

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE AT MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI -110 068 ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 18,
1992, AT 1100 HOURS**

The following were present:

1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Vice-Chancellor, Chairman
2. Prof. H.P. Dikshit
3. Dr S.K. Gandhe
4. Prof. C.L. Anand
5. Prof. G.S. Rao
6. Prof. R.K. Grover
7. Prof. M.B. Menon
8. Prof. V.V. Mandke
9. Prof. R.K. Bose
10. Prof. Pandav Nayak
11. Prof. M.M. Pant
12. Dr R. Satyanarayana
13. Dr V.D. Madan
14. Dr (Mrs) Shobhita Jain
15. Dr S.P. Parashar
16. Dr S. Peppin
17. Prof. B.N. Koul
18. Shri K. Narayanan

Dr S.S. Kalbag could not attend the meeting.

Dr K. Anjanappa, Registrar (Admissions), Shri D.C. Pant, Director (Evaluation), Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (P&TA), Prof. A.A. Shamim, Director, Computer Division and Dr Devesh Kishore, Director, Communication Division were present by special invitation.

Mr K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Dy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

Before the agenda items were taken up for consideration, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed the new members of the Academic Council.

The following items were considered:

**ITEM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE SIXTH MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON MAY 28, 1992.**

AC 7.1.1 The Council considered the above item along with an additional note tabled at the meeting. After due consideration of the comments received from the members, the Council decided as follows:

- (i) Resolution No. AC 6.4.3 be modified as below:

"The Academic Council decided that the programmes of Diploma in Distance Education and the Diploma in Higher Education shall henceforth be known as Post Graduate Diploma in Distance Education (PGDDE) and Post Graduate Diploma in Higher Education (PGDHE) respectively."

- (ii) Resolution Nos. AC 6.8.1 (iii) (b) and AC 6.8.3 (e) be modified to read:

AC 6.8.1 (iii) (b)

"admission to all other diploma programmes would be restricted to graduates, and only those who possess at least a Bachelor's degree would be eligible for admission to the MBA programme;"

AC 6.8.3 (e)

"Only those who possess at least a Bachelor's Degree would be eligible for admission to the MBA Programme of the IGNOU."

- (iii) The Council noted that Sub-clause 5(1)(b) of the Ordinance on Conduct of Examinations and Evaluation of Student Performance needs modification in view of the fact that the overall average of grade in respect of Degree programmes of BA, BSc & BCom is 'D' and not 'C' as in the case of other programmes. The Council authorised the Vice-Chancellor to make appropriate amendment to the relevant clause before processing the draft ordinance further.

AC 7.1.2 With the above modifications the Council approved the Minutes of the 6th meeting of the Academic Council held on May 28, 1992.

ITEM NO.2 **TO CONSIDER COPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER SUB-CLAUSE (viii) OF CLAUSE (1) OF STATUTE 9.**

AC 7.2.1 Panels of names of distinguished academics and experts belonging to different constituencies were circulated at the meeting for the consideration of the members of the Academic Council. The Council, after due consideration, coopted the following nine members:

1. Shri Tarun Das, Director-General, Confederation of Engineering Industry
2. Shri I.P. Anand, Chairman, Thapar Institute of Technology, Patiala

3. Prof. M.V. Pylee, Director-General, AIDE, Cochin
4. Mr S. Krishan, Director-General, Doordarshan
5. Dr Harcharan Singh, Malaria Task Force
6. Dr K. Gopalan, Director, NCERT
7. Dr D.K. Sharma, Former Vice-Chancellor, Jabalpur University.
8. Dr M. Shanmugham, Director, Correspondence Courses, University of Madras.
9. Dr (Mrs) Shushila Kaushik, Delhi University.

ITEM NO.3

TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY IN RESPECT OF THE SUGGESTIONS MADE BY THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL ON ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMMES OF THE SCHOOL.

AC 7.3.1

On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. V.V. Mandke briefly explained the salient features of the proposal. During the course of the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

(i) It may be appropriate to call the two Diplomas "Post Graduate Diplomas" instead of "Advanced Diplomas" to be in conformity with the pattern now being followed in the University.

