

MINUTES OF THE FIFTY-NINTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT OF THE INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD ON WEDNESDAY, JULY 01, 1998, AT 11.00 HOURS IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, BLOCK - 8, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI 110 068.

The following were present:

1. Prof Abdul W. Khan, Vice-Chancellor - Chairman
2. Prof Janardan Jha
3. Shri P.R. Dasgupta
4. Prof Habibur Rehman
5. Shri J.P. Javali
6. Prof Suhash Chakravorty
7. Prof M.M. Pant
8. Dr A.R. Khan
9. Dr D.D. Kaushik
10. Prof Afzal Mohammad
11. Prof. RVR Chandrasekhara Rao
12. Shri Kiran Karnik

Shri K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Registrar - Secretary

Dr. (Mrs.) Shakuntala Varma and Dr. A.C. Muttiah could not attend the meeting.

Shri D. Deb, Assistant Registrar (Governance), was present to assist the Board.

At the outset, the Members were informed of the sad demise of Shri Nikhil Chakravorty, a noted Journalist, who had served as a member of the Board of Management of this University. His valuable contribution in the field of education in general and to IGNOU in particular was recalled by the members. The members paid their homage to the departed soul by observing one minute's silence.

The Vice-Chancellor, in his introductory observations, stated that he had accepted the Vice-Chancellorship of IGNOU with great humility; he was conscious that he lacked the experience of his predecessors but was confident that this inadequacy would be more than compensated by the wisdom, experience and expertise of the members. He was hopeful that they would advise and guide him in all matters. He reiterated that his commitment and dedication to the cause and objectives of the University would be the source of his strength and guiding spirit. He informed the members that he wanted to begin afresh and that as a custodian of public resources, as a service provider to the students in the larger perspective of social and economic justice, he would like to put all his efforts to revamp the system of delivery. In this mission, he sought the active cooperation and support from all the members.

Members of the Board extended a warm welcome to Prof. Abdul Waheed Khan.

The Items of Agenda were thereafter taken up for consideration.

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 58TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON APRIL 04, 1998 AND TO NOTE THE ACTION TAKEN THEREON.

BM 59.1.1 The Minutes of the 58th Meeting of the Board of Management held on April 04, 1998 were confirmed with the following observations/corrections :

- (1) One of the members stated that the point he raised in the earlier meeting about deleting the words, 'had raised similar points' from Resolution No.56.19.1 was not effected although the Board had agreed to the suggestion. The Board accepted the views of the member and consequently the words 'had raised similar points' stand deleted from the Resolution No.56.19.1.
- (2) Another member suggested that the Ordinance governing admission of students be amended suitably for enabling the University to outsource entrance tests so as to remove any ambiguity in the existing provisions. The Secretary informed that the University had sought legal opinion in the matter and that the concerned Ordinance will be brought before the Board with the proposal for appropriate amendment to the Ordinance.
- (3) The Secretary informed the Board that the date 30-04-1997 in Resolution No.BM 58.1.6 is a typographical error and that it should be read as 30-06-1997. This was noted.

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR ON THE APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTORS IN THE UNIVERSITY.

BM 59.2.1 The Vice-Chancellor made the following recommendations in respect of appointment of

Directors of Schools/Divisions for the consideration and approval of the Board :

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| (1) | Prof. M. Aslam
Professor of Rural
Development | -

As Director
School of Continuing
Education for a
three year term |
| (2) | Prof. Shobita Jain
Professor of Sociology | -

As Director
School of Social
Sciences for a three
year term. |

BM 59.2.2. Concerning the recommendation of the Vice-Chancellor about the appointment of Director of School of Social Sciences, views were expressed whether the seniority aspect in the appointment of Directors of Schools be maintained. On the other hand the consensus of opinion that emerged was that the statutory provision of 'recommendation' gives the Vice-Chancellor the flexibility in exercising his discretionary power and, therefore, the Board must honour his recommendations. In this context, the Vice-Chancellor stated that he had considered all aspects and that the recommendations he had made was in the best interests of the University.

BM 59.2.3 The Board resolved to accept the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor in respect of the appointment of Directors of Schools of Continuing Education and Social Sciences. One of the members, however, desired that seniority must be taken into account while making the appointment of Directors of Schools and that his above views be recorded.

BM 59.2.4 The Board further resolved that their term of office as Director will begin from the date of their appointment or the date on which the Board approved the appointments, whichever is later.

BM 59.2.5 The Board, on the recommendations of the Vice-Chancellor, also ratified the following appointments/arrangements made:

- (1) Prof. M.M. Pant as Director of the School of Computer and Information Sciences for a 3 year term from the date of his appointment.
- (2) Prof. M.U. Deshpande as Director in-charge of the Distance Education Council till regular arrangements are made.

- (3) Consequent to the resignation of Ms. Jai Chandiram, the Vice-Chancellor will look after the affairs of the EMPC with concerned sectional heads reporting to him directly.

