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**MINUTES OF THE EIGHTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL OF THE
INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY HELD IN THE UNIVERSITY
OFFICE AT MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068 ON THURSDAY, MARCH 4,
1993, AT 1530 HOURS.**

The following were present:

1. Prof. V.C. Kulandai Swamy, Vice-Chancellor, Chairman
2. Dr S.K. Gandhe
3. Prof. C.L. Anand
4. Prof. G.S. Rao
5. Prof. R.K. Grover
6. Prof. M.B. Menon
7. Prof. V.V. Mandke
8. Prof. R.K. Bose
9. Prof. Pandav Nayak
10. Prof. P.K. Dutta
11. Prof. M.M. Pant
12. Dr R. Satyanarayana
13. Dr (Mrs) Shobhita Jain
14. Dr S.P. Parashar
15. Prof. B.N. Koul
16. Shri S. Peppin
17. Dr K. Gopalan
18. Dr Harcharan Singh
19. Prof. M.V. Pylee
20. Dr M. Shanmugham
21. Sh. K. Narayanan, Member-Secretary

Prof. H.P. Dikshit, Dr V.D. Madan, Dr S.S. Kalbag, Dr (Mrs) Sushila Kaushik, Sh. I.P. Anand, Dr D.K. Sharma and Shri Tarun Das could not attend the meeting.

Dr K. Anjanappa, Registrar (Admissions), Shri D.C. Pant, Director (Evaluation), Shri C.R. Pillai, Director (P&TA), Prof. A.A. Shamim, Director, Computer Division were present by special invitation.

Mr K.J.S. Prasada Rao, Dy Registrar (Governance) was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

Before the agenda items were taken up for consideration, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed the newly coopted members of the Academic Council.

The following items were considered:

- ITEM NO.1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON DECEMBER 18, 1992.**
- AC 8.1.1 The Council noted the correction effected concerning the coopted members. The Member-Secretary informed that no other comments have been received. The Minutes of the Meeting of the Academic Council held on December 18, 1992 were confirmed.
- ITEM NO.2 TO CONSIDER COOPTION OF MEMBERS TO THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL UNDER SUB-CLAUSE (viii) OF CLAUSE (1) OF STATUTE 9.**
- AC 8.2.1 The Academic Council coopted Dr S. Bashiruddin, Vice-Chancellor, Dr BR Ambedkar Open University, as a member of the Academic Council under the provisions of sub-clause (viii) of Clause (1) of Statute 9.
- ITEM NO.3 TO CONSIDER THE SUGGESTION MADE BY THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT ON THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO CLAUSE 5(1) OF THE ORDINANCE ON CONDUCT OF EXAMINATIONS AND EVALUATION OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE.**
- AC 8.3.1 On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Shri D.C. Pant explained briefly that the proposed amendment to Clause 5 (1) of the ordinance on Conduct of Examinations and Evaluation of Student Performance was considered by the Board of Management at its meeting held on February 1, 1993 and that the Board suggested that both grades as well as their equivalent marks be indicated in the grade cards for the programmes of BLIS, BA, BCom and BSc. The Board also felt that there should be some parity in the student evaluation system among all open Universities to facilitate student mobility and transfer of credits. From this point of view also, it would be desirable to evolve a common grading system for all the open Universities. Since ordinances or amendments to ordinances which affect the academic functioning of the University can be made by the Board of Management only after consultation with the Academic Council, the suggestion of the Board on the proposed amendment has been brought before the Academic Council for consideration.
- AC 8.3.2 It was also pointed out that the amendment proposed in sub-clause (a) concerning the expression "Management" may have to be modified. It was, therefore, suggested that the words "all

degree/diploma programmes in Management" may replace the word "Management" appearing in sub-clause 5(1)(a).

AC 8.3.3 The Academic Council accepted the suggestion made by the Board of Management and made appropriate changes in the proposed draft ordinance. The draft ordinance as recommended by the Academic Council is at Appendix-1.

ITEM NO.4 TO CONSIDER THE AWARD OF THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE WITH MAJOR IN INDIVIDUAL SUBJECTS.

AC 8.4.1 The Council considered the proposal. After considering the views expressed by members and also taking into account the issues involved, the Academic Council decided that:

- (i) to qualify for the award of BA/BCom/BSc degree with a particular subject as major, a candidate should obtain 48 credits including those in application oriented courses relevant to that subject;
- (ii) those candidates who have not secured the requisite 48 credits may be awarded the Bachelor's degree in Arts, Commerce or Science, as the case may be, without specifying any subject as major;
- (iii) as and when such candidates secure the requisite 48 credits, the degrees awarded to them may be converted into those with the relevant subject as major.

