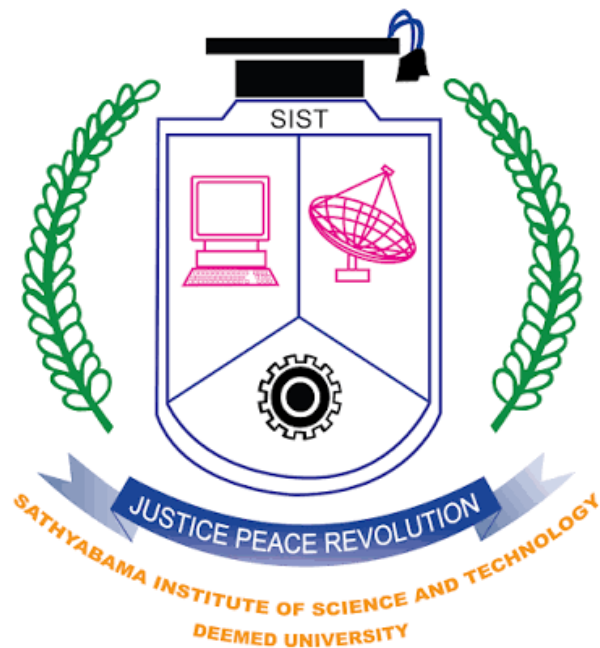


ACADEMIC COUNCIL POLICY

2026 Edition

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**Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology
(Deemed to be University)**

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SATHYABAMA

INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)

CATEGORY - 1 UNIVERSITY BY UGC

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ACADEMIC COUNCIL POLICY

1. PREAMBLE

Sathyabama Institute of Science and Technology, a Deemed to be University under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956, is committed to maintaining the highest standards of academic excellence, innovation, quality assurance, and continuous improvement in teaching, learning, research, and evaluation.

The Academic Council is the principal academic authority of the Institution and plays a pivotal role in shaping academic policies, maintaining academic standards, promoting innovation in education, and ensuring alignment of academic programmes with national and global developments.

The Academic Council serves as the apex academic decision-making body responsible for curriculum development, academic regulations, examination reforms, quality enhancement, research promotion, and continuous improvement of academic processes. Through its deliberations and decisions, the Council ensures that the Institution's academic activities remain relevant, student-centric, outcome-oriented, multidisciplinary, and aligned with the Vision and Mission of the Institution.

This Policy establishes the framework for the constitution, powers, responsibilities, functions, meeting procedures, and governance mechanisms of the Academic Council.

2. OBJECTIVES

The Academic Council shall strive to:

- Promote academic excellence and innovation.
- Maintain high standards in teaching, learning, research, and evaluation.
- Ensure relevance and quality of academic programmes.
- Facilitate multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary education.
- Promote Outcome-Based Education and experiential learning.
- Encourage research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and knowledge creation.
- Ensure academic integrity and ethical practices.
- Foster continuous academic improvement.
- Align academic programmes with regional, industry, societal, and global needs.
- Support implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) and regulatory requirements.

3. SCOPE

This Policy shall apply to:

1. Academic Council Members.
2. Schools and Departments.
3. Faculty Members.
4. Research Centres.
5. Examination and Evaluation Systems.
6. Academic Support Units.
7. Curriculum Development Bodies.
8. Boards of Studies.
9. Academic Committees.
10. Students and Research Scholars, wherever applicable.

4. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Academic Council shall function based on the following principles:

4.1 Academic Excellence

The Council shall continuously strive to enhance academic quality and educational outcomes.

4.2 Academic Freedom

The Council shall uphold academic freedom in teaching, learning, research, innovation, and scholarly activities while ensuring adherence to ethical and regulatory standards.

4.3 Student-Centric Education

All academic decisions shall prioritize student learning, development, employability, and holistic growth.

4.4 Innovation and Relevance

The Council shall encourage innovation in curriculum design, pedagogy, assessment, and academic delivery.

4.5 Inclusiveness and Equity

The Council shall ensure equal opportunities and access to quality education for all students.

4.6 Continuous Improvement

Academic processes shall be regularly reviewed and improved through evidence-based practices and stakeholder feedback.

4.7 Regulatory Compliance

All academic activities shall comply with UGC Regulations, professional council requirements, and institutional policies.

