# KRISHNA KANTA HANDIQUI STATE OPEN UNIVERSITY GUWAHATI

Proceedings of the 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Management held on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2015 in the Conference Room of Head Office, at Rani at 11.00 AM

#### Members present:

Chairman 1) Vice-Chancellor Member 2) Dr. Lokendra Prasad Deka 3) Dr. Pradyut Kumar Goswami Member Member 4) Prof. Indu Mohan Das Member 5) Prof. Tabu Ram Taid Member 6) Shri Abdul Muhib Mazumdar Member 7) Shri Keshab Mahanta Member 8) Dr. P K Choudhury Member 9) Shri Dipak Mazumdar Member Dean (Academic) 10) Member Dean (Study Centre) 11)

The Registrar, Member Secretary of the Board of Management could not be present in the meeting because of his indisposition.

Sri S N Misra, Secretary to Vice-Chancellor was present in the meeting for recording the Proceedings.

## Agenda Item No. 1: Introductory remarks by the Vice-Chancellor

Initiating the discussion, Vice-Chancellor, the Chairman of the Board of Management welcomed all the esteemed members with special mention of Dr. Dibyajyoti Mahanta, Dean (Study Centre), Shri Dipak Mazumdar, Joint Secretary to the Government of Assam, Finance Department who attended the meeting for the first time as a member of the Board of Management. He also introduced Shri S N Misra, Secretary to Vice-Chancellor who will be attending the Board of Management Committee Meeting for recording the proceedings.

He apprised the house that due to some unavoidable circumstances, the proceedings of the last meeting of the Board of Management along with the action taken report could not be made ready by the Registrar. He assured that the same will be sent to all the members within a short time so that the proceedings could be confirmed in the next meeting of the Board of Management.

He further apprised that he attended a meeting in Chennai and the Registrar attended a meeting in Delhi on the New Education Policy of the Government of India, where problems and prospects of distance education were discussed.

He then proceeded as per the items on the Agenda.

Resolution NO. BM/29/1/2015: Resolved that the above introductory remarks of the Vice-Chancellor be noted.

Agenda Item No. 2: To consider the approval of the recommendation of Selection Committee for the appointment to the post of Assistant Registrar (Study Centre)

The recommendations of the Selection Committees for appointment to the post of Assistant Registrar (Study Centre) held on 09.11.2015 placed in the meeting of the Board. The Selection Committee recommended the names of the following candidates for appointment in order of preference:

#### Post of Assistant Registrar (Study Centre)

- 1) Shri Birinchi Borah
- 2) Shri Samar Bhattacharyya
- 3) Shri Kshirod Sarma

**Resolution NO. BM/29/2/2015:** Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee be accepted as the Select List for the purpose of appointment and that the candidate recommended first, viz., Shri Birinchi Bora be appointed as Assistant Registrar, (Study Centre).

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation and that the Select List shall remain valid for one year from today so that the next candidate in order may be appointed, should any vacancy (ies) arise due to any

reason during the said year. The appointment shall be for the period as per the provision in the ordinance with probation for one year.

Agenda Item No. 3: To consider the approval of the recommendation of Selection Committee for the appointment to the post of Assistant Registrar (SLM)

#### Assistant Registrar (SLM):

The recommendations of the Selection Committees for appointment to the post of Assistant Registrar (SLM) held on 09.11.2015 placed in the meeting of the Board. The Selection Committee recommended the names of the following candidates for appointment in order of preference:

- 1) Shri Samar Bhattacharyya
- 2) Shri Birinchi Borah
- 3) Shri Kshirod Sarmah

**Resolution NO. BM/29/3/2015:** Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee be accepted as the Select List for the purpose of appointment and that the candidate recommended first, viz., Shri Samar Bhattacharyya be appointed as Assistant Registrar, (SLM).

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation and that the Select List shall remain valid for one year from today so that the next candidate in order may be appointed, should any vacancy (ies) arise due to any reason during the said year. The appointment shall be for the period as per the provision in the ordinance with probation for one year.

