

MINUTES

of the

SEVENTY SECOND MEETING

of

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Held on

30th April 2019



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

**MINUTES OF THE SEVENTY-SECOND MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
HELD ON 30TH APRIL 2019 AT 11.00 AM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM, DR. S.
RADHAKRISHNAN BLOCK, IGNOU, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI-110 068.**

The following attended the meeting on 30TH April 2019:

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------|
| 1. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Ravindra Ramachandra Kanhere, Pro-VC, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 3. Prof. Vinod Kumar Jain, VC, Tejpur University | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. Kameshwar Nath Singh, VC, UPRTOU, Allahabad | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. Avinash Chandra Pandey, Director, IUAC, Delhi | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. Sudha Rao, former VC, KSOU, Mysore | - | Member |
| 7. Prof. Arun Kumar Sinha, former VC, Patna University, Patna | - | Member |
| 8. Prof. Ramesh Chandra, former VC, Bundelkhand University | - | Member |
| 9. Prof. Smritikumar Sarkar, former VC, Univ of Burdwan | - | Member |
| 10. Prof. B.P. Khandelwal, former Chairman, CBSE | - | Member |
| 11. Prof Pardeep Sahni, Professor, SOSS, IGNOU | - | Special Invitee |
| 12. Prof. S.B. Arora, Director, SOHS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 13. Prof. Swaraj Basu, Director, SOSS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 14. Prof. Satyakam, Director, SOH, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 15. Prof. Gracious Thomas, Professor, SOSW, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 16. Prof. Uma Kanjilal, Director, IUC & COA, IGNOU | - | Special Invitee |
| 17. Prof. Anju Sehgal Gupta, Director, SOFL, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 18. Prof. Manjulika Srivastava, Director (I/c), CIQA, IGNOU | - | Special Invitee |
| 19. Prof. M.K. Salooja, Director, SOA, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 20. Prof. M.S. Nathawat, Director, SOS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 21. Prof. K. Elumalai, Director, SOL, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 22. Prof. Saroj Pandey, Director, SOE, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 23. Prof. P.V.K. Sasidhar, Director, SOEDS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 24. Prof. Jitendra Kumar Srivastava, Director, SOTHSM, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 25. Prof. Nilima Srivastava, Director, SOGDS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 26. Dr. Heena K. Bijli, Director, SOCE, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 27. Dr. V.V. Subrahmanyam, Director, SOCIS, IGNOU | - | Member |
| 28. Dr. Rakhi Sharma, Director, SOET, IGNOU | - | Member |

29. Dr. R.S.P. Singh, Director, SOVET, IGNOU	-	Member
30. Dr. O.P. Dewal, Director, SOJNMS, IGNOU	-	Member
31. Dr. Seema Johari, Director, SOPVA, IGNOU	-	Member
32. Dr. Jagdish Sharma, Director, SOTST, IGNOU	-	Member
33. Dr. Boyina Rupini, Director, SOITS, IGNOU	-	Member
34. Dr Rose Nembiakkim, Director, SOSW, IGNOU	-	Member
35. Prof. Anu Aneja, Professor, SOGDS, IGNOU	-	Member
36. Prof. Nandini Sinha Kapur, Professor, SOITS, IGNOU	-	Member
37. Dr Bharat Bhushan, Director (I/c), SSC, IGNOU	-	Member
38. Dr. Hema Pant, Dy Dir, RSD, IGNOU	-	Member
39. Dr. R.P. Pandey, Associate Professor, SOTST, IGNOU	-	Member
40. Dr. Sunil Kumar, Assoc. Professor, SOMS, IGNOU	-	Member
41. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, Asst. Professor, SOTHSM, IGNOU	-	Member
42. Dr. Amiteshwar Ratra, Asst. Professor, STRIDE, IGNOU	-	Member
43. Dr Deepanwita Srivastava, Asst. Professor, SOFL, IGNOU	-	Member
44. Dr. Seema Chandhok, Librarian(I/c), IGNOU	-	Member
45. Dr M. Shanmugham, Dir, RSD, IGNOU	-	Member
46. Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma, Director(I/c), NCIDE, IGNOU	-	Member
47. Sh. K. Ravikanth, Director(I/c), EMPC, IGNOU	-	Member
48. Prof. Srilatha, Registrar (I/c), SRD, IGNOU	-	Member
49. Dr Pankaj Khare, Director 9I/c), P&DD, IGNOU	-	Special Invitee
50. Dr. S. G. Swami, Registrar(I/c), SED, IGNOU	-	Member
51. Dr. Dev Kant Rao, Director, ACD	-	Member
Secretary		

Prof. Subha Shankar Sarkar, VC, NSOU, Kolkata; Prof. Jagat Bhushan Nadda, Director, IUAC; Prof. Rajan M. Velukar, former, VC, Mumbai University; Prof. Saket Kushwaha, VC, Rajiv Gandhi University, Itanagar; Shri A.K. Garg, Director (Operation), DMRC; Prof. Arvindeakshan Sandram, former Pro-VC, MGHAV, Wardha; Prof. Pawan Kumar Sharma, VMOU, Kota; Prof Madhu Tyagi, Director, SOMS, IGNOU and Dr Gobindaraju Bhardwaja, SOPVA, IGNOU did not attend the meeting.

