

COCHIN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



MINUTES OF THE 539th MEETING OF THE SYNDICATE
HELD ON 21.02.2009 AT 10.30 A.M IN THE SYNDICATE HALL OF THE UNIVERSITY.

Members present:

1. Dr. Gangan Prathap, Vice-Chancellor (in the Chair)
2. Dr. N.D. Inasu, Pro-Vice-Chancellor
3. Dr. K.N.Chandrasekharan Pillai
4. Dr. I.S. Bright Singh
5. Dr. E.P. Yesodharan
6. Dr. V.P.N. Nampoori
7. Shri. Baby Chakrapani
8. Shri. N.K. Vasudevan
9. Adv. K.Mohanachandran
10. Dr. S. Salim
11. Shri. V. Prasenani, Additional Secretary (Finance)
12. Shri. M. Mohammed Basheer, Joint Secretary (Higher Education)
13. Prof. Joy Job Kulavelil
14. Ms. Asha V V
15. Shri. C.M. Dinesh Mani M.L.A

Also present :

Dr.N.Chandramohanakumar
Registrar

Special Items reported by the Vice Chancellor

1. *The Vice Chancellor informed the Syndicate that the Committee with Dr.V.P.N. Nampoori as Convenor for the identification of the Alumni Awards has suggested the following names for the year 2009.
 - a. Justice Shri K.S. Radhakrishnan, Hon'ble Chief Justice, High Court of Gujarat
 - b. Shri Jacob Punnoose, DGP, Govt of Kerala
 - c. Dr.Sabu Thomas, Professor, School of Chemical Sciences, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam.
 - d. Dr. Sebastian Paul, M.P., Ernakulam
 - e. Dr. Meenakumari, Director, CIFT, Kochi

The Syndicate resolved to accept the proposal and further resolved to give the awards on the foundation day of CUSAT

2. *It is proposed to confer Honorary Doctorate to Hon'ble Justice Shri K.G. Balakrishnan, Chief Justice of India and to Shri E. Sreedharan, Chairman, Delhi Metro Railway Corporation for their contributions to the nation.

The Syndicate accepted the proposal and resolved to conduct convocation on the foundation day of CUSAT

3. Dr.Gangan Pratap, Vice Chancellor informed the Syndicate that he has been appointed as the Director, National Institute of Science Communication and Information Resources (NISCAIR), New Delhi by the Government of India and he will be relieving from CUSAT on February 21, 2009 to join at Delhi on February 23, 2009. Dr Gangan Pratap thanked all the members of the Syndicate for the support rendered to him during his tenure as the Vice Chancellor.
4. As part of the Scholars -in-residence program(ERUDITE), the first series of lectures will be held from 24th February to 28th February, 2009 by Dr. Swapan pati, JNCASR, Bangalore in the Dept of Applied Chemistry
5. As per the budget abstracts available, the Government of Kerala has significantly enhanced the Plan Allocation for the year 2009-10 to CUSAT from 2 crores to 8 crores. The Government has also awarded Rs 3 crores each to the Centre for Nano Science and Materials and the Intellectual Property Right Cell for their further development to international level.
6. The Director C-SiS has forwarded a list of eminent personalities for constituting the National Award Committee, to be constituted by the Syndicate, for the Award of Prof. M.V. Pylee Award 2009. (Appendix I).

The Syndicate resolved to accept the list with the modification that Dr. P.K Abdul Azis be replaced by Dr. Gangan Pratap.

7. The recent modification in the constitution of the officers with respect to Right to Information Act 2005(Syndicate decision 530.07) have brought in some ambiguities with respect to the PIOs and APIOs in the Departments. As per the decision the information from the Departments are to be centrally processed which involves tremendous delay in providing the information to the seekers and leads to complaints to State Commission. The structure may be recast and the Officers may be assigned duties as in other Universities.

The Syndicate resolved to authorise the Registrar to bring this as a separate item in the next Syndicate along with a draft proposal

8. *The minutes of the meeting to review the functioning of the C-SiS is presented to the Syndicate. The Syndicate may nominate the Director of C-SiS as the CRL/BPCL Chair.

The Syndicate resolved to nominate the Director, C-SiS as the BPCL Chair

9. *The minutes of the Selection Committee for the recruitment to the post of University Engineer held on January 24, 2009 is presented to the Syndicate.

The Syndicate resolved to accept the minutes of the Selection Committee.

Item No.538.01 Confirmation of the minutes of the 538th meeting of the Syndicate held on 17.1.2009.

The Syndicate considered the draft minutes of the 538th Meeting of the Syndicate held on 17.1.2009 and approved the same with the following emendation:

In the Special Item (3) Reported by the Vice Chancellor in second paragraph 'responsibility of the preparation of the question paper be entrusted with' be included deleting the sentence 'Pro-Vice-Chancellor will be replaced by'.

The Syndicate also make the following emendation in Item No.536.12 of the meeting of the Syndicate held on 21.11.2008.

In the Item 536.12 'The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor' be included as the first sentence in the resolution.

***Item No.539.02 False Certificate issued by DESCON (Consultancy Cell of Department of Ship Technology) – Report of Public Accounts Committee – Enquiry into allegations against Dr. S.K. Pyarilal, Reader, Department of Ship Technology – Follow up action – Regarding.**

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase and Staff & Establishment, the 20th report of the Committee on Public Accounts (2006-08) and the request of the Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department to conduct a detailed enquiry into the allegations against Dr. S.K. Pyarilal (Reader, Department of Ship Technology) in connection with the issuance of False Quality Certificate by DESCON (Consultancy Cell of Department of Ship Technology) as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee.

