

Minutes of the 27th School Board Meeting

The 27th School Board meeting of SOCIS was held on October 21, 2008. The following members attended the meeting:

1. Prof. Manohar Lal, Director SOCIS	Chairman
2. Prof. M. Aslam, Director, NCIDE, IGNOU	Member
3. Prof. B.S. Hansra, Director, SOA, IGNOU	Member
4. Prof. S.K.D. Rao, Director, SOL, IGNOU	Member
5. Prof. Kamal Yadav, SOMS, IGNOU	Member
6. Prof. Om Vikas, Ex-Director, IITM, Gwalior	Special Invitee
7. Prof. Chandan Singh, Punjabi University, Patiala	Special Invitee
8. Sh. Shashi Bhushan, SOCIS, IGNOU	Member
9. Sh. Akshay Kumar, SOCIS, IGNOU	Special Invitee
10. Sh. P.V. Suresh, SOCIS, IGNOU	Member
11. Sh. V.V. Subrahmanyam, SOCIS, IGNOU	Member
12. Sh. M.P. Mishra, SOCIS, IGNOU	Member

At the outset, the Chairman placed on record his gratitude for the valuable guidance to the School by the earlier School Board members, who finished their term. Further, he welcomed and introduced the following new members of the School Board:

Prof. M. Aslam, Director, NCIDE, IGNOU

Prof. B.S. Hansra, Director, SOA, IGNOU

Prof. S.K.D. Rao, Director, SOL, IGNOU

Prof. Kamal Yadav, SOMS, IGNOU

Sh. P.V. Suresh, SOCIS, IGNOU

Then, the Chairman took up the agenda items one by one.

Item No. 27.1 Confirmation of the minutes of 26th School Board meeting held on September 28, 2007.

Item No. 27.2 To consider Phase-3 form for Master of Philosophy (M.Phil) in Computer Science.

27.2.1 Prof. Manohar Lal and Sh. Shashi Bhushan explained to the members various measures taken by the school, starting from the approval of the concept in the School Board to the Phase-1 form and then holding of two Expert Committee meetings in order to launch M.Phil programme in Computer Science. Phase III form of M.Phil in Computer Science was placed before the members for discussion and approval.

27.2.2 The Board Considered and approved Phase-3 form of M.Phil programme in Computer Science with the following suggestions:

- Phase-3 form of M.Phil programme in Computer Science submitted by the School should be slightly modified in terms of eligibility criteria, duration as per the recent circular issued by the university with regard to M.Phil programme.
- The suggested eligibility conditions for enrolment to the M.Phil programme were modified as follows:
 - (i) Masters Degree (MCA/MS/M.Sc) in Computer Science / IT / Computer Applications (with minimum of 55%)
 - OR**
 - (ii) M.Tech (Computer Science / IT) (with minimum of 55%)
 - OR**
 - (iii) B.Tech (Computer Science / IT) (with minimum of 70% and 2 years teaching experience)

Item No. 27.3 To consider Phase-3 form for Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D) in Computer Science.

27.3.1 Prof. Manohar Lal explained the various measures taken by the School in order to launch the Ph.D programme.

27.3.2 The Board considered and approved Phase-3 form of Ph.D programme in Computer Science our following suggestions:

Phase-3 form of Ph.D programme submitted by the School should be slightly modified in term of eligibility criteria. The School Board recommended the following qualifications for admission to Ph.D programme:

- (i) M. Phil degree in the Computer Science/IT etc with 55%
- OR**
- (ii) Master's degree or an equivalent degree from any University or a recognized Institute of higher learning in any relevant branch of Science / Engineering & Technology with atleast 60% marks (55% for SC/ST/PH candidates).
- OR**
- (iii) The candidates having Master's degree in any subject with minimum 70% marks (55% for SC/ST/PH candidates) having sufficient background in the area of computer science / IT, may also be considered. However, the admission cases in this category will be recommended by a Sub-Committee on the basis of the performance in a seminar to be given by the candidate in the area of research after the entrance test.
- OR**
- (iv) B.Tech in Computer Science / Information Technology with 70% marks (65% marks for SC/ST/PH candidates) with 5 years experience either of teaching or in the software industry may also be considered. However, the admission cases in this category will be recommended by a

Sub-Committee on the basis of the performance in a seminar to be given by the candidate in the area of research after the entrance test.

**Item No. 27.4 To consider Phase-1 and Phase-3 forms of CIT programme.
(Reporting item)**

27.4.1 Sh. P.V. Suresh Programme Co-ordinator explained that the revised phase-0 form of CIT was approved by School Board on June 1st, 2007 and Academic Council on December 31st, 2007. However, since CIT is a new programme, it was decided by School Council on June 3rd, 2008 that Phase-1, Phase-2, and Phase-3 forms should be submitted for approval of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor. They were approved by Hon'ble VC on September 17th, 2008. Phase-1 and Phase-3 forms of CIT were herewith enclosed.

