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Minutes of the 1st meeting of Planning Board of UOU held on 15th September²⁰¹⁰ at 11.00 a.m. in the office of Vice Chancellor.

Following were present:

1. Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak	Vice Chancellor	Chairman.
2. Prof. P.R. Ramanujam		Member
3. Sri N.K. Joshi		"
4. Prof. M.M. Pant		"
5. Smt. Shanti Verma		"
6. Prof. Absar Mustafa Khan		"
7. Prof. R.C. Mishra, Registrar		Member Secretary

Invited Members

8. Prof. J.K. Joshi, Director School of Education
9. Prof. Ajay Singh Rawat, Professor of Social Sciences & Humanities
10. Prof. N.P. Singh, Director School of Agriculture, Forestry and Health Sciences
11. Prof. Durgesh Pant, Director, School of Computer Science and Information Technology
12. Prof. Anil Bisht, Director, School of Languages
13. Smt. Jayanti Hyanki, Finance Controller
14. Sri N.C. Pandey, Consultant
15. Sri P.C. Papnai, Consultant

At the outset Prof. R.C. Mishra, Registrar and Member Secretary extended a warm welcome to the Hon'ble Members and requested the Vice Chancellor, the Chairman of the Board to present a brief update about the University.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak congratulated all the Hon'ble Members present, for their having been nominated as Members of the Planning Board of UOU by

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H.E., the Governor of Uttarakhand/ the Chancellor and extended a warm welcome to each member individually.

Later the Vice Chancellor introduced the Members of Planning Board and invited members to each other. Thereafter he made a power- point- presentation, in brief, about the status and performance of the university to date.

Having learnt about structure of the university and the progress made by it within such a short time-span of 10 months since joining of the present Vice Chancellor, Prof. Pathak, all the Members expressed their high appreciation and compliments.

Prof. Absar Mustafa Khan, Hon'ble Member of Planning Board, on behalf of all the Members, offered special compliments to the Vice Chancellor. Similar feelings were expressed by Mr.N.K.Joshi, Prof.Ramanujam, Prof. M.M.Pant and Smt. Shanti Verma. In the course of these initial remarks the Members suggested that a tentative schedule of all these meetings be isused in the beginning of the academic session itself. It was further suggested that a booklet, based on the Act and Statutes, describing various bodies, authorities, their scope and functions be circulated amongst Members of these bodies.

After the general remarks of Hon'ble Members, the Registrar, Prof. R.C. Mishra, with permission of the Chair, read out the agenda items. Thereafter, the Board took up the agenda items one by one for discussion. The details of item-wise discussion and resolutions passed are as under:

Item No.1: *Apprising the Board of the current and proposed programmes of Study of the University.*

Prof. R.C.Mishra, Registrar and Member Secretary presented before the Board the details of current and proposed programmes of study of the University. Prof. Absar Mustafa Khan suggested



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that the courses on Fishery and Apiculture may also be started taking in view the possibility of self-employment/ employability. Smt. Shanti Verma suggested that the courses on Environment studies and Entrepreneurship may also be considered to be included so that more awareness about the environment could be possible. Sri N.K.Joshi was of the opinion that only the manageable range of courses be taken up so that it could easily and fruitfully be managed. Prof. Ramanujam suggested that the courses should be prepared in view of the demand of local people but Functional English be made essential for all the students to enable them to enhance their communicative skills.

Thus, after elaborate discussions, the Board unanimously passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. PB/01/01

“RESOLVED that all the existing and proposed branches of study and the courses of study therein are approved.

RESOLVED, further, that in future also due importance should be given to employability, knowledge-creation, entrepreneurial and communicative skills, while developing the new courses of study.”

Item No.2: *Efforts for expansion of the reach of Uttarakhand Open University.*

The Registrar presented the existing structure of the University in terms of its Regional Centers and the Study Centers established so far and expressed the need for establishing new study centers as per requirement and for that he proposed that this exercise be carried out twice a year. The Board expressed satisfaction on creation of Regional Centers and Study Centers and accepted the proposal of considering the establishment of new



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study centers twice a year. Accordingly, the following resolution was passed:

RESOLUTION No.PB/01/02

“RESOLVED that Board approves the creation of existing Regional Centers and the Study Centers as per list enclosed and authorizes the Vice Chancellor to carry out the exercise of restructuring the existing Regional Centers and creating new study centers as per requirement of the university in a rational manner.”

Item No.3: *Apprising the Board of the funds received from State Government and Distance Education Council for the year 2010-11.*

The Board was apprised about the funds received from the State as well as from the DEC. The Board was satisfied with the efforts made by the university administration for being able to raise the sufficient funds.

Item No.4: *Obtaining recommendation of the Board for creation of teaching and non-teaching positions.*

The proposal regarding demand for staff was presented in front of the Board. The matter was discussed at length and the Board was satisfied with the justification put-forth by the Vice Chancellor and the Registrar and the Board authorized the Vice Chancellor to make the demand as per the UOU's need and make appointments in accordance with the provisions of the Act, Statutes and Ordinance of the UOU. The following resolution was passed in this regard:



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RESOLUTION No.PB/01/03

“RESOLVED that the Board approves the demand for regular teaching faculty and non-teaching staff as placed at Annexure 01 of the agenda because the Board feels that the basic core faculty is the must for proper growth of the University.”

