

**Association of Indian Universities**  
**Minutes: 376<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting**

**Venue:** India Habitat Centre, New Delhi  
**Mode:** Blended

**Date:** August 8, 2023  
**Time:** 02:00 pm

**Present**

1. Prof. G D Sharma, President, AIU	In Chair
2. Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice President, AIU	Member
3. Prof. Suranjan Das, Imm Past President, AIU	Member
4. Prof. Balvinder Shukla	Member
5. Prof. Paramjit Singh Jaswal	Member
6. Prof. (Dr.) S P Singh	Member
7. Prof. (Dr.) Savita Sengar	Member
8. Prof. Surendra Pratap Singh	Member
9. Dr. Dineshkumar R Shah	Member
10. Dr. Kuldeep Kumar Raina	Member
11. Dr. Sreeramana Aithal	Member
12. Dr. Sanjay Behari	Member
13. Lt. Gen. V K Sharma, AVSM (Retd.)	Member
14. Prof. (Dr.) Pramod Yeole	Member
15. Prof. Neelima Gupta	Member
16. Prof. Najma Akhtar	Member
17. Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant	Member
18. Prof. Sat Prakash Bansal	Member
19. Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, SG, AIU	Member Secretary

Dr. Dineshkumar R Shah, Lt. Gen. V K Sharma, AVSM (Retd.) and Prof. Rajive Mohan Pant joined the meeting through online mode.

The following members could not attend the meeting due to some unavoidable reasons and were granted leave of absence:

1. Prof. B R Kamboj
2. Prof. Anup K Singh
3. Dr. K S James
4. Prof. ADN Bajpai

The President, Vice President and Secretary General, AIU welcomed all Governing Council members of the Association especially Prof. (Dr.) Pramod Yeole, Prof. Sat Prakash Bansal and Prof. (Dr.) S P Singh who were attending GC meeting for the first time and were felicitated with AIU Tie and Lapel Pin.

**CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTE**

376/01 To confirm the Minutes of the 375<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting held on June 30, 2023.

**Confirmed.**

## **ACTION TAKEN ON THE MINUTES**

376/02 To report action taken on the Minutes of the 375<sup>th</sup> Governing Council Meeting held on June 30, 2023.

***Noted. The schedule of AUN-QA International Conference 2023 to be held on 6-7 September, 2023 along with the 2nd Global University Associations Forum (GUAF) on 4-5 September, 2023 was duly noted and approved.***

## **ITEMS FOR REPORTING**

376/03 To report the grant of membership of the Association of Indian Universities to the following Universities:

(Public University - 01)

1. Rajiv Gandhi National Aviation University, Amethi, Uttar Pradesh is a Central University w.e.f. 01.04.2023.

***Noted.***

376/04 To report the following changes in the composition of AIU Governing Council:

- (1) Dr. R M Pant, VC, Assam University, Silchar, Assam was nominated on the Governing Council on the basis of Co-option by President, AIU for the duration of his office i.e., for the period 01.07.2023 to 30.06.2024 in place of Prof. Santishree Dhulipudi Pandit, VC, JNU who has completed her tenure on GC on 30.06.2023.
- (2) Prof. Sat Prakash Bansal, VC, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala, H.P was nominated on the Governing Council on the basis of Co-option by President, AIU for the duration of his office i.e., for the period 01.07.2023 to 30.06.2024 in place of Prof. (Dr.) Dhrubajyoti Chattopadhyay, VC, Sister Nivedita University who has completed her tenure on GC on 30.06.2023.
- (3) Dr. Pramod Yeole, VC (I/C) of the Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati was nominated on the Governing Council on the basis of Institutional Seniority for the remaining period i.e., up to 30.06.2024 in place Dr. Dileep N. Malkhede, VC, Sant Gadge Baba Amravati University, Amravati due to his sudden demise.

***Noted.***

**ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION**

376/05 To consider and approve the minutes of Research Committee meeting held on July 13, 2023.

