INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad

Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of the Governing Board of INFLIBNET Centre held on Monday, 26th December, 2011 at IIC, Delhi

January 4, 2012

Members Present

Prof. S K Khanna	Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre
Dr. Parimal Trivedi	Vice-Chancellor, Gujarat University, Ahmedabad
Prof. R K Kale	Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Gujarat
Prof. N Prabhu Dev	Vice-Chancellor, Bangalore University, Bangalore
Prof. Jai Rup Singh	Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Punjab
Dr. R K Chadha	Jt. Secretary, Lok Sabha, New Delhi
Prof. J P Gupta	Former Vice-Chancellor, JIITU, Noida
Dr. Dev Swaroop	Jt. Secretary, (IUC/MC) UGC, New Delhi
Dr. Jagdish Arora	Director, INFLIBNET Centre and Member Secretary

Dr. (Mrs.) Niloufer Adil Kazmi, Secretary, UGC, Dr. Kuncheria P Isaac, Member Secretary, AICTE, Shri R S Mani, Scientist-F, NIC and Prof. H A Ranganath, Director, NAAC could not attend the meeting because of prior commitments.

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Meeting of the 22nd Governing Board held on 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad

The Minutes of the 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board of the INFLIBNET Centre held on 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad was confirmed as circulated, since no comments were received from the members.

2. Report on Action Taken and Progress Made since 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board held on 4th Dec., 2010 at Ahmedabad

Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET presented a brief report on action taken and progress made since 22nd Meeting of the Governing Board held on 4th December, 2010 at Ahmedabad. A gist of the report presented to the members is as follows:

i) Current statuses of the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium, UGC-INFONET Connectivity Programme and NLIST are taken as a separate agenda for consideration of the members. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 3, 4 and 5).

ii) The process of recruitment for all the 16 scientific and technical positions, advertised in the year 2010, has been completed. 12 scientists and staff members have since joined the Institute. Four positions for which suitable candidates could not be found are being re-advertised. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 6).

iii) The UGC had regularised the services of Shri C K Shah as Sr. Admn.Officer as per the judgement passed by the Hon'ble High Court of Gujarat, however, the position was offered to Shri C K Shah in his personal capacity. Now that Shri C K Shah has retired, the INFLIBNET Centre is left with only one position of Administrative Officer who has to look after Personnel, Administration and Financial matters of the Centre single-handedly. The Centre has once again requested to the UGC to look into the issue and

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provide one additional position of Administrative Officer as existed with the Centre since its inception. The Governing Board noted that the Review Committee constituted by the Chairman, Governing Board under the Chairmanship of Dr. T R Kem, Director, CEC, New Delhi has recommended three positions at officer level for administration, one each for Finance and Accounts, Personnel and Administration and Stores and Purchase. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 7).

iv) As per the communication received from the CVC, through Vigilance Unit of the MHRD, all staff members charge-sheeted for their involvement in the purchase of PCs and servers from Hewlett and Packard on proprietary basis were "censured" under minor penalty clause, except Shri D P Negi, former Administrative Officer. The CVC has instructed to explore the possibility of imposing major penalty against Shri D.P. Negi under Rule No. 9 of the Pension Rules. The Director, INFLIBNET Centre has written to the Vigilance Unit of the MHRD that it would not be legally sustainable to invoke Rule-9 of the Pension Rule at this stage in case of Shri D.P. Negi given the fact that Shri D.P. Negi was also a member of the Purchase Committee consisting of five members who have been given minor penalty. As such, it would be difficult to substantiate legally that Shri D P Negi had a larger role to play in the purchase of computers and servers than the Chairman or any other members of the Purchase Committee. The Director has strongly recommended that Shri D P Negi may also be penalised under the minor penalty clause. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 8).

v) The Centre has hired services of an Accounts Consultant. Services of a Scientific Consultant have not yet been hired. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 9).

vi) The Annual Report of the INFLIBNET Centre from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 has since been printed and mailed to all the institutions. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 10).

vii) Status of construction of Institute building is being taken as a separate agenda. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 11).

viii) As per their instructions received from the UGC, the unspent balance of Rs. 53,11,670.00 was returned to the UGC. The Centre has been informally asked to submit its financial requirement for the next Plan Period for activities in North-Eastern Region. (22nd GB, Agenda Item 13).

