

# Kerala State Higher Education Council

## Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Governing Body of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council held on 25-07-2018 at KSHEC Thiruvananthapuram

The Third Governing Body meeting of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Council was held at the office of the Council on 25-07-2018. Prof. C. Raveendranath, Hon. Minister for Education presided.

The following members attended the meeting

1. Prof. C. Raveendranath - Hon. Minister for Education
2. Prof.(Dr). Rajan Gurukkal P.M - Vice Chairman, KSHEC
3. Dr. Usha Titus IAS - Principal Secretary Higher Education & State Project Director, RUSA
4. Dr. K. Mohammed Basheer, - Vice Chancellor, Calicut University
5. Dr. R. Chandrababu - Vice Chancellor, Kerala Agricultural University
6. Dr. Dharmarajan P.K. - Vice Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit
7. Dr. A. Ramachandran - Vice Chancellor, Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies
8. Dr. C. Ganesh - (Vice Chancellor (i/c) University of Kerala
9. Dr. B. Ekbal - Member, Kerala State Planning Board
10. Smt. Haritha. V Kumar IAS - Director of Collegiate Education
11. Dr. K.P. Indira Devi - Director of Technical Education
12. Er. Udaya Kumar A. - Director, The Kerala Engineering Research Institute
13. Dr. RVG Menon - Member, Governing Body, KSHEC
14. Sri. N Sathyanandan - Member, Governing Body, KSHEC
15. Dr. Fathimathu Zuhara - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
16. Dr. Joy Job Kulavelil - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
17. Dr. R.K. Suresh Kumar - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
18. Dr. K.K Damodaran - Member - Executive Body, KSHEC
19. Dr. Rajan Varughese - Member Secretary, KSHEC

The Vice Chairman welcomed all the members of the Governing Body.

The following agenda was transacted and decisions taken at the meeting:

### **Item No.1 Annual Report 2017-18**

The Governing Body approved the Annual Report for 2017-18.

### **Item No.2 Annual Audit and Accounts Report for 2017-18**

The Governing Body approved the Annual Audit and Accounts Report for 2017-18.

### **Item No.3 Autonomous Colleges.**

The Governing Body approved the Report of the committee constituted to study the academic and other aspects of the functioning of Autonomous college in the state presented by Dr. Joy Job Kulavelil (Chairman) and also decided to forward the same to the Government.

Further resolved to include a nominee of a Research Institute in the Governing Body of Autonomous Colleges.

### **Item No.4 Open University.**

The Governing Body approved the Report of the committee constituted to draw the Implementation Procedure for the Institution of Open University in the state presented by Dr. Fathimathu Zuhara (Chair Person) and also decided to forward the same to the Government.

### **ItemNo.5 Draft Guidelines/ Norms for Equivalency/ Recognition of Degrees.**

The Governing Body meeting approved the Guidelines and Norms for Equivalency/ Recognition of Degrees (as given below) presented by the Chairman of the committee Prof. Rajan Gurukkal.

#### **Norms/Guidelines Relating to Equivalency/Recognition of Academic Programmes or Areas of Studies and Nomenclature and Degrees of Other Universities**

***In exercise of the powers conferred under by the Kerala State Higher Education Council Act, 2007(Act 22 of 2007), together with all the amendments made therein from time to time and amendment of section 4 , sub section(2), of clauses (zd) and (ze)***

***((zd)- evolve common academic guidelines for Universities in the State for mutual recognition, approval or equalization of academic programmes or areas of studies and nomenclature thereof;***

***(ze)-evolve common academic guidelines for Universities in the State for recognition, approval or equalization of academic programmes or areas of studies and nomenclature thereof of various programmes conducted by Universities or higher education institutions outside the State and outside the country);***

***of the Kerala State Higher Education Council, hereby, frames the following Norms & Guidelines, namely:-***

- 1. All universities, higher educational institutions (HEIs), agencies and employers shall recognize the degrees awarded by national institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs), and other national level stand-alone institutions funded by Government.**