AC 8.4.2 The Council also decided that in giving effect to the above decision if any amendment to the concerned Ordinance is necessary, steps may be initiated to amend the Ordinance.

ITEM NO.5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE AWARD OF DEGREES/DIPLOMAS AT THE 4TH CONVOCATION ON MAY 4, 1993.

AC 8.5.1 The Academic Council approved the statement (Appendix-2) indicating the number of eligible students for the award of Degrees/Diplomas at the 4th Convocation to be held on May 4, 1993.

AC 8.5.2 The Council further approved the award of certificates to successful students in certificate programmes like the Food and Nutrition and

suggested that, information about certificate programmes may also be reflected in the statement although formal award of the certificates for such programmes is not done at the Convocation.

ITEM NO.6 TO CONSIDER ACADEMIC ORDINANCES.

AC 8.6.1

On a request from the Vice-Chancellor, Prof. C.L. Anand explained the salient features of the ordinance on M.Phil. The Vice-Chancellor requested the members to offer their comments/observations on the proposed ordinance. The following views were expressed:

- (i) The proposed quorum of 60% for a meeting of the Research Sub-committee is too large.
- (ii) The structure of the M.Phil. programme mentions 60 credits comprising 30 for preparatory work and 30 for disseratation. It is not clear whether every student has to acquire all the 60 credits.
- (iii) The provision that the supervisor shall not normally guided more than two M. Phil students at a time is too restrictive.
- (iv) In several professional areas like Engineering & Technology etc. students are normally permitted to register for Ph.D on completion of their Master's Degree. It is not clear whether Engineering and Technology students will also have to undergo an M.Phil Programme before they can register for Ph.D.
- (v) It would be appropriate if provision for admission to the M.Phil programme is made more open and liberal.
- (vi) It will be desirable if a minimum number of contact hours between the Supervisor and his student is specified in the ordinance.

AC 8.6.2

After a detailed discussion, the Academic Council decided that the following modifications may be made in the draft ordinance:

- (i) The quorum for a meeting of the Research sub-committee shall be 50% of the total number of members of whom at least 2 shall be external members.

- (ii) The provision in Clause 12(ii) regarding the structure of M.Phil Programme may be modified by inserting the words "A maximum of" at the beginning of the Clause.
- (iii) The existing Clause 14 of the ordinance should incorporate an additional sub-clause as below:

"For the successful completion of an M.Phil. Degree Programme, a student has to ensure a minimum number of contact hours with his supervisor/joint supervisor, as may be prescribed by the Research Sub-Committee for each discipline".

AC 8.6.3 The Council further decided that although several valuable suggestions were made during the course of the discussions, the draft ordinance with above amendments may be adopted and given a fair trial for sometime. Further modifications may be considered by the Academic Council at a later stage. The Academic Council also noted that the draft ordinance does not at present envisage M.Phil programmes in professional areas like Engineering and Technology. The ordinance as finally approved is placed at Appendix 3.

AC 8.6.4 The Council considered the draft ordinance on Admission, Eligibility, Duration and Structure of various Degree, Diploma and Certificate Programmes and Courses and approved the same (Appendix 4).

ITEM NO.7 TO RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN IN REVISING THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR ADMISSION TO THE DIPLOMA IN COMPUTERS IN OFFICE MANAGEMENT.

AC 8.7.1 The Council considered and approved the proposal for revising the eligibility criteria for admission to the Diploma in Computers in Office Management as below:

"Bachelors Degree with 3 years working experience OR Non-graduates with 6 years working experience."

ITEM NO.8 TO CONSIDER THE REVISION OF FEES FOR VARIOUS COURSES.

AC 8.8.1 The Council considered the proposal on revised fee structure for various programmes of the University.

AC 8.8.2 The Council was unanimously of the view that the fee structure needs to be revised from time to time. It was also pointed out that the fees to be levied should have a direct relationship with the

costs. The Vice-Chancellor explained that the process of cost analysis for programmes offered by the University has already been initiated and that a detailed study has also been conducted. However, the question of relating fees with costs may be considered at an appropriate time by a Committee of the Academic Council. The programmes of Master of Distance Education and Post Graduate Diploma in Higher Education, which were not included in the agenda, have also been included in the statement appended.

AC 8.8.3 The Council approved the revised fee structure as given in the statement at Appendix-5.