The Syndicate resolved to conduct an enquiry in this matter and to appoint Dr. Jose T. Manjooran, Former Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam as the Inquiry Commission.

(Ad.D)

***Item No.539.03 KMSME – Simulator course – Starting of –Consideration of – Regarding.**

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff & Establishment, Finance and Purchase and Academic Matters, the proposal forwarded by the Director, Kunjali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering to conduct Engine Room Simulator Course at Basic Level and Management Level at Kunjali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering and also the request to sanction the following:

1. An advance for Rs. 50,000/- to apply for the approval of the course by Director General of Shipping.
2. Authorize the Director, Kunjali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering to issue the certificate of the course.
3. Appoint one more Marine Chief Engineer for a period of 6 months in a year on contract basis with consolidated pay of Rs.40,000/- per month
4. Appoint a Lab Assistant with the qualification of Diploma in Computer Engineering/Electronics Engineering on contract basis with a pay of Rs.15,000/- (Rupees fifteen thousand only) and one clerical staff on daily wages basis.

The Syndicate resolved to accept 1 and 2 above and to consider 3 and 4 above after ascertaining the financial viability.

(Ac.A)

***Item No.539.04 Admission of students from American College of Dubai, Dubai – Sparring of seats from the Lateral Entry intake – Regarding.**

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters, the MOU signed between CUSAT and Americal College of Dubai, Dubai in January 2005 to admit the student from the American College of Dubai to the third semester B.Tech programmes.

The Syndicate resolved to terminate the MOU w.e.f. 2010 and to inform the American College of Dubai not to admit students from 2010 onwards under this programme.

(IRAA)

Item No.539.05 Reconstitution of the Board of Studies in Chemical Oceanography – Consideration of –Reg.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters, the matter of Reconstitution of Board of Studies in Chemical Oceanography, its date of effect and appointment of two members from the Board to the Faculty of Marine Sciences.

The Syndicate resolved to accept the proposal appended and the date of effect of the Board of Studies will be the date of this Syndicate meeting. (Appendix III)

(Conf.)

Item No.539.06 Establishment –Teachers on contract basis in Kunjali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering – Details regarding their remuneration and period of contract – Furnishing –

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment and Academic Matters, the following:

a). The action taken by the Vice Chancellor in extending the period of contract of Sri. K.A. Simon, Director, KMSME to a further period of one year w.e.f 13.12.2008;

b). The request of Sri. K.A. Simon for enhancing his consolidated pay to Rs.55,000/- w.e.f 14.9.2008 as per the recommendations of the Selection Committee for the post of Director on contract basis;

c). The request of Sri. P.V. Sasikumar to rectify the anomaly in the remuneration paid to him and the course-in-charge Sri. N.Gangadharan Nair and also to modify the Syndicate decision of the Item No. 533.05 in the light of inconsistencies noted.

The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor extending the period of contract of Sri.K.A. Simon, Director, KMSME to a further period of one year w.e.f. 13.12.2008.

The Syndicate further resolved to refer the matter of enhancement of the consolidated pay in respect of Sri. K.A. Simon to the Standing Committee on Finance and Purchase for a detailed study and report.

It is also resolved to rectify the anomaly and enhance the remuneration of Sri. P.V. Sasikumar at par with that of Sri.N. Gangadharan Nair and to modify the Syndicate decision on Item No. 533.05 to this effect.

(Ad.F)

Item No.539.07 School of Management Studies Library – Proposal for creation of 2 posts of Professional Assistant Grade II one post of Peon and one post of Sweeper cum Cleaner – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase and Staff & Establishment the proposal of the Director School of Management Studies for creation of 2 posts of Professional Assistant Gr.II, One Post of Peon and one post of Sweeper cum cleaner in the School of Management Studies Library.

The Syndicate resolved to refer this item to the Committee constituted to study the existing non-teaching staff distribution pattern in the University.

(Ad.A)

Item No.539.08 Establishment – University Teacher – Smt. Bindu P. Kalakkaparambil, Lecturer in Computer Science, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad – Declaration of probation of service –Counting of prior service at School of Engineering – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the appeal submitted by Smt. Bindu P. Kalakkaparambil, Lecturer in Computer Science, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad for declaration of probation of service by counting her prior service at School of Engineering w.e.f. 30.3.2001 to 21.3.2002.

The Syndicate resolved to decline the appeal submitted by Smt. Bindhu P.Kalakkaparambil for counting her prior service for the declaration of the probation.

(Ad.F)

Item No.539.09 Representation of the Service Organisation on reservation of the promotion posts of Class IV employees to Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunity protection of rights and full participation) Act 1995 – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase and Staff and Establishment, the representations of the Service Organizations on reservation of the promotion posts of Class IV employees to Persons with Disabilities (Equal opportunity protection of rights and full participation) Act 1995.

Deferred.

(Ad.G)

Item No.539.10 Proposal for creation of post of Professional Assistant Grade II in the School of Environmental Studies Library – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase and Staff & Establishment the proposal of the Director, School of Environmental Studies for creation of post of Professional Assistant Gr.II in the School of Environmental Studies Library.

The Syndicate resolved to refer this item to the Committee constituted to study the existing non-teaching staff distribution pattern in the University.

