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MINUTES OF THE ELEVENTH 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 MONDAY, JULY 11,
1994 AT 1100 HOURS.

The following were present :

1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Vice-Chancellor Chairman
2. Dr S.K. Gandhe
3. Prof. C.L. Anand
4. Prof. R.K. Grover
5. Prof. V.V. Mandke
6. Prof. R.K. Bose
7. Prof. Pandav Nayak
8. Prof. M.M. Pant
9. Prof. A.B. Bose
10. Prof. (Col.) P.K. Dutta
11. Dr R. Satyanarayana
12. Dr (Mrs) Shobhita Jain
13. Dr S.P. Parashar
14. Shri S. Peppin
15. Prof. B.N. Koul
16. Dr K. Gopalan
17. Dr Harcharan Singh
18. Prof. M.V. Pylee
19. Dr M. Shanmugham
20. Prof. T.N. Dhar
21. Dr K. Anjanappa, Registrar Member-Secretary

Prof. G.S. Rao, Prof. M.B. Menon, Dr V.D. Madan, Prof. (Mrs) Sushila Kaushik, Shri I.P. Anand, Shri Tarun Das, Prof. S. Bashiruddin and Prof. D.K. Sharma could not attend the meeting.

Shri D.C. Pant, Director (Evaluation), Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (Planning & Teachers Affairs), Prof. Devesh Kishore, Director, (Communication Division), and Prof. A.A. Shamim, Director (Computer Division) were present by special invitation.

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

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE TENTH MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON MARCH 28, 1994.

AC 11.1.1 The Member-Secretary informed that two members
have sent their comments on the minutes relating
to item Nos.10,12 and 13. These were considered
by the Academic Council and corrections as

indicated below were made to the following resolutions:

i) Resolution No.AC 10.10.1

The name "Prof. H.P. Dikshit appearing in the last line of the para be substituted with "Prof. C.L. Anand".

ii) Resolution No.AC 10.13.2

The first sentence of the Resolution be corrected to read as : "The matter was considered by the Academic Council and it was decided that a committee be appointed to examine all the issues involved under item No.12 and 13 and make recommendations to the Academic Council."

AC 11.1.2

The minutes of the Tenth meeting held on March 28, 1994 were confirmed with the corrections indicated above.

ITEM NO.2

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSALS OF SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY REGARDING POST-ADVANCED DIPLOMA PROGRAMME MODULES LEADING TO B.TECH. CIVIL (CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT) AND B.TECH. CIVIL (WATER RESOURCES ENGINEERING).

AC 11.2.1

The Academic Council considered the proposals of the School of Engineering & Technology for Post-advanced Diploma programme modules leading to B.Tech. Civil (Construction Management) and B.Tech. Civil (Water Resources Engineering).

AC 11.2.2

The Chairman introduced the item with the observation that the Academic Council has already approved the Advanced Diploma programmes in Construction Management and in Water Resources Engineering, which would eventually lead to B.Tech. Civil Engineering degrees with appropriate specialisations. The Chairman further observed that the Advanced Diploma will be of 2 years duration and the subsequent modules leading to B.Tech. degree will need an additional 2 years. The Advanced Diplomas are being launched from July 1994, and the details of the second 2-year modules under each specialization are now before Academic Council for consideration and approval, so that the School of Engineering & Technology can initiate its course preparation work.

AC 11.2.3

Professor Mandke explained the general frame work for programme development, including structure, content, credits, duration, admission

qualifications, procedures for registration, fee structure and the design for the delivery of various services. Prof. Mandke further explained that the block and unit-wise description given in the proposal cover only those five courses which the Academic Council had not considered while approving the Advanced Diplomas.

AC 11.2.4 In the discussions that followed, the following points were made:

- i) The course on "Applied Sociology for Engineers" should have orientation to Indian situation and should incorporate "application" areas. The objective of the course should be to sensitise engineers to the basics of sociological developments as this is considered to be one important educational need in engineering curricula. The School, in consultation with course-team, may consider strengthening the course content from this point of view.
- ii) The course on "Technical writing" was a necessary and desirable component in the engineering curriculum as this area was perceived to be weak in the curricular offerings of most institutions.
- iii) The course "Management of Construction Equipments I & II" be titled as "Management of Construction Equipment I & II".

