

MINUTES

of the

FORTY THIRD MEETING

of the

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

held on

APRIL 5, 2008



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

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MINUTES OF THE FORTY THIRD MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK-8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.

The following were present:

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| 1. | Prof. V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor | - | Ex-officio Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. Omprakash Mishra, Pro-Vice-Chancellor | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 3. | Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Pro-Vice-Chancellor | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 4. | Dr. D.K. Choudhry, Pro-Vice-Chancellor | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 5. | Prof. Renu Bhardwaj, Director, SOH | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 6. | Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Director SOSS | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 7. | Prof. Sunita Malhotra, Director, SOS | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 8. | Prof. Anu Aneja, Director, SOCE | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 9. | Prof. S.B. Arora, Director, SOHS | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 10. | Prof. Manohar Lal, Director, SOCIS | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 11. | Prof. B.S. Hansra, Director, SOA | - | Ex-officio Member |
| 12. | Prof. Bimla Kapoor, SOHS | - | Member |
| 13. | Prof. P.Srinivas Kumar, SOET | - | Member |
| 14. | Dr. Neerja Chadha, Reader, SOCE | - | Member |
| 15. | Dr. S.K. Yadav, Reader, SOA | - | Member |
| 16. | Dr. Sutapa Bose, SOA | - | Member |
| 17. | Shri M.P. Mishra, Lecturer, SOCIS | - | Member |
| 18. | Shri Z. Yanthan, SOSS | - | Member |
| 19. | Sh. V.V.Subrahanyam, SOCIS | - | Member |
| 20. | Sh. S.K.Arora, Librarian | - | Member |
| 21. | Prof. M. Aslam, Director (I/c), NCIDE | - | Member |
| 22. | Prof. P.R. Ramanujam, , Director (I/c), IUC | - | Member |
| 23. | Prof. Gracious Thomas, Director (I/c), NCDA | - | Member |
| 24. | Prof. Trilochan Pradhan | - | Member |
| 25. | Prof. T.K.V.Subramanian | - | Member |
| 26. | Prof. K.K.Mohammad Yusuff | - | Member |
| 27. | Prof. Kamlesh Mohan | - | Member |
| 28. | Prof. Vijay Kapur | - | Member |
| 29. | Prof. Anil Bhattacharya | - | Member |
| 30. | Prof. S.Siva Kumar | - | Member |
| 31. | Dr. S.S.Rathi | - | Member |
| 32. | Dr. V. Venugopal Reddy, Regional Director | - | Member |
| 33. | Prof. N.V.Narasimham, Director (I/c), ACD | - | Member Secretary |

Prof. P. Srinivas Kumar, SOET, represented on behalf of Director, SOET. Shri K.K. Sharma, Joint registrar, SRE was present to represent Registrar, SRE.

Prof. Basir Ahmad Khan, PVC, Dr. Latha Pillai, PVC, Prof. M.L.Koul, Director, SOE, Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Director, SOL, Prof. B.B.Khanna, SOMS, Dr. Pushplata Tripathi, SOS, Prof. N.Balakrishnan, Prof. Sridhar Gadre, Prof. Kapila Vatsyayan, Prof. Arvind Kumar, Prof. C.Thangamuthu, Prof. S.Sadagopan and Shri Ravi Kanth, Joint Registrar, EMPC could not attend the meeting.

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

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members to the 43rd meeting of the Academic Council. He accorded welcome to the new member Sh. V.V.Subrahamam, Lecturer, SOCIS. He informed the Council that consequent upon taking over the charge of Director, Academic Coordination Division, Prof. N.V.Narasimham is now the Member-Secretary of the Academic Council and welcomed him. The Academic Council appreciated the efforts and taken on record the contributions made by Prof. B.S.Saraswat, outgoing Director, ACD as its Member-Secretary. The Chairman then requested the Member-Secretary to present the items on agenda of the meeting

The following items were taken up:

ITEM NO. 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 42nd Meeting of the Academic Council and to note the action taken thereon.

AC 43.1.1 It was informed that the Minutes of the 42nd Meeting of the Academic Council held on December 31, 2007 were circulated to the members and no comments were received. The action taken report on the Minutes was also placed at Annexure-2.

AC 43.1.2 Item approved by Circulation: Proposal for establishing of “School of International Relations and Strategic Analyses (SIRSA)” in the University.

