



Minutes of the 3rd (Third) Alumni Meet (General Body Meeting) of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) held on 29.01.2016 (Sunday).

The 3rd (Third) Alumni Meet of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) was held under the Chairmanship of Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President of the Association, in the PG Council Conference Hall, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar on 29.01.2017 (Sunday). Registration of participants started sharp at 09:30 am and each participant was given a set of reference materials i.e. (i) the programme for the day, (ii) a copy of the Annual Report of USAA for the year 2015-16, and (iii) an abridged copy of the Constitution of USAA.

The Alumni meet was organised in 4 (four) sessions i.e. (i) Inaugural Session, (ii) Interactive Session, (iii) Election of Office Bearers and (iv) Entertainment Session with a Lunch Break in the middle.

I. INAUGURAL SESSION: (11:00 am to 11:30 am)

Dr Ashok Kumar Dash, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Utkal University was invited as Chief Guest of the day. Dr Ranjan Kumar Bal, Chairman PG Council, Utkal University and Dr Jitendriya Sarangi, former Professor (Statistics), Utkal University were invited as Guests of Honour to this occasion. Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President, USAA, welcomed the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Chairman PG Council, Dr Jitendriya Sarangi and all the Alumni Members present on the occasion.

After the welcome address, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor was requested to light the inaugural lamp. Accordingly, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor lighted the lamp amidst the Guest of Honour and the dignitaries on the dais. After lighting of lamp and the guests occupying their seats on the dais, the Utkal University Theme Song was played in a pin drop silence atmosphere. Thereafter, an Opening Chorus Song with instruments, "Hum ko Manki Shakti Dena - Guddi" was staged by the PG Part I Students of the Department of Statistics, Ms Sangeeta Barik, Ms Prajna Paramita Mohanty, Ms Diptimayee Panda, Ms Subhashee Das, Sri Kamalakanta Sahu, and Sri Panaya Ranjan Pradhan praying god for grant of strength of mind, victory over mind, let our heart be free from discrimination, be ready for forgiveness, and let the truth prevail everywhere, let us not forget the sacred and be always with the sacred and let thy grant confidence in us.

- (i) For kind information of esteemed guests and the Alumni Members, **the President, USAA** gave a brief account of the initiatives taken and the progress made during the last year by the Alumni Association. He indicated that after the Second Meet (10.01.2016), few more initiatives have been taken by the USAA on the basis of the suggestions that came from the members as well as the initiatives of the Executive Committee. These are;
- a. After a lot of efforts, the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) has been registered under the SRA (XXI of 1860) bearing No.23824 of 2016-17 and the registration number has been issued by the Board of Revenue, Cuttack (Registration Wing) on 31.12.2016.
 - b. The Database of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) has been considerably enhanced by adding the contact details of a large number of Alumni Members during the last year as a result of which considerable number of Members have attended this Meet anew today. The processes of enhancing the Database will be a continuous one. It will go on always to maintain the interpersonal relationship among the Alumni.
 - c. The USAA Website (www.utkalstatisticsalumni.in) has been well maintained and the Registered Members gone up to 200 in a short time. It has become a nice forum for the Alumni of the PG Department of Statistics to search their Alumni friends and interact with them as also to give their opinion and feedback to broad base USAA activities.
 - d. The USAA and the PG Department of Statistics have joined their hands in organising seminars and workshops on various aspects of Applied Statistics, Research and Career enhancements and Job Prospects for Statisticians during the last year. This endeavour will be continued by USAA in the days to come.

