

MINUTES OF THE FIFTEENTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 19,
1996, AT 1100 HOURS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8, IGNOU
CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI 110 068.

The following were present:

1. Prof R.G. Takwale, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
2. Dr S.K. Gandhe
3. Prof Rakesh Khurana
4. Prof A.K. Agarwal
5. Prof (Mrs.) Prabha Chawla
6. Prof Asha Kanwar
7. Prof Madhulika Kaushik
8. Prof V.V. Mandke
9. Prof M.M. Pant
10. Prof B.S. Saraswat
11. Prof S.K. Singh
12. Dr (Mrs.) Geeta Kaicker
13. Shri Akshay Kumar
14. Dr Ravinder Kumar
15. Shri C.R. Pillai
16. Prof Namwar Singh
17. Dr K. Subramanian
18. Dr Tilak R. Kem - Member-Secretary

Prof Janardan Jha, Dr.(Mrs.) Neela Jagannathan, Prof U.R. Ananthamurthy, Prof P.S. Deodhar, Shri B.S. Bhatia, Dr Arun Guha, Shri D.K. Modi, Prof Tushaar Shah, Dr V.G. Kulkarni and Prof A.K. Sharma could not attend the meeting.

Shri D.C. Pant, Director (SRED) attended the meeting as a Special Invitee.

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Dy. Registrar (Governance), was present to assist the Council.

Before the items of agenda were taken up, the Vice-Chancellor extended a cordial welcome to the following new members:

- (i) Prof A.K. Agarwal
- (ii) Prof B.S. Saraswat
- (iii) Prof S.K. Singh

The Academic Council placed on record its appreciation to the contributions made by the following retiring members to the deliberations of the Council's Meeting:

- (i) Prof R.K. Bose
- (ii) Prof R.K. Grover
- (iii) Prof M.B. Menon
- (iv) Prof Pandav Nayak

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON APRIL 22, 1996 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

AC 15.1.1 It was reported that no comments have been received from any member. The Academic Council confirmed the minutes of its 14th meeting held on April 22, 1996. The Council also noted the action taken on the Minutes.

AC 15.1.2 While taking note of the Report on the action taken on the Minutes of the last meeting, one of the members expressed a view that the action taken report could be listed as a separate item instead of combining it with the item on confirmation of minutes. It was pointed out that the practice generally followed for other authorities also is to report the action taken on the Minutes alongwith the confirmation of minutes and the system has been working well.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE RULES REGARDING RE-REGISTRATION OF STUDENTS IN VARIOUS PROGRAMMES.

AC 15.2.1 Shri D.C. Pant, Director (SRED), on a request from the Vice-Chancellor, briefly explained the salient features of the proposal. The Academic Council discussed the proposed rules regarding re-registration of students to various academic programmes at some length. In the course of the discussion, the following views were expressed:

- (i) While the title of the agenda note relates to re-registration of students, Para 9 of the note mentions about students registering for more than one programme in an academic year. Since this is a major policy matter, the title of the note should

have clearly indicated this aspect or the matter should have come as a separate item.

(ii) Students must be intimated of any variations or changes made in the procedures which are different from what has been announced in the Programme/Application Guides. Also, University may follow the expression "Application Guide" in these rules.

(iii) Para. 7 needs clarity as there is certain amount of ambiguity in expression.

(iv) Re-registration Fee needs to be fixed on pro-rata basis taking into account the number of credits/courses in a programme. The charging of Re-registration Fee may have to be semester-wise for programmes which follow semester pattern.

(v) Most of the programmes offered by the University are heavily subsidised. This aspect needs to be kept in mind while fixing the re-registration fee.

AC 15.2.2 The Council was of the view that the points mentioned above merit careful consideration. The only point which requires immediate attention, the Council noted, was the fixing of re-registration fee for practicals. Keeping this aspect in mind, the Council decided as follows:

(i) Authorised the Vice-Chancellor to appoint a Committee to examine all the issues involved for formulating procedures with regard to re-registration to various programmes and submit the report to the Vice-Chancellor, who may forward it to the Academic Council for its approval.

(ii) Authorised the Vice-Chancellor to take such action as considered necessary for fixing the re-registration fee for practicals.

(iii) The decisions of the Vice-Chancellor with regard to re-registration fee for practical be incorporated in the procedures to be formulated by the proposed Committee.

M NO. 3 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR ISSUANCE OF DUPLICATE DEGREE/DIPLOMA/ CERTIFICATE.

15.3.1 The Academic Council considered the proposal on the issuance of duplicate copy of certificates for the Degree/Diploma/ Certificate. The Council accepted the proposal. The terms & conditions for issuing a duplicate certificate and the format of the application to be submitted by the intending student is given in the **Appendix - 1.**

M NO. 4 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN GRANTING RESERVATION FOR OBC CANDIDATES IN IGNOU PROGRAMMES.

15.4.1 The Academic Council noted that the Department of Welfare, Ministry of Welfare, Govt. of India has written to the University for extending the Reservation Concession to OBC candidates. The Academic Council approved the proposal for providing reservation to OBC candidates as per Govt. of India norms and also ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in granting relaxation in eligibility to the candidates belonging to the OBC category at par with the SC/ST and female candidates for the admissions to all the academic programmes commencing 1997.

M NO. 5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL REGARDING CHARGING OF FEES FOR LEFT OVER PRACTICALS AND SEMINARS IN MLIS PROGRAMMES.

15.5.1 The matter was considered. The Council decided that the proposal regarding charging of fees for left over practicals and seminars for MLIS programme be also considered by the same Committee appointed under Resolution No. AC 15.2.2 on re-registration of students and make a report to the Academic Council for consideration.

M NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL FOR GRANT OF GRACE MARKS IN TERM-END EXAMINATION SCORE.

