

MINUTES

of the

FORTY FIRST MEETING

of the

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

held on

AUGUST 27, 2007



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
Maidan Garhi, New Delhi – 110 068

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MINUTES OF THE FORTY FIRST MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2007 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM BLOCK- 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.

The following were present:

1. Prof. V.N.Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor	-	Chairman
2. Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Pro-Vice-Chancellor	-	Member
3. Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Pro-Vice-Chancellor	-	Member
4. Dr. D.K.Choudhry, Pro-Vice-Chancellor	-	Member
5. Prof. Basir Ahmad Khan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor	-	Member
6. Dr. Latha Pillai, Pro-Vice-Chancellor	-	Member
7. Prof. Uma Kanjilal	-	Member
8. Prof. Sunita Malhotra	-	Member
9. Prof.M.L.Koul	-	Member
10. Prof. Anu Aneja	-	Member
11. Prof. N.V.Narasimham	-	Member
12. Prof. S.B.Arora	-	Member
13. Prof. B.S.Hansra	-	Member
14. Prof. Manohar Lal	-	Member
15. Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao	-	Member
16. Dr. Srikant Mohapatra	-	Member
17. Sh. S.K.Arora	-	Member
18. Prof. Kamlesh Mohan	-	Member
19. Prof. T.K.V.Subramanian	-	Member
20. Prof. Vijay Kapur	-	Member
21. Prof. Anil Bhattacharya	-	Member
22. Prof. K.K.Mohammed Yusuff	-	Member
23. Prof. Sridhar Gadre	-	Member
24. Prof. S.Sivakumar	-	Member
25. Prof. B.S.Saraswat, Director, ACD	-	Member-Secretary

Prof. Renu Bhardwaj and Dr. P. Srinivas Kumar represented the School of Humanities and School of Engineering and Technology, respectively.

Prof. N.Balakrishnan, Prof. S.Sadagopan, Prof. Kapila Vatsyayan, Prof. Trilochan Pradhan, Prof. Arvind Kumar and Prof. S.S.Rathi could not attend the meeting.

Shri K.D. Sharma, Section Officer, Academic Coordination Division was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

At the outset, The Chairman welcomed the members to the 41st Meeting of the Academic Council. He accorded a special welcome to the new members namely Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Prof. Basir Ahmad Khan, Dr. D.K.Choudhry, Dr. Latha Pillai, PVCs, Prof. Sunita Malhotra, Director, SOS, Prof. M.L.Koul, Director, SOE, Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Director, SOSS and Prof. Manohar Lal, Director, SOCIS, IGNOU. He also placed on record the appreciation of the Academic Council of contributions made by the outgoing members Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Prof. Parvin Sinclair (who are now *ex-officio* members as PVCs), Prof. Pardeep Sahni, Prof. A.S.Narang, Prof. Renu Bhardwaj, Prof. Vijayshri, Prof. M.C.Sharma, Sh. Shashi Bhushan Sharma, Dr. T.K.Jena, Dr. Annu J.Thomas, Sh. N.Venkateshwarlu, Dr. Eisha Kannadi, Prof. S.K.Panda, Sh. V.K.Arora, Dr. C.K.Ghosh, Dr. T.R.Srinivasan and Dr. O.P.Dewal.

The Chairman informed the members that on the recommendations of various expert committees, the University had decided to set up ten new Schools of Studies. The amendment to the Statute 10 A was approved by the Academic Council and the Board of Management. It has received the approval of the Visitor of the University in a record time of three months, which had never happened before in the history of the University. In this context, he acknowledged the contributions made by the members of the Academic Council, the Board of Management, the Planning Board, the various Expert Committees, the teachers, academics and other officials of the University. The Vice-Chancellor assured the Academic Council that this significant expansion from 11 Schools to 20 Schools would be executed with utmost care and seeing to it that the large number of courses and programmes offered by the existing Schools are effectively consolidated and strengthened. He informed that a separate item about this matter had also been included in the agenda of the meeting. The members congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for this rare achievement.

The Chairman then requested the Member-Secretary to present the items on the Agenda.

The following items were taken up:

ITEM NO. 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Academic Council and to note the action taken thereon.

AC 41.1.1 The Member-Secretary informed the members that the Minutes of the 40th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 17th May, 2007 were circulated to the members. Comments were received from Prof. Parvin Sinclair about AC 40.4.2, AC. 40.5.2 and AC 40.36.3, from Prof. Vijayshri about AC 40.4.2, AC. 40.5.1, AC.40.5.2, AC.40.29.2 and from Dr. Eisha Kannadi about AC 40.5.1 and AC 40.5.2, which were placed before the Chairman and had been included in the agenda with his observations. The Chairman had observed that

1. There was no dissent from any member for any of the resolutions adopted by the Academic Council. All the resolutions were unanimous in that respect.
2. Other changes suggested by the members can be appropriately noted; if the members want opinions they expressed before the finalization of the resolution and their adoption, it can be noted.