(Ad.A)

Item No.539.11 Modification to the qualification and age limit for the post of Mess Manager-cum-Assistant Warden – Reporting of –Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor, modifying the qualification and age prescribed for the post of Mess Manager-cum-Assistant Warden on a scale of pay of Rs.4500-7000 (pre-revised) on temporary basis in the self financing stream for B.Tech Marine Engineering course.

The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor.

(Ad.G)

Item No.539.12 Rotation of Headship – School of Management Studies – Action taken by the Vice Chancellor – Reporting of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor, relieving Dr. Mary Joseph T, Director, School of Management Studies from the Directorship and nominating Dr. Pavithran K B, Professor, School of Management Studies as the new Director, School of Management Studies with effect from 31.01.2009 A N.

The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor.

(Ad.D)

Item No.539.13 Dr.K.G. Anil Kumar, Reader, Department of Atmospheric Sciences – Resignation from Service – Sanctioned – Reporting of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor permitting Dr. K.G. Anil Kumar, Reader, Department of Atmospheric Sciences for permission to resign from University service with effect from 27.08.2008 to enable him to pursue courses on Geographical Information System, at Georgia State University, USA.

The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor.

(Ad.D)

Item No.539.14 69th Session of Indian History Congress hosted by Kannur University – Financial Assistance of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only) to Kannur University – Reported for Ratification – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor providing Financial Assistance to the tune of Rs.1,00,000/- (Rupees one lakh only) to Kannur University in connection with the 69th Session of Indian History Congress hosted by Kannur University.

The Syndicate resolved to approve the action taken by the Vice Chancellor.

(Ad.D)

Item No.539.15 Reckoning of prior service rendered by Dr. C.A. Francis, Professor, School of Management Studies – Remittance of pro-rata pension liability by the teacher himself – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance & Purchase and Staff and Establishment, the request of Dr. C.A. Francis, Professor, School of Management Studies to reckon the prior service rendered by him at the University of Mysore for the period from 14.9.1977 to 3.04.1987 for pensionary benefits by permitting him to remit the pro-rata liabilities due to the University by himself.

The Syndicate resolved to refer the item to the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment for a detailed study.

(Ad.D)

Item No.539.16 Establishment – Principal on contract basis, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad – Request for revising the consolidated pay-Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase, Staff & Establishment and Academic Matters the matter regarding the enhancement of consolidated pay in respect of the Principal, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad on contract basis.

The Syndicate resolved to make appointment to the post of the Principal, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad with qualifications prescribed by A.I.C.T.E.

(Ad.F)

Item No.539.17 Purchase of wooden furniture from M/s. FIT, Aluva for the Electrical Machine Laboratory of the Division of Electrical and Electronics Engineering – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase, the request of the Principal, School of Engineering to purchase wooden furniture from M/s. FIT, Aluva 683 106 for the Electrical Machine Laboratory of the Division of Electrical and Electronics Engineering at a total cost of Rs.10,15,091/- (Rupees Ten lakhs fifteen thousand and ninety one only).

The Syndicate resolved to accept the request of the Principal, School of Engineering to purchase wooden furniture from M/s.FIT, Aluve 683 106.

(Ad.C)

Item No.539.18 Dr. Jacob Zachariah, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics – Resignation – Recovery of bonded liability – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Finance & Purchase, Staff and Establishment and Academic Matters, the resignation of Dr. Jacob Zachariah, Lecturer, Department of Mathematics, recovery of bonded liability and the disciplinary proceedings against him as per the Legal opinion furnished by the University Standing Counsel.

The Syndicate resolved to initiate disciplinary proceedings against Dr.Jacob Zachariah as opined by the Standing Counsel.

The Syndicate further resolved to advertise the post of Lecturer, in the Dept. of Mathematics.

(Ad.D)

***Item No.539.19 Security arrangements in CUCEK – Security personnel appointed on contract basis prevented from entering the campus – Consideration of – Regarding.**

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment and Finance and Purchase, the matter of Security arrangements in Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad campus, and prevention of Security personnel, who were appointed by the University on contract basis, from entering the campus and the engagement of Security Guards on daily wages without approval of the University.

The Syndicate after assessing the situation prevailing in the Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad campus resolved to direct the Principal, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad:

- i) to do away with the service of Security guards engaged on daily wages who are being engaged without authorization or approval of the University.
- ii) to entrust the Security service of the campus to the Security personnel from the agency identified by the University.
- iii) to seek the assistance of Police in case of necessity for maintaining the law and order situation that may arise out of the above decision.

The Syndicate noted with concern the grave lapse on the part of the Principal Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad acting in violation of the University orders regarding the engagement of the Security guards and resolved to seek explanation from him and not to ratify the action taken by the Principal engaging the Security guards on daily wages.

The Syndicate also resolved to direct the Principal to comply with the order of the University within 48 hours of the intimation from the University.

The Syndicate further resolved to conduct an enquiry into the matter by a Committee consisting of Sri.N.K. Vasudevan, Adv. K.Mohanachandran and Registrar

(Ad.G)

Item No.539.20 Dr. Sreekala Pillai, Technical Assistant Grade II – Unauthorized absence – Representation to permit voluntary retirement – consideration of- Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment and Finance and Purchase, the matter of unauthorized absence of Dr. Sreekala Pillai, Technical Assistant Grade II and her representation to permit voluntary retirement from service.

The Syndicate resolved to initiate steps for terminating the service of Dr. Sreekala Pillai, Technical Assistant Gr.II from the University.

