

MINUTES

of the

SEVENTY FIRST MEETING

of

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Held on

22nd January 2019



INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068

MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY FIRST MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 22ND JANUARY 2019 AT 02:00 PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, DR. S. RADHAKRISHNAN BLOCK, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.

The following were present on 22nd January, 2018:

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| 1. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Subha Shankar Sarkar, VC, NSOU, Kolkata | - | Member |
| 3. Prof. Avinash Chandra Pandey, Director, IUAC, Delhi | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. Sudha Rao, former VC, KSOU, Mysore | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. Arun Kumar Sinha, Ex. VC, Patna University, Patna | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. Ramesh Chandra, Professor, Delhi University, Delhi | - | Member |
| 7. Prof. Saket Kushwaha, former VC, LNMU, Mithila & Prof. BHU | - | Member |
| 8. Prof. Smritikumar Sarkar, former VC, Univ of Burdwan | - | Member |
| 9. Prof. B.P. Khandelwal, former Chairman, CBSE | - | Member |
| 10. Prof Pardeep Sahni, Professor, SOSS | - | Special Invitee |
| 11. Prof. Satyakam, Director, SOH, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 12. Prof. Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 13. Prof. M.S. Nathawat, Director, SOS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 14. Prof. Madhu Tyagi, Director, SOMS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 15. Dr. Heena K. Bijli, Director, SOCE, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 16. Prof. S.B. Arora, Director, SOHS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 17. Dr. V.V. Subrahmanyam, Director, SOCIS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 18. Dr. Rakhi Sharma, Director, SOET, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 19. Prof. K. Elumalai, Director, SOL, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 20. Prof. M.K. Salooja, Director, SOA, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 21. Dr. R.S.P. Singh, Director, SOVET, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 22. Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Director, SOJNMS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 23. Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava, Director, SOTHSM, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 24. Prof. Nilima Srivastava, Director, SOGDS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 25. Dr. P.V.K. Sasidhar, Director, SOEDS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 26. Dr. Seema Johari, Director, SOPVA, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 27. Dr. Anju Sehgal Gupta, Director, SOFL, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 28. Dr. Jagdish Sharma, Director, SOTST, IGNOU | - | Member |

29. Dr. Boyina Rupini, Director, SOITS, IGNOU	-	Member
30. Prof. Gracious Thomas, Professor, SOSW, IGNOU	-	Member
31. Prof. Anu Aneja, Professor, SOGDS, IGNOU	-	Member
32. Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur, Professor, SOITS, IGNOU	-	Member
33. Dr Bharat Bhushan, Dy Dir, Research Unit, IGNOU	-	Member
34. Dr. Hema Pant, Dy Dir, RSD, IGNOU	-	Member
35. Dr. R.P. Pandey, Associate Professor, SOTST, IGNOU	-	Member
36. Dr. Govindaraja Bhardwaja, Assoc. Professor, SOPVA, IGNOU	-	Member
37. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, Asst Professor, SOTHSM, IGNOU	-	Member
38. Dr. Amiteshwar Ratra, Asst. Professor, STRIDE, IGNOU	-	Member
39. Dr Deepanwita Srivastava, Asst Professor, SOFL, IGNOU	-	Member
40. Dr. Seema Chandhok, Librarian, IGNOU	-	Member
41. Dr M. Shanmugham, Dir, RSD, IGNOU	-	Member
42. Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma, Dir, NCIDE, IGNOU	-	Member
43. Sh. Ravikanth, Director, EMPC, IGNOU	-	Member
44. Dr. S. G. Swami, Registrar (I/c), SED, IGNOU	-	Member
45. Prof. Srilatha, Registrar (I/c), SRD, IGNOU	-	Member
46. Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Director, ACD	-	Member Secretary

Dr. Vandana Varma, Assistant Director, ACD was present to assist the Member Secretary.

Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Director Academic Coordination Division and the Member Secretary of the Academic Council welcomed all the members to the meeting and requested the Chairperson to make his opening remarks.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU and the Chairperson of the Academic Council welcomed all the Members of the Academic Council to its 71st Meeting and made a mention of the new Members of the Academic Council, appointed on the recommendations of the Board of Management viz. Prof. Gracious Thomas, SOSW; Prof. Anu Aneja, SOGDS; Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur, SOITS; Dr. R.P. Pandey, SOTST; Dr. Govindaraju Bhardwaja, SOPVA; Dr. Sunil Kumar, SOMS; Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, SOTHSM; Dr. Amiteshwar Ratra, STRIDE; Dr. Deepanwita Srivastava, SOFL; Dr. M. Shanmugham, Director, RSD; Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma, Director, NCIDE; Shri Ravi Kanth, Director, EMPC; Dr. Bharat Bhushan, Deputy Director, Research Unit and Dr. Hema Pant, Deputy Director, RSD; and Prof. K. Elumalai, recently appointed Director, SOL.