The matter was discussed in detail. It was observed that standard procedures for recording of minutes of the meetings and their confirmation followed universally are being meticulously adhered to here also.

AC 41.1.2 The Academic Council confirmed the Minutes (**Annexure - 1**) of its 40th Meeting held on May 17, 2007 with the decision that the comments received from the members be appended with the Minutes. The Action Taken Report on the decisions of the meeting was noted.

ITEM NO. 2 To consider and approve the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the ACSC held on 21st February, 2007.

AC 41.2.1 The Member-Secretary informed the members that the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) held on 21st February, 2007 were circulated to the members and were confirmed by the ACSC at its 23rd

meeting held on May 22, 2007. The ACSC considered and approved the following major items:

- ◆ Phase Zero Form for revision of the course AFW(E): Feature Writing (AFW) (E) for BDP, Modifications for creating options in Certificate in Craft and Design Pottery; Minutes of the 5th Meeting of the Equivalence Committee; proposal for instituting Prof. Ram Reddy Gold Medal for Best Scholar in Master's Degree Programme in Social Sciences subjects; Status report on UNESCO Chair; Vision and Mission of NCDA as a Centre of Academic Research; starting of M.Phil. programme in various Schools/Disciplines of Studies; development of programmes of IGNOU both in print and on-line formats; recommendations of the Committee on establishing of new Schools of Studies, list of students qualified for award of Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates at the 18th Convocation; charging of separate examination fee for TEE.

AC 41.2.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the ACSC held on 21st February, 2007 **(Annexure-2).**

ITEM NO. 3 To consider and approve the Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the ACSC held on 22nd May, 2007.

AC 41.3.1 The Member-Secretary informed the members that the 23rd Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 22nd May, 2007. The ACSC considered and approved the following major items:

- ◆ Phase-3 Form for PG Diploma in Education Technology, B.Com. with Major in Accountancy & Finance, M.Com. in Finance and Taxation (joint programmes with Institute of Chartered Accountant of India as per MoU), Certificate in Bamboo Use Technology and Enterprise Development, Certificate in Rattan Technology and Enterprise Development, Certificate in Organic Farming., Master in Social Work (MSW) IInd year.

- ◆ Phase Zero Form for EEC-12: Economic Development since Independence, EPS-13: Modern Indian Political Thought, PHE-01: Elementary Mechanic.
- ◆ Change in the title of the B.Sc. (Nursing) to B.Sc. Nursing (Post Basic), Reintroduction of Compulsory Component of Continuous Evaluation in all programmes, Credit Transfer Scheme for M.Com. programme, Revised Structure of Courses BPVI-032 and BPVI-035: Food Microbiology and Paddy Processing for Diploma in Production of Value Products from Cereals, Pulses and Oil Seeds, Course structure of Distance Education specialized area in IInd year M.A. Education, Eligibility and qualification Criteria for B.Sc. Nautical Science/Diploma in Nautical Science programmes, Shifting of BMA-018: Maritime History and Commerce to IInd semester of B.Sc. Nautical Science, Change in Delivery System of Diploma in Civil Engineering Programme, Offering the Master of Science in Dietetics and Food Service Management Programme to the students of IHMC&N, Pusa, Conversion of GPA to PC, Penalty for Unfairmeans in Attempting Assignments, Replacement of the course MED-003 with the course MED-009 in the PG Diploma in Environment and Sustainable Development, Norms for Appointment of the External Examiners for Laboratory Courses
- ◆ Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Research Council, Ratification of the action taken by the VC in approving Partial Modification of MoU signed between L.N.Mittila University, Darbhanga and IGNOU, Research Degree Programme in Distance Education.

The Minutes were circulated to the members of the ACSC and comments received from Prof. B.S.Hansra about typographical error in ACSC 23.19.2 and non-inclusion of decision regarding Item No. 39; from Prof. Vijayshri regarding ACSC 23.1.2, ACSC 23.7.1, ACSC 23.7.2, ACSC 23.8.1, ACSC 23.11.2, ACSC 23.41.2, and from Dr. Eisha Kannadi on ACSC 23.40.2 had been placed before the Academic Council. He further apprised the members that with the approval of the Chairman, a

corrigendum about Item No. 39 had already been issued. He proposed that typographical error in ACSC 23.19.2, ACSC 23.40.1 and ACSC 23.40.2 may be corrected.

AC 41.3.2 The members discussed the matter and resolved as follows:

- i) In Resolution No. ACSC 23.19.2 July 2008 be corrected to July 2007,
- ii) In Resolution No. ACSC 23.40.1 and ACSC 23.40.2 MEG be corrected to MED,
- iii) Resolution No. ACSC 23.41.2 be deleted from the Minutes,
- iv) The following paragraph may be added at the end of Resolution No. ACSC 23.8.1.

