

MAHE INSTITUTE OF DENTAL SCIENCES AND HOSPITAL
GOVERNING BODY MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the Governing body meeting Held on 13th December 2024.

Meeting of the Governing Body meeting was held on 13th December 2024 at 03:30 pm on Online Zoom Platform.

Member present:

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| 1. Mr. K P Ramesh Kumar | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. Dr. Anil Melath | Principal |
| 3. Dr. Nida Ramesh | CEO, MINDS |
| 4. Prof. Dr. Rajaneesh Anupam | Pondicherry University Nominee |
| 5. Prof. Dr. Suman Lata | Pondicherry University Nominee |
| 6. Prof. Dr. Selvamani M | Vice Principal |
| 7. Prof. Dr. Bastian T S | Prof. Dept. of Oral Pathology |
| 8. Dr. Antony Fernandez | Member |
| 9. Mr. Santhosh Arayakandy | Member |

The session began at 3:30 PM with a warm welcome from Dr. Anil Melath, the Principal, to the Governing Body Members. He extended his gratitude to the University Nominee, Prof. Dr. Rajaneesh Anupam, and Prof. Dr. Suman Lata for their presence, acknowledging their support and valuable guidance.

Dr. Anil Melath informed the members that, based on requests from those residing in distant locations, the session was conducted in online mode. He also mentioned that the proposal and agenda had been shared with all members via email.

Before addressing the current agenda, Dr. Selvamani presented the minutes of the previous committee meeting held on December 16, 2023, which were unanimously approved by all members. Subsequently, Dr. Anil Melath provided an overview of the agenda and facilitated discussions on each item.

Agenda 1: Proposals for affiliation of all existing UG/PG programmes offered in their respective Colleges.

Informed that we had an existing affiliation for 2023-24 for five (05) Speciality subjects and 100 undergraduate seats (Ref. NO. PU/AW-2/6/MIDS&H/2024-25/626, dated 12-03-24).

Agenda 2: Proposal for starting new UG/PG programs for the next academic year.

The Management has proposed the introduction of a new paramedical program in the forthcoming academic year:

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing

P. Anupam

S. Anil

Dr. Anil Melath apprised the members that the local inspection has already been successfully conducted and that the institution is currently awaiting the inspection and formal approval from the University.

Agenda 3: Proposal for increase /decrease of student intake in existing UG/PG programmes.

Dr. Anil Melath informed the committee that the Management has decided to pursue the establishment of a second unit in two dental specialties:

- Department of Conservative Dentistry and Endodontics
- Department of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics

Additionally, a proposal has been submitted for the enhancement of seats in the Prosthodontics and Crown & Bridge specialty.

Dr. Anil Melath further provided a detailed briefing on the admission statistics for the BDS and MDS programs. A total of 14 seats for the MDS program were filled in strict adherence to the NEET and CENTAC admission norms and regulations. Similarly, all 100 seats for the BDS program were successfully filled in compliance with NEET and CENTAC guidelines. He also confirmed that all admission details were duly updated on the DCI portal before the stipulated deadline of November 5, 2024.

Agenda 4: Approving the faculty requirements for different courses, the appointment of Principal and fixation of pay and allowance.

Dr. Anil Melath provided information that a total of 10 teaching faculty members were appointed in Dental and Medical subjects, comprising 08 Dental teaching faculty and two faculty members in Medical subjects.

Agenda 5: Making Budgetary allocations of funds for purchase of Library books, Journals, Additional equipment's, Computers and funds of Lab running expenses.

Briefed about the Finance allocation to past year 2023-24 and proposed for 2024-25.

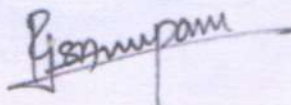
Agenda 6: Submission of applications for Recognition/Accreditation/Clearance from Statutory Bodies like AICTE, NCTE, INC, NMC & BCI, etc.

Dr. Anil Melath apprised the committee that the Dental Council of India has granted recognition to the institution for both its BDS and MDS programs. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India, formally recognized the BDS program on January 24, 2014, and the MDS program on February 28, 2019.

Agenda 7: Application for NAAC accreditation, NIRF ranking by MOE, etc.

Dr. Anil Melath apprised the committee of the consistent efforts undertaken to submit data for the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). He further informed that the process of uploading the data for the year 2025 is currently in progress.

