

Minutes of the Third School Board Meeting held on 5th June, 2007 at 11.00.a.m in the Conference Room, Block 8, IGNOU, New Delhi-110068

The following members were present:

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| 1. | Prof. Srikrishna Deva Rao, Director (SOL) | Chairman |
| 2. | Prof. N.R. Madhava Menon | Member |
| 3. | Prof. B.C. Nirmal | Member |
| 4. | Shri Sanjay Parikh | Member |
| 5. | Prof. Pandav Nayak | Member |
| 6. | Shri. M.P. Mishra | Member |
| 7. | Mr. Anand Gupta | Member |
| 8. | Dr. Manju Chellani | Special Invitee |

Dr. Zakir Thomas, Dr. Shubha Gokhale, Dr. Sanjay Mishra, Ms. Suneet Kashyap, Ms. Gurmeet Kaur could not attend the meeting.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all the members of the School Board. The Chairman placed on record the contributions made by earlier In-charge Directors of School of Law viz. Prof. S.C. Garg, Prof. B.S. Saraswat and Ms. Suneet Kashyap who was Lecturer, in-charge of the School for two months.

The Agenda Items were taken up for decision and the following actions were taken:

Item No. 1 Confirmation of the minutes of the Second School Board Meeting

SB 3.1 The Board was informed that the Minutes of the Second Meeting of the School Board were circulated among the members on 16th October, 2007. As no comments have been received from any of the members, it is presumed that the minutes may be deemed to have been confirmed.

The Board confirmed the minutes.

The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the Second Meeting was discussed.

The Chairman informed the Board that the Phase 3 form for the Post Graduate Certificate Course in Cyber Laws (PGCCL) was approved by the Academic Council. Now the PGCCL is ready for launch in January, 2008. The School of Law in association with National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE), IGNOU is in the process of preparing multi-media learner kit for the programme. NCIDE and SOL will work in collaboration with each other. School of law will provide the multimedia scripts to NCIDE which will then be converted into the learner kit. He informed that the work for preparation of multi-media learner kit is in progress.

The Board members debated on the eligibility criteria for the admission of the PGCCL students. The members have suggested to offer the course at

the first instance, for the Law Graduates as the content is heavy and technical. The members have also recommended to convert the certificate programme into a diploma programme by adding one course to the existing course and may be offered through on line within a year.

The second item on the Action Taken Report was taken i.e. Post Graduate Certificate Programme in Patents (PGCPP). The Board members discussed about the status of the Patents programme. Again the Eligibility criteria for students of this course came up for discussion. **It was decided that the eligibility criteria may be fixed as Degree in Science, Technology, Medicine or Law.** It was also noted that in Block 4 of the Unit 13 should be read as Traditional Knowledge and IPR.

The third item of the Action Taken Report was taken and the Development of PG Diploma in IPR and Human Rights was postponed for a year.

The Fourth item of the Action Taken Report was taken up i.e. the PG Certificate Programme in Legal Literacy. As decided in the Brainstorming Session, the legal literacy programme has to be the priority programme of the School of Law. To be able to structure the programme and to achieve maximum benefits, it was decided that IGNOU will work in collaboration with National Legal Literacy Mission, National Legal Services Authority and Planning Commission for designing the programme. It was decided that priority should be given to north eastern states.

It was noted that preparatory work is in progress for the development of Certificate Programme in ADR.

The Board discussed in detail about the offering of the LLB programme in IGNOU. The Board members were of the opinion that 2-3 years of preparatory work is required for development of LLB Programme and 2010 should be set as target for launching.

Meanwhile LLM Programme should be offered by School of Law and the preparatory work needs to be initiated.

Item No. 2 Report of School of Law from 2005-2007 by Director, SOL

SB 3.2 The Report of School of Law from 2005-2007 presented by the Director, SOL was put on record.

Item No. 3: Follow up of Brainstorming Session of School of Law

SB 3.3 The Brain Storming Session was organized by the School of Law on 4th June, 2007 to prepare a road map for open and distance learning initiatives in legal education. Number of eminent legal experts, educationists attended the day long session. The Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU was keen to see the School of Law of IGNOU in legal education map of India. The following items came up for discussion:

The members recommended to start immediately the preparatory work for development of LLM course. The LLM programme can have four compulsory courses in Teaching and Research Methodology, Law, Society and development, Legal theory and constitutional governance and six courses in specialization areas or cluster of optional. The specialization can be in the area of

- i) International Trade
- ii) Agricultural Law
- iii) Criminal Justice
- iv) Law and Development
- v) Intellectual Property Rights
- vi) Energy law, Health Sciences, and ICT

IGNOU should prepare the LLM courses in collaboration with National Law Schools in India and selective Law Colleges that have the required faculty expertise.

The LLM Programme should be a research based programme with interdisciplinary in character with two third of credits of project and one third of credit for examination with a minimum strength of 100.

The Board recommended that IGNOU should also start a three year graduate programme, B.A. in Law.

IGNOU should also give importance to continuing legal education for lawyers, Teachers and Judges

It was agreed that IGNOU should develop special digitalized law library that will serve the whole legal academia in India. IGNOU should also offer its technical expertise in course design, preparation of materials, e-learning capacities to all other Law Schools.

Faculty requirements:

As the School of law is initiating the LLM Programme/ BA (Law) and other preparatory work for a number of other activities that require a core faculty. The following staff should be appointed:

Professors-	2
Readers-	4
Lecturers-	4
Research/Teaching Assistants-	4

Item No. 4: To discuss and prepare Five Year Work Plan for School of Law.

SB 3.4 The Board recommended the short-term and long-term goals for school of law.

The Short-term goals include

- i) LLM Programme
- ii) B.A. in Law
- iii) Legal Literacy Programme

The Long-term goals include

- i) LLB Programme
- ii) M.Phil and Ph.D Programme
- iii) Development of curriculum for subordinate judiciary in association with National Judicial Academy, Bhopal
- iv) Continuing Legal Education Programme for Law teachers in association with UGC

Item No 5: Status of Four Certificate Programme and one PG Diploma Programme.

SB 3.5 Noted.

Item No.6: Replacement of the External Co-opted Member under Clause (2) of Section 10 of the Statute of the School Board.

SB 3.6 The chairman informed the members that Prof. S. Siva Kumar, Research Professor, Indian Law Institute is co-opted as external member under Clause (2) of Section 10 of IGNOU Act. The Board recommended Co-option of Prof. Siva Kumar as member of the School Board.

The Board discussed the proposal for development of 6 months Certificate Course in Child Rights, Agricultural Law and Petroleum Law and agreed in Principle.

The Board suggested that National Child Rights Commission, Indian Council of Child welfare and UNICEF may be approached for development of child Rights course.

Similarly, the Ministry of Petroleum can be approached for development of Petroleum Laws.

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