

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 17TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS HELD ON 29TH MARCH 2008.

The 17th meeting of the Board of Governors VNIT, Nagpur was held on 29th March 2008 at NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The followings were present at the meeting :

1. Shri S. S. Sohoni IAS (Retd.) – Chairman
2. Shri V. R. Jamdar – Member
3. Dr. R. W. Khare – Member
4. Dr. Madhu Murthy – Member
5. Dr. V. A. Mhaisalkar – Member
6. Prof. A. D. Chopde – Member
7. Dr. S. S. Gokhale – Member-Secretary

Shri Madan Mohan, Director (NITs) and Shri S. Mohan, Dy. Secretary (IFD), both from Ministry of HRD, represented Govt. of India.

Dr. Ashok Misra, Dr. S. V. Bhat, Shri Bhawarlal Jain, Dr. Vijay Bhatkar, Mrs. Joyce Sankaran could not attend the meeting.

The following agenda was discussed :

17.01 To note and confirm the Draft Minutes of the 16th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 15th February 2008.

The Board confirmed the minutes.

17.02 To note the Action Taken Report on resolutions of the 16th meeting of the Board of Governors.

The Board noted the ATR.

17.03 To review the decision taken by the BoG on implementation of CAS.

The Board carefully considered the facts of the case bearing in mind the AICTE norms and the reference received from the Ministry of HRD pertaining to implementation of CAS to teaching faculty in 2003 and also 2006. The Board also took note of the decision of Hon'ble High Court in Writ Petition No. 2308 of 1991 delivered by the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, Nagpur Bench, Nagpur. The Bombay High Court, Nagpur Bench had inter-alia indicated that the rules governing qualifications are required to be followed.

The Board considered the matter extensively and in detail.

The Chairman then observed that the matter should be decided by the Board bearing in mind, and upholding, two cardinal principles, viz. the best interests of the student community – in terms of the quality of academic instruction imparted in the Institute; and the standing and credibility of the Institute – in terms of the academic standards it maintains as befitting a National Institute of Technology. The quality of teaching or the qualifications of the faculty should not be allowed to be compromised on any account and any relaxation or practice not in conformity with the applicable guidelines and policies would adversely impact the two principles mentioned above and would therefore have to be eschewed. It would be valid for the Institute to raise standards of essential qualifications above prescribed levels, but should, in no case, lower them.

Keeping in view all aspects of the matter, including particularly the foregoing remarks of the Chairman, the Judgment of the Hon'ble Bombay High Court, Nagpur Bench, in Writ Petition No. 2308 of 1991, and AICTE norms, it was thereafter resolved by the Board by majority decision to rescind the promotion of non-Ph. D. teachers Mr. I. K. Chopde, Mr. R. R. Gawalpanchi and Mr. S. P. Jog with effect from the date they were promoted to the post of Professor under CAS 2003.

It was further resolved that the provisions / criteria under CAS be prominently notified indicating detailed criteria in the Institute's web-site as also through notices / circulars for the information of all concerned to enable all persons with the requisite qualifications to apply in time. The norms used for CAS 2006 should be followed during CAS 2008 as well. Subsequently every attempt should be made to ensure that VNIT norms are higher than the bare minimum norms specified by AICTE.

17.04 Permission to fill up the teaching / non-teaching positions.

The Board permitted the Director to fill up the teaching posts to the extent of existing sanctioned strength of teachers i.e. 160 (158+2) and backlog of SC/ST in respect of non-teaching posts.

17.05 To approve the faculty strength as per AICTE norms.

The Board approved the proposal.

17.06 To approve enhancement in honorarium paid to ad-hoc engagees.

The Board approved the enhancement in honorarium as under :

Lady Doctor	: Rs. 12000/- per month
Hon. Medical Consultant	: Rs. 500/- per visit
Hon. Medical Lab. Technicians and Physiotherapist	: Rs. 8000/- per month per head

Office Assistant (DTP)	: Rs. 5000/- per month
Office Assistant (Applications)	: Rs. 6000/- per month
Office Assistant (Web Services)	: Rs. 8000/- per month

17.07 Any other item(s) with permission of the Chair.

(a) To ratify the notes approved by the Chairman.

The Board ratified the notes approved by the Chairman.

(b) Accounting procedure.

(i) The Board approved the proposal of signing the cheques upto Rs. 50000/- by Dy. Registrar (Accounts) and the Registrar jointly and the cheques above Rs. 50000/- by the Registrar and the Director jointly.

(ii) The Board resolved that purchases on being recommended by the Stores Purchase Committee and approved by the Director, the purchase order can be issued by a single authority i.e. Registrar.

(c) Creation of contingent account for disbursement of Scholarships to SC/ST/OBC students.

The Board approved the proposal with a suggestion to create a separate fund.

(d) Revised allocation for TEQIP.

The Board approved the revised allocation.

17.08 The Chairman desired that a note may be expedited on the inclusion of Humanities subjects in the curriculum, so as to enable the students to develop a broader vision and acquaintance with issues transcending the syllabus for engineering. The Chairman recalled that Dr Bhat of the Indian Institute of Science and the Director were to prepare the note for the consideration of the Board, and desired that it be brought before the next meeting of the Board.

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



MEMBER-SECRETARY

CHAIRMAN

Draft minutes of the 17th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 29th March 2008 are hereby, confirmed.

(S. S. Gokhale)
Member-Secretary

(S. S. Sohoni)
Chairman