

Meeting of Academic Council Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla

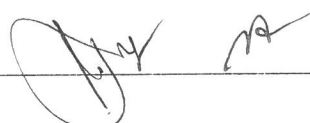
**Minutes of the Meeting
March 19, 2019**

The 3rd Meeting of the Academic Council, HPNLU Shimla was held on March 19, 2019 at 10:30 A.M. at the Conference Hall, Administrative Block, Judicial Academy Building, HPNLU Campus. Meeting was presided by Professor (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal, Vice-Chancellor, HPNLU Shimla.

The following members were present:

1.	Professor (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal, Vice-Chancellor, HPNLU	Chairperson
2.	Professor V. Vijayakumar	Member
3.	Professor K.P.S. Mahalwar	Member
4.	Professor Sunil Deshta	Member
5.	Sri B.C. Thakur	Member
6.	Sri I. N. Mehta	Member
6.	Dr. Ruchi Sapahia	Member
7.	Dr. Chandreshwari Minhas	Member
8.	Prof. S.S. Jaswal	Secretary

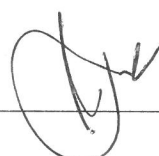
Note: Prof. P.S. Jaswal, Vice Chancellor RGNUL Patiala had expressed his inability to attend the meeting.



PROCEEDINGS OF THE MEETINGS

Item No. 1	Confirm the Minutes of the Previous Meeting of the Academic Council held on April 3, 2018. [Annexure-I]	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision/Resolved
The Vice Chancellor placed the minutes the previous meeting before the members of Academic Council.	<p>Vice Chancellor explained the details of minutes of last meeting and members appraised the proceeding.</p> <p>Prof. Vijaya Kumar suggested that Meeting should be referred as 3rd Meeting, 4th Meeting etc. to make it more convenient to refer.</p>	After a brief deliberation over the minutes, the same were confirmed.

Item No. 2	To Consider the Recommendations of the Board of Studies modifying the Syllabi of the Courses of 2nd, 4th and 6th Semester of B.A./B.B.A. LL.B. & Ph.D. Course Work. [Annexure-II]	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision/Resolved
Vice Chancellor read out the Item No. 2 of the Agenda item before the members of Academic Council. It is explained that the Board of Studies has approved the syllabus for the different courses of B.A./B.B.A. LL.B.. The same was placed before the Council. It is also explained to the Council that Board of Studies may be authorized for modifications in the subjects, course-contents in future, so that courses may be updated well within the time.	<p>Members of the Council examined all the syllabus in detail. Prof. V. Vijayakumar pointed out that the list of books prescribed in each course should be divided into 'Prescribed Books' and 'Reference Books'. Prof. Vijayakumar further suggested that course materials either in form of 'compilation' including 'e-materials' should be supplied to all the students. He further added that list of cases needs to be given in all law courses.</p> <p>Prof. Vijayakumar invited the attention of council towards minimum number of lectures, and suggested that at least 80 lectures per week should be there for each subject, subject to availability of infrastructure.</p>	<p>The Academic Council examined the updated syllabus, and approved the proposal. Council agreed that:</p> <p>(i) List of Books should be divided into 'Prescribed Books' & 'Reference Books'.</p> <p>(ii) List of cases shall be part of Course Content.</p> <p>Academic Council also authorized the Board of Studies for further updating of syllabus subject to above guidelines.</p>