It was informed that the Academic Council at its 41st Meeting held on August 27, 2007 had decided to constitute an expert committee to study and examine the rationale and prospectus of establishment of “School of International Relations and Strategic Analysis (SIRSA)” in the University. The Committee unanimously recommended the establishment of the School. In terms of the provisions of Regulations of the Meetings of the Academic Council, the Chairman sought approval of the members of the Academic Council by circulation of the following Resolution:

“The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations made by the Expert Committee for establishment of a School of International Relations and Strategic Analyses in IGNOU and recommended to the Board of Management for making necessary amendments to Clause (1) of the Statute 10 (A) of the Statutes of the University accordingly.”

Out of the 49 members, 38 members have responded and all of them approved the Resolution for establishment of the School. Therefore, the establishment of the School of International Relations and Strategic Analysis (SIRSA) has been approved by the Academic Council by circulation.

Since, the establishment of new school requires amendment to Clause (1) of Statute 10 (A) of the University, the matter is being placed before 94th meeting of the Board of Management scheduled for 10th April, 2008. With the establishment of this school, if approved by the Board of Management, the University will have 22 Schools of Studies.

AC 43.1.3 The Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 42nd Meeting of the Academic Council (**Annexure-1 without appendices**) and the resolution of Academic Council for establishment of the School of International Relations and Strategic Analysis (SIRSA), and noted the action taken thereon.

ITEM NO. 2 **To consider and approve the Minutes of the 25th Meeting of its Standing Committee held on 2nd April, 2008.**

AC 43.2.1 It was presented that the 25th Meeting of the ACSC was held on April 2, 2008. The following major items were considered:

- ◆ Phase 3 Forms of Diploma in Retailing, Diploma in Finance, Budget and Accounting for PRIs, Certificate Programme in Water Harvesting and Management, Foundation Course in Maithilee, Post Graduate Diploma in Journalism and Mass Communication and PG Diploma in Adult Education.
- ◆ Phase-3 Forms and Course Structure for M.Phil/Ph.D. programmes in Library Science, Economics, Sociology, Public Administration and History.
- ◆ Provision for *viva-voce* in all project courses.
- ◆ Proposal for establishing the Discipline of ‘Nutritional Sciences’ and the ‘Child Development’ within the School of Continuing Education.
- ◆ Proposal for International Fee structure for offering IGNOU’s Academic Programmes outside India.

- ◆ To report the ‘Walk-in-Admission’ and ‘On-line Admission’ in all the academic programmes.
- ◆ Changes in Syllabus, Programme Fee, Unit Writers and Eligibility Criteria of Certificate in Sericulture.
- ◆ Ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in awarding Gold Medal to Shri Shiv Kumar Pandey, Note for information the number of student eligible for award of IGNOU Degrees/Diplomas/ Certificates at the 19th Convocation.
- ◆ Phase Zero Forms of revision of existing elective courses in BDP programme, EPA-06: Public Policy, and EEC-06: Economics Development Comparative Analysis and Contemporary Issues.

The Academic Council considered and discussed each item of the Minutes in detail.

AC 43.2.2

ACSC 25.2.3: Regarding establishment of two new disciplines viz; (i) Nutritional Sciences and (ii) Child Development, in SOCE, ACSC in principle approved the proposal. While according approval, the ACSC recommended that the matter relating to housing of these disciplines be examined by the Academic Council after considering the objectives of the other schools, including newly established schools.

Academic Council has taken up the matter for discussion regarding the housing of these two new disciplines. Prof. Anu Aneja, Director, SOCE suggested to defer the item as the faculty of SOCE would like to discuss this issue first in the School Board of the SOCE.

The Academic Council agreed with the suggestion of the Director, SOCE and decided as under:

- (i) The item has been deferred, and
- (ii) The matter will be first discussed in the School Board of SOCE and thereafter the matter will be discussed in the School Board of School of Gender and Development Studies.

AC 43.2.3

ACSC 25.3.2: Regarding the simultaneous admission to the M.Sc. (DFSM) and the course CNCC-1: Nutrition for the Community for the students who do not have a specialization in Nutrition at UG level, the ACSC deferred the proposal. It was decided that the item to be placed before the School Board of SOCE before 5th April, 2008 and the recommendations of the School Board of SOCE be placed before the 43rd Academic Council meeting scheduled for 5th April, 2008.

Prof. Anu Aneja, Director, SOCE informed the Academic Council that the School Board of SOCE at its emergent meeting held on 3rd April, 2008 opined that the issue requires more detailed discussion and hence decided to withdraw the item.

The Academic Council agreed with the suggestion of the School Board of SOCE to withdraw the item from discussion.

