

MINUTES OF THE 31ST MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCES HELD ON 30TH NOVEMBER, 2005 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE BLOCK F, ACADEMIC COMPLEX, IGNOU.

The following members were present:

1. Prof. Parvin Sinclair, Chairperson
2. Prof. V.B. Bhatia (Retd.), University of Delhi
3. Prof. N.K. Jha (Retd.), IIT, Delhi
4. Prof. Satya Deo Tripathi, HRI, Allahabad
5. Prof. Jawarimal Parakh, Director, SOH, IGNOU
6. Dr. J.A. Farooqi, SOS, IGNOU
7. Dr. Shubha M. Gokhale, SOS, IGNOU
8. Dr. Neera Kapoor, SOS, IGNOU
9. Prof. Sunita Malhotra, SOS, IGNOU
10. Dr. Poornima Mital, SOS, IGNOU
11. Dr. Swadesh Taneja, SOS, IGNOU
12. Prof. Vijayshri, SOS, IGNOU
13. Dr. Bharat Inder Fozdar, SOS, IGNOU – Special Invitee
14. Dr. Amrita Nigam, SOS, IGNOU – Special Invitee

Prof. S. Ramachandran, Prof. S. Kumaresan, Prof. S.S. Hasan, Prof. Gayatri Kansal, Prof. Devesh Kishore and Prof. M.C. Sharma could not attend the meeting.

The meeting began with the Chairperson welcoming all the members, and particularly the new members, Prof. V.B. Bhatia, Prof. N.K. Jha, Prof. Satya Deo Tripathi, Prof. S. Ramachandran, and Prof. S. Kumaresan. The Chairperson also informed the members about Prof. S.S. Hasan's recent appointment as the first Vice-Chancellor of the Uttaranchal Open University. The members congratulated Prof. S.S. Hasan for this.

Thereafter, the following items on the agenda were deliberated upon:

ITEM NO. 1: TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 30TH MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCES.

31.1.1 Comments were received from a member regarding Item No. 5, asking for deletion of the portion, "The number of the programme" from the recording because these points were reflected in the Phase-II form, which had already been approved, and no place was available for noting them in the Phase-III form.

The members considered this and concluded that the recording was correct except for one change regarding the mention of costing. Accordingly, the clarification about the counseling/ practical sessions would read as follows:

"The number of counseling/ practical sessions should be worked out on the basis of the costs involved, which the members suggested could be worked out with RSD." Further, it was pointed out that this detail is required to be given in the Phase-III form.

31.1.2

Another correction was pointed out by the Chairperson regarding Item No. 10, to which the members agreed. Accordingly, the first paragraph of 30.10.1 should read as follows:

“The School Board recommended the following names for the different disciplines. More than one member was named in each discipline, in case the first person in each list is not able to join the Board, following which the next person would be requested to be a member of the Board.”

The first para of 30.10.2 would also change to read as follows.

“The School Board recommended the following names for the general category.....”

ITEM NO. 2: MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

31.2.1

Regarding Item No. 3, the Chairperson asked the Programme Coordinator, Prof. Vijayshri, to inform the members about the final names approved by the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC). The Programme Coordinator informed them that the names recommended by the School Board had been altered by the ACSC to “Certificate Programme in Renewable Energies” and “Diploma Programme in Renewable Energies”. The Programme Coordinator also informed the members that she intended to write to the Director, Academic Coordination Division, to request the ACSC to reconsider the alteration, giving reasons for the same.

ITEM NO. 3: REPORTING ITEMS

a) TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPROVING THE LAUNCH OF THE DIPLOMA IN AQUACULTURE.

31.3.1

The Chairperson informed the members that the Phase-III form for this programme had been approved by the Academic Council in June, 2002. However, since the programme had still not been launched till January, 2005, it was felt that the Expert Committee needed to meet again. This meeting was held in July, 2005. The Committee suggested that the programme be divided into two streams, namely, Freshwater Aquaculture and Coastal Aquaculture, to make the programme more focussed and more meaningful to the students living in different areas of the country.

