



Institute of Advanced Study in Science & Technology (IASST), Guwahati
Minutes of the 20th Meeting of the Governing Council held on 06.11.2025 at 11:00 am at IASST
Guwahati

Members present in the meeting:

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| 1. Prof. Vinod K. Singh
Institute Chair Professor
Department of Chemistry
IIT, Kanpur | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. (Dr.) Tanuja Manoj Nesari
Director,
Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA)
Jamnagar, Gujrat
(online mode) | Member |
| 3. Prof. Devendra Jalihal
Director, IIT Guwahati | Member |
| 4. Prof. Nani Gopal Mahanta
Vice Chancellor,
Gauhati University, Guwahati | Member |
| 5. Sri Vijay Kumar
Deputy Secretary (IFD)
Nominee of AS & FA,
DST, GoI, New Delhi
(online mode) | Member |
| 6. Dr. Prashant Dhakephalkar
Director,
Agharkar Research Institute, Pune | Member |
| 7. Dr. Usha Dixit
Scientist-'F', AI Division
DST, Govt of India, New Delhi
(Nominee of Head, AI Div, DST)
(online mode) | Member |
| 8. Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee
Director, IASST, Guwahati | Member-Secretary |

Leave of absentia was granted to:

Shri Pallav Gopal Jha, IAS
Secretary, Science Technology & Climate Change Department, Govt of Assam.

Ashis Kumar Mukherjee
14/11/2025

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/1.1 Welcome to members and remarks by the Chairman, Governing Council.

Decision/Remarks: Professor Vinod K. Singh, Chairman of the Governing Council of IASST, extended a warm welcome to all members of the GC on behalf of the Council and DST. In his address, the Chairman expressed his contentment and approval concerning the Institute's comprehensive advancement and growth, encompassing its infrastructure, publication standards, and research endeavors.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/1.2 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 19th meeting of the Governing Council held on March 28, 2025

Decision/Remarks: The minutes of the 19th meeting of the GC was circulated to all the members of the GC, and no comments were received. Therefore, the minutes of the 19th GC were confirmed by the Governing Council.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/1.3 Action Taken Report on the recommendations of the 19th meeting of the Governing Council held on March 28, 2025

Decision/Remarks: The Council acknowledged the Action Taken Report on the minutes of the 19th meeting and expressed appreciation for the Institute's initiatives in addressing the previous meeting's recommendations.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/1.4 Consideration of recommendations/deliberations of the 19th meeting of the Finance Committee held on November 06, 2025 at 9:30 am.

Decision/Remarks: The Director of IASST presented the recommendations from the Finance Committee meeting held before this Governing Council meeting. The Governing Council ratified the recommendations of the Finance Committee.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/2 Matters for deliberation/approval of GC.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/2.1 Adoption of guidelines for engagement of Eminent Professor/Chair Professor/ Adjunct Professor etc at IASST.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council (GC) addressed the proposal for engaging distinguished academic personnel. **at IASST, as Eminent Professor, Chair Professor, and Adjunct Professor, etc.,.**

- **Approval of Engagement:** The GC **approved** engaging such distinguished academics.
- **Deliberation on Criteria:** The Council thoroughly deliberated the necessary **qualifying criteria** for these specialized and distinguished appointments.
- **Resolution on Appointments:** It was **resolved** that these distinguished appointments **must be made** to benefit the Institute.
- **Modification of Quantitative Qualifiers:** The GC recognized that **quantitative qualifiers** (e.g., number of publications, H-index, average impact factor, etc.) cannot be **universally applicable** across all disciplines for such distinguished posts and therefore **need to be modified**.
- **Formation of Special Committee:** To address this modification, it was decided that a **special committee** will be formed with the approval of the Chairman-GC, **separately** to define and recommend suitable, flexible, and appropriate qualifying criteria for these distinguished positions.

The GC suggested that the Chairman, GC can form a standing committee to examine and frame the new guidelines.


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Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/2.2 Modification in Recruitment Rules of IASST.

