

AC:04:01

The Chairperson calls the House to order

[Agenda Note:

04.01.1 The Chairperson was requested to call the House to order

Minutes:

04.01.1 Prof Mahendra P. Lama, Vice Chancellor presided over the meeting and called the house to order.

AC:04:02

Obituary Reference

Minutes:

04.02.1 The house noted with deep sense of grief the passing away of the following eminent personalities in the recent past.

- I. Shri. Pemba Thondup, Retired Director, IPR and Special Officer to the Chief Minister
- II. Shri Tamding Dorjee Tenzing, Inspector General of Police, Government of Sikkim
- III. Shri P.B.Chakraborty, Retired Teacher of Tashi Namgyal Academy, Gangtok.

04.02.2 The Academic Council observed two minutes silence as a mark of respect and tribute to the departed souls and conveyed its deep sense of sympathy to the members of the bereaved family

AC:04:03

Performance Highlights by the Vice-Chancellor

Minutes:

04.03.1 The Vice-Chancellor made his observations on various activities of the University since the last meeting of the Academic Council. He made a comprehensive power point presentation and was much appreciated by the members of the Council. **(Annexure ACM 1)**

Minutes:

04.03.1 The House desired that the University may consider celebrating the 125th birth anniversary of Late President Dr. Rajendra Prasad. It was also observed that the University may consider implementation of Oral History Project with the support of the Academic Council Members.

Minutes of IV meeting of Academic Council

04.03.2 The members also suggested programmes related Anthropology and training of faculty from outside on credit based system.

AC:04:04	Confirmation of the Minutes of the last meeting of the Academic Council held on 26.10.2009
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[Agenda Note:

04.04.1 *The Minutes had been circulated among the members vide letter dated 09.02.2010. No comments on the Minutes have been received from the Members. Accordingly, the House is requested to confirm the Minutes of the last meeting held on 26.10.2009 as circulated **Annexure ACM 2]***

Minutes:

04.04.2 The Academic Council considered the minutes of the meeting held on 22.05.2009 and confirmed the same. It was however, suggested that the Minutes be circulated among the members at least 15 days before the next meeting. The suggestion was accepted by the Secretary.

AC:04:05	Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting of the Academic Council held on 26.10.2009
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[Agenda Note:

03.05.1 *The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the last meeting held on 26.10.2009 was enclosed as **Annexure ACM 3]***

Minutes:

03.05.2 The Action Taken Report on the minutes of the meeting of the Academic Council held on 26.10.2009 was noted by the House as in **Annexure ACM 3.**

AC:04:06	Monsoon (December 2009) Results
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[Agenda Note:

04.06.1 *The detailed position of Monsoon (December 2009) Results was circulated in the Agenda. It was also mentioned that the results of the Examination was declared within 19 days of the last date of examination against the stipulated time of 20 days. The Programme-wise/College-wise/Institution-wise result analysis was enclosed as **Annexure –ACM 4]***

Minutes:

04.06.2 The House considered the Reports placed before it and placed on record its appreciation for declaration of the results consistently well within the stipulated time for the last 3 semesters.

04.06.3 However, the House observed that 100% pass in certain courses/institutions did not depict a positive trend. The University has to examine component wise analysis of each student and find out the how the evaluation system can be further improved. The House directed that the University shall also keep in mind that 100% results is not right integer or good indicator and consider using other instruments of effective evaluation and examination system.

AC:04:07	Amendment to Ordinance on Examinations
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[Agenda Note:

04.07.3 *The Academic Council was requested to consider and approve.]*

Minutes:

04.07.4 The House considered the amendments placed before it and suggested the following modifications to each of the clauses mentioned.

Clause 05.13.(5) (a) – As regards allowing relaxation of attendance for students participating in NSS/NCC etc the House desired that the amended clause shall not have any rider limiting the number of days of absence by a student for the above participation.

The revised clause will be as below:

Clause 05.13 (5) (b) – similarly for allowing relaxation of attendance for students participating sports meet/Youth festivals/competitions etc, the House desired that there shall not be any rider in the amendment limiting the number of days of absence for the above. Considering the suggestion of the House the revised clause will be as below.

Clause 05.13.(5) (c) – No suggestion

With the above suggestions the House recommended the amendments for approval of the Executive Council.

AC:04:08	Zero Semester Cases
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[Agenda Note:

Minutes of IV meeting of Academic Council

4.08.1 For the Monsoon Semester (December 2009) examination the University received 63 applications for availing zero semester. These applications were examined and in genuine cases the Vice-Chancellor has agreed to forward the cases to the Academic Council for consideration. In doubtful cases the students were asked to furnish more details besides Medical Certificate to ascertain the genuineness of the request. In majority of the cases the requests were found not genuine and hence rejected. The cases finally recommended before the Academic Council were given in **Annexure ACM 5.**

04.08.2 The Academic Council was requested to approve.]

Minutes

04.08.3 The House considered the details placed before it in great detail and approved the list of candidates mentioned in **Annexure ACM 5** for grant of Zero Semester.

