MINUTES

of the

FORTY NINTH MEETING

of the

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

held on

29TH JUNE 2009

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110068**

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MINUTES OF THE FORTY NINTH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON JUNE 29, 2009 AT 02.00 P.M. IN THE ROOM NO. 5 FIRST FLOOR, CONVENTION CENTRE IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.

The following were present:

1.	Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Vice-Chancellor	-	Ex-officio **Chairman**
2.	Prof. Omprakash Mishra, PVC	-	Ex-officio Member
3.	Prof. Parvin Sinclair, PVC	-	Ex-officio Member
4.	Prof. K. R. Srivasthan, PVC	-	Ex-officio Member
5.	Dr. Latha Pillai, PVC	-	Ex-officio Member
6.	Prof. Renu Bhardwaj, Director, SOH	-	Ex-officio Member
7.	Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Director, SOSS	-	Ex-officio Member
8.	Prof. Sunita Malhotra, Director, SOS	-	Ex-officio Member
9.	Prof. M. Aslam, Director, SOCE	-	Ex-officio Member
10.	Prof. Bimla Kapoor, Director, SOHS	-	Ex-officio Member
11.	Prof. G. Subbayamma, Director, SOMS	-	Ex-officio Member
12.	Prof. Manohar Lal, Director, SOCIS	-	Ex-officio Member
13.	Prof. Ajit Kumar, Director, SOET	-	Ex-officio Member
14.	Prof. Srikrishnadeva Rao, Director, SOL	-	Ex-officio Member
15.	Prof. C. G. Naidu, Director, SOVET	-	Ex-officio Member
16.	Prof. Shambhu Nath Singh, Director, SOJNMS	-	Ex-officio Member
17.	Prof. Gracious Thomas, Director, SOSW	-	Ex-officio Member
18.	Prof. Savita Singh, Director, SOGDS `	-	Ex-officio Member
19.	Prof. B. K. Pattanaik, Director, SOEDS	-	Ex-officio Member
20.	Prof. Sunil Kumar, Director, SOPVA	-	Ex-officio Member
21.	Dr. Deo Shankar Navin, Director (I/c), SOTST	-	Ex-officio Member
22.	Dr. Sushant Kumar Mishra, Director (I/c), SOFL	-	Ex-officio Member
23.	Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapoor, Director (I/c), SOIDTDS	-	Ex-officio Member
24.	Dr. S. K. Arora, Librarian,	-	Ex-Officio
25.	Prof. Subhasis Majhi, SOET	-	Member
26.	Prof. Pitty Koul, SOHS	-	Member
27.	Dr. Neerja Chadha, Reader, SOCE	-	Member
28.	Dr. S. K. Yadav, Reader, SOA	-	Member
29.	Dr. Jaswant Sokhi, Reader, SOS	-	Member
30.	Shri M. P. Mishra, Lecturer, SOCIS	-	Member
31.	Dr. O. P. Sharma, Director (I/c), NCIDE	-	Member
32.	Dr. Hemlata, Director (I/c), NCDA	-	Member
33.	Prof. Madhu Prahar, Director (I/c), IUC	-	Member
34.	Prof. N. Mukunda	-	Member
35.	Prof. K. P. Singh	-	Member
36.	Prof. George Mathew	-	Member
37.	Prof. Mohammad Miyan	-	Member
38.	Dr. K. V. Peter	-	Member
39.	Prof. L. Venugopal Reddy	-	Member
40.	Prof. K. Ramamohan Rao	-	Member
41.	Prof. Uma Alladi	-	Member

42. Prof. N. K. Jain,	-	Member
43. Shri. Ravi Kanth, EMPC, IGNOU	-	Member
44. Dr. V. Vennugopal Reddy, IGNOU	-	Member
45. Prof. N. V. Narasimham, Director, ACD	-	Member Secretary

Prof. M.C. Sharma, Prof. B.S. Hansra and Dr. Sonia Sharma attended the meeting as representatives of the Directors of SOE, SOA and SOTHSM.

Dr. D.K. Choudhury, PVC, Prof. B.B Khanna, SOMS, Dr. Sutapa Bose, Lecturer, SOE, Sh. Z. Yanthan, Lecturer, SOSS, Sh. V.V. Subramaninam, Lecturer, SOCIS, Prof. S.N. Maheshwari, Prof. Mahendra Dev, Dr. D.K. Dutta Majumdar, Prof. Khannan Modugalya, Prof. Devi Singh, Dr. Srikant Mohapatra, Registrar, SED, and Shri K. Laxman, OSD, SRD could not attend the meeting.

Shri K. D. Sharma, Assistant Registrar, ACD was present to assist the Member-Secretary.

At the outset, the Chairman extended warm welcome to the members to the 49th Meeting of the Academic Council. He introduced Prof. N. Mukanda, Prof. Uma Alladi, Prof. George Mathew and Prof. N. K. Jain, who attended the meeting first time.

Then the Chairman requested the Member Secretary to present the agenda. The following agenda were taken up:

ITEM NO. 1   **To confirm the Minutes of the 46th Meeting, 47th Special Meeting & 48th Special Meeting of the Academic Council and to note the action taken thereon.**

AC 49.1.1   The Member Secretary presented that the Minutes of the 46th Meeting held on 13th January, 2009, 47th Special Meeting held on 28th February, 2009 and 48th Special Meeting held on 24th April, 2009 were circulated to the Members. Action Taken Report on the 46th Meeting and 47th Special Meeting were also circulated to the Members.

AC 49.1.2   It was presented that comments were received from the Director, SOS on Resolution No. AC 46.1.2 and 46.1.3 of the 46th Meeting. The comments were also received from Dr. Neerja Chadha, Reader, SOCE on Item No 22 of the Minutes of the 48th Special Meeting. The comments received from Director, SOSS and Director (I/c), SOITS on Item No. 29 of the 48th Special Meeting Meeting were also placed before the Academic Council.

AC 49.1.3   The Academic Council considered the comments and confirmed the Minutes of the 46th Meeting, 47th Special Meeting and 48th Special Meeting (**Annexure 1** without appendices). The AC also noted the Action Taken Report on its 46th Meeting and 47th Special Meeting.