The Chairperson expressed his gratitude for the contributions made by the outgoing members, namely Prof. Pardeep Sahni, SOSS; Prof. S. K. Yadav, Director, SOL; Prof. B.I. Fozdar, SOS; Prof. S. Srilatha, SOMS; Dr. O.P. Dewal, SOJNMS; Dr. Harish Kumar Sethi,

SOTST; Dr. Rachna Agarwal, SOVET; Dr. Anand Gupta, SOL; Prof. T.U. Fulzele, Director, Pⅅ Prof. Uma Kanjilal Director, IUC; Dr. Bini Toms, Director, SSC; Dr. Purnendu Tripathi, Dy Dir, VCO and Dr. S. Raja Rao, Regional Director, RC - Vishakhapatnam.

The Vice-Chancellor and Chairperson of the Committee then presented the important initiatives taken by the University since the last Council meeting:

- One day 'Conference on Academic Leadership on Education for Resurgence' was organized on 29th September 2018 in collaboration with RFRF, UGC, AICTE, JNU, IGNOU etc. The Hon'ble Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi Ji inaugurated the Conference. In his inaugural address, the Prime Minister mentioned that "Life building, character building and innovation are the three pillars of education system. Education should be innovative and research based". PM had further added "Higher education should have the features of higher thinking, superior character, higher culture and higher behavior".
- On the initiative of Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development, Sh. Prakash Javadekar, the Vice Chancellor, IGNOU made a presentation on 18.10.2018 on the issues confronting IGNOU. During the presentation Sh. R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Higher Education, MHRD; Prof. D.P. Singh, Chairman, University Grants Commission and Sh. Madhu Ranjan Kumar, Joint Secretary (DL & Admn.), MHRD were also present. In the said presentation, the University had highlighted the four important issues confronting IGNOU viz., ODL regulations, autonomous status of IGNOU, international operations, and implementation of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS). Hon'ble Minister had given his valuable insights for the concerns.
- The NAAC & UGC had initiated the process of formulating the norms for accreditation of Open and Distance institutions in May 2018. IGNOU, other Open Universities and DDEs have contributed their valuable inputs. Prof. Manjulika Srivastava and the IGNOU team had submitted two draft reports {which include Report of NAAC Accreditation process for Open Universities (containing 157 pages) and NAAC Accreditation Process for DDEs (containing 147 pages)} to NAAC on 20th December 2018 for their subsequent processing. The NAAC has uploaded the documents on their website for comments and inputs from stakeholders. The Chairperson invited all the participants to submit their inputs to NAAC directly.
- IGNOU was ranked 5th in the 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyan Ranking 2018' by the MHRD. The honour was conferred by the Hon' ble Minister of HRD on 01.10.2018.
- Sh. R. Subrahmanyam, Secretary, Higher Education, MHRD along with Sh. Madhu Ranjan Kumar, Joint Secretary (DL & Admn.) MHRD visited the University and interacted with IGNOU fraternity on 14.12.2018 on the vision for growth of the Open and Distance Learning system and the University especially towards increasing the enrolment by about 25 lacs annually and contribute significantly in enhancing the GER. In line with the discussions and on behest of the Ministry, five working groups were formed on Access & Equity; improving skill base through

employment generating courses; incentive structure for the students and academic counselors; brand building and online education. All the five groups made a comprehensive presentation before the Secretary, HE on 9th January 2019, wherein amongst others the emphasis was made in setting gold standards in offering programmes through distance mode.

- The Secretary, HE visited the Electronic Media Production Centre of IGNOU on 9th January 2019 and appreciated the infrastructure and activities of EMPC. Efforts are being made by EMPC through the MHRD to get the Channel carried by the Swayam Prabha platform for wider access. The Channel was being broadcast 24x7. Live interactive teleconferencing programmes are conducted by IGNOU daily between 3 to 5 p.m. on weekdays.
- The faculty of all Schools is working sincerely on war footing with a target to implement Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) for its Undergraduate programmes from July 2019 session. Also, the University is now visible on various Social media platforms like facebook and twitter.
- IGNOU has launched DigiNews to disseminate its day to day activities to all Schools, Divisions and Regional Centres.
- A complaint redressal mechanism has been developed on iGRAM. It receives nearly 8 to 9 thousand complaints in a month of which 80 to 85% grievances are redressed in the same month. The complaints are also directly dealt with and redressed by the concerned Schools and Divisions on regular basis.
- The Board of Management in its 131st meeting has adopted University Grants Commission Online (Course or Programme) Regulations, 2018 and notified by the University.
- Board of Management in its 131st meeting has approved establishment of a Centre for Online Education.
- Ministry of HRD vide their Office Memorandum F.No. 12-4/2019-U1, dated 17th January, 2019, has directed reservations in admissions to EWS. The reservations shall be provided to EWSs for admission in the University from the academic year 2019-20 onwards. As per the directions of the MHRD, all the Schools/Divisions/Units/Cells have been requested to ensure immediate compliance of the OM to increase the number of seats over and above annual permitted strength in each branch of study or faculty (wherever, the number of seats are fixed) so that the number of seats available, excluding those reserved for the persons belonging to the EWSs, is not less than the number of such seats available, in each category, for the academic session immediately preceding the date of the coming into force of this O.M. i.e. from Academic session July 2019 onwards.
- The University was planning to hold its 32nd Convocation in the month of March/April. The University is planning to invite Hon'ble Vice President for the