Agenda Item No. 4 : To consider the approval of the recommendation of the Selection Committee for the appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Sociology

The recommendation of the Selection Committees for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Sociology held on 12.11.2015 was placed in the

meeting of Board. The Selection Committee recommended the names of the following candidates for appointment in order of preference:

- 1) Ms. Gargi Gayan
- 2) Ms. Rinku Borah
- 3) Ms. Rituparna Patgiri

**Resolution NO. BM/29/4/2015:** Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee be accepted as the Select List for the purpose of appointment and that the candidate recommended first, viz., Ms. Gargi Gayan be appointed as the Assistant Professor in Sociology.

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation and that the Select List shall remain valid for one year from today so that the next candidate in order may be appointed, should any vacancy (ies) arise due to any reason during the said year. The appointment shall be for the period as per the provision in the ordinance with probation for one year.

Agenda Item No. 5 To consider the approval of the recommendation of the Selection Committee for the appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Electronics.

The recommendations of the Selection Committees for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Electronics held on 09.11.2015 was placed in the meeting of Board. The Selection Committee recommended the names of the following candidates for appointment in order of preference:

- 1) Ms. Antara Mahanta Barua
- 2) Shri Debasis Saikia

Resolution NO. BM/29/5/2015: Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee be accepted as the Select List for the purpose of appointment and that the candidate recommended first, viz., Ms. Antara Mahanta Barua be appointed as the Assistant Professor in Electronics.

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation and

that the Select List shall remain valid for one year from today so that the next candidate in order may be appointed, should any vacancy (ies) arise due to any reason during the said year. The appointment shall be for the period as per the provision in the ordinance with probation for one year.

The Council, while approving the recommendation for the Post of Assistant Professor in Electronics, was of the view that the department of Electronics should be renamed as the Electronics and Communication Science, which is applicable in other universities.

The Council also opined that the system of roster as per the relevant rules of the Government of Assam should be maintained in the appointments made by the University.

The Vice-Chancellor agreed to look into the matter.

Agenda Item No. 6 : To consider the recommendation of Selection Committee for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Instrumentation, which has hitherto been kept under sealed cover due to Hon'ble High Court's interim order since withdrawn.

The Council was apprised that the recommendation of the Selection Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, 2014 could not be placed before the Board of Management due to Hon'ble High Court's interim order. Now, the Petitioner has withdrawn the case and as such the recommendation of Selection Committee was placed Before the Board. The Selection Committee recommended the name of Shri Nabankur Pathak for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Instrumentation.

**Resolution NO. BM/29/6/2015:** Resolved that the recommendation of the Selection Committee be accepted as per the Select List for the purpose of appointment and that the Shri Nabankur Pathak be appointed as Assistant Professor in Instrumentation.

Resolved further that the appointment letter be issued as per the terms of appointment under the University rules without waiting for confirmation. The

appointment shall be for the period as per the provision in the ordinance with probation for one year.

Agenda Item No. 7&8 : To consider the recommendations of the Search Committees for National Award and National Fellowship:

The Council was apprised that in terms of the decision of the Board of Management, Search Committees were constituted for the purpose of KK Handiqui National Award and Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University National Fellowship. The recommendations of the Search Committees were placed before the Board. The Search Committee for the National Fellowship, headed by Shri A C Bhagabati, former Vice-Chancellor, Rajib Gandhi University, Arunachal Pradesh, recommended the following names in order of preference:

- 1) Padmabhushan Jahnu Barua
- 2) Prof. Arup Kumar Dutta
- 3) Prof. Shiela Bora

The Search Committee for National Award, headed by Dr. Nirmal Kumar Choudhury, former Vice-Chancellor, Gauhati University recommended the following names in order of preference:

- 1) Professor Jitendra Nath Goswami, eminent space scientist
- 2) Prof. Mrinal Miri

The members of the Board accepted the recommendations and the guidelines (enclosed and marked as Annexure -1) as suggested by the Committees.

Resolution NO. BM/29/7/2015 Resolved that Padmabhusan Jahnu Barua, internationally acclaimed Film Director, be awarded the Krishna Kanta Handiquie State Open University National Fellowship for the year 2015 in the 10<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day Function of the University scheduled to be held on 11.12.2015.

Resolution NO. BM/29/8/2015 Resolved that Professor Jitendra Nath Goswami , eminent Space Scientist be presented the Krishn Kanta Handiqui National Award for the year 2015 in the 10<sup>th</sup> Foundation of the University scheduled to be held on 11.12.2015.