ITEM NO. 2	**To consider and approve amendment to Ordinance '5 Ordinance on Recognition of Examinations/Degrees'**
AC 49.2.1	It was presented that the Student Registration Division had proposed an amendment to the provision of Clause 1(v) of the Ordinance '5 Ordinance on Recognition of Examinations/Degrees (Under Section 5(1) (xiii) of the Act)'.
AC 49.2.2	The need for amendment to clause had arisen because of the bifurcation of the Student Registration and Evaluation Division (SRED) into Student Registration Division (SRD) and Student Evaluation Division (SED). Clause 1(v) of the Ordinance provides for Registrar, SRE Division, Secretary Ex-officio, which is proposed to be modified as 'Incharge, Student Registration,Secretary Ex-officio'.
AC 49.2.3	The Academic Council considered and approved the amendment to Clause 1(iv) of the Ordinance '5 Ordinance on Recognition of Examinations/Degrees as per **Annexure - 2.**

ITEM NO. 3	**To consider and approve the withdrawal of 'EEC-19 Indian Financial System' an Elective Course in Economics in BDP Programme from January 2010 Academic Session.**
AC 49.3.1	It was presented that 'EEC-19 Indian Financial System' is a 4 credit elective course in Economics in the Bachelor Degree Programme. In view of the requirement of thorough revision of the course, the Faculty of Economics Discipline proposed to withdraw this course from January 2010. The School Board of SOSS, in its 45th Meeting held on March 26, 2009, approved for suspending the course till it is revised.
AC 49.3.2	The Academic Council considered and approved withdrawal of 'EEC-19 Indian Financial System' an Elective Course in Economics in BDP Programme from January 2010 Academic Session.

ITEM NO. 4	**To consider and approve the Phase Zero Form for a new course 'Indian National Movement', an 8-Credit Optional Course in M.A History Programme.**
AC 49.4.1	It was presented that MA History Programme consists of 64 credits, spread in two years of study. A student has to complete 24 credits of compulsory courses and 40 credits of optional courses. The History Faculty proposed Phase Zero Form to introduce an eight credits new course entitled "Indian National Movement", as an optional course in MA History Programme (MAH). The School Board of the School of Social Sciences had approved the Phase Zero Form at its 45th Meeting held on 26th March, 2009.
AC 49.4.2	The Academic Council approved the Phase Zero Form for a new course 'Indian National Movement', an 8-Credit Optional Course in M.A History Programme.

ITEM NO. 5 **To consider and approve the Evaluation Methodology for Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) Online Programme.**

AC 49.5.1   It is presented that the Discipline of Library and Information Science has launched Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) programme online from July 2008 session. This is an Online version of the existing MLIS programme. For the online version of the programme, the Faculty proposed to have the same evaluation methodology with some deviation in the Term End Examination as follows:

1. Term End Examination 50 marks (20marks for objective questions and 30 marks for short subjective questions) to be conducted online in proctored environment in designated examination centres.

2. Term paper of 50 marks (30 marks for the write-up and 20 marks for the viva-voce conducted online though web conferencing mode.)

The School Board in its 45th Meeting held on 26th March, 2009 approved the same in principle, with a suggestion to review the scheme after a year to take a final decision on the mater.

AC 49.5.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the Evaluation Methodology for Master of Library and Information Science (MLIS) Online Programme.

ITEM NO. 6 **To consider and approve the Phase 3 Forms for (1) Post Graduate Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies, (2) Post Graduate Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies, and (3) M. A in Gandhi and Peace Studies in a modular structure.**

AC 49.6.1   The School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS) submitted the Phase 3 Form for the following three programmes in Gandhian Studies in collaboration with International Centre for Gandhian Studies and Peace Research (ICGSR):
1) PG Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies
2) PG Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies
3) MA in Gandhi and Peace Studies

It is a modular programme with multiple exit points at PG certificate and PG Diploma levels. These programmes are already announced in face-to-face mode from July 2009 session. They will also be offered in ODL mode in due course of time.

The School Board of School of Interdisciplinary and Trans-disciplinary Studies (SOITS) had approved the proposal for the above programmes at its 3rd Meeting held on October 15, 2008. The School of SOITS had conducted a series of Expert Committee meetings from time to time and finalized the curriculum for the programmes.

AC 49.6.2   The Academic Council emphasized the relevance of Gandhian and Peace Studies in the present day world and appreciated the initiative taken by the Vice-Chancellor in developing these programmes. During discussion, the following points were made:

1) There are several institutions in India and abroad working in the area of Gandhi and Peace Studies. The possibilities for utilizing expertise and the resources of such institutions may be explored.
2) Course No. 9 "Introduction to Peace and Conflict Resolution" appears to be an introductory course. Therefore, it may be made a compulsory course rather than an optional course.

AC 49.6.3   During discussions, the Vice-Chancellor, IGNOU proposed for the establishment of School of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies. He explained to the members that Indira Gandhi National Open University and Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti, New Delhi have come together to form a consortium to promote the Gandhian Studies and Peace Research in a big way. IGNOU with its rich academic heritage of distance education and GS&DS with its excellent infrastructure and ambience to spearhead this initiative, both have pooled their resources in this initiative. The Vice-Chancellor also informed that there are inquiries from International Institutions and Agencies regarding the availability of programmes relating to Gandhi and Peace Studies. He explained to the members that the proposed School would undertake research and develop academic programmes to interpret Gandhi to the modern world.

Thus the Vice-Chancellor emphasized the need to establish the School of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies in IGNOU. This proposal was highly appreciated by the Academic Council members.

AC 49.6.4   The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 Forms for (1) Post Graduate Certificate in Gandhi and Peace Studies, (2) Post Graduate Diploma in Gandhi and Peace Studies, and (3) M. A in Gandhi and Peace Studies in a modular structure.

AC 49.6.5   The Academic Council approved the proposal for establishment of the School of Gandhian Thought and Peace Studies with a core faculty of one Professor, two Associate Professors and four Assistant Professors.

ITEM NO.7   **To consider and approve the Phase Zero forms for revised syllabi of PHE-04, PHE-05, PHE-06 and PHE-08(L) courses of B. Sc. Programme.**

AC 48.7.1   The School of Sciences had submitted Phase Zero Forms for revised syllabi of the following four elective courses in Physics in B. Sc. Programme:
(1) PHE-04 Mathematical Methods in Physics - I (2 credits)
(2) PHE-05 Mathematical Methods in Physics - II (2 credits)
(3) PHE-06 Thermodynamics and Statistical Mechanic (4 credits)
(4) PHE-08(L) Physics Lab-II (4 credits)

The revised course structure has been approved by the School Board of the School of Sciences at its 38th Meeting, with some modifications. The suggestions were incorporated and the modified version of the Phase Zero Forms were presented for the approval of the AC.

AC.49.7.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase Zero Forms for revised syllabi of PHE-04, PHE-05, PHE-06 and PHE-08(L) courses of B. Sc. Programme.

ITEM NO.8   **To ratify the action taken by the Vice Chancellor to allow 50% concession in programme fee for the Senior Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad.**

AC 49.8.1   It was presented that the International Division received a request for considering fee concession to Senior Diplomats of Indian Missions seeking admissions in IGNOU's programmes. Indian Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad play an important role in promotion and reach of the IGNOU's programmes to the overseas learners. IGNOU's programmes are launched and run under the patronage and support of the Indian Missions abroad. In view of this support by the Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad, the VC approved 50% fee concession (programme fee only) to the Senior Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad.