ACSC 23.8.1: with the condition that the programme coordinator would certify before finalization that changes have been incorporated into the syllabus as per the suggestions given by the School Board.

AC 41.3.3 As regards Prof. Vijayshri's observations about ACSC 23.7.1 and ACSC 23.7.2, it was decided that the letter may be appended with the Minutes of the ACSC. With these modifications, the Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the ACSC held on 22nd May, 2007 (**Annexure-3**) were approved.

ITEM NO. 4 To consider and approve the withdrawal of PG Certificate - programme in "Writing for Television in Hindi".

AC 41.4.1 The Member-Secretary informed the Academic Council that the School Board of the School of Humanities at its 34th Meeting held on 13.2.2007, vide item No. 08 recommended the withdrawal of PG Certificate programme in "Writing for Television in Hindi" from January 2007 because the Task Force on Student Support Services recommended that the programme ought to be withdrawn due to low enrollment.

AC 41.4.2 During the discussion, it was emphasized that before launching of any programme, need survey for identification of target groups should be undertaken so that the programmes need not be withdrawn because of low enrollment.

AC 41.4.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the School of Humanities for withdrawal of the PG Certificate Programme in "Writing for Television in Hindi".

ITEM NO. 5 To consider and approve the Phase Zero Form for new courses in M.A. (Hindi) programme.

AC 41.5.1 The Member-Secretary informed the members that the School of Humanities has submitted the Phase Zero Forms for introduction of three new courses worth 16 credits for M.A. (Hindi) programme. At present, there are no optional courses for the IInd year students of M.A. (Hindi), therefore, these courses are being introduced as optional courses for them. Thus, it will provide them an option of studying either upanyas or poetry courses.

AC 41.5.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase-Zero Forms (**Annexures 4**) for new courses Meera Ka Vishesh Adhyan and Kabir Ka Vishesh Adhyan of four credits each and Madhyakalin Kavita of eight credits, along with their syllabi for M.A. (Hindi) programme.

ITEM NO. 6. To consider and approve the recommendations of the Brainstorming Session and faculty requirement of School of Law.

AC 41.6.1 Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Director, School of Law informed the Council that the School of Law organized a Brainstorming Session on June 4, 2007 to prepare a road map for Open and Distance Learning initiatives in Legal Education. Number of eminent legal experts and educationists attended the day long session. The recommendations on the brainstorming session have been further discussed in the School Board Meeting held on 5th June, 2007. The School Board suggested that further course of action may be taken in the matter.

AC. 41.6.2 The recommendations of the Brainstorming Session were discussed in detail. The following suggestions were made:

- i) BL and BGL are standard nomenclatures for the Bachelor degree in Law (academic);
- ii) need survey for offering BL/BGL/BA(Law) and other programmes should be undertaken before developing the programmes;
- iii) courses on Environmental Law, Maritime Law, Cyber Law should be included in the LLM programme;

- iv) for Legal Literacy programme, possibility of collaboration with other credible institutions, in addition to the Legal Literacy Mission, should be explored,
- v) include research collaborations and programmes in the list of programmes to be developed by the School;
- vi) pursue the Bar Council of India vigorously for permission to offer LLB programme.

AC 41.6.3 The Academic Council approved the above suggestions and resolved that the School may go ahead with the activities with proper advice and guidance from the Expert Committee and the School Board. Course development following the procedure approved by the Academic Council may be initiated by the School. For the assignment of disciplines in the School and for faculty requirement concrete proposals may be brought before the Academic Council.

ITEM NO. 7 To consider and approve the Phase 3 Form for PG Diploma in Food Safety and Quality Management.

AC 41.7.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the School of Agriculture had submitted the Phase-3 Form for PG Diploma in Food Safety and Quality Management. Prof. B.S. Hansra, Director, School of Agriculture explained that the programme envisages to train professionals in the field of development, implementation and auditing of Food Safety and Quality Management System for self-employment, employment in industries, regulators and certification bodies and training/counseling bodies. The programme shall be of 32 credits comprising of eight courses. The PG Diploma Programme shall be of one year duration and intended for graduates in Science with Chemistry/Biochemistry/Microbiology as one of the subjects and allied Sciences with Food Science, Home Science, Life Science, Agriculture, Biotechnology, Hotel Management, Dairy – Veterinary, Fisheries, and Hospitality Management. He also explained that most of the programmes of the School of Agriculture are sponsored by the Ministries of the Government of India or other organizations/agencies.

AC 41.7.2 During the discussions, it was pointed out that Products Technology and Value Addition was not a discipline in the University and hence it requires to be modified. Eligibility for enrolment as proposed in the Phase-3 Form was also confusing and therefore required clarifications.

AC 41.7.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase-3 Form (**Annexure-5**) for PG Diploma in Food Safety and Quality Management with the above suggestions.

ITEM NO. 8 To consider and approve the modified Phase-3 Form for the “Diploma in Watershed Management”.