Dr. Vandana Varma, Assistant Director, ACD was present to provide academic inputs to the Member Secretary.

The Member Secretary welcomed all the Members of the Academic Council and informed that since last Academic Council on 22nd January, 2019, there have been two meetings of

the Academic Council's Standing Committee that had considered various academic matters. He then requested the Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Academic Council for his opening remarks and progress made by University since last Academic Council meeting.

The Vice Chancellor and Chairperson of the Academic Council first of all welcomed all the members of the Academic Council and expressed his gratitude to the members especially external members to help the Academic Council in shaping the academic endeavors of the University. He further informed that since last meeting which was held on 22nd January, 2019, several academic developments have taken place, as under:

1. The 32nd Convocation of the University was on 3rd April 2019 at IGNOU Headquarters as well Regional Centres of the University. Hon'ble Vice President of India, Dr. Venkaiah Naidu ji, the Chief Guest on 32nd Convocation delivered the Convocation Address. In the Convocation, 70 meritorious medals were distributed and best Research papers as well as best Regional Centre were awarded.
2. The Schools have been actively engaged in development and launching of undergraduate programmes of the University as per Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) including Bachelor of Commerce (B. Com.), Bachelor of Arts (B.A), Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) and B.Voc. (Tourism Studies). The Self Instructional Material of first year is almost ready and a status report to this effect would be presented before the Council in present meeting. The University would launch the undergraduate programmes under CBCS from July 2019 academic session. The Chairperson complemented the Faculty for their contribution in developing the CBCS programmes as it was the flagship programme of the University which involves the skill and application oriented courses and the University has been ahead of most of the Universities in implementing CBCS at such a scale.
3. As per decision in the last Academic Council as well as the Board of Management, the University had adopted the UGC Online Regulations, 2018 and accordingly proposals for offering Online courses were sought from Schools. The last date for submitting the proposal for Online programmes for recognition of UGC was March 31, 2019. For Open and Distance Learning institutions, the mandatory required accreditation grade was relaxed for offering programmes through Online mode. However, only such programmes which have already been offered through ODL mode for at least for one year could be offered through online mode after UGC's approval. Initially, the University has submitted only 7 programmes, including one post graduate degree programme i.e. M.A. (Hindi) to UGC for its approval. The University has also established the Centre for Online Education (COE) as per the specific mandatory requirement of UGC Online Regulations 2018 by using existing physical infrastructure and human resource available at the Inter-University Consortium (IUC) in the University.
4. The Assessment and Accreditation process for Open and Distance Learning Institutions, for which the University has played a major role, has been submitted

to NAAC in February 2019. The University fraternity including Teachers and academics had provided key inputs for accomplishing the task and finally the draft could be submitted to NAAC i.e. Accrediting body. The comments of stakeholders were also invited. The NAAC has uploaded the document on its website for implementation. He complemented the Prof. Manjulika Srivastava and her team for their commendable work in finalising the Manual and visiting and coordinating with NAAC on regular basis. He also informed that the Director NAAC complemented the IGNOU team for providing valuable support in finalizing the document.

5. The University had made a request to MHRD that being a national University, IGNOU should be kept out of the ambit of UGC (ODL) Regulations. The MHRD had asked IGNOU to prepare an Ordinance in this regard. The same has already been submitted to MHRD after routing through all the statutory bodies of the University and incorporating their comments. The Ministry was examining it.
6. IGNOU has received special grant of Rs. 155 Crores under EWS Scheme for increasing its enrollment by 1,50,000 during the next two years. This grant would be used for strengthening and enhancing capacities under three sections i.e. for infrastructure (Rs. 75 Crores), salary of new staff (Rs. 15 crores) & scholarship and fee incentives (Rs. 65 Crores). Prof. Pardeep Sahni, one of the senior Professors of the University, has been assigned the responsibility to formulate and suggest ways to implement this particular scheme from the academic session 2019-20 itself.
7. The University has been efficiently handling grievances with the help of Schools, Divisions, Regional Centres coordinated by a dedicated Centre, Students Service Centre.

The Chairperson then requested the Member Secretary to present the Agenda. The Members Secretary informed the Council that there are 14 agenda items, most of them are policy related matters which require in-depth discussion and policy directives from the Council. These also include recommendations of the Academic Council's Standing Committee made in its last two meetings i.e. 49th and 50th meetings.

The Academic Council transacted the following business.