Convocation and a letter to that effect has been sent to the Vice President's Secretariat through MHRD.

The Chairperson then requested the Member Secretary to present the Agenda Items for the Meeting.

Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Director, ACD and Member Secretary, Academic Council informed that this was the 2nd meeting of the Academic Council, in addition to 2 meetings of its Standing Committee within last six months of joining of the Vice Chancellor. He informed the Council that there were altogether 18 Agenda Items, including confirmation of Minutes of the 70th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 25th September 2018 and the approval of the Minutes of the 47th and 48th Meetings of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 10th October, 2018 and 14th January, 2019, respectively.

The Academic Council transacted the following agenda Items:

ITEM NO. 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 70th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 25th September, 2018 and to note the Action Taken thereon – ACD

AC 71.1.1 The Member Secretary informed that the 70th Meeting of the Academic Council was held on 25th September 2018. The Minutes were circulated to all the members of the Academic Council for their comments/observations. No comments have been received on the Minutes. The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the 70th meeting of Academic Council were also placed before the Council.

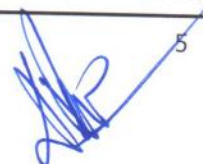
AC 71.1.2 The Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 70th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 25th September, 2018 as given in **Annexure 1** and noted the Action taken thereon.

The Academic Council also requested all the concerned Schools and Divisions for timely submitting detailed and exhaustive action taken reports on the decisions of the AC/ACSC and continue to submit the same till such time the activity is completed.

Action: ACD and all Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 2 To confirm the Minutes of the 47th Meeting of the Academic Councils' Standing Committee held on 10th October 2018 – ACD

AC 71.2.1 The Member Secretary informed that 47th Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) was held on 10th October, 2018. The Minutes were circulated to the Members of the Standing Committee for their comments/ observations. No comments have been received on the Minutes. The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the 47th meeting of ACSC were placed before the 48th ACSC held on 14th January,



2019. The minutes of 48th ACSC were being presented separately vide Item 17 in this Council.

The Member Secretary also apprised the Council about the composition and roles and functions of the Academic Council's Standing Committee.

- AC 71.2.2 The Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 47th Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 10th October 2018 as given in **Annexure 2**.

Action: ACD and all Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 3 To report the decision of the Academic Council's Standing Committee in approving the draft 'Ordinance on Standards for Development and Delivery of Academic Programmes'- ACD

- AC 71.3.1 The Vice Chancellor informed that further to visits of the Secretary, Higher Education, MHRD as detailed above, the Ministry of HRD vide its letter No.F.6-1/2014-DL (Pt.) dated 01.01.2019 informed the University that the University Grants Commission (UGC) in its 535th Commission's meeting held on 27.9.2018, has in principle, agreed for taking IGNOU out of UGC (ODL) Regulations, 2017. The MHRD had suggested that in the first instance, IGNOU should prepare an Ordinance laying down such standards in Open & Distance Learning courses/programmes which can be considered to be a benchmark of world class quality in ODL method of education.

Accordingly, the University prepared the draft 'Ordinance on Standards for development and delivery of academic programmes' under Section 4, 5(1), and 26 of the IGNOU Act 1985. The draft Ordinance was placed before the Academic Council's Standing Committee at its 48th meeting held on 14.01.2019. The ACSC opined that the ordinance so prepared should be of highest standards leading to quality development and delivery of programmes by the University. The norms towards making IGNOU world class should clearly stand out in the draft. The Standing Committee of Academic Council approved the draft 'Ordinance on Standards for Development and Delivery of Academic Programmes' and recommended the same for consideration of the Academic Council and Board of Management. The ACSC also authorized the Vice Chancellor to issue the Part Minutes related to this Item.

Accordingly, the draft Ordinance was placed before the Board of Management in its emergent meeting held on 15th January, 2019 as per provision under Statute 26 (1 and 2) of the IGNOU Act, which also provides for consultation of the Academic Council.

