

IGNOU

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-EIGHTH MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON SEPTEMBER 16, 2002 AT 11.00
A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8,
IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110 068.

The list of members present and those who could not attend the meeting is given in the **Appendix**.

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor extended a warm welcome to the members of the Council. He specially welcomed the new members of the Academic Council and said that he looked forward to their co-operation and academic contribution to the deliberations in Council meetings.

The Vice-Chancellor also placed on record Council's appreciation for the academic contributions made by the following retiring members:

- (i) Prof. Asha S. Kanwar
- (ii) Prof. N.V. Narasimham
- (iii) Prof. M.C. Sharma

As a prelude to the deliberations of the agenda items for the Meeting of the Academic Council, the Chairman made the following observations:

1. There is a very strong feeling amongst the academics in the country that the system of programme design, development and review of syllabi and courses in higher and professional education, especially involving ICT must be dynamic. In the open distance learning system, this is particularly true since there is enormous emphasis on the diverse needs of heterogeneous target groups with multi-level skills and yet it has to cater to individualized needs.
2. It is in this background that the Academic Council in its 26th meeting held on 3.9.2001 proposed to constitute a sub-committee in the form of Standing committee, which could meet more frequently to accelerate the pace of academic transactions through exhaustive in-house discussions and deliberations.
3. The experience of working through Standing Committee so far has been quite successful and it may be desirable for Academic Council to authorize its Standing

Committee to act on its behalf and make recommendations wherever necessary for consideration of the full Academic Council.

4. The recommendations of the Standing Committee pertaining to major policy aspects should be communicated to the members of Academic Council from time to time. However, the recommendations of the Standing Committee, which are urgent in nature, could come in force from the date indicated by the committee or the date of the meeting and may be valid till the Academic Council consider the recommendations and takes a decision.
5. The Chairman also requested the members to help the University to emerge as a visible, vibrant and inter-institutional research centre in distance education. Though IGNOU is making a lot of effort to promote education and research in the ODL, yet the ambience of a national institute with focussed research needs to be further enhanced. Since IGNOU is also providing academic expertise and technical leadership through Distance Education Council, it should be our endeavour to develop more inter-institutional special centres or consortia for collaboration in advanced level research.
6. The Chairman highlighted the role of IGNOU as a nodal agency for taking education to the unreached through electronic media. In particular, he informed the Council that Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development inaugurated the seventh FM radio station at Bhopal on 13.9.2002 and that the University shall have a cooperative of 40 such stations. He emphasized that to meet the enormous demand of software in the emerging scenario, there is an urgent need to create a forum for academics from different universities and other institutions of higher learning to work together continuously so that increasing demand of software is met through trained faculty in newer media technologies.
7. Apprising the council that several countries have requested IGNOU to supply the course material produced by it for students of their universities, the Chairman emphasized that it is indicator of the quality of the course materials produced by IGNOU and academic faculty deserved appreciation.
8. The Chairman also informed the members with some satisfaction that IGNOU's capabilities and credibility to provide leadership in ODL have been well recognized by international organisation like UNESCO. UNESCO, New Delhi Office and other Regional Offices have finalized major plans and projects for IGNOU-UNESCO collaborative initiatives in some major concerns of education and training in different regions of the World. He also mentioned that recently teleconferencing was arranged by MHRD with WIPO, a constituent of UN with headquarters at Geneva. Subsequently, the WIPO Worldwide Academy has proposed to offer a joint Distance Learning Programme with IGNOU. It is going to be considered in the Academic Council as an additional agenda item.

As a follow up to the above observations of the Chairman, the Council

- appreciated the functional working of the Standing Committee of the Academic Council enabling the University a thorough in-house discussion before different proposals/recommendations are placed before the Academic Council for its consideration. It was also suggested that major recommendations of the Standing Committee should be recorded in bold prints to attract special attention of the members of the Academic Council.
- desired that the programme on IPR is in keeping with the need of time and the lead taken by the university is praise worthy.
- suggested that the University may also consider more elaborate arrangement with UGC and other similar organisations for strengthening and facilitating teacher training through interactive multimedia as well as the distance mode since a large number of faculty members remain untrained due to availability of such programmes only through the traditional mode by institutions like ASC.

The Chairman then requested Prof. S C Garg, Pro-Vice Chancellor to present the Agenda items.

ITEM NO. 1 **TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 27TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 23, 2002 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON**

AC 28.1.1 Presenting the items formally, Prof. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor pointed out that no comments were received on the Minutes of the 27th Meeting of the Academic Council. In view of this, he requested the Council to confirm the minutes. The Academic Council, confirmed the minutes as such.