- e. During the visit of NAAC Team to Utkal University in October and November 2016, our USAA Team had participated in the discussion and gave useful suggestions to the team on the nature of curriculum development as well as the future career prospect of the passing out students of the Department
 - f. USAA has created a "Corpus Fund" of Rs.1,00,000/-, the interest of which will be utilised for the purpose of popularising the subject "Statistics" as well as assisting poor and meritorious students pursuing their education at different levels with Statistics as a subject of their study. Many of our Alumni Members have voluntarily and generously contributed for this purpose and a small amount has been borne by USAA.
 - g. Stating that USAA has many more agenda to go ahead, the President expressed his heartfelt thanks to the Alumni Members and the PG Department of Statistics for their contribution in achieving many of the agenda items during the last year and he solicited cooperation of all concerned in carrying the objectives of USAA in future.
- (ii) Dr Jitendriya Sarangi, Hon'ble Guest of Honour, who happens to be Alumnus of the first batch (1960) in his address, expressed his concern that the Department of Statistics of is one of the oldest Department of Utkal University. Despite that the subject "Statistics" is yet to see its growth and prospect in the State at par with other subjects. Due to lack of opening the subject at under graduate level, there is dearth of good students taking their admission for a PG Degree. More so a good academic degree is not enough. There is need to introduce specialised course curriculum at PG levels so that our students will get better scope in the job market.
 - (iii) Hon'ble Guest of Honour, Dr Ranjan Kumar Bal, Chairman PG Council, Utkal University in addressing the Meet expressed that it is a golden opportunity for the faculty members and the Alumni Members to join their hands together and work out strategies for all-round growth and development of the subject and pass outs at large. They can work together and pursue the question of opening the subject at UG level in different colleges so that there will be no dearth of quality students at PG level. Quality students after doing their PG Degree will have the ability to explore various alternatives for their quality improvement as well as the job market.
 - (iv) Sri Lokanath Sarangi, the senior most Executive Member on the Dias in appreciating the whole hearted contribution of one and all, emphasised on a special drive to enhance the Alumni Database by way of collecting the details of all our Alumni spread over the country so that our strength in all aspects will increase. It is a continuous and time consuming process but not impossible. Individual efforts about the Alumni we know will go a long way in achieving this goal.
 - (v) On the request of the President, Sri Prachetas Priyotosh in the absence of Dr Prakash Kumar Tripathy, General Secretary of the USSA read out the Annual Report of the Association for the year ending 2015-16 for information of esteemed members of USAA and all concerned. He gave a detailed account of various activities done by the USAA during last year, the present position and the steps to be taken ahead i.e. (a) registration of USAA, (b) USAA Database, (c) USAA Website, (d) organisation of Seminars and Workshops, (e) career counselling, (f) opening of the subject in different colleges, (g) formation of Corpus Fund, and etc. In giving the receipt and expenditure position of USAA during the year 2015-16, he stated that the closing balance at the beginning of the year was Rs.38870/-. The total receipt during the year was of the order of Rs.136482.95 that included registration fee of Rs.34100/-, contribution by Members of Rs.94,350/-, Bank interest of Rs.227.95 and a loan from members of Rs.7805/-. As against this, the payments were of the order of Rs.1,73,025/- that included Rs.2500/- towards printing and stationery, Rs.10000/- towards website, Rs.141825/- towards the Second Alumni Meet, Rs.1000/- towards donation for Departmental Annual function, Rs.5000/- towards Registration of USAA, Rs.2000/- towards Audit Fees and the rest of Rs.1700/- towards miscellaneous expenses. The

closing balance was of the order of Rs.2327.95. at the end of the year. The account of USAA for the year 2015-16 has since been audited by an authorised Chartered Accountant. He also stated that for effective discharge of the functions of USAA, the Executive Committee is meeting at regular intervals. However, he solicited the cooperation of all the members in strengthening USAA and making it vibrant. He also requested all the Alumni Members to please give their considered opinion and valued suggestions for better functioning of USAA.

