

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

Minutes of the Academic Council Meeting held on 12.01.2013

Agenda Item No. 1

Confirmation of the minutes of the Academic Council Meeting held on 4th August, 2012

The minutes of the meeting were sent to all the Members and no objection was received. Hence minutes deemed to be confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 2

To report the change in course plan for the 8th semester (Batch 2009-14)

Prof. V. Vijay Kumar suggested following things with respect to course plans:

1. Reasons clarifying the need for change in course plan should be given. Vice- Chancellor responding to the point clarified that after taking into account the suggestions received from the faculty members and keeping the interests of students in mind the changes in course plan were made.
2. Title of the optional course "Forensic Psychology" should be changed to "Psychology for Lawyers". Also assistance from a professional psychologist can be sought to teach few modules of the course.
3. Committee should be constituted to streamline course plans for all the semesters to maintain uniformity.

After detailed deliberation. Committee approved the change in course plan.

It is resolved that all the law course plans should be sent to Prof V Vijay Kumar for consideration and all his suggestions to be incorporated.

Prof. V Vijay Kumar considered the course plan and submitted the same with suggested modifications on 14th January, 2013. The same have been distributed to the concerned faculty members for inclusion on 16th January, 2013.

Resolved that the amended course plan to be implemented for the on-going semester (Jan. – April, 2013).

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

Agenda Item No. 3

To report introduction of new law Honors courses and credit courses for 8th semester (Batch 2009-14)

Prof. Yogesh Pratap Singh suggested that the titles of the credit courses should not resemble with the titles of the main courses as it would demean the main course. Vice-chancellor agreed to the point and advised to re-designate the credit course, if necessary. She also suggested that we should make sure that a student who had already taken a main course may not be permitted to take a credit course of similar nature.

Prof. V Vijay Kumar suggested that University should offer credit courses of interdisciplinary in nature and can request public administrators, practicing lawyers, commerce people, NGOs, doctors' etc. to conduct such courses. This will help University in building its profile and may help in placements also.

After detailed deliberation, Committee approved new law Honors courses and credit courses to be introduced for VIII semester.

It is resolved that number of students to be admitted to any Credit Course /Optional Course should be maximum 40(forty)and minimum should be at least 15 (fifteen).

In case of any optional in which they have more than forty students opting the same optional shall be offered in the next semester as one of the optionals

Agenda Item No. 4

To report the academic calendar for the current semester

Vice-Chancellor explained the reasons for having a new academic calendar specifying snap test and project submission deadlines.

Prof. V Vijay Kumar pointed out lack of uniformity in evaluation pattern for various subjects. He emphasized that, as one of the objects of National Law Schools is to remove the fear of examination amongst students, NLUO may make an effort to do away with snap tests and bring in uniformity in the evaluation pattern. Prof. Rita Ray said that though snap tests puts burden on both the students and teachers, still a good way of evaluation as it helps students who are weak in English to express themselves in a better manner.

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

Committee after considering approved the academic calendar.

It is resolved that the present schedule which is already intimated to the students to be implemented for the on-going semester i.e. Jan. – April, 2013.

Agenda Item No. 5

To report the appointment of Examiners for different semesters.

Committee approved appointment of examiners for different semesters.

Agenda Item No. 6

To report the End Term results of various semesters.

Prof. Rita Ray apologized for the delay on her part in submitting results.

Committee after taking note of delays in submitting evaluated answer scripts by few teachers Resolved unanimously that:

1. Results of Mid-Semester examination shall be declared on the 7th day after the completion of the examination; and
2. Results of End-Semester examination shall be declared on 10th day after the completion of the examination.

Committee approved the End-Term results of 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th semesters ending on November, 2012.

Agenda Item No. 7

To reintroduce one more economics paper titled “Financial Institutions and Markets” as part of BBA. LL.B course.

Prof. Pinaki Nandan Patnaik pointed out that the paper was offered once to BBA students and after discussing in one of the meetings of School of Managerial Excellence, it was decided to make the course as part of the Management Honors subjects. But later on the course was not offered to Honors students. He suggested that course can be offered as an optional course or credit course.

Committee resolved that the same course will be offered to BBA students as an optional course.

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

Agenda Item No. 8

To report the rules pertaining to attendance.

Vice-Chancellor informed the committee with respect to the problems relating to attendance which the new rules sought to address. She also pointed out that new rules will lessen the burden of the teachers with respect to taking attendance and recording of the same.

Committee resolved that the new attendance rule to be implemented.

Agenda Item No. 9

To inform and report about placement of students.

Vice-Chancellor informed the committee about various initiatives taken by the University for Placement of its students. Prof. V Vijay Kumar suggested that university should constitute a placement cell with a faculty member in charge to act as a coordinating point. The Vice-Chancellor informed that house that a placement committee is already in place and placement brochure is prepared and the same was appreciated.

Agenda Item No. 10

To report conduct of Saturday NLUO Lecture series.

Committee appreciated the initiative taken by the Vice-chancellor for conducting Saturday lecture series on various topics.

It is resolved that appropriate records for the same shall be maintained.

Agenda Item No. 11

To report LL.M. course plan.

The committee resolved that LL.M course plan is approved as proposed.

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

Agenda Item No. 12

To report updated Ph.D. regulations.

Committee approved the Ph.D. regulations as proposed, which are in consonance with the UGC regulations. Committee also resolved that the course plan for the course work of the Ph.D. candidates is approved as proposed.

Agenda Item No. 13

To report status of students admitted under conjoint LL.M.-Ph.D. program.

The Committee was informed of the letter by one of the students of the conjoint LL.M-Ph.D. programme, (i.e.) Ms. Sanchita Ain, wherein, she had claimed refund of Rs. 100000/- (Rupees one lakh) which was deposited by her against various heads such as tuition fee, admission fee, Retention fee for every completed six months, fee to be paid at the time of submission of thesis, library fee, hostel fee, electricity fee and internet etc.

It is pertinent to note that Ms. Sanchita Ain had utilised the service for which she had paid her fees, for eg. library, hostel, internet, electricity, tuition fee, admission fee, Retention fee for every completed six months etc. Hence the question of refund does not arise as she had utilized/ consumed the services provided by the University for the amount of Rs.1,00000 paid by her . she has also been paid a monthly stipend of Rs.15,000 and the total amount of Rs.84,500.

Committee observed since she was paid the stipend amount of Rs.84,500.and she has also utilized the services of the University to the extent of Rs.95,000. The question of refund does not arise. Resolved that there is no amount due and payable to Ms. Sanchita Ain.

Also committee appreciated that the other candidate Mr. Arpan Acharya, who opted for the two year LL.M and who has successfully completed the necessary terms and will complete the course by 2013.

Agenda Item No. 14

Any other item with the permission of chair.

- a. Vice-chancellor informed the committee about the visit of UGC inspection team to the University for granting 12B status.
- b. She also informed that University had successfully conducted the STETSON Moot Court Competition.

National Law University, Odisha, Cuttack

- c. She also reported the other activities of the university from May 2012 to January, 2013
(Copy enclosed).