



Minutes of the 9th (Ninth) Alumni Meet (General Body Meeting) of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) held on 11.02.2024 (Sunday).

The 9th (Ninth) Alumni Meet of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) was held under the Chairmanship of Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President of the Association, in the PG Department of Statistics, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar on 11.02.2024 (Sunday). Registration of participants started sharp at 09:30 am and each participant was given a set of reference materials i.e. (i) a copy of the programme for the day, (ii) a copy of the Annual Activity Report of USAA for the year 2022-23, and (iii) a pad, pen etc.

The meet was organised in 5 (five) sessions i.e. (i) Inaugural Session, (ii) Introduction of Members, (iii) Election to the Fifth Executive Committee of USAA, (iv) 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, Ms Khushi Agrawal our Alumni Member of 2022 welcomed to the Dias Prof Minati Mishra, an Alumni of 1969 has her vast experience and expertise in Operations Research, Quantitative Analysis, Financial Analysis and occupied high positions in National and International spheres as Chief Guest of the day. She also welcomed the senior most Alumni Member present on the day Sri M Bhaskar Rao (1961) as the Guest of Honor. Then she welcomed our President Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, the Working President Dr Priya Ranjan Dash, and the Secretary Sri Anadi Charan Das to the Dias and requested to them to please take their seats. Flower bouquets were presented to hon'ble dignitaries on the Dias by students of the Department after they had taken their seats.

Dr Priya Ranjan Dash gave a very brief welcome address about the dignitaries on the Dias as well as all the alumni members and requested the President and all other members to light the inaugural lamp. Accordingly, hon'ble President lighted the lamp amidst the Chief Guest as well as all other members present on the occasion. After lighting of lamp and the dignitaries occupied their seats, the Utkal University Theme Song was played in a pin drop silence atmosphere. After the University Theme Song, an opening song was also staged by a group of 1st and 2nd year students.

Prof Priya Ranjan Dash introduced the dignitaries on the Dias and welcomed them to the august occasion. Before formal business of the Meet, Prof Dash expressed in grief that it has come to the knowledge of USAA that one of our senior Alumni Member Dr Mukul Kumar Bal (1964) and the former Section Officer of the Department of Statistics Sri Radhashyama Choudhury have left for Heavenly Abode in between the Eighth and the Ninth Alumni Meet. At this, all the Members stood up and observed a token of condolence for the departed souls silently.

On the request of Dr P R Dash, Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President USAA initiated the business of the meeting and solicited valued contributions from among the alumni members so as to give new dimensions to the Alumni Body. He also expressed that our Alumni Meet to be meaningful, apart from meeting our old friends, we should share our experience, expertise and give constructive suggestions to carry on the activities of USAA in a meaningful manner which will help enriching the subject and our students will get the benefit.

- (i) On the request of the President, Sri Anadi Charan Das, General Secretary, USAA read out the Annual Reports of the Association for the year ending 2022-23 for information of esteemed members. 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 which was reflected in the Annual Activity Report 2022-23 that had been circulated among the members in the meeting.

In giving the receipt and expenditure position of USAA for the years 2022-23, he stated that the opening balance at the beginning of the year was Rs.7,39,525.26 (cash: Rs.25,750.00, Bank: Rs.6,13,775.26 and FD: Rs.1,00,000.00). During the year, other receipts worth Rs.2,00,010.00 aggregated to a total receipt of Rs.9,39,535.26. Other receipts included member registration fees, contribution, donation, corpus fund and bank interest. As against the total receipt, the expenditure during the year was of the order of Rs.1,33,080.00 that included expenditures on Eighth Alumni Meet, distribution of prizes, and other office expenses. The closing balance at the end of these years was Rs.8,06,455.26 that includes Rs.38,360.00 (in cash), Rs.1,68,095.26 (in bank) and Rs.6,00,000.00 (fixed deposit). The accounts for the years 2022-23 have since been audited.

With this, he solicited considered opinion and valued suggestions of esteemed members for better functioning of USAA in future.

- (ii) **Distribution of Prize:** On the request of Prof Priya Ranjan Dash, Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President USAA distributed cash prize as well as certificates of merit to students of the Department and rank holders in the Statistics Olympiad 2023. The details of cash prizes awarded on the occasion is as under.