ITEM NO.9 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MODALITIES CONCERNING THE CONVERSION OF GRADES TO MARKS OF BACHELORS DEGREE IN LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE AND BACHELORS DEGREE PROGRAMMES OF B.A., B.COM. AND B.Sc.

AC 8.9.1 The Member-Secretary informed that the agenda note on item No.9 has been modified and that the revised note, tabled at the meeting, be considered by the Academic Council. The Council, after detailed discussion, approved the recommendations made by the sub-committee regarding the weightage to be given to letter grades as indicated below:

For the Programmes of BA/BCom/BSc:

Letter Grade	Qualitative Level	Proposed conversion of Letter grades into % of marks
A	Excellent	85%
B	Very Good	63%
C	Good	50%
D	Satisfactory	40%
E	Unsatisfactory	18%

For the Programmes of BLIS:

Letter Grade	Qualitative Level	Proposed conversion of Letter grades into % of marks
A	Excellent	81%
B	Very Good	61%
C	Good	41%
D	Unsatisfactory	(21%
E		(11%

ITEM NO.10 ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR.

AC 8.10.1 The Vice-Chancellor mentioned that the Fourth Convocation of the University will be held on may 4, 1993, and that Lord Briggs, Chairman, Board of Governors of the Commonwealth of Learning has consented to deliver the convocation address and that Prof. James A. Maraj, President, COL, will also be present at the Convocation.

AC 8.10.2 The Vice-Chancellor felt that it was appropriate for the IGNOU to honour Prof. G. Ram Reddy, whose contribution to the cause of higher education, specially distance education both in India and in the Commonwealth, has been significant. As the first Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Reddy laid a firm foundation for the IGNOU's growth and development which accounts in large measure in the success the IGNOU has achieved in a short span of 8 years. The Vice-Chancellor proposed that it would be a fitting tribute to the contributions made by Prof. Reddy to the cause of higher education in general and to distance education in particular if IGNOU confers an Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters (D.Litt.) on him. The proposal was unanimously endorsed by the Academic Council.

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

V. C. KULANDAI SWAMY
Vice-Chancellor

**Amendment to Clause 5 (1) of the Ordinance on
Conduct of Examinations and Evaluation
of Student Performance.**

Existing provision	Proposed amendment	Clause after amendment								
<p>5 (1) (a) The levels of Student performance, both in continuous evaluation as well as at term end examinations, will be indicated in letter grades. These Unsatisfactory.</p>	<p>(a) the words "in respect of all degree/diploma programmes in Management, and all other Diploma and Certificate programmes," may be inserted between the words "examinations," and "will" in the first para.</p>	<p>(a) The levels of student performance, both in continuous evaluation as well as at term end examinations, in respect of all degree/diploma programmes in Management, and all other Diploma and Certificate programmes will be indicated in letter grades. These grades Unsatisfactory.</p>								
<p>(b) For the successful completion of a course and to qualify for the relevant degree/diploma/certificate a student has to obtain an overall average of grade 'C' in the relevant course, provided that he/she does not obtain a grade lower than 'D' either in continuous evaluation or in term end examination.</p>	<p>(b) The following words be added at the beginning of sub-clause: "Except for the Bachelor's degree programmes of B.A., B.Com. and B.Sc.,"</p>	<p>(b) Except for the Bachelor's degree programmes of B.A., B.Com., and B.Sc., for the successful completion of a course and to qualify for the relevant degree/diploma/certificate a student has to obtain an overall average of grade 'C' in the relevant course, provided that he/she does not obtain a grade lower than 'D' either in continuous evaluation or in term end examination.</p>								
<p>(c) The mechanics offrom time to time.</p>	<p>The existing sub-clause (c) be renumbered as (d) and the following be inserted as new sub-clause (c): "The Student performance, both in continuous evaluation as well as at term end examinations for the programmes of BLIS, BA, BCom and BSc will be in numerical marking as indicated below:</p>	<p>(c) The Student performance, both in continuous evaluation as well as at term end examinations for the programmes of BLIS, BA, BCom and BSc will be in numerical marking as indicated below:</p> <p>For BLIS:</p> <table data-bbox="1084 1850 1422 2004"> <tr> <td>I Division</td> <td>60% & more</td> </tr> <tr> <td>II Division</td> <td>50% - 59%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Pass</td> <td>40% - 49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unsuccessful</td> <td>Below 40%</td> </tr> </table>	I Division	60% & more	II Division	50% - 59%	Pass	40% - 49%	Unsuccessful	Below 40%
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