

**INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDY IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTE UNDER DST, GOVT. OF INDIA)  
PASCHIM BORAGAON, GARCHUK  
GUWAHATI- 781035**

**Minutes of the sixth meeting of the Scientific Advisory Council (SAC) of IASST Guwahati-781035, held on December 30, 2013 at 11.00 a.m. in the Conference Room of the IASST, Guwahati**

**Members present**

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| 1. | Prof. Milan K. Sanyal<br>Director, Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics<br>Kolkata | Chairperson      |
| 2. | Prof. Sibaji Raha<br>Director, Bose Institute, Kolkata                          | Member           |
| 3. | Prof. Arun Chattopadhyay<br>IIT, Guwahati                                       | Member           |
| 4. | Dr. N. C. Talukdar<br>Director, IASST   | Member           |
| 5. | Prof. B. C. Tripathy<br>Head, CCNS, IASST                                       | Member           |
| 6. | Prof. H. Bailung<br>Head, PSD, IASST  | Member Secretary |

Prof. A. N. Rai, Director, NAAC, Bangalore, Prof. Tapan Chakrabarti, NEERI, Nagpur, Prof. Rahul Mukherjee, IIM, Kolkata, Dr. P.G. Rao, former Director, NEIST, Jorhat and Prof. Veena Tandon, NEHU, Shillong could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupations.

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**Agenda item No. 1:**      **Welcome address by the Chairman.**

Prof. Milan K. Sanyal, Chairman, Scientific Advisory Council (SAC), IASST welcomed the members to the 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SAC and expressed that he looks forward to fruitful deliberations. In the opening remarks, he expressed happiness that the institute has completed the ground work to start a training programme on Plasma Physics from the year 2014.

He stressed that IASST is a young institute of national importance for the region and consolidated efforts are required to raise it to a high calibre national institute in the region. He opined that checks and balances in recruitment process to ensure entry of best talent into the institute, are also important exercise towards this goal.

**Agenda item No. 2:**      **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Fifth SAC meeting of IASST held on June 5, 2013.**

The Honourable Chairman invited comments on the minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Scientific Advisory Council of IASST. No comments were received from the members and the Council confirmed the minutes.

**Agenda item No. 3:**      **Action taken Report on the Agenda items of the fifth SAC Meeting held on June 5, 2013.**

Director, IASST informed the house that actions were taken on all the decisions/suggestions made in the last SAC meeting.

**Agenda item No. 4:**      **Approval of six months training program on Plasma Science for Post Graduates.**

In pursuance of the opening remark made by Prof. Milan K. Sanyal, Chairman, Scientific Advisory Committee, IASST in the last SAC meeting, Physical Sciences Division of IASST in collaboration with Department of Physics, Gauhati University, Centre of Plasma Physics (CPP-IPR) and Tezpur University have completed ground work to introduce a training program on Plasma Science and Technology for Post Graduates in physics. The program will start from mid-July, 2014 and duration will be 6 months. The program is proposed to be conducted once in a year and for the first year number of students proposed to be admitted is 6 (six). Students appearing in final semester M. Sc. (Physics) will also be allowed to apply. Selection will be based on academic result and performance in interview by expert panel. It is proposed to provide a monthly stipend of Rs. 5000.00 to the selected students. The Council appreciated the initiatives and advised to get the course recognised by UGC. In case of difficulty for UGC recognition, the committee suggested to get the course recognised from the Gauhati University so that it becomes a part of the formal Academic Training for the students. The Committee also suggested to constitute an Expert Panel with scientists from reputed institutes outside the region for associating with the programme. The Chairman suggested to request IPR and SINP to nominate one member each for the Expert Panel.

**Agenda item No. 5:**      **Presentation of the progress of the scientific Programmes of IASST since the last SAC meeting held on June 5, 2013.**

The Director informed the members that scientists, through a series of brainstorming sessions and several rounds of discussions, reorganised/regrouped the research work carried out by scientists of different divisions and made a small presentation on progress of the overall research programmes of IASST since the last SAC meeting. He highlighted through a power point

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presentation, the few intra and inter divisional collaborative research programmes. It was followed up by presentations of the progress of the ongoing research programmes made by the individual scientists of different divisions.

The Chairman and members of the Council appreciated the research achievement and commented that there was perceptible improvement in quality of research work of the institute. He also observed that the Life Science programmes are getting forward direction. The Chairman also suggested to start a long term project on Condensed Matter Physics by three scientists namely, Dr. A. R. Pal, Dr. M. B. Sahariah and Dr. S. Kundu. The Chairman also suggested to carry out research in the field of Statistical Physics and Biophysics which will be unique for the IASST. The Council also advised to explore research in innovative and challenging areas where success may be even elusive.


**Agenda item No. 6:**      **Approval of proposal for Recruitment of Academic Staff.**


The scientists and the Director of the institute have engaged themselves in organizing their ongoing and future research activities under few programmes. The intra and inter divisional collaboration are emerging within these programmes. Consistent with these reorganized programmes, the institute plans to recruit 3 scientists against sanctioned positions, one each for Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Central Computational and Numerical Studies (CCNS) division.

The Council suggested to give open kind of advertisement for screening applications from promising scientists by stating in the advertisement the research areas and programs under operation at IASST. The applicants having Ramalingaswami, Ramanujan and Inspire Faculty Fellowship etc. will be preferred. Based on response to the open advertisements, bright candidates will be shortlisted through expert panels. The list of expert panels should also be sent to Chairman, SAC for his kind approval.

**Agenda item No. 7:**      **Any other item(s) with the permission of the Chair.**

As there being no other items for discussion, the meeting ended with thanks to all the members from the Chair.

  
Director, IASST

  
Chairman, SAC