

Extracts of the 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2006

**ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE VISION AND MISSION OF THE NATIONAL CENTRE FOR INNOVATION IN DISTANCE EDUCATION (NCIDE).**

**AC 35.3.1** Prof. S.C.Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor informed that the National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE) was approved as part of Xth Plan proposals in October, 2004. The Centre came into existence in December, 2005 and has been established to provide the platform to promote, develop and pilot innovations in all aspects of ODL systems. It is expected to become a resource centre to help all participants in the ODL system to try out and test innovative ideas for improving efficiency and learner related effectiveness, quality assurance and cost efficiencies in the system. Functioning as a research and prototype development centre, it is expected to provide intellectual, human and technical support to conduct the concept development of new ideas, pilot test innovative applications in all aspects of ODL functions and make the successful applications available to all interested stakeholders within the ODL system, to promote innovations in Distance Education within IGNOU for re-engineering and sustaining the system to provide framework and guidelines for standardization and total quality management of all the facets of the ODL, to provide ICT enabled automotive flexible learner support service system and search for new innovative solutions towards the University's mission of seamless education, cost efficiency and borderless access to quality education through application of technology.

**AC 35.3.2** During the discussion, one of the members expressed apprehensions about some commonality between the objectives of NCIDE and STRIDE.

Prof. Kuldeep Mathur appreciated the establishment of the Centre and hoped that it would provide facility for documentation of innovations in ODL system. The members were informed that Director (NCIDE) has already sent a communication to all concerned in this regard. Director, Regional Services desired that innovation in ODL system done at Regional Centres should also be brought within the purview of the NCIDE. Director (SOE) appreciated the establishment of the Centre and desired that work related to innovations in teacher education through ODL system may also be taken up by the Centre.

The Chairman welcomed the suggestions and hoped that the Centre shall strive to accommodate the advice and concern of the members to promote innovations which should not be jacketed. The Council appreciated the special emphasis and focus being given to innovations in a wider perspective and accordingly resolved that different units of the University should work cohesively to promote innovation with NCIDE playing a central role.

**AC 35.3.3** The Academic Council considered and approved the Vision and Mission document (**Appendix-4**) of the National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education with the specific direction that suggestions be incorporated.

## **Mission Statement**

To foster the spirit of innovation in the organization and provide the platform for testing, implementation and application of innovations, in constant search of solutions for progressively higher effectiveness, quality and reach of the ODL System.

## **Vision**

The centre in collaboration with the peers in ODL System envisions itself as

- an R and D Centre for the University, for attracting, testing and implementing innovative ideas for all aspects of
  - programme design development and delivery
  - system management and system evolution
  - cost economics
  - new product/service introduction
- an agency for feed forward action research in ODL
- a prototype development and testing centre for innovation solutions in ODL systems
- an incubator and support centre to provide intellectual guidance and support for new projects
- a dynamic repository of innovative ideas practices developed and applied anywhere in the ODL system
- a platform for academic interactions through discussions, seminars and/or colloquium in quest and evaluation of possible outcomes of new ideas

The objectives of the centre are

- ❖ To promote innovations in distance education through collaborations within IGNOU and other institutes in India and abroad for reengineering and sustaining the open and distance learning system.
- ❖ To provide intellectual support for application-based research contributing to the overall growth and development of open and distance learning systems.

- ❖ To provide framework and guideline documents of the standardization and total quality management of all the facets of the open and distance learning systems.
- ❖ To provide ICT enabled automated flexible learner support service system.
- ❖ To search for new innovative solutions towards the University's mission of seamless education, cost-efficiency and borderless access to quality education through application of technology.