**Approved with following suggestions:**

**(1) Item No. 16 of the minute of the Research Committee Meeting dated July 13, 2023- The GC resolved that the following universities may be considered for the Pilot study to be conducted in collaboration with QASPIR for transformational education:**

- (a) **Chatrapati Shahu Ji Maharaj University, Kanpur**
- (b) **Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi**
- (c) **Amity University, NOIDA**
- (d) **Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala**
- (e) **Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar**
- (f) **Dr Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar**
- (g) **Amity University, Madhya Pradesh**
- (h) **Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar Marathwada University, Aurangabad**
- (i) **Nirma University, Ahmedabad**
- (j) **Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology, Thiruvananthapuram**
- (k) **M S Ramaiah University of Applied Sciences, Bengaluru**
- (l) **The Assam Royal Global University, Guwahati**
- (m) **Jharkhand rai University, Ranchi**

**(2) Item No. 17 of the minute of the Research Committee Meeting dated July 13, 2023- The GC resolved that a project for preparing a report on implementation strategy for use of AI in various disciplinary domains shall be awarded to CSJM University, Kanpur under the chairmanship of Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice President, AIU & VC, CSJM University, Kanpur. It was also resolved that an amount of Rs. 2 Lakh may be sanctioned for completing the Project.**

**(3) Item No. 18 of the minute of the Research Committee Meeting dated July 13, 2023- The matter was deliberated in detail and it was resolved that AIU may act as a facilitator rather than directly getting involved in the fellowship project for the international students. It was suggested that AIU may place the information regarding fellowships/ scholarships offered by various universities to the foreign students on the AIU Website under the INIHE portal to facilitate foreign students to apply for these fellowships/ scholarships.**

376/06 To consider and approve the AIU Delegation, comprising of 5-6 delegates, to visit Taiwan during 08-14 October, 2023 to understand the scope of partnerships and signing MoUs with Taiwan's Universities, particularly in the fields of semiconductor.

**Approved. However, the GC resolved that as the Govt. of Taiwan is bearing the expenditure in respect of President, AIU, the expenditure in respect of Vice President and Secretary General, AIU shall be borne by the AIU. The expenditure in respect of other GC members shall be borne by their respective universities.**

376/07 To consider and approve the visit of Prof. G.D. Sharma, Hon'ble President, AIU and Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal, Hon'ble Secretary General, AIU to Doha, Qatar for participating in the 2023 IAU Global Meeting of Associations (GMA) (25 Nov, 2023) and International Conference (26-27 Nov, 2023).

**Approved.**

376/08 To consider increase the number of Young Professionals to be appointed on contractual basis and also the upper age limit to 35 years from 30 years.

**Approved.**

376/09 To consider and approve the proposal for starting a competitive selection of postgraduate and post-doctoral students to carry out a project in an exchange program for an immersive experience in Commonwealth and AIU member Universities.

**The matter was deliberated at length. It was felt that this will involve a huge expenditure and therefore warrants a detailed examination including the funding resources. Dr. Behari may be requested to give a more detailed proposal on the matter.**

376/10 To report that Shri Ashu Kumar who joined AIU as Under Secretary (Audit) on 25.11.2022 resigned from the said post and relieved of his duties with effect from 28.6.2023 (A/N). Consequent upon his resignation, the first candidate in wait list Shri Hemant Singh was given offer of the aforesaid post but he did not join AIU. Hence the offer of appointment has been treated as withdrawn and offer has been given to second wait list candidate Shri Kaveesh Gupta.

**Noted.**

376/11 To report that Shri Vasudevan Swami who was holding the substantive post of MTS has been promoted to the post of Lower Division Clerk under promotion quota post with effect from 7th July, 2023.

**Noted.**

376/12 To report that Dr. Dipti Tripathi has been appointed as Research Associate purely on temporary and contractual basis in AIU initially for a period of six months with effect from 20th July, 2023 (F/N) on a consolidated remuneration of Rs.49,000/- per month plus HRA at admissible rate.

**Noted.**

376/13 To report that Dr. Surender Singh former Joint Secretary, UGC has been appointed as Consultant in AIU on contractual basis for a period of six months with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2023 on approved monthly remuneration/ consultation fee of Rs.70,000/-.

**Noted.**

376/14 To report that Shri Narayan Chandra Nath, Under Secretary has been retired from the services of AIU on superannuation with effect from 31.7.2023(A/N).