- (vi) Hon'ble Chief Guest Dr Ashok Kumar Dash, Vice-Chancellor, in his inaugural address, expressed his satisfaction on the progress made by the Statistics Alumni Association during the last year. In expressing his thanks, he hoped that the USAA will keep up the trend and go a long way. He expected USAA to play a vibrant role in nourishing the subject matter "Statistics" in the State. He was of the opinion that Alumni Body is a store house of Expertise and Experience which need be harnessed for the benefit of the Department. He suggested that the faculty members and the Alumni may together suggest modifications required in the syllabi for Degree and PG courses keeping in view the need of the day so that the subject will flourish and the students will benefit. He gave the instance of many organisations be it teaching or otherwise where they manage their work relating to statistics with their internal staff by way of giving them some kind of exposure though not adequate. The Department should therefore think of opening short duration Diploma or Certificate courses in areas of current interest so that Departmental students can take benefit of that. This will help improving the quality of our students, thereby enabling them to explore appropriate opportunities. Such courses will also attract outsiders to take to enhance their quality and exposure to various applications of Statistics.
- (vii) Dr Kunja Behari Panda, Working-President and Head of the PG Department of Statistics acknowledged that the gracious presence of Dr Ashok Kumar Dash, Vice-Chancellor as Chief Guest, Dr Jitendiya Sarangi, and Dr Rnajan Kumar Bal, Chairman PG Council as our Guests of Honour on this occasion has been immensely useful. The guidance and the advice received from them will no doubt help us in taking forward the objectives of the USAA in right direction. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr Ashok Kumar Dash, Dr Jitendriya Sarangi, Dr Ranjan Kumar Bal, and Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President USAA for the valuable time they had spared in attending this meeting and the guidance they have given to us. He also expressed that the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) has made considerable progress during a short period. He promised that the Department and the USAA will go hand in hand and will jointly work out modalities for growth and prospect of the subject as well as for securing better career prospect of the young Alumni. Many of our Alumni members, our students and the faculty members had been working for this meet starting from planning, arrangement of different activities including invitation of Guests and as well as invitation of Alumni Members. Dr Panda extended his thanks to one and all involved in the process of arrangement. With this, the inaugural session ended over a cup of tea.

II. INTERACTIVE SESSION: (11:30 am to 01:30 pm)

More than 200 Alumni Members attended this meet. They were very happy to have attended the meet and eager see their old friends, teachers and to interact as well with Alumni Members across the batches within the same premises where they did their PG Degree in the past. Since individual introduction of all members was considered time consuming, Members who attended this meet anew came to the dais, gave their introduction and interacted with the audience. As observed, more than 50 Alumni Members across the batches had attended this meeting anew. They along with some members from the audience gave some useful advice to the younger generation as well as good suggestions for better functioning of the USAA.

Dr AKPC Swain (1961) addressed the members and advised them to contribute to the cause of the subject and that of USAA within their capability. Their contribution need not be in terms of money only. They may contribute in terms of good ideas, their expertise etc. There is need of a good library for the

students. Alumni Members may think of improving the library in the Department by contributing good books.

One Dr Surendra Mahapatra, a man of Odisha who is Professor of Chemistry of Regis College, A JUSUIT UNIVERSITY in the US who was a resource person in a Seminar in the Department on 07.01.2017 was specially invited to this meet. Having been moved on the activities of the Alumni Body USAA, he very briefly addressed the members and expressed that while nothing can be done by a single person, the Alumni Members can jointly do something spectacular for the subject and the Alumni at large. He was generous enough to donate Rs.25000/- to USAA for doing some tangible work and thanked the USAA for inviting him to this gathering.

The suggestions given in the Meet have been listed at the end.

LUNCH BREAK: (01:30 Pm to 02:30 pm)

III. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS: (02:30 pm to 04:00 pm)

The composition of the Office Bearers and the Executive Committee of USAA is as placed in the following statement.

(i)	President		1 (one)
(ii)	Working President (ex-officio)		1 (one)
(iii)	Vice-President		1 (one)
(iv)	General Secretary		1 (one)
(v)	Joint Secretary		1 (one)
(vi)	Treasurer		1 (one)
(vii)	Faculty Alumni Relations (ex-officio)		1 (one)
(viii)	Elected Members		8 (eight)
	Total		15

The elected office bearers shall hold office normally for a period of two years. However, they shall have to continue till there is a fresh election of office bearers of the Association. The present Executive Committee has already completed two years for which it was felt imperative to hold a fresh election of office bearers for USAA. This being the General Body Meeting, Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President USAA declared in the meeting to hold a fresh election of office bearers in this meeting. Further, in consultation with the Members of Executive Committee, the President appointed Sri Dasarathi Sahoo (1979) present in the meeting as Returning Officer and requested him to conduct the election.

