



Minutes of the 8th (Eighth) Alumni Meet (General Body Meeting) of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) held on 29.01.2023 (Sunday).

The 8th (Eighth) Alumni Meet of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USSA) was held under the Chairmanship of Mr. Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President of the Association, in the PG Council Hall, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar, on 29.01.2023 (Sunday). Registration of participants started promptly at 09:30 AM, and each participant was provided with a set of reference materials, namely: (i) a copy of the program for the day, (ii) a copy of the Annual Activity Report of USSA for the year 2021-22, and (iii) a pad and pen, among other items.

The meet was organized in four (4) sessions: (i) Inaugural Session, (ii) Introduction of Members, (iii) Interactive Session, and (iv) Cultural Programme, with a lunch break in the middle.

I. INAUGURAL SESSION: (10:30 am to 11:30 am):

At the outset, Adyasha Pradhan and Tanisha Nanda, 2nd-year students, welcomed Dr. B. B. Nanda, Director, Economics and Statistics, Government of Odisha, as the Chief Guest of the day. They also welcomed President Mr. Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, Working President Prof. Priya Ranjan Dash, the senior-most alumnus Prof. Jitendriya Sarangi (Retired Professor), and Secretary Sri Anadi Charan Das to the dais and requested them to take their seats. Flower bouquets were presented to the honorable members on the dais by students of the Department after they had taken their seats.

Prof. Priyaranjan Dash delivered a very brief welcome address about the dignitaries on the dais as well as all the alumni members and requested the President and all other members to light the inaugural lamp. Accordingly, the honorable President lit the lamp amidst the Chief Guest and all other members present on the occasion. After the lighting of the lamp and the dignitaries occupying their seats, the Utkal University Theme Song was played in a pin-drop silent atmosphere. Following the University Theme Song, an opening song was performed by a group of 1st and 2nd-year students.

Prof. Dash introduced the dignitaries on the dais and welcomed them to the august occasion. Before the formal business of the Meet, Prof. Dash expressed his grief that it has come to the knowledge of USAA that as many as 04 Alumni Members have passed away in between the Seventh and Eighth Meet. They are Bishnu Charan Dash (1982), Biswanath Tripathy (1978), Gopabandhu Rath (1980), and Durgesh Nandini Roy (1974). At this moment, all the members stood up and observed a moment of silence in remembrance of the departed souls.

Upon Prof. Dash's request, Mr. Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President of USAA, initiated the business of the meeting and solicited valuable contributions from among the alumni members to give new dimensions to the Alumni Body. He also emphasized that for our Alumni Meet to be meaningful, aside from reuniting with old friends, we should share our experiences, expertise, and provide constructive suggestions to carry on the activities of USAA in a meaningful manner, which will enrich the subject and benefit our students.

On the request of the President, Sri Anadi Charan Das, General Secretary, read out the Annual Reports of the Association for the year ending 2021-22, for the information of esteemed members. He provided a detailed account of the various activities carried out by the USAA during the past year, the current status, and the future steps to be taken, as reflected in the Annual Activity Report 2021-22, which had been circulated among the members in the meeting.

In presenting the financial position of the USAA for the year 2021-22, the opening balance at the beginning of the year stood at Rs. 2,19,083.00 (comprising cash: Rs. 8,550.00, Bank: Rs. 1,10,533.00, and FD: Rs. 100,000.00). During this year, other receipts totaling Rs. 6,10,942.00 were received, resulting in a total receipt of Rs. 8,30,025.26. These other receipts included member registration fees, contributions, donations, the Corpus Fund, and bank interest, among others. In contrast, the total expenditure during the year amounted to Rs. 90,500.00, which encompassed expenses related to the Seventh Alumni Meet, prize distribution, and various contingent expenses. Consequently, the closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 7,39,525.26, comprising Rs. 25,750.00 in cash, Rs. 6,13,775.26 in the bank, and Rs. 100,000.00 as a fixed deposit. The accounts for the year 2021-22 have already been audited. With this, he sought the considered opinions and valuable suggestions of esteemed members to enhance the functioning of the USAA in the future.