(Ad.G)

Item No.539.21 Missing of Library Books – Department Libraries – Request for write off – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Finance and Purchase, the request for writing off missing Library Books in the Department Libraries as given in the Appendix. (Appendix IV)

The Syndicate resolved :

- i. to seek clarification from the section which originated this agenda note as to why the Department of Computer Science, which has no details, was included in the statement.
- ii. to write off of missing books relating to the Departments of Mathematics as the value involved is meager
- iii. to call for a detailed report from the remaining two Departments where the write – off value is comparatively large clearly establishing that the loss cannot be attributed to dishonesty or negligence on the part of the concerned Librarian.
- iv. and to confirm whether the lost books were of special nature or rarity, in which case it calls for proper investigation and consequential action as per the UGC Guidelines and to seek clarification from the concerned Head of the Departments as to why they are not conducting annual stock verification as required under the rules.

Item No.539.22 Regularisation of services of Smt. P.V.Prameela as Sweeper cum Cleaner as per Judgement in OP No. 16858/98 – Objections from Deputy Director, Local Fund Audit: Bringing to attention – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment, the matter of regularization of services of Smt. P.V Prameela as Sweeper cum Cleaner as per judgment in OP No.16858/98 and the objections raised by the Local Fund Audit and also the direction to the University to fix responsibility for the lapses which occurred in this case.

The Syndicate resolved to conduct a detailed enquiry in the matter by the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment.

(Legal Sec)

Item No.539.23 Sri. Senthil Prakash M N, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanadu – Extension of Deputation for Ph.D under QIP – Consideration of – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor granting extension of Deputation to Sri. Senthil Prakash MN, Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering, Cochin University College of Engineering, Kuttanad for Ph.D under QIP at IIT Madras, Chennai for a further period of six months (from 03.08.2008 to 02.02.2009).

The Syndicate resolved not to extend the deputation, but to sanction leave for study purpose for the requested period.

(Ad.F)

Item No.539.24 Plan Fund – New Investments, Re-investments and closure of the deposits – Action of the Vice Chancellor – Regarding.

The Syndicate considered the action taken by the Vice Chancellor sanctioning new Investments, reinvestment of plan funds and closure of its deposits.

The Syndicate noted the matter.

(Fin)

***Item No.539.25 Non-plan Fund position of the University – Reporting of – Regarding.**

Syndicate considered the non-plan fund position of the University.

The Syndicate noted matter and resolved to reconstitute the Standing Committee on Finance and Purchase with Dr. Joy Job Kulavelil as Convener and Examination Matters, with Sri. Baby Chakrapani as Convener. All the members of these Committees will continue. The new Member of the Syndicate, Ms. V.V. Asha is nominated to the Standing Committees of the Syndicate on Works, Finance and Purchase and Staff and Establishment.

(Fin)

Item No.539.26 KMSME – Request of the Warden-cum-Physical Trainer on contract to enhance remuneration – Consideration of -

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment, the representation of Capt. K.S. Mathew, Warden-cum-Physical Trainer; on contract basis, Kunjali Marakkar School of Marine Engineering for enhancement of his remuneration from Rs.10000/-(consolidated) to Rs.15,000/- p.m. taking into account his rank and nature of work.

The Syndicate resolved to enhance the consolidated pay to Rs.13000/- for the present incumbent and to initiate steps to recruit a Warden Cum Physical Trainer on regular basis in the self financing sector.

The Syndicate further resolved to authorize the Convener, Staff and Establishment Committee to lay down the qualification/scale of pay in consultation with the Director, KMSME.

(Ad.G)

Item No.539.27 Annual Report of the University for the year 2006-07

The Syndicate considered the Annual Report of the University for the year 2006-07.

The Syndicate noted the report.

(DPR & R)

***Item No.539.28 Creation of posts in the Audit Wing – Consideration of -**

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment the proposal to create 4 posts of Assistants, One Typist and One Peon in the Audit Wing meeting the expenditure from Self Financing Fund of the University, considering the increase of work load in the Audit Wing.

The Syndicate resolved to create 4 temporary posts of Assistants, One Typist, One Peon in the Audit Wing of the University for a period of one year by meeting the expenditure from Self Financing Fund of the University.

(Ad.A)

Item No.539.29 M.Tech and B.Tech Courses offered in Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology – Change in the date of Effects – Request from the Head of the Department – Consideration of – Reg.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee of the Syndicate on Academic Matters, the request of the Head, Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology to make the Syllabus, Scheme of the B.Tech Course in Polymer Science and Engineering/M.Tech. Course in Polymer Technology and the Nomenclature change of B.Tech Polymer Science and Rubber Technology to B.Tech Polymer Science and Engineering effective from 2009 admissions.

The Syndicate resolved to accept the request of the Head, Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology to make the Syllabus, Scheme and Nomenclature change effective from 2009 admissions.

(Conf)

Item No.539.30 Dr. Achuthsankar S. Nair, Member Syndicate – Request for permission to attend only a couple of Syndicate meetings yearly – Reg.

The Syndicate considered the request of the Dr. Achuthsankar S.Nair, Member, Syndicate for permission to attend only a couple of Syndicate meetings yearly as he was nominated to the Syndicate of the University by the Executive Council of the Kerala State Higher Education Council under Sec. 17(1) (xi) of the Cochin University of Science and Technology Act 1986.

The Syndicate resolved to decline the request as it is against the provisions of the CUSAT Act 1986.

(Conf.)

***Item No.539.31 Recognition of Dr. K. Rajeev as Research Guide in the Faculty of Marine Sciences and Faculty of Science – Reg.**

The Syndicate considered the application of Dr. K. Rajeev, Scientist-SF, Space physics Laboratory, VSSC, Thiruvananthapuram for recognition as Research Guide under the Faculties of Marine Sciences and Science.