Having been appointed as the Returning Officer by the Executive Committee of USAA, Sri Dasarathi Sahoo (1979), conducted a fresh election to different positions of Office Bearers and Executive Members of the Executive Committee, i.e. (i) President, (ii) Vice-President, (iii) General Secretary, (iv) Joint Secretary, (v) Treasurer and (vi) 8 (eight) Executive Members and submitted the result of the election to the President, USAA.

Based on the result of the election submitted by the Returning Officer, Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, the President USAA declared the complete composition of the newly elected Executive Committee for information of the General Body as under.

Composition of the Newly Elected Executive Committee (29.01.2017)

SI	Position	Name
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	President	Dr Jitendriya Sarangi (1960)
2	Working President (ex-officio)	Dr Kunja Behari Panda (HoD)
3	Vice-President	Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty (1969)

SI	Position	Name
(1)	(2)	(3)
4	General Secretary	Sri Banshidhar Mahapatra (1976)
5	Joint Secretary	Dr Swarnalata Mishra (1983)
6	Treasurer	Dr Prafulla Kumar Swain (Faculty)
7	Faculty Alumni Relations (ex-officio)	Dr Priya Ranjan Dash (Faculty)
8	Executive Member	Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968)
9	Executive Member	Sri Dharendra Kumar Das (1977)
10	Executive Member	Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy (1980)
11	Executive Member	Dr Rabi Narayan Subudhi (1984)
12	Executive Member	Dr Ranjan Kumar Sahoo (1988)
13	Executive Member	Sri Prachetash Priyotosh (1988)
14	Executive Member	Dr Sujata Priyambada Parida (1995)
15	Executive Member	Dr Prakash Kumar Tripathy (1999)

After declaring the list of newly elected Office Bearers and the Executive Members, Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President welcomed the members of the new body and cast his hope and confidence on them in carrying forward the achievements of USAA to a new height. He promised to provide all kinds of support to the newly elected body in discharging their responsibilities. It was decided that the newly elected body will take over charges soon in a mutually convenient manner.

In welcoming the newly elected body, the members of the General Body thanked the present body for the interest, initiative and the pains they had taken to organize the Alumni Body and bring it to the present shape during a span of two years only. They expressed that the newly elected body will work with further more vigor to carry forward the objectives of USAA.

Since the Bank accounts of the Association is being operated jointly by the Treasurer and any one of the President, the Vice-President and the General Secretary of USAA, appropriate follow up action need be taken based on this fresh election of office bearers.

IV. ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMM: (04:00 pm to 05:30 pm)

PG Part I and Part II students and selected Alumni Members had practiced and arranged some entertainment programmes for this meet under the guidance of Sri Prachetas Priyotosh (1988). They had played few nice and enjoyable programmes listed below during this session.

- An Odishi dance on the lyric “Satyam, Shivam, Sundaram” was performed by Ms Subhashree Das a PG Part I student which was quite amazing.
- A Duet on the song “Ye ratein, ye mausam, nadika kinara - Dil ka thug” was staged by Sri Prachetas Priyotosh (1988) and Ms Prajna Paramita Mohanty a PG Part I student. It was quite natural and enjoyable.
- A song “English album – Brother & Besabariya – M S Dhoni” was played where the PG Part I students Sri Sourav Padhee and Sr Soubhagya Ranjan Jena played Guitar and Sri Prachetas Priyotosh (1988) played the Key Board which was well enjoyed by the audience.
- A group dance on the lyric “Diwani Mastani – Biji Rao & Sun Sathiya” was staged by Ms Sangeeta Barik, Ms Rutuparna Mishra and other PG Part I students. The group dance was quite entertaining.
- Sri Utkal Keshari Mahapatra a PG Part II student sang the song “Kabhi alvida na kehna Chalthe Chalthe” along with instruments and it was quite appealing to the members.

