

**MINUTES OF THE 48<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF SCIENCES HELD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2014 AT 11.00 A.M. IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM OF BLOCK D, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI – 110068.**

The following members were present:

1. Prof. Vijayshri, Director (SOS), Chairperson
2. Prof. J.P. Shrivastava, University of Delhi
3. Prof. S.K. Gakhar, Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak
4. Prof. J.M. Khurana, University of Delhi
5. Prof. S.C. Garg, SOS, IGNOU
6. Prof. B.S. Saraswat, SOS, IGNOU
7. Prof. S.S. Hasan, SOS, IGNOU
8. Prof. D. Gopal, SOSS, IGNOU
9. Prof. M.K. Salooja, SOA, IGNOU
10. Shri Shashi Bhushan, SOCIS, IGNOU
11. Dr. V. Venkat Ramanan, CSD, IGNOU
12. Prof. Poornima Mital, SOS, IGNOU
13. Prof. Sunita Malhotra, SOS, IGNOU
14. Prof. Sujatha Varma, SOS, IGNOU
15. Prof. Jaswant Sokhi, SOS, IGNOU
16. Prof. Neera Kapoor, SOS, IGNOU
17. Prof. B.I. Fozdar, SOS, IGNOU
18. Prof. Javed A. Farooqi
19. Prof. S.R. Jha, SOS, IGNOU
20. Prof. Amrita Nigam, SOS, IGNOU
21. Prof. M.S. Nathawat, SOS, IGNOU
22. Dr. Bano Saidullah, SOS, IGNOU
23. Dr. Sanjiv Kumar, SOS, IGNOU
24. Dr. Benidhar Deshmukh, SOS, IGNOU
25. Dr. Manish Trivedi, SOS, IGNOU
26. Dr. Subhakanta Mohapatra, SOS, IGNOU
27. Dr. Sanjay Gupta, SOS, IGNOU
28. Dr. Arvind Kumar Shakya, SOS, IGNOU
29. Mr. Pawan Kumar, SOS, IGNOU

Prof. Oommen V Oommen and Prof. M.H. Qureshi could not attend the meeting.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members of the School Board. Thereafter, the following items on the agenda were deliberated upon:

**Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board of the School of Sciences held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 and to note the action taken.**

- SB 48.1.1 The minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board of the School of Sciences held on 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2013 were confirmed as circulated and the action taken on the Minutes was noted. A copy of the Minutes (without Appendices) and the Action Taken Report is placed at Annexure 1.

**Item No. 2: Matters arising from the minutes.**

SB 48.2.1 No matter was raised from the minutes of the 47<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board.

**Item No. 3: To consider and confirm the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2013.**

SB 48.3.1 The minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> October, 2013 were placed before the School Board for confirmation. A member proposed that under SBSC 7.12.1, the name of Prof. Madhu Raka be added in the list of paper setters of the course MMTE-005. The School Board recommended her name as paper setter for MMTE-005.

SB 48.3.2 With reference to SBSC 7.17.1 of the Minutes, the Chairperson informed the Board that the list of experts in the Doctoral Committee of Geology was rather limited in terms of number of Experts from Delhi-based Universities and Institutions and proposed that a few more names be added to it from these institutions. The School Board agreed that a few more names of Experts in different specialisations of Geography from Delhi could be added and the Chairperson would finalise the list in consultation with Faculty members and the School Board member from Geography. A member of the School Board suggested the names of following Experts with research experience in climate change:

1. Dr. A. P. Dimri,  
Associate Professor, School of Environmental Sciences  
JNU, New Delhi-110067
2. Dr. Himanshu Pathak,  
Principal Scientist, Department of Environmental Sciences,  
IARI, New Delhi-110012
3. Dr Vinay Kumar Sehgal  
Sr. Scientist, Department of Agricultural Physics,  
IARI, New Delhi-110012

SB 48.3.3 With these additions and recommendations, the minutes of the 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee were confirmed by the School Board. A copy of the confirmed Minutes (without Appendices) is placed at Annexure 2.

