

The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences

MINUTES OF THE 69th MEETING OF THE

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Held on 26th SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 05.30 P.M.

The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences

**Minutes of the 69th Meeting of the Executive Council of WBNUJS held on
29th September 2019.**

Agenda Item	Resolution	Remarks
University Review Commission Report – Matter regarding -	<p>Under Section 14 of the WBNUJS Act, a University Review Commission (URC) was constituted by the Office Order dated 20/07/2017 issued by the Learned Secretary General of the Supreme Court of India to review the working of the University and to make recommendations.</p> <p>The URC consisted of Prof. Mohan Gopal (Chairman), Prof. (Dr.) Faizan Mustafa (Member) and Prof. Lalit Manogtra (Member) submitted their report to the Chancellor on 30th October 2017.</p> <p>Based on the report of the URC and its recommendation, certain queries were made by the Hon'ble Chancellor of the University.</p> <p>The then Hon'ble Vice Chancellor sent his response on each of the recommendations to the Hon'ble Chancellor on 21st December 2017.</p> <p>The matter was discussed in the 68th</p>	

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Meeting of the Executive Council held on 10th August 2019 (agenda Item No. 32) where it was directed that "Vice Chancellor to fix the date for the special meeting on single agenda to consider the URC Report".

Accordingly the matter was submitted for perusal and further directions on the basis of Part 5 of the URC Recommendations:

Resolution

- 1) No action required. Issue has been addressed.
- 2) Advertisements have been published. Selection Committee is in seisin over the matter. The recommendations of the Selection Committee would be placed in the next available E.C. meeting.
- 3) Advertisements have been published. Selection Committee is in seisin over the matter. The recommendations of the Selection Committee would be placed in the next available E.C. meeting.
- 4) Action already taken. Post have been filled up.
- 5) The reduction of students' intake is not considered necessary as land is available for infrastructural development. In the interregnum it is proposed that the Vice Chancellor would take up the issue of providing adequate

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additional boarding facilities to the students with the Hon'ble MIC (Law).

6) The Vice Chancellor informs that the present faculty strength is adequate to supervise the Ph.D. programme admissions. UGC Regulations are also being followed and Ph.D. programme admissions are in the process.

7) & 8) NAAC, in clause..... recommends teacher student ratio at 1:15. The total number of students in LL.B. and LL.M. courses cumulatively is 677 approximately. Following NAAC recommendations the faculty strength should be 45. Presently, 34 permanent faculty members are appointed (of which 4 are on lien). There are 6 guest faculty members. 6 guest faculty members is considered to be equal to 2 permanent faculty members. Therefore, there is a shortage of 9 faculty members. Vice Chancellor may take appropriate steps to fill up the posts of 9 permanent faculty members and further to fill up the lien vacancies.

It is noticed that faculty members go on lien to other institutions which adversely affects the students of the University. It is resolved that henceforth no faculty members would be allowed lien for more than one year. No faculty member can either apply for a second lien or for extension. Henceforth, at any given point of time University will not release more than two faculty members to enjoy lien simultaneously. The Vice Chancellor is authorized to inform all the faculty members presently enjoying lien that their lien period would not be extended any

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further and they be also requested to return to this University even before completion of their lien period in the interest of the institution. For any faculty member whose period of lien has already expired, an intimation should be given to rejoin the institution within such time as the Vice Chancellor may allow. Such faculty should also be informed that in the event of not rejoining the institution within such time, his services with the institution would be terminated to allow appointment of permanent faculty in his place.

9) & 10) The University statute does not provide for the post of Dean (Teaching), Dean (Research) and Dean (of Student Welfare). Without amending the relevant provision of law this matter cannot be taken up.

11) In view of the resolutions adopted against recommendation nos. 2 to 8 above, the present recommendation stands addressed.

12) The instant recommendation is approved to the following extent: A rational policy that takes in to account teaching and non-teaching workload, including time spent on consultancies and funded research projects and field based projects needs to be developed and implemented. Every member of the faculty must be encouraged to adopt a bell-curve (or a similar) approach to marking. Every member of Faculty must be required to share course outlines with other Faculty. Special Repeat Examinations must be abolished. Repeat of Internal Components of Examination should be continued except where internal components carry a substantial weightage in

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the total marks.

Discussions on the other recommendations are adjourned for the day and to be discussed in the next meeting.

13) & 14) Since these items relate to teaching and research matters, these recommendations may be placed for consideration by the Academic Council.

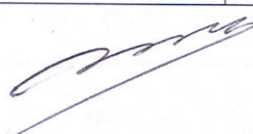
15) It is resolved that an ombudsperson be constituted in the pattern of the University Grants Commission (Grievance Redressal of Students) Regulations, 2018.

The ombudsperson shall be appointed by the Executive Council on part time basis for a specific period from a panel of three members recommended by the Search Committee consisting of the following members, namely,

- a) Nominee of the Hon'ble Chancellor of the University as Chairperson of the Committee.
- b) Vice Chancellor of a University of the State of West Bengal nominated by the State Government as Member of the Committee.
- c) Vice Chancellor of NUJS as Member of the Committee.
- d) Registrar of NUJS – Secretary (Non voting) of the Committee.

The Registrar shall within one week approach the Hon'ble Chancellor and the State Government to nominate the respective members.

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16) In the E.C. meeting dated _____, against Item No. _____ it was already resolved that the University would follow the UGC norms in regard to career advancement policies. As such no further discussion is necessary on this item.

