

Minutes of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), of IACS dated 31st October 2023 held at 11:00 AM in Room No T-201 of CRAFT Building of IACS

Members Present

Dr. Ranjan Sen, Director, IACS
Professor Indra Dasgupta, Director, IQAC
Professor N Sathyamurthy, Member
Professor D DSarma, Member
Professor L S Shashidhara, Member
Professor Suhrit Ghosh, Dean Academic and Member
Professor Satrajit Adhikari, Member
Professor Somobrata Acharya, Member
Professor Abhishek Dey, Chair SCS
Professor Saurav Giri, Chair SPS
Professor Prasanta K Das, Chair SBS
Professor Sudip Malik, Chair SAIS
Professor Shyamal Saha, Chair SMS
Professor Bimalendu Deb, Chair SMCS
Ms. Sarbani Saha, Registrar IACS, Administrative Official
Ms. Purbasha Banerjee, Deputy Registrar, Administrative Official

Documents perused

1. Academic Programs of the IACS Deemed to be University from 2018-19 to 2022-23.
 2. Course Structure and syllabus for the 5-year Integrated Bachelor's Master's & Master's /Integrated Master's-PhD Programmes
 3. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Convocation reports
- The Director, IACS welcomed the members of IQAC which was followed by a presentation by the Director, IQAC on the goals and functions of IQAC. It was recommended that the IQAC may fill up the AQAR at the earliest after collecting the inputs from the various offices and submit the same as per guidelines and parameters of NAAC.
 - The Dean Academic made a presentation on the Admission, Assessment and Output data of the students for the last five years. It was proposed that IACS may take special initiative to fill up the seats and also reach out to remote areas especially the North East region so that the students in

these regions can avail equal opportunities in higher education in line with NEP guidelines. A student handbook (available online) may be prepared in detail and distributed to the students.

- The Chairs of the Schools made individual presentations on the courses run by the individual Schools, Research and Academic activities and Faculty Profiles. It was recommended that IACS may come up with a modified presentation in the next meeting with respective program wise details for BS-MS, Integrated MS-PhD and PhD. A consolidated data may be presented for the first 2 years of BS-MS and specializations may be School Specific. There may be scope for IACS to revisit the existing courses and include new academic and professional courses, subject to approval by the Boards of Studies and ratification by the Academic Council.
- The Director, IQAC made a presentation on how the Academic Activities and courses run by IACS are aligned with NEP. It was decided that IACS may explore the possibility of formulating multiple exit routes in the BS-MS program and MS – Integrated PhD program. Entry routes will continue as per existing norms. However, in case of exceptional students IACS may consider earlier entry for the PhD program based on progress reports and UGC-ABC on case-to-case basis.
- The IQAC members visited all the UG and PG teaching laboratories of various schools housed in different buildings of the institute. It was observed that the sense of safety and awareness thereof is lacking in the Chemistry Laboratory 2 situated in the Main Building of IACS. The Committee directed that the importance of safety in the laboratory must be emphasized more.
- After a brief introduction by the Director, IQAC, Professor D D Sarma and Professor N Sathyamurthy interacted with the PhD representative students and the final year BS-MS and MS students in two separate sessions.
- During the feedback session the PhD students suggested that a System Manager should be in place to take care the various computational facilities. The CSS functioning may be further improved with more regular maintenance/repair work and by keeping a regular check on the assignment of operators across all the instruments, so that all the facilities may run full time efficiently. A mechanism for participation of the students by way of training them on a continuous basis may be done for smooth and efficient functioning of the instruments. The students expressed their desire in availing the supercomputing facilities available in the Institute which are mainly used exclusively for research purposes.

A Career Advisory Cell may be set up which would include a Placement Cell and a Career Counseling & Development Cell. The Cell would advise on Doctoral and Post Doctoral Internships and Industry exposure. Non CGPA courses for BS-MS, MS and PhD students on Start-ups and Industrial Orientation may be introduced and Institute lectures and seminars may be organized.

- The students of the BS-MS and MS Programs expressed their desire to access the library for longer hours. Attention may be given on purchase of more number of text books. Inter institute clustering of faculty and students may be made for wider exposure to core areas of all subjects taught. Initiatives may be taken to foster sports and cultural activities among IACS students. Such activities may be conducted between other DST Institute students as well for more exposure. In order to strengthen the sports activities in a structured manner a designated Sports Officer may be engaged. It was proposed that Bio Statistics and Proteomics courses may be introduced, as requested by the students of the School of Biological Sciences. Recruitment of additional faculty especially for the Mathematical and Computational Sciences was requested. More advanced Computational Courses in SPS may be introduced.
- It was felt that the IQAC must be in each quarter round the year.

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