ITEM NO. 2 **TO NOTE THE DECISIONS TAKEN IN THE 4TH AND 5TH MEETINGS OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL'S STANDING COMMITTEE HELD ON JUNE 10, 2002 AND SEPTEMBER 02, 2002 RESPECTIVELY**

AC 28.2.1 Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor made a brief presentation on the Minutes of the 4th and 5th meetings of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on June 10, 2002 and September 02, 2002 respectively. He highlighted the following two important decisions of the Standing Committee; i) in future the Directors of the Schools shall be expected to report the progress of work in the programmes relating to their Schools in the Standing Committee meeting bi-yearly; ii) if approval of Academic Council or its Standing Coming has not been accorded to any programme approved by the School Board within a period of two years, the same will require reconsideration by the School Board. He then explained the details of various proposals transacted by the Standing Committees.

AC 28.2.2

The Council noted that the Standing Committee meetings have accelerated the academic processes, which is a welcome development. It was also pointed out that the words 'TO NOTE' be substituted by the words 'TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE' so that formal approval is accorded to the recommendations made by the Academic Council's Standing Committee.

AC 28.2.3

With these suggestions, the Council approved the recommendations of the 4th and 5th meetings of the Academic Council's Standing Committee.

ITEM NO. 3

TO CONSIDER THE MATTER RELATING TO CONFERMENT OF THE DEGREE OF *honoris causa*

AC 28.3.1

Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor drew attention of the Council to the provision of conferment of the degree of *honoris causa* to eminent person(s) in the field of education. In the 5th meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on September 02, 2002, the Vice-Chancellor was authorized to constitute a Search Committee to consider and recommend names received from Directors of Schools for consideration and approval of the Academic Council for conferment of the degree of *honoris causa*.

AC 28.3.2

The Search Committee comprising Prof. S.K. Joshi, Prof. V.R. Mehta, Prof. K.B. Pawar and Prof. S.C. Garg, Convenor recommended the names of the following eminent educationists for conferment of degree of *honoris causa* at the next Convocation:

1. Sir John Daniel, ADG, UNESCO
2. Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Chairman, ISRO

The Council unanimously approved the proposal for further necessary action

AC 28.3.3

While deliberating on the name of another brilliant academic, the Academic Council authorized the Chairman to take necessary action in the light of recommendations of the Search Committee.

ITEM NO. 4

TO CONSIDER THE ORDINANCE ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRE ON INTER-UNIVERSITY CONSORTIUM FOR TECHNOLOGY ENABLED FLEXIBLE EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT (IUC-TEFED)

AC 28.4.1 Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor made a brief presentation. He explained that the Board of Management has already approved the proposal and Consortium would be a stand-alone entity within the University and would be similar to those established by University Grants Commission, (IUCAA) and CSIR. The Council welcomed the proposal for establishment of an Inter-University Consortium by the University and emphasized that it was indeed an important decision, which should be implemented as early as possible.

AC 28.4.2 While discussing the draft ordinance the following major suggestions were made. The Consortium should be functionally vibrant and coordinate education, application and research in the specified area(s) with particular relevance to ODL. Since this is the first proposal for inter-university collaboration in emerging area of ICT, it would be desirable to make special provision for the founder Director of the consortium in terms of first tenure. However, it may also be desirable to ensure that the terms and conditions of the Director and his/her tenure should be in accordance with the Act & Statutes of the University.

AC 28.4.3 With the above suggestions, the Council approved the proposed Ordinance with minor changes and the provision that the first Director of the Consortium be appointed for a term of six years.

ITEM NO. 5 **TO APPROVE THE PROGRAMME DESIGN AND DETAILED PROGRAMME REPORT FORM (PHASE-3) OF THE PG DIPLOMA IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY IN SOCIETY PROGRAMME**

AC 28.5.1 The members noted that the Programme was very pertinent. However, there was a need to lay adequate emphasis, on development of scientific temper in the society. And in doing so, IGNOU should enlist the support of the experts in the field across the length and breadth of the country. It was also pointed out that some of the course content of the Programme was already covered in a course developed by the School of Social Sciences. The School of Sciences could peruse it and adapt, if possible. The Chairman requested Programme Coordinator, School of Sciences to take note of the valuable suggestions for inclusion in the Programme Syllabus.

AC 28.5.2 With these suggestions, the proposal was approved by the Academic Council.

ITEM NO. 6 TO PROPOSE AMENDMENT IN ORDINANCE NO.9 (7) (B) (1) ON "MODERATION BOARD FOR MODERATING RESULTS"

AC 28.6.1 The Council approved the proposed amendment in the existing Ordinance on Moderation Board as under:

EXISTING PROVISION	PROPOSED AMENDMENT	ORDINANCE AFTER AMENDMENT
i) Pro-Vice-Chancellor, - Chairman In charge of SRE Division ii) Director(s) of concerned School(s) iii) Director (SR&E)	i) Pro-Vice-Chancellor - Chairman In charge of SRE Division ii) Director(s) of concerned School(s) iii) Programme Coordinator/Discipline Expert from the concerned faculty to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor iv) Director (SR&E)	i) Pro-Vice-Chancellor, - Chairman In charge of SRE Division ii) Director(s) of concerned School(s) iii) Programme Coordinator / Discipline Expert from the concerned faculty to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor iv) Director (SR&E)

ITEM NO. 7 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINOR CHANGES IN PROGRAMME DESIGN OF POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN GERIATRIC MEDICINE (PGDGM) PRESENTED IN THE PHASE 3 FORM AND TO APPROVE ITS FINANCIAL NORMS

AC 28.7.1 Prof. A.K. Agarwal, Director, School of Health Sciences made a brief presentation on the proposal. He explained that the Programme was approved by the Academic Council in its 24th Meeting held on September 01, 2000. However, from the implementation point of view, a need was felt to redesign the Programme clubbing the theory courses in Courses 1 and 2 without disturbing the syllabus. Prof. Garg pointed out that the sub-committee formed by the Standing Committee of the Academic Council has gone through the details of the syllabi and has recommended that Academic Council may approve the proposal.

