

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-SIXTH MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 03, 2001,
AT 11.00 A. M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM,
BLOCK - 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW
DELHI - 110 068.

The list of members present is given in Appendix-1.

Prof. Abad Ahmad, Shri Ashish Agarwal, Dr.(Mrs.) Sarala Gopalan,
Dr. George John, Prof. M.C. Kaplishrami, Prof. Manohar Lal, Shri N. Ram,
Ms. Usha Rai, Shri V. Suresh Mrs. Vibha Parthasarathi and Shri M.S.
Verma could not attend the meeting.

Dr. Subhasis Majhi attended the meeting as a Special Invitee.

Shri D. Deb, Assistant Registrar (Governance), was also present to
assist the Council.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor extended a warm welcome to the
new members as given at Appendix - 2.

The Vice-Chancellor also placed on record our sense of appreciation for the
services rendered by the retiring members as given in Appendix - 3.

Thereafter, the following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 25TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 09, 2001 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.**

AC 26.1.1 The item was considered. Registrar read out the comments received from members on certain Resolutions recorded in the minutes of the 25th meeting of the Academic Council held on February 09, 2001. The Council considered the comments and the following corrections/modifications are made to the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the Academic Council:

- (i) In Para (iv) of Page 2 of the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the Academic Council held on February 09, 2001, the words "School of Social Sciences" appearing in the second line be read as "School of Humanities".
- (ii) In Resolution No. AC 25.2.2(i), the words "Programme Cores and Programme Codes" be read as "Programme Codes and Course Codes".
- (iii) Under Resolution No. AC 25.3.1, the paragraphs modified. Modified Resolution will be read as under:

"AC 25.3.1 - The item was considered. Prof. P.R. Ramanujan, Director (STRIDE) was invited to present a brief background of the proposal. He gave a brief background of the matter related to supply of revised study material to Indian students of Post Graduate Diploma in Distance Education (PGDDE).

It was informed that the proposal for revision came from the experts on the subject. The internal faculty of STRIDE and the invited experts met together and revised the material. Thereafter the feedback from students was also taken into account and further revision was done based on the feedback. More than 50% of the course materials is new and all the 5 courses of PGDDE have been completely revised. It was stated that as the academic session started from January 2001 and that the materials have been sent to the students with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor, the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor be ratified."

- (iv) Referring to Resolution No. AC 25.7.3 (iv), a member observed : "that the advertisement for PGCMRR will indicate that only students with Internet access will be eligible to apply for this programme, which is totally online one. However, the prospectus for the programme makes no such stipulation". Since this was administrative aspect, it was decided that the letter of the member be forwarded to the Director, SRE for taking appropriate action.

It was also pointed out that the word "excess" in the said resolution be corrected as "access".

AC 26.1.2

With the above corrections/modifications, the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of the Academic Council held on February 09, have been confirmed. The Council also noted the action taken on the Minutes.

ITEM NO. 2

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DETAILED PROGRAMME REPORT (DPR) FROM (PHASE-3) RELATING TO POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN LIBRARY AUTOMATION AND NETWORKING.

AC 26.2.1

Dr. Pravakar Rath of the School of Social Sciences was invited for presenting the proposal. Dr. Rath gave a brief background of the proposal and informed that the Programme has been initiated to develop technological skills in automated and networked environment in Library and Information Sciences.

AC 26.2.2

The members considered the proposal and made the following points which would also apply to the proposals of all the Schools:

- (i) With rapid changes in society and environment, there is a felt need for considering 3% reservation for physically challenged learners.
- (ii) The earlier Academic Council decision that every agenda note should include a preamble note to the Detailed Programme Report (DPR) Form (Phase-3) and the norms laid down by the Academic Council with regard to Programme Codes and Course Codes. The School should ensure that all the required procedures have been followed before the proposals are brought before the Academic Council.
- (iii) The Board of Management, in its recently held meeting decided that the IGNOU should take the leadership role and act as a national resource centre together with the State Open Universities and other distance education institutes of the country and develop partnerships for effective use of all available resources.
- (iv) The Planning and Development Division needs to devise methods for assessing and projecting the enrolment for programmes before they are considered by the Academic Council.

(v) As a number of courses are on offer in computer related areas, some of the existing course materials in Computer Programmes could be made use in the course contents of the proposed programme by rationalizing.

(vi) Video component provided in the instructional package is the minimum and more could be added as per requirement.

AC 26.2.3

The launch date for the programme has been fixed as January, 2003.

