

DOON UNIVERSITY

Dehradun

Proceedings of the Fourth Meeting of the Executive Council of Doon University held on June 3, 2008 at 11:30 am at Kedarpur

The following attended the Meeting:

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| 1. Prof. Gajendra Singh | - | Chair |
| 2. Prof. M. G. K. Menon | - | Member |
| 3. Prof. Prem Vrat | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. G. R. Kulkarni | - | Member |
| 5. Shri Rajeev Chandra | - | Representative of the Principal Secretary,
Higher Education |
| 6. Shri L. M. Pant | - | Representative of the Principal Secretary,
Finance |
| 7. Shri Ramesh C. Agrawal | - | Invitee |
| 8. Prof. D. C. Thapliyal | - | Secretary |

At the outset, the Vice-Chancellor welcomed the Members of the Executive Council to the Fourth Meeting of the Council and apprised them about the items to be taken up during the Meeting.

At this juncture, Prof. M. G. K. Menon wished to make certain observations. He referred to the decision taken in the Third Meeting of the Executive Council held on February 13, 2008 that future meetings of the Executive Council be held at Dehradun to facilitate participation of senior Government Officials which is essential for prompt implementation of decisions. This is especially important as it was envisaged to make Doon University a unique University and a Centre of Excellence in higher education for which the University was given its own Act of 2005, and was not included within the purview of 1973 Act as applicable to other universities in the State. He expressed his deep anguish on the delays that occur in decision making at the Government level. Such delays are detrimental to the creation and development of modern institution like Doon University which aims at becoming a centre of higher learning in frontier areas of studies. We find no reasons for deviating from that well considered decision of the Government earlier to develop Doon University as a leading centre in higher education in Uttarakhand. It is our wish that this idea of excellence is pursued vigorously. This can be done only with total commitment of all concerned especially the Government.

The Executive Council endorsed the views expressed by Prof. M. G. K. Menon and hoped that like the high quality school education at Dehradun, the idea of Doon University would be nurtured and supported as a special kind of institution to fill the gap that exists in the domain of higher education in the State.



Item 2008:4:1

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Third Meeting of Executive Council held on February 13, 2008 at National Academy of Agricultural Sciences (NAAS), New Delhi

The Executive Council accepted the modifications suggested by Prof. M. G. K. Menon and Shri Ramesh Chandra Agrawal, Finance Controller in the Proceedings and adopted the proceedings as circulated with the Agenda of the Fourth Meeting after incorporating the modifications.

(Action : Registrar)

Item 2008:4:2

Review of action taken (Third Meeting).

The Executive Council reviewed the action taken on the Agenda items discussed in the Third Meeting of the Executive Council held on February 13, 2008.

In reference to Item 2008:3:3 on Statutes, the Council was informed by the Chair that approval of the Statutes by the Government is still awaited and that the issue was taken up with Hon'ble Chief Minister, and the Chief Secretary, and on several occasions with the Principal Secretary, Higher Education.

The Council expressed its serious concern on the delays being made in providing approved Statutes to the University. Statutes are the rules of governance which are necessary for making the University functional. These are also required in making recruitments of Faculty and to enable the University initiate the process of admissions to various courses. The Council believed that it has already been delayed considerably. The Council desired that the Government may be requested to provide the Statutes within two weeks failing which it may not be possible to admit the students for the Academic Year 2008-09.

Further, the Council was informed that the Fee Structure as approved by the Council in its Third Meeting (Item 2008:3:10) is also yet to be approved by the Government.

The Council was apprised of the discussions held by the University with Principal Secretary, Higher Education, Government of Uttarakhand, who had made certain queries about the Fee Structure for students from Uttarakhand and outside, and SC, ST, and OBC categories of students and provision for admissions of NRI students. These issues are placed for consideration in the current meeting of the Executive Council.

(Action : Registrar)



Item 2008:4:3

Proposal for appointment of subject matter expert(s) in Faculty Selection Committee(s) and constitution of the Screening and the Selection Committee(s) of the University

The Executive Council discussed the matters in detail against the backdrop of the fact the University does not have its Statutes approved by the Government. The Council did not consider it appropriate to seek approval of the Government about the constitution/composition of Selection Committee(s) and of the names of experts to be invited for making selection from time to time. At best a consolidated list of experts may be got approved initially from appropriate authority. At this stage, the Council expressed the view that so long as the Doon University Act of 2005 is in place no changes be made in the rules which are in contradiction of the provisions of the Act. Changes violating the spirit of Act of 2005 must be brought to the Executive Council for its consideration.