5. CONSTITUTION OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

The Academic Council shall be constituted in accordance with UGC Regulations and the Statutes of the Institution.

Chairperson

- Vice-Chancellor

Member Secretary

- Registrar

Members

- Pro Vice-Chancellor
- Registrar
- Controller of Examinations (Invitee)
- Directors
- Dean (IQAC)
- Dean (Higher Studies)
- Dean (Startup)
- Deans of Schools
- Heads of Departments
- Professors and Senior Faculty Members nominated by the Vice-Chancellor
- Experts from Industry, Research Organizations, and Academia, wherever applicable
- Other members as prescribed by Institution Statutes

The Vice-Chancellor may invite subject experts and special invitees whenever necessary.

6. ROLE OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

The Academic Council shall function as the apex academic authority responsible for planning, regulating, reviewing, and improving all academic activities of the Institution. The Council shall provide academic leadership and ensure that educational programmes remain contemporary, relevant, rigorous, and aligned with institutional objectives. The Council shall guide academic development and foster a culture of innovation, research, quality, and continuous learning.

7. POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

7.1 Academic Planning and Development

The Academic Council shall provide strategic direction for academic growth and development.

The Council shall:

1. Review academic priorities and emerging educational trends.
2. Recommend new academic initiatives.
3. Promote multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary education.
4. Facilitate implementation of institutional academic strategies.
5. Review academic performance indicators and outcomes.

7.2 Curriculum Development and Revision

The Academic Council shall oversee curriculum design, development, implementation, and review.

The Council shall:

1. Approve curricula, syllabi, and course structures.
2. Review curriculum relevance periodically.
3. Ensure industry alignment and employability enhancement.
4. Promote integration of emerging technologies and contemporary knowledge.
5. Encourage experiential learning and project-based education.
6. Support flexibility in learning pathways.
7. Promote skill-based and competency-based education.

The Council shall ensure that curriculum design supports holistic student development and lifelong learning.

7.3 Academic Regulations and Policies

The Academic Council shall formulate and approve academic regulations governing various academic programmes.

The Council shall:

1. Approve academic ordinances and regulations.
2. Review credit structures and programme requirements.
3. Establish progression and graduation requirements.
4. Recommend academic reforms and policy changes.
5. Review implementation of academic policies.

7.4 Outcome Based Education (OBE)

The Academic Council shall promote Outcome-Based Education across all academic programmes.

The Council shall:

1. Define academic outcome frameworks.
2. Review attainment of Programme Outcomes and Course Outcomes.
3. Monitor student learning outcomes.
4. Recommend corrective measures where necessary.
5. Promote continuous improvement through outcome assessment.

The Council shall ensure that all programmes demonstrate measurable educational outcomes and continuous enhancement.

7.5 Teaching Learning Process Enhancement

The Academic Council shall continuously strengthen the quality of teaching and learning.

The Council shall:

1. Promote innovative pedagogical practices.
2. Encourage technology-enabled learning.
3. Support blended and online learning initiatives.
4. Review effectiveness of teaching methodologies.
5. Promote active and experiential learning approaches.
6. Encourage faculty innovation in instruction.

The Council shall periodically review the effectiveness of teaching-learning processes and recommend improvements.

7.6 Examination and Evaluation Reforms

The Academic Council shall ensure fairness, transparency, reliability, and integrity in student assessment.

The Council shall:

1. Approve examination regulations.
2. Review evaluation methodologies.
3. Promote continuous assessment systems.
4. Encourage competency-based assessment.
5. Recommend examination reforms.
6. Review student performance and progression trends.
7. Monitor academic integrity in examinations.

The Council shall support adoption of technology-enabled examination and evaluation systems.

7.7 Research and Scholarly Activities

The Academic Council shall promote research excellence and scholarly engagement.

The Council shall:

1. Encourage research culture among faculty and students.
2. Promote interdisciplinary research.
3. Review research performance indicators.
4. Support publication, patenting, and innovation activities.
5. Encourage funded research and consultancy.
6. Promote ethical research practices.

The Council shall facilitate integration of research into academic programmes.

7.8 Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Engagement

The Academic Council shall encourage innovation and entrepreneurship as integral components of education.