- Duet Song on the lyric “E banara chhai – Gapa helebi sata” was played by PG Part I students Ms Diptimayee Panda and Sri Pranaya Ranjan Pradhan and the performance was no less than that of professional artists.
- Another Duet Song on the lyric “(Ei jhuma jhuma golapi belare – Abhilasha” was played by PG Part I students Ms Prajna Paramita Mohanty and Sri Pranaya Ranjan Pradhan which was quite natural and exciting.
- Sri Subrat Sahoo a PG Part I student performed a “Solo Dance (western style)” which was quite amazing and entertaining.
- Last but not the least, a Duet Song on the theme “Sagar kinare – Sagar” was staged by PG Part I students Ms Prajna Paramita Mohanty and Sri Kamalakanta Sahu. The Duet song was so appealing and exciting that many of the Alumni Members joined with them and enjoyed.
- Apart from the Instrumentalists, Sri Prachetas Priyotosh (1988), Sri Soubhagya Ranjan Jena and Sri Sourav Padhee of the PG Part I had supplemented playing of instruments throughout the programme.

V. SUMING UP and Vote of Thanks: (05:30 pm to 06:30 pm)

Dr Pradip Kumar Tripathy, President USAA appreciated the participation of members in good number and the interaction among them. The entertainment programmes were all attractive and colorful. Many Alumni expressed their satisfaction over organization of this meet, the activities performed, as well as the contribution of selected members for whom this Alumni Meet was a grand success.

In expressing his deep appreciation over the meet and the kind of suggestions given by them, he informed the house that some of Alumni Members could not attend this meet but they have sent their good will and good wishes to our alumni friends over mail. They have also sent some suggestions in absentia. Briefly, the suggestions received from the Alumni Members on this occasion as under;

- a. Alumni Body being the store house of experts in different field, their knowledge and experience will certainly useful for younger generation,
- b. Alumni Body may arrange more seminars and workshops inviting experts to popularize the subject and to provide insight to students.
- c. While USAA is conveying all messages to the Members through electronic media, the Members should also keep in touch among themselves through the USAA Website as also give their feedback. .
- d. Setting up of Training and Placement Cell in the Department is a need of the day.
- e. Department may interact with Corporate Sector and our students may specialize in areas of current interest so as to meet their demands.
- f. The date of the next Alumni Meet may be fixed sufficiently in advance so that the members can plan well in advance and the participation will increase.
- g. One of the suggestions was to fix the date of Alumni Meet on the Sunday next to second Saturday in January subject its suitability otherwise.

Vote of Thanks:

Dr Kunja Behari Panda, Working President, USAA and Head of the PG Department of Statistics expressed his satisfaction over the grand success of this Third Alumni Meet. This has been possible due to participation of Alumni in greater number, their proactive interaction as well as constructive suggestions given by them. Dr Panda extended his deep sense of gratitude and thanks to one and all

the Alumni present on the occasion as well as those who have conveyed their good wishes through mail.

Dr Panda further indicated that a set of dedicated Alumni Members and our students voluntarily came forward and distributed different activities of the meet among them starting from invitation of guests and participants, arrangement and practice of cultural programme, drafting and printing of reference materials, collection of funds, and the many. Had they not come forward voluntarily in a dedicated manner, it would not have been so successful as we enjoyed today. He extended his heartfelt thanks to one and all these organizers for their dedicated contribution.

Sri Prashetas Priyotosh, General Secretary I/c expressed his deep satisfaction and gratitude for the pains taken by different teams in performing their activities and programmes on this occasion starting from registration of Alumni to valediction of the meet in a smooth, timely and cordial manner. The registration team was quite polite, hospitable and punctual. Our artists had spent good deal of time in practicing their role in advance and their performances of cultural programmes were quite amusing and enjoyable. Decoration, light, sound and music arrangements were excellent. Tea, snacks and the lunch was not only of good quality and palatable but it was served timely. Stage arrangement and stage management was excellent. Photographs and videos of conspicuous occasions have been recorded which will remain as our memory for the future. Thanks to Ms Nandita Nandi our sixth year student who was single handedly anchoring all through the entire programme was quite lively which was beyond our imagination. This apart, lot many persons have extended their cooperation in organizing this meet. He acknowledged their contribution and extended his heartfelt thanks to one and all.

With this, the Alumni Meet was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bhubaneswar:
Dated: 29.01.2017

Sd/- P K Tripathy
PRESIDENT