

NATIONAL LAW UNIVERSITY, ORISSA

Registrar's Office
Date: 26.05.2011

Minutes of

The ordinary meeting of the Academic Council of National Law University, Orissa held on 5th May, 2011 in the Conference Hall of the University. Following were present:

- 1) Prof. M.P. Singh, Vice-Chancellor, West Bengal National University for Juridical Sciences, Kolkata, Hon'ble Chancellor's Nominee
- 2) Prof. Chandra Shekhar Pillai, Former Vice-Chancellor National University of Advanced Legal Studies, Kochi, Kerala, Hon'ble Chancellor's Nominee
- 3) Dr. Afroz Alam, NLUO
- 4) Dr. Byasa Moharana, NLUO
- 5) Mr. Yogesh Pratap Singh, NLUO
- 6) Mr. Debashish Rout, NLUO
- 7) Mr. Pinaki Nandan Pattnaik, NLUO
- 8) Mr. M L Shankar Kaarmukilan, NLUO
- 9) Prof. (Dr) Faizan Mustafa (in the Chair)

Prof. Vijay Kumar, Nominee of the Hon'ble Chancellor could not attend the meeting but he did send his comments on the agenda items which were placed before the Council. He did not offer any comments for the agenda item No. 1-5 but on agenda item No. 6, he made following suggestions:

"The UGC has been seeking innovation along with HRD in Higher Education and I would like to appreciate the efforts taken by the Vice-Chancellor in conceiving the three year LL.M – Ph.D programme. We have taken similar measure at the NLSIU sometime back but for want of administrative support we could not move forward.

The following may be considered in the discussion on this agenda item:

- a) Instead of calling it as conjoint course, it would be better to use the phrase 'INTEGRATED'
- b) I agree with the procedure for selection of the candidates for such integrated course, LL.M-Ph.D.
- c) The number of seats is too small, and sincerely feel that it should be at least 10 as we have experience what happens with a small group of students, at least in the initial years;
- d) It may also be necessary to constitute a committee, consisting of experts from different background and institutions to monitor their developments;

- e) I do not approve the curriculum as given in the agenda. Nor do I have any quick fix solution. Once the course is approved by the University authorities, a day long discussion should take place with experts to frame all the curriculum, rules and regulations.”

The Vice-Chancellor assured the Council that the workshop as proposed by Prof. Vijay Kumar will be organized before the commencement of the course.

On the supplementary item No. 1, he fully agreed with the introduction of Jurisprudence as a compulsory course.

Following decisions were taken:

Agenda Item No. 1

Confirmation of the Minutes of the Academic Council Meeting dated 13th November, 2010

The Academic Council confirmed the minutes of the Academic Council meeting dated 13th November, 2010.

Agenda Item No. 2

To consider the Course Plan of 2011-16 Batch

The Academic Council after detailed discussions and deliberations approved the course plan for 2011-16 batches. Prof. Chandra Shekhar Pillai appreciated the course content of ‘Legal Methods’ but was of the view that the course should come in the 2nd semester as the course designed by NLUO is too heavy. He also suggested that in the 1st semester ‘Law of Tort’ and ‘Law of Contract’ should be taught. Prof. M.P. Singh emphasized inclusion of more exercises in the Legal Methods course but preferred to have it as 1st Semester course.

Agenda Item No. 3

To consider the Academic Calendar for the Year 2011-12

The Academic Council after detailed deliberations approved the Academic Council Calendar for the year 2011-12 and appreciated the smaller number of holidays given by NLUO.

Agenda Item No. 4

To Report the Appointment of Examiners for the various End Term Examinations of the University

The Academic Council approved the appointment of examiners for various End Term Examinations of the University for November, 2010 & April, 2011 End Semester Examinations.

Agenda Item No. 5

To report results of II & III Semester of 2010

The Academic Council approved the results of the 2nd and 3rd Semester 2010 and took note of good performance by the students.

Agenda Item No. 6

To report the introduction of Conjoint LL.M-Ph.D Programme

The Academic Council in principle agreed with the introduction of joint LL.M – Ph. D programme and accepted Prof. Vijay Kumar's suggestion of calling it integrated LL.M Ph.D Course. Prof. Chandra Shekhar Pillai informed the Council that University Grants Commission & MHRD, Government of India are also contemplating introduction of one year LL.M and therefore this integrated course is the welcome step.

Agenda Item No. 7

To consider the appointment of Admission Committee of the University for the Admission of 2011

The Academic Council approved the appointment of Admission Committee to conduct the NLUO Test 2011.

Agenda Item No. 8

To report the Examination Timetable for the End Semester Examinations of 2010-11 & 2011-12

The Academic Council after detailed discussions approved the Examination Time Table for the End Semesters Examinations of November 2010 & April, 2011. Dr. Afroz Alam proposed dropping of Mid-Semester Examinations as the students find it difficult to appear in too many examinations. Prof. M.P.Singh and Prof. Chandra Shekhar Pillai suggested that 50 % marks are for internal assessment and the teachers with the prior permission of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor may decide to take 'open book' or 'take home' examinations. It was also resolved that the number of projects in a year should be reduced. It was decided that for the internal assessment, the teachers with the prior approval of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor may revise the scheme of internal assessment. Dr Byasa Moharana suggested that there should

be breaks in the End Semester Examinations. The Council did not agree with his suggestion but agreed in principle to give a one day break during the entire examination.

Supplementary Agenda

Agenda Item No. 1

Introduction of Jurisprudence as compulsory course

Dr Byasa Moharana raised the issue of 50% marks as the pass percentage particularly in the 1st & 2nd Semester and suggested that the students who are weak in English find it difficult to clear the four papers and it affects their promotion prospects. The Council did not agree to lower pass percentage for the reserved categories students but emphasised the need of giving them remedial classes and for this purpose approved appointment of even an extra English teacher.

Agenda Item No. 2

Consideration of recommendations of Research Advisory Committee for Ph.D

The Academic Council approved the admission of Mr. Rangin Pallav Tripathy and in principle approved the proposed topic i. e “Assessing a Judge Through Performance Index: A Critical Study of the Indian Supreme Court, 1950-2010”. It was suggested that the candidate may be asked to restrict the scope of his topic after the studying the book of Mr. Vijay Gupta. The Academic Council also approved the recommendation of the Research Advisory Committee as to the admission of Mr. Amrendra Kumar Ajit and suggested to the supervisor to suitably amend the topic after a second presentation before the Research Committee.

Agenda Item No. 3

Any other Item

Mr. M L Shankar Kaarmukilan raised the issue of further improving Teachers’ Evaluation Form. The Vice-Chancellor informed the Council that the Teachers’ Evaluation Form was circulated amongst the teachers and the suggestions received were incorporated. On the suggestion of Prof. M. P. Singh, it was resolved that the Teachers’ Evaluation Form of NUJS should also be studied and if necessary some of the questions incorporated in it may be included in our Teachers’ Evaluation Form.


Registrar