At this stage, lists of experts for the School of Environment and Natural Resources, and School of Communication were circulated to Members which were approved. The Members suggested that names of some well-known practitioners in different fields may also be included in the proposed list of experts.

The Council approved that a Committee of 3-4 experts may be constituted from amongst the names in the lists of experts approved for screening/short listing of applications.

A Committee of 2-3 subject matter specialists plus any other members as may be required by Government Orders issued from time to time in regard to recruitment of Faculty members also be included in the Selection Committee(s).

It was decided that the lists/panels of experts may be got approved from the Chancellor till the existing Doon University Act of 2005 is in operation.

The University may invite experts/specialists as required from time to time out of these lists/panels.

(Action : Registrar)



Item 2008:4:4

Review of Grading System as prescribed in the Academic Regulations considered by the Executive Council in its last Meeting

The Council discussed the modifications made by the University in the Academic Regulations (Chapter V and VI) in regard to the Grading System to be adopted in Doon University in the light of the decision taken by the Council in its Third Meeting held on February 13, 2008 (Item 2008:3:9).

The Council was informed that the Grading Systems as existing in some of the leading institutions like Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, and G. B. Pant University of Agriculture, Pantnagar were examined before making the modifications in the proposed System of Grading/Evaluation of students.

After discussing the issue, the Council approved the Grading System to be adopted by Doon University. The Council decided that appropriate modifications be made in the Academic Regulations on account of the changes effected in the Grading System.

(Action : Registrar)

Item 2008:4:5

Recruitment to NTPC Chair

The Executive Council discussed the issue of recruitment to the NTPC Chair on the basis of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed by the University and the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the area of Public Policy within the School of Social Sciences. The Finance Controller informed the Council about the Corpus and the sum accrued as interest thereon.

While appreciating the proposal the Council suggested that social relevance of energy sector must be kept in focus while making recruitment to this Chair. It was desired that the person recruited in addition to being eminent should also have a broad vision of energy sector. The Council advised the University that conventional methods of recruitment, e.g. advertisement or constitution of Committee, etc. may not be necessary if an eminently suitable person is identified.

The Council decided that the assistance of Prof. M. G. K. Menon and Prof. V. S. Arunachalam may be sought in making the recruitment.



Item 2008:4:6

Organization of Brainstorming Sessions for improvement of the Programmes of Studies in the School of Environment and Natural Resources, and School of Communication

The Executive Council went into the details of the Proceedings of the Brainstorming Sessions held by School of Environment and Natural Resources, and School of Communication. The Council hoped that the contributions made by subject matter experts in the two Sessions would help in improving the Course contents/Programmes of the two Schools.

The Council was informed that a Committee of 3-4 experts for each School is proposed to be constituted which would assist in finalizing the syllabus on the basis of recommendations made in the Brainstorming Sessions. Subsequently, School Faculty Council may also look into the aspects of syllabus updating on periodic basis.

The Members suggested that Environment should be taken up in its totality. The Course contents must be developed considering social demands. Prof. M. G. K. Menon mentioned the need to incorporate Gandhian values/ethics for sensitizing students and the people about environmental protection and issues like water conservation.

(Action : Dr. J. K. Sharma, Dr. Asad Nizam)

Item 2008:4:7

Purchase of a Yo-bike for the University

The Finance Controller informed the Executive Council that the Item was discussed by the Finance Committee on June 3, 2008 and approved the purchase of Yo-bike for official use in the University.

The Executive Council approved the purchase and suggested that responsibility to maintain the Yo-bike should be given to person(s) identified for the purpose.

(Action : Finance Controller)

Item 2008:4:8

Balance Sheet of the financial year 2007-08

The Finance Controller informed the Members that the Account Books of the University for the year 2007-08 have been audited by the Chartered Accountant, and that it has already been approved by the Finance Committee in its Meeting held on June 3, 2008.

The Executive Council perused the Balance Sheet critically and granted its approval. A fee of Rs. 5000/ (Five Thousand) to be



paid to the Chartered Accountant was also approved by the Executive Council.

(Action : Finance Controller)

Item 2008:4:9

Payment of Honorarium to experts/members of committee

The Executive Council discussed the issue of payment of honorarium (Sitting Fee) to the experts/specialists invited by the University from time to time for participation in Committees and for consultations.