AC 41.8.1 Prof. B.S. Hansra, Director, School of Agriculture apprised the members that the programme seeks to help develop human resources required in the areas of watershed development and management with the objectives of mobilization and capacity building of rural youth, women and landless, and generate awareness about the importance of sustainable development and maintenance of natural resources. The programme shall be of 1-4 year duration comprising eight courses worth 32 credits. The eligibility criteria for admission would be Senior Secondary (10+2). He further informed that 80% and 20% weightage shall be given to the term-end examination and continuous assessment, respectively. Practical shall be an essential component of the programme. For successful completion of the programme, learner would be required to have a minimum of 75% attendance in the practical sessions at Programme Study Centre.

The Phase-2 Form had been approved by the APC at its 20th Meeting held on 10-09-2003. The Phase-3 Form was approved by the School Board of School of Agriculture at its 6th Meeting held on 4th July, 2007.

AC 41.8.2 It was pointed out during the discussion that there was no discipline named Natural Resource Management under the School and therefore the same should be modified as Agriculture.

AC 41.8.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase-3 Form (**Annexure-6**) for the Diploma in Watershed Management with the above suggestions.

ITEM NO. 9 To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Modified Evaluation Scheme for the Four Diploma Programmes of School of Agriculture.

AC 41.9.1 The Member Secretary informed the members that in view of the decision of the Academic Council that about compulsory component of continuous evaluation in all the programmes of the University, the Vice-Chancellor had approved the modified evaluation schemes for the four diploma programmes being offered by the School of Agriculture. The scheme stipulated

- (a) incorporation of one assignment in each theory course,
- (b)
 - (i) weightage for assignment to be 20% of theory,
 - (ii) weightage for Term End Examination to be 80% of theory
- (c) The Term End Examination for each theory course would be of 50 marks. The minimum pass marks in Term End Examination will be 25. The marks obtained by the students will be converted to have a weightage of 80 per cent (on theory basis).

AC 41.9.2 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Modified Evaluation Schemes **(Annexure 7 to 10)** for the four Diploma Programmes of the School of Agriculture.

ITEM NO. 10 To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the matter relating to offering of BCA and MCA Programmes in both the cycles of admission, i.e. January & July cycles.

AC 41.10.1 The Member Secretary informed the members that the BDP Coordination Committee at its meeting held on 26.7.2002 had recommended for shifting of the admission cycle for the BDP programmes to July cycle. Earlier it was confined only to the B.Com., B.Sc., BTS and BCA programmes from July 2003 cycle and Master's Degree programmes in the next phase. After examining all the issues involved, the Vice-Chancellor had approved the proposal for offering BCA and MCA programmes in both the cycles of admission i.e. January and July cycles.

AC 41.10.2 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the matter relating to offering of BCA and MCA programmes in both the cycles of admission, i.e. January & July cycles. Since BCA & MCA are practical-oriented programmes and are offered semester-wise, the Academic Council also approved the proposal that a separate Student Handbook & Prospectus for these programmes would be prepared by the School in future in order to commence the programmes in January and July itself. Accordingly, the schedule of activities will be worked out by SRED in consultation with the School.

ITEM NO. 11 To consider and approve the Phase Zero Form for Major Revision in Existing Course EEC-12: Indian Economic Development since Independence”.

AC 41.11.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Economics faculty of School of Social Sciences had submitted the Phase Zero Form for revision of the BDP elective course EEC-12: Indian Economic Development since Independence. The Expert Committee at its meeting held on February 12, 2007 had framed the syllabus of the revised course and had suggested new code **EEC-22** and title **Indian Economic Development: Issues and Perspectives** for the course.

Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Director, SOSS explained that the Phase Zero Form for revision of the course EEC-12 was approved by the School Board of School of Social Sciences at its 40th Meeting held on 27th April, 2007.

AC 41.11.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase Zero Form for major revision of the existing course EEC-12: Indian Economic Development since Independence” **(Annexure-11)** with the directions that a new course code for the course should be obtained from the Planning & Development Division.

ITEM NO. 12 To Co-opt a member of the Academic Council in terms of the provisions of Statute 9 (1) (viii) in place of Prof. Omprakash Mishra.

AC 41.12.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Academic Council at its 37th Meeting held on 22.11.2006 co-opted Prof. Omprakash Mishra as its member in terms of the provisions of sub-clause viii of Clause 1 of Statute 9 of the Statutes of the University for a term of two years w.e.f. 24.2.2007. Consequent upon his appointment as Pro-Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU, he has become an *Ex-officio* member of the Academic Council under Clause 1 (ii) of Statute 9. The Chairman had recommended the name of Prof. Thankamuthu, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bharathidasan University, Trichi, Tamil Nadu for co-option in place of Prof. Omprakash Mishra for the residual term i.e. up to 23.2.2009.