The Syndicate noted that, the Bio-data of the Applicant was not included in the agenda note and directed the Registrar to place the item in the next meeting with a brief Bio-Data of the Applicant.

(Ac.B)

***Item No.539.32 Recognition of Dr. S. Savithri, Scientist C, NIIST, as Research Guide in the Faculty of Science – Reg.**

The Syndicate considered the application of Dr. S. Savithri, Scientist 'E11', NIIST, Thiruvananthapuram for recognition as Research Guide under the Faculty of Technology.

The Syndicate noted that, the Bio-data of the Applicant was not included in the agenda note and directed the Registrar to place the item in the next meeting with a brief Bio-Data of the Applicant.

(Ac.B)

***Item No.539.33 Recognition of Dr. Renu Pawels as Research Guide in the Faculty of Engineering – Reg.**

The Syndicate considered the application of Dr. Renu Pawels, Reader, School of Engineering for recognition as Research Guide under the Faculty of Engineering.

The Syndicate noted that, the Bio-data of the Applicant was not included in the agenda note and directed the Registrar to place the item in the next meeting with a brief Bio-Data of the Applicant.

(Ac.B)

Item No.539.34 Dr. A. Vamana Shenoy, Honorary Medical Officer (Part-time) Reckoning of service for pension – Report of the Convener of the Staff and Establishment Committee – Reg.

The Syndicate considered along with the recommendations of the Standing committee of the Syndicate on Staff and Establishment, the report of the Convener of the Staff and Establishment Committee in the matter of reckoning of service for pension in respect of Dr. A. Vamana Shenoy, Hon. Medical Officer (Part time).

The Syndicate resolved to award a one time ex-gratia of Rs. 1 lakh in appreciation of the services rendered by Dr. V. Vamana Shenoy, Hon. Medical Officer to the University as a special case and directed the Registrar to issue a speaking order in this regard.

(Ad.A)

Items Outside the Agenda

1. *Several Members raised the issue of student unrest due to suspension of the M.B.A.(TT) and the Syndicate resolved to constitute a Committee of the Syndicate with Ms V.V Asha, Sri Baby Chakrapani and Prof Joy Job Kulavelil as members to study the issue. The Registrar will act as the Convenor of the Committee.

2. Sri Dinesh Mani M.L.A. congratulated Dr Gangan Pratap, Vice Chancellor for the new post offered to him and offered the sincere thanks of the Syndicate to Dr Gangan Pratap for the leadership he has given to CUSAT.

3. *The Syndicate considered the report of the Sub Committee to review the functioning of the different Centres of the University. (Appendix V).

The Syndicate resolved to accept the report and to close all non-functioning Centres in the University as recommended by the Committee. .

The Syndicate further resolved to constitute a Committee with Dr Joy Job Kulavelil (Convener), Shri. Baby Chakrapani and Dr. I.S. Bright Singh to make regulations on the formation, functioning and restructuring of Centres.

The Syndicate also resolved to wind up the Directorate of Strategic Planning and to make the Strategic Planning Unit under the direct control of the Registrar.

4. *The Syndicate considered the report of the Sub Committee of the Syndicate constituted vide item outside the agenda, at the 537th meeting of the Syndicate to look into the matter of inordinate delay as well as wrong interpretation of rules in fixing the pension of the retired staff including teachers along with the recommendations of the Standing Committee on Staff and Establishment in the matter of withheld pensionary benefits of the retired Library Staff who were included in the UGC Scheme in the light of the UGC Letter No. F3-1/94(PS) 7 dated 19.10.2006, on Career Advancement Scheme for Assistant Librarian and the judgment dated 24.9.2008 of the Hon'ble High Court of Kerala in O.P. No. W.P (C) No. 10892 of 2004.

The Syndicate resolved to release all the pensionary benefits of the following retired Library Staff who were in the U.G.C. Scheme as on the respective dates of their retirement:

1. Dr M.D.Baby
2. Smt. P. Usha
3. Smt. Jyothirmayi S
4. Sri. Scaria Varghese
5. Sri. Sambasivan K



REGISTRAR



PROF. M.V. PYLEE AWARD 2009**LIST OF EMINENT PERSONALITIES FOR CONSTITUING NATIONAL AWRD COMMITTEE**

1. Vice Chancellor
Cochin University of Science and Technology
2. Prof. M.V Pylee
Former Vice Chancellor
Cochin University
3. Smt. Padma Ramachandran I A S
Former Chief Secretary
Govt. of Kerala
4. Justice P.B. Savanth
Former Judge, Supreme Court
New Delhi
5. Dr. Kulantha Swamy
Former Vice Chancellor
Anna University
Chennai
6. Dr. Gangan Pratap
Director
National Institute of Science Communication
And Information Resources (NISCAIR), CSIR
Dr.K.S. Krishnan Marg, New Delhi 110 012
7. Dr. M.S. Swaminathan
Director
M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation
Chennai
8. Dr. Jayanth V.Narlikar (Former MVPE Award Winner -1998)
Inter-University Centre for – Astronomy & Astrophysics
Post Bag – 4
Ganeshkhind, PUNE 411 007
9. Dr. M.S.Valiathan (Former MVPE Award Winner – 2000)
Honorary Advisor
Manipal Academy of Higher Education,
Madhav Nagar
MANIPAL 576 104
10. Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai (Former MVPE Award Winner – 2006)
Indira Gandhi National Open University
Maidan Garhi
NEW DELHI 110 068