AC:04:09

Report of Inspection of Committee – Pakim Palantine College

[Agenda Note:

04.09.1 The committee of Inspection visited the College on 23.11.2009 and recommended that for admission of the privileges applied for by the college subject to various conditions.

Minutes:

04.09.2 The House considered the report of the Inspection Committee carefully and in detail. The House agreed that the case may be put up before the House after the second inspection of the committee in May 2010. The House however did not agree with the condition that if the issues and conditions raised in the report of the committee of inspection are not fulfilled by the college, the university should not renew the affiliation of the college for the year 2010-11. The House suggested, in the larger interests of the students, the College may be given more time by the University to fulfill the requirements and the renewal of affiliation for the year 2010-11 need not be linked to that.

The House also had suggested that the University may consider drafting a separate Ordinance on granting of affiliation to self-financing colleges in the State.

04.09.3 With the above observations the House considered and noted the agenda item.

AC:04:10

Report of Inspection Committee – Government College, Rhenock

[Agenda Note:

04.10.1 *The Committee of Inspection had visited the College on 23.11.2009 and had recommended for admission of the privileges applied for by it subject to various conditions. In order to check and ensure whether the conditions and issues raised by the inspection team have been addressed by the college, it was proposed the inspection team would again visit the college in May 2010.]*

Minutes:

04.10.2 The House considered the report of the Inspection Committee carefully and in detail. The House agreed that the case may be put up before the House after the second inspection of the committee in May 2010. The House also decided that the University may issue separate Terms of Reference (TOR) to the Committees of Inspection after duly considering the replies furnished by each one of them applied for admission to the privileges of the University.

AC:04:11

Report of Inspection Committee – Damber Singh College, Tadong

[Agenda Note:

04.11.1 *The Committee of Inspection visited the College on 24.11.2009 and had recommended for admission of the privileges applied for by it subject to the various conditions. In order to check and ensure whether these conditions and issues raised by the inspection team have been addressed by the college, it was proposed that the inspection team would again visit the college again in May 2010.]*

04.11.2 *In order to check and ensure whether the conditions and issues raised by the inspection team have been addressed by the college, it was proposed the inspection team would again visit the college in May 2010.].*

Minutes:

04.11.3 The House considered the report of the Inspection Committee carefully and in detail. The House agreed that the case may be put up before the House after the second inspection of the committee in May 2010. It was resolved that one of the Inspection teams which will be visiting the colleges in May 2010 would be headed by **Dr. Neelima Deshmukh**.

AC:04:12

Report of Inspection Committee – Namchi Government College

[Agenda Note:

04.12.1 *The Committee of Inspection visited the College on 11.12.2009 and had recommended for admission of the privileges applied for by it subject to various conditions. In order to check and ensure whether these conditions and issues raised by the inspection team have been addressed by the college, it was proposed that the inspection team would again visit the college again in May 2010.]*

Minutes:

04.12.2 The House considered the report of the Inspection Committee carefully and in detail. The House agreed that the case may be put up before the House after the second inspection of the committee in May 2010. It was resolved that one of the Inspection teams which will be visiting the colleges in May 2010 would be headed by **Dr. G.S. Yonzone**.

AC:04:13

Report of Inspection Committee – Government B.Ed College, Soreng

[Agenda Note:

04.13.1 *The Committee of Inspection visited the College on the 11th December 2009 and had recommended for admission of the privileges applied for by it subject to various conditions. In order to check and ensure whether these conditions and issues raised by the inspection team have been addressed by the college, it was proposed that the inspection team would again visit the college again in May 2010.]*

Minutes :

04.13.2 The House considered the report of the Inspection Committee carefully and in detail. The House agreed that the case may be put up before the House after the second inspection of the committee in May 2010. It was resolved that one of the Inspection teams which will be visiting the colleges in May 2010 would be headed by **Dr. G.S. Yonzone,**

AC:04:14	Proposal for establishment of Model Degree College by Government of Sikkim
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[Agenda Note:

04.14.1 *The Government of Sikkim in its letter dated 20.11.2009 stated that for expansion of higher education facilities, Ministry of Human Resource Development had introduced a programme for providing financial assistance to the states for establishing model degree colleges where Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in Higher education is less than the national average. For the state of Sikkim all the four districts have been identified. In accordance with the above the State Government is planning to establish two model degree colleges one each at Mangshila at North District and Yangthang at West District of Sikkim and the same would be affiliated to Sikkim University. It was further stated that as per the above scheme the affiliating university shall prepare a detailed project report and submit the same to UGC. Thus, the State Government has requested Sikkim University to prepare the same and it was assured that the Engineering Cell of HRDD of Government of Sikkim will provide all assistance for preparation of B.P. Plans and estimates by the University.*

- a) **04.14.2** *Sikkim University responded to the above request vide letter dated 21st December 2009. Reply to the above letter from Government of Sikkim is awaited. The above details were submitted to the Council for noting.]*

Minutes:

The Committee consider the agenda item placed before it and directed that full details of the issue may be presented before it after the receipt of reply from the Government of Sikkim.

