

MINUTES OF THE THIRTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE PLANNING BOARD,
IGNOU HELD ON MARCH 6TH 2006 AT 11:30 AM. IN THE CONFERENCE
ROOM, BLOCKS, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI - 110
068

The following were present:

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| 1. Prof. H.P. Dikshit | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. N.R. Madhav Menon | Member |
| 3. Prof. (Ms.) Surabi Banerjee | Member |
| 4. Shri. Shravan Patel | Member |
| 5. Prof. Anu Aneja | Member |
| 6. Dr. E. Vayunandan | Member |
| 7. Dr. P. Shiva Swaroop | Member |
| 8. Shri. Dalip Kumar Tetri | Member |
| 9. Prof. S.C. Garg | Special Invitee |
| 10. Shri. Bhaskaranarayana | Special Invitee |
| 11. Prof. Madhulika Kaushik | Member Secretary |

Prof. K.K. Aggarwal, Prof. N. Mahmood Quraishi, Dr. D. Padmanaban, Prof. S.K. Aggarwal and Dr. (Ms.) Anjoo Saran (Upadhyaya) could not attend the meeting.

Dr. C.G. Naidu, Deputy Director and Shri R. Sudarsan, Analyst were present to assist the Member Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all members to the meeting of the Planning Board. The Chairman introduced the new members and placed on record, his appreciation for the contribution made by the outgoing members Prof. B.S. Saraswat, Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Dr. Masood Parveez, Ms. Poonam Bhushan, Dr. Kamalakar Singh, Prof. S. Neelamegham, Dr. J.P. Singh, Prof. A.K. Sharma, Prof. A.S. Narang and Prof. Beena Shah.

He informed members about his meeting with the Chief Justice of India (CJI) and other Hon'ble Judges of the Supreme Court along with Prof. Maahava Menon and the request received from the Dental Council of India to offer programmes in dental education in collaboration with IGNOU.

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

PB.31.1 To confirm the minutes of the 30th meeting of the Planning Board held on April 4th 2005 and to note the action taken thereon

PB.31.1.1 Prof. S.C. Garg apprised the members that minutes of the Thirtieth meeting of the Planning Board were circulated to

the Members and no comments had been received from the members. He proposed that the minutes be deemed to be confirmed as circulated

PB.31.1.2 The Board confirmed the minutes as circulated

PB.31.1.3 Presenting the action taken report on the minutes of the 30th Meeting of the Planning Board. Prof. S.C. Garg mentioned that the School of Continuing Education has taken initiatives for developing a Programme on Gender studies. Masters Programmes in **Public** Administration. Public Policy Sociology, Economics and the certificate programme in ICT Application in Libraries have been launched among others in the month of July 2005. ■

The board was also informed that the School of Agriculture is developing two programmes Diploma in Dairy Technology and Diploma in Meat Technology and that the School of Law is engaged in Programme development related to Cyber Law. Patent Law etc

PB.31.2 To consider and **confirm** the recommendations of the **26th, 27th & 28th meetings** of the Academic Programme Committee, a Standing committee of the **Planning** Board held on 0810912005, **18/10/2005** and 1110112006 **respectively** and the **subsequent action** taken report

PB.31.2.1 Prof. S.C. Garg explained the rigorous method followed in developing **IGNOU** Programmes and reported that in the **26th, 27th and 28th** Meetings of the Academic Programme Committee, a total of 5 **Phase-II** forms **were approved** for the next Phase and Eleven Programmes were approved for launch.

The Board was also informed that due to personal initiative of the Chairman and VC, **IGNOU** Prof. H.P Dikshit, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between **IGNOU** and **LBSNAA** (Lal Bahadur Shastri National **Academy** of Administration, Mussoorie) for offer of mutually agreed programmes and an Edusat supported network of 131 **SITs** has been created for **videoconferencing** and another network of **850** primary schools to help improve the quality of education has been **established** in a record time of three months.

Prof S.C. Garg apprised the **Members** about the significance of the Programme 'Post Graduate Diploma in Community Cardiology'. He said that many doctors will be equipped with competence to attend to the needs of the rural India through this Programme.

PB 31.2.2 While confirming the minutes of the APC, the Board appreciated the efforts made by the University in improving the access of education to remote areas and wider cross section of our people.

PB.31.3 To present a report on the 17th **Convocation** of **IGNOU** held on 18th February 2006.