**Noted.**

376/15 To report the following extension/appointments on temporary and contractual basis:

Sl. No.	Name	Positions	Effective date of extension /appointments	Period upto	Remuneration Per month
1.	Shri Gopinathan V.T.	Consultant (Admn)	15.6.2023	14.9.2023	Rs.50,000/-
2.	Dr. Yogita Kanwar	Fellow/Trainee	1.5.2023	31.10.2023	Rs.35,548/-
3.	Smt. Rajinder Kaur	Trainee (Lib. Asstt.)	3.8.2023	2.2.2024	
4.	Shri Ankur Gupta	Trainee (Assistant)	3.7.2023	2.1.2024	
5.	Mr. Gaurav Rai	Trainee (Assistant)	3.7.2023	2.1.2024	
6.	Smt. Sarita Rawat	DEO	27.7.2023	26.1.2024	
7.	Shri Mukesh Kumar	MTS	3.7.2023	2.1.2024	Rs.32,337/-
8.	Shri Riyaz Hussain	MTS	3.7.2023	2.1.2024	
9.	Shri Vishal Kumar	MTS	7.7.2023	6.1.2024	
10.	Shri Deepak Nishant	MTS	7.7.2023	6.1.2024	
11.	Shri Tek Chand	MTS	14.7.2023	13.1.2024	
12.	Shri Bhubnesh Chandra	MTS	14.7.2023	13.1.2024	
13.	Shri Ashok Kumar	MTS	14.7.2023	13.1.2024	
14.	Shri Jitender Kumar	MTS	27.7.2023	26.1.2024	

**Noted.**

376/16 To report the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and Association of Private Higher Education Institutions of Thailand, Thailand (APHEIT) for educational cooperation, sharing of best practices, mobility of faculty, staff & students, research collaboration, university management etc. The copy of MoU is enclosed as Annexure 16.01 for the kind perusal of the Governing Council of AIU.

**Noted.**

376/17 To report that the resolution of GC on the Item No. 374/07 on inclusion of Indian Faculty members in the International Expert Database prepared and maintained by Edify Online has been complied and some Indian Faculty members have been added in the International Expert Database.

**Noted with appreciation. It was resolved that the procedure to avail this facility may be sent to all member universities.**

376/18 To appraise the Governing Council about the status of mandate given to AIU for equivalence of foreign qualification by the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.

***"The Governing Council considered the issue of the status of the mandate given to AIU for equivalence of foreign qualifications by the Ministry of Education, Government of India.***

***The Members deliberated and discussed in detail about the mandate given to AIU for granting equivalence of foreign qualifications by the MHRD (Now Ministry of Education) and the expertise and long experience of AIU in the matter of granting equivalence of foreign qualifications.***

***The Members further noted that recognising the expertise and long experience of AIU in the matter of equivalence of foreign qualifications, the Department of Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), Government of India vide Gazette Notification No.F.15-17/94-TS IV dated 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1995, decided that those foreign qualifications which are recognized/equated by AIU be treated as recognized for the purpose of employment to posts and services under the central government. UGC has also notified vide its Notification No.1-1/2012(SO/PS) Misc. dated 8<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 that all foreign PhD degrees that have been given equivalence by AIU shall be accepted as equivalent qualification for employment in the Indian Universities. AIU has also been mandated by the Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Education, GoI to accord equivalence to the qualification of the Indian School Board vide Gazette Notification***

No. CG-DL-W-20112021-231254 Dated 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021 and Letter No. F.11-3/2016-Sch.3 dated 15<sup>th</sup> November, 2021.