In addition, Dr. Anil Melath announced that the Mahe Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital has been accredited with a CGPA of 3.29 on a seven-point scale, achieving an "A+" grade, which is valid for a period of five years. He also noted that the submission of the second annual data is underway and will be completed by the deadline of December 31, 2024.





Agenda 8: Approval for conducting Annual events such as Seminars, Workshops, Industrial Tours, Deputation of a Faculty for training, Soft skill workshop for students, training for faculty, etc.

Shared with the committee the diverse range of programs offered, encompassing both online and offline modes. Nearly all staff members actively participated in various online webinars recognized by the Dental Council of India and Specialty Professional Bodies. The institution conducted 10 Add-on courses, 08 Value-added courses, 24 Clinico-pathological Club sessions, 12 IPR events, 02 Career Guidance sessions, 12 Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), and 24 Continuing Dental Education (CDE) programs. Moreover, there were approximately 154 publications in various journals recognized by Pubmed, Scopus, and the UGC.

Agenda 8: Taking up academic collaborations with other National/International Academic Institutions, National Associations like "All India Science Congress", Professional bodies and other specific Industries.

Dr. Anil Melath apprised the committee that the institution has established 29 Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) to date. He provided updates on notable collaborations, emphasizing ongoing initiatives such as **Project Punjerry** and **Project Yuva**, which focus on organizing screening camps and awareness programs across schools and institutions in the Mahe region to benefit young individuals.

He also highlighted a recent MOU with the Government of Kerala aimed at providing medical treatment to prisoners. Through **Project Moksha**, the Mahe Institute of Dental Sciences (MINDS) actively offers treatment to inmates of the Central Prison in Kannur.

Dr. Anil Melath further detailed the composition of the institution's 29 MOUs, which include partnerships with 4 universities, 11 colleges, 10 schools, 2 industries, and 2 agreements for the adoption of villages and the Central Prison.

Additionally, he informed the committee that the institution is in the final stages of formalizing an international MOU with the Asian Institute of Medicine, Science, and Technology (AIMST University) in Malaysia.

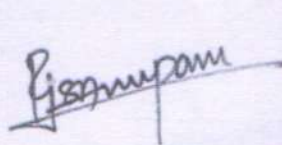
Agenda 9: Organizing different National/International days, extension activities like Village Adoption, Water Harvesting, Waste disposal, awareness lectures of different Government Schemes, etc.

Dr. Anil Melath briefed on the adoption of villages, Vigilance Awareness Day, World Health Day, World AIDS Day, Constitutional Day, water harvesting, waste disposal, Swach Bharath, and awareness lectures etc.

Dr. Anil Melath invited Dr. Suman Lata, University Nominee, to address the gathering.

Dr. Suman Lata expressed her gratitude for the invitation and commended the institution for its commendable performance. She inquired about the nature and mode of appointments for certain positions within the department.

In response, Dr. Anil Melath clarified that all faculty appointments strictly adhere to the norms prescribed by the Dental Council of India (DCI). He further explained that, in some cases, appointments exceed the DCI requirements to meet the institution's patient load and enhance the quality of education. For instance, in the Department of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, while the DCI mandates only one Professor and one Reader, the institution has appointed an additional Professor. This decision was made to leverage the expertise of the

appointee, whose experience will significantly benefit students by enriching their knowledge and learning experience. Currently the Department runs Under graduate program and has Two Professor, One Reader and Three Senior Lecturer.

Dr. Anil Melath invited Dr. Rajaneesh Anupam, University Nominee, to address the gathering.

Dr. Rajaneesh Anupam conveyed greetings on behalf of Pondicherry University and inquired about the faculty status for the proposed Nursing program. Specifically, he asked whether the institution currently has an adequate number of faculty members or plans to appoint additional staff.

Dr. Anil Melath responded that the initial inspection for the program has been completed, and the institution currently has five faculty members, including the Principal. He further stated that after receiving the Government Order, additional faculty appointments would be made, followed by inspections from the University and the Indian Nursing Council.

Dr. Rajaneesh also sought clarification on which regulatory body recognizes the Nursing program. Dr. Anil Melath confirmed that the program is recognized by the **Indian Nursing Council (INC)**.

Dr. Rajaneesh suggested that the minutes of the current meeting should include a reference to the seat enhancement proposal discussed in the previous meeting, specifying the number of seats proposed, approved, and planned for new program initiation.