List of Experts for nomination to the Board of Studies in Chemical Oceanography

1. Dr. Jacob Chacko
Professor
Department of Chemical Oceanography
School of Marine Sciences
CUSAT, Kochi 682 016
2. Dr. N. Chandramohanakumar
Professor
Department of Chemical Oceanography
School of Marine Sciences
CUSAT, Kochi 682 016
3. Dr.S.Muraleedaran Nair
Reader
Department of Chemical Oceanography
School of Marine Sciences
CUSAT, Kochi 682 016
4. Dr.Pratapachandra Kurup
Professor
Dept of Applied Chemistry
CUSAT, Kochi 682 022
5. Dr.Babu Philip
Professor
Department of Marine Biology,
Microbiology and Biochemistry
School of Marine Sciences
CUSAT, Kochi 682 016
6. Dr.K.K.C. Nair
"Prasanth"
Lane 2, Justice Lane
Janatha Road, Vyttila
Kochi
7. Dr.I.M. Rao
Professor
Department of Chemical Oceanography
Andhra University
Waltair 530 003
Andhra Pradesh

8. Dr.N. Parameswaran
Scientist F
National Institute of Oceanography
Dona Paula
Goa 403 004

9. Dr.C.Pavithran
Scientist
National Institute of Interdisciplinary Science and Technology
(Formerly RRL)
(CSIR) Industrial Estate
Thiruvananthapuram 695 019

10. Dr K.K. Aravindakshan
Professor
Department of Chemistry
University of Calicut
Calicut University P.O
Malappuram Dist.


Head, Dept of Chemical Oceanography.

APPENDIX IV

Sl. No	Name of the Department	No. of Missing Books	Total Cost (Rs.)	Whether within limit (As per the Report from the Department/ As per U.G.C.Norms)	Remarks
1.	Department of Computer Science	0	0	N.A.	N/A.
2.	Department of Mathematics	9	1,832/-	Yes	
3.	Department of Polymer Science and Rubber Technology	92	74,445/-	Yes	The list of missing books relates from the year of the Institution of the Department ie. 1971.
4.	Department of Ship Technology	41	517.50 (In Indian Rs.) 233 (In Shilling) 375.05 (In US dollars) 230.80 (In Pound Sterling) 25 (In DM)	Yes	The list of books to be written off includes 16 missing books and 25 highly damaged books.

TV

**Report & Recommendations of the Academic Standing committee of
Syndicate on the Functioning of Different Centres of the University**

The Senate meeting held on 20/6/2007 vide item No.III/2 resolved to examine the functioning of the various centres of the university and also to wind up the inactive centres. It is also resolved to promote the potential and active Centres of the University. In another instance the then Vice Chancellor initiated to collect status notes from all centres to formulate a uniform pattern regard to the constitution of advisory committee/board for each centres. Prof. K.Polouse Jacob was entrusted to review and compile these status reports. The report submitted by Prof. Polouse Jacob was placed before the syndicate as item No.527.46 held on 11/4/2008. The syndicate resolved to hold a meeting of the members of the standing committee on academic matters with the Hon. Directors of the centres. The full status reports of the different Centres were also placed before the standing committee. The committee met and reviewed the functioning of all the centres in detail and held discussions with the Hon. Directors of the respective centres who were present. On the basis of these discussions and the available records the observations and recommendations of the standing committee are as follows.

On records and off Records, the following Centres/Cells are" functioning "in the University.

1. Centre for Information Resources Management (CIRM)
2. Centre for Neuro Sciences
3. Centre for Science Communication
4. Centre for Comparative literature
5. Centre for Population Studies
6. Centre for Monsoon Studies
7. Centre for Mangrove Studies
8. International Centre for Economic Policy and Analysis
9. Centre for Space Research
10. Prigogene centre for Complexity Studies
11. Centre for Science in Society(C-SiS)
12. Centre for Tourism Management
13. Centre for Crystal Growth
14. Centre for Development of Cryptography
15. Centre for Techno Strategic Studies
16. Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy
17. National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health
18. Centre for Advanced Studies and Research in Plantation Management
19. Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies
20. Centre for Adult Continuing Education and Extension(CACEE)
21. Centre for Rural Development and Appropriate Technology.
22. Centre for Excellence in Ocean Electronics System Studies
23. Centre for Excellence in Laser and Opto Electronic Sciences(CELOS)
24. Nodel Centre for National Technical Manpower Information System
25. Inter University Reference Centre(IUCAA)
26. Centre for Coastal Zone Management
27. Centre for Microwave Antenna Studies
28. Centre for Nano Technology
29. University Industry Incubation Cell
30. Tsunami Cell

The committee went through the activities and progress reports of these centres and cells in detail and would like to offer some general comments as follows.

1. The clear cut basis of establishing many of these Centres/Cells are neither well defined nor well documented
2. The objectives of most of these centres/cells are not clearly spelt out
3. Periodic reviews of the above establishments have not been done in the past
4. The activities of most of these centres/cells are found to be similar in nature to those in academic departments like taking up research projects, publishing research papers, conducting seminars/ workshops/ conferences etc.
5. As such the borderline between a department and a centre/cell appears to be thin.
6. All the above centres are more often found to revolve around a single individual within a department. No action is found to be taken for group involvements. None of these centres cater any type of inter disciplinary or multi disciplinary activities
7. Some centres are functioning within the departments and some are found to be functioning outside the departments. There are no clear cut norms for this. The budgetary support given to the centres are also different in nature. Those centres working within the departments are provided with a nominal budgetary support and some of those functioning outside the departments are provided with a substantial budgetary support.
8. Some of the centres are active and many of the centres are only in paper with very limited scope and activities.