AC 43.2.4

ACSC 25.5.2: Regarding introduction of ‘Walk-in-Admission’ and ‘On-line Admission’ to all the academic programmes of the University, the Chairman explained the rationale and detailed schedule of operations. The following issues were discussed very elaborately:

1. The work load in the Regional Centres will increase with the introduction of walk-in-admission. Regional Centres have busy schedule during March-April and September-October due to last dates for several activities. Therefore, Regional Centres may not be able to cope up with the additional work pressure of walk-in-admissions.
2. Results of examinations conducted by various Boards/Universities/Institutions are normally declared in the month of May every year. Therefore, last date for submission of filled-in admission form for walk-in admission without late fee for July cycle may be allowed till 31st May.
3. Schedules of various activities of the academic programmes will remain the same as of now. Students admitted through walk-in-admission or on-line admission shall follow the same schedules.

Following the discussion, the Chairman informed that he will get all the above issues examined carefully and explore the possibility to (i) provide additional staff or create a separate cell in Regional Centres to handle walk-in-admission, and (ii) extend the last date for walk-in-admission without late fees till 31st May.

AC 43.2.5

ACSC 25.10.2: Decision regarding the *viva-voce* as a compulsory component of the evaluation of all project courses of PG level and .Professional UG Programmes was discussed. Prof. Parvin Sinclair, PVC presented the rationale behind this decision. Complications regarding compulsory passing of *viva-voce* was discussed in detail, and the Academic Council reiterated the decision of the ACSC.

AC 43.2.6

The Academic Council considered and approved the minutes of the 25th Meeting (**Annexure-2 without appendices**) of the ACSC with the above observations.

ITEM NO. 3 To consider and approve the Convocation Procedures Amendment to the Regulations for Convocations.

AC 43.3.1 The Chairman tabled the proposal for the amendments to paras 15 & 16 in the Regulations for the Convocation Procedures at Headquarters (Clause 8 of Ordinance 1). It is clarified that the word ‘Clause’ in the agenda note may be read as ‘Para’. The agenda note mentioned that the modification is to be added to the existing paras. It is clarified that it is not addition, and it is only modification to the existing paras. The statement showing the existing paras 15 & 16, proposed amendments and paras after amendments is placed at Annexure-3.

AC 43.3.2 The Academic Council approved the amendments to the paras 15 and 16 of Regulations for Convocation at Headquarters (Clause 8 of Ordinance 1) placed at **Annexure-3**.

ITEM NO. 4 To consider and approve the recommendations made by the Committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to examine the proposal for relaxation of minimum age for admission to IGNOU’s Bachelor’s Preparatory Programme (BPP).

AC 43.4.1 The recommendations of the committee constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to examine the proposal for relaxation of minimum age for admission to IGNOU’s Bachelor’s Preparatory Programme (BPP) were presented. Prof. Parvin Sinclair, the Chairperson of the Committee, explained the salient features of the recommendations.

AC 43.4.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the recommendations of the Committee for not relaxing the minimum age for the children of the Boys Sports Company.

ITEM NO. 5 To consider and approve the International Fees Structure for Various Services & Value Added Services for the International Students.

AC 43.5.1 The proposal for international fee structure for offering IGNOU’s academic programmes outside India was considered by the ACSC vide Item No. 4 at its 25th meeting held on 2.4.2008 and approved. In addition to the above, the same committee which examined the said issue recommended the fee structure for various services and value added services provided by the University to the international student as at (Annexure- 4).

AC 43.5.2 The fee structure as at **Annexure- 4** was approved by the Academic Council.

ITEM NO.6 Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

AC 43.6.1 After transacting the business on agenda, the Chairman requested the members to offer their suggestions, if any, to the Academic Council for its consideration.

AC 43.6.2 Prof. Vijay Kapur suggested that the meeting of the Academic Council may be held, at times, in the Regional Centres of the University to enable the members to acquaint themselves with the working of the University at the Regional Centres level.

AC 43.6.3 Dr. V.Venugopal Reddy mentioned that University should recognize the academics as research guides for M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes of the University. The Chairman said that he had already written to the Academic staff working in regional centres and other divisions for expressing their interest in research guidance. The Director, ACD informed that the information received from the Academics have been forwarded to the concerned schools for further action.

The Chairman suggested the Academic Council to adopt the following resolution:

“Just as the teachers having provision for guiding Ph.D./M.Phil., the same provision may be extended to Academics”.

The Academic Council adopted the above resolution.

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

(V.N. Rajasekharan Pillai)
Chairman