AC 49.8.2   While appreciating the action taken by the VC, the AC opined that the fee concession may be extended to all the Indian Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad.

AC 49.8.3   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor and decided to allow 50% concession in programme fee to all Indian Diplomats posted at Indian Missions abroad.

ITEM NO. 9   **To ratify the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in deciding the fee Structure for MED Programme for the International students.**

AC 49.9.1   It was presented that the International Division received a request from International Centre for Academics (ICA), a Partner Institution in Kathmandu, Nepal for offer of Master of Arts (Education). The programme fee is required to be fixed for international students, as it is being offered abroad for the first time. Keeping in view the marketability of the programme and to attract reasonable number of students, the VC approved the fee structure of INR 36,000/- per annum for SAARC countries and US $ 2000/- per annum for Non-SAARC countries on equal sharing basis.

AC 49.9.2   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in approving the fee structure of INR 36,000/- per annum for SAARC countries and US $ 2000/- per annum for Non-SAARC countries on equal sharing basis.

ITEM NO.10   **To consider and approve the proposal for creation of faculty positions in the Centre for Corporate Education, Training and Consultancy (CCETC).**

AC 49.10.1.   It was presented that the Centre for Corporate Education, Training and Consultancy (CCETC) has signed several MoUs and initiated the development of academic programmes as well as training programmes. Currently, there are no sanctioned positions even though the Centre is being assisted by one Deputy Director and one Lecturer. Therefore, the Centre has proposed for creation of faculty positions of 2 Professors on deputation, 2 Assistant Professors and for regularization of the post of Deputy Director and Senior Lecturer.

AC 49.10.2   The Academic Council discussed the various activities undertaken by the Centre and appreciated the efforts within a short period of its existence.

AC 49.10.3   The Academic Council considered and recommended creation of the positions of one Professor, two Associate Professors and two Assistant Professors for the Centre.

ITEM NO.11   **To consider and approve the proposal for creation of Centre for Bhojpuri Language and Culture**

AC 49.11.1   The Academic Council opined that the matter requires further examination.

AC 49.11.3   The Academic Council deferred the proposal for creation of Centre for Bhojpuri Language and Culture.

ITEM NO.12   **To consider and approve the Phase 3 Form for Certificate in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode).**

ITEM NO.13   **To consider and approve the Phase 3 Form for PG Diploma in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode).**

ITEM NO.14   **To consider and approve the Phase 3 form for M.A. in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode).**

AC 49.12-14.1   Item Nos. 12 to 14 were considered together. It was presented that the School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) submitted Phase 3 forms for the following three programmes:

1. Certificate in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode)
2. PG Diploma in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode)
3. MA in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode)

These programmes were proposed in modular system with exit points at PG Certificate, PG Diploma and Master Degree levels. The School Board of SOEDS approved the same at its 4th Meeting held on May 22, 2009.

AC 49.12-14.2   The proposals were discussed in detail, and the following suggestions were made by the members:

1. As per the course structure proposed, the project work carries around 11% weightage. It is opined that these programmes require more practical component. Therefore, it is suggested to include empirical based or field based activities in the courses.
2. There are some relevant courses in the programmes offered by SOA and SOCE. It is suggested that SOEDS should consult SOA and SOCE to identify relevant courses and utilize them to avoid duplication.
3. The Centre for Inclusive Policy at the University of Hyderabad has some expertise in this field. The SOEDS should explore the possibility of utilizing their expertise.
4. More demand is expected in Hindi and other regional languages. Therefore, it is suggested to explore the possibility of offering these programmes in Hindi to begin with and other regional languages in due course.

AC 49.12-14.3   The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 forms for (1) Certificate in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode), (2) PG Diploma in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode) and (3) MA in Extension and Development Studies (ODL mode) in the modular form. Further, SOEDS is advised to consider the above suggestions.

ITEM NO.15   **To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form for M.A. in Extension and Development Studies (face-to-face mode)**

AC 49.15.1   It was presented that the School of Extension and Development Studies (SOEDS) submitted Programme Proposal Form to offer M.A. in Extension and Development Studies in face-to-face mode as a full time programme. The School Board of SOEDS approved the same at its 4th meeting held on May 22, 2009.

AC 49.15.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the Programme Proposal Form for M.A. in Extension and Development Studies in face-to-face mode as a full time programme. It is also suggested to consider the relevant suggestions made at resolution No AC 49.12-14.2.

ITEM NO.16   **To consider and approve the Minutes of the 13th meeting of the Research Council held on 30th March, 2009.**

AC 49.16.1   The 13th Meeting of the Research Council was held on 30th March, 2009. The Minutes along with the modified Resolution No.13.5.4. were placed before the AC for consideration and approval.

AC 49.16.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the Minutes of the 13th Meeting of the Research Council held on 30th March, 2009 along with the modified Resolution No.13.5.4.

ITEM NO.17   **To consider and approve the 'revised' Table of Pro-rata fee for re-admission to various programmes.**

AC 49.17.1   It was presented that the revision of the programme fee for different programmes with effect from **July 2009** admission cycle necessitated the **pro-rata Re-admission fee also.** The prescribed 'Re-admission Form', 'Rules & Regulations' and the proposed pro-rata fee were placed before the Academic Council for consideration and approval.

AC 49.17.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the prescribed 'Re-admission Form', 'Rules & Regulations' and the proposed 'Pro-rata Fee' for re-admission to various programmes (**Annexure - 3**).

ITEM NO.18   **To consider and approve the change of nomenclature of the Programme Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Safety, Health and Environment Management Programme (PGDISHEM) to Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Industrial Safety, Health and Environment) PGDM (ISHE).**

AC 49.18.1   The School of Engineering and Technology successfully launched in July 2008 the 'Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Safety, Health and Environment Management Programme (PGDISHEM) in collaboration with the Institute of Industrial Management and Safety, Health & Environment, Bhopal. The School submitted the proposal for change of nomenclature of the programme to 'Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Industrial Safety, Health and Environment) i.e. PGDM (ISHE). The School Board of SOET approved the same at its 34th Meeting held on 17th February 2009.

AC 49.18.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the change of nomenclature of the programme 'Post Graduate Diploma in Industrial Safety, Health and Environment Management (PGDISHEM)' to 'Post Graduate Diploma in Management (Industrial Safety, Health and Environment) i.e., PGDM (ISHE).

ITEM NO.19   **To ratify the action taken by Vice-Chancellor in approving the Foundation course on Education of Children with Disabilities through Distance Mode and Online Mode.**

AC 49.19.1   It was presented that the National Centre for Disability Studies (NCDS) proposed Phase 3 Form for 'Foundation Course on Education of Children with Disabilities' in distance mode as well as online mode for in service teachers at any level. This programme is being developed in collaboration with the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) under an MoU. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor has approved the offering of this Programme. An Experts Committee was held during May 21-22, 2009 finalised the curriculum.