#### Agenda Item No. 9: To consider the proposal on Corpus Fund.

During the course of the discussions, the members of the Board opined that the University should have a Corpus Fund for the purpose of awarding the National Award and the National Fellowship. After detailed discussions, it was agreed that a Corpus Fund initially of Rs. 5.00 (five) lacs be created from January, 2016 by the name "National Award and National Fellowship Fund" which would be increased to Rs. 10.00 (ten) lacs annually.

Resolution NO. BM/29/9/2015 : Resolved that a Corpus Fund initially of Rs. 5.00 (five) lacs be created by the name of "National Award and National Fellowship Fund", which would be increased to Rs. 10.00 (ten) lacs annually.

#### Agenda Item No. 10 : To consider the Draft Vision Document

The members of the Board of Management were apprised that the draft Vision Document has already been circulated to all the member of the Board of Management.

The members of the Board were requested to consider and approve the Vision Document as proposed.

The members deliberated upon the matter and decided to approve the Vision Document.

Resolution NO. BM/29/10/2015 : Resolved that the Vision Document as circulated and placed before the Board of Management be approved.

Agenda Item No. 11 : To consider the recommendation of the Committee constituted for purchase of land for City Office.

The members of the Board of Management were apprised that the Committee constituted for the purpose of purchasing a suitable plot of land for City Office of the University has in the meantime visited a number of suitable plots. The members of the Committee expressed their views on the plots visited by them.

The members of the Board were requested to consider and approve the proposal.

The members dwelt at length on the matter and decided that in order to avoid any ambiguity and to maintain proper procedure, an advertisement to this effect with specific area and minimum quantity of land required may be issued so that the matter could be settled within 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015. The members in unison decided to include Shri Keshab Mahanta as one of the members of the Committee. The Committee along with the Vice-Chancellor and Registrar will finalize the plot within the stipulated time and apprise the Board accordingly.

Resolution NO. BM/29/11/2015: Resolved that Shri Keshab Mahanta, MLA and member of the Board of Management, KK Handiqui State Open University be included as one of the members of the Committee for purchase of land for City Office of the University.

Also resolved that an advertisement for a plot of land not less than 5 to 8 bighas within the area from Jalukbari to Khanapara alongside the National Highway No. 37 be made urgently in the local dailies for the city office of the University. The details of the advertisement be finalized in consultation with the concerned Committee.

Further, resolved that the Committee be entrusted to finalize the land with price in consultation with the Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar within 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015 and their report be placed in the next meeting of the Board of Management for finalization.

## Agenda Item No. 12 : To consider the UGC's letter on Ph. D. Guide

The Board was apprised that the University Grants Commission had laid down certain guidelines for Ph. D. Guideship. As per UGC's guidelines, a teacher who does not happened to be a permanent teacher of the University cannot be allowed to act as a Ph. D. Guide. As the University is in short of core faculty members to supervise the research work, it has become difficult to run the Ph.D programme without guides from its accredited Study Centre or other higher institutions. It was also brought to the notice of the Board that there are 13 (thirteen) vacant posts of teachers, which have already been advertised. The process for filling up of the vacant post of teachers is going on. However,

in some cases the age limit is not found in order. In some cases, single candidates have applied.

The Board was requested to consider the matter and take a decision in this regard.

The Council discussed the matter and opined that the University should allow enrolling Ph. D students only in those subjects where the teachers of the University are available. The University should not encourage the Ph.D. students for enrolment in the department, where core faculty members in the University are not, available for Guideship. Regarding the age and single candidate, the Board opined that in exceptional deserving cases, the mandatory provision may be relaxed to the extent possible.

**Resolution NO. BM/29/12/2015:** Resolved that the Ph. D. enrollment be allowed in the University only in the departments where the required number of teachers is available for Guideship.

Agenda Item No. 13 : To consider the report of Finance Officer on the Fixation of pay in respect of a few Officers and Employees.

The Board was apprised that on receipt of complaints from various corners, on the excess payment to the following employees, which are not in conformity with the usual norms of the fixation of pay as per the prevailing laid down rules of the CPC/UGC, the Finance Officer was entrusted to examine the matter. The Finance Officer has submitted a report which was enclosed herewith and marked as Annexure -2.

The Board was requested to consider and approve.

