



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

अभिषद
Senate

23वीं बैठक के कार्यबृत
Minutes of 23rd Meeting

30 April 2025 (Wednesday)
11.00 AM onwards

Board Room, IISER Berhampur
(Hybrid Mode)

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Indian Institute of Science Education and Research Berhampur

Senate

Minutes of 23rd Meeting

30 April 2025 (Wednesday), 11.00 AM onwards
Board Room, IISER Berhampur (Hybrid Mode)

The 2025-1/23rd meeting of the Senate, IISER Berhampur, was held on 30 April 2025 (Wednesday) 11.00 AM onwards in the Boardroom (through Hybrid Mode). The following members were present:

1.	Prof. Ashok Kumar Ganguli, Director, IISER Berhampur	Chairperson
2.	Prof. Tara Chandra Kandpal, Former Professor, Department of Energy Science & Engineering and Former Dy Director, IIT Delhi (Joined online)	Member
3.	Prof. K George Thomas, Professor of Chemistry and Dean of Faculty Affairs, IISER Thiruvananthapuram (Joined online)	Member
4.	Prof. Reetika Khera, Professor of Economics, IIT Delhi	Member
5.	Prof. Prosenjit Mondal, HoD (Biological Sciences) and Dean (Faculty Affairs)	Member
6.	Prof. Joydip Mukhopadhyay, HOD (Earth and Environmental Sciences) and Dean (International Relations)	Member
7.	Prof. Debendra Kumar Mohapatra, Dean (R&D) and Dean (Infrastructure)	Member
8.	Dr. Ritabrata Sengupta, HoD (Computer Sciences) and Dean (Academic Affairs)	Member
9.	Dr. R Selvi Bharathavikru, Assistant Professor, Associate Dean, Outreach	Member
10.	Dr. Thirupathi Barla, Associate Dean, Academic Affairs	Member
11.	Dr. Malay Kumar Rana, Associate Professor, HoD (Chemical Sciences)	Member
12.	Dr. Prem Prakash Pandey, Associate Professor, HoD (Mathematical Sciences)	Member
13.	Dr. Bodhisatta Nandy, Associate Professor, Dean (Student Affairs)	Member



14.	Dr. Shashi Bhusan Singh, Associate Professor, HoD (Physical Sciences) (Joined online)	Member
15.	Dr. Nihar Kanta Patra, Librarian	Member
16.	Dr. Shikha Gandhi, Assistant Professor, Chemical Sciences	Member
17.	Dr. Natasha Sharma, Assistant Professor, Physical Sciences and Warden	Member
18.	Dr. Arunkumar Krishnan, Assistant Professor, Biological Sciences	Member
19.	Dr. Victor Mukherjee, Assistant Professor, Physical Sciences	Member
20.	Mr. Amal Chacko, Student Representative-UG	Member
21.	Ms. Bandita Das, Student Representative-PhD	Member
22.	Dr. Prosenjit Daw, Assistant Professor, Coordinator, Academic Affairs (PG)	Special Invitee
23.	Dr. Jose Sebastian, Assistant Professor, Coordinator, Academic Affairs (UG) (Joined online)	Special Invitee
24.	Dr. Chandan Maity, Coordinator, Academic Affairs (Scholarship & Fellowship)	Special Invitee
25.	Shri Pradeep Kumar Ray, Registrar	Secretary

The following are the outcomes of the 23rd Senate Meeting:

SN	Items
23.1.1	<p>The Chairperson of the Senate extended a warm welcome to all members and invitees to the 23rd meeting of the Institute's Senate.</p> <p>The Chairperson informed that all the departments have to share the course details offered in each semester so that a courses of study booklet can be prepared, which will be a reference document for the students.</p> <p>The Senate emphasised that the Departments should have updated information on their departmental webpages, and the list of courses offered should be available for the students to make an informed choice of study.</p>