AC 26.2.4

With the above observations, the Council resolved to approve the Detailed Programme Report (DPR) Form (Phase-3) relating to Post Graduate Diploma in Library Automation and Networking.

ITEM NO. 3

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE SYLLABUS OF ANOTHER TWO COURSES FOR M.A. HISTORY PROGRAMME.

AC 26.3.1

Prof. A.R. Khan of the School of Social Science, was invited for presenting the proposal. Prof. Khan informed that the Faculty of History proposes to launch MA History from the year 2003. Five courses, each with 8 credits, have already received the approval of the Academic Council. He said that the faculty is developing two more courses, namely, Ancient and Medieval Societies (Compulsory) – 8 Credits and Religious Thoughts and Beliefs in India (Optional) – 8 Credits which are brought before the Academic Council.

AC 26.3.2

In reference to the point relating to omission of religions, such as Christianity, Zoroastrianism and tribal religions, etc. it was clarified that the course is of "Religious Thoughts and Beliefs in India" and therefore religions of Indian Origin have been covered. However, the matter will be conveyed to the expert Committee about the omission of certain religions as mentioned by members.

There is a need to assess whether different perspectives of History and ideological conflicts have been taken care of or not. Different historical perspectives can exist simultaneously and in combination as also in isolation and whether there is a consensus between the perspectives.

AC 26.3.3

With the above observations, the Council resolved to approve the Detailed Programme Report (DPR) Form (Phase-3) relating to M.A. (History) Programme.

ITEM NO. 4

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DETAILED PROGRAMME REPORT (DPR) FORM (PHASE-3) RELATING TO THE COURSE: SOUTH ASIA : ECONOMY, POLITICS AND SOCIETY.

AC 26.4.1

Dr. Vijaysekhar Reddy, School of Social Sciences, who was invited, made a presentation bringing out the background and developments leading to the revision of the course. It was suggested that certain points concerning South Asia as a region need to be retained/incorporated from the old course. In this context, it was suggested that whenever a revision is proposed, the School concerned should discuss related activities with the Material Production and Distribution Division regarding the stock position.

AC 26.4.2

With the above observations, the Council resolved to approve the Detailed Programme Report (DPR) Form (Phase-3) relating to the Course "South Asia : Economy, Politics and Society".

ITEM NO. 5

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE WITHDRAWAL OF BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ECONOMICS PROGRAMME AND OFFER OF TWO COURSES AS ADDITIONAL ELECTIVES IN BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMME (ECO).

AC 26.5.1

Dr. Gopinath Pradhan, School of Social Sciences, who was invited, made a brief presentation. Dr. Pradhan informed that the present proposal needs to be seen in the context of the Academic Council's decision taken at its 24th meeting held on September 01, 2000. It was decided that the course be developed as a part of the existing BDP (Eco) Programme. It was informed that the materials so far developed for Bachelor in Business Economics (BBE) can be utilized as an elective in BDP (Eco).

AC 26.5.2

The proposals were considered and the following observations were made:

- (i) The proposed EEC-21 (Managerial Economics) has certain similarity in contents with B.Com Course of the School of Management Studies.
- (ii) There is no mention of EEC-09 of the BDP (Eco) in the Minutes of the 27th School Board Meeting

of the School of Social Sciences.

- (iii) It would be better to retain the option to develop the proposal as the Post Graduate Diploma in Business Economics since Academic Council suggested this option.

AC 26.5.3

Keeping in view the present status of the proposal and the observations made at the meeting, the Council resolved that a Sub-Committee be constituted to examine the issues and place its recommendations before the Academic Council. The Committee will consist of the following members:

- (a) Director, School of Management Studies.
- (b) Director, School of Social Sciences.
- (c) Dr. Gopinath Pradhan, Reader, School of Social Sciences – Convener.

ITEM NO. 6

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE INTEGRATION OF TRAINING COMPONENT WITH DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT AND DEVELOPMENT.

AC 26.6.1

The Registrar informed the members that a note has been received from the Directors of the School of Social Sciences and the School of Continuing Education stating that as per the guidelines of Academic Council, both the Schools would jointly prepare an integrated programme of study.

AC 26.6.2

The Council, therefore, resolved to consider the item when it is brought before it jointly by both the Schools.

ITEM NO. 7

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE TWO NEW PHYSICS ELECTIVES AS PART OF THE B.Sc. PROGRAMME.