AC 49.19.2   A detailed note regarding the evaluation methodology was also tabled.

AC 49.19.3	The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Phase 3 Form for 'Foundation Course on Education of Children' with Disabilities in distance mode as well as online mode. The AC also approved the proposed evaluation methodology for course. The NCDS is advised to offer this course in Hindi and other regional languages.

ITEM NO.20 **To consider and approve the Phase 3 forms for various programme to be launched in collaboration with Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL)**

AC 49.20.1   It was presented that the Centre for Corporate Education, Training and Consultancy submitted the Phase 3 Forms for the following programmes:
1. MBA Programme in Aviation Management
2. Certificate Programme in Security & Intelligence
3. Certificate Programme in Rescue & Fire Fighting
4. Certificate Programme in Airport Ramp Handling
5. Advanced Diploma Programme in Security Management
6. Advanced Diploma Programme in Airport Operations Management

These programmes are being developed at IGNOU Regional Centre, Cochin in collaboration with the Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL). As per the terms of the MoU between CIAL and IGNOU, the CIAL Academy constituted Board of Studies, finalized and recommended the above academic programmes which were approved by the Joint Coordination Committee chaired by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of IGNOU.

All these programmes will be offered from July 2009 session in face-to-face mode by the Cochin International Airport Limited.

AC 49.20.2   After detailed discussion, the Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 Forms for (1) MBA in Aviation Management, (2) Certificate in Security & Intelligence, (3) Certificate in Rescue & Fire Fighting, (4) Certificate in Airport Ramp Handling, (5) Advanced Diploma in Security Management and (6) Advanced Diploma in Airport Operations Management to be offered in collaboration with Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) in face-to-face mode from July 2009 session**.**

ITEM NO.21 **To consider and approve the Eligibility for Admission to Management Programme**

AC 49.21.1   The Academic Council at its 46th Meeting held on 13th January, 2009 has ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in maintaining parity in eligibility criteria for admission to IGNOU's Management Programme for the students directly seeking admission in the University as well as through Convergence Scheme.

Now the following revised admission criteria for admission into Management Programmes through Regional Centres and under Convergence Scheme is proposed:

a) Graduation in any discipline with 50% marks for General Category and 45% marks for reserved category;

OR

Bachelor's degree with 3 years of supervisory/managerial/professional experience, or Professional Degree in Engineering/Technology/Medicine/ Architecture/Law/ Pharmacy; or Professional Qualifications in Accountancy/Cost and Works Accountancy/Company Secretary ship etc. or Masters Degree in any subject

b) Clearance of OPENMAT conducted by IGNOU. The candidates who have successfully cleared the entrance test for admission into Management Programme conducted by institutions like CAT, MAT and State level tests need not appear in OPENMAT.

c) Non-graduates (10+2 or equivalent) with six years of Managerial/supervisory/professional experience are eligible for taking admission into Diploma in Management only after clearing the entrance test.

Explanation: 'Experience' means work experience of a person during or after acquiring the qualification as specified above.

Keeping in view the urgency, the Vice-Chancellor has approved the above revised admission criteria.

AC 49 .21.2   During discussion, the following points were raised and decided:
1) In the case of CAT/MAT tests there is no pass or fail. Only percentile scores are given. Therefore the modalities for cut off scores are to be worked out by the SED.
2) Normally, the scores of some of the tests are valid for two years for admission purposes. Therefore, it is recommended to follow the same validity period for the purpose of admission to IGNOU programme.
3) Currently, a candidate is allowed to register up to a maximum of four courses per semester. It is recommended to allow a candidate to register up to a maximum of five courses per semester, making the total programme of a minimum duration of two years.

AC 49 .21.3   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the revised eligibility criteria for Admission to   Management Programme. In addition, the AC directed to follow the above recommendations.

ITEM NO.22 **To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor for rounding off the overall percentage for the students, who completed their programme before December-2008 term-end examination.**

AC 49.22.1   It was presented that the ACSC at its 28th Meeting held on 4th November-2008 approved rounding off the overall percentage in case decimal points are between .5 to .9 to the next mark, effective from December-2008 term-end examination. However, the students, on whose request the matter was placed before the ACSC, were not covered under the decision as they had completed the programme prior to December-2008 Term-end Examination. In order to mitigate their difficulties, the Vice-Chancellor accorded his approval to consider their cases.

AC 49.22.2   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor for rounding off the overall percentage for the students who completed their programme before December-2008 term-end examination.

ITEM NO.23 **To ratify the action taken be the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Standard Operating Procedure/Modalities for conduct of On Line Term-End Examination to be conducted on 28th June, 2009 for PGCPM**

AC 49.23.1   It is presented that the PGCPM (Post Graduate Certificate in Project Management), on offer from January, 2009, is an online programme directly handled by the School of Engineering and Technology. Online term-end examination for the first batch of students was held on 28th June, 2009 (Sunday).The Vice-Chancellor approved the Standard Operating Procedure/Modalities **(Annexure - 4)** and the online TEE was conducted as per the schedule.

AC 49.23.2   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the Standard Operating Procedure/Modalities for conduct of On-line examination for the PGCPM programme.

ITEM NO.24 **To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the matters relating to offer M.Sc. in Counselling and Family Therapy from January, 2010.**

AC 49.24.1   The Academic Council at its 45th meeting held on 24th October 2008 approved the Phase 3 Form for Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling, Family Therapy and Mediation. This programme was shifted from SOEDS to NCDS. The expert Committee opined that a Masters degree in this area would attract more learners. Therefore, the Expert Committee suggested M. Sc. in Counselling and Family Therapy in a modular system with an exit option of PG Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy after successful completion of first year of study.

The revised Phase 3 Form for M.Sc. in Counselling and Family Therapy **(Annexure - 5)** was approved by the Vice-Chancellor.

AC 49.24.2   The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in approving the revised Phase 3 Form for M.Sc. Counselling and Family Therapy in a modular system with an exit option of PG Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy after successful completion of first year of study.

ITEM NO.25   To consider and approve the proposal for adoption of IGNOU open course Guide supported Formal E-Learning Processes in IGNOU's courses.

AC 49.25.1   Prof. K.R. Srivathsan, Pro-Vice-Chancellor IGNOU presented a proposal pertaining to the widespread adoption of E-Learning related systems and processes by the University. The Working Paper on the proposed scheme is placed at **Annexure 6.**

The salient features of the proposal are as under:
1) The 'Open Distributed Technology Enhanced Learning' (ODTEL) as the future framework of IGNOU from enhancing its present printed Self Learning Materials (SLMs) and study centres managed 'Open Distance Learning' (ODL) education framework for all courses of IGNOU to be executed over a reasonable period of time for transition from present Open Distance Learning to the new framework of ODTEL.