27.4.2 The Board considered and approved the Phase-1 and Phase-3 form of CIT programme.

Item No. 27.5 Introduction of Entrance Examination for admission to MCA and BCA programmes. (Reporting item)

27.5.1 Sh. V.V.Subrahmanyam explained that the issue of introduction of entrance examination for admission to MCA and BCA programmes of SOCIS, was discussed in 25th meeting of School Board of SOCIS held on June 01, 2007 as Item No. 5. It was considered and approved by the School Board. Consequently, the item was placed before the 24th meeting of ACSC held on 17.12.2007. Subsequently, the matter was placed in the 42nd meeting of AC held on 31.12.2007, in which it was decided that a three-member committee of experts to be appointed by the Hon'ble V.C. should examine the proposal and give its recommendations.

For this purpose, the Committee of the following three experts:

1. Prof. Gautam Baura, Director, IIT, Guwahati
2. Prof. Om Vikas, former Director, IIITM, Gwalior
3. Prof. Manohar Lal, Director, SOCIS, IGNOU,

was constituted by the Hon'ble V.C. **This Committee** met on August 27, 2008 to deliberate on the issue, and recommended that **an entrance test be conducted for admission to MCA and BCA programmes of SOCIS.**

Finally, the recommendation of the above committee was submitted to the Hon'ble V.C for his kind consideration. **The Hon'ble V.C. approved the recommendation of the Committee on September 11, 2008. The decision may be implemented for the students to be admitted in July 2009 onwards.**

27.5.2 The Board considered and approved the introduction of Entrance Examination for admission to BCA and MCA programmes.

Item No. 27.6 Reduction of pass percentage from 50% to 40% for courses of MCA(Revised) and BCA programmes. (Reporting Item)

27.6.1 The issue of reduction of pass percentage from 50% to 40% for students of MCA (Revised) and BCA programmes of SOCIS, was discussed in 26th meeting of School Board of SOCIS held on Sep 28, 2007 as Item No. 7. It was considered and approved by School Board. Consequently, the item was placed before the 24th meeting ACSC held on 17.12.2007. Subsequently, the matter was placed in the 42nd meeting of AC held on 31.12.2007, in which it was decided that a three member committee of experts to be constituted by the Hon'ble V.C. should examine the proposal and give its recommendations.

The Committee of the following three experts:

1. Prof. Gautam Baura, Director, IIT, Guwahati
2. Prof. Om Vikas, former Director, IIITM, Gwalior
3. Prof. Manohar Lal , Director, SOCIS, IGNOU,

was constituted for the purpose by the Hon'ble V.C. **This Committee** met on August 27, 2008 to deliberate on the issue, and **recommended that pass percentage be 40% for each course and for aggregate for MCA (revised) and BCA programmes.**

Finally, the recommendation of the above committee was submitted to the Hon'ble V.C for his kind consideration on September 11, 2008. **The Hon'ble V.C approved the recommendation of the Committee.** The decision may be implemented for candidates appearing in TEE Dec 2008 onwards.

27.6.2 The Board considered and approved the reduction of pass percentage from 50% to 40% for courses of MCA (Revised) and BCA programmes.

Item No. 27.7 Reduction of pass percentage in CS-60 from 50% to 35% for BCA as well as for MCA students, wherever applicable. (Reporting Item)

27.7.1 There has been consistently a large percentage of failures in CS-60, a course of MCA/BCA of SOCIS. In this respect, the School has been receiving a large number of representations from the concerned students. The SR&ED also requested the School to find out some alternative in this respect. In August 2008, Prof. O.P. Mishra, PVC, had a meeting in this respect, with Director SOCIS and Registrar (SRE&D). In the light of the above facts, the matter was discussed in a Faculty Meeting of SOCIS held in September 2008. *The faculty recommended, as one of the alternatives, that: passing criteria of CS-60 should be the same as for any other course in BDP, i.e., 35%.*

The above recommendation of the faculty of SOCIS was placed for kind consideration of the **Hon'ble V.C. The Hon'ble Chancellor approved the recommendation on September 11, 2008.**

27.7.2 The issue was considered and approved by the School Board and suggested that the decision may be implemented for the TEE to be held in Dec 2008 onwards.

