



**Sardar Patel University, Mandi**  
(A State Government University)



E-mail ID: [registrar@spumandi.ac.in](mailto:registrar@spumandi.ac.in)

No. SPU-Mandi/Academic Council/47/2022- 8159-25

Phone: 01905-292295

Dated: 15<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

**Minutes of the fourth meeting of Academic Council held on 08-07-2025**

The fourth meeting of Academic Council of Sardar Patel University, Mandi (HP) was held on 08<sup>th</sup> July 2025 at 11:30 a.m. in the office chamber of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.

The following members were present in the meeting:

1	Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor	Chairman
2	Dr. Asha Ram Tripathi, Ex-Head & Dean, Faculty of Commerce, BHU, Varanassi	Member, attended online
3	Sh. Shashi Pal Negi (HPAS), Registrar	Member Secretary
3	Prof. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Dean of Physical Sciences	Member
4	Dr. Rikhi Ram Koundal, Principal, GC Sarkaghat	Member, attended online
5	Dr. Saneel Thakur, Dean of Life Sciences	Member
6	Dr. Pawan Chand, Dean of Management	Member
7	Dr. Akshay Kumar, HOD Physics	Member
8	Dr. Lakhveer, HOD Chemistry	Member, attended online
9	Dr. Karan Gupta, Associate Professor (Management)	Member
10	Dr. Gaurav Kapoor, Assistant Professor (Zoology)	Member
11	Dr. Narinder Singh, Assistant Professor (Physics)	Member
12	Dr. Hitesh, Assistant Professor (Botany)	Member, attended online
13	Dr. Rajesh, Assistant Professor (Physics)	Member

At the outset, the Member Secretary extended a warm welcome to all the members of the Academic Council to attend the meeting which is quite significant to discuss the crucial issues pertaining to academics before the onset of the new academic session 2025-26.

After this, the Agenda items were taken up for detailed discussion.

### **Agenda Item No. 4.1**

#### **Permission to study two Degree/Diploma Programme under NEP-2020**

To consider and approve the proposal to allow students to pursue two Degree Programmes simultaneously, in line with the guidelines laid down in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The policy promotes multidisciplinary and flexible learning pathways and its implementation will provide students an opportunity to expand their academic portfolio.

#### **Objectives**

- To allow the students to pursue two academic programmes simultaneously keeping in view the following objectives envisaged in NEP 2020:
- Recognizing, identifying, and fostering the unique capabilities of each student, by sensitizing teachers as well as parents to promote each student's holistic development in both academic and non-academic spheres.
- Multidisciplinary and a holistic education across the sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, and sports for a multidisciplinary world in order to ensure the unity and integrity of all knowledge;
- Enabling an individual to study one or more specialized areas of interest at a deep level, and also develop character, ethical and constitutional values, intellectual curiosity, scientific temper, creativity, spirit of service.
- Offering the students, a range of disciplines including sciences, social sciences, arts, humanities, languages, as well as professional, technical, and vocational subjects to make them thoughtful, well-rounded, and creative individuals.

#### **Guidelines for Pursuing Two Academic Programmes Simultaneously**

- A student can pursue two academic programmes, one in full time physical mode and another in Open and Distance Learning (ODL)/Online mode; or up to two ODL/Online programmes simultaneously.
- Two academic programmes shall be pursued by the student from the same University or from different Universities/Institutions.
- Degree or diploma programmes under ODL/Online mode shall be pursued with only such HEIs which are recognized by UGC/Statutory Council/Govt. of India/Sardar Patel University for running such programmes.

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- Degree or diploma programmes under these guidelines shall be governed by the Regulations notified by the UGC and also the respective statutory/professional councils of Sardar Patel University, wherever applicable.
  - The students shall be allowed to enroll to multidisciplinary programmes. However, the students shall be required to fulfill all the admission and examination requirements for each degree programme. No changes in eligibility conditions shall be made to accommodate candidates into any of the academic programmes.
  - The students interested in pursuing two degree/academic programmes simultaneously shall be accommodated under the existing infrastructure and set up of the institution.
  - The students shall not be allowed to use the credits earned in one programme to fulfill the requirement of another programme.
  - These guidelines shall be applicable only to the students pursuing academic programmes in regular mode other than Ph.D. programme.
  - These guidelines shall come into effect from the date of their notification by the Sardar Patel University. No retrospective benefit can be claimed by the students who have already done two academic programmes simultaneously prior to the notification of these guidelines.
  - Both programmes will be independent and the conditions for examination have to be met separately.