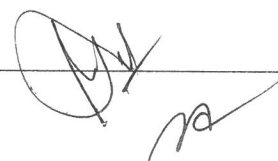


Item No. 3	<p>To consider the Constitution of Research Advisory Committee by inserting Rule 3 (C) in Himachal Pradesh National Law University Rules for Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph. D.) Programme, 2016, as required by UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of LL.M. / Ph.D Degree) Regulations 2016. [Annexure-III]</p>	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
<p>Meetings of Board of Studies <i>as per</i> Himachal Pradesh National Law University Shimla Rules for Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph. D.) Programme, 2016 are convened twice a year. Since, Research Programmes requires continuous guidance and monitoring, the Research Advisory Committee will be of great assistance crucial regard. UGC Regulation 2016 also requires similar bodies for Ph.D. Programmes.</p>	<p>The Vice Chancellor explained the existing Regulation dealing with Ph.D. Programme at HPNLU Shimla. Procedure and functions of Research Advisory Committee are explained with following details:</p> <p>Rule 2 (C) Research Advisory Committee</p> <p>(1) There shall be a Research Advisory Committee constituted by Vice Chancellor for LL.M. and Ph.D. Programmes.</p> <p>This Committee shall have the following responsibilities:</p> <p>(i) To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research;</p> <p>(ii) To guide the research scholar to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may require to do.</p> <p>(iii) To review and evaluate the research scholar's presentation of progress of his/her work including Pre-Ph.D. course as well as synopsis of Ph.D.</p> <p>(2) A research scholar shall appear before the Research Advisory Committee to make a presentation of the progress of his/her work including Pre-Ph.D. Course Work for evaluation and further guidance.</p> <p>(3) The six-monthly progress reports shall be submitted to Board of Studies through the Research Advisory Committee.</p> <p>(4) In case the progress of the research scholar is unsatisfactory, the Research Advisory Committee shall record the reasons for the same and suggest corrective measures.</p>	<p>The Academic Council examined the feasibility of Research Advisory Committee and approved the same.</p> <p>The Council further authorized the Vice Chancellor to executive this rule with the existing candidates enrolled for Ph.D. Programme.</p>

	Council members suggested that to avoid repetition of expression 'HPNLU' may be deleted before the	
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Item No. 4	To Consider the Modifications in Supplementary Regulations for Pre-Ph.D. Course Work.	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
<p>Supplementary Regulations for Pre-Ph.D. Course work, were prepared in the line of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of M.Phil / Ph.D Degree) Regulations 2016 and were approved by Academic Council, Himachal Pradesh National Law University Shimla in its meeting dated April 3, 2018.</p> <p>However, in view of practical difficulties, amendments are proposed to exempt those who have already gone through with course of Research methodology.</p>	<p>Vice Chancellor read out the proposed modified course structure.</p> <p>3. Course Structure: (Total 200 Marks)</p> <p>3.1</p> <p>(a) LEGAL RESEARCH AND METHODOLOGY (100 Marks) 04 Credit</p> <p>(b) EMERGING TRENDS IN LAW (100 Marks) 04 Credit</p> <p>3.2. Written Assignments: (Subject/area Specific)</p> <p>(a) Writing of One Research Paper containing not less than 5000 words.</p> <p>(b) Conducting a pilot empirical research/field work.</p> <p>(c) Review of literature containing not less than 30 pages (MS Default).</p> <p>The performance of the student in written assignment shall be evaluated by Research Advisory Committee on satisfactory / unsatisfactory criteria.</p> <p>3.3 During the Pre-Ph.D. Course Work, each Scholar shall have to teach at UG level 3 classes spread over the period of six months in one subject, which, along with the feedback of students, shall be evaluated by Research Advisory Committee.</p> <p>Members of the Council examined the proposed modification, and after due examination of Rule 7.2 of UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedure for Awards of M.Phil / Ph.D Degree) Regulations 2016 deliberated on the agenda.</p> <p>It is suggested by Prof. Vijayakumar that the expression 'pre' may be removed from 'Ph.D. Course Work'.</p>	<p>The Members of Academic Council examined the proposed modification, and suggested that the structure of Pre-Ph.D. Course Work should necessarily confirm the UGC Regulation 2016.</p> <p>The Council agreed that the 'Pre' may be removed, and it is now be taken as 'Ph.D. Course work' in the statute.</p> <p>With the above suggestion the Academic Council approved the agenda item.</p>