3. **Report on Project on Development, Maintenance and Hosting of Website of the UGC as well as for Automation of its Schemes and Grant Management System**

Dr. Jagdish Arora informed the members that University Grants Commission has given the responsibility for development and maintenance of official website of the UGC as well as for automation of its various schemes and Grants Management System in a project mode on "actual expenditure basis". The Centre has set-up a dedicated server and collocated it at the Data Centre of the BSNL, Ahmedabad for the UGC web site and schemes. So far, the Centre has developed interfaces for seven scholarships of the UGC. New version of English and Hindi Web site of the UGC has also been developed and is ready for launch.

4. UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium: Current Status

Dr. Jagdish Arora made a brief presentation on UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium. The members were apprised of the following important developments in this regard:

i) All existing e-resources for the universities covered under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium were renewed for the year 2011 in January / April 2011.

ii) As per the decision of the NSC, the Negotiation Committee had negotiated the rates of subscription for 10 subject collections of Science Direct (1036 titles). Access to Science Direct is being provided to 60 universities from Jan 2011 onwards, including 10 universities on complimentary basis. Subscription to Science Direct from Elsevier Science for the year 2011 was on cost-sharing basis wherein, of the total cost of Rs. 33 crore, Rs. 22 crore was paid by the Consortium and balance of Rs. 11 crore was shared by the beneficiary universities in terms of maintenance of current print subscription. Moreover, besides getting access to 1036 journal titles available in 10 subject collections, each subscribing university could also download upto 500 articles from remaining subject collections using login ID & password provided to them.

iii) As per the decision of the NSC, access to enhanced collection of 908 titles from Wiley-Blackwell has been provided to 95 universities. The publisher has also provided complimentary access to additional 20 universities.

iv) Access of 3 law resources (Hein Online, Manupatra, Westlaw India) has been provided for 14 National Law Schools / universities.

v) As per the decision taken by the NSC, the Centre purchased the journal archives from American Institute of Physics (AIP), Royal Society of Chemistry (RSC), Oxford University Press (OUP), SIAM and 6 subject collections from Elsevier Science on one-time payment and perpetual access basis for 20 universities (30 universities in case of SIAM).

vi) As per the decision of the NSC, access of SciFinder Scholar has been extended to seven new universities and two more universities will be provided the access to SciFinder Scholar from Jan 2011 onwards, making the total number of universities that has access to SciFinder Scholar to 31.

vii) Access to selected e-resources is being given to the newly formed central universities as well as universities covered under 12(B) / 2(f) Sections of the UGC Act as per the decision taken in the Meeting of NSC held on 18th Sept., 2009 at ISID, Delhi. The total number of core members has increased to 195.

viii) Number of Associate Members under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium has increased from 73 in 2010 to 97 in 2011.

ix) The INFLIBNET Centre conducted four user's awareness programmes under the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium initiative and twelve user's awareness programme under the N-LIST at various universities and colleges in India.

x) The details of expenditure incurred on renewal of subscription to e-resources for the year 2011 is as follows:

Sl.	Items of Expenditure	Rupees (in Lakhs)
1	Renewal of Existing Resources for 2011	5232.90
2	Subscription to Additional Universities	277.78
3	Subscription to Science Direct	2354.85
4	Subscription to Law Resources	327.97
5	Purchase of E-journal Archives	1625.25
	Total Expenditure	**9818.76**

xi) The Governing Board, in its 22nd Meeting held on 24th Dec., 2010 approved allocation of Rs.133.43 crores for the UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium for the financial year 2012-13. The National Steering Committee, UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, in its meeting held on 25th November 2011, has also recommended a total budget of Rs. 133.43 crores. The details of expenditure proposed are as follows:

Sl. No.	Items of Expenditure	Rupees (in Lakhs)
1	Renewal of Subscription to Existing Resources for 2012	9426.28
2	Subscription to Resources for New 12 (B) Universities	235.51
3	E-books for Universities	1500.00
4	Engineering & Technology Resources for Universities	50.00
5	Purchase of Digital Archives for E-resources	2000.00
	Total	13211.79
	Operational Budget	132.12
	Grant Total	**13343.91**

