Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET) Centre, Ahmedabad
(An IUC of University Grants Commission)

April 24, 2009

Minutes of the 19th Meeting of the Governing Board of the INFLIBNET Centre held on Thursday, 9th April, 2009 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi

Members Present

Prof. S K Khanna	Chairman, GB, INFLIBNET Centre
Dr. R K Chauhan	Secretary, UGC, New Delhi
Dr. Parimal H Trivedi	Vice Chancellor, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad
Dr. Jai Rup Singh	Vice-Chancellor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar
Dr. Naresh Kumar Dadhich	Director, IUCAA
Dr. K Narayana Rao	Member-Secretary, AICTE
Dr. M Koganuramath	TISS, Mumbai
Dr. (Mrs.) Renu Batra	Jt. Secretary (IUC), UGC, New Delhi
Dr. Jagdish Arora	Member Secretary, GB

Special Invitees

All members of the INFLIBNET Council were also invited to attend the 19th Meeting of the Governing Board. The following members of the INFLIBNET Council attended the meeting of the Governing Board:

Prof. S K Thorat	President, Council, INFLIBNET Centre
Dr. Gagan Prathap	Director, NISCAIR (Representing Chairman, CSIR)
Dr. Kamlakar Singh	Vice-Chancellor, MP Bhoj (Open) University, Bhopal
Dr. V G Talawar	Vice-Chancellor, Mysore University, Mysore
Dr. T R Kem	Director, CEC, New Delhi

Dr. M Moni, Dy. Director General, NIC, Dr. Ved Prakash, Vice-Chairman, UGC, Prof. J A K Tareen, Vice-Chancellor, Pondicherry University, Dr. S B Mujumdar, Vice Chancellor, Symbiosis Institute of International Business and Prof. Rajiv Sangal, Director, IIIT, Hyderabad could not attend the meeting because of prior commitments.

The Chairman welcomed the members of the Governing Board and INFLIBNET Council to the 19th Meeting of the Governing Board. He specifically welcomed Prof. V.G. Talawar, Vice Chancellor, Mysore University as a new member of the Governing Board. He thanked all the members of INFLIBNET Council for making themselves available for the meeting of the Governing Board also.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 18th Governing Board held on 3rd Dec., 2008 at the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad

The Minutes of the 18th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 3rd Dec., 2008 at the INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad, were confirmed as circulated, since no comments were received from the members.

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2. Report on Action Taken and Progress Made since 18th Meeting of the Governing Board

The Director, INFLIBNET Centre presented the following report on action taken and progress made since 18th Meeting of the Governing Board held on 3rd Dec., 2008:

i) The following six items, that were approved by the Governing Board in its 18th and 19th Meeting, requires approval of the INFLIBNET Council:

    a) Approval of Revised Purchase Procedure (in line with GoI)
    b) Revised Qualification of STA
    c) Increase in the Director's power for appointment of consultant / contractual manpower from Rs.4,000/- to Rs.10,000/- per month
    d) Career Advancement Scheme (CAS) for Asstt. Librarian to be made applicable to Scientist B in INFLIBNET Centre
    e) Writing-off and disposal of obsolete and unserviceable items including computers, furniture and fixtures

These items are being placed before the 9th Meeting of the INFLIBNET Council scheduled on 9th April, 2009.

ii) Status of Permanent Institute Building of the Centre: Two meetings of the Building Committee were organized on 3rd December, 2008 and 20th February 2009 to review the status of the permanent Institute Building. The current status and progress made since last meeting of the Governing Board are as follows:

    a) The final design of the Institute Building submitted by the Architect; i.e. M/s Vastu Shilpa Consultants were approved by the Members of the Building Committee.

    b) The final designs and drawings of the building has been submitted to the local authorities i.e. Ghandhinagar Urban Development Authority (GUDA) for clearance.

    c) Soil bearing test and geo-hydrological survey for the land allocated to the Centre has been done.