*The Members further discussed that it has come to the knowledge of AIU that the University Grants Commission (UGC) in its recent meeting has approved the regulations for grant of equivalence as per which henceforth the UGC would do the equivalence of foreign qualifications instead of AIU. The Members observed that such a resolution is in conflict with the gazette notification of Government of India referred to above and it has been passed without any consultation with AIU, which has a long-standing of 98 years in the field.*

*The Members further noted that a letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2023 was written by the Secretary General, AIU to the Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Government of India with a request that since AIU has acquired expertise and has developed a robust mechanism of according equivalence of degrees AIU shall continue to be the only central body to grant equivalence of foreign qualifications. The time was also sought from the Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Government of India for an appointment to apprise him of the details of the issue before a final call is taken by the Government in this matter. Another letter dated 31<sup>st</sup> July, 2023 was sent to the Chairman, UGC with a similar request.*

*After detailed deliberations and discussions, it was resolved unanimously by the Members of the Governing Council that:*

- (a) Association of Indian Universities (AIU), one of the premier apex higher education institutions of the country established in 1925, is a research-based policy advice institution to the Government of India in the field of Higher Education. It engages with universities in the areas of academics, sports, culture and internationalization. At present it has a membership base of 957 universities including 16 Associate members. The eminent personalities like Dr. Syama Prasad Mukherjee and Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan have been the Presidents of AIU in the past.*
- (b) AIU, the largest University Association of the world, has accumulated significant expertise and institutional knowledge over the course of 98 years in the matters relating to equivalence and has earned prestige and reputation at the national & international fora. AIU has been employing international best practices to assess the equivalence of foreign qualifications. The equivalence granted by AIU is to*



*the full satisfaction of the students and has been accepted by all the Universities. If this responsibility is transferred to UGC, which has yet to acquire the necessary experience and understanding of the nuances involved, it could adversely affect students seeking equivalence. The potential lack of specialized expertise may result in inaccurate evaluations, leading to misunderstandings and challenges for the students.*

- (c) The resolution of the UGC Commission passed in its recent meeting is in direct conflict with the gazette notification of the Government of India.*
- (d) The reputation of AIU in the national and international community may be compromised if its long-standing role in evaluating foreign qualifications is discontinued.*
- (e) A substantial amount of AIU's revenue is generated through the equivalence fee from foreign students. If this responsibility is taken away from AIU, an adverse financial impact would be faced by AIU.*
- (f) All the Members unanimously resolved to endorse the letter written by the Secretary General, AIU to the Secretary (Higher Education), Ministry of Education, Government of India and were of the strong opinion that AIU should continue to carry out the work of equivalence of foreign qualifications with Indian qualifications.*
- (g) Accordingly, it was resolved that the President of AIU should convey the decision of the Governing Council to the Hon'ble Education Minister and Secretary (HE) with a request to intervene in the matter. A delegation comprising of the President, Vice President, Secretary General and two GC Members of AIU may seek an appointment with the Hon'ble Education Minister as well as the Secretary (HE) to apprise them about the seriousness involved in the matter."*

376/19 To consider and approve the minutes of Equivalence Committee meeting held on August 07, 2023.

**Approved.**

376/20 To consider the approval on the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to be signed between Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and the following organizations: -

- a) The British Council, London, UK and
- b) Universities Canada, Ontario, Canada

***Approved.***

376/21 To Consider the proposal to identify the founder Members of The Indian Network for Internationalization of Higher Education (INIHE) Consortium.

***Approved and the President, AIU was authorized to identify 10-12 universities as founding members of INIHE, based on the number of international students in the universities, their capacity for internationalization and their rating/ ranking.***

376/22 To consider the proposal received from Times Higher Education (THE) for short term, medium term and long-term engagement with AIU.

***The GC accorded approval for the proposal of Times Higher Education (THE) for short term and medium term. The GC granted "in principle" approval for long-term engagement with THE for teaching and internationalization ranking. However, before final decision the financial aspects of the project may be obtained from THE. The matter regarding Long Term commercial arrangements with THE shall be brought before the GC after obtaining more details from THE including financial implications.***

**Any other Item**

376/23 Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice President, AIU raised the issue regarding vision plan of AIU and organizational restructuring, keeping in view of the recent technological development. He raised the issue of short-term and long-term responsibilities of staff members and their achievements. The matter was deliberated in detail. It was resolved that a committee may be constituted under the Chairmanship of Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak to look into the matter.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

*Pankaj Mittal*  
9/8/23  
**Dr. (Mrs.) Pankaj Mittal**  
**Secretary General, AIU**

*G. D. Sharma*  
9-8-2023  
**Prof. G D Sharma**  
**President, AIU**