ITEM NO. 1	To confirm the Minutes of the 71st Meeting of the Academic Council held on 22nd January, 2019 and to note the Action Taken thereon – ACD.
AC 72.1.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that the 71st Meeting of the Academic Council was held on 22nd January 2019. The Minutes were circulated to all the members for their comments/observations. No comments have been received on the Minutes. The Action Taken Report (ATR) on the decisions taken in the 71st meeting of Academic Council was also placed before the Council.</p> <p>It was also noted that the name of Prof Saroj Pandey, Director, which was inadvertently left out, be included in the list of attendees on 71st meeting of</p>

	the Academic Council.
AC 72.1.2	<p>The Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 71st Meeting of the Academic Council held on 22nd January, 2019 and noted the Action taken thereon. A copy of the Minutes without appendices is placed as Annexure 1.</p> <p><i>Action: ACD and concerned Schools of Studies</i></p>
ITEM NO. 2	To consider and approve the Minutes of the 49th & 50th Meetings of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 20th February 2019 & 27th March 2019, respectively – ACD
AC 72.2.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that subsequent to meeting of the 71st Academic Council, there have been two meetings (49th & 50th Meetings) of the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) that were held on 20th February 2019 & 27th March 2019, respectively. The Minutes of the 49th & 50th meeting of ACSC were circulated to all the Members of ACSC. The following observations/comments have been received from School of Social Sciences (SOSS) on item No. 5 of 50th Meeting of ACSC:</p> <p>"In the minutes of ACSC 50.5, names of only four courses i.e. BPCS-187, BPCS 188, BPCC 114 and BPCG 175 were reflected while names of other seven courses i.e. BPCC 112, BPCE 146, BPCE 143, BPCE 142, BPCE 145, BPCE 144 and BPCE 141 were not reflected. The same may be included in the Minutes while confirmation of Minutes."</p> <p>The Member Secretary further informed that since, the Agenda note on above Item had names of four course, while the annexure to Agenda included all the 11 Courses which have also been approved by the School Board of SOSS, the Minutes may be modified accordingly.</p> <p>Director, SOGDS requested that the Course Code wrt ACSC 50.15 may be read as "BGSG" in place of "BGSE".</p> <p>The Member Secretary further informed that recommendations of ACSC on two Items viz. ACSC 50.7 and ACSC 50.14, have been placed as separate Agenda Items for consideration of the Council in its present meeting.</p> <p>The Action Taken Report (ATR) of 49th Meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee was placed in the 50th Meeting of Academic Council's Standing Committee. The ATR of 50th Meeting of Academic Council's standing Committee was placed before the Council.</p>
AC 72.2.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic council accepted the request of School of Social Sciences and modified the Minutes of 50th meeting of ACSC w.r.t. Item ACSC 50.5.2 by incorporating all the 11 Courses, namely, BPCS-187, BPCS 188, BPCC 114, BPCG 175, BPCC 112, BPCE 146, BPCE 143, BPCE</p>

	<p>142, BPCE 145, BPCE 144 and BPCE 141.</p> <p>The Council also decided to accept the request of Director, SOGDS and that Course Code wrt ACSC 50.15 may be read as "BGSg" in place of "BGSE".</p> <p>With above amendments in the Minutes of 50th ACSC meeting, the Academic Council confirmed the Minutes of the 49th and 50th Meetings of the Academic Council's Standing Committee held on 20th February, 2019 and 27th March 2019, respectively (Annexure 2). The Academic Council also noted the action taken on the recommendations of the 50th Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: ACD and concerned Schools of Studies</p>
ITEM NO. 3	To report the withdrawal of BCA – MCA Integrated Scheme – SOCIS
AC 72.3.1	<p>The Director, School of Computer and Information Science (SOCIS) informed the Academic Council that a request to withdraw the BCA-MCA Integrated scheme for the students taking admission in Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA) first semester from January 2019 cycle onwards, in compliance with UGC/AICTE norms, had been sent by School of Computer and Information Sciences (SOCIS) to Registrar (SRD) on November 1, 2018. Consequent upon the concurrence from Students Registration Division (SRD), the Vice Chancellor had approved the withdrawal of BCA – MCA Integrated Scheme. Subsequently, the matter was reported to 49th Meeting of School Board of SOCIS held on March 15, 2019.</p> <p>The Director, SOCIS further informed that BCA and MCA were two separate programmes as per UGC norms, however, due to integrating them into a single programme, the duration of BCA and MCA integrated programmes had been reduced. Now the University has decided to withdraw integrated BCA-MCA programme from January 2019 session and offer BCA and MCA programme of 3 years and 3 years duration, respectively. The information has already been incorporated in the revised programme guide and uploaded on the website.</p>
AC 72.3.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council ratified the decision taken by the Vice Chancellor in offering BCA and MCA programmes, of 3 years and 3 years duration, respectively and in withdrawing the BCA-MCA Integrated Scheme.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: SOCIS</p>
ITEM NO. 4	To consider and approve the Programme Revision Form (PRF) for pre Ph.D. Course work of the Ph.D. (Physics) Program – SOS
AC 72.4.1	The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the Program