The Vice Chancellor further informed that Ordinance has not been sent to

Ministry as it was thought that opinion of Academic Council was important since it was an Academic matter. The members of the Council were requested to give their opinion/observation/inputs/advise/ suggestion on the said draft Ordinance within seven days for which email would be sent to all the members immediately.

- AC 71.3.2 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Draft Ordinance in principle and authorized the Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Council to consider the suggestions, if any received on the draft and incorporate the same, wherever appropriate (**Annexure 3**).

Action: ACD and Governance Section

ITEM NO. 4 To consider the report of the committee constituted by the Vice Chancellor for Developing Guidelines on Submitting Proposals of Academic Programmes for Consideration of School Boards – ACD

- AC 71.4.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) in its 47th meeting held on 10th October 2018, had felt a need to have a broad uniform policy with regard to the items to be considered in the School Board meetings on issues like curriculum formulation, SLM development/Course writing, Credit structure, evaluation policy, convening Expert Committee meetings, etc. The ACSC had decided to constitute a Committee to develop an Institutional policy on these matters. Accordingly, the Vice Chancellor had constituted a Committee under the Chairpersonship of Prof Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS for developing guidelines on submitting proposals of academic programmes for consideration of School Boards. The Report of the Committee was placed before the Academic Council for consideration.

- AC 71.4.2 Prof. Swaraj Basu, Chairperson of the Committee briefed the Council about the salient points regarding credit structure, prescribed word limit, evaluation methodology etc. prescribed in the proposed guidelines on submitting proposals of Academic Programmes to the School Boards. Director, SOFL requested to re-look at the word limit in case of language courses including foreign language in light of specific requirement of the area. However, the Council was of the opinion that there should be uniformity as much as possible with a very limited range of flexibility keeping in view the specific requirement of the subject.

The Academic Council put on record its appreciation for the efforts put in by the Committee members to formulate the proposed guidelines.

- AC 71.4.3 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council accepted the recommendations of the Committee (**Annexure 4**) and directed ACD to

circulate the same to all the Schools of Studies for adherence.

Action: ACD and all Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 5 To consider and approve the Syllabus of BA General and Honours with Sanskrit programme under CBCS – SOH

AC 71.5.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Phase-Zero form of BA General and Honours in Sanskrit programme under CBCS was approved in 57th School Board of SOH held on 7th September, 2018. Subsequently, the Expert Committee finalized the syllabus of BA General and Honours in Sanskrit in its held on 20th November, 2018. In line with the revised Phase forms, the School has submitted the Programme Revision Form for approval of the Academic Council.

Director, SOSS and Member of the Council expressed his views on developing and launching a programme without permanent faculty.

The Chairperson of the Academic Council expressed concerns of Schools having full fledged permanent Faculty without any degree level programme and with very less enrolment in the programmes offered at certificate/diploma levels. Thus, the Council opined that it would be wise to first develop a programme with the help of outside experts and by engaging academic staff on contract, with the work coordinated by the School. Subsequently, looking at the viability of the programme, the regular teaching positions in the concerned area/discipline could be provided as per requirement.

AC 71.5.3 With above observations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Revision Form and syllabi of BA General and Honours with Sanskrit under CBCS (**Annexure 5**).

The Council also opined that a programme could be developed with the help of outside experts and by engaging academic staff on contract, with the work coordinated by the School. Subsequently, looking at the viability of the programme, the regular teaching positions in the concerned area/discipline could be provided as per requirement.

Action: SOH

ITEM NO. 6 To consider and approve Syllabus of BA General and Honours with Urdu programme under CBCS – SOH

AC 71.6.1 The Director, School of Humanities (SOH) and Member of the Academic Council informed the Council that the Phase-Zero form of BA General and Honours in Urdu programme under CBCS was approve by 57th School Board of the SOH held on 7th September, 2018. Subsequently, the Expert

Committee finalized the syllabus of BA General and Honours in Urdu in its meeting held on 5th December, 2018. In line with the revised Phase forms, the School has submitted the Programme Revision Form for approval of the Academic Council.

- AC 71.6.2 The Academic Council considered and approved the Programme Revision Form including the syllabi of BA General and Honours in Urdu under CBCS (**Annexure 6**).

Action: SOH

ITEM NO. 7 To consider the revision of fee in respect of International Students – International Division

- AC 71.7.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that IGNOU has been offering its academic programmes to the International students through Overseas Study Centres/ Regional Centres in India on payment of fee (Programme Fee, Pro-rata Fee and Fee for other services) applicable for International students. Such fee was fixed in 2007 and thereafter, no revision in the fee for International students has been undertaken. A Committee was constituted by the Vice Chancellor to review the fee structure for International students, the Report of which was placed for consideration of the Council.

- AC 71.7.2 The Academic Council considered the recommendations of the Committee and approved the revision of fee for International students as recommended by the Committee (**Annexure 7**).