PB 31.3.1 It was reported that during the 17th convocation, the University awarded Degrees, **Diplomas**, and Certificates to 75,174 students and Conferred **D.Sc** degree (**honoris causa**) to **Padma Shree** N.R. Narayana **Murty**, Chairman and Chief Mentor. Infosys.

Prof. S.C. Garg informed that the University has in the past few years shifted the center of **gravity** of educational programmes to Post **Graduation** and Research. He informed the Members that in the last 3 years, 12 Post Graduate Programmes and 12 **Ph.D** Programmes were added to the list of **IGNOU** Programmes. He reported that **IGNOU** now offers 125 Programmes through 1400 Study Centers with the core faculty of about 325 in 11 Schools of Studies. A copy each of the University profile, **VC's** report and Convocation address **were provided** to all members.

PB 31.3.2 The Planning Board noted the report and expressed its appreciation for growth **quality** and excellence.

PB.31.4 To **inform** the Plannhg Board--regarding the recommendations of the Academic Council and the **action** taken thereafter

PB.31.4.1 Prof S.C. Garg apprised the **Board** of the decisions taken in the Thirty-Third and Thirty-Fourth Meetings of the Academic Council. The Board was informed that all mapr Programmes like MBA, MCA have been fully revised / upgraded and shelf life of all courses has now been fixed at 5 years. The revision exercise has therefore been institutionalized as a continuous process. The Board was also apprised of the

interest shown by **two** Chinese Universities in associating with IGNOU for offering two **IGNOU's** IT programmes in China. where the complete **cycle** of course offer, **evaluation** and certification has to be done by IGNOU. The PVC drew the attention of the Members **on** the teacher training efforts successfully implemented by the University.

PB .31.4.2 The Planning Board noted the **minutes** of the Academic Council.

PB .31.5 Any other matter

PB.31.5.1 With the permission of the Chair. Prof. S.C. Garg requested the members to suggest directions for future development in the University, in view of the impending preparations of Me Eleventh Plan proposals.

PB. 31.5.2 Prof. N.R. Madav **Menon** appreciated the **effort** made for **establishing** the School of Law and **highlighted** the need for offering legal and paralegal programmes through the Distance mode. He welcomed the initiatives taken by the Vice Chancellor with the Chief Justice of **India** and Senior Judges of the Supreme Court to sign a Memorandum of Understanding for the development of Programmes to **meet** the requirements of the Judges and other functionaries associated with Judiciary. He emphasized that IGNOU can deliver law programmes through electronic grid, which has been proposed for connecting all Courts. He suggested that Edusat supported delivery of programmes can provide the much required continuing education for the Judges with less pressure on their judicial time. He said that the government has already allotted Rupees one thousand crore for computerization of court records, judicial system **is** now ideally placed to use the potential of IGNOU.


Providing compelling statistics **about** the need and supply gap of Paralegal professionals in the country. **Prof. Menon** advised that IGNOU should 'develop a Paralegal services Assistanceship **Programme**. He also suggested that IGNOU could explore the possibility of offering Bachelors programme in law for all categories of **learners** except those intending to practice in a **court of Law**, as Bar council recognition is required only for enabling the graduates to practice Law. He also suggested that IGNOU should develop a certificate course in Citizenship Education. Prof **Menon** was requested to provide a detailed note on these inputs.

Shri. Shravan Patel endorsed the views of Prof. Menon. He emphasized that IGNOU Programmes should have global inputs and orientation, as India is experiencing significant economic growth. He suggested that the University should develop programmes in Population Studies. Mediation. Arbitration, Risk Management and Insurance etc.

Mr. Bhaskaranarayana briefed the activities and achievements of IGNOU especially with respect to Satellite supported Education. Briefing the Board about the developments in Edusat related initiatives he highlighted the successful network of educational Institutes. Engineering colleges established in the North Eastern states and in the states of Kerala. Tamil Nadu. Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka. Responding to the Chairman's request about IGNOU's participation as a user for the next satellite venture of ISRO, he assured the University that that ISRO would extend full cooperation in implementing required technology for the benefit of its learners and the larger goal of social development, which is the common objective of both the organizations.

The Chairman appreciated the suggestions and desired that a working group be constituted to develop 11th Plan proposals. The Board authorized the Chairman to constitute the Group.

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


(H.P. DIKSHIT)
Chairman