AC 41.12.2 The Academic Council co-opted Prof. Thankamuthu, Former Vice-Chancellor, Bharathidasan University, Trichi, Tamil Nadu in place of Prof. Omprakash Mishra for the residual term i.e. up to 23.2.2009.

ITEM NO. 13 To report for information the approval of the Hon'ble Visitor for the institution of nine new Schools in the University.

AC 41.13.1 The Member Secretary informed the members that the Ministry of Human Resource Development *vide* its letter No. F.5-45/2007-DL dated 16th August, 2007 had conveyed the approval of the President in her capacity as the Visitor of the University for establishment of the following nine Schools of Studies:

1. School of Journalism and New Media Studies
2. School of Gender and Development Studies
3. School of Vocational Education and Training
4. School of Social Work
5. School of Tourism, Hospitality, Service Sectoral Management
6. School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies
7. School of Extension and Development Studies
8. School of Foreign Languages
9. School of Translation Studies and Training

The proposal for establishment of new Schools was considered by the Academic Council's Standing Committee at its 22nd Meeting held on 21.2.2007 and the Board of Management at its 89th Meeting held on 26.2.2007. The proposal after the approval of the Board of Management had been sent to the Visitor for amendment to the Statute 10(A)(1)(10) of the Statutes of the University.

The Chairman informed the members that the Finance Committee had noted the financial expenditure with regard to the creation of one post of Professor, two posts of Reader and four posts of Lecturer for each School initially. It was also informed that the current year's budget provides allocation for all the new Schools.

AC 41.13.2 During the discussions, a view was expressed that the disciplines to the new schools may be allotted only after discussing the matter in the core expert committees and in the respective School Boards.

AC 41.13.3 The Academic Council noted the approval of the Hon'ble Visitor for the institution of nine new Schools in the University, and creation of faculty positions for the same.

ITEM NO. 14 To consider the matter relating the admission to MCA July cycle of a 14 year old candidate, Mr. Shailendra Kumar Verma.

AC 41.14.1 Dr. S. K. Mohapatra, Registrar, SRED informed the members that the Regional Director, Lucknow, forwarded the case of Mr. Shailendra Kumar Verma, a 14 year old candidate, for admission to MCA July 2007 Cycle. The candidate passed Bachelor of Computer Applications (BCA) from Lucknow University with First Division scoring 74.93% marks. He had passed Sr. Sec. Examination of the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) in June 2004 when he was 11 years old. The print and electronic media gave wide coverage of the child prodigy on passing BCA of Lucknow University. Mr. Shailendra Kumar Verma has also cleared Scholarship Aptitude Test (SAT), TOEFL (Test of English as a Foreign Language) in 2004 and secured admission in a US University in BCA programme. He could not go to US due to financial constraints.

The matter has been examined by the Faculty of School of Computer and Information Sciences and unanimously recommended that the candidate may be admitted to IGNOU's MCA Programme in July 2007 cycle.

The Regional Director has further stated that the financial condition of the candidate's parents is very poor as his father, Shri Tej Bhadur Verma, is a labourer and mother Smt. Chhaya Devi is illiterate. They cannot afford the fee of the University. The Regional Director on the request of his father had recommended for full fee concession. Dr. Mohapatra, informed the members that the Vice-Chancellor had considered the request of Shri Tej Bahadur Verma and approved full fee concession for his son for MCA programme, as a very special case.

AC 41.14.2 The Academic Council considered and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in granting admission into MCA July 2007 cycle and extending full fee concession to Mr. Shailendra Kumar Verma, as a very special case.

ITEM NO. 15 To report on the general guidelines for re-admission to B.Ed. programme.

AC 41.15.1 Dr. S. K. Mohapatra, informed that the Academic Council's Standing Committee at its meeting held on February 21, 2005 *vide* its Resolution No. ACSC 12.23.1 ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in extending the provision of re-admission to B.Ed. programme. The Standing Committee further directed that the guidelines for re-admission for B.Ed. programme be developed by the School of Education and SR&ED. Pursuant to the above decisions, the University had been allowing re-admission to B.Ed. students for completing the courses/workshops required for successful completion of the left over course(s); the general guidelines for re-admission to all other programmes offered by the University are being adopted for re-admission in B.Ed. programme as well.

AC 41.15.2 The Academic Council noted that the general guidelines for re-admission to all other programmes offered by the University are being adopted for re-admission in B.Ed. programme as well.

ITEM NO. 16 To consider and approve 50% reduction in fee for Agriculture Programmes.

AC 41.16.1 Prof. B.S.Hansra, Director, SOA informed the members that the School had launched two diploma programmes, namely Diploma in Value Added Products from Fruits and Vegetables and Diploma in Dairy Technology for rural people i.e. farmers, unemployed graduates, rural youth and women. Enrolment in these programmes is low as the fee of Rs. 8000/- is very high. Though the programmes had been developed with the support of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, the delivery cost was being recovered from the students. He proposed that the fee for these programmes be reduced by 50% of the present fee for a period of two-three years to sustain the programme in infancy state.