Action: International Division and SRD

ITEM NO. 8 To consider and approve the syllabi and Programme Revision Form of the additional optional courses "Research in Human Geography" and "Remote Sensing Applications in Geographical Research" for M.Phil. and Ph.D. Programmes in Geography – SOS

- AC 71.8.1 The Member Secretary of the Academic Council informed the Council that the School of Sciences has submitted a proposal containing Programme Revision Form and Syllabi of additional optional courses "Research in Human Geography" and "Remote Sensing Applications in Geographical Research" for the M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes in Geography, as approved by the School Board of SOS in its 62nd meeting held on 26th September 2018.

- AC 71.8.2 The Council expressed concern over number of options offered in case of M. Phil. / Ph. D. programmes and availability of Faculty. The Director, SOS assured the Council that the School will offer only those Optional courses in

M.Phil./ Ph.D. Programme for which faculty was available in the School and informed that faculty was available for both the courses i.e. "Research in Human Geography" and "Remote Sensing Applications in Geographical Research".

- AC 71.8.3 With above observations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Revision Form including the syllabi of additional optional courses on "Research in Human Geography" and "Remote Sensing Applications in Geographical Research" for the M.Phil. and Ph.D. programmes in Geography (**Annexure 8**).

The Council also resolved that a School will offer only those Optional courses in M.Phil./ Ph.D. Programme for which faculty was available in the School.

Action: SOS

ITEM NO. 9 To consider and approve the Programme Revision Form for Diploma in BPO Finance and Accounting programme –SOVET

- AC 71.9.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Diploma in BPO Finance and Accounting Programme was initiated by the School of Vocational Education and Training (SOVET) in 2009 and had been running since then. Restructuring of Diploma in BPO Finance and Accounting Programme and the list of the Expert Committee was approved by School Board of SOVET in its 24th Meeting held on 27th March, 2015.

As per revision of Phase forms by 70th Academic Council Meeting 70.10.3, the Programme Revision Form for the DBPOFA Programme with major revision was approved by the School Board in its 30th Meeting held on 29th October, 2018 and on the recommendation of the 30th School Board, the revised programme fee for the DBPOFA programme has been fixed at Rs.10,000/- in consultation with P&DD.

While discussion, the School was advised to place a well structured system to monitor the timely revision of each course as per University rules since any revision of course/ programme involves huge financial aspect which should be cautiously and adequately taken care of.

- AC 71.9.2 With above observations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Revision Form for Diploma in BPO Finance and Accounting programme and revised programme fee for the DBPOFA programme at Rs.10,000/- (**Annexure 9**).

Action: SOVET

ITEM NO. 10 To consider and approve the re-launch of Certificate in Adolescent

Health and Counseling (CAHC) Programme – SOHS

AC 71.10.1 Director, SOHS and Member of the Council informed that Certificate in Adolescent Health and counseling (CAHC) programme was developed and launched in July 2011 with approvals of required Phase Forms. Thereafter, the programme was kept in abeyance since July, 2014 in view of revision of norms for Programme Study Centres, Programme In-charges and Academic Counselors. The 57th School Board in its meeting held on 16th January 2015, approved the modification in eligibility criteria of Programme Study Centres, Programme In-charges and Academic Counselors and subsequently in 39th Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) meeting held on 21st May 2015 wherein it was suggested to refer the proposal to the Academic Council since the earlier norms were approved by Academic Council. The 64th Academic Council held on 10th July, 2015 approved the revised norms. Advancements that have taken place over the years have been incorporated to make the programme more viable.

The proposal of re-launching of Certificate in Adolescent Health and Counseling (CAHC) Programme has been approved in 66th School Board Meeting of SOHS held on 7th September 2018.

AC 71.10.2 The matter was deliberated at length. The Council observed that the cost involved in the process, viability of the programme in terms of enrollment and existing Regulatory mechanisms/norms should be kept in view along with the academic justification while going for launching of any course/programme. Thus, for programmes having less than 300 to 500 enrolment, the Self Instructional Material of the programme should be provided in soft form online in place of printed blocks. The Director, SOHS informed that since the enrolment in the programme is not likely to cross 300 initially, he agreed to the proposal. He informed that the soft copy of Self Instructional Material of CAHC programme was ready.

AC 71.10.3 After detailed deliberations and with above observations, the Academic Council approved the proposal of SOHS to re-launch the Certificate in Adolescent Health and Counseling (CAHC) programme initially by providing soft copy of the Self Instructional Material online in place of printed SIM (**Annexure 10**).

Action: SOHS

ITEM NO. 11 To consider Empanelled Academic Counselors by Default as Examiners/ Evaluators for conduct of BPOI – 006 Verbal Exam Under Diploma in BPO Finance & Accounting (DBPOFA) and Certificate in Communication & IT Skills (CCITSK) programme –

SOVET

- AC 71.11.1 The Item was withdrawn since there was already a process in place on selecting/ approving the names of Experts/ Examiners/ Evaluators in the University.

