

Minutes of the Board of Studies of the Department of Physics held on 21/7/2023 at 11 am

The first meeting of the Board of Studies of Physics, Vimala College (Autonomous), Thrissur for the academic year 2023-24 was held on 21/7/2023 at 11 am on a virtual platform via google meet. Dr. Mini Krishna K, Head of the Post Graduate and Research Department of Physics and Chairperson of the Board, welcomed the board members. The Chairperson, then briefed the minutes of the previous board of studies meeting.

The agenda of the meeting:

1. Discussions on possible syllabus modification in view of ensuing NEP implementation
2. Suggestion on New Programmes (integrated or multidisciplinary)
3. Steps to enhance Academia - Industry interface
4. Feedback on curriculum, analysis and action taken report
5. Approval/ratification of syllabi of new value added courses
6. Approval of panel of examiners for UG and PG programmes
7. Any other matter raised by the chair

Members present

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| 1. Chairperson | : | Dr Mini Krishna K | sd/ |
| 2. University Nominee | : | Dr Ravikumar C D | sd/ |
| 3. Subject Expert(Outside Parent University) | : | Dr Sheena Xavier | sd/ |
| 4. Subject Expert (Outside Parent University) | : | Dr Santhosh Kumar M C | sd/ |
| 5. Industry Representative | : | Dr K R Dayas | sd/ |
| 6. Alumnae Representative | : | Dr Reena Mary A P | sd/ |
| 7. Dr Malini K A | | | sd/ |
| 8. Dr Veena Gopalan E | | | sd/ |
| 9. Dr Dhanya Johnson | | | sd/ |
| 10. Dr Jovia Jose | | | sd/ |
| 11. Ms Laveena Varghese | | | sd/ |
| 12. Mr Santhosh P Jose | | | sd/ |
| 13. Dr Aneesh George | | | sd/ |
| 14. Dr Regina Jose | | | sd/ |

The various items in the agenda of the meeting were discussed and the following suggestions were proposed.

Item 1: Discussions on possible syllabus modification in view of ensuing NEP implementation

In light of the implementation of NEP, the curriculum may be made more application and skill-oriented in order to accommodate the wide range of interests of students in the areas of academic, entrepreneurial or professional disciplines. This would need to be in line with the upcoming policies of the higher education council and university. Additionally, the curricula of reputable overseas universities may be evaluated and adapted potentially leading to an increase in student enrollment. In collaboration with the language departments, students may be trained in scientific writing such as science translation, news, communication, paper writing etc.

Item 2: Suggestion on New Programmes (integrated or multidisciplinary)

Integrated programmes can be thought of if the affiliated University announces the same. Electives may be planned so that students can select them based on their interests. Meanwhile, for the current batches, student projects with multidisciplinary nature may be promoted. UG and PG students may be insisted to complete at least one MOOC course from SWAYAM/NPTEL or similar portals.

Item 3: Steps to enhance Academia - Industry interface

The experts suggested that students may be encouraged to receive hands-on training in plumbing, electrical/electronic repair, artificial intelligence and other fields during their two-month summer break, and the same can be facilitated in collaboration with ITIs, polytechnic institutes or other institutes.

Item 4: Feedback on curriculum, analysis and action taken report

Although the students commented that the curriculum is excellent, they recommended adding more practical knowledge than theoretical information. Teachers also proposed the inclusion of

more practical aspects. The board suggested that efforts may be done to identify individual student skills and provide training sessions catering to each group.

Employers suggested applying curriculum to enhance field-based knowledge. The board discussed on this aspect and suggested to encourage inclusion of more multidisciplinary projects and internships. Also, it was suggested that internship/hands-on training may be initiated from the first year onwards.

Parents suggested to alert them in the group of concerned parents if children are being absent and also to focus on placements for students in the science stream as well. The board was informed that the student attendance is updated in the linways portal on hourly basis and that each student is enrolled in the DWMS system and the placement cell is doing sincere efforts to get every student placed.

Alumnae suggested that although teaching levels are excellent, question paper difficulty should also be raised. More problems should be covered in the curriculum and the question papers can be made more challenging in order to improve students' critical thinking and problem-solving abilities. The board suggested that the question paper pattern of atleast one internal needs to be modified including more problem oriented questions.

Academic peers suggested that assessment and evaluation need to be more continuous and different talents of students must be regarded in assessment. The board resolved that new assessment patterns and innovative changes shall be made in the new syllabus revision.

Item 5: Approval/ratification of syllabi of new value added courses

The board approved the new 30 hr value added course *Basic Course In Analytical Tools And Equipments* and ratified the syllabus. The chairperson informed that the course is designed to impart measurement accuracy, observational skills, instrumentation competence, expertise in operating advanced instruments and design and implementation of research projects.

Item 6: Approval of panel of examiners for UG and PG programmes

The panels of examiners for practical and valuation purposes for both PG and UG were updated and the new panels were presented before the board. The panels were approved by the board.

Item 7: Any other matter raised by the chair

The chairperson informed the board that the results of previous UG and PG batches were published. Dr Mini Krishna K presented the results. The pass percentage of UG batch is 100% and PG batch is 93%. Two PG students are placed and five of them have joined for B.Ed. Two of them are preparing for NET/JRF exams and five of them are preparing for SSC/Bank exams. In the UG batch, 26 students have already enrolled for PG courses in Physics, Medical Physics, meteorology, oceanography, environmental science, photonics, biophotonics, biomedical instrumentation, MSc Computer Science, MA Malayalam and MBA. 5 students are joining B.Ed. 11 students are awaiting allotment for PG courses and 2 students are trying to go abroad for higher studies. Two students are doing other job oriented training in software and medical billing fields. Two of them are preparing for JAM, two for CAT and one for SSC.

The Board also commented on conduct of offline meetings rather on online sessions.

Dr. Malini K A proposed vote of thanks and the meeting concluded at 12.30 pm. She also mentioned that this could be the final meeting of the present board of studies as the tenure of a Board is three years.