AC 41.16.2 The Academic Council was of the view that the School of Agriculture should take up the matter with the concerned Ministries in the Centre and in the States and pursue them to sponsor students for the programmes and reimburse their fees.

AC 41.16.3 The Academic Council considered the proposal and decided that the candidates who require assistance may be identified and up to 50% fee concession may be given to them decided on a case-to-case basis.

ITEM NO. 17 To consider and approve the Phase-3 Form (Course Structure) for the PG Certificate Programme in Bangla - Hindi translation.

AC 41.17.1 Prof. Rita Rani Paliwal, SOH was invited to explain the rationale and objectives of the programme. She informed the members that the main objectives of the programme would be to:

- ◆ facilitate inter-lingual, intra-lingual academic and cultural activity among Indian languages;
- ◆ promote employment and national integration;
- ◆ create job potential and confidence in the people who work through Indian languages; and
- ◆ help social justice by bringing those in the main stream who are lagging behind.

The School Board of School of Humanities at its meeting held on 4th July, 2007 considered and approved the Phase-3 Form. The programme was likely to be launched form July, 2008 session.

AC 41.17.2 The proposal was discussed in detail. The members wanted to know if any need survey had been done and if there would be enough takers for the programme.

AC 41.17.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase-3 Form for the PG Certificate Programme in Bangla - Hindi translation (**Annexure-12**). The Academic Council also decided that a need survey should be done before launching the programme and requirement of library on software would also be assessed.

ITEM NO. 18 To consider and approve the Phase-3 Form (Course Structure) for the PG Certificate Programme in Malayalam - Hindi translation.

AC 41.18.1 Prof. Rita Rani Paliwal, SOH explained the rationale and objectives of the programme to the members. She further informed that the School Board of School of Humanities at its meeting held on 4th July,2007 considered and approved the Phase – 3 Form. The programme was likely to be launched form July, 2008 session.

AC 41.18.2 The proposal was discussed at length. A need survey was also suggested for this programme.

AC 41.18.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase-3 Form (Course Structure) for the PG Certificate Programme in Malayalam - Hindi Translation (**Annexure-13**). It was recommended that the requirement of library and software in this case should be assessed and also a need survey be conducted.

ITEM NO. 19 To consider and approve the matter related to Improvement in Division/Class.

AC 41.19.1 Dr. S..K.Mohapatra, Registrar, SRED informed that the University had been receiving several representations from the students who had completed their programmes but missed the next Division/Class by a margin of a few marks. This shortfall

had been hindering the students from applying for admission to higher studies, jobs and UGC's Net examination. So far there was no provision for improvement of marks/grade, once the students were awarded the Degree. Keeping in view the demand from the students, the Vice Chancellor had constituted a Committee consisting of Directors of Schools and Registrar, SRED. The Committee after detailed deliberations recommended that the students be permitted for improvement in the Class/Division.

AC 41.19.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the Committee (**Annexure-14**) constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to work into the matter related to improvement in Division/Class.

ITEM NO. 20 To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in Conversion of percentage grade into marks for B.Ed. Programme.

AC 41.20.1 Dr. S.K.Mohapatra, Registrar, SRED informed the member that the B.Ed. programme of the University is under Letter Grade (LG) scheme with Point Grade (PG) for each course and Cumulative Grade Point Average for the overall programme. The University had received several representations from the students of B.Ed. programme requesting for conversion of CGPA into marks. In order to facilitate them for being considered for employment and higher studies, the Academic Council's Standing Committee has recommended the proposal of conversion of CGPA into equivalent percentage through a formula at its meeting held on 19.6.2006 which was approved by the Academic Council at its meeting held on 12.11.2006. Accordingly, the University had been issuing certificates to the students converting the CGPA into percentage. The University has now been receiving requests from the students for certifying aggregate marks secured by them as well. In order to facilitate the Recruitment Boards as well as the students, the Vice Chancellor had approved calculation of obtained marks out of 1100 marks, as there are total 11 courses prescribed in the programme. Accordingly the certificate of aggregate marks and the marks secured by the candidates equivalent to the percentage is being issued to the students.

AC 41.20.2 The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in conversion of percentage grade into marks for B.Ed. programme. Academic Council also approved similar actions in the case of other courses too depending upon the demand. The Council also desired that the report of the committee appointed to look into the grading system be expedited and placed before the Academic Council at its next meeting.

ITEM NO. 21 To consider the introduction of Exam Registration Fee for International Students.

AC 41.21.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that a committee was constituted by the Vice-Chancellor under the chairpersonship of Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Pro-Vice-Chancellor to consider the issue of Examination Fee for International students. The committee recommended as under:

- i) An examination fee for International Students (except SAARC countries) @ USD 10/- per course.
- ii) An examination fee for SAARC students @ INR 100/- per course.
- iii) Late fee for examination registration after last date till online registration is open @ USD 50/- for International Students (except SAARC countries) and @ INR 500/- for SAARC students.