In response, Dr. Anil Melath explained that the institution had previously proposed seat enhancements in the same specialties mentioned in this meeting. Although the consent of affiliation was received from the University, the subsequent application to the Central Government was delayed due to postal issues. While the application was dispatched on March 25, it only reached its destination on April 10, missing the scheduled council inspection. Despite approaching the Supreme Court, no favourable outcome was achieved. Consequently, the institution is reapplying for the academic year 2025-26.

Dr. Rajaneesh also inquired about the status of extramural grants. Dr. Anil Melath informed the committee that the institution had successfully secured a grant of ₹3 lakh from the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for the Department of Public Health Dentistry and ₹1 lakh from the Indian Society of Periodontics.

Regarding the institution's **Mentor-Mentee program** and counselling initiatives, Dr. Rajaneesh emphasized their significance for NAAC accreditation. Dr. Anil Melath assured the committee that the institution has a well-structured Mentor-Mentee program in place, where each faculty member mentors up to 10 students. The program includes the maintenance of record books for each mentee, which serve as official documentation. Additionally, the institution employs a full-time counsellor to support students.

Dr. Suman Lata inquired whether the Mentor-Mentee sessions are scheduled during or outside regular college hours. Dr. Anil Melath clarified that these meetings are held after 3 PM to avoid any disruption to regular teaching hours.

Dr. Suman Lata also raised questions about the quality of publications and the journals in which they are published. Dr. Anil Melath explained that most articles are published in Scopus, PubMed, or Web of Science indexed journals, as recommended by the Dental Council of India.

Rajaneesh Anupam

Suman Lata

Dr. Suman Lata suggested prioritizing publications in SCI-indexed or high-impact journals. Dr. Anil Melath acknowledged this recommendation and informed the committee that the institution is working to improve its performance in research, publications, and patents.

Dr. Anil Melath invited Dr. Antony Fernandez, to address the gathering.

Dr. Antony Fernandez expressed his gratitude to the University Nominee for the valuable suggestions and feedback provided to help enhance the institution. He conveyed his satisfaction with the institution's progress and was pleased to see that the Nursing college is set to open soon. He inquired whether the Nursing program is open to male students as well. Dr. Anil Melath clarified that the course is open to both male and female students, with no restrictions for male applicants.

Dr. Fernandez then asked about the status of the institution's NIRF ranking.

Dr. Anil Melath explained that while the institution received an A+ rating in the NAAC assessment as a standalone college, the NIRF ranking system is more complex. There are 323 colleges included in the NIRF list, many of which are either part of medical colleges or deemed universities, making it challenging for a standalone college to compete effectively. He mentioned that, according to the list, the institution is ranked 79th, though this is not an official rank, as the NIRF only ranks the top 40 colleges.

Dr. Anil Melath further informed the committee that the institution has requested the NIRF ranking body to consider separate rankings for standalone colleges, without combining them with those associated with deemed universities or medical colleges.

Dr. Anil Melath invited Mr. Santhosh Arayakandy, to address the gathering.

Mr. Arayakandy informed the committee that during the previous meeting, the topic of a drug-free campus was discussed, and the institution has successfully implemented this policy. He also commended the significant progress made in the development of the institution. Furthermore, he suggested organizing international-level seminars, noting that the institution is well-equipped with the necessary facilities and infrastructure to host such events. Mr. Arayakandy concluded by expressing his gratitude to the Principal, teaching faculty, and management for their continued efforts.

Dr. Anil Melath invited Dr. Nida Ramesh, to address the gathering.

Dr. Nida Ramesh presented an overview of the institution's significant progress over the past 15 years to the members, highlighting key achievements such as consistent academic excellence, numerous awards at national conferences, and the prestigious NAAC A+ grade. She discussed future plans, including the goal of achieving a top 40 rank in the NIRF rankings, increasing student intake in specialty courses, and expanding into Nursing and paramedical fields. Dr. Ramesh also shared that the institution's research wing is gaining momentum, with a focus on clinical-oriented projects aimed at improving patient care, and outlined plans for sustainability initiatives to promote eco-friendly practices. She concluded by reaffirming the institution's commitment to academic growth, research, and sustainable development.

Dr. Selvamani proposed a vote of thanks, and the meeting concluded at 04:30 pm.

Principal

Principal

Maha Institute of Dental Sciences & Hospital
MAHS

(Suman Lata)

Selvamani