Answering to the queries raised by Dr. Dev Swaroop, JS, UGC, Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Centre informed that the awareness programmes are being imparted to universities requesting for them. Moreover, universities are also approached to conduct awareness programmes especially if their usage of e-resources is low. Chairman, Governing Board opined that all the central universities should be given access to all e-resources facilitating them to impart high-quality education. Dr. Dev Swaroop opined that access to law resources being given only to 14 national law universities should be extended to all universities having law faculty. It was agreed that necessary action would be taken up by the INFLIBNET Centre to implement suggestions made by the Members of the Governing Board.

Prof. S K Khanna, Chairman, Governing Board, INFLIBNET Centre mentioned that the decisions about the two schemes namely; i) UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme and ii) UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium is being taken by an external committee (namely CCMC and NSC) constituted by the UGC, whereas expenditure on both the schemes are incurred by the Centre with approval of the Finance Committee and Governing Board. He opined that if the responsibility of approving expenditure and answering to the audit queries is that of Finance Committee / Governing Board of INFLIBNET Centre, these Committees should be constituted by the Chairman, Governing Board. It was resolved that the sentiments of the Governing Board would be communicated to the UGC for further necessary action.

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After detailed discussions and deliberations, Governing Board accorded its approval to the i) Minutes of the National Steering Committee of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium held on 25th December, 2011; ii) Minutes of the National Steering Committee of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium held on 25th November, 2011; and iii) Minutes of the Negotiation Committee Meeting of UGC-Infonet Digital Library Consortium held 24th December, 2011. The members also approved renewal of subscription of all e-resources for all existing universities for the year 2012.

5. UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme: Current Status

Dr. Jagdish Arora informed the members that UGC-Infonet Connectivity Programme in its current format is being winded-up by the end of current financial year since most of the universities have migrated to NKN/NME-ICT schemes to avail greater Internet bandwidth. Members were informed that 169 out of 182 universities have already migrated to NKN/NME-ICT scheme, 13 universities that have not yet migrated to NKN/NME-ICT have been informed to either get connectivity from NKN/NME-ICT or arrange for Internet connectivity on their own. Members noted that the INFLIBNET Centre, with approval of the Central Connectivity Monitoring Committee (CCMC), has submitted a new proposal for re-formatted UGC-Infonet Programme wherein it is proposed to provide UGC-Infonet Resource Centre, Video Conferencing Facilities and Data Centres to universities. On suggestion of Dr. Dev Swaroop, it was resolved that the re-formatted UGC-Infonet would be proposed during the XII Plan Period.

Responding to the query raised by Dr. Dev Swaroop, Dr. Arora informed that the utilisation of Internet bandwidth of beneficiary universities is being monitored regularly by the INFLIBNET Centre. Universities, that are not optimally utilizing the Internet bandwidth, are advised to take remedial measures failing which Internet connectivity is withdrawn from such universities. He informed the members that there have been cases where Internet connectivity from member universities was withdrawn because of poor / no usage.

3. National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)

Dr. Jagdish Arora made a brief presentation on the "National Library and Information Services Infrastructure for Scholarly Content (N-LIST)", funded by the National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NME-ICT). The project provides for access to scholarly content to colleges, universities as well as centrally-funded technical institutions through its four distinct components, i.e. i) Subscription to UGC-INFONET e-resources for centrally-funded technical institutions (IITs, IISc, IISERs, NITs, etc.); ii) Subscription to INDEST e-resources for universities; iii) Access to e-resources for 12,000 Govt.-aided and non-aided colleges; and iv) National Monitoring Agency at the INFLIBNET Centre to manage access, monitor, promote and impart training to promote optimal usage of e-resources and for monitoring all activities involved in the process of providing effective and efficient access to e-resources to colleges. Members were informed that the N-LIST project is being jointly executed by the UGC-INFONET Digital Library Consortium, INFLIBNET Centre, Ahmedabad and the INDEST-AICTE Consortium, IIT Delhi under the overall guidance of Joint National Steering Committees of the two Consortia that guide and steer the activities of the N-LIST programme. The INFLIBNET Centre is also responsible for developing and deploying appropriate software tools and techniques for authenticating authorized users so as to enable them to access e-resources.

