing the grading policy of mentioning "RE" in the existing BS-MS Manual.

The Director requested the members to give their opinion regarding the running the Computer and Data Science programme in the Institute. Prof. Bedangadas Mohanty suggested that although both Computer Science and Data Science courses are important for the students, the Institute should consider the availability of necessary infrastructure and faculty for starting the programme. Prof. Radha Krishna suggested to learn from the sister Institutes running the programme like IISER Pune, which offers the ongoing programme. The Director informed that a National level committee will be formed soon to look into the feasibility and come back to the senate with details of the programme. Prof Radhakrishnan, TIFR agreed that a proper deliberation on such a new program should be held and on the setting up of a national committee of experts.

The following points from the Student Representatives were discussed:

**Archiving of Master Thesis.** The Dean, Academic Affairs informed that the students require to submit hard copy as well as soft copy of the Master Thesis which will be archived in our Library. Prof. Bedangadas Mohanty suggested to be careful while handling with the unpublished data in the Master Thesis. The Librarian informed that necessary copyright policy will be put in place while accepting the hard and soft copy of the Master Thesis and accordingly, the Thesis will be made available to other students. Dr. Sanghamitra Pati informed that in line with the Open Data Policy (mandated by the Govt. of India) the Master Thesis can be accessed by any other students, where the raw data is processed into tables and figures. She reiterated that it would be intellectually injustice if the data is collected and not used. Dr. Sulakshana Mukherjee suggested that the data may be kept for 2-3 years before it is made available to other students. The Director suggested that Institute should have a policy on this matter.



**Uniform Credit for Master Thesis.** The credits for projects in the Department of Physical Sciences and Mathematical Sciences are 32 while the same in the Department of Biological Sciences and Chemical Sciences are 36. This matter was discussed and the Senate members are in the opinion that there can't be a uniform credit policy for the project as different discipline require different amount of research work/ experiment etc.

The Chairperson once again invited all members to visit the Institute for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Convocation scheduled to be held in the third week of July 2023. In the end, the Chairperson thanked all members for their active participation.

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



(B J Acharyulu)  
Acting Registrar

**Minutes Approved**



(Ashok Kumar Ganguli)  
Director and Chairperson  
Senate of IISER Berhampur