(i) Distribution of Prize:

At the request of Dr. Prafulla Kumar Swain, Dr. B B Nanda, the Chief Guest, Mr. R K Mohanty, President of USAA, and other dignitaries on the dais distributed cash prizes as well as certificates of merit to the graduating students of 2022, as well as to students currently pursuing their studies for the MA / MSc Examination for 2023 and 2024, in the presence of these dignitaries. The details of the prizes and the prize winners are as follows:

Category / SI	Award / Rank	Name & Address of Awardees	Amount (in Rs)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A	Highest Marks in M A / M Sc in Statistics from Utkal University:		
1	1	Ms Khushi Agrawal, for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics during 2022 from Utkal University.	5,000/-
		Total (A)	5,000/-
B	Shridhar Panda Memorial Award: 2022		
3	1	Sri Sambit Kumar Jena for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the boys in 2022.	5,000/-
		Total (B)	5,000/-
C	Kokila Devi Memorial Award: 2022		
3	1	Ms Khushi Agrawal for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the girls in 2022.	5,000/-
		Total (C)	5,000/-
D	Badal Chatterjee Memorial Award: 2023		
4	1	Sri Sambit Kumar Jena, 2022 Batch for securing the highest marks in 3 rd and 4 th Semester in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.	8,000/-
5	2	Ms Anusha Choudhury, 2023 Batch for securing the highest marks in 1 st and 2 nd Semester in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.	8,000/-
		Total (D)	16,000/-
E	Statistics Olympiad: 2022		
6	1 st	Preetam Meher, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	5,000/-
7	2 nd	Ronak Rajbir Pradhan, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	3,000/-

Category / SI	Award / Rank	Name & Address of Awardees	Amount (in Rs)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
8	3 rd (Jointly)	Surabhi Meher, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	2,000/-
9	3 rd (Jointly)	Priyanka Panda, Marshaghai Higher Secondary School, Kendrapada	2,000/-
		Total (E)	
F	Debate Competition: 2022-23		
10	1 st	Ms Tanisha Nanda, 2 nd yr student in 2021-23	1,000/-
11	2 nd	Ms Palavalasa Rajita, 2 nd yr student in 2021-23	750/-
12	3 rd	Ms Adyasha Pradhan, 2 nd yr student in 2021-23	500/-
		Total (F)	2,250/-
G	Rangoli Competition: 2022-23		
13	1 st (Jointly)	Ms Mitanjali Rout, 2 nd yr & Ms Suchismita Pradhan, 2 nd yr	1,000/-
14	2 nd (Jointly)	Ms Satabdhi Palai, 2 nd yr & Ms Bhagyashree Satapathy, 1 st yr	750/-
15	3 rd (Jointly)	Sri Dayanidhi Hembra, 2 nd yr & Ms Laxmipriya Sethi, 2 nd yr	500/-
		Total (G)	2,250/-
H	Quiz Competition: 2022-23		
16	1 st	Smrutisudha Rath, 1 st yr	1,000/-
17	2 nd (Jointly)	Sudepta Pal, 2 nd yr	750/-
18	2 nd (Jointly)	Satyajit Swain, 1 st yr	750/-
19	3 rd (Jointly)	Preeti Pallavi, 1 st yr	500/-
20	3 rd (Jointly)	Sheetal Mohanty, 1 st yr	500/-
		Total (H)	3,500/-
I	Badminton (Men-Doubles): 2022-23		
21	Champion	Somanath Sahoo, 1 st yr & Dayanidhi Hembram, 2 nd yr	1,000/-
22	Runners-up	Gangadhar Prusti, 1 st yr & Kirti Ch Dehuri, 2 nd yr	750/-
		Total (I)	1,750/-
J	Badminton (Women-Single): 2022-23		
23	Champion	Adyasha Pradhan, 2 nd yr	1,000/-
24	Runners-up	Anusha Choudhury, 2 nd yr	750/-
		Total (J)	1,750/-
		Grand Total (A+B+C+D+E+F+G+H+I+J)	54,500/-

- (ii) The Chief Guest, Dr. B. B. Nanda, Director, Economics and Statistics, Government of Odisha, in his address to the gathering, expressed his appreciation for the versatility of statistical tools in various fields, including administration, research, industry, as well as planning and implementation of programs across different development sectors. He also discussed career prospects for Statistics students, particularly in the government sector, and advised students to prepare diligently for upcoming vacancies in the state government, especially for Assistant Director and Statistical Officer examinations.
- (iii) In his inaugural address, Mr. Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President of USAA, extended a warm and hearty welcome to all the members present on that day. He urged all members of the association to contribute generously for its improvement. He also expressed his concern about the status of our subject in various colleges and universities. Mr. Mohanty encouraged everyone to come together and reconnect with more of our old members in the days to come. With these words, the President called for meaningful deliberations during the meeting.