17) Paragraph 17 of the Schedule to The West Bengal National University of Juridical Sciences Act, 1999 provides for three experts for selecting Professors, Associate Professors and Assistant Professors. The expression "expert" means "subject experts".

It is resolved that henceforth for recruitment for the above referred posts, advertisements should be published subject specific, selection committee shall also be constituted subject specific wherein the experts should also be of the same subject.

It is resolved further that the appointees may have to teach in subjects other than for which an appointee is appointed in exigencies. Such a condition must be provided in the appointment letters to be issued.

18) A Committee has already been constituted which is working on the framing of rules of conduct and disciplinary rules for the staff of the University.

19) The teachers of the University are paid as per UGC pay scales. The staff of the University are paid as per the Central Government pay scales.

It is resolved that there is no imminent need for enhancing the pay scales at this stage.

Considering the fact that the University resource is primarily confined to collection of fees, it is resolved that the University cannot shoulder the burden of the

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pay scales of IITs and IIMs and is also unable to introduce any pension scheme for the teachers and staff.

20) Steps have already been taken by the Academic Council which has constituted two committees, one for the reviewing the curriculum of the LL.B. and LL.M. course and the other for reviewing the Academic Regulations of the University.

It is expected that such Committees will submit their respective reports at the earliest.

21) There are very few, almost none, avenues for generating funds for the University other than student fees. There are almost no funding agencies for the development of law courses. The suggestion to raise funds through research projects, consultancies and training would ultimately adversely affect the interest of the students.

In view of the above, it is resolved that for the present there can be no reduction of student fees.

22) Admission in the University is made on All India Merit based on Common Law Admission Test (CLAT) organized by the Consortium of National Law Schools and from candidates recommended to the University and following the reservation policy, additionally with a domicile reservation from the next year. In such process of admission there is no scope of selection either on gender basis or other socio economic basis. Additionally, there is no scope of strengthening diversity.

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It is, therefore, resolved that there is no scope of strengthening diversity in the background of the present admission procedure and to provide scholarship to the under represented and excluded categories, if any.

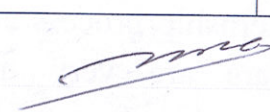
23) The issue pertains to inducting a non voting invitee to the General Council of the University. The matter requires consideration by the General Council and be placed before the General Council.

24) The suggestion is accepted with the modification that there shall be 20 members in the Student Council for Academic excellence from the annual assessments made of the students of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th year. The Registrar shall constitute the Student Council for Academic excellence by inviting the first five meritorious students of each of those years as per annual merit list within two weeks from the publication of Winter Semester results.

The members of the Student Council will be notified that they shall select two members from amongst themselves to discuss with the Vice Chancellor with their suggestions with at least 72 hours notice not more than once in a month.

25) A ten year vision document for NUJS cannot be prepared without taking the inputs and suggestions from all stake holders connected with the University. The Vice Chancellor, in his wisdom, will invite suggestions from such stake holders requesting them to provide their suggestions within a month. Thereafter, this issue be placed before the Executive Council.

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26)

Resolution

The University has taken initiative to activate the inactive research centers and at the same time started some more research centers such as Center for Sports Law and Policy, Center for Science, Technology and Law, Center for Politics, Law and International Relations etc. University has constituted a Research Advisory Board by inviting six external Experts from various universities and Institutes. Resolved to appoint TWO full time research Scholars in each academic year from amongst the Ph.D. Scholars of our University to enhance research outputs of the university.

As regards organising credit courses and invited lectures it is to be noted that these are all ongoing process of the University.

27)

Resolution

We have already full fledged career and placement cell run by the students supported by the Office of the Vice Chancellor. The placement cell is advised by two faculty members throughout the placement and internship process and our placement during last few years are very much satisfactory. Resolved to strengthen the existing practices .

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Resolution

Resolved to establish a permanent curriculum review committee which may be introduced from the next Academic Year. The Committee will be constituted by the Vice Chancellor for every two years with external experts.

29

Resolution

The work of the Knowledge Resource Committee is being performed by the existing Library Committee of our University. Hence resolved that there is no necessity to form another Knowledge Resource Committee.

30.

Resolution

The democratic culture has been initiated by the University in its functioning by taking confidence among all the stakeholders to promote good governance.

31)

Resolution

The proposal for strengthening non law disciplines in NUJS is a welcome proposal and we are trying to

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realize this in our teaching learning process. Students are giving optional papers in non law disciplines in addition to law. Resolved that in academic activities as well as Ph.D. programme inter- disciplinary research be encouraged.

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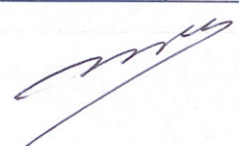
Resolution

NUJS is actively participating in promoting legal reforms through its research and collaborative activities with Ministry of MHRD in area of IPR and Ministry of Justice, Govt. of India through various research studies. Resolved more collaborative activities will be undertaken.

33) The existing NUJS Legal Aid Clinic and some research study centers already inculcated a spirit of social service among the students and faculty members. Resolved to form a Working Group to make it more effective.

34) The NUJS has already developed collaborative research with the State Govt. and with the help of State Govt., a Center for Regulatory Studies, Governance and Public Policy is functioning for more than three years with the Department of Law and Judicial. Similarly, we have a MOU with Ministry of Consumer Affairs regarding consumer education, training and research. Ministry of Science and Technology of State Govt. is also collaborating with NUJS in formulating IPR policy and its implementation. As and when faculty members are called for any programme they are participating the

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		Legal Awareness programme in the Doordarshan Kendra, Kolkata. Resolved that University's collaboration and support services with State Government Departments will be further strengthen.	
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