The Finance Controller informed the Council that the issue has been discussed by the Finance Committee in its Meeting held on June 3, 2008 and approved the payment of Rs. 1000/ (Rupees one thousand) to the invited experts and specialists.

The Executive Council discussed the issue and approved a payment of Rs. 1000/ in principle as Sitting Fee (Honorarium) to experts/specialists and suggested that the University may collect information on the provision as existing in some well-known universities/institutions. The Council also authorized the Vice-Chancellor to pay a sum of upto Rs. 5000/- as honorarium to experts/specialists depending upon the duration of duties performed by the experts/specialists and the nature of assignment/tasks handled.

(Action : Finance Controller)

Item 2008:4:10

Audited Report of the financial year 2007-08

The Finance Controller informed the Executive Council that a two member team from the Directorate, Local Fund and Audit carried out the audit of the Accounts of the University for the year 2007-08 from May 12 to 20, 2008. The objections raised by the auditors were discussed in detail. It was indicated by the Finance Controller that since there was no landline telephone connectivity at Kedarpur Campus, Mobile phone facility was provided to the key officials of the University. The Finance Committee had discussed the issue and accepted the report.

The Executive Council discussed the Audited Report for the year 2007-08 and accepted it.

(Action : Finance Controller)

Item 2008:4:11

Financial Status of the University

The Executive Council was informed that during the Financial Year 2005-06 to 2007-08 the Government of Uttarakhand approved an estimate of Rs. 7,211.30 lakh for the University of which Rs. 6,047.05 lakh was released. The released sum was



transferred to the Construction Agency U. P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam Ltd., Dehradun.

The Members of Executive Council went through the Physical Progress Report critically and were of the opinion that generally the figures given in the Progress Report by the Construction Agency appeared to be inflated.

The Council directed that the Agency may be asked to reconsider the Report and submit a revised Physical Progress Report to the University. It was also decided to ask the Agency to expedite completion of physical and other works so that the buildings can be put to use.

(Action : Finance Controller)

Item 2008:4:12

Any other item with the permission of Chair

(1) To allow 14 days leave to the staff in a year who are on Contractual Services

The item was withdrawn.

(2) To adopt the Uttarakhand Procurement Rules 2008 in the University

The Finance Controller explained the background of the proposal. The members welcomed the proposal and hoped that it would help streamline the financial procedures related to purchases in the University.

The Finance Committee in its Meeting held on June 3, 2008 had recommended the adoption of Procurement Rules by the Executive Council.

The Executive Council discussed the provisions of the Uttarakhand Procurement Rules - 2008 and adopted the same for use in the University.

(Action : Finance Controller)

(3) Service Rules of Non-Teaching Employees

The Finance Controller presented the Service Rules as developed for the non-teaching employees of the University. It was indicated that the services of Joint Secretary, Personnel, Shri R. C. Lohani were commissioned for preparing the Rules at a Consultancy Fee of Rs.10,000/ (Rupees ten thousand).



The Item had been approved by the Finance Committee in its meeting held on June 3, 2008.

The Executive Council discussed and approved the Rules and granted a payment of Rs. 10,000/ as Consultancy Fee.
(Action : Finance Controller)

(4) Fee Structure for students for the Academic Year 2008-09

The Executive Council was informed that the Fee Structure for students to be admitted to various Programmes of Studies in the University were approved by the Academic Council (Item 2008:3:10) on January 4, 2008 and Executive Council (Item 2008:3:10) on February 13, 2008. The recommendations were submitted to the Government vide communication no. 109/66/R-DU/2008 dated April 01, 2008 for approval.

During a discussion with Principal Secretary, Higher Education, the Government of Uttarakhand desired the information on Fee Structure for students from Uttarakhand and outside, and for these belonging to SC/ST and OBC categories, and NRI students.

After discussing the issues, the Executive Council decided that the Fee would remain identical for all students. However, it was decided to request the State Government to reimburse 50 per cent of the Tuition Fee paid by the students from Uttarakhand, as has been done in case of medical institutions in the State.

Further, the Council approved the proposal to admit 15 per cent of NRI students over and above the prescribed seats in each Programme of Study at a Tuition Fee of US \$ 5000/. (Five thousand US \$). Other fees shall be as paid by other students. The modalities of admissions of NRI students may be worked out by the Academic Council.

The provision of Merit Scholarships and Assistantships shall remain as decided earlier in the Third Meeting of the Executive Council

(Action : Finance Controller)


(D.C. Thapliyal)
Registrar