    d) Pre-qualification bids were invited from building contractors for construction of Institute Building. 10 construction companies submitted their bids. M/s Vastu-Shilpa, the Architect evaluated all the 10 pre-qualification bids on number of criteria including financial capabilities, technical capabilities, jobs-in-hand, references and other basic particulars and short-listed seven construction companies who would be requested to submit their financial bids in the 1st week of June, 2009 and the Foundation Stone would be laid before commencement of construction activity in mid June, 2009.

iii) Final project proposal on "Consortium for Providing Access to Electronic Resources in Social Sciences to Selected Colleges in Maharashtra" has been submitted to Sir Ratan Tata Trust and Ford Foundation for financial support.

iv) National Seminar on "Open Access to Textual and Multimedia Content: Bridging the Digital Divide" jointly organized by the Consortium for Educational Communication

(CEC) and Information and Library Network Centre (INFLIBNET) was successfully organized during 29-30th January 2009 at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi. More than 170 participants attended the Seminar. Recommendations made during the Seminar are being implemented.

v) A joint project proposal entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)" made by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and INDEST-AICTE Consortium was submitted to the MHRD for funding under the National Mission on Education through ICT. The project will benefit more than 6,000 colleges that are funded by the UGC. The MHRD has sanctioned the first instalment of Rs. 15.00 crores for the project.

vi) The Governing Board, in its 18th Meeting had approved recognition of SAL Hospital under the approved Health Scheme for Medical Treatment for the Staff and their dependents. The Governing Board also approved revision of rates for specialist consultation. The proposal is being placed before the 9th Meeting of the INFLIBNET Council for information.

3. Promotion of Scientific & Technical Staff at the INFLIBNET Centre

Dr. Jagdish Arora informed the members that the Centre does not have any promotion and career development policy for its scientific and technical staff members. A Committee was constituted during the 17th Meeting of the Governing Board under the Chairmanship of Shri M. Moni, Dy. Director General, NIC for reviewing promotion policy for S & T staff of the Centre. The Committee did not have a formal meeting because of the recommendations of the VI Pay Commission were awaited. Meanwhile, promotion policy of NISCAIR a CSIR Laboratory, National Informatics Centre and DESIDOC, three organizations having a large number of professionals qualified in library and information science as well as in computer science and information technology, is being procured. All the three organizations have well-defined promotion policies for their staff members. Once the promotion policies from these institutions are obtained, a comparative statement would be prepared to compare the qualification and experience that are applicable for scientists in these organizations. Accordingly, promotion policies would be drawn and recommended.

4. Amendments to Attachment Training Programme (ATP) for Librarians and Computer Professionals from North-Eastern Region

Dr. Jagdish Arora informed the members that the Attachment Training Programme (for Librarians and Computer Professionals from North-East Region) was advertised from the Centre's website as well as from the INFLIBNET's Newsletter. However, the Centre did not get much response. One of the reasons for poor response was the fact that the working librarians / computer professionals with more than 3 to 4 years experience are not able to leave their job for more than one month at a time. The Governing Board approved the following amendments proposed by the Centre:

i) The candidates selected for Attachment Training Programme for a period of 3 months would be allowed to take one break, preferably after completing 45 days of training to visit his / her home town and to attend his / her official duties once in 3 months for a period of 1 to 2 months;

ii) The candidates selected for Attachment Training Programme for a period of 6 months would be allowed to take two breaks to visit his / her home town and to attend his / her official duties twice in a period of 6 months. The total period of both the visits would not be more than 4 months. The period of each visit can be decided by the selected candidates.

iii) The travel expenses for visits in the break period would be paid by the INFLIBNET Centre. However, no stipend will be permissible during the breaks.

5. Provision for Operational Budget in UGC-Infonet Programme and Provision of Manpower

The members were informed that the UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme that provides Internet bandwidth to 157 universities across the country does not have any provision for meeting the operating cost of the project. Operational cost on the project is met from the operational budget of the Centre. It was informed that besides expenses on travel, training etc., the project also requires manpower to visit to universities for imparting training, attend to queries, clearing of bills and monitoring of utilisation of bandwidth.