2) The ODTEL as a unique file e-learning framework that effectively arguments different modes of education ranging from (i) face to face or conventional classroom, (ii) blended learning (iii) existing SLMs based ODL, (iv) emerging paperless web-communities driven education systems. The anchor of the ODTEL is the IGNOU Open Courses Guide (IOCG) system. IOCG is an open course management framework that is built over a Wiki system with appropriate extensions. IOCG effectively provides the formal sequencing of learning activities that are designed by Course Experts and executed during the course of the conduct of the course itself. **IOCG** facilitates multiple modes of communicating and engaging the learners and the counselors for better conduct of learning centric course activities and associated assessment of learners' performance. It is proposed that a disciplined and pedagogically architected IOCG is developed by the Course Team concurrently with their course design and authoring of the SLMs.

3) IOCG is backed by a suite of systems that together constitute the ODTEL. This requires necessary strengthening and augmentation of IGNOU's ICT capabilities, systems and services. Towards this it is proposed to establish, (i) a unified Data centre with advanced servers, storage and broadband Internet/VPN connectivity that support 'cloud computing', (ii) migration over a reasonable time of existing services like the Website, eGyankosh, IGNOU Online, Digital Library services, Learning Management Systems and Students Database management to the cloud computing facility. ACIIL is

taking the initiative to establish the unified data center and broadband connectivity in association with the NPTEL, RailTel and developments in the National Knowledge Network.

4) IGNOU is proposing to launch courses based upon the content developed by the IITs and IISc under the National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning (NPTEL). This is available in the form of suites of Recorded Video Lecturers (RVLs) and web-content. It is proposed to launch NPTEL-IGNOU courses by following IGNOU Academic Council approved processes like generating the SLMs in e-Content form and development of the associated IOCG.

5) IGNOU needs to build up experience in the management of the IOCG supported online mode of education. Secondly, it is important that extensive online supported courses management is used for the programs offered under the International Division.

AC 49.25.2   The matter is placed before the Academic Council for consideration and approval of the following:
i)   Adoption of the ODTEL framework for all the courses of IGNOU to be executed over a reasonable period of time for transition from the present ODL to the new frame work.

ii)   Formal development of the IOCG by Course Team concurrently with the SLM development for all new course. IGNOU's Schools and sections that conduct courses will set up Course Management Groups for the ongoing courses who will be given the additional charge of developing the IOCG for their respective courses.

iii)   Setting up of the (i) Unified Data centre with broadband OFC based Internet and VPN connectivity with the Regional Centres and (ii) a backend Educational Informatics Laboratory to develop and build capacity in establishing and servicing of IOCG anchored ODTEL Systems. Both will be done under the overall supervision of the ACILL and executed in association with the concerned divisions and centres of IGNOU.

iv)   Launch of NPTEL-IGNOU courses using the NPTEL content and the IOCG approach.

v)   Establishing the School Board for NPTEL-IGNOU programme under the purview of the ACIIL.

vi)   Courses under the NPTEL-IGNOU programme will be offered using both printed SLM mode and also using the paperless eSLM hosted on a joint NPTEL-IGNOU Programme portal and augmented by the IOCG System.

vii)   Direct all concerned schools offering International programmes to speedily develop the IOCG based system of ODTEL in the respective courses for such programmes.

viii) The full scale ODTEL services to be developed and deployed for the programmes managed through the ID. The Education Informatic Lab will closely work with the ID for the effective management of such programmes.

AC 49.25.3   The Academic Council discussed the proposal in detail and approved the same.

ITEM NO.26   To report the revised target enrolment to Certificate in Information Technology (CIT) programme

AC 49.26.1   It was presented that the SOCIS projected a target enrolement of 10,000 per annum in the Phase 3 Form for the Certificate in Information Technology (CIT) programme. The School now revised the target enrolment as 3,000 per annum. This is reported to the AC for information.

AC 49.26.3   The Academic Council noted the revised target enrolment of 3,000 per annum to Certificate in Information Technology (CIT) programme

ITEM NO.27   To consider and approve the Establishment of National Centre for Local Governance

AC 49.27.1   It was presented that Prof. M. Aslam, Director, SOCE proposed for the establishment of 'National Centre for Local Governance' in the University.

Prof Aslam explained the rationale for establishing the proposed centre. He stressed that the establishment of a 'National Centre for Local Governance (NCLG) will greatly help to catalyze the process of democratic decentralization. It is expected that the proposed centre will facilitate developing a clear vision and strategy to plan and provide for an appropriate educational and training intervention to meet the challenge of facilitating and expediting the silent revolution expected to be brought about by the 73rd & 74th amendments of the Constitution.

AC 49.27.2   The members raised the following points during discussion:

    a) Inclusion of the word 'National' in the nomenclature of the Centre.
    b) Possibility for collaboration and coordination with similar other institutions like NIRD etc.
    c) Focus of the proposed Centre on the ODL capabilities to local self government.

AC 49.27.3   The Academic Council deliberated and approved the proposal for establishment of the centre with modified nomenclature as '**Centre for ODL Capabilities in Local Governance**'. The AC further recommended the proposed staffing pattern for the Centre. The proposal is placed at **Annexure – 7.**

ITEM NO.28   **To consider and approve the proposal for offering Master of Visual and Performing Arts (MVA & MPA) programmes in face-to-face mode.**

AC 49.28.1   It was presented that the School of Performing and Visual Arts (SOPVA) proposed to offer the following programmes in face-to-face mode from July, 2009.

    (a) MPA – Bharatnatyam Dance
    (b) MPA – Hindustani Classical Vocal Music
    (c) MPA – Theatre Arts
    (d) MVA – Painting
    (e) MVA – Applied Art (to be offered from July 2010)

The Phase 1 Form for the above programmes were approved by the School Board at its meeting held on April 29, 2009.

Tecnia Institute of Dance, Music & Fine Arts, Rohini, Delhi is willing to work in partnership and provide infrastructure on per student fixed charges where as School of Performing and Visual Arts, IGNOU will support the course with Academic guidance ad supervision. Ganesha Natyalaya, Qutab Institutional Area, New Delhi is willing to make available its premises on rental basis for MPA.

AC 49.28.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal for offering Master of Visual and Performing Arts (MVA & MPA) programmes in face-to-face mode from July, 2009.

ITEM NO.29   **To report for ratification of the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on offering B.A. in (a) Fashion Design, (b) Textile Design and (c) Fashion Merchandising and Production programmes as face to face full time programmes in place of distance education.**

AC 49.29.1   A proposal was received from the Pearl Academy of Fashion to convert B.A. (Fashion Design), B.A. (Textile Design) and B.A. (Fashion Merchandising and Production) programmes from 4 to 3 years full time face-to-face. The item was considered by the School Board in its meeting held on 22/4/2009.   After detailed discussion, the School Board authorized the chairman of the School Board to constitute a committee for visiting Pearl Academy of Fashion centres at Delhi, Jaipur and Chennai and make its recommendations. A committee duly constituted visited all the three centres of the Pearl Academy of Fashion located at Delhi, Jaipur and Chennai and submitted its recommendations. On the basis of the Committee's recommendations, the Vice-Chancellor as given his kind approval for offering the above programmes as full time face-to-face programmes and reducing the duration from 4 to 3 years retaining the courses and credits as earlier.