The GC thoroughly examined the modifications proposed in the recruitment rules of IASST.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council in principal approved the suggested changes. The GC suggested that the essential qualification for the posts of Superintendent, Assistant-III and Assistant I should be "Undergraduate degree in any discipline". However, the proposal for promotion from Technical Assistant II (Pay Level-7) to Technical Officer A (pay level 8), and Technical Officer A to Technical Officer B (pay level 8), where an upgradation of pay level is proposed, the permission of Ministry of Expenditure is necessary. Therefore, the proposal should be forwarded through the DST for consideration.

Further, it has been suggested that the RR for the post of Director should be placed in the next GC meeting.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3 Matters for ratification/approval of GC.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3.1 Approval of the Annual Report of IASST for the year 2024-25

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council approve the Annual Report for the year 2024-25 along with audited statements of accounts.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3.2 Significant achievements since March, 2025.

Director of IASST, provided an overview of the Institute's progress in research and administration, highlighting key achievements in recent years.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council reviewed the Significant achievements since March 2025 and acknowledged and appreciated the performance of IASST over the past seven months.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3.3 No Objection Certificate to Prof. A. K. Mukherjee to appear in the interview for the post of Director, IASST.

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council ratified the issue of the No Objection Certificate to Prof. A. K. Mukherjee.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3.4 Approval of foreign tour of faculty members and research scholars of IASST

Decision/Remarks: The Governing Council ratified the foreign tour of faculty members and research scholars.

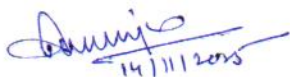
Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/3.5. Appointment on compassionate ground

Decision/Remarks: The GC ratified the appointment of Ms. Susmita Kalita as MTS on compassionate ground. In the future, such matters should be communicated to the Chairman, GC for information.

Agenda Item No.G.C.20/2025/2/4: A.O.B.

1. Nomination of Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee for the position of Adjunct Professor at IASST.

The Governing Council has carefully considered the proposal to extend an offer for the position of Adjunct Professor to Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee, Director of IASST, following the conclusion of his current tenure. This decision aims to facilitate the continuation of his research projects and the guidance of ongoing PhD students at IASST. Prof. Mukherjee recused himself from the meeting during this discussion.


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Decision/Remarks:

The Governing Council of IASST, Guwahati, resolves that, in accordance with the bylaws of IASST (as amended in 2024), upon the conclusion of his term or extended, Prof. Ashis Kumar Mukherjee, Director of IASST, should he return to his parent organization, be permitted to continue as Adjunct Professor at IASST for an initial term of three years, with the following terms and conditions.

1. He may conduct high-quality research with IASST faculty that is aligned with the Institute's mandate.
2. He may continue to supervise his current PhD students enrolled at IASST; however, he is not permitted to register new PhD students as a principal supervisor at IASST. Nonetheless, he may serve as a co-supervisor for both existing and new PhD candidates.
3. He may bring a new extramural research projects as a PI with a co-Principal Investigator (co-PI) from IASST and be allowed to continue the existing projects as a PI/co-PI, subject to approval of the funding agency. However, for monitoring the day-to-day activities of the research scholars/project staff working under his guidance, he may assign the responsibility to a suitable faculty member(s).
4. He can also submit an in-house project proposal at IASST, as per the rule, to assist the research work of his ongoing PhD students.
5. He will mentor young faculty and researchers, especially early-career scientists.
6. Contribute to teaching, academic, and collaborative activities.
7. Help build capacity and secure external research funding.
8. Assist in institutional planning and development of new research domains.
9. He will not receive a salary if he is receiving it from his parent institute or from other sources; however, he is entitled to receive TA/DA for his travel from the parent institute to IASST in connection with the supervision of his PhD students and research activity. He is also entitled to free accommodation in the guest house of IASST during his brief visit to IASST to supervise his ongoing projects and research students.
10. He will be provided with office space and facilities and will be able to retain his current research laboratory at IASST.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks by the GC's Member Secretary (Director).

VK Singh

Chairman
Governing Council, IASST
Dated:

Ashis Kumar Mukherjee

Member Secretary
Governing Council, IASST
Dated: 14/11/2025