15.6.1 The Academic Council noted that at its meeting held on 5-10-1995 it had decided to extend the benefit of grace marks upto 2% of the maximum marks prescribed for term-end examinations for all the programmes where numerical marking scheme was prescribed and that its decision was made effective from June, 1995 term-end examination. The same benefit, however, was not extended to the

students of term-end examinations held in June, 1994 and December, 1994 and that the concerned students have been representing to the University to extend the same benefit to them on the principles of equity and natural justice. The Vice-Chancellor, considering the anomalous position, granted the same benefit of grace marks to the candidates of 1994 batch also.

AC 15.6.2

The Academic Council, while ratifying the above action of the Vice-Chancellor, suggested that provision may be made in the Ordinances to create a Moderation Board for moderating the results and that such a proposal be brought up to the Academic Council for consideration in its next meeting.

ITEM NO. 7

TO TAKE ON RECORD THE STATEMENT GIVING DETAILS OF STUDENTS/GOLD MEDALISTS WHO WERE AWARDED DEGREE/DIPLOMAS AT THE 7TH ANNUAL CONVOCATION.

AC 15.7.1

The Academic Council took on record the Statements giving details of students/gold medalists who were awarded Degree/Diplomas at the 7th Annual Convocation held on May 11, 1996. The Statements are placed as **Appendices - 2 & 3.**

ITEM NO. 8

TO CONSIDER THE REPORT ON THE METHODOLOGY FOR PROCESSING THE RESULT OF COURSE 4 -PROJECT WORK OF THE DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN NUTRITION AND HEALTH EDUCATION.

AC 15.8.1

On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Shri D.C. Pant, briefly explained the salient features of the proposal. The Council noted that the Committee had examined the issues involved in the evaluation of project work in various programmes and developed the methodology for examining the project work for ensuring quality and reliability in assessment. The Council considered and accepted the recommendations made in the Report with the following suggested changes:

- (i) Every student undergoing Project Work must have a Supervisor.
- (ii) The remuneration to be fixed for the Supervisor/Examiner should have relation to the actual credits a project work consists. Consequently, the suggested rates of Rs.300/- for PG Programmes and Rs.150/- and Rs.100/- per student for PG programmes and UG programmes respectively needs

rationalisation. The Council authorised the Vice-Chancellor to fix the remuneration to the Supervisors/Examiners after taking the credit load of different programmes into account. The rates thus fixed may be reported to the Academic Council at its next meeting for information.

With the above observations, the Academic Council approved the methodology to be followed for evaluation of project works. The methodology, incorporating the suggestions made by the Academic Council, is placed at **Appendix - 4**.

9 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON THE AWARD OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE WITH MAJOR IN A SUBJECT ON QUALIFYING 40 CREDIT COURSES.

The Academic Council considered the proposal and decided that the students who obtained 40 credits in a particular subject till June, 1996 term-end examination be awarded Bachelor's Degrees with a "major" in that relevant subject. The Council further approved the format of the Certificate to be issued to such students which is placed at **Appendix - 5**.

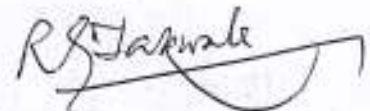
The Academic Council noted that in order to major in a particular discipline for a Bachelor's Degree, a student is expected to secure 48 credits in that discipline. While the subject was being debated, views were expressed as to the advisability of following such a rigid pattern. It was felt that open University system must endeavour to provide adequate flexibility in the choice of combination of courses. The Academic Council desired that the Schools may look into this aspect without compromising on the quality and creditability of the Degrees awarded by the IGNOU vis-a-vis other universities. The concerned Schools of Studies may examine the issues involved and suggest changes, if any, in the pattern of offering courses for securing a major in a particular discipline and brought before the Academic Council for consideration.

10 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR THE AWARDING OF DEGREE/DIPLOMA CERTIFICATE FROM THE DATE OF DECLARATION OF RESULT.

The Academic Council considered the proposal.

AC 15.10.2 The Academic Council was of the view that for issuance of original Degree/Diploma Certificate to a student the holding of the Convocation may not be insisted as a pre-condition. The Council felt that awarding of a Degree on completion of the required courses and conferment of the Degree/Diploma formally at the Convocations be delinked. It would be enough if the Academic Council approved the list of candidates for award of Degree or Diploma who have been qualified to receive such a degree or diploma. The Council, suggested that, keeping the above observations, the University may examine the issues involved in depth and come out with a proposal for the consideration of the Academic Council.

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



(R.G. TAKWALE)
Vice-Chancellor

Appendix - 1
(To Resolution No.AC 15.3.1)

Terms & conditions required to be fulfilled for issuance of a duplicate copy of Certificate

- (i) Students should apply on a prescribed form given in **Annexure-1** which should be signed by the student himself.
- (ii) The form should be submitted through Regional Director concerned through which the student appeared for the said examination.
- (iii) A duplicate copy of the Degree/Diploma/ Certificate will be sent to the student through Regional Director concerned.
- (iv) The concerned student should submit an affidavit on a non-judicial stamp paper of Rs.2/- signed by a First Class Magistrate alongwith an attested copy of the F.I.R. lodged by the student with the nearest Police Station to the effect that either the original Diploma/Degree/ Certificate has been irrecoverably lost, destroyed, defaced or misplaced.
- (v) A fee of Rs.100/- will be charged for duplicate copy of the Degree/ Diploma/Certificate. Payment has to be made through a crossed Demand Draft drawn in favour of Indira Gandhi National Open University payable at New Delhi.
- (vi) In very special cases, duplicate copies of Degrees Diploma/Certificate should be issued for not more than 4 times on submission of above mentioned documents.

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