



**DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS
ASSAM UNIVERSITY :: SILCHAR**

Date: 30th August, 2024

**MINUTES OF THE 18th MEETING OF THE BOARD OF POST GRADUATE STUDIES
(BPGS) OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS HELD ON 30.08.2024**

The Eightieth Meeting of the Board of Post Graduate Studies (BPGS) of the Department of Statistics, Assam University was conducted in the Seminar Hall of the Department of Statistics, on 30.08.2024 at 1:30 P.M to discuss on the following agenda:

1. Informing House about the Co-Supervisorship of Dr. Rama Shanker at Patna University
2. Research Scholar- Bibhangshu Bhattacharyya related Matters
3. Changes of Admission Criteria of Ph. D program
4. Any other matter

In the meeting the following members were present:

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| 1. Prof. Dibyojyoti Bhattacharjee | Chairman |
| 2. Dr. Rama Shanker | Member |
| 3. Dr. Jonali Gogoi | Member |
| 4. Dr. Vivek Verma | Member |
| 5. Dr. Ajay Singh, Deptt. of Education, AUS | Member |
| 6. Dr. Nabendu Sen, Deptt. of Mathematics, AUS | Member |
| 7. Dr. Debtosh Chakraborty, S S College | External Member |
| 8. Prof. Gajendra Vishwakarma, IITSM, Dhanbad | External Member |

At the very outset the Chairman welcomed all the members to the Eightieth Meeting of the Board of Post Graduate Studies (BPGS) of the Department of Statistics, Assam University, Silchar. The agenda of the meeting was circulated and the discussions took place as per the agenda items.

Item 1: Informing House about the Co-Supervisorship of Dr. Rama Shanker at Patna University

Dr. Rama Shanker, Associate Professor of the Department after taking necessary approval from the Competent Authority accepted Co-Supervisorship of a student named 'Alok' of Patna University in 2022. The student has now submitted his thesis to the said university. Thus, Dr. Rama Shanker is now free from his commitment of Co-Supervisorship of Mr. Alok. He wants the matter to be informed and presented before the house. The same has been approved by the DRC of the department.

Resolution: The house looked into the documents submitted by Dr. Rama Shanker in this regard and found everything in order. It is understood that Mr. Alok has submitted his thesis at Patna University, to which Dr. Rama Shanker was a co-guide. Accordingly, the house studied the documents and opined that Dr. Rama Shanker is free from his commitment of Co-guideship of Mr. Alok, as Alok has submitted his thesis. The house further urged that the matter can be informed to bodies higher in the hierarchy.

Item 2: Research Scholar- Mr. Bibhanshu Bhattacharyya related matters

Mr. Bibhanshu Bhattacharyya is a research scholar of the department working under the supervisorship of Dr. Vivek Verma. The scholar is a fulltime research scholar but he is continuously absent since 21st December, 2023. The supervisor of the scholar further informed the house that he did not appear in his last two progress seminars held on (23rd February, 2024 and 22nd August, 2024) and also did not respond to any of his email communications. In this regard as per clause number 8.5 and 8.6 of the "Assam University M. Phil/Ph. D Ordinance 2018" his RAC has claimed the cancellation of his "Title Registration". The same was placed by the DRC and was approved by the DRC with a resolution to place the matter in higher bodies.

Resolution: The house was of the opinion that as Mr. Bibhanshu Bhattacharyya was admitted in November, 2022 so he shall be governed as per the "Assam University M. Phil/Ph. D Ordinance 2018". As per the Clause 8.5 and 8.6 of the Ordinance, given the report of his RAC his title registration stands cancelled. The house resolved the matter to be placed to higher bodies for appraisal and necessary action.

Item 3: Changes of Admission Criteria of Ph. D program

Dr. Vivek Verma, Assistant Professor of the Department is a subject expert in BioStatistics and Epidemiological studies. He is been approached by some medical students who completed their Post Graduation to pursue their Ph. D in the field of Epidemiology. But as per the current eligibility criteria of admission to the Ph. D programme they cannot be an applicant to the program. Accordingly, Dr. Verma urged that the eligibility criteria be relaxed so that the Medical Students with Post Graduate Degree can apply to the Ph. D Program of the Department. The

matter was placed earlier in the DRC and resolved to be placed in the BPGS and other higher bodies.

Resolution: The members of the house opined that- as per the National Education Policy 2020 interdisciplinary research is to be encouraged. Also, one of the members cited a precedence of a Medical Practitioner (Gynaecologist) Dr. Arun Paul Choudhury who completed his Ph. D from the Department of Chemistry under the supervision of Prof. S. B Paul in 2012 entitled “Epidemiology and Biochemistry of Cervical Cancer in Southern Assam”.

Accordingly, the house resolved that the eligibility criteria of admission to Ph. D program in Statistics be relaxed, such that Medical Students with Post Graduate Degree may also apply for the Ph. D Program in Statistics provided they are interested to work in the area of BioStatistics/Epidemiology. However, such applicants need to qualify the other formalities of admission to Ph. D program of the department/university as implemented from time to time.

As there was no other matter to discuss so the meeting ended with thanks from and to the chair.

(Dibyoyoti Bhattacharjee)
Chairman, BPGS, Statistics

Copy to:

1. Honourable Vice Chancellor, Assam University for information please
2. Dean, School of Physical Sciences, Assam University
3. Registrar, Assam University
4. All the members
5. File

(Dibyoyoti Bhattacharjee)