**Item no. 4: To consider and confirm the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2013.**

SB 48.4.1 While confirming the Minutes of the meeting, a member of the School Board suggested that the following two names be added to the list of Experts for the Course Design Committee for the course "Optics" of the M. Sc. (Physics) programme under SBSC 8.2.2:

1. Prof. Anurag Sharma,

Dept. of Physics, IIT Delhi  
New Delhi-110016

2. Prof. R. K. Thareja,  
Dept. of Physics,  
IIT Kanpur, Kanpur- 208016

The complete list of Experts recommended for Course Design Committee of the course “Optics” of the M. Sc. (Physics) programme is placed at Annexure 3.

SB 48.4.2 With reference to SBSC 8.8.1 of the Minutes, while confirming the recommendation of the SBSC that the panel of paper setters, evaluators and members of the Moderation Board be valid for one year from the date of approval, the School Board decided that in case of exigencies and under exceptional circumstances, the Director (who is Chairperson of the School Board) may take necessary action as per rules to mitigate the situation.

SB 48.4.3 With reference to SBSC 8.11 (i) of the Minutes, the School Board decided that the provisions of the notified Ordinance on IGNOU Research degree programmes, which is in place as on date, should be strictly adhered to and followed in all respects.

SB 48.4.4 With these recommendations, the minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee were confirmed by the School Board. A copy of the confirmed Minutes (without Appendices) is placed at Annexure 4.

**Item no. 5: To consider and confirm the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee held on 17th January, 2014.**

SB 48.5.1 With reference to agenda items 6, 8 and 9 of the Minutes, pertaining to the recommendations of Doctoral Committees of Mathematics, Life Sciences and Geography, the School Board decided that the Doctoral Committee does not have any statutory locus standi as on date. Therefore, the recommendations made by these be kept in abeyance. This was done in view of the School Board’s decision that the School should strictly adhere to the provisions of the Ordinance on IGNOU Research Degree Programmes notified as on date. Any recommendations emerging from the meetings of the Doctoral Committees should be placed in the School Board only if these were in accordance with the provisions of the existing Ordinance.

SB 48.5.2 With this decision, the minutes of the 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board Standing Committee were confirmed by the School Board. A copy of the confirmed Minutes (without Appendices) is placed at Annexure 6.

**Item no. 6: To report to the School Board the progress made for programme evaluation of the programmes PGDESD and CPLT.**

SB 48.6.1 In its 47<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Sept. 12, 2013, the School Board had decided that review of the following courses and Programmes be undertaken by the School:

1. PG Diploma in Environment and Sustainable Development (PGDESD)
2. Certificate Programme in Teaching of Primary School Mathematics (CTPM)
3. Certificate Programme in Laboratory Techniques (CPLT)
4. Diploma in Aquaculture (DAQ)
5. Appreciation Course in Environment (ACE)

The School Board was informed that the PGDESD and CPLT Programme Coordination teams had initiated the process. The names of Experts to review the courses of PGDESD Programme were approved by the School Board Standing Committee in its 8<sup>th</sup> meeting held on Nov. 27, 2013. The work would be assigned once the School Board confirmed the Minutes of its 48<sup>th</sup> meeting. The School Board was also informed that the School plans to associate STRIDE (Staff Training and Research Institute in Distance Education) Faculty in this activity. It is expected that the exercise would be completed within the time frame indicated by the School Board.

**Item no. 7: To orient Academic Counsellors of academic programmes offered by the School of Sciences.**

SB 48.7.1 The School Board was informed that as per the Clause 4 (vi) of Statute 10A of the IGNOU Act, 1985, the School Board is entrusted with the responsibility of formulating proposals for orientation of Academic Counsellors of academic programmes offered by the School of Sciences.