In addition to the above, the earlier practice of charging examination fee, as detailed below will continue:

- i) Indian Student willing to give examination outside India shall have to pay USD 50/- per paper for first appearance and USD 100/- per paper for subsequent appearances (wherever IGNOU PI is arranging exams, 50% of this fee will be paid to them).
- ii) International Students willing to give examination in India shall have to pay USD 20/- or its equivalent in INR for complete examination.
- iii) International Students changing centre abroad will need to pay fee as under (i) above.

AC 41.21.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the above recommendations of the Committee for introduction of examination registration fees for International Students.

ITEM NO. 22 To consider and approve the proposal for setting up of an Expert Committee to study and examine the rationale and prospects of a School of International Relations and Strategic Analyses under the auspices of IGNOU.

AC 41.22.1 Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Pro-Vice-Chancellor apprised the members that in the era of globalization, study of International Relations has come to occupy a centre stage in understanding the complex international and global phenomena. The rapidity of changes taking place globally and the diversity of issues surfacing in modern societies across the world transcend the narrow confines of the nation state framework of the past. These developments therefore call for systematic analyses of the application of new scientific methodologies and innovate research tools. However, the opportunities for such studies are very limited in the country as only three universities have full fledged courses and programmes in the subject and none of the open and distance education institutions and universities have appropriate courses and programmes on offer.

Prof. Mishra proposed that an Expert Committee be set up to study and make appropriate recommendations regarding the setting up of a full-fledged School of International Relations and Strategic Analyses. He also proposed that a Brainstorming Session involving teachers and research on International Relations and Defence Analyses be convened by the University along side the meeting of the Expert Committee.

AC 41.22.2 The members welcomed the proposal and discussed it in some detail. It was suggested that the possibility of associating some international experts from South Asian Countries with the initiative may also be explored. It was also suggested that Prof. Shanta Verma, Delhi University, Prof. D.Gopal, IGNOU and Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, IGNOU may also be associated. With these suggestions, the proposal was approved along with the Expert Committee consisting of the following:

1. Dr. S.D.Pradhan, Secretary, Govt. of India (National Security Council Secretariat).
2. Amb. Dr. T.P.Srinivasan, Former Ambassador to the USA, (Visiting Professor, Mahatma Gandhi Univeristy, Kottayam).
3. Amb. Arundhati Ghose, Former Permanent Representative to the UN in Geneva.
4. Amb. K.Sreenivas, Former Foreign Secretary.

5. Admiral P.J.Jacob, Chairman, Global India Foundation, Bangaluru.
6. Mr. N.Sisodia, Director, Institute for Defence and Strategic Analyses (IDSA).
7. Prof. Pushpesh Pant, Dean, School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi.
8. Prof. V. Suryanarayanan, Rtd. Professor of South East Asian Studies, Madras University.
9. Prof. J.Bandopadhyaya, Emeritus Professor, Jadavpur University, West Bengal.
10. Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath, Principal, Lady Shriram College, New Delhi.
11. Prof. N.K. Jha, Allahabad University.
12. Dr. K.C.Sreekumar, Retd. Professor of Political Science (Presently Coordinator, IGNOU Study Centre, Poojappura, Trivandrum).
13. Prof. Shanta N Verma, Department of Political Science, Delhi University, Delhi – 110 007
14. Prof. D.Gopal, Professor in Political Sciences, SOSS, IGNOU.
15. Dr. S.K.Mohapatra, Registrar, SRED, IGNOU
16. Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Pro Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU, Convenor.

Additional members may be co-opted with the approval of the Vice-Chancellor.

ITEM NO. 23 To consider and approve the proposal for creation of a New School of Medical Sciences.

AC 41.23.1 Prof. Bimla Kapoor, Professor of Nursing and Dr. Ruchika Kuba, Reader, SOHS were invited to the meeting when the item was taken up for discussion. Dr. Ruchika Kuba, School of Health Sciences explained the proposal in detail and stated that a national meeting of medical experts was convened by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor on August 20, 2007 for creating a separate School of Medical Sciences. The experts unanimously recommended that the creation of such a school will be a quantum leap in fulfilling the national goals which are envisaged under the National Rural Health Mission as well as the National Health Policy. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor agreed that there was a need for such a school. There was another meeting under the chairmanship of the Hon'ble VC on August 25, 2007 with the President, Vice President and other Office bearers of Dental Council of India (DCI) along with the Medical Faculty of SOHS who are the members of the Joint Monitoring and

Implementation Committee for developing and launching the PG Dental Programmes. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor desired that a separate discipline of Dental Sciences should also be created in the proposed new School of Medical Sciences. The President and the Vice President of DCI endorsed this view overwhelmingly.

