

MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21/10/2021

The 23rd Academic Council meeting of the college was organised in the online mode on 21/10/2021 at 11.00 am.

The meeting was attended by the Chairperson of the college Tmt. Chandra Devi Thanikachalam, Principal in Charge, Dr D.B. Usha Rani, University Nominees to the Academic Council, Dr. J Khaja Sheriff, Professor, Department of Management Studies, University of Madras, Dr. K Ravichandran, Professor and Director, Institute of Distance and Online Education, University of Madras and Dr. Lalitha Balakrishnan, Principal, MOP Vaishnav College for Women. The nominees of the Governing Body representing Industry, Dr. A.V. Sivaramaprasad, Advisor (Strategy) The KCP Limited and Mr. G.R. Hari, Chartered Accountant, also attended the meeting.

The Vice-Principal (Self-Supporting), Dr. T. Usha Priya, the Academic Council Secretary, Mrs. V. Manimozhi, the Controller of Examinations Dr R K Maya, all Heads of Departments (Aided and Self-Supporting) And Senior Faculty Representing Languages, Arts and Science streams along with Student Invitees of each Department were also present.

The Principal-in-charge welcomed the gathering and briefed those present about the revision of the syllabi which was undertaken and the need to conduct BOS, and Academic Council Meetings every semester from now on.

The Minutes of the Board of Studies meetings of all the programmes of study, which were conducted between July 2021 and September 2021 were presented by the respective Chairpersons of the Board of Studies and were passed and approved.

The Controller of Examinations presented the resolutions of the changes adopted to the examination and evaluation pattern of all programmes of study during the pandemic and also the resolutions relating to extra curricular activities during the said period. They were passed and approved. The following were the resolutions relating to examinations and evaluation pattern that were passed:

- Online Examinations-shift from website to use of google classrooms for conduct of exams
- Reduction of time and maximum marks except for the MBA programme which was retained at 60 marks and three hour duration



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- Single Internal question paper setting-continuation of the practice of collecting multiple question paper sets
- Online evaluation by course teachers under the supervision of Nodal Officers
- Provision of extra-time for differently abled students
- Adoption of online internships wherever possible-Due to the pandemic students were unable to in some cases attend regular offline internships. Wherever this was the case students were helped and directed to seek online internships and produce certificates for the same.
- Adoption of review projects instead of offline projects during the pandemic-Students are given topics chosen by the department and asked to submit a review of current literature on the topic in the form of a written dissertation and the certification and documentation was provided by the department for the same.
- Adoption of online viva-voce examinations during the pandemic-Online viva-voce exams were held under the supervision of the HoD's/Nodal Officers of the department with some departments offering offline viva wherever the situation was better.
- Adoption of online practical exams wherever possible.

In the lively discussions that followed the external members provided valuable inputs for refining the syllabus and for the growth of the institution.

Dr. K Sivaramaprasad, Industry Representative congratulated the Principal and Departments for incorporating emerging technologies and need-based subjects in the syllabi revisions. He suggested that Technology and Information Forecasting could be introduced as an elective subject in the MBA programme during the next revision. He also suggested that current topics like Biofuels could be introduced for which the HOD of Microbiology, Dr Krishna Prema said that the department had introduced it in a paper during the current revision.

Dr. Lalitha Balakrishnan, University Nominee to the Academic Council appreciated the systematically planned revision of the syllabi that were undertaken even during the pandemic and also appreciated the choice of electives given to students which according to her was the effective use of educational autonomy. While noting the fact all the departments had introduced self-study papers for advanced learners she was of the opinion that in each paper

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a self-study component (in the form of a unit) could be introduced and this would make self-study available to all students and not just advanced learners.

She also suggested that according to the OBE pattern of education student feedback has to be obtained every semester and such feedback from students, industry and alumna should form a vital component of syllabi revisions undertaken in the future.

Mr G R Hari, Industry Representative to the Academic Council, offered his suggestions through the chat box of the meeting. He appreciated all departments for presenting the summary of the syllabus revision in a clear and concise manner and appreciated the efforts gone into this exercise. He suggested that the curriculum should emphasise remote learning and focus on case studies and objective learning. He also suggested that the commerce students should be taught online filing and reporting as a part of their practicals.

The meeting came to a close at 01.00 pm with the Controller of Examinations proposing the vote of thanks.



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