Item No. 5	To Consider the Amendment in the Attendance Rules Rule 3, Part D of Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla Courses of Study, Admission, Curriculum and Examination Regulation, 2016. [Annexure-]	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
It is submitted that the modification in attendance rule is proposed keeping in view the practical difficulties as well as balancing the interest of the students and following the BCI Rules.	<p>Vice Chancellor read out the proposed amendment in dealing with attendance with following details-</p> <p>3.1 A minimum of overall 75% attendance in all the subjects and 70% in each subject is compulsory to appear in the End Semester Examination.</p> <p><i>Provided</i> that if a student for any exceptional reasons fails to attend 70% of the classes held in any subject, the Vice Chancellor may allow the student to take the Examination if the student concerned attended at least 65% of the classes held in the subject concerned and attended 70% of classes in all the subjects taken together.</p> <p>3.6 Academic leave shall not exceed 15% of the total classes in any given semester. The Academic leave shall include Travel/journey period.</p> <p>3.9. Medical Leave: Any request for medical leave from students which will involve their absence from the University campus may be considered only against hospitalization for any treatment or isolation of student(s) required for any contagious diseases.</p> <p>3.10 All the medical records, investigations etc., done during admission in a hospital / nursing home along with the request should be submitted within one week from reporting back to the University to the Dean Academic Affairs or any other body notified by Vice Chancellor.</p> <p>3.11 The Medical Leave shall be sanctioned by Vice Chancellor.</p> <p>3.12 <i>deleted.</i></p> <p>3.13 Notwithstanding anything contained hereinbefore, Medical leave shall not exceed 5% of the total classes in any given semester.</p>	After examining the Rules regarding Attendance prescribed by Bar Council of India, the Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal.



	<p>Members of the Council deliberated on the issue.</p> <p>Sri B.C. Thakur hon'ble Member of the Council made it clear that any such amendment with respect to attendance must satisfy the BCI Rule. On this, Vice Chancellor clarified that, since minimum prescribed attendance is 70% and in special cases not less than 65% in a given course, the proposed amendment is well within the Rule prescribed by BCI.</p>	
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Item No. 6	To Consider Authorizing the Vice Chancellor for the Appointment/Nomination of External Subject Experts for Paper Setting and Evaluation of UG, PG and Pre-Ph.D. Course Work Examination. [Annexure-]
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Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
<p>Vice Chancellor made the proposal to insert a <i>proviso</i> in Rule 4.2 of Part D, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla Courses of Study, Admission, Curriculum and Examination Regulation, 2016 for the purpose of appointing/nominating external Subject Expert for Paper Setting and Evaluation of UG, PG and Pre-Ph.D. Course Work Examination.</p>	<p>Vice Chancellor has explained that the provision is required to provide greater objectivity in examination and evaluation, a proposal is made with following effect:</p> <p>4.2 Each course run by the University shall be examined internally as well as externally to ensure a comprehensive assessment of the student's performance throughout the semester.</p> <p><i>Provided that Vice Chancellor may nominate External Examiner/s for setting of question papers as well evaluation of answer sheets.</i></p> <p>The Academic Council examined the effect of this <i>proviso</i> and deliberated the entire matter.</p> <p>Prof. Vijayakumar suggested that external paper setting for UG Courses should be internal only. However, for PG and other programmes external paper setting as well as evaluation may considered.</p>	<p>Approved</p>

Item No. 7	To Consider Modification in the Format of Question Papers for UG & PG Courses.	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision

<p>Vice Chancellor explained the members of Academic Council about the existing pattern/format of Question Papers for the Mid Semester as well as End Semester Examination.</p> <p>The Board of Studies, HPNLU has recommended a different format/pattern for the Question Papers of Mid-Semester/End Semester Examination for all the Courses.</p>	<p>I view of recommendation made by Board of Studies, HPNLU, following Rules with that of enclosed format for the question paper/s were deliberated by the Academic Council:</p> <p>5.3 Question paper for Mid Semester Examination shall carry Two Sections.</p> <p>Section 'A', shall be compulsory containing 'Short Answer' type questions, having 2 questions (one from each module), carrying 2.5 marks each.</p> <p>Section 'B' of the paper shall be Descriptive in nature and shall contains have at least 02 questions (one question from each module) with their respective additional options, carrying 7.5 marks each and shall be long answer type/application-based questions.</p> <p>5.4 Section 'A', shall be compulsory containing 'Short Answer' type questions, having 4 questions (one from each module), carrying 2.5 marks each.</p> <p>Section 'B' of the paper shall be Descriptive in nature and shall contains have at least 04 questions (one question from each module) with their respective additional options, carrying 10 marks each and shall be long answer type/application-based questions.</p> <p>The Members of the Council examined this Item in length, and suggested that Marks given to each question should be re-considered. Prof. Vijayakumar suggested that rather giving 2.5 marks, each question in Part A should be of 2 Marks., whereas in Part B, each question should be of 8 marks.</p>	<p>After examining the details about proposed question paper, the Academic Council approved the following format:</p> <p>5.3 Question paper for Mid Semester Examination shall carry Two Sections.</p> <p>Section 'A', shall be compulsory containing 'Short Answer' type questions, having 2 questions (one from each module), carrying 2 marks each.</p> <p>Section 'B' of the paper shall be Descriptive in nature and shall contains have at least 02 questions (one question from each module) with their respective additional options, carrying 8 marks each and shall be long answer type/application-based questions.</p> <p>5.4 Section 'A', shall be compulsory containing 'Short Answer' type questions, having 5 questions (at least one from each module), carrying 2 marks each.</p> <p>Section 'B' of the paper shall be Descriptive in nature and shall contains have at least 04 questions (one question from each module) with their respective additional options, carrying 10 marks each and shall be long answer type/application-based questions.</p>
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Item No. 8	To Consider the insertion of Rule 9A, Part D, Himachal Pradesh National Law University, Shimla Courses of Study, Admission, Curriculum and Examination Regulation, 2016 to enable the students to apply for re-evaluation of Answer scripts.	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
<p>Vice Chancellor, while explaining the very objective of evaluation system, drawn the attention of members toward objectivity in evaluation system. Members were appraised about evaluation pattern.</p> <p>Since, existing rule in HPNLU do not permit re-evaluation of answer scripts, a proposal in made in this regard.</p>	<p>Members of Academic Council examined following proposed rule regarding re-evaluation-</p> <p>Rule 9A: Re-evaluation of Answer Scripts</p> <p>(1) A student seeking revaluation of an answer script of an end-semester examination (or Reappear) shall apply to the Controller of Examination within 10 days from the date of declaration of results in the prescribed form, and submit fee of Rs. 2000 per paper. If the result is declared during vacations, the request shall be made within one week from the date of re-opening of the University.</p> <p>(2) The Controller of Examination shall place the request before the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor may approve the request and nominate first and second re-evaluator who shall be external subject expert.</p> <p>(3) In case of re-evaluation being successful, the student shall be awarded the grade <i>as per</i> the revaluation.</p> <p>(4) If the difference between the original marks awarded and marks obtained in first revaluation is more than 10 marks, the script shall be sent to a second evaluator, and the marks awarded by the second evaluator shall be final. However, if the award of the second evaluator varies from the first by</p>	<p>Academic Council approved Rule 9A in with the following effect:</p> <p>Rule 9A: Re-evaluation of Answer Scripts</p> <p>(1) A student seeking revaluation of an answer script of an end-semester examination (or Reappear) may apply to the Controller of Examination within 10 days from the date of declaration of results in the prescribed form, and submit fee of Rs. 2000 per paper. If the result is declared during vacations, the request shall be made within one week from the date of re-opening of the University.</p> <p>(2) The Controller of Examination shall place the request before the Vice Chancellor. The Vice Chancellor may approve the request and nominate re-evaluator from the panel of examiners to be approved by Board of Studies.</p> <p>(3) In case of re-evaluation being successful, the student shall be awarded the grade <i>as per</i> the revaluation.</p> <p>(4) The External re-evaluator shall be invited for on spot evaluation. If the difference between the original marks awarded and marks obtained in revaluation is more than 10 marks, the</p>



	more than ± 10 marks, then the average of the two evaluators shall be taken as final.	average of the both shall be treated as final award.
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Item No. 9	To Consider the Creation of Center for Child and Women Studies.		
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision	
Vice Chancellor narrated the objective behind constitution of Center for Child and Women Studies, specially as required by the UGC Guidelines.	Member of the Academic Council examined the UGC Rule.	With some suggestions about constitution, composition and working of such centers, the Academic Council approved the proposal.	

Item No. 10	To Consider the Creation of Teaching Post for Special Centers.		
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision	
Vice Chancellor explained that the Executive Council in its meeting held on April 4, 2018 approved the constitution of Seven (07) specialized centers. Since the proposal for Center for Child and Women Studies is already approved via item No. 9, posts for teaching and research would inevitably require to run these centers effectively.	Member of the Academic Council examined the proposal.	The Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal and recommended to Executive Council for sanctioning of teaching post as mentioned in the Agenda Item No. 10.	

