

Minutes of the meeting of the Research Council held at 11.00 A.M. on 22.05.2002 in the Conference Room, IGNOU Campus, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi-68.

The following were present:-

- i) Prof. H.P. Dikshit, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU- Chairman
- ii) Prof. N.K. Ambasht, National Open School - Member
- iii) Prof. H.C. Pande, BIT, MESRA - Member
- iv) Prof. Lokesh Kaul, H.P. University - Member
- v) Prof.(Mrs) S. Banerjee, VC, NSOU - Member
- vi) Prof. R. Chakraborty, ex-VC, NSOU - Member
- vii) Prof. J.S. Grewal, MPBOU - Member
- viii) Prof. Ram Pratap, IGNOU - Member
- ix) Prof. S.C. Garg, IGNOU - Member
- x) Prof. S.K. Panda, IGNOU - Member
- xi) Dr.(Mrs) K. Soundravalli, IGNOU - Member
- xii) Prof. A.K. Agarwal, IGNOU - Member-Secretary.

Prof. N.V. Narasimham attended the meeting as a co-opted member.

Prof. B.B. Khanna, Prof. P.N. Pandit, Prof. (Mrs) Prabha Chawla, and Dr. R. Sreedher could not attend the meeting. Prof. Kapil Kumar and Dr. P.K. Mehta, both Co-opted Members also could not attend the meeting.

After a brief introduction of the members, the Research Council took up the following items for consideration:

Item No.1 To review the Information Brochure and Application Form for admission to Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D Programme Phase-1)

Prof. A.K. Agarwal, Member-Secretary explained the modifications/changes recommended by the Task Group (AC) in the Information Brochure. After a detailed discussion on the recommendations, the Research Council approved the modifications/changes suggested by the Task Group (AC) – (Annexure I).

One of the members expressed the opinion that care should be taken to ensure that standards of research be maintained. In this connection, he emphasized the need for a screening / qualifying test for admission to the Ph.D programme Phase-1.

After the discussion it was decided that a screening / qualifying test should be conducted for admission to the Ph.D Programme, through Distance Education Council (DEC). However, those NET qualified may be granted admission without taking the DEC, IGNOU test.

While continuing the discussion on the information brochure, the following suggestions were made:

- i) Thrust areas of research in various disciplines need to be identified;
- ii) Academic and Research Support Services to be provided to the candidates need to be specified in the document;
- iii) Training in Research Methodology compatible with the Distance and Open Learning should form part of the course ware;
- iv) Emphasis should be placed on Systemic research
- v) Research Supervisors from outside the University should also be enriched on Research Methodology suitable to the Distance and Open Learning. Moreover, they must be recognized and approved by the Research Council.

It was also decided that a committee consisting of Prof. S.C. Garg and Director (AC) with the participation of Prof. H.C. Pande and Prof. N.K. Ambasht would take into account the suggestions made by the members and bring out a modified document and place the same before the Research Council for consideration.

Item No.2 To consider the report for Ph.D Programme Phase-II.

It was decided that the distinction between Phase-I and Phase-II be dispensed with and a common Information Brochure for the Ph.D Programme be developed by Director (AC). The eligibility conditions applicable for candidates with M.Phil and those with PG qualification may be specified clearly.

Item No.3 To approve the launching of Ph.D Phase 1 Programme in Commerce, School of Management Studies.

In view of the decision taken with regard to item no.2, it was decided that the document prepared by the School of Management Studies be appropriately modified. The revised document may be placed before the Research Council for approval.

Item No.4 To consider and approve the list of candidates selected for Ph.D Phase 1 Programme in various faculties of the School of Social Sciences.

While approving the list of 17 (seventeen) candidates selected for Ph.D Programme in various faculties of the School of Social Sciences, the Research Council desired that a brief synopsis of the research proposal submitted by each candidate alongwith a statement of the expected outcome of research of each candidate be brought before the Research Council for information. It was also decided that similar information would be obtained in respect of candidates who were admitted to the Ph.D Programme from the School of Education. In future, candidates may be asked to defend their synopsis before the Research Council.

Item No.5 Any other matter with the permission of the Chairman.

The Vice Chancellor urged the Research Council to explore the possibility of launching a Journal on Research Publications in the field of Distance Education.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.



(H.P. DIKSHIT)
CHAIRMAN

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