Category / SI	Award / Rank	Name & Address of Awardees	Amount (in Rs)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
A	Shridhar Panda Memorial Award: 2023		
1	1	Sri Bighneswar Barik for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the boys in 2023.	5,000/-
		Total (A)	5,000/-
B	Kokila Devi Memorial Award: 2022		
2	1	Ms Anusha Chaudhury for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the girls in 2023.	5,000/-
		Total (B)	5,000/-
C	Badal Chatterjee Memorial Award: 2024		
3	1	Ms Anusha Choudhury, 2023 Batch for securing the highest marks in 3 rd and 4 th Semesters in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.	7,500/-
4	2	Ms Smruti Sudha Rath, 2024 Batch for securing the highest marks in 1 st and 2 nd Semesters in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.	7,500/-
		Total (C)	15,000/-
D	Statistics Olympiad: 2023		
5	1 st	Sri Subhranshu Sutar, BJB, Higher Secondary School, Bhubaneswar.	5,000/-
6	2 nd	Ms Soumya Priyadarsini Singh, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	3,000/-
7	3 rd (Jointly)	Sri Siddhi Jain, G M Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	2,000/-
8	3 rd (Jointly)	Sri Pawan Kalyan Mishra, Vikram Dev Higher Secondary School, Jeypore.	2,000/-
9	3 rd (Jointly)	Sri Khusbu Agrawal, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.	2000/-
		Total (D)	14,000/-
		Grand Total (A+B+C+D)	39,000/-

(Rupees thirty-nine thousand only)

- (iii) The Department had conducted Debate, Quiz and Rangoli Competitions among students of the Department during the year 2023-24. Merit Certificates were issued to following 1st, 2nd and 3rd rank holders in this Meet.

Category	Rank	Certificates issued to
(1)	(2)	(3)
A	Debate Competition 2023-24:	
	First	Sri Satyajit Swain, 2 nd year
	Second	Sri Binaya Kumar Pradhan, 2 nd year
	Third	Ms Preeti Pallabi, 2 nd year
B	Quiz Competition 2023-24:	
	First	Sri Basudev Bharadwaj, 2 nd year
	Second	Ms Sheetal Mohanty, 2 nd year
	Third	Sri Satyajit Swain, 2 nd year
C	Rangoli Competition 2023-24:	
	First	Ms Bhagyashree Satapathy, 2 nd year & Ms Chinmayee Behera, 2 nd year (jointly)
	Second	Sri Binaya Kumar Pradhan, 2 nd year & Sri Gangadhar Prusty, 2 nd year (jointly)
	Third	Ms Swayamprava Parida, 1 st year & Ms Jyotswini Nayak, 1 st year (jointly)

- (iv) The Chief Guest Dr Minati Mishra in her address highlighted that application of Statistics is very vast and not confined to sectors like agriculture, health, industry, fishery and etc. Its applicability is not only vast but enormous. It has its application in all sectors and subsectors of development as also in decision making, administration, law and order, defence, national and international business and policy making. We need not confine ourselves to Government jobs only. Our class room teaching is not sufficient for wide range of exposure and expertise. For better future, we need further more training and exposure at national and international levels. Once we enhance our ability and capability, better placement will not be a dream. In giving her own example, after doing her Master's Degree from this institution, she served here as a faculty for some time. Then she did her work in the field of Quantitative Analysis and Operations Research and did her Ph D Degree from the Stern School of Business, New York. After seven years of academia, she entered into the Business World for three years at American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T) as a member of their Business Research Group followed by two years with American Express in charge of Credit Card Risk Management. She then joined the International Finance Corporation (IFC). She was the first woman to have Chaired the Annual Webster's MTN Conference on Achievement demonstrating her recognition within the dealing community. Further, she stated that she was one of the top 50 Women in Finance in the World. In addition, she had occupied various national and international positions in her life time. Presently she is the Co-founder and Treasurer in Panchee Foundation since 2019. In saying so, she urged upon the students to do their best in order see a better horizon in their life. With this, she wished better future for the student alumni and the Alumni Meet a Grand Success.
- (v) Before giving his inaugural address, Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President, USAA extended a hearty and warm welcome to the dignitaries on the Dais as well as to the august audience of Alumni Members. He recollected his past days in the Department and compared the facilities

and environmental opportunities available in the past and present. There has been a tragic change and the present day atmosphere is more conducive for better exposure and better learning. Employment opportunities are not confined to public sector today as in the past. If there is mind, sky is the limit for educational achievement and skill development as also for employment opportunities. He advised the students never to dream only but to do hard labour to make their dreams a reality. He expressed that as a result of USAA something has been done for the cause of Statistics and the Statisticians. But something more could be done in that regard. He appreciated the views expressed by the Chief Guest. He cited the example of Henry Ford, the Head of the Ford Company, who was always saying vision without execution is just only hallucination. Thomas Jefferson, the third President of USA who was always saying "Knowledge is Power", "Knowledge is Happiness" and "Knowledge is Safety". We should learn from them. Lot many things can be done further more if we join our hands and do our best. With these words, the President urged for meaningful deliberations in the meeting.