- 2. All universities/HEIs/employers in the state shall recognize the BS/MS degrees of IISERs, IISc, State/Central Universities, and other HEIs funded by the Government.**
- 3. No equivalency/recognition shall be insisted upon for degrees obtained from National Institutes like Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs), Indian Institute of Science (IISc), National Institutes of Technology (NITs), Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISERs) or other institutions recognized by University Grants Commission (UGC).**
- 4. There shall be reciprocal recognition of degrees awarded by the Indian Universities/other HEIs as listed out and updated by the University Grants Commission.**
- 5. Universities/HEIs/Employment Agencies/Employers in the State shall follow the nomenclature of degrees prepared and listed by the UGC.**
- 6. Universities/HEIs/Employment Agencies/Employers shall follow the conditions, policies and procedure stipulated by Association of Indian Universities (AIU) for according recognition/equivalence of qualification / Degrees awarded by Foreign Universities.**
- 7. Universities/HEIs/Employment Agencies/Employers shall approve/ recognize Degrees acquired through Open and Distance Learning complying with the latest University Grants Commission Open and Distance Learning Regulations.**
- 8. Equivalency/Recognition of Degrees acquired through Open and Distance Learning before the promulgation of the UGC Open and Distance Learning Regulations, 2017 shall be decided by the university concerned.**
- 9. Universities/HEIs/Employment Agencies/Employers shall approve/ recognize Degrees awarded by Private Universities with the recognition/approval of the UGC, and which comply with the relevant UGC norms/regulations as amended from time to time.**

The Governing Body further resolved to recommend to the government to establish a State Level Academic Committee (SLAC) in the Kerala State Higher Education Council (KSHEC) for the purpose of disposing of objections/disputes/complaints regarding the nomenclature of Academic Programmes/Degrees and according approval/recognition/ equivalence. Universities/HEIs/Employment Agencies/Employers shall refer unsettled issues of nomenclature of Academic Programmes/Degrees and their approval/recognition/equivalence to KSHEC for decision by the SLAC. In all issues of nomenclature of Academic Programmes/Degrees and their approval/recognition/equivalence the aggrieved candidates shall appeal to the KSHEC for the decision by SLAC.

### Names Suggested as members of the State Level Academic Committee

1.	Prof. P.M. Rajan Gurukkal(Chairperson)	Vice Chairman, KSHEC
2.	Dr. Rajan Varughese(convenor)	Member Secretary, KSHEC
3.	Dr. N.V. Varghese	Vice Chancellor, National Institute of Educational Planning and Administration, New Delhi Email: <a href="mailto:vc@nuepa.org">vc@nuepa.org</a>
4.	UGC Nominee	
5.	Dr. Gangan Pratap	APJ Abdul Kalam Technological University, Thiruvananthapuram and Vidya Academy of Science Email: gangan_prathap@hotmail.com
6.	Dr. E.D. Jemmis	Professor , IPC Department Indian Institute of Science Bangalore - 560 012 +91 80 2293-3347 jemmisiisc.ac.in
7.	Dr. Udaya Kumar	Centre for English Studies, School of Language Literature and Culture Studies Room No: 151, SLL&CS-I Off. Phone: 011-26708935 Email: udayakumar@mail.jnu.ac.in , udayaxkumar@gmail.com
8.	Dr. Balan Nambiar	Artist Former Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi, New Delhi Mmember of the Central Advisory Board on Culture (CABC) of the Ministry of Culture and the Apex Committee of the NGMA, Delhi and Bengaluru
9.	Dr. Anurag Kumar	Director Indian Institute of Science Bangalore, 560 012, India Phone: (+91) 80-2360-0855 e-mail: anurag@iisc.ac.in
10.	Dr. Sabu Thomas	Pro-Vice Chancellor, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam +91 9447223452; sabuthomas@mgu.ac.in, sabuchathukula m@yahoo.co.uk , sabupolymer@yahoo.co m