As this item was deferred in the 30th meeting of the School Board, and the present School Board was in the process of being reconstituted, it was decided by the Programme Coordinator and the competent authority to approach the Vice-Chancellor for seeking approval for its scheduled launch in January, 2006, instead of waiting for the next School Board.

31.3.2

The Chairperson reported that the Vice-Chancellor approved the launch of the programme for January, 2006.

b) **TO REPORT THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE VICE-CHANCELLOR IN APPROVING THE LAUNCH OF THE 'APPRECIATION COURSE ON ENVIRONMENT' FROM JANUARY, 2006.**

31.3.3 The Chairperson informed the members that the 'Appreciation Course on Environment' (ACE) has been developed by the University in collaboration with the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Govt. of India, as an *awareness, non-credit course*, in project-mode. The objectives of this course are to: disseminate information on national and international environmental issues; create an environmental consciousness among professionals and academicians; and facilitate development of environmental leadership among individuals who may organise/participate in environment upgradation programmes. As the Ministry was pressing for as early a launch as possible, and the present School Board was in the process of being reconstituted, the Vice Chancellor was approached for approval for the launch of the course.

31.3.4 The Chairperson reported that the Vice-Chancellor approved the launch of the programme for January, 2006.

ITEM NO. 4: TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE ADDITIONAL NAMES OF MODERATORS, PAPER SETTERS AND EVALUATORS FOR PGDIPR COURSES.

31.4.1 The names given in the lists in Appendix-I were considered and approved by the members of the School Board.

ITEM NO. 5: TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE APPLICATION OF MS. ARUNDHATI MISHRA FOR ADMISSION TO THE Ph.D. PROGRAMME IN PHYSICS.

31.5.1 The Programme Coordinator, Prof. Vijayshri, explained to the members about the areas covered by the Ph.D Programme in Physics of the University. One of the areas is Physics Education, which is the area of interest of Ms. Arundhati Mishra, according to her proposal. After studying the proposal, which is in the format prescribed by the University, the faculty forwarded it for consideration to the School Board.

31.5.2 The members considered and recommended the application of Ms. Arundhati Mishra for admission to the Ph.D Programme in Physics.

ITEM NO. 6: ANY OTHER ITEMS, WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

a) **TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NAMES OF MODERATORS, PAPER-SETTERS AND EVALUATORS FOR THE COURSE MTE-03.**

31.6.1 The names given in the lists in Appendix-II were considered and approved by the members of the School Board.

b) TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE REVISED STRUCTURE OF THE CHEMISTRY COMPONENT OF THE B.SC PROGRAMME.

31.6.2

Dr. Bharat Inder Fozdar, the Coordinator of the Chemistry Expert Committee meeting, informed the members that the present Chemistry elective courses in the B.Sc. programme have been on offer for about 14 years. Therefore, the chemistry faculty has initiated the revision of the B.Sc. (Chemistry) Programme in totality rather than going for course-wise revision. Two Programme Expert Committee meetings were held for this purpose, in February, 2005 and December, 2005. Based on the credit requirement of a maximum of 48 credits that a student can take in any discipline, and recent advances in the discipline, the Committee recommended the new programme structure, as given in Appendix-III, Annexure-I, and broad outlines of the proposed courses as per Appendix-III, Annexure-II.

The Committee also suggested a package of courses for the students opting for only 8 credits worth of Chemistry courses (See Appendix-III, Annexure-I).

31.6.3

The members approved the new programme structure and list of proposed Chemistry Elective Courses for the students opting for a Major in Chemistry, requiring 48 credits worth of courses. The Board also suggested that students who want to take less than 48 credits of courses in Chemistry, may be allowed to take whichever courses they found suitable, not just the 8-credit course package given in Annexure-I, Pt. 2. Thus, the Board was of the opinion that the 8-credit course package recommended by the Programme Expert Committee for the students opting for only 8 credits worth of Chemistry electives should only be suggestive rather than mandatory, as is noted in Annexure-I.



(Parvin Sinclair)