AC 26.7.1

Dr. (Mrs.) Vijayshri, Reader, School of Sciences, who was invited, gave a brief presentation. Dr. Vijayshree informed that Astronomy has a prominent place in the School curriculum of the country. She also referred to the increasing importance of space science in the coming millennium. With these aspects in view, the Physics faculty has proposed two four credit courses entitled Astronomy and Astrophysics and communication to bridge the hiatus between the School and the masters' levels and provide the basic grounding for budding astronomers physics to teach the latest.

AC 26.7.2

The Vice-Chancellor in his observations reiterated that Dr. Jayant Narliker, a prominent scientist, has been doing excellent work in these areas. The University may take advantage of his expertise and experience.

The proposal should make it more elaborate to mention the criteria followed to arrive at the percentages for theory and practical.

Attempts should be made to identify centers/areas where astrophysical facilities exists.

She also emphasized that recent developments in ICT have changed modes of communication and to keep pace with the latest trends, such a course would be desirable.

AC 26.7.3

In clarifying the points made by the members, Prof. S.C. Garg, Director, School of Sciences made the following points:

- (i) This is the first attempt by the School of Science for diversification.
- (ii) B.Sc. has a minimum of 48 Credits and therefore, these courses will provide it more options.
- (iii) The enrolment figure for the B.Sc. (Physics) for the year 1991-92 is 1100 and 4000 for the year 2000-2001.

AC 26.7.4

With the above observations, the Council resolved to approve the proposal for two new Physics electives, namely, Astronomy and Astrophysics and Communication Physics.

ITEM NO. 8

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DETAILED PROGRAMME REPORT (DPR) FORM (PHASE-3) RELATING TO MODULAR PROGRAMME IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT.

AC 26.8.1

Dr. Vijayshri, Reader, School of Sciences, gave a brief presentation of the programme. In this context, she mentioned that one of the objectives of the IGNOU is to provide educational opportunities for the deprived and disadvantaged sections of the society. The modular programme in Science and Technology for Sustainable Development constitutes a right step in this direction. The programme puts emphasis on imparting requisite skills and training related to income generation in specific areas corresponding to the needs of the disadvantaged communities; and development of awareness, scientific temper and rational attitudes.

AC 26.8.2

The Vice-Chancellor in his observations mentioned that the Planning Commission, Government of India, MHRD have been emphasizing on the need to cater to the requirements of the under-privileged, disadvantaged and weaker sections of the society by increasing educational opportunities for these groups to various university programmes and courses. He further stressed that some of the Schools like School of Management Studies, School of Continuing Education, School of Sciences, School of Health Sciences of the University can involve themselves together and treat the proposal as a project where the School of Sciences could act as a nodal centre. He also mentioned that even the State Open Universities and some of the NGOs are working in these areas.

AC 26.8.3

With the above observations, the Council resolved to approve the DPR Form (Phase-3) relating to Modular Programme in Science and Technology for Sustainable Development.

ITEM NO. 9

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROPOSAL RELATING TO B.TECH. MECHANICAL ENGINEERING (MANUFACTURING MANAGEMENT) PROGRAMME.

AC 26.9.1

Ms. Gayatri Bansal of the School of Engineering and Technology, who was invited, gave a brief presentation of the proposal. In this context, Ms. Bansal referred to the decision of the Academic Council at its 20th Meeting held on February 17, 1999. The Council had suggested that the existing programme of the School, i.e., B.Tech (Civil Engineering) (Construction Management) and B.Tech. Civil Engineering (Water Resource Engineering) should be consolidated. It was informed that the 55% of the material for the B.Tech Mechanical Engineering in Manufacturing Management is ready.

AC 26.9.2

The Council considered the proposal and resolved that a number of issues still remain unanswered so far as the proposal is concerned. Therefore, these issues need to be examined in detail before approving of the programme.

AC 26.9.3

The Vice-Chancellor having considered the Agenda items up to this stage, requested the members to consider deferment of the remaining items including item No. 9 for consideration by a Standing Committee of Academic Council. Such an arrangement is followed in many Universities; we also have Standing Committees of Board of Management and the Planning Board. It would be easier for the Academic Council to examine academic

proposals if they had been earlier examined by a Standing Committee of the Academic Council.

AC 26.9.4

The Council considered and resolved that the proposal for the formation of a Standing Committee of the Academic Council be approved. The Council also authorized the Vice-Chancellor to constitute the Committee consisting of 9 to 11 members.

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

The Minutes have the approval of the Vice-Chancellor who is the Chairman of the Academic Council.



Member-Secretary
Academic Council