### **Activities**

The activities of the centre include but are not limited to:

#### **DISTANCE EDUCATION INCUBATOR**

The NCIDE proposes to establish the Distance Education Incubator (DEI) as part of its innovative efforts to provide financial, technological and intellectual assistance at the earliest stages of innovative ideas, which can be converted into innovative practices and techniques leading to the overall development and growth of the ODL systems. In its initial stages, the DEI has planned to develop a network of innovative individuals, institutes, and industry dedicated to research and development on ODL systems to provide cost-effective, anytime, anywhere distance education for all. The broad areas of research and development as identified by DEI are as follows:

- Total Quality Management of programmes (quality indicators, quality assurance and benchmarking, etc.)
- ICT applications (University management system, e-learning components, ICT-enabled services, such as courseware and other information on mobile, development of manuals for effective use of EDUSAT and upcoming technologies, online and on-demand admission and examinations etc.)
- Development of guidelines, mechanism and modalities for convergence of different systems of education for seamless access (ICT-enabled student support system, credit transfer, choice based learning etc.)
- Human-computer interaction
- Multimedia technology and networking
- Developing improved and innovative strategies for learner oriented distance education services

## **PILOTING INNOVATIVE PROGRAMMES**

This is a unique effort taken by the Centre to develop innovative programmes on Build-Operate-Transfer (DIP-BOT) mechanism, which broadly includes:

- Development and training of vocational programmes, including skill development and demand driven programmes
- Training for the deprived and weaker sections of the society (MCA, MBA, General Management, Medical, Engineering etc). using EDUSAT and other media.

## **DOCUMENTATION CELL**

The Cell will document innovative policies and practices on innovations in ODL system in India and abroad. It will also document guidelines, reports, manuals, handbooks etc., on credit transfer, accreditation, system management, working/functioning of system, course structure, admission and evaluation, student support services, training packages and others. The cell will act as a repository and facilitate easy reference by scholars and policy makers.

## **STRATEGIC INNOVATIONS**

The following innovative strategies for overall growth and advancement of the ODL systems will be developed at the Centre:

- Idea management (at the time of innovation)
- Knowledge management (after innovation)
- Documentation for institutional adaptation

## IGNOU

### MINUTES OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON JUNE 22, 2006 AT 4.30 P.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK NO. 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068

The following were present:

- |  |             |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Prof. H.P.Dikshit, Vice-Chancellor  | - Chairman  |
| 2. Prof. S.C.Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor | - Member    |
| 3. Shri Pawan Chopra                   | - Member    |
| 4. Prof. C.L.Anand                     | - Member    |
| 5. Dr. K.Vishwanathan                  | - Member    |
| 6. Prof. Pardeep Sahni                 | - Member    |
| 7. Shri V.K. Arora                     | - Member    |
| 8. Smt. Poonam Bhushan                 | - Member    |
| 9. Shri Dalip Kumar Tetri, Registrar   | - Secretary |

Shri Sudeep Banerjee, Secretary (S&HE), MHRD, Shri S.K.Arora, Secretary, Ministry of I & B, Prof. Y.K. Alagh, Dr. N.S. Ramegowda, Shri Rajendra Singh Pawar, Dr. Devi Shetty and Prof. (Mrs.) Surabhi Banerjee could not attend the meeting.

Prof. B.S. Saraswat, Director, Academic Co-ordination Division and Shri R. Chauhan, Finance Officer attended the meeting as special invitees.

Shri T.K. Kaul, Deputy Registrar (VCO) and Shri R.P.D. Singh, Assistant Registrar (Governance) were present to assist the Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the 87<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Management and requested Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor to present the items on the agenda, which he did as under:

Meeting were considered by the Standing Committee of the Academic Council which recommended abolition of assignments in all the undergraduate diploma programmes of one year duration also with effect from July, 2006 admission cycle of the University. The Standing Committee further decided that there would be only one assignment for each course in all other programmes. As a sequel to the above decision necessary changes in the Ordinance were placed before the Academic Council at its 35<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 15-05-2006. The Academic Council approved the proposed amendments to Sub-Clauses (1), (2) and (3) of Clause (2) of the Ordinance 9 on Conduct of Examinations, etc.

**BM 87.6.3** The Board considered the amendments made by the Academic Council to Ordinance 9 on Conduct of Examinations and Evaluation of Student's Performance and approved the amendments in terms of provisions under Section 26(1) of IGNOU Act with the specific direction that the decision may be implemented from January 2007.

**ITEM NO. 7 TO NOTE THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE 35<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 15, 2006**

**BM 87.7.1** The Board noted the decisions of the Academic Council made in its 35<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2006. A copy of the Minutes is placed at **Appendix - 1.**