(ii) It was clarified that the prefix "Advanced Diploma" is in conformity with similar diplomas that are being offered by Engineering and Technology institutions in the country and, therefore, IGNOU should follow the same pattern. (iii) A suggestion was made that the Advanced Diploma in Water Resources should be called "Advanced Diploma in Water Resources Engineering" since the expression "water resources" represents a wide spectrum of activities.

AC 7.3.2

Taking into account the recommendations made by the Experts Committee and the School Board of the School of Engineering & Technology, the Academic Council approved the two Diploma Programmes as proposed. The Council also decided that the nomenclature "Advanced Diploma in Water Resources" be changed to "Advanced Diploma in Water Resources Engineering."

ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE EQUIVALENCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON MARCH 17, 1992.

AC 7.4.1 The Council considered and approved the minutes of the Meeting of the Equivalence Committee held on 17.3.92 (Appendix I). The Council directed that action be taken expeditiously on item No.II of the minutes.

ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MODALITIES CONCERNING THE CONVERSION OF GRADES TO MARKS OF BACHELORS DEGREE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAMMES OF BA, BCom AND BSc.

AC 7.5.1 The matter was considered by the Council. It was pointed out that there was some inconsistency in the agenda note and the recommendations made by the Sub-Committee. While the agenda note mentions the modalities for conversion of grades into marks for the degrees of BLIS, BA, BCom and BSc, the recommendations of the Sub-Committee covered the conversion of grades into marks for the BLIS programme, as well as the desirability of changing over to numerical marking for the degree programmes, namely, BLIS, BA, BSc and BCom for examinations to be held in December 1992 and thereafter. It was clarified that though the agenda note did not specify the recommendations of the Sub-Committee in full, the issues before the Academic Council were as below:

- (i) The acceptance or otherwise of the modalities worked out by the Sub-Committee concerning the conversion of grades into percentage of marks for the batch of BLIS students who qualified in the examinations so far; and
- (ii) to consider whether the policy of numerical marking system recommended by the Sub-Committee for the programmes of BLIS, BA, BCom and BSc for the December 1992 examinations and thereafter be accepted or not.

AC 7.5.2 In the discussion that followed, the following views were expressed:

- (i) The grading pattern of assessment has been adopted by the IGNOU after careful consideration and, therefore, it may not be advisable to switch over to numerical marking.
- (ii) Institutions of Management and IITs have successfully implemented the grading pattern of assessment.

- (iii) Universities/Institutions in the country have adopted different grading patterns and there was no uniformity in the pattern.
- (iv) Several universities which have adopted grading system have reverted to numerical marking as it was more readily acceptable to all concerned.
- (v) While graduates from IITs and Management Institutions seek employment with enlightened employer organisations, most of the BA, BSc, BCom degree holders find it difficult to explain the status of grading to their prospective employers who are normally familiar with numerical marking.
- (vi) The pattern adopted by the University should keep the interest of the student in mind.

AC 7.5.3

Taking into account the views expressed at the meeting the Council decided as follows:

- (i) The conversion modalities recommended by the Sub-Committee for the students of BLIS Programme who qualified hitherto be accepted.
- (ii) For the Degrees of BLIS, BA, BSc and BCom the numerical marking system be adopted beginning with the December 1992 examinations.
- (iii) The Council approved the following scheme of numerical marking and Divisions to be awarded:

	BLIS	BA/BSc/BCom
I Division	60% and more	60% and more
II Division	50%-59%	50%-59%
Pass	40%-49%	35%-49%
Unsuccessful	Below 40%	Below 35%

- (iv) The Council also decided that the grading system which is being followed for other certificate/diploma/management programmes may continue.
- (v) The Council authorised the Vice-Chancellor to take necessary steps to appropriately amend the relevant portions of the Ordinance.

ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER FOR RATIFICATION THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPROVING THE PRACTICAL COMPONENT OF BSc (NURSING) PROGRAMME.