	<p>Revision Form (PRF) for the pre Ph.D. coursework of the Ph.D. (Physics) program was approved in the 63rd meeting of the School Board of the School of Sciences held on March 8, 2019. The Program structure for the pre-Ph.D. coursework of 16 Credits comprising two Compulsory Courses worth 8 Credits and Elective Courses worth 8 Credits, along with the syllabi of two Compulsory and seven Elective Courses was approved by Physics Expert Committee held on August 2, 2018. The four elective courses that would initially be on offer include , Condensed Matter Physics (4 credits), Nanotechnology (8 credits), Elements of Reactor Physics I (4 credits), Elements of Reactor Physics II (4 credits).</p> <p>The Director, SOS informed the Council that the programme was already on offer but without course work. Now the School of Sciences has finalized the course work in line with the requirement of UGC Regulation, 2016 for research Degree programmes. The students, who have not done course work earlier, would be given opportunity to complete the course work.</p>
AC 72.4.2	<p>The matter was discussed at length. A few Members pointed out the non-uniformity in the Credit weightage assigned to courses, especially, the course on Nanotechnology being of 8 Credits in contrast to other courses of 4 Credits each. The Programme Coordinator was requested to find out the feasibility of reassigning the credits/splitting the course into two, in future. However, at present, the proposal was considered. The Council also deliberated about sharing the course structure of research degree programmes with other Higher Education Institutions if such a request was received by the University. The Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to take a decision on such requests on case to case basis.</p>
AC 72.4.3	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Revision Form (PRF) for pre Ph.D. Course work of the Ph.D. (Physics) Program (Annexure 3). It was also suggested that, in future, depending on the feedback, the Programme Coordinator may find out the feasibility of reassigning the credits/splitting the course on nanotechnology into two courses of 4 Credits each.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: School of Sciences</p>
ITEM NO. 5	To consider shifting of B.Ed. Session for 2019 from January 2019 to July 2019 session – SRD/SOE
AC 72.5.1	<p>The Registrar, SRD informed the Academic Council that the Entrance Test for B.Ed. 2019 was conducted on 16.12.2018. The result of the entrance test was declared in the last week of February 2019. The Students Evaluation Division sent the merit list to the Nodal RCs on 26.02.2019. Since admission for B.Ed. programme was through counseling for which sufficient time was to be given</p>

	<p>to the qualified applicants, the finalization of admission would not have been possible by 28th February 2019, the deadline given by UGC for finalization of all admissions for January 2019 session.</p> <p>It was further informed that the matter was referred to School of Education (SOE) for comments. Based on the comments of SOE, Students Registration Division (SRD) proposed for shifting of B.Ed. 2019 from January 2019 to July 2019 with the approval of the Competent Authority. The Director, SOE assured that this proposal was only for academic session 2019, and henceforth, the admission would be completed by February itself.</p>
AC 72.5.2	<p>After detailed discussion, the Academic Council approved the proposal for shifting of B.Ed. academic session, 2019 from January 2019 to July 2019 for the current academic year only.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: SRD and School of Education</p>
ITEM NO. 6	To consider and approve Course Structure of Discipline Specific Electives for Public Economics, B.A. (Honours) Economics under CBCS – SOSS
AC 72.6.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that due to perceived difficulty of the need for computer labs in various Study Centres, the faculty of Economics deliberated on the feasibility of offering the earlier approved 'discipline specific elective' (DSE) on Applied Econometrics at the various study centres and decided to opt another course on Public Economics in place of Applied Econometrics. However, the Expert Committee meeting, convened on 25.1.2019, recommended that despite the perceived anxiety, the course on Applied Econometrics alone should be offered as it would increase the employment potential of CBCS B.A. (Honours) Economics students. In light of this, the faculty of Economics decided to first develop the DSE on 'Applied Econometrics' itself and reported the recommendation of the Expert committee to the School Board of SOSS in its 71st meeting held on 11.02.2019. The School Board approved the item but suggested that the number of Units in the course should be expanded up to 16 as per the recent decision in this regard by the University. The same would be taken up for development after the minimum number of courses (18 in number) for the B.A. (Honours) Economics programme was developed first when a decision by the faculty to expand the list of DSEs to allow for more choices to the students was taken (after the launch of full 3 year courses comprising of 14 Core Courses and minimum 4 DSEs first).</p>
AC 72.6.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Course Structure of Discipline Specific Electives for Public Economics, B.A. (Honours)</p>