AC:04:15	Annual Report for 2008-09
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[Agenda Note:

04.15.1 *The Executive Council in its meeting held on 12.11.2009 considered the Draft Annual Report and authorised the Vice-Chancellor to carryout necessary modifications as deemed fit and submit the same to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for eventually placing the same before the Houses of Parliament.*

04.15.2 *The final version of the Annual Report was placed separately for the kind information and noting of the Council.]*

Minutes:

04.15.3 The House considered the Annual Report for 2008-09 and noted the same.

AC:04:16

Constitution of Curriculum Development Committees

[Agenda Note:

04.16.1 Seven new Courses (Departments) viz., (i) Department of Chemical Sciences, (ii) Department of Geography, (iii) Integrated Course in Chinese, (iv) Integrated Course in B.Pharm and M.Pharm, (v) Department of Economics, (vi) Department of Ethno-Botany and Social Medicine and (vii) Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, are being introduced from the next academic session 2010-2011 (Monsoon Semester). Designing and development of curriculum for these courses are in process and are being carried out in two phases:

1st Phase: Preparation of the draft syllabus by one or two experts

2nd Phase: Finalization of the draft syllabus by a Committee of experts (Curriculum Designing Committee)

04.16.2 The House was requested to note the above agenda item.

Minutes:

04.16.3 The House considered the agenda item and approved the proposal of nomination made and authorized the Vice-Chancellor to initiate necessary action for the designing of Curriculum.

AC:04:17

Academic Calendar for 2010

[Agenda Note:

04.17.1 The Academic Calendar was placed before the Academic Council as Annexure **AC IV – 10** to this agenda for consideration and approval.]

Minutes:

The House considered the Academic Calendar and placed on its record its appreciation for the same.

AC:04:18

Entrance Test for Admissions starting July 2010

[Agenda Note:

04.18.1

The University shall conduct the entrance test for admission for various academic courses and programmes to the academic session 2010-11 on 8th & 9th May 2010 at various centres spread over the country and Bhutan and Nepal.

Minutes:

04.18.2 The House considered the agenda and approved it and also authorized the Vice-Chancellor to initiate appropriate action to hold the Entrance Examinations.

AC:04:19	Guidelines for Project/Dissertations Supervision and Evaluation
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[Agenda Note:

04.19.1

Currently there are twelve programmes on offer by the University at the undergraduate/postgraduate levels in which project/dissertation writing is a part of the curriculum. The same shall be the case with new programmes going to be introduced from Monsoon Semester 2010. It is proposed to have general guidelines for supervision, evaluation and assessment of project reports/dissertations. Guidelines for Project/Dissertation supervision and evaluation are submitted to the Academic Council for kind perusal and recommendation to Executive Council for approval.]

Minutes:

The House considered the guidelines and recommended the same for the approval of the Executive Council.

AC:04:20	Payment norms for conduct of University Examinations
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[Agenda Note:

04.20.1

The University is conducting Mid Semester Test, Practical Examination and End Semester Examination at all affiliated Colleges/Institutes at the undergraduate and postgraduate levels in each semester. As per the provisions of Act, Statute and Ordinance suitable honorarium is to be paid to paper setters, moderators, examiners, evaluators, tabulators, observers and other staff members involved in examination work in these institutions. Staff members of the University performing examination related work need to be given some token honorarium for working extra hour to declare the end semester results within 20 days. Payment norms for conduct of University Examination was placed before the Academic Council for consideration and approval.]

Minutes:

04.20.2 The House recommended the payment norms for final approval of the Executive Council.

AC:04:21	Amendment to First Ordinance on arranging for, conducting and superintending of examinations - Provision for Ensuring discipline among students in relation to University examinations
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[Agenda Note:

04.21.1

Sikkim University is conducting examination under semester system at University Departments and nine affiliated Colleges/Institutes since December 2008. So far three semester based examinations have been conducted. The Centre Superintendents of these examinations have reported against some students for use of unfair means during the examination.

The University desires to have its own rules and procedures in place to handle such unfair means cases.

04.21.2 *The above agenda item for making amendment in sub-clause 05.8(3) of the First Ordinance on arranging for, conducting and superintending of examinations including the terms of office and manner of appointment and the duties of examining bodies, examiners and moderators is placed before the Council for consideration and recommendation to Executive Council for approval.]*

Minutes:

04.21.3 The House considered in detail the agenda item and recommended for approval of EC for suitable modification to the Ordinance.

AC: 04:22	Ordinance on Medium of Instruction and Examination
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[Agenda Note:

THE ORDINANCE

04:22.1 *This Ordinance shall be called "Ordinance on Medium of Instruction and Examination." This Ordinance shall come into effect from the Monsoon Semester- July 2010. The details of the ordinance includes that English language shall be used as the medium of instruction and examination in Colleges and Departments of the University.*

The above agenda item is placed before the Academic Council for consideration and recommendation to Executive Council for approval.]

Minutes of IV meeting of Academic Council

Minutes:

04:22.1 The House approved and recommended the Ordinance for approval of the Executive Council.

AC:04:23	Any Other item with the permission of the Chair
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4.23.1 There being no other matter for consideration, the meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.

(PV Ravi)
Registrar & Finance Officer,
Secretary, Academic Council