- (iv) Mr. Rakesh Behera, a faculty member, expressed his appreciation for the views and concerns articulated by Dr. B. B. Nanda, the Chief Guest. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr. Nanda for taking the time to join the meeting despite his busy schedule. Mr. Behera conveyed deep admiration for the role played by Mr. R. K. Mohanty as the President. His timely advice and guidance were praiseworthy, and he extended his gratitude to Mr. Mohanty, the President. Sri Anadi Charan Das, the General Secretary, not only displayed dedication but also punctuality in performing his duties. Mr. Behera extended profuse thanks to Sri Das. The support of Prof. Sarangi, the senior-most alumnus, in elevating USAA to its current stature is commendable, and Mr. Behera extended his heartfelt thanks to him. Mr. Behera also expressed his sincere appreciation for Dr. P. K. Swain, our faculty member and the Treasurer of USAA, who diligently handled all arrangements for this meeting, often working behind the scenes. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr. Swain. Many of our Alumni members, our students, and the faculty members have put in tireless efforts for this meet, including planning, organizing various activities, inviting Guests, and arranging the venue and food, among other tasks. Mr. Behera expressed his heartfelt thanks to all those involved in the process. With this, the inaugural session concluded with a tea gathering.

II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS: (11:30 am to 12:00 noon)

A total of 100 Alumni Members spanning various batches attended this meet this time. They were eagerly looking forward to reconnecting with their old friends, teachers, and engaging in conversations with both familiar faces and new acquaintances. To ensure that introductions by each and every member did not consume too much time, a streamlined approach was adopted. Specifically, members who were attending this meet for the first time were invited to the dais, where they introduced themselves and interacted with the audience. Approximately 30 Alumni Members, hailing from different batches, were identified as first-time attendees during this session.

While this initial session was dedicated to self-introductions, the afternoon session was reserved for fostering interactions among the members.

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

III. INTERACTIVE SESSION: (02:30 pm to 04:30 pm)

During this session, all the alumni members present at this occasion were given the opportunity to express their views and opinions about the activities of USAA, as well as to offer their suggestions for better functioning. A significant number of members actively participated in this session, including Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968), Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty (1969), Dr. Sisir Kumar Nayak (1983), Sri Prachetas Priyotosh (1988), Dr. Sanjit Kumar Swain (1993), and others. Several important points emerged during their discussions:

- Alumni members who are teaching in undergraduate colleges should encourage students to choose Statistics as one of their subjects.
- Concerns were raised about limited job prospects for Statistics students, especially regarding entry to Class-II posts in the State Directorate of Economics and Statistics, as the examination syllabus contains a significant amount of Economics. Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty (1968) proposed that USAA should take up this matter with the Government and advocate for

subject-specific entry posts.

- Dr. Gopabandhu Mishra (1975) suggested organizing more experience-sharing seminars for students, inviting old Alumni Members from various applied fields. This would help broaden their knowledge and boost their confidence.
- Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968) informed the members that despite the smaller gathering this year due to obvious reasons, arrangements were made to enable many members who couldn't attend the Meet physically to participate virtually and view the proceedings of our live meeting. The positive feedback received encourages us to further enhance this aspect in the future.

IV. CULTURAL PROGRAMM: (04:30 pm to 06:00 pm)

Similar to last year, the first-year and second-year students of the PG Department of Statistics, along with a few alumni members, organized exciting cultural programs. The event was hosted by Satabdi Palai and Aslesh Mohanty, both second-year students.

- ❖ The program began with a lively and highly entertaining Sambalpuri Group Dance performed by Kirti, Somnath, and Suraj.
- ❖ Adyasha Pradhan and Somanath, first-year students, presented a Modern Group Dance that captivated and amused the audience, earning commendation.
- ❖ A Solo Dance performance by Palavalasa Rajita, a second-year student, and Gangadhar, a first-year student, delighted the audience and met their satisfaction.
- ❖ Tanisha Nanda and Bhagyashree Satapathy jointly performed a lively and entertaining Solo Singing act.
- ❖ A fantastic Solo Dance was performed by Alka and Chinmayee, both second-year students, and it left the audience highly satisfied.
- ❖ Subhasmita and Tanisha staged a Group Song that not only proved enjoyable but also saw active participation from our alumni Members in large numbers.

Vote of Thanks:

Dr. Prafulla Kumar Swain, the Treasurer, expressed his profound satisfaction with the resounding success of the Eighth Alumni Meet. He attributed this success to the enthusiastic participation of a substantial number of Alumni Members and their meaningful interactions and suggestions. Dr. Swain extended his heartfelt gratitude and thanks to all the Alumni Members who were present on the occasion.

Dr. Swain also highlighted the significant contribution of our students who willingly took on various responsibilities for different activities of the meet. This included tasks such as inviting participants, organizing and rehearsing cultural performances, registering participants, hosting the event, arranging food and

snacks, and much more. He emphasized the remarkable cooperation of the non-teaching staff of the Department, noting that their voluntary dedication was instrumental in the meet's success. Dr. Swain extended his sincere thanks to each and every one of them.

With these acknowledgments, the Alumni Meet concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bhubaneswar:

Dated: 29.01 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Rabindra Kumar Mohanty', written in a cursive style.

(Rabindra Kumar Mohanty)
P R E S I D E N T