	<p>Economics under CBCS with an expanded list of 16 Units.</p> <p>Action: School of Social Sciences</p>
ITEM NO. 7	The consider the matter related to offering the Bachelors Preparatory programme (BPP) – SRD
AC 72.7.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that as per sub-Clause 1 of Clause 2 the University Grants Commission (the minimum standards of instructions for the grant of the first degree through nonformal/distance education in the faculties of Arts, Humanities, Fine Arts, Music, Social Sciences, Commerce and Sciences) Regulations, 1985,</p> <p>"No student shall be eligible for admission to the 1st Degree Course through nonformal/distance education unless he has successfully completed 12 years schooling through an examination conducted by a Board/University. <i>In case there is no previous academic record, he shall be eligible for admission if he has passed an entrance test conducted by the University provided that he is not below the age of 21 years on July 1 of the year of admission.</i>"</p> <p>Subsequently, the UGC brought amendments to the said Regulations in 1995.</p> <p>Accordingly, with the approval of Academic Council/Planning Board, the University started allowing admission to Bachelor's Degree Programme to those who have not passed 10+2/ 12 years Schooling by offering bachelors Preparatory Programme (BPP). The syllabi for the Bachelors Preparatory Course in Social Sciences, Commerce and Mathematics were approved in the first & second meeting of Academic Council held on 28th December, 1987 and January 10, 1989, respectively.</p> <p>He further informed that the BPP was not taken as a replacement or substitute of 10+2 and at no stage treated at par with 10+2. BPP is taken as a preparatory programme to admission to Bachelors Degree programme of the University.</p> <p>He further informed that subsequently, in supersession of UGC Regulations 1985, the University Grants Commission has notified University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations, 2017. Vide Clause 12(f) (v) of the said UGC (ODL) Regulations 2017, the University is to notify in its prospectus, the minimum educational qualifications required for admission in programme(s) specified by the relevant statutory authority or body, or by the Higher Educational Institution, where no such qualifying standards have been specified by any statutory authority. Since the UGC Regulations 2017 have replaced the earlier Regulation and taking into account that at the time when the BPP was recognized by UGC, there were only Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE), AISCE, State Boards but now there have been other than National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)</p>

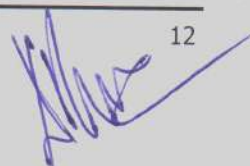


	at National level, several State Open Schools offering 10+2, hence there was a need to re-visit the matter in changed perspectives.
AC 72.7.2	<p>The Chairperson informed that IGNOU has mandate to 'reach the unreached' especially for those stakeholders who did not get sufficient opportunity for formal education. Keeping in view this mandate and as per UGC norms, the University started BPP programme in 1987 and admitted students directly to the Bachelor Degree Programme without having essential qualification of 10+2. It was a bridge course of 6 months and successful candidates were admitted to BA and subsequently to MA programme. The students after BPP were admitted to only BA and B. Com. Programmes not in B.Sc. where this provision was not applicable. The provision was going on smoothly, however, in between, the issues related to employment in Government sector by those students who were not having traditional 10+2 qualification had arisen which later on resulted into some litigations.</p> <p>The Chairperson further informed that the strength at present in the University of these students is around 15000 and mostly the jail inmates preferring this programme. Now since NIOS was in position, hence NIOS should cater to those students. The UGC Regulations 2017 also do not specify to go for the BPP programme.</p> <p>Matter was discussed at length. The Council was of the opinion that the issue needed to be looked from academic point of view keeping in mind that it gives opportunity to those who because of one or other reason, could not complete their 10+2 schooling but are eager to pursue higher education not from employment point of view but for getting a degree and enriching their knowledge. The members also opined that the agenda should be looked from two perspectives, one being academic for the purpose of Open and Distance Learning and other from administrative perspective. There were different kind of employment opportunities for which different kind of eligibility criteria were required. 10+2 qualification was generally meant for initial level jobs. As far as job at higher level was concerned, mostly the requirement is 55% in graduation or post graduation level, which was the administrative requirement. The University has also faced several court cases in this regard, however, in no case, the University has certified that the BPP programme offered by IGNOU was equivalent to 10+2 offered by various Central and State Boards. As far as academic perspective, the matter was more about access to education. Finally, it was not only economic rationale but also academic rationale to open access to education to all especially the deprived sections of the society.</p> <p>Most of the members endorsed offering of BPP programme by IGNOU and suggested that IGNOU while continuing the practice should also maintain high standards in this regard. It was also resolved that a letter may be</p>

	formally sent to UGC seeking clarification. The Chairperson informed that the University has already sent a communication to UGC (vide letter dated 18.4.2019) seeking clarification in this regard.
AC 72.7.3	<p>After detailed discussion, the Academic Council decided that the University would continue with the existing practice of offering the Bachelors Preparatory programme (BPP) till such time a clarification was received from the University Grants Commission on the IGNOU's letter dated 18.4.2019 (Annexure 4) in this regard.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Planning and Development Division and Students Registration Division</p>
ITEM NO. 8	To consider and approve the revised proposal of Fee revision in respect of International Students – International Division
AC 72.8.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the University has been offering its academic programme to the international students through Overseas Study Centres/ Regional Centres in India. The Programme Fee, Pro-rata Fee, and Fee for other services were applicable for International students as well. The Academic Council in its 71st meeting held on January 22, 2019 had approved the revision of fee from July 2019 admission session. The same were conveyed to the Overseas Study Centres through e-mail on February 28, 2019.</p> <p>He further informed that some of the Coordinators of OSCs submitted their observations on the said fee hike. These observations were placed before the Competent Authority. It was observed that the hike of fee was too steep i.e. upto 200 times in one go and OSCs were advised through e-mail dated 07.03.2019 that the matter was under consideration of the authorities and hence the revised fee should not be accepted till further Orders.</p> <p>The Council was further informed that in view of this, a Committee was constituted to examine the revised fee structure for the International students. The recommendations of the committee on Programme Fee and fee for other services approved by the competent authority were as under:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Committee agreed to restore the system of two categories of fee structure, viz. (a) For SAARC Countries, and (b) For Non-SAARC Countries. 2. The Committee agreed to enhance the programme fee by 50% of the existing fee for all the programmes on offer to international students. 3. The revised programme fee and pro-rata fee shall not be applicable to the existing students (students admitted till January 2019 session).