AC 41.23.2 Prof. Bimla Kapoor, Professor of Nursing in the School of Health Sciences was of the view that a School of Nursing and a School of Medical Sciences may be established. Till then *status quo* having Nursing as a discipline in the School of Health Sciences may be maintained.

AC 41.23.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal for creation of two separate Schools i.e. the School of Medical Sciences and School of Nursing.

ITEM NO. 24 To consider the recommendations of the Expert Committee on Professional Development Programme for Adult Educators.

AC 41.24.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that an Expert Committee was constituted by the Vice Chancellor to examine a proposal on the Professional Development Programme for Adult Educators submitted by Professor S.Y.Shah of Jawaharlal Nehru University. The first meeting of the Expert Committee was held on August 13, 2007.

The Committee recognized the need and importance of PDP for the growing number of Adult Educators and agreed in principle to initiate the process of launching PG Diploma/Certificate Programme for the Professional Development of Adult Educators by IGNOU. The Committee also, felt it would be prudent to offer two separate programmes for two categories of functionaries. The first programme will be a PG Diploma for Project Coordinators/Project Officers/Lecturers/Librarians. The second programme will be a Certificate for the *Preraks* at the grassroots level and offered through the medium of Hindi and Regional Languages. The programmes will be under the new School of Extension and Development Studies.

AC 41.24.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the Expert Committee (**Annexure-15**) on Professional Development Programme for Adult Educators.

ITEM NO. 25 To consider the recommendations of the IGNOU-EIAH&LA Committee for offering B.A. in International Hospitality Administration.

AC 41.25.1

The Member Secretary informed the Council that a meeting was held on June 8, 2007 in the Vice-Chancellor's chamber to discuss a proposal for an IGNOU-EIAH&LA academic collaboration. The Vice-Chancellor chaired the meeting and Mr. K.V. Simon (Regional Vice President, American Hotel & Lodging Educational Institute (EIAH&LA), Mumbai), Prof. Kapil Kumar and Dr. C.G. Naidu were also present. In the meeting, it was decided to constitute a Joint Committee to:

- a) identify courses/programmes that can be developed and delivered to the students in the areas of hotel and hospitality services management,
- b) identify areas of collaboration and the responsibilities of participating institutes,
- c) develop guidelines and modalities for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IGNOU and EIAH&LA.

The Joint Committee in its first meeting held on June 26, 2007 made a recommendation that IGNOU will offer a Degree programme in International Hospitality Administration (3 Years) in collaboration with EIAH&LA and this programme will be different from the existing B.Sc. Degree Programme offered jointly with NCHMCT. This programme is to be launched from January, 2008 and the programme announcement will need to be made in September, 2007. All preparations will have to be ready and completed prior to September, 2007. For this purpose a small sub committee was constituted by the Vice Chancellor.

The Sub-Committee recommended to offer B.A. in International Hospitality Administration in collaboration with EIAH&LA. The Recommendations of the Sub Committee and the Phase-3 Form: Programme Design and Detailed Programme Report is placed at Annexure-18. The Vice Chancellor had approved that the programme would be under the new School of Tourism and Hospitality Services Sectoral Management.

AC 41.25.2

The proposal was discussed in detail. The members wanted to know the rationale of fee sharing between EIAH&LA and IGNOU, credit weightage, arrangement of examination and certification.

AC 41.25.3 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the IGNOU-EIAH&LA Committee and Phase-3 Form (**Annexure-16**) for offering B.A. in International Hospitality Administration subject to the clarifications on the above issues.

Item from the Chair

AC.41.26.1 The Chairman informed the Academic Council that the Finance Committee at its 56th Meeting held on 27.8.2007 while considering the matter relating to enhanced allocation and means of additional revenue observed that the expenditures towards all academic, administrative and examination functions have increased significantly during the last two years. The rates of remuneration for all activities of the University have been recently revised and payments are made in the revised rates to teachers, experts, committee members, examiners, course writers, academic counselors and study centre coordinators. This revision and payment of enhanced honorarium effected after about 10 years, has increased the expenditure under these heads on an average 60 per cent. Revisions of hundreds of courses are being initiated now. The travel costs have also increased substantially. University has also committed to provide state-of-the-art ICT facilities to the regional offices and all the study centres in the country. The University is not receiving any non-plan grant from the government as of now and also conducting a number of socially relevant courses and awareness programmes free or with a token fee. The fee for various IGNOU programmes are much less than the fee charged by the Open Learning System in the Private Sector and State Open Universities which are of similar kind to that of IGNOU.

In view of the above, the Finance Committee recommended 15% enhancement of fees for all the programmes across the board from January 2008 cycle onwards.

AC 41.26.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the Finance Committee for enhancement of fees up to 10% to 15% for all the programmes across the board from January 2008 cycle for fresh admissions and revised fee for re-registration will be made effective from July, 2008 cycle onwards.

The Meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.

(V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Chairman