The Board after going through the reports submitted by the Finance Officer was of the view that excess payment made as per the report of the Finance Officer be recovered from the concerned Officer/employee. In case of Sri R B Mahanta, Registrar, the Board observed that Finance Officer has not furnished his view. Taking into account the Voluntary retirement taken by Shri Mahanta and his subsequent appointment as Registrar, KKHSOU, the matter be again reexamined by the Finance Officer and the report be placed in the next meeting

of the Board of Management for taking necessary action. In case of Ankuran Dutta, the Finance Officer be requested to have a personal discussion with Mr. Ankuran Dutta and the outcome of the discussion be placed in the higher authority. In case of Indrani Dutta, the statusquo be maintained and a clearance from PRU, Finance Department, Government of Assam be obtained.

Resolution NO. BM/29/13/2015: Resolved that the excess payment made as per the report of the Finance Officer be recovered from the concerned Officer/employee with immediate effect.

Further resolved that the Finance Officer be requested to have a discussion with Sri R B Mahanta, Registrar, as to his eligibility to retain his earlier pay as the Register, KKHSOU after joining back in his parent department and taking Voluntary Retirement from the Government of Assam to join as the Registrar, KKHSOU. The outcome of discussion along with details of pay protection shall be placed before the Board of Management for taking further necessary action.

Resolved further that in case of Ankuran Dutta, Dy. Director Multi-Media , the Finance Officer be requested to have a personal discussion on granting six advance increments, and the outcome be placed in the higher authority for necessary action.

Resolved further that status quo be maintained in respect of Dr. Indrani Deka till a clearance from the PRU, Finance Department, and Government of Assam is received. The pay drawn earlier be continued till receipt of Governance clearance.

Agenda Item No. 14 : Any Other Business

### 1) To consider the budget for 10<sup>th</sup> Foundation of the University

The Board was apprised that on the 10<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of the University scheduled to be held on 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015, the KKH National Award and KKHSOU National Fellowship will be presented. A tentative budget for this purpose amounting to Rs. 19,47,500/- (Rupees Nineteen Lacs Forty Seven thousand Five hundred) has been placed for approval.

The Board was requested to approve.

Resolution NO. BM/29/14/2015 :Resolved that the Budget for 10<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day of the University amounting to Rs.19,47,500/- (Rupees ... Nineteen Lacs Forty Seven thousand) be approved.

Agenda Item No15: To consider the Paternity leave to non-academic staff:

The Board turned down the proposal as no such facility is available in the government or similarly situated organizations.

Resolution NO. BM/29/15/2015 : Resolved that the Paternity leave to non-academic staff of the University be not approved.

### Agenda Item No. 16: To consider the Holiday on Sunday:

There has been resentment amongst the employees that Sunday being the International Holiday; the University should also be closed on that day. In the meantime, the Vice-Chancellor discussed the matter with all concerned including the Controller of Examinations of the University. There would be no administrative problem including the Examination Department if the University is closed on all Sundays. Moreover, almost all the University under distance mode across the country is closed on Sunday. Keeping the similar pattern of holidays followed by other Universities in mind, the Vice-Chancellor proposed the following for kind consideration of the Board of Management:

1) Every Sunday with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday be declared as holidays instead of every Wednesday with 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday.

Or

2) Every Saturday with 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday be declared as holiday instead of every Wednesday with 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday.

The Board discussed the matter at length and decided that all Sundays be declared as holiday .However, the Vice-Chancellor be empowered to take a final decision on the above two options as he deem fit and proper for the interest of the University.

**Resolution No. BM/29/16/2015**: Resolved further that the Vice-Chancellor be empowered to take a final decision on the above matter which is found to be most feasible for the interest of the University.

Agenda Item No. 17 : To consider the following matter apprised by the Vice-Chancellor

a) The Finance Officer has been asked to complete the Internal Audit within 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2016 without fail.

The Board noted the above and decided that the audit report be submitted in the form of Balance Sheet.

- b) The concerned Officer has been asked to make a provision of Service Book of all the employees by 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.
- c) The Committee which was constituted to explore the possibility of reviewing the five year term of all the employees of the University has been asked to sort out the problem. The recommendations of the Committee be placed in the next meeting of the Board of Management Committee.

Resolution NO. BM/17/14/2015: Resolved that above pieces of information of the Vice-Chancellor be noted.

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There being no other business to transact, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the Chair.

( Hitesh Deka)

Vice-Chancellor