ITEM NO. 12 To consider and approve the proposal for launch of Ph.D. in Home Science – SOCE

- AC 71.12.1** The Member Secretary informed the Council that as per proposal submitted by the School of Continuing Education, the Ph.D. Programme in Home Science, based on the UGC Guidelines (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of M.Phil./Ph.D. Degrees) of 2016 was approved by the 57th School Board of SOCE in its meeting held on 17th January, 2018. The Expert Committee for designing the Ph.D. Course work of Ph.D. in Home Science (Community Resource management and Extension) in its meeting held on 04th September 2018 recommended two courses, each worth 8 credits. Out of these two courses, one is Compulsory (Research Methodology) and the other is Elective (Community Resource Management and Extension). The Minutes of the Expert Committee Meeting along with the designed Course Work and the Syllabus were approved by 59th School Board of SOCE held on 05th October, 2018.

- AC 71.12.2** Director, SOSS expressed concern over offering of Research Degree programme by the Discipline(s) having only one Faculty, and that offering of research degree programmes in such cases should be avoided since it was very difficult for only one faculty to manage course work of 16 credits. It becomes more important keeping in view the observation of the 47th ACSC vide which the Standing Committee of Academic Council had categorically decided not to involve any external expert for the course work delivery of research degree programmes.

The Director, SOCE informed the Council that there was only one elective offered in the proposed Ph. D. Programme and she herself has the specialization of that course. Further she informed that there were internal Expertise available in the University itself that can be engaged and the School would not involve any external expert.

- AC 71.12.3** After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the proposal for launch of Ph.D. in Home Science with only one Elective i.e. Community Resource Management and Extension along with the Programme Revision Form including syllabi of the course work (**Annexure 11**). The Council further decided that in the instant case of PhD in Home Science programme, the concerned Faculty would supervise only half the number of seats a

supervisor was eligible to take.

Action: SOCE and Research Unit

ITEM NO. 13 To consider and approve Programme Revision Form for major revision of Diploma in Nursing Administration (DNA) Programme – SOHS

AC 71.13.1 Director, SOHS and Member of the Council informed that the School of Health Sciences launched Diploma in Nursing Administration Programme in 2006 and 19 Programme Study Centers (PSCs) were established all over India. PSCs were admitting the 200-250 students since 2014-2018; 2 new PSCs were established in 2017 and 2 PSCs are in process of establishment. DNA programme was aimed at updating basic management skills of nurses which they could apply in healthcare institutions.

55th Meeting of School Board of SOHS held on 21st May, 2014 approved the revision of DNA Programme and the list of experts for revision was approved in the 58th School Board meeting, held on 15.07.2015. During 2014-2018 feedback was collected from nearly 150 students and 14 Regional Centres on self learning material of DNA programme.

Expert committee meeting for the revision of Diploma in Nursing Administration (DNA) programme was held on 27th July 2018, based on feedback report wherein it was observed that many concepts in existing syllabi were outdated and incomplete, need to be updated and re-organized; implementation strategies need to be revised {ODL (Blended) mode}.

Old Phase Zero form with draft syllabi and list of experts for course writing and editing was approved by 66th School Board Meeting held on 7th September, 2018. Course Expert Committee meeting for all the 4 Theory and 2 Practical Courses for the major revision was held on 17th October 2018. In view of the University policy, the new Phase Form i.e. Programme Revision Form (PRF) was duly filled again which was approved in 67th School Board meeting of SOHS held on 2nd November 2018. Director, SOHS informed that since the enrolment was expected to be less, the School would go in for soft copy of Self Instructional Material in place of printed SIM as decided vide Item No. 10 above.

AC 71.13.2 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Revision Form for major revision of DNA Programme by providing soft copy of the Self Instructional Material online in place of printed SIM (**Annexure 12**).

Action: SOHS

ITEM NO. 14 To consider the letter received from University Grants Commission (UGC) for making Hindi as a Compulsory subject in all Universities – ACD

- AC 71.14.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the University Grants Commission (UGC) vide their letter No. 16-1/2018 (Rajbhasha) Part-2, dated 24th October 2018 forwarded a letter of Ministry of Human Resource and Development, No. 8-21/2017-L-1, dated 24th July, 2018 annexing therewith a letter of Shri Vijay Kumar Malhotra, President (State Minister rank), Akhil Bhartiya Khel Parishad requesting for making the National Language, Hindi, a compulsory subject in all Schools and Universities.
- AC 71.14.2 The Director, SOH informed that the University has already made Hindi as one of the compulsory course in the degree Programmes of the University, and therefore, the direction of the Ministry/ University Grants Commission was already implemented in the University.
- AC 71.14.3 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council noted the contents of the letter, which was already implemented by the University. It also directed the Schools to comply with the same, if already not done, for making the National Language, Hindi, a Compulsory subject in all Universities.