With these general observations the committee critically examined the activities and scope of individual centres and offers its recommendations as follows.

Centre for Information Resources Management (CIRM):

This is a common facility centre and serves to support the CUSAT academic community by facilitating common facilities like web, email, internet services. This Centre has to be retained and further strengthened with additional supports and additional objectives, finally converting it in to a knowledge hub

Centre for Neuro Sciences:

All the present activities of this centre can be done even within the umbrella of the Department of Biotechnology under which it works. But keeping in view of the vibrant research and extension activities done by the centre the committee is of the opinion that this centre may continue its activities. It is also recommended that more and more faculty members/researchers should be encouraged to be a part of the activities of this centre.

Centre for Science Communication:

The erstwhile Centre for Creative Writing was renamed as Centre for Science Communication on 3/1/2007. The centre in the past has conducted many extension activities to popularise science writing. But the massive budgetary support given to this centre unlike other centres can not be justified. It is recommended to merge this centre with the Centre for Science in Society (CSiS), because the objective of this

centre will very well come with in or under the activities of the most prestigious and vibrant centre of the University namely C-SiS.

Centre for Comparative literature:

No activity reported for the last few years. To be closed

Centre for Population Studies:

This centre working under the Department of Statistics was originally established to address the problems in the broad areas of demography, community health and related social sciences. In this frame work this centre has lot of scope to work .But unfortunately no major activities in this direction have been carried out by this centre. But at the same time some attempts in this direction namely Assessment of Health profile of Cochin Corporation, Population Projection studies of Cochin Corporation for the year 2025 etc have been carried out by the centre. In view of the importance of this area of research and scope of extension activities, this centre may continue functioning. The centre should strengthen its activities in the coming years and justify its relevance and existence.

Centre for Monsoon Studies:

Established in 2000 under the Department of Atmospheric Sciences, this centre has done research work and has completed many research projects in the areas of Monsoon Meteorology. A few extension activities were also conducted by the centre. But it is to be noted that all the reported work could also have been done under the umbrella of Department of Atmospheric Sciences. In view of the importance of this area, the centre may continue functioning but all care has to be taken to see that more and more faculty members are encouraged for participating in the activities of the centre, rather than the centre revolving around a single individual. By strengthening its activities, this centre also should justify its relevance and existence in the coming years.

Centre for Mangrove Studies:

No commendable activities so far. May be closed

International Centre for Economic Policy and Analysis:

This centre is an offshoot of the Dutch assistance (MHO) programme of the Department of Applied Economics .This centre was having some activities including extension activities during the MHO programme. Since the MHO programme is over and the activities of the centre at present are very limited, this can be closed down .It is also to be noted that the UGC has sanctioned with budgetary support a new centre namely the Centre for Social exclusiveness under the same department. Steps have to be taken by the department to further strengthen the activities of this Centre.

Centre for Space Research:

Since the objective for which this centre is established is not achieved, the Hon. Director of the Centre and the Head of the department of Atmospheric Sciences recommend closing down this centre. So the committee accepts this recommendation and the centre may be closed

Prigogene Centre for Complexity Studies:

No specific or commendable activities of the centre so far. Recommend to close down

Centre for Science in Society:

This centre has done commendable work in providing practical knowledge to the younger generation through various learning models; demonstrative experiments etc., thus extending its service to the society at large. This is the only centre established with a seed funding from UGC. This centre needs to be further strengthened. A full time Director has to be appointed for the centre and also all possible measures has to be taken to fill up the permanent posts if any in the centre.

Centre for Tourism Management:

No specific or commendable activities of the centre so far. Recommend to close down

Centre for Crystal Growth:

This centre exists only in paper and no activity seems to be reported so far. May be closed

Centre for Development of Cryptography:

This centre exists only in paper and no activity seems to be reported so far. May be closed

Centre for Techno Strategic Studies (CTESS):

This is a centre of the Indian Navy to Co-ordinate all the academic activities of the Indian Navy in the University. So this centre may continue its activities but at present there is no involvement from the University side in the activities of this centre which can not be justified. Steps should be taken for better involvement of University faculty in the activities of this centre.

Centre for Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policy:

This Centre is a new one under the Department of Applied Economics with the full financial support from UGC and has ample scope to function and grow. So this centre may be strengthened and continue its activities. Steps should be taken to fill the teaching/technical posts allotted to this centre.

National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health

The erstwhile Centre for Fish Disease Diagnosis and Management established in 2000 was converted into a National Centre for Aquatic Animal Health under the School of Environmental Studies with the financial support from Department of Biotechnology. This centre has done a commendable work during this period and has attracted massive funding from department of Biotechnology, Government of India. They have also started an MTech programme in Marine Biotechnology. This is a unique centre and has potential to grow. Recommend to continue its activities, but care must be taken to see that more and more faculty members/researchers are involved in the activities of the centre so that this centre can grow as a multi disciplinary centre.

Centre for Advanced Studies and Research in Plantation Management

This centre exists only in paper and no activity seems to be reported so far. May be closed

Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies:

This centre is inactive from 2003 onwards. Recommend to close down

Centre for Adult Continuing Education and Extension(CACEE):

This is a centre having potential for diversified activities. It has budgetary support from UGC also. But the present activities of the centre are very limited. This centre can continue functioning and its activities should be further strengthened

Centre for Rural Development and Appropriate Technology:.