AC 7.6.1 The Council noted that at its meeting held on December 30, 1991, while approving the course content and structure of the BSc (Nursing) Programme, it had made certain observations. The School Board of the School of Health Sciences at its meeting held on 7.9.92 finalised the course structure of the BSc (Nursing) Programme after taking into account the observations made by the Academic Council. The School Board also finalised the practical component of the programme. It was pointed out that in view of the urgency, the Vice-Chancellor had approved the course content and the practical component of the BSc (Nursing) Programme formulated by the School Board. The Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor.

ITEM NO.7 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN IN GRANTING HALF-FEE CONCESSION TO THE EMPLOYEES OF IGNOU PURSUING PROGRAMMES OF STUDY OFFERED BY IGNOU.

AC 7.7.1 The Council noted that the Vice-Chancellor had granted half fee concession to the employees of the IGNOU for pursuing programmes offered by the University for the years 1990, 1991, 1992 and ratified the action taken by him.

AC 7.7.2 The Council also decided to grant the facility of half fee concession to the regular employees of the IGNOU for pursuing programmes of IGNOU in future as well.

ITEM NO.8 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN IN APPROVING THE EVALUATION SCHEME OF THEORY AND LABORATORY COURSES FOR THE BSc PROGRAMME.

AC 7.8.1 The Council noted that, in view of the scheduled examinations in December 1992, the Vice-Chancellor had:

(i) approved the evaluation methodology for theory papers for the BSc Programme on the same lines as obtaining for BA/BCom; and

(ii) approved the scheme of evaluation for laboratory courses for the BSc as recommended by the sub-committee of the School Board of the School of Sciences.

AC 7.8.2 The Council ratified the above action taken by the Vice-Chancellor. However, the Council suggested that para (iv) of the Evaluation Scheme for

Laboratory Courses be deleted. The scheme as approved by the Academic Council is at Appendix II.

ITEM NO.9 TO REPORT THE PROGRAMME OF ACTION (POA 1992) FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL POLICY ON EDUCATION.

AC 7.9.1 A report on the Programme of Action 1992 for implementation of the National Policy on Education was placed before the Council for information. This was noted.

ITEM NO.10 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE WORKSHOP ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES DURING THE 8TH PLAN.

AC 7.10.1 The Council considered the recommendations of the Workshop on Implementation of the Development Programmes during the 8th Plan. It was noted that the Workshop considered and adopted the following 4 themes concerning the programme development and implementation:

1. Integrated programme design
2. The delivery system
3. Student assessment
4. The information system.

AC 7.10.2 The recommendations of the four groups on the four themes are placed at Appendix III. The Council noted that the Planning Board, at its meeting held on November 20, 1992, considered and endorsed the recommendations of the Workshop.

AC 7.10.3 After detailed discussion, the Council endorsed the recommendations made by the Workshop on the implementation of the development programmes during the 8th Plan.

ITEM NO.11 TO REPORT ON THE SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & TRAINING (NCERT)

AC 7.11.1 The Council noted with satisfaction that the IGNOU has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Council of Educational Research and Training for development and implementation of programme in the area of teacher education through mutual collaboration.

ITEM NO.12 TO REPORT ON THE STATUS OF PROGRAMMES ON OFFER AND IN DEVELOPMENT.

AC 7.12.1 The Council took note of the details given in the statement (Appendix IV) regarding the programmes on

offer and of the programmes to be launched in 1993 and 1994.

**ITEM NO.13 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE EQUIVALENCE
COMMITTEE HELD ON NOVEMBER 23, 1992.**

AC 7.13.1 The Council considered the minutes of the
Equivalence Committee held on November 23, 1992.

AC 7.13.2 The Council accepted the recommendations made by
the Equivalence Committee vide item No.I,II,III,IV
and V of the minutes of the Equivalence Committee.
The matter is referred to at item No.VI of the
minutes concerning transfer of BA students to BSc
in the second year was not accepted by the Council.
The Council approved the minutes of the
Equivalence Committee held on 23.11.92 (Appendix
V).

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

V.C.

**V.C. KULANDAI SWAMY
CHAIRMAN**