Action: All Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 15 To consider the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018.

- AC 71. 15.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the University Grants Commission vide its notification dated July 04, 2018 notified the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018. These Regulations lay down the minimum standards of instruction for the grant of Certificate or Diploma or Degree, through online mode, delivered through interactive technology using internet. These Regulations were applicable to all the Institutions imparting higher education or research therein by means of conducting regular classes or through Open and Distance Learning systems or through online education system that result in grant of Degree or Diploma or Certificate, in various Courses or Programmes other than Courses or Programmes in engineering, law, medicine, dental, pharmacy, nursing, architecture, Physiotherapy, applied arts and such other Courses or Programmes not permitted to be offered through online or Open and Distance Learning mode by any other statutory or regulatory body or council.

The Member Secretary further informed that the Board of Management at

its 131st meeting held on 22nd December 2018 has approved the adoption of the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018. The Board has also approved the establishment of a Centre for Online Education, utilizing the services of the existing teachers/academics and administrative manpower initially. The notifications for the same have been issued accordingly, however, since it is an Academic matter, the same has been placed before the Academic Council for its consideration.

- AC 71.15.2 The Academic Council approved the adoption of the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018 by the University.

Action: COE and all Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 16 To consider the proposals received from the School of Studies for offering Programmes through online mode.

- AC 71.16.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the University Grants Commission vide its notification dated July 04, 2018 has notified the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018. The 131st Board of Management in its meeting held on 22nd December 2018 has approved the adoption of University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018, as well as establishment of a Centre for Online Education, utilizing the services of the existing teachers/academics and administrative manpower initially. The notifications for the same have been issued accordingly.

Subsequently, in continuation with aforementioned Regulations, the UGC vide its Public notice F.No. 7-2/2018 (OL) Amendment, dated 4th January 2019 has invited proposals from Higher Education Institutions for recognition of courses/programmes to be offered in online mode from the academic session 2019-20 & onwards. The online application portal of UGC for submitting applications would be opened from 7th January 2019 to 31st January 2019. Accordingly, the Academic Coordination Division vide its notice dated 11th January 2019, had requested the Schools and Divisions to submit the proposals for consideration of Academic Council and the following Schools of Studies have submitted their proposals for Online Programme:

I. School of Journalism and New Media Studies (SOJNMS):

1. Appreciation Programme in Media and Information Literacy

The Programme was approved by 14th School Board of SOJNMS held on 18th

December 2015 and the 65th Academic Council held on 21st March 2016. The School has informed that Unit writing was in advance stage and four audio –video programmes have been made for this programme.

II. School of Continuing Education:

1. Certificate Programme in Food Safety (CFS)

This programme was launched by IGNOU in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) as a professional and career up-gradation on-line programme in the area of food safety and quality, integrating education and training and addressing the needs of training the workforce/developing human resource in this sector. Since January 2007 till January 2014 cycle 1065 students were enrolled in the programme. However the programme was put on hold subsequently.

2. Post graduate Certificate/Diploma in Pediatric Nutrition

The Discipline of Nutritional Science, SOCE had launched the on-line Postgraduate Certificate/Diploma programme in Pediatric nutrition from July, 2012 Session. The Programme was launched with approval of the Statutory bodies of the University, however it was put on hold subsequently.

III. School of Agriculture:

The School of Agriculture was running three programmes through online mode before the UGC stopped the online programmes. The three programmes were as follows:

1. Post Graduate Certificate in Agriculture Policy (PGCAP)

2. Post Graduate Diploma in Food Safety and Quality Management (PGDFSQM)

3. Post Graduate Diploma in Food Science and Technology (PGDFT)

The PGDFSQM and PGDFT programmes have 50% practical component and were running in a blended mode. To begin with the School has proposed to offer PGCAP programme through online mode from July 2020 session. The remaining two courses and additional programmes submitted to the IUC will be taken, if the permission was given for offering of the programmes in the blended mode.,

AC 71.16.2

The Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Council informed the Council that the University was already offering more than 25 programmes through online mode earlier before UGC put on hold on offering of online programmes across the country. The University has already started taking steps towards fulfilling the conditions mandated in the UGC Regulations. The Board of Management of the University has adopted the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018, and a Centre for Online Education with necessary intellectual and physical

resources has been set up. However, necessary re-structuring/updation was required in the curriculum w.r.t. Credit structure, and learning resources w.r.t. four quadrants, proposed in the UGC Regulations. He requested all the Schools of studies to do the needful at the earliest and submit the proposals for approval of the School Boards and Academic Council at the earliest.