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.1 approved**

**It was decided to allow the students to pursue two degree/diploma programmes w.e.f. the Academic Session 2025-26 subject to fulfilment of conditions. Modalities need to be worked out before implementing the dual degree/diploma programme including preparation of the list of combination of courses/programmes for which it can be implemented. Dean Academic Affairs will draft SOPs and get it approved from Chairman, Academic Council.**



#### **Agenda Item No. 4.2**

**Student Grievance Regarding Admission to B.Com. 3rd Year Due to Change in Affiliation**  
Several students, including one from Chandra Dhar Government Degree College, Haripur, District Kangra, Govt. Arya Degree College Nurpur, have completed their B.Com. 1st and 2nd year under the batch affiliated to Sardar Patel University (SPU), Mandi. The 2nd year result was declared in 2024 and although the student had four re-appear papers, three were cleared in December 2024, leaving only one compartment in English (2nd year). Now, the student is unable to take admission in B.Com. 3rd year in the same college as it is no longer affiliated to SPU and has reverted to HPU, Shimla. The college authorities, citing a notification from HPU, have refused admission to SPU students. As a result, the affected students are neither able to continue in their parent college nor migrate to other SPU-affiliated colleges, as migration requires prior admission. Furthermore, SPU has not provided any alternative arrangement or notification regarding B.Com. 3rd year admission or examination for such students. This situation has caused significant academic distress for multiple students across similar institutions. The Academic Council is therefore requested to consider and recommend a policy-level solution, such as allowing migration, issuing provisional admission guidelines, or conducting special admission drives, to ensure academic continuity and protect the interest of students enrolled under SPU batches in colleges that have subsequently changed affiliation.

 **Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.2 approved**

Some students of BA, B.Sc. and B.Com who have completed 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year of Bachelor's degree under S.P.U. Mandi from the colleges located in Kangra and Chamba districts could not complete their graduation within three years due to compartment in some subjects. These students are unable to get admissions in third year/final year in their current college due to change of jurisdiction of the University as the HPU Shimla has issued a notification not to allow the students having reappear in three subjects to be admitted under HPU Shimla. It has now been decided to allow such students to take admissions in other colleges affiliated to SPU Mandi in the district of Mandi, Kullu and Lahaul & Spiti without applying for inter-college migration.

### **Agenda Item No. 4.3**

**Approval of Scheme and Syllabus for B.Sc.–M.Sc. Five-Year Integrated Course in Physics**  
To approve the detailed scheme and syllabus of the B.Sc.–M.Sc. Integrated Five-Year Course in Physics for the academic batches 2022–2027, 2023–2028, 2024–2029, 2025–2030 and subsequent sessions. The scheme has been reviewed and endorsed by the Board of Studies (BOS) and is aligned with the NEP objectives of integrated and research-oriented learning. (Annexure-I)

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.3 approved along-with Annexure.**



### **Agenda Item No. 4.4**

**Approval of Scheme and Syllabus for M.Sc. Physics (Session 2025–2027 and onwards)**  
To consider and approve the scheme and syllabus for the M.Sc. Physics Programme for the academic session 2025–2027 and onwards. The course content has been revised and finalized by the BOS to meet the latest academic and industry requirements. (Annexure-II)

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.4 approved along-with Annexure.**

### **Agenda Item No. 4.5**

**Approval of Scheme and Syllabus for Ph.D. in Physics (Session 2025–2026 and onwards)**  
To approve the curriculum framework and syllabus for the Ph.D. Programme in Physics beginning from the 2025–2026 session. The structure has been developed in accordance with UGC guidelines and has received approval from the BOS. It incorporates advanced research components and interdisciplinary modules. (Annexure-III)

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.5 approved along-with Annexure.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 4.6**

##### **Renaming of Integrated Course as Dual Degree Programme with Exit Option**

To consider the recommendation of the Board of Studies to rename the existing B.Sc.–M.Sc. Five-Year Integrated Course as a “Dual Degree Programme.” It is also proposed that the University allow an exit option after three years, enabling students to receive a B.Sc. degree upon successful completion of the undergraduate portion. This flexible structure will cater to varied academic needs and promote wider participation.