AC 11.2.5 With these observations, the Academic Council approved the proposal of the School of Engineering & Technology for the preparation and launching of the modules leading to B.Tech Civil (Construction Management) and B.Tech Civil (Water Resources Engineering) as proposed in the agenda note.

ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MODIFIED COURSE CONTENTS AND STRUCTURE OF MASTER OF ARTS IN DISTANCE EDUCATION (MADE) PROGRAMME TO BE INTRODUCED IN 1995-96.

AC 11.3.1 Prof. Koul was invited to present the item. During his presentation, Prof. Koul informed that the proposal had the approval of the School Board of the School of Education. In the discussion that followed some of the major points made were as follows along with the clarifications given:

- (i) The transfer of two courses from the MA in Distance Education to the PGDDE would give an impression that the courses were good enough

only for a PG Diploma and therefore could not form part of the MADE programme. It was clarified that the Post-Graduate Diploma in Distance Education is a part of the overall Master of Arts in Distance Education (MADE); all courses at this level could be placed either with the first module i.e., PGDDE or its equivalent or with the next module i.e., MADE.

- (ii) The course "Distance Education: Economic Perspective" may be designated as "Distance Education: Socio-Economic Perspective" as that would be more comprehensive. It was explained that the course which has already been approved by the Academic Council focusses entirely on economic perspective and therefore it may not be appropriate to change the title at present. However, social aspects have been taken care of in another course, namely, the Development and Growth of Distance Education, which forms part of the first module leading to PGDDE.
- (iii) Countries like South Africa, Fiji Islands and the West Indies could have been brought under the Course, "Language Issues in Distance Education". It was clarified that only those countries on which data was available have been included and that the countries such as South Africa, Fiji Islands and West Indies could not be added as the research team involved in the work had not worked on these countries. If such studies are ever made in future, additions could easily be made then.
- (iv) A Clarification was sought with regard to the credit weight of the courses. It was clarified that with the experience gained over a period of time, it was now possible to assess the credit value of the courses on a more realistic basis. Reconsideration of credit value should be on the basis of such awareness. It was pointed out that the suggested credit weight was in order.
- (v) It was agreed to add the following paragraph to the preamble to the course on Special Education through Distance Education:

The course, Special Education through Distance Education, is not meant for those who need special education. It is not a pre-service course; instead it is seen as an option for those already working in

institutions which provide special education, integrated or otherwise. With this fact in view it is more an awareness course with regard to issues relevant to the people who have special needs in education and what distance education methodology may constitute to this area of operation.

(vi) On a different enquiry on this very course it was clarified that social disabilities have been taken care of in Block No.3.

- AC 11.3.2 The Academic Council approved the proposal on modified course content and structure of Master of Arts in Distance Education with a suggestion that the points made above be taken into account while finalising the programme.
- ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE MODIFICATION IN ADMISSION CRITERIA AND POLICY PERTAINING TO DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES/PROGRAMME.
- AC 11.4.1 It was pointed out that the item has already been approved by the School Board of the School of Education at its 10th meeting held on June 16, 1994. After some discussion, the Academic Council approved the modified admission criteria which are placed at Appendix-1.
- ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE MODIFICATION IN EVALUATION CRITERIA AND POLICY PERTAINING TO DISTANCE EDUCATION COURSES/PROGRAMMES.
- AC 11.5.1 The proposal was considered. It was pointed out that the item was earlier considered and approved by the School Board of the School of Education. A clarification was sought as to why the modification is being suggested. Prof. Koul explained that the experience with the students so far was that most of these who sit for the term-end examination pass it in relatively higher range grades. There are hardly any students who get D grade in the term-end examination. This being the case it appears reasonable to raise the level of the minimum pass score.
- AC 11.5.2 In this connection the Director (Evaluation) pointed out that the proposed modification required amendment to the provisions of the relevant Ordinance and that appropriate action should be taken to incorporate the proposed changes in the Ordinance. The suggestion was accepted.
- AC 11.5.3 Another point that came up during the discussion

was whether Schools which have to handle small numbers of students or special types of students could take over some of the activities of the service divisions like admissions and evaluation. The Vice-Chancellor was of the view that while such participation by the Schools would be welcome, appropriate procedures for sharing responsibilities where such decentralisation is introduced should be carefully worked out.