Under the college component of the project, access to more 3,100 e-journals and 80,000 e-books is provided to all degree colleges except colleges that are imparting education in engineering, management, medical, nursing, pharmacy and dentistry. It was informed that as on 15th December, 2011 more than 2,151 colleges have registered for the project including 1,970 eligible colleges. Log-in Ids and passwords have been issued to more than 2,37,798 individual users including faculty, students and researchers. Members were informed that the N-LIST Project have been honoured with the following three awards in the years 2010 and 2011:

i) Jury Choice Award e-India 2010
ii) The Manthan South Asia Award 2010 in Digital Learning Category for the year 2010
iii) Skoch Digital Inclusion Award for Technology in Education for the year 2011

Responding to query raised by Dr. Dev Swaroop, Dr. Arora informed that extending access to e-resources to colleges have been one of the important priority that the INFLIBNET Centre has been able to accomplish through NLIST project. The project provides an opportunity to provide access to e-resources to colleges with funding from the MHRD. He mentioned that the INFLIBNET Centre has submitted a project proposal to the UGC requesting funds for providing access to e-resources to autonomous colleges with approval of the National Steering Committee of the UGC INFONET Digital Library Consortium in its meeting held on 4th July 2008 at IUCAA, Pune.

7. Current Status of Administrative Staff at INFLIBNET Centre and its Follow-up with UGC

Members of the Governing Board noted that three administrative staff positions, lying vacant with the Centre, are crucial to its functioning. All the three positions are being operated through contractual staff including the post of Personal Secretary to the Director. The Governing Board recommended that the Centre should keep following-up with the UGC for release of these positions.

The Governing Board also recommended that the Centre may also pursue UGC to sanction one position of Administrative Officer (Accounts) to the INFLIBNET Centre in lieu of position vacated by Shri C K Shah on his superannuation in the month of September, 2011.

8. Presentation on Annual Report of the INFLIBNET Centre from 1st April 2010 to 31st March, 2011

The Governing Board recommended approval of Annual Report of INFLIBNET Centre, 1st April, 2010 to 31st March, 2011.

9. Status of Construction of Institute Building and Approval of the Minutes of 11th, 12th and 13th Meeting of the Building Committee

Shri Rajiv Kathpalia from M/s Vastu-Shilpa Consultants, Architect, presented the current status of construction of Institute Building including, Academic, Administration and Residential blocks. He mentioned that the Academic and Administrative Blocks of the building would be ready by May, 2012 whereas Residential Block will be ready by October, 2012. As such, a request may be sent to the UGC for arranging inauguration of the Building

after June 2012. Members approved the Minutes of 11th, 12th and 13th Meetings of the Building Committee.

10. Approval of the Proceedings of the 17th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 26th December, 2011 at Delhi

The Members approved the proceeding of the 17th Meeting of the Finance Committee held on 26th December, 2011 at 10:30 AM at Delhi

11. Additional Manpower Requirement in the Permanent Institute Building at INFOCITY, Gandhinagar

The Chairman, Governing Board, mentioned that the Committee is convinced about the requirement of additional manpower for maintaining larger physical infrastructure in the new Building of the Centre. However, he insisted that all additional manpower should be recruited on contractual basis as per the requirement. He said that the INFLIBNET Centre should not create additional liability in terms of manpower especially for administrative and maintenance purposes.

12. Current Status of New Initiatives and Developments in Existing Programmes: A Presentation by the Director

Dr. Jagdish Arora, Director, INFLIBNET Centre made a presentation on new initiatives and developments in existing programmes. The members noted the developments in new initiatives taken by the Centre.

13. Incentives to Individual Scientists for External Consultancies and Projects

The Governing Board accorded in-principle approval for the proposal on incentives to individual scientists for external consultancies and projects. However, the Chairman, Governing Board requested the Director to make detailed guidelines regarding operations and handling of consultancy and research projects.