ITEM NO. 3 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTRE OF STUDIES IN WOMEN'S STUDIES AND OTHER INTER-DISCIPLINARY AREAS.

BM 59.3.1 The Board considered the proposal and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to appoint a Committee to go into all issues and make recommendations for the consideration of the Board. The Board also authorised the Vice-Chancellor to specify the terms of reference of the Committee.

ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL ON THE PURCHASES OF COMPUTER HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE ITEMS FOR IGNOU'S COMPUTER NETWORK IN TERMS OF THE BOARD'S RESOLUTION NO.BM 56.18.3(b).

BM 59.4.1 The Board accepted the suggestion made by a member that the purchases as proposed may not be made in view of the enquiry by the CVC. The Board, however, suggested that further purchases proposed in the Agenda Note may be made after resorting to proper tendering procedures and its evaluation by Purchase/Finance Committee. This will allow both public/private sector organisations to bid competitively and will ensure transparency and accountability.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER A POLICY NOTE ON THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR REGIONAL CENTRES EITHER THROUGH PURCHASE OF LAND AND CONSTRUCTION BY THE UNIVERSITY OR OUTRIGHT PURCHASE OF FLATS CONSTRUCTED-BY GOVERNMENT AGENCIES.

BM 59.5.1 The Board considered the proposal and decided that a Sub-Committee of the Board of Management be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor to go into specific requirements of the Regional Centres and its financial implications before any such proposal for purchase of flats/land, etc. is effected.

BM 59.5.2 The Board approved the proposal in principle on the acquisition of property for Regional Centres either through purchase of land or construction by the University or outright purchase of flats constructed by the government agencies.

- BM 59.5.3 The Board further decided that a comprehensive quarterly progress report on the services provided by the Regional Centres to the students should be prepared and a consolidated report be brought before the Board from time to time so that the members remain informed about the progress of the University.
- ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE INCORPORATION OF MODIFICATIONS ALREADY APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT IN LEAVE ORDINANCE OF THE UNIVERSITY.
- BM 59.6.1 The Item was deferred so as to incorporate any modifications that may become necessary with the implementation of new pay scales for teachers.
- ITEM NO. 7 TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN AUTHORISING THE RELEASE OF PAYMENT OF RS.8.8 LAKHS TO IBPS UNDER SECTION 10(3) OF THE IGNOU ACT.
- BM 59.7.1 The Board ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor under Section 10(3) of the IGNOU Act in authorising the release of payment of Rs.8.8 Lakhs to IBPS. The Board also suggested any emergency action taken by the Vice-Chancellor under the Provision of Section 10(3) of the Act may be reported in the next meeting of the Board.
- BM 59.7.2 As stated earlier, suitable amendment to Ordinance in relation to the conduct of entrance tests by outside agencies may be framed and brought before the Board. The Secretary stated that this process is already on.
- ITEM NO. 8 TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATION OF A MEMBER ON THE PURCHASE COMMITTEE.
- BM 59.8.1 The Board considered and nominated Prof. Janardan Jha, Pro Vice-Chancellor as the member on the Purchase Committee, a Standing Committee of the Board of Management.
- ITEM NO. 9 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PROCEEDINGS OF DEPARTMENTAL PROMOTION COMMITTEE FOR GROUP 'A' POSTS.
- BM 59.9.1 The Board considered and approved the proceedings/recommendations of the Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) for Group 'A' posts held on 26-06-1998.

ITEM NO. 10

TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL FOR GRANT OF NURSING ALLOWANCE TO THE NURSING PERSONNEL IN THE SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES IN IGNOU.

BM 59.10.1

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the proposal may not be considered at this stage as the recommendations of revised payscales in respect of academic staff is still to be notified by the Government. It was also felt that the question whether Teachers would be entitled to an allowance which is specifically meant for nurses needed to be examined.

ITEM NO. 11

TO NOTE THE MINUTES OF THE 18TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON FEBRUARY 3, 1998.

BM 59.11.1

The Board noted the Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Academic Council held on February 3, 1998.

ITEM NO. 12

TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CASES OF CONFIRMATION OF ACADEMIC STAFF.

BM 59.12.1

The Board considered and approved the cases of confirmation of the academic staff as indicated below:

Name & Designation	Date of Joining	Date of Completion of Probation
Dr. S.S. Hasan Professor of Life Sciences	04-04-1997	03-04-1998
Sh. Shiva Kumar G N ARD, RC, Shimla	30-12-1996	29-12-1997
Ms. J.S. Dorothy ARD, RC, Jaipur	06-01-1997	05-01-1998
Shri Joseph Somi ARD, RC, Guwahati	09-01-1997	08-01-1998

ITEM NO. 13

TO CONSIDER HAVING A COMMON CADRE OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR BY MERGING THE POSITIONS OF ANALYST AND RESEARCH OFFICER AVAILABLE IN VARIOUS DIVISIONS IN THE UNIVERSITY.

BM 59.13.1

The item was deferred for further examination before it is brought before the Board.