11.5.4

The Academic Council approved the proposed modified Evaluation criteria which are placed at Appendix-2. The Academic Council further decided that the relevant provisions of the concerned Ordinance be suitably amended to incorporate the changes proposed.

ITEM NO.6

TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN IN GRANTING EXTENSION OF TWO MORE SEMESTERS FOR THE STUDENTS OF SPECIALISATION DIPLOMA PROGRAMME IN MANAGEMENT 1992.

11.6.1

The Vice-Chancellor explained in brief the reasons for granting extension of two more semesters for the students of specialisation Diploma Programmes in Management, 1992. The Academic Council ratified the action taken.

ITEM NO.7

TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN TO ISSUE MIGRATION CERTIFICATES TO THE CANDIDATES WHO HAVE PASSED THE IGNOU PROGRAMMES.

11.7.1

The Vice-Chancellor briefly explained that students who seek admission to other Universities are required in certain cases to produce Migration Certificates although, as a matter of principle, IGNOU is not asking for Migration Certificates from students seeking admission to IGNOU. In order that the interests of the students are not adversely affected, the Vice-Chancellor has approved issuance of Migration Certificates to students who ask for it, on payment of a fee of Rs.100/-. The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor and approved the levy of a fee of Rs.100/- for issuance of Migration Certificates and also approved the format of Migration Certificate and the application form.

ITEM NO.8

TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR ACCORDING RECOGNITION OF DEGREES AWARDED BY OTHER UNIVERSITIES.

11.8.1

The Academic Council noted that the Universities

listed below have recognised the Degrees/Diplomas indicated against each on mutual basis and that the Vice-Chancellor has approved the mutual recognition:

S1. No.	Name of the University	Degrees/Diplomas considered equivalent to IGNOU
1.	University of Delhi	MBA
2.	Purvanchal University, Jaunpur	MBA
3.	Anna University, Madras	MBA
4.	Barkatulla University, Bhopal	All Degrees
5.	University of Calicut	B.Lib. Science
6.	Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam	B.Lib. Science

AC 11.8.2 The Academic Council ratified the action taken.

ITEM NO.9 TO REPORT THE MATTER RELATING TO THE CHOICE OF
ELECTIVES IN BSC PROGRAMMES.

AC 11.9.1 The Vice-Chancellor stated that the agenda note on this item circulated earlier may be replaced with the revised note tabled at the meeting which is more explicit. On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. R.K. Bose briefly explained that the School Board had taken note of the suggestion made by the Academic Council at its meeting held in November 1990. It was accordingly decided that for the first few years, the choice of electives in the BSc Programme would be confined to science discipline courses only (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Life Sciences of 56-64 credits) and that the matter can be reviewed to determine the feasibility of allowing electives from disciplines other than science of 8-16 credits as proposed by the School of Sciences originally.

AC 11.9.2 The Academic Council noted the above and suggested that the BSc degree to be awarded by IGNOU should indicate the subject such as Physics, Chemistry etc.

After the completion of the items on the agenda, the Vice-Chancellor informed the Council that he will be demitting office

on 13.7.94 on the expiry of his term. He expressed his sincere thanks to all members for the unstinted cooperation and support he received from them. He also briefly outlined the progress made by the University during the last eight years.

The Academic Council greatly appreciated the significant contribution made by Prof. Kulandai Swamy and his deep sense of commitment and leadership. The Academic Council placed on record its deep appreciation of the services rendered by Prof. Kulandai Swamy.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'R. S. Lakshmi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chairman