

Minutes of the Board of Studies of the Department of Physics held on 01/10/2020 at 11:00 am

The first meeting of the Reconstituted Board of Studies of Physics, Vimala College (Autonomous), Thrissur was held on 1-10-2020 at 11:00 am on a virtual platform via Google Meet. Dr. Malini K A, Head of the Post Graduate and Research Department of Physics and Chairperson of the Board, welcomed the board members. She also introduced the new Board members to all. The Chairperson also briefed the minutes of the previous board of studies meeting.

Discussions on the various items in the Agenda of the meeting resulted in the following suggestions and recommendations

Item 1: Conduct of Practical, Field work, Study Tour, Projects in the context COVID 19

- a. The board recommended to conduct the possible UG lab experiments on online mode using available virtual platforms until the restriction due to COVID-19 is over and the hands on experimentation can be conducted later. The board also recommended that the PG students can be asked to come to the college in batches and perform the experiments.
- b. The board members suggested that study tour can be conducted as a lab visit in small groups to neighboring institutes. The option of virtual tour by International / National institutes can also be explored.

Item 2. Evaluation of the implementation of online classes

- a. The consolidated report of the online survey on internet connectivity and gadget availability was presented. The board members were informed about the initiatives taken by college and department in ensuring 100% student accessibility to online learning. The student feedback on online classes was also presented. The board members expressed concern over the difficulty of students to learn via mobile, especially those who cannot afford laptop/desktop.

Items 3, 4, 5 and 6 : Approval of the syllabus and curriculum of Add on and value addition courses, Approval/ Ratification of Bridge Courses : Evaluation of Entry Level Assessment, Bridge Courses and Remedial teaching : Methodologies for innovative teaching and evaluation techniques

- a. The syllabus of the add-on (Observational astronomy) and value addition courses (Energy auditing) offered by the Department to the undergraduate students was placed before the board for discussion. The board suggested to make revisions in the syllabus of Observational astronomy. The board also ratified and approved the syllabus for bridge

courses. It was suggested to include topics related to concept of Probability in the PG bridge course in future.

- b. The board discussed the availability of course material to the students. The board members suggested that measures can be taken by the college authorities to issue library books to PG students ensuring COVID protocol.
- c. Board also suggested to concentrate more on student centric methods of teaching learning exercise.

Item 7 : Suggest and recommend Panel of examiners to the Academic Council

- a. The Panels of Examiners in the examination board of the UG and PG Programmes were presented before the board and the Board recommended the same.
- b. The board members enquired about the procedures adopted for question bank preparation and generation. The board suggested to ensure that external questions are also included in the question paper.

Item 8 : Discussion on the feedback received by the stake holders and action plan

- a. Report on the feedback analysis of students and parents were presented in the BOS. The suggestions from the stake holders and action taken were also discussed.

Item 9,11 and 12 : Matters regarding Research Promotion, Innovative activities, Extension

Activities : Departmental Protocol on Energy and Water conservation, Green Practices :

- a. The board recommended research promotion in the research centre by involving collaborative research activities with functional MoUs with IITs, NITS and institutes of national importance for research promotion, research scholar exchange, collaborations – with universities also.
- b. The board appreciated the solar energy initiatives of the department- particularly the energy audit which is part of UBA activity, Water harvesting consultancy etc. It was suggested that the Department expertise in the area of Energy initiatives can be made more effective.
- c. The board recommended training programs to equip students to learn skills for assembling and repair of solar equipments.
- d. Another suggestion was to adopt a more scientific and systematic data collection on water levels in water harvesting consultancy projects so as to study the cause effect aspects of implementation of water recharging processes using rain water harvesting.

- e. The SOP for lab waste management ratified with suggestions..

Item 10 : Internship – Discipline Specific or general (Online or Onsite)

- a. A discussion on possibilities of doing online internship during this pandemic situation was initiated and some suggestions were made by the board to ensure 100 % internships. In addition to e-content development training internships, the students can be trained in research paper writing

The Head of the Department thanked the Board members for their valuable suggestions and presence. Their co-operation throughout the present Board meeting was specially mentioned with gratitude. Dr Mini Krishna K, Assistant Professor, Post Graduate and Research Department of Physics, proposed vote of Thanks and the meeting concluded at 1.00 pm.