The minutes of the meeting of the School Board of School of Vocational Education and Training, recommendations committee to study availability of infrastructure facilities for offering full time B.A. in (a) Fashion Design, (b) Textile Design and (c) Fashion Merchandising and Production programmes at Pearl Academy of Fashion centres (at Delhi, Jaipur & Chennai) and revised course structure for the above programmes is placed at **(Annexure – 8).**

AC 49.29.2   The Academic Council ratified the Action Taken by the Vice-Chancellor in offering the following three programmes as face-to-face full time programmes in place of distance mode: (1) B.A. in Fashion Design, (2) B.A. in Textile Design and (3) B.A. in Fashion Merchandising and Production**,** along with their revised programme structure.

TABLED ITEMS

ITEM NO. 30   **To consider and approve the Phase 3 Form for the M.A. in Gender and Development Studies (with exit point for PG Diploma in Gender and Development Studies) in the Distance Mode**

AC 49.30.1   It was presented that the School of Gender and Development Studies (SOGDS) submitted Phase 3 Form for the 'M.A. in Gender and Development Studies' in a modular approach with an exit point for PG Diploma in Gender and Development Studies after successful completion of the 1st year of study. In the 2nd Year of study, the student will have option to choose specialization according to his/her interest from a range of optional courses using a choice-based credit system. It is proposed to offer this programme in the Distance Mode. Phase 3 Form for this programme was approved by the School Board of SOGDS at its 4th Meeting held on April 6, 2009.

AC 49.30.2   Members sought clarifications regarding course structure, course contents, target group, etc, for which Director, SOGDS clarified.

AC 49.30.3   After detailed discussion, the Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 Form **(Annexure - 9)** for M.A. in Gender and Development Studies with a exit point for PG Diploma in Gender and Development Studies after successful completion of first year.

ITEM NO.31   **To consider and approve the Phase 3 Form for the Postgraduate Certificate in Gender, Entrepreneurship and Development in the distance mode**

AC 49.31.1   It was presented that the School of Gender and Development Studies (SOGDS) presented Phase 3 Form for 'Postgraduate Certificate in Gender, Entrepreneurship and Development' in the distance mode. The programme would benefit the functionaries belonging to organizations involved with promotion of entrepreneurship, micro-credit and microfinance initiatives, especially to achieve gender equity and equality.

The Phase 3 Form was approved by the School Board of SOGDS at its 4th Meeting held on April 6, 2009.

AC 49.31.2   After detailed discussion, the Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 Form (**Annexure - 10**) for Postgraduate Certificate in Gender, Entrepreneurship and Development in the distance mode.

ITEM NO.32   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in Hindi.**

ITEM NO.33   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in English.**

ITEM NO.34   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in Malayalam.**

ITEM NO.35   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in Tamil.**

ITEM NO.36   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in Gujarati.**

ITEM NO.37   **To consider and approve M.Phil./Ph. D Course Work in Urdu.**

AC 49.32-37.1   Item Nos 32 to 37 were taken up together as they relate to course work for M.Phil/Ph.D programmes of the School of Humanities (SOH) in Hindi, English, Malayalam, Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu languages. It was presented that, as per criteria for admission to M.Phil and Ph.D programmes of the University, the Post Graduate students who directly join M.Phil/Ph.D programme have to complete 32 credits of course work as well as 16 credits of desertation for M.Phil and 64 credits of desertation for Ph.D. The SOH presented Phase 3 Forms for 32 credits of course work for M.Phil/Ph.D programme in six languages viz., Hindi, English, Malayam, Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu. The Phase 3 Forms were approved by the School Board of SOH at its 39th Meeting held on June 24, 2009.

AC 49.32-37.2   Prof. Renu Bharadwaj, Director, SOH explained the salient features of the proposed course work. The evaluation system for all these programmes shall comprise of two components: (1) continuous assessment with 50% weightage (two term papers carrying 30% wieghtage for theory and practical assessment through seminars etc with 20% weightage), and (2) term-end examination with 50% weightage (30% for theory and 20% for the viva-voce).

It was stated that the initial admission in Hindi and English will be between 20-30 students and contact programme with the students is also being envisaged. As of now, the Programme in Malayalam, Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu languages is limited to RTA scheme till regular Faculty is appointed in these disciplines.

AC 49.32-37.3   Director, SOH raised the issue of non-availability of core faculty in Indian Languages to undertake course development and M.Phil/Ph.D guidance. In this context, the decision (Resolution No 46.1.4) of the 46th Meeting of the Academic Council held on 13th January 2009 to establish a Centre of Indian Languages was reiterated. As per the decision, a separate Centre of Indian Languages with full academic autonomy like any school of

studies to start academic programmes in Indian languages is to be created. The Academic Council again re-emphasized the earlier decision to establish the 'Centre for Indian Languages' to effectively interact with the School of Humanities (SOH) and the School of Translation Studies (SOTS). It is also suggested to create one post of Assistant Professor in each of the Indian Languages listed under the 8th Schedule of the Constitution.

AC 49.32-37.4

1. The Academic Council considered and approved the Phase 3 Froms **(Annexure - 11)** submitted by the School of Humanities (SOH) for M.Phil./Ph.D Course Work in Hindi, English, Malayalam, Tamil, Gujarati and Urdu languages.

2. The Academic Council further recommended to establish the 'Centre for Indian Languages' with one Assistant Professor in each of the Indian Languages listed under the 8th Schedule of the Constitution. The Centre shall effectively interact with SOH and SOTS.

ITEM NO.38   **To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in extending the 50% fee concession to the Diploma and Certificate Programmes of the School of Agriculture.**

AC 49.38.1

It was presented that the School of Agriculture offers several Diploma and Certificate programmes to youth and women below poverty line from rural areas. As these target groups can not afford the full programme fee, the Academic Council already approved 50% fee concession for most of the diploma programmes offered by the SOA. While launching Certificate in Poultry Farming, the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor announced 50% fee concession for Certificate programmes also. In view of this, the SOA proposed to offer 50% fee concession to all the Diploma and Certificate programmes offered by SOA, which was approved by the Hon'ble VC.

AC 49.38.2

The Vice-Chancellor has approved the following criteria for availing the fee concession:

1. All the candidates from rural area shall be entitled for 50% fee concession subject to the production of domicile certificate.

2. The urban standards below poverty line shall be given 50% fee concession subject to production of income certificate.

AC 49.38.3

The Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in extending the 50% fee concession for all the Diploma and Certificate Programmes offered by the School of Agriculture.