	<p>The Senate also mentioned that the BS-MS and PhD manuals / handbooks etc. should be updated on a priority basis and should be laid before the next Senate meeting.</p> <p>Afterwards, the following agenda items were taken up in the meeting.</p>																		
23.1.2	Confirmation of Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Senate held on 20 December 2024																		
	<p>After the circulation of the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Senate, Prof. Tara Chandra Kandpal had shared inputs on Resolution No 22.2.1. Accordingly, HoD, Department of Biological Sciences and Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences have revised the document and placed it before the Chairperson Senate for one-time approval.</p> <p>The Senate resolved that the minutes of the 22nd Senate meeting held on 20 December 2024 has been confirmed with the above revision.</p>																		
23.1.3	Report on Action Taken on Decisions of the 22nd Meeting held on 20 December 2024.																		
	<p>The Senate noted the following action taken report on the decisions of the Senate made in its 22nd Meeting held on 20 December 2024:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>S.No.</th> <th>Items</th> <th>Action Taken</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>22.2.1</td> <td>Revision in course content proposed by the Department of Biological Sciences</td> <td>Being implemented</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.2.2</td> <td>Revision in course content proposed by the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences</td> <td>Being implemented</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.2.3</td> <td>Discontinuation of the course CDS202: Information for Science and Technology</td> <td>Implemented</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.2.4</td> <td>The academic calendar for the AY 2024-25 Semester-II</td> <td>Implemented</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22.2.5</td> <td>Intimation regarding submission of grades for AY 2024-25 Semester-I</td> <td>Implemented</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Senate took note of the actions taken.</p>	S.No.	Items	Action Taken	22.2.1	Revision in course content proposed by the Department of Biological Sciences	Being implemented	22.2.2	Revision in course content proposed by the Department of Earth and Environmental Sciences	Being implemented	22.2.3	Discontinuation of the course CDS202: Information for Science and Technology	Implemented	22.2.4	The academic calendar for the AY 2024-25 Semester-II	Implemented	22.2.5	Intimation regarding submission of grades for AY 2024-25 Semester-I	Implemented
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23.2	Discussion Items																		
23.2.1	Renaming of BS-MS programme in Earth and Environmental Sciences to 'BS-MS programme in Geology' for EES major students																		
	<p>The HoD, Earth and Environmental Sciences (EES) Department, put forth the proposal based on the recommendations of the expert committee</p>																		

	<p>nominated by the Director and the matter was also discussed in the 17th meeting of the IAAC. The Senate observed that there are discrepancies in the department's webpage about the programme details.</p> <p>The Senate deliberated the matter in detail in light of the requirement of the employers, similar programmes run in other IISERS and their legal implications. Suggested the rationale for renaming should be supported by proper paperwork to avoid any legal complications in the future. The Senate also decided that the institute to award a BS-MS Degree in Geological Sciences, and the department has to workout the modalities which can be implemented from the 2023 batch.</p> <p>For 2021 and 2022 batches, the Senate suggested the EES department to obtain an undertaking from all the students who are entering the EES department (for 2021 and 2022 batches) acknowledging that they will be receiving a "BS-MS Degree in Geological Sciences and they will not raise any objection in the future". The above changes will come into force only after the prerequisites for renaming are in place and have been approved by the Senate and all the students of 2020, 2021 and 2022 batches have accepted the same.</p> <p>The Senate recommended writing to UPSC to include BSMS in Geological Sciences as an eligible degree for job applications.</p>
23.2.2	Concept note and credits structure of Pre-major
	<p>The Dean (Academic Affairs) informed that the Course contents for the Pre-major and Major are in the process of formulation and were discussed by the Academic Development Committee in its meeting held on 23 April 2025. The Senate deliberated that the Pre-major credit structure, including the course contents, number of pre-majors option, and other modalities with justifications is to be finalised and presented in the next meeting of the Senate.</p> <p>The Senate approved the credit definition for the upcoming pre-majors and other courses from 2025 batch onwards as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lectures and Tutorials: One lecture or tutorial hour per week over the period of one 14-week semester is assigned one credit. Similarly for "3" credit courses the requirement will be 3 lectures hr/week for 14 weeks. • Practical: Three laboratory hours per week over the period of one 14-week semester is assigned one credit. <p>The summer semester can be used to float parallel courses that will improve the understanding of newly joined students by giving extra lectures.</p>
23.2.3	Academic Calendar for Semester - I of AY 2025-26