While members agreed to provide for operational budget for the project including hiring of manpower, travel, training, etc., provision for 1% of the total grant as operational budget was not agreed to. It was suggested that the Centre may project its budget requirement for operational activities separately. The members approved the proposal for hiring manpower as mentioned below for executive of the project more effectively and efficiently:

1.	Project Officers	2
2.	Project Associates	2
3.	Project Assistant	2

It was noted that the Governing Board in its 17th Meeting held on 20th June, 2008 had approved emoluments to be paid to the project staff which would also be applicable for above positions. Shri R.K. Chauhan, Secretary, UGC proposed that the emoluments payable to the project staff may be revised considering enhancement of salaries with implementation of 6th Pay Commission.

6. Other Items with Approval of the Chair

6.1. Constitution of Committee for Implementing Electronic Theses and Dissertations

It was noted that the Centre has submitted a major project to the UGC during XI Plan period for implementation of electronic theses and dissertations in all universities in India. The project proposal provides i) Regulatory framework for mandating submission of electronic versions of theses and dissertations; ii) setting-up of distributed inter-operable ETD repositories; iii) comprehensive bibliographic database of theses and dissertations from retrospect; and iv) selective digitization of old theses and dissertations in universities.

It was agreed that the UGC, in consultation with the INFLIBNET Centre, will set-up a committee to examine the methodology to be adopted for implementation of electronic theses and dissertations in universities. Members agreed that the INFLIBNET Centre has the mandate

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and requisite expertise and know-how to implement such a project and UGC would take necessary steps to ensure that the project on ETD is given to the INFLIBNET Centre.

6.2. Implementing College Model of Consortium under National Mission on Education through ICT

The members noted that the INFLIBNET Centre and IIT Delhi have submitted a combined project proposal entitled "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)" to the Ministry of Human Resource Development for funding under the "National Mission on Education through ICT". The project proposal provides for i) cross-sharing of e-resources subscribed by the INDEST-AICTE and UGC-Infonet Digital Consortium for technical institutions (IITs, NITs, IIITs, etc.) and for universities; ii) access to e-resources to 6,0000 Govt. / Govt. aided Colleges. Members were informed that the project has been sanctioned and the Ministry has released the first instalment of Rs. 15.00 crores to the IIT Delhi which includes Rs. 11.20 crores that IIT Delhi will transfer to the INFLIBNET Centre.

6.3. Extending E-resources to the Deemed Universities, Private Universities and Other organizations

Dr. Jagdish Arora informed the members that the Centre has launched its Associate Membership Programme wherein deemed universities, private universities and other organizations can join the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium and subscribe to selected e-resources on payment basis. Members were informed that the rates charged from the private / deemed universities are, at times, lower than the rates paid by the Centre for its first 25 universities. Members opined that the rates charged from private / deemed universities should be higher than those paid for 12 B universities through funding from the UGC. After discussions and deliberations, it was decided that the UGC, in consultation with the INFLIBNET Centre, may appoint a committee to review the Associate Membership Programme and recommend subscription rates and membership fee to be charged from the Associate Members.

6.4. Subscription to Elsevier's Science Direct and E-resources in Social Sciences

Dr. Koganuramath pointed out that Consortium does not subscribe to adequate e-resource in the field of social sciences. Several other members also requested inclusion of Elsevier's Science Direct in the Consortium. The Chairman, UGC asked Dr. Arora to propose inclusion of Elsevier's Science Direct as well as e-resources in social sciences through the National Steering Committee of the Consortium.

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

(Jagdish Arora)
Director

Chairman, Governing Board

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01	Prof. Yash Pal National Research Professor Chairman,GB, INFLIBNET	1996 2000
02	Dr.Arun Nigavekar, Vice-Chairman,UGC And Chairman,GB, INFLIBNET	2000
03	Dr. Hari Gautam, Chairman,UGC, President of the Council and Chairman-GB	2001-2002
04	Dr. S Ramani	January 2003

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