- AC 71.16.3 After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council decided the following:
1. The University will register and submit the proposal for Online programmes. **Action: Centre for Online Education/IUC**
 2. The Schools of Studies will re-structure/update the programmes to be offered through online mode, complying with the necessary conditions stipulated in the UGC Regulations. The proposals duly approved by the School Boards will be placed before the Academic Council/its Standing Committee in its next meeting. **Action: All Schools of studies**
 3. The proposals received from the Schools of Studies as above were referred back to the concerned Schools to ensure that all the procedures have been followed as indicated in the University Grants Commission (Online Courses or Programmes) Regulations, 2018 and to re-submit the same. **Action: SOJNMS/SOCE/SOA**

ITEM NO. 17 To consider the Minutes of the 48th Meeting of the Academic Councils' Standing Committee held on 14th January 2019.

- AC 71.17.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the 48th Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) was held on 14th January 2019. The Minutes of the 48th ACSC have been circulated to the members on 21st January 2019 for their comments/observations, and he then invited the comments of the members on the same before confirmation.
- AC 71.17.2 The Director, SOSS suggested that in line with the UGC CBCS grading system, the Grading points mentioned vide Item No. ACSC48.3 may be read as '10-point Grading System' in place of '9-point Grading System'.
- AC 71.17.3 With the above emendations, the Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 48th meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 14th January 2019 (**Annexure 13**).

Action: ACD and respective Schools of Studies

ITEM NO. 18 To consider the matter related to the Academic Audit of the University.

AC 71.18.1 The Member Secretary informed the Council that the Ministry of Human Resources and Development (MHRD) vide its letters, dated 14/15th January 2016 and 18th April 2016, with regard to the finalization of Budget Estimate/Revised Estimate for financial year 2015-16 of the University, had sought the status report on the Schools of Studies established under Statute 10(A)(1) and 57 Regional Centres of IGNOU. The University vide its letters dated 19th February 2016 and 9th May 2016 forwarded the compiled Status Reports in the prescribed format to the Ministry of HRD.

The Ministry of HRD with reference to IGNOU's responses sent a detailed analysis vide their letter No. F.5-1/2016-DL, dated 5th July 2016. Amongst others, the Ministry had expressed that *"there requires an urgent Academic Audit of IGNOU's exiting Schools and Regional Centres specifically in the context of ICT supported Open & Distance Learning (ODL) education system in the prevailing circumstances. The University was, therefore, requested to kindly consider bringing all these vital issues before its Finance Committee, Board of Management (BOM) and other Statutory Authorities for seeking suitable directions, if any, and thereby taking necessary measures to rationalize the need of various Schools and Regional Centres in respect of faculty, academic and non-academic staffing in the prevailing situation holistically."*

The Board of Management in its 125th meeting held on 23rd July 2016 was apprised of the contents of the MHRD letter, dated 5th July 2016 regarding the status report of the School of Studies of IGNOU and 57 Regional Centres of IGNOU. The Board noted that the Ministry had desired to have an urgent Academic Audit of IGNOU's existing Schools and Regional Centres specifically in the context of ICT supported ODL education system in the prevailing circumstances and taking necessary measures to rationalize the need of various Schools and Regional Centres in respect of faculty, academic and non-academic staffing holistically and decided that the University should initiate the academic audit as per the directions of the MHRD.

Keeping in view the decision of the 125th meeting of the Board of Management, the Vice Chancellor had constituted two Committees to examine the (i) Schools of Studies, and (ii) Regional Centers of IGNOU, and directed to place their recommendations before the competent authority. The Committees were notified and the meetings of both the Committees were convened. The Committee for examining the Regional Centers of IGNOU had submitted its Report, however, the report of the Committee on Schools of Studies could not be submitted. The matter remained inconclusive thereafter.

The Member Secretary further informed that since the Ministry had asked

the University to place the letter before the Statutory bodies of the University, the same was placed before the Board and now before the Academic Council.

- AC71.18.2 The Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Council stated that there were issues, like low enrolment in various programmes of studies, time bound revision of programmes, strengthening of student support services, which should be properly addressed. He further stated that the University was meeting almost full expenditure from its own resources. therefore, the time was ripe to assess its strength and weaknesses by conducting a robust academic audit of the University.

The Council was of the opinion that the audit be carried out in a time bound manner, preferably by involving experts in the area. The Chairperson proposed to rope in an IIM or IIT for the task.

- AC 71.18.3 After detailed deliberations the Academic Council approved the academic audit of the (i) Schools of Studies, and (ii) Regional Centers of IGNOU as decided by Board of Management in its 125th meeting. The Council authorized the Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Council, to decide a suitable IIM or IIT for the audit and for taking further necessary decisions on the matter.

(Action: ACD/Admin Division (Governance))

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



14/1/19



(Nageshwar Rao) 14/1/19.
Chairperson