	The proposal was discussed in detail and approved with minor amendments. The approved Academic Calendar for Semester - I of AY 2025-26 is placed at Annexure-1 .
23.2.4	MS Degree Nomenclature for iPhD students exiting after 03 years
	<p>The Senate discussed on the matter at length and approved the renaming of the MS Degree awarded to iPh.D students who are exiting the programme after 03 years as MS (Research) with the following comments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A concept note is to be prepared with course contents, credit requirements along with thesis course code, evaluation parameters etc in comparison with the MS degree. 2. A committee may be constituted by the Chairperson Senate to review the existing provisions and suggest required amendments to streamline the awarding of the degree. 3. The proposal may be deliberated in IAAC and ADC for the award of MS (Research) and the same may be presented to the subsequent Senate meeting for approval.
23.2.5	Proposed changes in PhD Admission Guidelines
	<p>The Senate deliberated on the proposal. The decisions are as under:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Exemptions from mandatory requirements of Valid GATE score will be given to the following. : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • B.Tech/B.E./B.S. (or equivalent) degree from IITs, IISERs, IISc with CGPA/CPI of at least 8.0 (on a scale of 10) or equivalent. • BS-MS/M.Sc. equivalent degree from IITs, IISERs, IISc with a CGPA/CPI of at least 8.0 (on a scale of 10) or equivalent. 2. The proposal regarding Walk-in Interviews for Externally Funded Ph.D. candidates (JRF of CSIR, UGC, ICMR, INSPIRE, DBT, etc.) who fulfill the minimum admission criteria for the Ph.D. programme is in-principle approved. However, the detailed modalities and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for admissions to PhD programmes need to be framed. The same may be deliberated in IAAC and the Academic Development Committee (ADC) before being placed in the Senate for consideration. 3. Age Relaxation in Ph.D. Admissions: The Senate advised that the matter related to age relaxation for girls and other reservation categories as applicable, should be compiled as per the guidelines of the Ministry of Education, Government of India.
23.2.6	Issuance of B.Sc. and M.Sc. equivalent degree certificates to BS-MS Students
	Multiple requests are being received from graduated and currently enrolled students to issue B.Sc. / M.Sc. equivalent degree certificates. The matter

was laid before the IAAC in its 18th Meeting held on 04 April 2025 for discussion. The IAAC recommended issuing the certificates as follows:

No. of years in BS-MS without 'FF' grades	Equivalent certificate to be issued
03 years of BS- MS course	B.Sc.
04 Years of BS- MS course	B.Sc. (Honours)
05 years of BS- MS course	M.Sc.

Further, the course equivalents are recommended as follows:

Course	Equivalent Course
BS - MS in Chemical Sciences	B.Sc. in Chemistry and M.Sc. in Chemistry
BS - MS in Physical Sciences	B.Sc. in Physics and M.Sc. in Physics
BS - MS in Mathematical Sciences	B.Sc. in Mathematics and M.Sc. in Mathematics
BS - MS in Biological Sciences	B.Sc. in Biology and M.Sc. in Biology
BS-MS in EES with Geological Sciences	B.Sc. in Geological Sciences and M.Sc. in Geological Sciences

The Senate commented that there is a need for further deliberation on this. Prof. Kandpal informed the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) earlier has the power to find academic equivalence to the degrees obtained from the accredited Indian and foreign Boards/universities. The Senate recommended writing to AIU to know the guideline to provide degree equivalence. Or compare UGC guidelines of credit requirement and course structure for BSc and MSc program with BS-MS degree programme. The same may be deliberated in IAAC before being placed in the Senate for consideration.

23.3 Ratification Items

The following items approved by the Chairperson, Senate, were placed before the Senate for its ratification:

SN	Item
1.	Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Senate held on 20-12-2024
2.	Minutes of the 17th Meeting of the IAAC

3.	Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the IAAC
4.	Advertisement for admission to Ph.D. Programme for the AY 2025-26 Sem-I
5.	Corrigendum to the advertisement for admission to Ph.D. programme AY 2025-26 Sem-I
6.	Withdrawal from Ph.D. programme in AY 2024-25 Semester-II
7.	Withdrawal from the Ph.D. programme by Mr. Abhijeet Tripathi (Roll No. 2310501) and transfer of the UGC fellowship
8.	Issuance of Provisional Certificates to Ph.D. Students
9.	Approval of the Grades for Ph.D. AY-2024-25 Sem-I
10.	Approval of the Grades for BS-MS AY-2024-25 Sem-I
11.	Approval of MS Project Grade for AY-2024-25 Sem-I
12.	Approval of Grade Change request received from the Department of Biological Sciences for AY-2024-25 Sem-I
13.	Grade updation of Mr. Arman Khuntia (Roll No. 21117) in ERP portal
14.	Approval of the Grade change of Mr. Vaibhav Sarkar (Roll No.23168)
15.	Issuance of M.Sc. Equivalence certificate to the graduated student Mr. Punit Kumar
16.	Issuance of B.Sc. Equivalence certificate to Ms. Astha Gupta (Roll No.21207)
17.	Seat Matrix for the Admission to BS-MS Programme for AY-2025-26
18.	Year drop of Mr. Saptarshi Gope (Roll No. 22118) and registration of backlog in the current semester (AY 2024-25 Sem-II)
19.	Extension of maximum residency period by one year in r/o Ms. Tasneem Nasrin (Roll No. 18104)
20.	Medical leave request of Mr. Sunil Powar (24078)