	<p>4. The Committee accepted the fee for other services, as proposed. The Committee also recommended that the fee for other services shall be applicable to new students as well as to the existing students.</p> <p>The matter was further reviewed by the competent authority and it was decided to continue with the old fee for July' 2019 Admission session.</p>
AC 72.8.2	The Chairperson informed that current strength of oversee students was about 1000 which was earlier 17000. It may come down further after increase of 200% in existing fee. Hence more rationalized fee enhancement was required.
AC 72.8.3	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council accepted the recommendations of the Committee to enhance the programme fee by 50% of the existing fee for all the programmes on offer, as well enhancement in fee for other services in respect of International students (Annexure 5).</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: International Division</p>
ITEM NO. 9	To consider the matter related to norms for the evaluation of answer books/ Projects etc. by both external and internal evaluators, including number of copies to be assigned/ remuneration etc. – SED
AC 72.9.1	<p>The Chairperson informed that Indira Gandhi National Open University, with an outreach through 56 Regional centres and more than 3000 Learner Support Centres, register more than 7 lakh learners annually. As a result more than 5 lakh students appears in more than 2,500 courses across about 1000 Examination Centres in Term End Examinations held twice a year in June and December every year. The total number of answer sheets evaluated stood more than 30 lakhs in the TEE. In addition the students assignments, project work etc were also being evaluated.</p> <p>Evaluation of answer scripts of Term End Examination as well as Project Work being a time bound activity, the evaluators were required to accomplish the task assigned to them within the stipulated time in order to fulfill the mandate of timely declaration of results within 45 days of conduct of Examination.</p> <p>The University has been making use of both external and internal evaluators for evaluating the answer scripts/Projects etc. The University has dedicated Regional Evaluation Centres which directly allot the answer books for evaluation to evaluators, and as such there was no fix number, minimum or maximum for allotting the answer books/ projects etc. While the system has been working fine, there have been some instances leading to inordinate delays in evaluation of answer scripts by both external and internal faculty as</p>



	well as enormous number of answer books allotted to a few evaluators. Thus there was a need to devise norms for the evaluation of answer books/ Projects etc. by both external and internal evaluators, including number of copies to be assigned/ remuneration etc.
AC 72.9.2	The matter was discussed in detail. The Council was of the opinion that in a given situation, an evaluator could evaluate only upto a maximum of 500 answer scripts in a TEE (taking 25 copies a day for about 20 days duration). Also the assigning the evaluation work should be as per standard operating procedure/Evaluation manual.
AC 72.9.3	After detailed deliberations and with above observations, the Academic Council authorized the Chairperson to devise the monetary limits as well number of answer books evaluated by an evaluator.
ITEM NO. 10	To consider the Notification dated 01-11-2012 issued by erstwhile Distance Education Council regarding Policy on pursuing two or more programmes simultaneously in various combinations- 50th ACSC
AC 72.10.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed that in the 50th Meeting of the Academic Council's Standing Committee, a proposal was placed by the Students Registration Division to consider the Notification dated 01-11-2012 issued by erstwhile Distance Education Council regarding Policy on pursuing two or more programme simultaneously in various combinations. As per existing provisions of IGNOU, a student was allowed to simultaneously pursue only a certificate programme of six month's duration along with an undergraduate or post graduate degree. If the dates of the examinations of both the programmes clashed, University was not responsible and the student has to choose to appear for only one examination on the given date.</p> <p>However, erstwhile Distance Education Council had issued a notification No. DEC/Notification/40.5.1.5/2012/ 17054-17060 dated 1st November, 2012 which allowed simultaneous registration for combination of programmes as under:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One degree and one diploma/post graduate diploma/certificate 2. One post graduate diploma and one diploma/certificate 3. One diploma and one certificate 4. Two post graduate diplomas 5. Two diplomas 6. Two certificates <p>The matter for approval to implement the above policy in IGNOU was placed before the Academic Council's Standing Committee (ACSC) in its 36th</p>

meeting held on 30th June, 2013. However, the ACSC resolved that "Deliberations with UGC and concerned bodies were necessary. The Notification dated 01-11-2012 issued by DEC may, therefore, be handled administratively". The matter was taken up by IGNOU with UGC on different times and UGC vide Public Notice F.No. 1-6/2007(CPP-II) dated 15th January, 2016 clarified that UGC does not endorse the idea of allowing the students to pursue two degrees simultaneously.