- (vi) Sri M Bhaskar Rao (1961), the senior most Alumni Member present on the occasion and the Guest of Honour of the day in addressing the dignitaries on the Dais as well as the audience, started his speech with a Saraswati Bandana, "Yakundendu tusar hara dhabala " and expressed that this Department is as good as "Maa Saraswati". We all are her children and we have to pay respect to our Mother Saraswati. The only way to pay respect to Maa Saraswati is to read hard, do a better career and to help each other to prosper together and keep up the prestige of the Department. With these words, he wished best of all to all the members present on the occasion.
- (vii) Prof P R Dash, the Working president, appreciated the views and concern expressed by Dr Minati Mishra, the Chief Guest. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr Mishra who joined the meet despite her busy schedule. Prof Das highly appreciated the comparison of the Department with "Maa Saraswati" by the Guest of Honour. His advice and guidance to our students and the alumni community as a whole are praise worthy. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Sr M Bhaskar Rao, the Guest of Honour. Prof Dash expressed deep appreciation for the role played by Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, as the President. His timely advice and guidance were praise worthy. He extended his thanks to Sri Mohanty the President. Sri Anadi Charan Das, General Secretary was not only dedicated but very punctual to his duties. He extended profuse thanks to Sri Das. Dr P K Swain our faculty and the Treasurer, USAA and Dr Rakesh Behera , the Faculty Alumni Relations have been looking to all arrangements of this meet sincerely and silently. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr Swain and Dr Behera. Many of our Alumni members and our students had been working day and night for this meet starting from planning, arrangement of different activities including invitation of Guests as well as invitation of Alumni Members, arrangement of venue, food and the many. Prof Dash extended his heartfelt thanks to one and all those involved in the process. With this, the inaugural session was concluded over a cup of tea.

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

This session was Chaired by Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968). On many an occasion, our Alumni Members though eager to attend this Meet are not able to do so because of their distant place of work. To obviate this situation, this time, facilities to attend virtually for members not able to attend physically were arranged and as many as 20 members attended this meet virtually. The physical and virtual attendance taken together was slightly more than 120 of whom around 20 had attended this Meet for the first time. Due to paucity of time, individual introduction was time consuming. To obviate the situation, as per the request of Chairman, each batch of alumni members gave their introduction and the suggestions together. The members were given opportunities to offer their

consider opinion and suggestions to carry forward the activities of USAA. Due to time constraints, further interaction among the members was also taken up in the afternoon session.

III. ELECTION OF OFFICE BEARERS: (12:00 noon to 01:30 pm)

The composition of Elected Members of the Executive Committee of USAA is as under.

(i)	President		1 (one)
(ii)	Vice-President		1 (one)
(iii)	General Secretary		1 (one)
(iv)	Joint Secretary		1 (one)
(v)	Treasurer		1 (one)
(vi)	Elected Executive Members		8 (eight)
	Total		13

The term of office of an Executive Committee is normally 2 (two) years. The Fourth Executive Committee was formed in the Seventh General Body Meeting on 19.12.2021 (Sunday). For this, it was expedient to hold a fresh election for the Fifth Executive Committee in the present Ninth General Body Meeting. This being the position, the President, on the advice of the Executive Committee, appointed Sri Haramohan Routray (1976) present in the meeting to act as the Returning Officer and requested him to conduct the election.

Having been appointed as the Returning Officer, Sri Haramohan Routray (1976), conducted a fresh election to different position of Office Bearers and Executive Members for the Fifth 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.

The President USAA accepted the results of election and declared the complete composition of the Fifth Executive Committee for information of the General Body as under.

Composition of the Newly Formed Fifth Executive Committee (11.02.2024)

SI	Position	Name
(1)	(2)	(3)
1	President	Dr Gopabandhu Mishra (1975)
2	Working President (Ex-officio)	Dr Priya Ranjan Dash (HoD)
3	Vice-President	Sri Pravat Kumar Sarangi (1984)
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 Rakesh Behera (Faculty)
8	Executive Member	Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968)
9	Executive Member	Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty (1969)
10	Executive Member	Sri Biswanath Sahoo (1977)
11	Executive Member	Sri Subash Chandra Rath (1979)
12	Executive Member	Sri Anadi Charan Das (1983)
13	Executive Member	Dr Niranjana Mishra (1983)
14	Executive Member	Dr Prakash Kumar Tripathy (1999)
15	Executive Member	Sri Kirtiman Gopanayak

SI	Position	Name
(1)	(2)	(3)
16	Secretary (Seminar)	Special Invitee
17	Asst Secretary (Seminar)	Special Invitee

After declaring the composition of the Fifth Executive Committee, Sri Rabindra Kumar Mohanty, President welcomed the members of the new body and cast his hope and confidence on them in carrying forward the activities 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.