ITEM NO.39   **To consider and approve the revision of Post Graduate Diploma in Distance Education (PGDDE) and Master of Arts in Distance Education (MADE)**

AC 49.39.1   It was presented that the STRIDE had undertaken the 5th revision of PGDDE & MADE as recommended by the Expert Committee in its meeting held on 4th & 5th August, 2008. As per the revised structure proposed, both the programmes are now to be integrated as MA in Distance Education with the provision for lateral entry of those with PGDDE to MADE. Subsequently, the Course Coordinators of all the 10 courses have revised the course outlines.

AC 49.39.2   After detailed discussion, the Academic Council considered and approved the revised nomenclature, structure, duration, etc of Post Graduate Diploma in Distance Education (PGDDE) and Master of Arts in Distance Education (MADE). The Academic Council also approved the revised course outlines of all the 10 courses of these programmes.

ITEM NO.40   **To consider and approve the modification in eligibility of the Academic Programmes having eligibility 10th and 12th – regarding.**

AC 49.40.1   It was presented that 37th Meeting of the APC held on June 26, 2009 suggested to modify eligibility conditions of 10th and 12th Class for various Certificate and Diploma programmes as follows:
   a) Certificate Programmes: 10th pass to be replaced with Literate with 15 years of age.
   b) Diploma Programmes: 12th (10+2) or equivalent pass with 17 years of age.

   The above suggestion of APC is now placed before the AC for consideration and approval.

AC 49.40.2   During the discussions the members felt that the eligibility criteria for admission to various certificates/diploma programmes are not uniform across the Board. The entry qualification varies from literate to graduation depending on the nature of the certificate/diploma programme. Therefore, it may not be appropriate to decide the entry qualification on a uniform basis. It is opined that the suggestion of the APC as mentioned above may be kept in mind by the School while deciding the entry qualification for certificate/diploma programmes.

AC 49.40.3   The Academic Council advised the Schools to take the above suggestions of the APC as guidelines and decide the eligibility qualification for admission to certificate/diploma programmes as per the requirements.

ITEM NO.41   **To ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in launching of Paramedical/Allied Health Sciences Programmes**

AC 49.41.1   It was presented that the Centre for Paramedical Sciences developed Bachelor Degree, Diploma & Online Certificate Programmes in the area of Paramedical and Allied Health Sciences in collaboration with CMAI, AHERF and BSS. The Vice-Chancellor approved the launching of these programmes in face-to-face mode from July 2009 admission cycle. These programmes were already announced through common advertisement.

AC 49.41.2   During the discussion it was pointed out that B.Sc in Optometry and Ophthalmic Techniques / Technology (BSCHOT) is already on offer in face-to-face mode for the past few years. Therefore, there is no need for fresh approval for this programme at this stage.

AC 49.41.3   With the above observation, the Academic Council ratified the action taken by the Vice Chancellor in launching Bachelor Degree, Diploma & Online Certificate Programmes in the area of Paramedical and Allied Health Sciences.

ITEM NO.42   **To consider and approve the launch B. Sc. (Nautical Science) Programme for the Merchant Navy Officers who serve Near Coastal Vessels (NCVs).**

AC 49.42.1   It was presented that the School of Engineering & Technology (SOET) was offering B.Sc (Nautical Science) in collaboration with DG Shipping. The programme was withdrawn by IGNOU as the DG Shipping shifted it to the Indian Maritime University, Chennai. The DG, Shipping, Mumbai has now proposed for collaboration with IGNOU to offer a revised B.Sc. (Nautical Science) for training the candidates to qualify for becoming the Merchant Navy Officers who serve Near Coastal Vessels (NCVs). A team of Navel Officers met the Vice-Chancellor and the faculty and discussed broad structure of the revised programme, as presented in the agenda note.

AC 49.42.2   Director, SOET presented the proposed modifications in the B.Sc. (Nautical Science) programme. Further details of the proposed programme will be worked out after consulting Indian shipping companies and other stakeholders.

AC 49.42.3   The Academic Council considered and approved the launch B. Sc. (Nautical Science) Programme for the Merchant Navy Officers who serve Near Coastal Vessels (NCVs). The Faculty shall work out detail structure of the programme and discuss in the School Board.

ITEM NO.43   **To consider and approve the proposal for establishment of Institute of Higher Learning at Bangalore under IGNOU-Indian Navy Collaboration.**

AC 49.43.1   It was presented that Indian Navy proposed IGNOU to set up an Institute of Higher Learning at Bangalore on land owned by Indian Navy. The primary purpose for establishing the institute is to provide avenues for quality higher professional education to naval wards who due to frequent transfers of their parents and domiciliary restrictions of states find it difficult to get admission in coveted institutes in the country. It is proposed to set up the above residential institute primarily in the field of engineering and technology at graduation level to start with. The institute will offer on-campus full time regular B. Tech. Course in Mechanical, Electronics and Communication Engineering, Electrical and Electronics Engineering, Computer Science and Information Technology in addition to ODL programmes in various areas.

A Joint Committee of Experts comprising representatives from IGNOU and Indian Navy is to be constituted to work out a detailed project report.

AC 49.43.2   The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal for establishment of Institute of Higher Learning at Bangalore under IGNOU-Indian Navy Collaboration. The SOET is directed to take further action in the matter.

ITEM NO.44   **To consider and approve proposal for setting up of Flexible e-learning environment through eGyanKosh based course wise registration and assessment.**

AC 49.44.1   Prof. Uma Kanjilal circulated a proposal for setting up of Flexible e-learning environment through eGyanKosh based course wise registration and assessment. The details are as under.

AC 49.44.2   **eGyanKosh** (www.egyankosh.ac.in) was initiated by IGNOU in October, 2005 to store, index, preserve, distribute and share the digital learning resources developed by the IGNOU. It has now emerged as one of the world's largest educational resource repositories. Over 95% of the self-instructional print material of the IGNOU have already been digitised and uploaded on the repository. The video programmes are being provided through a special channel of IGNOU in YouTube with the metadata link in the repository. At present about 36,000 self-instructional print materials and over a 1,600 videos are available in the repository. After its public launch in June 9, 2008, the site already received around 486,000 hits with an average of 1,000 visits per day from all over the world. There are 40,000 active registered users of the repository. The statistics clearly indicates the growing popularity of the eGyanKosh.