The School Board agreed that Academic Counsellors play an important role in the ODL system in the delivery and implementation of academic programmes. It noted that their participation in the teaching-learning process is envisaged to be initiated right from the pre-admission counselling to our potential learners through their progression in the system up to the stage when they successfully complete their programme of study from our system.

The Board also noted that the Academic counsellors are involved in academic counselling of different courses, removing the difficulties of learners, conducting Lab courses, evaluating assignments and use these as teaching-learning tools, helping our learners learn through various available technologies, encouraging peer learning and interaction, and guiding them in their careers, etc. Therefore, In order to sensitize Academic Counsellors towards their roles and help them in carrying out various functions more effectively and in sync with the vision of the University, their orientation is extremely important.

The School Board was informed that Orientation Programmes of Academic Counsellors were held regularly in the past. However, as the University expanded its reach by opening new Study Centres under new Regional Centres and as the enrolment increased, the Orientation of newly appointed Counsellors in our School had not kept pace with the expansion of the system. In fact, no Orientation

Programme had been held for almost a decade or so. There was a felt need for organising orientation programmes, particularly because of declining success rates and the sporadic feedback from Study Centres that there was lack of information among the Counsellors about their roles, and there was a need for Counsellors' orientation to our goals and requirements.

SB 48.7.2 The School Board deliberated on the matter and recommended that Programme specific and subject specific Orientation Programmes for Academic Counsellors must take place regularly in a phased manner, as had been the past practice. The Board recommended that with the approval of competent authority, proposals for Orientation of Academic Counsellors be formulated and implemented by respective Programme Coordinators/Programme Coordination teams after getting complete information about the Academic Counsellors of respective programmes from Regional Services Division.

**Item no. 8: To devise a systemic mechanism for reviewing the facilities of the Study Centres and conduct of Laboratory work for improving the services offered to learners.**

SB 48.8.1 The School Board was informed that as per the Clause 4 (x) of Statute 10A of the IGNOU Act, 1985, the School Board is entrusted with the responsibility/function/powers of/for devising a systemic mechanism to review the facilities available at the Study Centres and conduct of Laboratory work for improving the services offered to learners.

Since laboratory courses form an important component of teaching-learning of any science programme, the School of Sciences pioneered effective laboratory training at the UG level in the ODL system by devising innovative Lab Courses that cut down on repetition, introduced relevant practical training, and attempted to train learners in the rudimentary elements of scientific method by setting up experiments and interpreting results as well as fostering experimental skills and a scientific attitude. The Board was informed that laboratory courses so designed were being implemented at carefully chosen Study Centres at reputed Colleges and University departments with well equipped Labs and qualified Counsellors to conduct the Lab courses in accordance with the guidelines and standards prescribed by the School and approved by the statutory bodies.

However, over the years, anecdotal feedback received from learners as well as observations of Faculty members visiting the Study Centres as Counsellors and Examiners of the Lab courses had brought forth the need to put in place a systemic mechanism of ascertaining how well the Courses were being implemented in terms of attaining the expected learning outcomes framed while designing and developing them. The improved access to ICTs has made greater flow of information between learners and Faculty of the School possible, which has thrown up issues such as non-implementation of guidelines for conduct of Lab work, lack of facilities and equipment at Study Centres and adequate number of Counsellors to conduct Lab work, etc. The Board was apprised of the available information about the situation on the ground, which seems to constitute a tremendous challenge in-so-far as the

task of improving the services offered to our learners is concerned. It was imperative on the system to create a credible optimum response.

SB 48.8.2 The School Board deliberated on the matter and advised that a systemic mechanism needed to be devised to provide improved services and learning experiences while implementing laboratory courses. The Board authorised the Chairperson to constitute a Committee to give its recommendations on the matter.

**Item no. 9: To consider and approve the Phase 1 form in the revised format for the M. Sc. (Chemistry) Programme through Distance Mode.**

SB 48.9.1 The agenda item was withdrawn by the Chair.