11.	Dr. C.P. Chandrasekharan	Centre for Economic Studies and Planning, School of Social Sciences Room No: 319, SSS II Jawaharlal Nehru University Email: cpc@mail.jnu.ac.in , cpchand@gmail.com
12.	Dr. Vineetha Menon	Professor, Dept. of Anthropology, Kannur University
13.	Dr. Ravikumar K.S.	Pro-Vice Chancellor, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit Kalady, Ph: 9447711010
14.	Dr. Raghavendra Gadagkar	Professor, Centre for Ecological Sciences, Indian Institute of Science, Sir. C.V. Raman Avenue, Bangalore-560012 Email:ragh@iisc.ac.in
15.	Prof. Dhruv Raina	Zakir Husain Centre for Educational Studies, School of Social Sciences, Jawaharlal Nehru University Room No: 222 Off. Phone: 011-26704418 Email: dhruv@mail.jnu.ac.in d_raina@yahoo.com

**Item No.6 Draft Bill on Higher Education Commission of India (HECI).**

Resolved to organise a national level Higher Education Conference on the draft Bill on Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) with participation of Education Ministers of various states and academics in the country.

Further resolved to recommend all State Universities to organise discussions on the draft Bill on Higher Education Commission of India (HECI) in various bodies of the University (Syndicate/ Senate / Academic Council/ University Student Union).

**Item No.7 Minutes of the Executive Body meetings on 16-05-2018, 08-06-2018 and 19-07-2018.**

Approved the Minutes of the Executive Body Meeting on 16-05-2018, 08-06-2018 and 19-07-2018.

## **Additional Agenda**

### **Item No. A1 Inter University Centres (IUCs).**

Approved the Interim Report with modifications on the functioning of Inter University Centres in state Universities presented by the Chairman of the Committee  
Prof. Rajan Gurukkal.P. M.

#### **a) Observations:**

1. One of the IUCs at CUSAT, which deals with Intellectual Property Rights and Patents, has been consistently performing well all along and as an inter-university centre of multi-institutional clientele. One in Nano-technology has been inactive for the past seven years and has started functioning. Another Centre dealing with Kerala Mathematics received only a small amount and its performance has not been noteworthy. In Kannur University, its only IUC has been performing well. MGU has the maximum number of IUCs (nine) and the one for Nano-science and Nano-technology ranks foremost in achievements. That is the only international inter-university centre. Others have been active but with uneven outcomes. Of the six IUCs of Kerala University the one dealing with Bio-informatics ranks foremost. It is functioning as an inter-university centre of cross-disciplinary and multi-institutional character. Others are not in the avowed track as yet.
2. Most IUCs do not have their Governing Council.
3. All universities have been largely supportive of their IUCs.
4. MG University's approach has been strikingly intrusive for the last three years and in various ways opposed to the construed spirit of autonomy. It indiscriminately changed the Directors of IUCs as an administrative imposition from above and with utter disregard for academic specialization, the most essential qualification. Such outrageous interferences have not been reported from any other university.
5. In the Calicut and Kerala universities specialists themselves decided to change the headship of IUCs by turn. In Kannur the Director continues even after the incumbent's retirement.
6. It is mandatory that all the host universities understand the concept, objectives and scope of the IUC and comply with the stipulated norms.

#### **b) Suggestions/Priorities**

1. It should be mandatory that the teaching/research faculty member with the required specialization, who designed and proposed the Centre or his/her nominee with specialization or the specialist nominated by the Executive Committee, becomes the Director of every IUC.
  2. The present Governance Structure of the IUC is top-heavy and tripartite, which is unnecessary and impractical. Its governance must be bestowed upon the Executive Body consisting of the Academics and presided over by the Vice Chancellor of the University concerned.
  3. It is not practical for Ministers/the Chief Minister to be heading the Governing Council of each IUC and putting such great Offices in charge of small organizations, mostly less than regular Department of the University, is inappropriate. Instead, it may be appropriate to have them at the helm of Governing Council common for all the IUCs in the state.
  4. It is important that all IUCs have their own structural space.
  5. Every IUC should have separate budgetary allocation.
- The meeting which began by 11.30 AM end at 1.30 pm.

**Member Secretary**

**Vice Chairman**