	<p>21. Consideration of Mr. Mounajit Das as PWD Category Candidate for Ph.D. admission in the Department of Chemical Sciences at IISER Berhampur for AY 2024-25.</p>
<p>The Senate resolved to ratify the above items.</p>	
<p>23.4</p>	<p>Any Other item with the permission of the Chairperson</p>
	<p>Prof. Tara Chandra Kandpal flagged against one of the ratification agenda items that the grades are being changed after the timeline of the academic calender and without following the proper process. An orientation session on the grading process and best practices for grading in large, medium, and small classes may be organized.</p>

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair and to the members


Secretary, Senate

Approved

Chairperson, Senate IISER Berhampur
 13/5/25

Annexure-1

AY 2025-26 Semester-I (July - December 2025)	
Event	Schedule
Physical reporting & registration of all students and document verification of BSMS/PhD students	Jul 28 - Jul 29 (Mon - Tue)
Orientation for New BSMS/PhD Students	Jul 30 - Jul 31 (Wed - Thu)
Classes Commence	Aug 01 (Fri)
Late Registration with fine (INR 1000/-)	Aug 14 (Thu)
Last date of add/drop	Aug 14 (Thu)
Lecture compensating Saturday	Aug 23 (to compensate for the lecture on the holiday of Aug 15, Friday)
IAAC meeting	In the week of Aug 25 - 29
Last date for document submission (for new entrants except Bs-Ms 1st year)	Aug 29 (Fri)
Lecture compensating Saturday	Sept 06 (to compensate for the lecture on the holiday of Sept 05, Friday)
Mental Health Awareness Day Events	10th Sep
Invenio (SAC event)	13th-14th Sep
Senate Meeting 4	September 2nd / 3rd week
Class Committee Meeting	In the week of Sept 15 - Sept 19
Mid-semester examination	Sept 20 - Sept 27 (Sat - Sat)
Mid-semester Vacation	Sept 28 - Oct 05 (Sun - Sun)
Last date for dropping overload course	Oct 17 (Fri)
Lecture compensating Saturday	Oct 25 (to compensate for the lecture on the holiday of Oct 20, Monday)
Lecture compensating Saturday	Nov 08 (to compensate for the lecture on the holiday of Nov 05, Wednesday)
Pre-registration for Next semester	Nov 10 - 14 (Mon - Fri)
SRS	Nov 10 - 14 (Mon - Fri)
PhD interviews	Between Nov 13 and 23
Last day of instruction	Nov 21 (Fri)



IAAC meeting	In the week of Nov 17 - 21
Laboratory Exams and MS Project Presentation	To be completed within the semester period
End-semester examination	Nov 24 - Dec 03 (Mon - Wed)
Winter vacation for BSMS students	Dec 04 - Jan 01 (Thu - Thu)
Make-up examination	Dec 05 - 06 (Fri - Sat)
Last date for showing the evaluated answer scripts	Dec 8 (Mon)
Grade moderation date	Dec 9 (Tue)
Last date for grade submission (including grade for MS thesis) and conversion of 'I' grade	Dec 10(Wed)
Winter vacation for faculties	Dec 11 - Jan 04 (Tue - Sun)
IICM-IISM**	2nd week of December onwards
Commencement of classes for 2025-26 Semester-II (Jan-July 2026)	Jan 05 (Mon)

Note:

All student events other than those mentioned in the calendar will be scheduled on weekends/holidays as per the approval from the competent authority.

**Exact dates to be decided by the organizing committee/ Institute