**Item no. 10: Any other items, with the permission of the Chair.**

**Item no. 10 (i): To consider and approve the list of Editors for the PG Diploma programme in Applied Statistics (PGDAST)**

SB 48.10 (i).1 The Chairperson informed the School Board that the (block-wise) Editors of the courses MSTE-001 entitled **Industrial Statistics-I** and MSTE-002 entitled **Industrial Statistics-II** for the **PGDAST** programme were approved by the School Board in its 44<sup>th</sup> meetings held on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup> March, 2012. Recently, the Editors of Blocks 1 and 2 of the course MSTE-001 entitled **Industrial Statistics-I** and Blocks 1, 2 and 4 of the course MSTE-002 entitled **Industrial Statistics-II** had expressed their inability to edit the courses due to their preoccupations. The names of the following Experts were placed before the School Board of School of Sciences for consideration and approval as Editors of the Blocks in these courses:

Course	Block	Name of Editor
<b>MSTE 001: Industrial Statistics-I</b>	Block-1: Process Control	Prof. S. K. Pandey Department of Statistics, Faculty of Sciences Lucknow University, Lucknow-226007 Email: pandey_sk@lkouniv.ac.in Phone: 0522- 2788377; Mobile: 09415046460
	Block-2: Product Control	
<b>MSTE 002: Industrial Statistics-II</b>	Block-1: Optimisation Techniques-I	Dr. Jayant Dubey, Professor and Head, Department of Business Studies, BTIRT, Sironja, Sagar(MP) Mob.: 09425437203 Email: <a href="mailto:drjayantdubey@gmail.com">drjayantdubey@gmail.com</a>
	Block-2: Optimisation Techniques-II	

	Block-4: Time Series Analysis	Prof. Rakesh Srivastava Department of Statistics M. S. University of Baroda, Vadodara Mob. No: 09824313066 Email: <a href="mailto:rakeshsrivastava30@yahoo.co.in">rakeshsrivastava30@yahoo.co.in</a>
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SB 48.10(i).2 The School Board considered and approved the proposed names of Editors for the courses MSTE-001 entitled **Industrial Statistics-I** and MSTE-002 entitled **Industrial Statistics-II** for the **PGDAST** programme.

**Item no. 10 (ii): To approve the progress report of Shri Manoj Kumar Tiwary (Enrolment no. 122877902) , PhD scholar in Life Sciences, as reflected in his first seminar presented to the Doctoral Committee of Life Sciences**

SB 48.10 (ii).1 The School Board was informed by Prof. S. S. Hasan, the supervisor of Shri Manoj Kumar Tiwary (Enrolment no. 122877902) , research scholar registered in the PhD programme in Life Sciences on the topic “**Study on macro and micro minerals supplementation in feeds and fodder for better productive and reproductive efficiency in cross-bred lactating cows in Jharkhand**” that he had presented his first seminar on his work done in the Doctoral Committee meeting of Life Sciences held on Jan. 11 and 12, 2013, which had found his progress to be satisfactory. However, due to oversight, the Minutes of the meeting did not reflect his name in the list of participants. The School Board was requested that his name may be allowed to be included in the record of the meeting and the updated record be approved.

SB 48.10(ii).2 The School Board considered the request of Prof. S. S. Hasan and approved that the record be updated to reflect that Shri Manoj Kumar Tiwary (Enrolment no. 122877902) had presented his first seminar in the Doctoral Committee meeting and his progress had been found satisfactory.

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

**(Vijayshri)**  
**Chairperson**

**List of Annexures**

**Annexure 1:** Minutes of 47<sup>th</sup> meeting and the Action Taken Report of the School Board

**Annexure 2:** Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of SBSC confirmed by the School Board

**Annexure 3:** Complete list of Experts for the course on “Optics” in M Sc Physics programme

**Annexure 4:** Minutes of 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of SBSC confirmed by the School Board

**Annexure 5:** Minutes of 9<sup>th</sup> meeting of SBSC confirmed by the School Board