The Council shall:

1. Promote innovation-driven learning.
2. Support incubation and startup activities.
3. Encourage industry participation in curriculum design.
4. Strengthen industry-academia collaboration.
5. Promote experiential and skill-based learning.
6. Encourage entrepreneurial thinking among students.
7. Promote international collaboration and support through global partnerships, exchange programmes, joint innovation initiatives, and international entrepreneurship opportunities.

7.9 Student Academic Development

The Academic Council should have been monitor and based on enhance student academic success by publishing effective measures to achieve the said success.

The Council shall:

1. Review student progression and completion rates.
2. Monitor employability and placement outcomes.
3. Review academic support systems.
4. Strengthen mentoring mechanisms.
5. Promote student participation in academic activities.

6. Encourage holistic development of learners.
7. Monitor the effective implementation of Outcome-Based Education, including the attainment of Programme Outcomes (POs), Programme Specific Outcomes (PSOs), and Course Outcomes (COs).
8. Review outcome attainment data and recommend appropriate measures for continuous improvement in curriculum, teaching-learning, and assessment practices.

The Council shall identify barriers to student success and recommend interventions.

7.10 Academic Quality Assurance

The Academic Council shall collaborate with IQAC and other quality assurance bodies to maintain academic standards.

The Council shall:

1. Review academic quality indicators.
2. Monitor implementation of quality initiatives.
3. Review academic audit findings.
4. Support accreditation and ranking efforts.
5. Promote best practices and benchmarking.
6. Review and support the implementation of appropriate Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for academic continuity, health, safety, and emergency situations, including those arising from pandemics such as COVID-19.
7. Ensure that lessons learned from pandemic-related disruptions are incorporated into teaching-learning, assessment, digital education, and academic continuity plans.

The Council shall foster a culture of continuous academic improvement throughout the Institution.

7.11 Academic Ethics and Integrity

The Academic Council shall uphold academic integrity and ethical standards.

The Council shall:

1. Promote ethical academic practices.
2. Prevent plagiarism and academic misconduct.
3. Ensure fairness in evaluation.
4. Encourage responsible conduct in research and scholarship.
5. Promote ethical use of technology and information.

All academic activities shall be conducted with honesty, transparency, and accountability.

8. BOARD OF STUDIES (BoS)

The Academic Council shall oversee the functioning of Boards of Studies.

Boards of Studies shall:

1. Develop and review curriculum.
2. Recommend new courses and programmes.
3. Review course outcomes and programme outcomes.
4. Suggest academic innovations.
5. Provide recommendations to the Academic Council for approval.

The Academic Council shall consider and act upon recommendations received from the Boards of Studies.

9. MEETINGS OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL

- The Academic Council shall meet four times in an academic year.
- Special meetings may be convened by the Vice-Chancellor whenever required.
- The agenda and supporting documents shall be circulated sufficiently in advance to facilitate informed deliberations.

10. QUORUM

One-third of the total members or such number as prescribed by the Institution Statutes shall constitute the quorum.

In the absence of quorum, the meeting may be adjourned and reconvened as per approved procedures.

11. DECISION MAKING PROCESS

The Academic Council shall endeavor to arrive at decisions through consensus.

Where consensus is not possible, decisions shall be made through majority vote.

In case of equality of votes, the Chairperson shall have the casting vote.

12. RECORDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF DECISIONS

Minutes of all meetings shall be maintained by the Member Secretary.

The minutes shall include:

1. Agenda items considered.
2. Deliberations held.
3. Decisions taken.
4. Action items identified.
5. Responsibility assignments.
6. Timelines for implementation.

Academic units shall implement approved decisions within the stipulated timeframe.

13. MONITORING AND REVIEW

The Academic Council shall periodically review:

1. Academic performance.
2. Curriculum effectiveness.
3. Teaching and learning processes and their effectiveness.
4. Student outcomes.
5. Examination systems.
6. Research productivity.
7. Quality assurance indicators.
8. Accreditation requirements.
9. Emerging academic trends.

Corrective and preventive measures shall be recommended wherever necessary.

14. CONFIDENTIALITY AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Members shall maintain confidentiality regarding sensitive academic matters and shall disclose any actual or potential conflict of interest.

Members with conflicts of interest shall recue themselves from deliberations and decisions related to such matters.

Issued by

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