Item No.5: *Apprising the Board about the progress in establishing the own campus of University.*

The Board was apprised by the Registrar and the Vice Chancellor of the approval of state government for allotment of 10 hectares of forest land for university campus in Devalchaur area of Haldwani and about the process going on for seeking the final approval of Central Government. The Board was informed that the committee constituted for the purpose has estimated that an amount of Rs.20.00 crore would be required for the construction of boundary wall, administrative and academic block, Vice Chancellor's residence, an auditorium, guest house and residences for teaching and non-teaching staff members. The Board endorsed the proposal as per agenda note and recommended that the same be considered by the competent authority for approval. The Board suggested that agencies like U.P. Rajkiya Nirman Nigam, Railway Construction Agency etc. should also be included to tender for the work. Sri N.K.Joshi, however, emphatically suggested that after the job is allotted to any agency as per approved rules, the time schedule must be adhered to strictly, lest it result in extra costs.

Item No.6: *Establishment of the Divisional Office in Dehradun.*

The Registrar informed the Board that Her Excellency the Governor of Uttarakhand in her last meeting with the Vice Chancellors of universities of Uttarakhand had wanted that all the private candidates appearing for various degrees from Kumaun and

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other universities of the state, be shifted to UOU from this year and that if it is implemented it would become very difficult for the UOU to manage the affairs from Haldwani, especially for UOU examinees of Garhwal Division. Further, the Members were told that in view of the topographic conditions, it is difficult to cater to Garhwal division from Haldwani. It was also brought to the notice of the Members that Dehradun being the capital city of the state, regular liaisoning and monitoring is, in any case, difficult from Haldwani. The proposal was unanimously endorsed by all the Members of Board and it was suggested that it should not be named a **Divisional Office** as proposed; instead, it should be named **Dehradun Campus** of the UOU. The Board was also of the view that taking into account the large number of private candidates in Uttarakhand, and increasing number of UOU students in the years to come, the University may think of opening more campuses at identified places having teaching and non-teaching staff as per requirements of the university. Accordingly, the following resolution was passed;

RESOLUTION No.PB/01/04

“RESOLVED that the Board approves the establishment of Dehradun Campus of Uttarakhand Open University, and authorizes the Vice Chancellor to create organizational and administrative structure thereof through a committee to be constituted for the purpose by the Vice Chancellor.”

Item No.7: Procedure for signing of MOUs with outsiders.

The Registrar apprised the Board of the justification and need of the proposal submitted to it in this regard. The Board was fully convinced with the proposal and suggested the constitution of a 'Technical Committee' for recommending tie-ups with external entities. Prof.Ramanujam suggested that a MOU Monitoring Cell

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could be formed in the University so that it could monitor the activities of collaborating organizations as per the MOUs signed by them. After a careful discussion on this issue the following resolution was passed:

RESOLUTION No.PB/01/05

“RESOLVED that a proforma application be developed on the basis of the issues mentioned in the agenda note of this meeting, the same application form should be used for accepting offers/ applications and the process of accepting applications for signing of MOUs should always be open, though decisions about the same should be taken twice a year.

RESOLVED, further that a Technical Committee shall be constituted. It will have the following composition:

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|---|----------|
| 1. Director of the School wherein the subject area of MOU lies. | Chairman |
| 2. One Professor of the subject concerned | Member |
| 3. One Technical Expert, if the Chairman needs such expertise | ” |
| 4. Finance Controller | ” |
| 5. Deputy Registrar | ” |

The recommendations of this ‘Technical Committee’ shall be presented to the Registrar, who will present the same alongwith his comments to the Vice Chancellor for approval. Later, all the MOUs shall have to be reported to the Executive Council.”



Item No.8: *Establishment of some new Cells under the University.*

The Registrar, Prof.R.C.Mishra explained the need of establishing the proposed Cells/Units. The Board was of the view that the Cells which are the basic components of any educational Institution and those which are essentially to be formed as per requirements of the law, practice and convention, say Right to Information Cell, SC/ST/OBC Cell, Students Welfare Cell, Advisory Cell, etc. These cells can be formed by the University on its own. However, for the formation of Women Study Centre, Gandhian Study Centre and Himalayan Scheduled Tribes Study Centre, etc. the Board directed that justification and full details in each case be put up in the next meeting of the Board. However, if the Vice Chancellor thinks that it is in the interest of the university to establish any of the above cells early, the approval of Planning Board can be obtained by circulation of such justification.

Item No.9: *Directions, if any, of the Hon'ble Members of the Board.*

The Registrar, Prof. R.C.Mishra humbly requested the Hon'ble Members of the Board to give their noble directions. Since this is the first meeting of the Planning Board, the directions of learned and experienced Members of the Board would definitely be very useful for overall development of the University.

In response, Sri N.K.Joshi said that the university should prepare its one year, 3 years and 5 years plans of development and move accordingly. Prof. M.M.Pant suggested that an external Evaluation Committee be formed which may point-out the areas of weaknesses and suggest measures for improvements accordingly. Prof. Ramanujam suggested that (1) the new university campus should be developed in view of the universal design so that it has the facilities for disabled persons, and (2) a course on Facilitating Disabled Persons be started so that the public becomes sensitive



and helpful in dealing with the physically handicapped people of the society. Prof.A.M.Khan appreciated the University News Letter – *Udaan* and suggested that the News Letter should continue to be brought out regularly and it should be made available to the Members of Planning Board too. He again congratulated the Vice Chancellor for the remarkable achievements made during such a short span of time and all the Members joined Prof.Mustafa in expressing similar encouraging remarks.

Further, all the Members expressed their gratitude for the best possible hospitality extended to them.

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

✓ R. C. Mishra
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R.C. Mishra
R.C.Mishra 20/9/10
Registrar