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.6 approved.**

The Academic Council approved the recommendation of the Board of Studies to rename the existing B.Sc.–M.Sc. Five-Year Integrated Course as a “Dual Degree Programme.” It was also decided to allow an exit option after three years, enabling existing students to receive a B.Sc. degree upon successful completion of the undergraduate portion. Also students can be allowed to join the programme after 3<sup>rd</sup> year (for which option can be taken after 2<sup>nd</sup> year. SOPs may be drafted by Dean Academic Affairs).



#### **Agenda Item No. 4.7**

##### **Adoption of UGC Ph.D. Regulations 2022**

To formally adopt and implement the UGC Ph.D. Regulations 2022 and its amendments published by UGC from time to time, if any, for all research scholars across the University. These updated regulations bring uniformity to doctoral education, redefine coursework requirements, supervisor-student ratios and emphasize research quality and integrity. The Council is requested to approve the same. (Annexure-IV)

**Decision: Agenda Item No. 4.7 approved along-with Annexure.**

**Dean Academic Affairs to put up guidelines based on such UGC updated regulations.**



#### **Agenda Item No. 4.8**

**Provision to create seats for in-service teachers for pursuing PhD in Sardar Patel University.**

The representation was received from the teachers of the colleges affiliated to SPU Mandi regarding the increase in the number of seats for in-service teachers for pursuing PhD. Presently there is no such provision in SPU Mandi in which there are seats reserved for the in service teachers. So, it is proposed to create one supernumerary seat in each department in SPU Mandi in which the course of PhD is being offered from the session 2025-26. Only the in service candidates will be eligible to apply against these seats through proper channel. The council is requested to approve the same.

**Decision: One supernumerary seat is approved in each department for in-service candidates but all such candidates have to complete course work at the University and also every end-semester presentations will be held at the University only.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 4.9**

**Relaxation of Age for taking admissions in all UG courses**

The agenda was placed on the spot by the Principal, Govt College Sarkaghat. He explained that many students after completing their 10+2 enrol themselves for pursuing courses such as JBT and later face difficulty for admissions in various UG programs as they cross the maximum age limit prescribed for admissions in UG programmes. Therefore, it was proposed to enhance the maximum age limit prescribed for admissions in all UG programmes by one year on the analogy of HPU Shimla.


**Decision:**

**After detailed deliberations, it was approved that the age as adopted by HPU Shimla will be approved for SPU students also.**

-Approved by-  
Vice Chancellor  
Sardar Patel University  
Mandi (HP)

Copy to:

1. Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, Vice Chancellor, SPU Mandi.
2. The Secretary (Education) to the Govt of Himachal Pradesh, Shimla (HP).
3. The Director, Higher Education, Shimla (HP).
4. The Principals, All the Colleges affiliated to SPU Mandi.
5. Dr. Asha Ram Tripathi, Ex-Head & Dean, Faculty of Commerce, BHU, Varanasi.
6. Prof. Rajesh Kumar Sharma, Dean of Physical Sciences, SPU Mandi.
7. Dr. Rikhi Ram Koundal, Principal, Govt College Sarkaghat, Distt Mandi (HP).
8. Dr. Saneel Thakur, Dean of Life Sciences, SPU Mandi.
9. Dr. Pawan Chand, Dean of Management, SPU Mandi.
10. Dr. Akshay Kumar, HOD Physics, SPU Mandi.
11. Dr. Lakhveer, HOD Chemistry, SPU Mandi.
12. Dr. Karan Gupta, Associate Professor (Management), SPU Mandi.
13. Dr. Gaurav Kapoor, Assistant Professor (Zoology), SPU Mandi.
14. Dr. Narinder Singh, Assistant Professor (Physics), SPU Mandi.
15. Dr. Hitesh, Assistant Professor (Botany), SPU Mandi.
16. Dr. Rajesh, Assistant Professor (Physics), SPU Mandi.

  
15.07.2025  
Registrar  
SPU Mandi