Item No. 27.8 To approve the eligibility conditions for Academic Counselors of Certificate in Information Technology (CIT)

27.8.1 The faculty of the School hereby propose the following eligibility conditions for academic counselors of CIT:

BCA/MCA/BSc(CS/IT)MSc(CS/IT)/BTech(CS/IT)MTech(CS/IT)/PhD(CS/IT)

27.8.2 The School Board considered and approved the eligibility conditions for Academic Counselors of CIT.

Item No. 27.9 Software requirements for Certificate in Information Technology (CIT)

27.9.1 The faculty of the School hereby propose the following Software requirements for CIT:

- Microsoft Windows XP or Higher versions
- Linux
- Any C complier
- Microsoft Office/Star Office
- Java Development Kit (JDK)
- Microsoft Front Page

Wherever not mentioned, latest versions need to be available.

27.9.2 The School Board considered and approved the software requirements for CIT.

Item No. 27.10 Machine to student ratio for Certificate in Information Technology (CIT)

27.10.1 The faculty of the School hereby propose a ratio of 1 machine to 2 students during practical counselling sessions of CIT:

27.10.2 The School Board considered and approved the machine to students ratio for CIT.

Item No.27.11 Evaluation Methodology for Certificate in Information Technology (CIT)

27.11.1 The faculty of the School hereby propose the following:

- (i) A student of CIT needs to secure atleast 40% marks in continuous assessment and term end examination separately in a course to be declared successful in that particular course. This requirement is applicable for all the courses of CIT.
- (ii) **For BCS-001, BCS-002 and BCS-003 courses only**

Term End Examination: Max Marks 50
(Weightage: 75%)

Duration of TEE: 2 hours

Pattern of TEE:

- 10 Objective Type Questions (1 x 10 Marks)
- 2 Short Answer Type Questions (2 x 5 Marks)
- 3 out of 4 Questions (3 x 10 Marks)

Assignment: Max. Marks 25

(iii) For BCSL-011 course only

Term End Practical Examination: Max Marks 50
(Weightage: 75%)

Duration: 3 hours

Pattern: 2 Questions. The first question will cover the areas under Lab manual-1 and the second question will cover areas under Lab manual-2

Assignment: Max. Marks 25

A student needs to attend atleast 4 out of 6 labs sessions (each session is of 3 hours duration) to become eligible to appear for Term End Practical Examination in BCSL-001

27.11.2 The School Board considered and approved the evaluation methodology for CIT.

Item No.27.12 Withdrawl of Certificate in Computing (CIC)

27.12.1 The faculty of the School hereby propose to withdraw the CIC programme for the following reasons:

CIC was launched in 1994 and revised in 1996. Since then, the world of Computer Science, IT and their applications to the real world have changed completely. The versions of software that was referred in CIC course material have become outdated as there were a large number of later versions that were released. Also, new areas and such as Multimedia, Networking and Web programming have emerged. Any certificate level student is assumed to have a brief introduction of the latest areas and the knowledge at introductory level cannot be acquired by a student of CIC as on date as the material does not cover the some of the latest areas.

The School is in the process of launching another Certificate course in Information Technology which covers the above mentioned emerging areas at introductory level for the learners.

27.12.2 The School Board considered and approved the withdrawl of CIC.

Item No.27.13 Decoupling of CIC/CIT for admission to BCA and MCA programmes

27.13.1 Those students of BCA **who did not have Math at 10+2 level are required to pursue CIC programme of SOCIS** alongwith a mathematics course namely MTE-03. Similarly, students of MCA who did not have mathematics at 10+2 are required to pursue CIC alongwith CS-60.

The CIC programme consists of only basics of Computer Science and applications but no Mathematical contents.

In view of the decision, duly approved by Hon'ble V.C., to conduct entrance examination for admission to BCA and MCA, the School has proposed to delink CIC/CIT from MCA and BCA programme, wherever applicable. In other words, BCA and MCA students should not be required to pursue CIC/CIT programme of SOCIS.

The proposal was made specially in view of the fact that entrance test will take care of basic knowledge level and skills of Mathematics in addition to elementary knowledge of computers.

However, the mathematics courses viz., MTE-03 for BCA and CS-60 for MCA are required to be pursued by the respective students who are not having mathematics at 10+2 level.

27.13.2 The issue was considered and approved by the School Board and suggested that the decision may be applicable to students seeking admission from July 2009 onwards.

Item No. 27.14 To consider and approve the list of evaluators, moderators, examiners, project evaluators and paper setters for various courses/programmes of SOCIS.

27.14.1 The Chairman placed the list of paper evaluators, moderators, examiners, project evaluators and paper setters for various courses/programmes of SOCIS for the consideration and approval of the School Board.

27.14.2 The Board considered and authorized the Chairman to add the list of evaluators, moderators, examiners, project evaluators and paper setters for various programmes of the School presented in the meeting.