While welcoming the newly elected Executive Body, the members of the General Body thanked the outgoing Executive Body for the interest, initiative and the pains they had taken to organize the Alumni Body and bringing it to the present shape. They cast their confidence 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 operating 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 by the new body based on this fresh election.

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

IV. INTERACTIVE SESSION: (02:30 pm to 04:00 pm)

During this session, all the alumni members were given opportunity to express their views and opinion about the activities of USAA as also offer their suggestions for its better functioning. A good number of members spoke on this session.

Few points that emerged during their deliberations were of the following nature:-

- ❖ The President informed the Members that on his request each Member of the Executive Committee is contributing Rs.100/- (rupee one hundred) per month regularly to USAA fund. He appealed the Alumni Members to contribute Rs 100/- to USAA fund per month in a similar way so that USAA can carry out some meaningful activities for the cause of Statistics and Statisticians.
- ❖ Alumni Members wanted the Bank Account details of USAA so that desirous members can transfer funds to USAA online as and when necessary. For information of the Members, USAA had a Savings Bank Account in the Utkal University Branch of Syndicate Bank. The Syndicate Bank has since been merged with Canara Bank. The present Savings Bank Account Number is (No.80162210016681) with IFSC (CNRB0018016) in Canara Bank, Utkal University Branch, Bhubaneswar.
- ❖ Experience sharing Workshops and Seminars may be organised in the Department by inviting Alumni Members having their experience and expertise in different fields relating to Statistics so that students will benefit out of that.
- ❖ Physical attendance of the Alumni Members in the Alumni Meet is most desirable. If at all, a member is unable to do so because of certain constraints, he should be given opportunity to attend virtually. Arrangements for virtual participation was made available during this year in this Meet and it was successful. It was suggested that the virtual meeting should be arranged in a better manner from the next time so that it will be interactive and enjoying.

- ❖ All the members were informed that apart from this Meet, Alumni Members can give their suggestions to USAA for its better functioning at any time through the email ID of USAA (usaa.uuvv@gmail.com).

V. CULTURAL PROGRAM: (04:00 pm to 05:30 pm)

Similar to previous occasions, the first year and second year students of the PG Department of Statistics as well as some old alumni members had arranged exciting cultural program.

- ❖ In the beginning, Ms Bhagyashree Satapathy a 2nd year student sang a Welcome Song entitled “Ek Radha Ek Meera” followed by a “Rap Song” staged by Sri Gopinath Panda a 2nd year student which were quite lively and most enjoying.
- ❖ Ms Binita Rani Gochhayat a 1st year student played a Odishi Dance through a “Mangala Charana” that amused the audience.
- ❖ A 1st year student Ms Jhukta Jyoti Mayee Panda staged a play on “Beware Alcohol” which was most lively mind blowing.
- ❖ A Solo Dance was staged by Sri Tapas Ranjan Parhi on the theme “Bol Doh na Zara) that was to the most satisfaction of the audience.
- ❖ A Group Dance on the Theme “Tip Tip Barsa Pani” was staged by the 1st year Students and another Group Dance by the 1st year Students on the Theme “ Barsho Re Megha Megha” which were quite lively and entertaining.
- ❖ As a concluding event, a “Duet Dance” was staged by two 2nd year students Ms Pragyan Priyadarshini Sahu and Ms Manaswini Mishra on the Theme “Dulhan Banami” which was quite enjoyable.

Vote of Thanks:

Dr Prafulla Chandra Swain (Treasurer) expressed his deepest satisfaction over the grand success of this Ninth Alumni Meet. This has been possible due to participation of Alumni Members in good number and their meaningful interaction and suggestions. He extended his gratitude and thanks to one and all the Alumni Members present on the occasion.

Dr Swain further indicated that our students voluntarily came forward and distributed different activities of the meet among themselves starting from invitation of participants, arrangements and practice of cultural programmes, registration of participants, anchoring, arrangement of food and snacks and the many. The cooperation of non-teaching staff of the Department is worth mentioning. Had they not come forward voluntarily in a dedicated manner, the meet would not have been as successful as we have seen today. He extended profuse thanks to one and all of them.

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

Bhubaneswar:

Dated: 11.02.2024



(Rabindra Kumar Mohanty)

PRESIDENT