AC 28.7.2 The proposal was approved by the Council.

ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE REVISED POST GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (PGDMCH) PROGRAMME AND THE RELATED IMPLEMENTATION CHANGES

AC 28.8.1 Director, School of Health Sciences made a brief presentation on the proposal. He explained that the Programme has been on

offer since 1997. It is very popular and enrolments have grown continuously. The proposal before the present Council is for approval of the revised Course Structure of Post Graduate Diploma in Maternal and Child Health (PGDMCH). It was stated that the Sub-Committee of Academic Council's Standing Committee had considered the proposal and recommended the approval of proposal. As directed by the Standing Committee, both the old and new syllabi are placed for approval of the Academic Council.

AC 28.8.2

The Council considered the revised Post Graduate Diploma in Maternal and Child Health (PGDMCH) and approved the same.

ITEM NO. 9

TO CONSIDER THE AMENDMENT IN "RE-ADMISSION" POLICY OF BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

AC 28.9.1

The item was taken up for discussion after a brief presentation by Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor. It was explained that the norms already approved by the Academic Council provided for re-admission of students who fail in BDP Programme by paying a pro rata re-admission fee. However, this has led to an anomaly where a student is allowed another period of eight years in addition to the eight years provided for the completion of the programme, thus allowing a total of sixteen years. Since this was not intended, the BDP Coordination Committee suggested amendments to the above structure to allow only four semesters, that is, two years after re-admission. Further, the students who fail to register for one or two years in between, may be also allowed re-admission after charging full fee for the missed years in addition to the pro-rata course fee for re-admission. The proposal was approved by the Council.

ITEM NO. 10

TO REPORT THE AMENDMENT IN THE METHODOLOGY FOR EVALUATION OF PROJECT REPORTS

AC 28.10.1

It was explained that amendment in the methodology for evaluation of Project Reports was already approved by the Vice-Chancellor. The matter is being reported to the Academic Council for information.

AC 28.10.2

The Academic Council noted the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor and confirmed the same for further implementation with the recommendation that the condition of 50% Project Report to be evaluated by internal faculty be made applicable

uniformly to all programmes.

ITEM NO.11 TO REPORT THE "REVISED PRO-RATA RE-ADMISSION FEE" FOR VARIOUS ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES OF THE UNIVERSITY

AC 28.11.1 The Council noted the decisions taken by the Vice-Chancellor and approved the revised Pro-rata Readmission Fee as reflected in Annexure for implementation

ITEM NO.12 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE DETAILED PROGRAMME REPORT (DPR) FORM (PHASE-3) RELATING TO MASTER OF COMMERCE (M.COM. PROGRAMME)

AC 28.12.1 Prof. S.C. Garg, Pro Vice-Chancellor mentioned that the Programme Structure was placed before the Academic Programme Committee of the University and was approved in its meeting held on August 28, 2002 as a modular programme. The proposal had since been restructured as desired and entails 72 credits. It is placed before the Academic Council for its consideration and approval.

AC 28.12.2 After a brief discussion, the Council approved the DPR Form (Phase-3) in respect of Master of Commerce (M.Com.) Programme with following recommendations:

- (1) To maintain modularity, the Diploma Programmes will be offered in the first year so that learners can avail the facility of exit point.
- (2) Additional Courses will be offered in core and optional papers for completion of requirement of Post Graduate Degree.

ITEM NO. 13
(Tabled)

**TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE OFFER OF WIPO
FOR COLLABORATIVE CERTIFICATION/DIPLOMA
PROGRAMMES IN COLLABORATION WITH INDIRA
GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY**

AC 28.13.1

The Chairman informed the Council that the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India are in the process of signing an MOU with the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) which is one of the 16 specialised Agencies of the United Nations System of Organisations. WIPO administers 23 International Treatise dealing with different aspects of intellectual property protection. The WIPO Worldwide Academy a constituent of WIPO have developed a number of distance education courses which are delivered through online teaching techniques utilizing internet connectivity for teaching and training purposes. The Worldwide Academy has shown interest in joint collaborative Certification/Diploma programmes with Indira Gandhi National Open University. The offer of the WIPO Worldwide Academy was approved for the further necessary action, with the observation that the intellectual property rights based programmes have great significance and contemporary relevance. The Standing Committee of the Academic Council was authorised to take further necessary decisions pertaining to these courses/programmes.

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



Member-Secretary