14. Provision of Mobile Phones for Administrative Officer and Scientists-D (and above) on Functional Requirement Basis

The Governing Board approved reimbursement of expenditure on mobile telephones to the maximum of Rs. 1,500.00 per month for the following Officers of the INFLIBNET Centre on functional requirement basis:

i) Shri Manoj Kumar K, Scientist-D (CS);
ii) Shri Ashok Kumar Rai, Scientist-D (CS);
iii) Shri Yatrik Patel, Scientists-D (CS);
iv) Shri H G Hosamani, Scientist-C (LS); and
v) Shri Harish Chandra, Administrative Officer (PA&F)

15. Recognition of Apollo and Sterling Hospitals under the approved Health Scheme for Medical Treatment to the Staff and Dependents

It was resolved that a committee consisting of external members from Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) / Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) may be constituted for recognition of Apollo Group of Hospitals and Sterling Hospital, Ahmedabad under the INFLIBNET Health Scheme. However, the rate of consultation fee payable to qualified medical officers / doctors as well as rates for specialised consultation and follow-up consultation was approved as per the Government Notification (GOI O.M.No.F.No.B.12012/03/2010-CGHS(P) dated 06.06.2011. The revised rates approved by the Governing Board are as follows:

Items	Existing Rates	Revised Rates (in Rupees)
General Consultation		
1st Consultation	35.00	70.00
Follow–up Consultation	20.00	40.00
Intramuscular Injection	10.00	20.00
Intravenous injection	20.00	40.00
Specialist Consultation		
1st Consultation	175.00	250.00
Follow–up Consultation	100.00	150.00
Dental Specialist – Initial Consultation fee	50.00	50.00

16. Ratification of Decisions Approved by the Chairman, Governing Board

16.1. Relaxation in Age for Internal Staff Members

After detailed discussions and deliberations, the Governing Board approved the relaxation in age in case of Shri Mohit Kumar. It was clarified that the advertisement carried a clause on relaxation in age, qualifications and experience in cases of deserving candidates. Moreover, it was also ascertained that no other applicant who was otherwise qualified but required age relaxation.

16.2 Award of Contract for Construction of Residential Block of the Institute Building and Escalation in Cost

The Members noted that the estimates for cost of construction of Residential Block of the Institute building have increased from Rs. 8.27 crores as sanctioned by the UGC to Rs. 12.86 crores. Shri Rajiv Kathpalia, Architect, Vastu-Shilpa Consultants, gave the following reasons for escalation in the cost of construction:
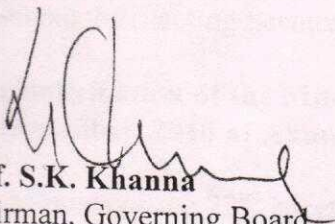
i) Cost estimates are based on PWD rates applicable for the year 2007-2008 on total Construction area basis;

ii) The prices for construction materials and labour cost has escalated during past 1 ½ years. While the prices for concrete and steel have increased around 30%, the rates for furnishing items like plaster, flooring, paints, door and window have increased by 50 to 80% during the same period; and

iii) The tender bids are controlled and governed by actual market prices which vary greatly from the available PWD rate listing.

It was noted that the escalated amount of Rs. 4.59 crores would be raised by the INFLIBNET Centre from its corpus funds which largely consist of profit from sale of SOUL Software. The Governing Board ratified the decision taken by the Chairman, Governing Board for award of contract for construction of Residential Block of the Institute Building on escalated cost of Rs. 12.86 crores. It was resolved that the revised expenditure of Rs. 12.86 crores would be sent to the UGC for its approval wherein Rs. 8.27 crores would be contributed by the UGC and the remaining balance of Rs. 4.59 crores would be raised by the INFLIBNET Centre from its corpus funds.

17. Emerald-INFLIBNET South Asian LIS Research Fund Award – A Collaborative Proposal

After detailed discussions and deliberations, it was resolved that the proposal may be examined in details and referred to the UGC for further necessary action.

(Jagdish Arora)
Director, INFLIBNET Centre

Prof. S.K. Khanna
Chairman, Governing Board

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