This centre exists only in paper now and no major activity seems to be reported during the last five years. May be closed

Centre for Excellence in Ocean Electronics System Studies:

No activities of this centre are found to be reported. Recommend to wind up the centre

Centre for Excellence in Laser and Opto Electronic Sciences (CELOS):

This is a prestigious centre started with massive financial support from UGC during the 10 th plan. But due to different reasons the activities of the centre could not be carried out as envisaged by UGC as per its original proposal. The centre is now functioning with the unspent balance of the first installment of UGC aid during the 10 th plan. This centre is conducting a five year integrated MSc programme in photonics. Even the inter disciplinary nature of the centre (Electronics, Physics and Photonics) as envisaged in the original proposal is not maintained .But with all these limitations; the centre is doing some commendable work. This centre may continue functioning for the time being and may be merged with International School of Photonics in due course of time.

Nodel Centre for National Technical Manpower Information System:

This centre is funded by AICTE and is a part of the national network. This should continue its functions. Steps should be taken to further improve and strengthen the activities of this centre.

Centre for Nano Materials and Devices :

The university established a new centre namely Centre for Nano Technology in 2006 under the department of Polymer science and rubber technology. The objective was mainly to start an ambitious MSc programme in nano technology. But we have neither started that programme nor initiated any major coordinated interdisciplinary research activities in this emerging field. In that respect the centre exist now only in paper. The state Government has now in principle identified our university to start a new centre in nano materials and devices and has decided to support the centre from the next financial year in the form of budgetary support. An ambitious interdisciplinary project worth around Rs. 6 crores in the field of nano materials and devices has already been sanctioned by DST under its "Nano Science and Technology initiative programme" to a group of young faculty members of our University. This is approved by DST last month. In view of these developments it is recommended to start a new Centre for Nano Materials and Devices under the umbrella of this sanctioned project from DST. This centre can start functioning as an inter disciplinary centre .

Inter University Reference Centre [IUCAA]

This Centre is housed in the Physics Department and has financial support from the DAE through the Inter University Centre for Astronomy and Astrophysics IUCAA. But the activities are not up to the mark. This has to be strengthened with a serving faculty as the coordinator.

Centre for Coastal Zone Management

This Centre was also established under the financial assistance of MHO programme. The centre was offering a post graduate diploma in coastal zone management. The MHO programme is over and at present the centre is not offering the post graduate diploma. The activities of the centre in that respect is now very limited. Recommend to close down this centre.

Centre for Microwave Antenna Studies

This Centre is a non-existent entity and is to be closed down

Incubation Cell:

The idea of establishing such a cell for the University industry interaction is novel and unique. This centre has immense potential and scope in the present context. But unfortunately no commendable activity is reported since its inception. This cell may continue functioning but has to be reorganized restructured and strengthened in terms of its objectives and activities to promote ambitious programmes within the frame work of University Industry interactions and consultancies.

Tsunami Cell:

This cell has not reported any activities so far. But the University has given an initial seed money of Rs. 100000. for the activities of the cell. This may be closed down.

Other General Recommendations:

In addition to these centres and cells the University has recently established two directorates namely Directorate of Resource Management & Planning and Directorate for Sponsored Research & Consultancies. The activities of the existing Director of Strategic Planning can be entrusted on this new Directorate of Resource Management and Planning so that duplicate activities can be avoided. The possibility of bringing the activities of the Incubation Cell within the umbrella of the Directorate of Sponsored Research & Consultancy may also be explored in order to avoid duplication in functioning.

The committee is also of the opinion that yearly review of the functioning of the centres has to be done on a regular basis. In general the centres under the departments need not be given university budgetary support more than three years of its inception. The centres are expected to generate their own funding from the external agencies for their activities. But as seed money, a small support can be given by the university annually to the new centres limited to 3 years of its inception. The Faculty in charge of the Centres in general should be designated as co-ordinator rather than Hon. Directors because it is noticed that many of the occasions the designation of Hon. Directors are misused. But the faculty in charge of the common facility centres/directorates of the University namely CIRM, CSiS, Directorate of Resource Management & Planning and Directorate of Sponsored Research and Consultancy can be designated as Hon. Directors. In general a single individual should not continue as co-ordinator of any centre for more than three years at a time. This is strictly to avoid the activities of a particular centre revolving only around a single individual and also to ensure that the functioning of the centres are collective in nature. The retired faculties can associate with the research activities of a centre but should not continue as the co-ordinator of the centre.

It is to be noted that this report is only a document which discusses the overall performance and activities of different existing centres of our university. It is recommended to close down some centres, to strengthen some centres and also to establish some new centres. This is not an exclusive and comprehensive document to dictate what a centre should be, what are the rules and frame works under which a centre should be established, what should be the objective of establishing a centre, what should be the distinction between a centre, a department, a school and a cell, what should be the activities of a centre, whether a centre will function under a department or not, what should be the structure of a centre etc. At the same time the committee is of the opinion that all these issues should be addressed in a much more serious way and the rationale of establishing a centre and also its functioning should be well documented. In this context it is also recommended to form a sub committee of the syndicate to look in to the details of such issues and recommend structural reforms which will help these centres to perform better and also to fulfill the objectives for which such centres are established. It should also be used as a guide line for establishing new centres in the university in future.

Q2 12/2/09

P. J. Lebbra, Convener, Standing Committee on
 Academic Matters
 Recommended to place in syndicate