# SHRI MATA VAISHNO DEVI UNIVERSITY

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD IN JAMMU & KASHMIR HOUSE, CHANAKYA PURI, NEW DELHI ON 21$^{ST}$ OF DECEMBER, 2002 AT 11.00 A.M.

### PRESENT

1.  Chancellor             (in the Chair)
2.  Vice-Chancellor
3.  Prof. C.S. Jha
4.  Prof. Vinayshil Gautam
5.  Prof. N.K. Bansal      Members of the
6.  Prof. SAA Alvi         Academic Council
7.  Prof. J.R. Rathore
8.  Prof. Lalit Magotra
9.  Prof. Ashok Aima
10. Dr. Arun Kumar, Commr/Secy. to HEG
11. Sh. P.N. Sharma (Special Invitee), and
12. the Registrar

Academic Council Members, Professor P. Aggarwal and Prof. Kumar Krishen could not attend the meeting.

From the Academic Advisory Committee, Shri Kiran Karnik and Prof. Dinesh Singh attended the meeting. The following members of the Academic Advisory Committee could not attend the meeting :-

1.  Dr. Roddam Narasimha
2.  Prof. Pritam Singh
3.  Prof. S.V. Raghavan
4.  Shri Asim Khan
5.  Principal Secretary, Higher Education

At the outset, the Chancellor welcomed the members to the first meeting of the Academic Council and gave an overview of the progress of the University. He said that although progress in land acquisition has been slow, the Master Plan of the Campus was ready, the works for water supply and electric supply to the Campus are making progress and the draft Statutes and Ordinances etc. have been formulated.

The University, in the first phase, shall establish Schools of Information Technology, Biotechnology and Management Studies and the Centre for Indian Philosophy and Culture. The course structure shall concentrate on quality teaching and research, with a focus and thrust on new areas more in demand as well as those of local or strategic importance.

As for the faculty, besides a salary package on the lines of the IIT system, perks and incentives shall be offered to attract the best talent to the University.

It was also felt that a programme implementation plan be formulated to achieve proper coordination in various proposed activities of the University.

Thereafter, the Agenda was taken up for consideration.

**Item 1:** **Establishment of the Schools in the University in the first phase.**

Resolved that the decision already taken by the Executive Council in having approved the introduction of the Schools of Information Technology, Management Studies, Biotechnology and Indian Philosophy and Culture be noted and followed with a proposed modification that in the School of Management Studies, research leading to the Ph.D. degree be also introduced.

**Item 2:** **Proposed Programmes, Policies and issues relating to specific areas in teaching and research in Information Technology and Biotechnology which may be focused upon at Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University, desirable structure of courses and ways of attracting good faculty.**

It was resolved that to start with, in the first instance there should be B.Tech. programme in Information Technology, M.Sc. Programme in Biotechnology and M.B.A. in the School of Management. The School of Indian Philosophy & Culture may start with a provision for Ph.D. programme.

It was further resolved that the Information Technology course should also include some components of hardware.

The School of Basic Sciences may not be established separately, but a faculty in relevant areas of basic sciences be recruited as a part of the Schools of Information Technology and Biotechnology faculty to cater for the needs of all the three Schools.

The Academic Council was in broad agreement with the proposed structure of courses, including the concept of modular courses as well as interdisciplinary learning. It also noted the recommendations of the brainstorming session held at Bangalore.

**Item 3:** **Creation of faculty positions for various Schools to be setup in Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.**

Resolved that in the first instance 50 faculty positions, to be designated as Professors, Associate Professors, Assistant Professors and Lecturers, be created.

The Academic Council also accepted in principle the engagement of regular faculty, including Lecturers, Assistant Professors, Associate Professors and Professors, besides Visiting Professors, Visiting Fellows and Honorary Professors in order to provide the necessary initial thrust to developing academic programmes.

The age of retirement for regular teaching staff be kept at 62 years, but teachers having contributed substantially could be appointed on contract basis beyond the age of superannuation.

The University may ordinarily appoint a person upto the age of 70 years as a Visiting Professor.

While Academic Council agreed in principle with the concept of contractual appointments combined with rigorous peer review for continuation/advancement, it was resolved that in case of suitable candidates at the level of Associate Professor and Professor, regular appointment may also be offered on the basis of the recommendations of the Selection Committee, with the usual probation period of one or two years.

**Item 4:**   **Admission Rules of Shri Mata Vaishno Devi University.**

Resolved that the draft rules be tentatively approved in principle. However, it was decided to constitute a small Sub-Group comprising the following to review and formulate the final draft of the ordinance relating to Admissions and Examinations in the light of points made during the deliberations by various Council Members :-

1.    Shri P.N. Sharma
2.    Prof. J.R. Rathore
3.    Prof. SAA Alvi

The revised drafts shall also be got examined by the Legal Counsel/Legal Expert.

This group should complete its work and submit the final draft by January 15, 2003. It may also have a look at Ordinances which are subjects of item nos. 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 below before they are put up to Executive Council for approval.

**Item 5:**      **Fellowships, Scholarships and Medals.**

Resolved that the ordinance be recommended for approval, subject to the following modifications :-

"the words 'research scholarships' be substituted by 'research fellowships', with a provision that the research fellows shall also assist in the teaching work of the concerned department."

**Item 6:**      **Draft ordinance governing the conduct of examinations.**

The draft ordinance for the conduct of examinations as well as the scheme of examination was approved. However, it was noted that some clauses in the draft ordinances were overlapping with the ordinance governing admissions. It was resolved that the Sub-Group mentioned in Resolution 4 may also sort out the overlaps and place appropriate provisions in the draft admission statutes and examination statutes, as the case may be.

Resolved further that separate provisions be made in ordinances for admissions and examinations for each School.

**Item 7:**      **Procedure for holding the Convocation.**

Resolved that the ordinance be recommended for adoption.

**Item 8:**      **Maintenance of discipline among students, conditions of their residence, council of students affairs and board of sports and students welfare.**

Resolved that the ordinance be recommended for adoption.

Resolved further that the Enquiry Committee/Officer be also defined in clause 3 of Annexure 1 of Item 8.

**Item 9:**      **Library Services.**

Resolved that the ordinance be recommended for adoption.

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

Sd/-
**REGISTRAR**

Sd/-
**VICE-CHANCELLOR**

Sd/-
**CHANCELLOR**