It is now proposed to extend the facilities of eGyanKosh to set up a Flexible e-Learning Environment for course wise registration and assessment. The University is already offering 15 online programmes which are in closed environment through a learning management system. The proposed model will be in a complete open and flexible environment with following features:

1. Any visitor to the eGyanKosh site will have the option to register for any particular course or a full length academic programme. A modular approach will be followed wherein a registered learner can combine course credits to obtain a diploma or degree of their own choice.
2. The platform will provide self learning environment with a list of Academic Advisors/ Course Guides to act as mentors. The Personal Learning Environment (PLE) will have interactive tools like Discussion Board, Blogs, wikis, podcassting, RSS feeds etc.
3. Each course will have online assessment mechanism wherein a learner can take their exams virtually 'on demand'. However, the final exam will be in a proctored environment (exam centres have to be identified both at national and international level). The evaluation will be at three levels – diagnostic (where prior knowledge testing is required), formative and summative and will be designed by the faculty based on course requirements. Various modes of evaluation may be adopted viz. objective, short essay type, term paper, course projects, practical activities etc.
4. A complete tracking mechanism will be integrated in the platform through the e-portfolios of individual learners. E-portfolio will keep a formal record of all formal and informal studies carried out by the registered learner. Certification of the course will be based on stipulated time spent on a course (for a 4 credit a minimum of 45 days) and completion of all learning activities identified by the faculty.

The proposed enhancement of eGyanKosh will provide an opportunity for prospective learners to sample a course before enrolling and also help them in choosing courses and programmes of study. Course wise registration will facilitate offering topic specific continuing education programmes especially in skill based and professional areas. This model provides a flexible framework for Schools of Studies to identify and combine different courses already available, for offering new tailor-made need based programmes. In the long run this will help in achieving IGNOU's objective of democratising higher education by taking it to the doorsteps of the learners and providing access to high quality education to all those who seek it.

AC 49.44.3   The Academic Council after detailed discussion approved the proposal for setting up of Flexible e-learning environment through eGyanKosh based course wise registration and assessment.

ITEM NO.45   **To report the National Launching of the 2-Year Associate Degree Programme in Community Colleges.**

AC 49.45.1   The Vice-Chancellor reported to the Academic Council the National Launching of the 2-Year Associate Degree Programme in Community Colleges by Adv. Kapil Sibal, the Hon'ble Minister for Human Resource Development, and Smt. D. Purandewari, Hon'ble Minister of State for RD, GOI on 4th July, 2009 on the occasion of the 100th Meeting of the BOM.

AC 49.45.2   The Academic Council in its 46th meeting held on 13th January, 2009 approved the Concept Note on IGNOU Community Colleges based on the recommendations of the National Expert Committee. In pursuance of this decision "Expression of Interest" was invited through national dailies. Approximately 700 applications were received. The second meeting of the National expert Committee was held on 9th April, 2009 to discuss the modalities of implementation. All applicants were invited for an Interactive Meeting to IGNOU on 20th April, 2009. Around 300 institutions participated, presented their profiles and interacted with experts. The discussions helped in articulating the Guidelines for the Scheme. Institutions were recommended for consideration as Community College based on the criteria of:

- Track record in the field of community service and skill based education.
- Physical and human power availability.
- Linkages with industry/community.
- Experience in need analysis for identification of programme sectors and the demographic spread of the institution's reach.

The Vice-Chancellor through a communication dated 9th May, 2009 elicited interest of IGNOU faculty for contributing academically and administratively to the development of the Scheme. 45 teachers and 31 faculty of Regional Services Division responded.

In order to enhance regional awareness and as per the suggestions of the National Expert Committee, the First Regional Meeting was held in Chennai on 25th May, .2009 at MSSRF, Chennai in collaboration with Tamil Nadu Open University. Around 100 institutions and 20 IGNOU faculty participated. Profiles of institutions were presented and possible programmes for launch were discussed. In addition, institutions selected from the South at the National Meeting and interested in further discussions/clarifications were also invited. The meeting helped in identifying some more potential Community Colleges and provided as active forum for academic interaction with IGNOU faculty regarding:

- Kinds of programmes to be considered by institutions.
- Availability and use of existing SLM repository of IGNOU.
- Programme structure.
- Gazette notification of Tamil Nadu Government regarding Community Colleges.

As an outcome of these deliberations, Award letters were issued to 108 institutions. The Community Colleges have submitted and undertaking and the Community College Board, Academic Committee and Examination Committee have been formed by the respective Colleges. IGNOU representatives on all the bodies have been nominated and Visit/Community College Board/Academic Committee meetings have commenced.

The Indian Centre for Research and Development of Community College (ICRDCE) of Chennai organized a meeting of its Community Colleges in collaboration with IGNOU and Tamil Nadu Open University on 22nd and 23rd June, 2009 and deliberated on the integration of Tamil Nadu Open University Community College Students into the Associate Degree programme of IGNOU.

The Vice-Chancellor had an interaction with the Hon'ble Minister of Human Resource Development on 10th June, 2009 regarding the Scheme and after detailed deliberations, it was decided to have a National Launch of the Associate Degree programme on 4th July, 2009.

Presently, the Scheme receives no financial support from IGNOU and it is worth mentioning that all participation so far has been purely voluntary. A few of the Community Colleges have provision for nominal scholarship out of their Trust/Society funds and some others are making arrangements for bank loans. The Regional Meeting for the Western Region in which approximately 70 institutions have been invited is scheduled for 13th July, 2009. Meetings for further applications and other regions will be done consequently.

In order to institutionalize the mechanism, decisions in respect of the following are to be made:
- Material procurement rate for Community Colleges' from IGNOU.
- Fee slab for various programmes.

Academic and administrative arrangements for the Scheme in IGNOU:
- Creation of a Community College Board.
- Constitution of Boards of Studies for different disciplines by the Board.
- Unit for Quality Assurance of Community Colleges.
- Material Production and dissemination.
- ICT deployment and capacity building of Community Colleges.
- Training of personnel in Community Colleges.

AC 49.45.3   The Academic Council applauded the Vice-Chancellor for his leadership in designing and launching the innovative scheme of Associate Degree Programme in Community Colleges.

ITEM NO.46   **To consider and approve the creation of the School of Commerce and Business Studies.**

AC 49.46.1   The Vice Chancellor appraised the Academic Council that the Faculty of the School of Management Studies proposed for the establishment of the **School of Commerce and Business Studies** by carving out the Commerce Discipline from the existing School of Management Studies (SOMS). As of now, the SOMS comprises two disciplines viz., Management and Commerce. Both these disciplines offer a large number of programmes and courses. Over a period, they grew exorbitantly and merit separate Schools as is the practice in most of the Universities including Central Universities like Delhi University and Jamia Millia Islamia. Nevertheless, Commerce Discipline is striving to cater the diverging needs of business sector in development of programmes, and also taking new initiatives like Spot evaluation, for the first time in the University. The Vice-Chancellor expressed the view that the University would be able to serve the education and training needs of the different segments of the commerce, industry and trade if there are two different Schools.

AC 49.46.2   While endorsing the above view point in toto, the Members informed that Commerce and Management are two separate Schools in almost all the Universities in the country. Therefore, the Members suggested the establishment of a new School for Commerce discipline with the nomenclature as the 'School of Commerce and Business Studies'.

AC 49.46.3   The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal for creation of the new 'School of Commerce and Business Studies.'

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

(V.N.Rajasekharan Pillai)
Chairman