However, the Students Registration Division of IGNOU has submitted that the policy framed by erstwhile DEC issued vide Notification No. DEC/Notification/40.5.1.5/2012/17054-17060 dated 1st November, 2012 was still in vogue as evident from Notification F.No. 12-4/2016 (DEB-III) dated 27th April, 2016 issued by DEB, UGC.

Accordingly, the SRD had proposed that the adoption of the above policy will yield the following advantages:

- a) The students will be able to get opportunity for pursuing the programmes of their choices simultaneously.
- b) The registration in different diploma and certificate programmes of the University is likely to increase.
- c) The IGNOU will adopt the policy of DEB, UGC which is supposed to be implemented by all the ODL institutions in the country.

In view of the above, SRD has proposed to adopt the "Policy on pursuing two or more programme simultaneously in various combinations" framed by erstwhile DEC issued vide notification No. DEC/Notification/40.5.1.5/2012/17054-17060 dated 1st November, 2012 which allowed simultaneous registration for combination of programmes as under:

1. One degree and one diploma/post graduate diploma/certificate
2. One post graduate diploma and one diploma/certificate
3. One diploma and one certificate
4. Two post graduate diplomas
5. Two diplomas
6. Two certificates

The Standing Committee in its 50th meeting noted that the University Grants Commission vide its notification published in Gazette of India dated 23rd June 2017, has notified the University Grants Commission (Open and Distance Learning) Regulations 2017. These Regulations lay down the minimum standards of instruction for the grant of degree at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels, through Open and Distance Learning mode, and shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any other Regulations, Notifications, Guidelines or Instructions issued by the Commission from time

	<p>to time.</p> <p>The matter was discussed at length. After detailed deliberations, and keeping in view that the UGC Regulations do not permit offering of two degree programmes simultaneously, but do not bar a candidate from pursuing diploma, certificate or PG diploma programme alongwith degree or otherwise simultaneously, the Academic Council's Standing Committee recommended the proposal for consideration of the Academic Council.</p>
AC 72.10.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council considered and accepted the proposal, however, clarity would be brought out before implementing the combinations.</p> <p>It was also resolved that two degree programmes or two PG diploma programmes would not be allowed to be offered simultaneously. Also, if the dates of the examinations of both the programmes clashed, University would not be responsible and the student has to choose to appear for only one examination on the given date.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Action: Students Registration Division</p>
ITEM NO. 11	To consider the Status Report on Implementation of Choice Based Credit System at the Under Graduate level – CBCS Committee
AC 72.11.1	<p>The Chairperson informed that the University has constituted a Committee under Director, SOSS for smooth rolling out of Undergraduate programmes as per CBCS of UGC. The University was in the process of launching Choice Based Credit System based Programmes at the undergraduate level from July 2019 session onwards. SOMS, SOS, SOH, SOTHSM and SOSS have been developing their Undergraduate programmes under CBCS and the status for development of CBCS was presented to Academic Council's Standing Committee in its 50th meeting.</p> <p>He further informed that based on the information provided by the concerned Schools, the Self Learning Material was being prepared Semester wise and for the first semester, almost 99 per cent material in English medium was ready for printing. The major challenge before the Schools was translation of materials in Hindi however, the Hindi medium of SLM for first Semester would be ready by May end. Printing of materials on time was another major challenge and Registrar, MPDD has to ensure that first semester materials are printed and dispatched by end of August 2019.</p> <p>The matter was placed before the Academic Council's Standing Committee in its 50th meeting. The Standing Committee of Academic Council recommended launching the programmes under CBCS from July 2019 session. The Standing Committee also decided that a letter may be sent by Students Registration</p>

	Division to University Grants Commission (UGC) for clarification whether a fresh approval was required in view of the approval already accorded by UGC. Registrar, Students Registration Division informed that the University was yet to write letter to UGC.
AC 72.11.2	<p>The Academic Council noted the status of implementation of CBCS at the Undergraduate level programmes of the University and accepted the recommendations of the Academic Council's Standing Committee on the matter.</p> <p>Action: Student Registration Division and all School of Studies</p>
ITEM NO. 12	To consider the University Grants Commission Notification regarding Learning Outcome Based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) – ACD
AC 72.12.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the University Grants Commission (UGC) vide their Public Notice dated 18th July, 2018 sought suggestions for subject specific "Learning Outcomes based Curriculum Framework (LOCF)". The UGC, with a view to Quality improvement programme, vide its Public Notice dated 7th August, 2018, informed that it has initiated development of LOCF at the Undergraduate and Post Graduate levels. The fundamental premise of LOCF, as stated by UGC, was to specify what graduates completing a particular programme of study were expected to know, understand and be able to do at the end of their programme of study.</p> <p>The overall objectives of the Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help formulate graduate attributes, qualification descriptors, programme learning outcomes and course learning outcomes that are expected to be demonstrated by the holder of a qualification; • enable prospective students, parents, employers and others to understand the nature and level of learning outcomes (knowledge, skills, attitudes and values) or attributes a graduate of a programme should be capable of demonstrating on successful completion of the programme of study; • maintain national standards and international comparability of learning outcomes and academic standards to ensure global competitiveness, and to facilitate student/graduate mobility; and • provide higher education institutions an important point of reference for designing teaching-learning strategies, assessing student learning levels, and periodic review of programmes and academic standards. <p>The Member Secretary further informed that being an open and distance</p>


	learning Institution, IGNOU's Course material developed in Self Instructional format was Learning Outcome based and "Teacher in print". The SLM of IGNOU fulfills almost all pre-requisites of LOCF of UGC.
AC 72.12.2	The Vice Chancellor informed that Indira Gandhi National Open University has a robust system of curriculum development and Learning Outcomes forms an integral part of the Curriculum/Course structure. The University was pioneer in this process and the key principles of Open and Distance Learning system where education was "self directed and learner centric" has been kept in mind while revising its undergraduate programmes as per CBCS of UGC.
AC 72.12.3	After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council noted that the IGNOU already complies with the Learning Outcomes-based Curriculum Framework of the UGC and decided that the respective Programme Coordinator would prepare a detailed report of each IGNOU programme highlighting the key features of IGNOU programmes vis.-a-vis. UGCs LOCF. Planning and Development Division of the University would develop a prototype including the key features of IGNOU's course material alongwith Learning Outcomes based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) of UGC and circulate it to all the Schools of Studies for comments. Action: P&DD and All Schools of Studies
ITEM NO. 13	To consider and approve the Programme Development Form and Programme Project Reports of Certificate in Persian Language – SOFL
AC 72.13.1	The Member Secretary informed that the School of Foreign Language (SOFL) has submitted the Programme Development Form and Programme Project Report for offering Certificate in Persian Language (CPEL) programme. The earlier Phase -1 and Phas-2 forms of the said programme have been approved by the School Board of SOFL in its 20 th and 23 rd meetings held on 6.2.2017 and 6.2.2018, respectively. Subsequently, the School has filled the new Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) for the same. The Director, School of Foreign Language informed that the Self Learning Material (SLM) of Certificate in Persian Language has been prepared and edited. The CRC and Audio Visual aids of the same have also been prepared and Regional and Learning Support Centers have also been identified. The programme was ready to be launched from July 2019 session.
AC 72.13.2	After deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Programme Development Form and Programme Project Report for Certificate in Persian Language (CPEL) of School of Foreign Languages (Annexure 6).



	Action: SOFL																				
ITEM NO. 14	To consider the matter related to maximum duration of various programmes offered by the University- reg.,																				
AC 72.14.1	<p>The Member Secretary informed the Academic Council that the University has been offering more than two hundred programmes at various levels including Certificate, Diploma, Post Graduate Diploma, Under Graduate Degree, Master's Degree and Research Degree. The University has specified minimum and maximum duration of these programmes. In addition, the learners, who were not able to complete all the courses of a programme in the maximum duration, they could take re-admission to complete the remaining courses, as per given below:</p> <table><tr><th>Level of Programme</th><th>Minimum duration</th><th>Maximum duration</th><th>Additional time provided under Re-admission</th></tr><tr><td>Certificate</td><td>6 months</td><td>2 years</td><td>6 months</td></tr><tr><td>Diploma/PG Diploma and all other Programmes with one year duration</td><td>1 year</td><td>3 years</td><td>1 year</td></tr><tr><td>Bachelor Degree Programmes</td><td>3 years</td><td>6 years</td><td>2 years</td></tr><tr><td>Master Degree Programmes</td><td>2 years</td><td>5 years</td><td>2 years</td></tr></table> <p>However, a variation of 4 to 8 years in the maximum duration has been noted across a few Post Graduate degree programmes. Similarly, in PG Diploma programmes, the variation of upto two years has been noticed in the maximum duration.</p> <p>In addition, the University has regularly been receiving requests of learners and Schools of Studies for giving additional chances beyond maximum prescribed duration including re-admission and the issue was being dealt with on case to case basis in absence of uniform policy on the matter.</p>	Level of Programme	Minimum duration	Maximum duration	Additional time provided under Re-admission	Certificate	6 months	2 years	6 months	Diploma/PG Diploma and all other Programmes with one year duration	1 year	3 years	1 year	Bachelor Degree Programmes	3 years	6 years	2 years	Master Degree Programmes	2 years	5 years	2 years
Level of Programme	Minimum duration	Maximum duration	Additional time provided under Re-admission																		
Certificate	6 months	2 years	6 months																		
Diploma/PG Diploma and all other Programmes with one year duration	1 year	3 years	1 year																		
Bachelor Degree Programmes	3 years	6 years	2 years																		
Master Degree Programmes	2 years	5 years	2 years																		
AC 72.14.2	<p>After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council advised that the University should follow the norms of concerned Apex Statutory Body w.r.t. to the minimum and maximum duration for completing a programme. The Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to constitute a Committee in this regard.</p> <p>Action: Students Registration Division and all School of Studies</p>																				

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




(Nageshwar Rao) 14.5.19
Chairperson