Item No. 11	To Consider the Creation of post of 02 Research Assistants.		
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision	
The Creation of post of 02 Research Assistants is required for smooth conduct of additional teaching and research works.	Members of Academic Council suggested that post sanctioned for Centers may be used for other purposes. So, item may be differed for future.	The Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal and recommended to Executive Council for sanctioning of post for Research Assistant as	

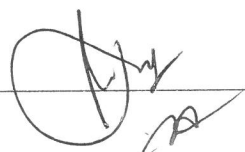


		mentioned in the Agenda Item No. 11.
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Item No. 12	To Consider the filing up of leave vacancy caused due to the Extra Ordinary Leave without pay granted to Dr. Ruchi Gupta, Assistant Professor Law.		
Agenda Note		Discussion	Decision
Vice Chancellor has informed to the Academic Council that Dr. Ruchi Gupta has applied for Extra-ordinary Leave i.e. leave without payment due to certain severe medical condition faced by her husband and her mother. Since, she was not otherwise eligible for any other leave, she prayed for leave without pay, and the same was sympathetically considered, and allowed for a maximum period of one year in anticipation of meeting of EC schedule to be held on March 20, 2019.		Academic Council deliberated the issue of leave vacancy caused due to Extra Ordinary Leave without payment granted to Dr. Ruchi Gupta.	The Academic Council approved filling up of leave vacancy caused due to sanctioning of Extra Ordinary Leave. Council has also recommended that in future, whenever an extraordinary leave is granted and accordingly sanctioned by Executive Council, the Vice Chancellor is authorized to fill leave vacancy.

Item No. 13	To Consider the Adoption of UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018.		
Agenda Note		Discussion	Decision
Vice Chancellor placed the agenda before Academic Council for the Adoption of UGC Regulations on Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and Other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education, 2018.		Member of the Council deliberated the Agenda and suggested that UGC Regulation 2018 dealing with financial provisions should be govern by notification of State of Himachal Pradesh from time to time.	The Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal and recommended the same to Executive Council for further approval.

Item No. 14	To Consider the Adoption UGC Guidelines for Conducting Written Examination for persons with Benchmark Disabilities.		
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Item No. 14	To Consider the Adoption UGC Guidelines for Conducting Written Examination for persons with Benchmark Disabilities.		
Agenda Note		Discussion	Decision
Vice Chancellor explained the objective behind adoption of UGC Guidelines for Conducting Written Examination for persons with Benchmark Disabilities.		Member of the Academic Council examined the UGC Rule.	The Academic Council unanimously approved the agenda to adopt the UGC Guidelines for Conducting Written Examination for persons with Benchmark Disabilities.

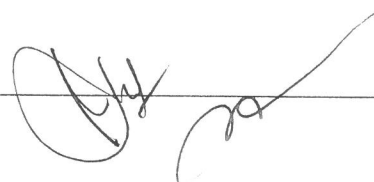
Item No. 15	To Consider the Adoption of UGC Notification on Refund of Fees and Non-retention of Original Certificates, October, 2018. [Annexure-]		
Agenda Note		Discussion	Decision
Vice Chancellor explained that the last date of Admission in HPNLU Shall be August 31 st of each Academic Session. However, in case of arising of any vacancy, the Vice Chancellor may, keeping in view special circumstances, allow filling up of such vacancy in order of merit.		Member of the Academic Council examined the UGC Rule.	The Academic Council approved the proposal.

Item No. 16	To Authorize the Vice Chancellor to enter into MoUs with different Universities including National Law Universities/ Institutions/Organizations/Centers etc. Nationally as well as Internationally. [Annexure-]		
Agenda Note		Discussion	Decision
In the globalized world, the inter-institutional approach has become a necessity, therefore it becomes inevitable to enter into MoUs within and outside the country for student and faculty exchange. The Draft MoU is attached as annexure-. The Vice Chancellor be authorized to enter into MoUs on behalf of the Himachal Pradesh National Law University mutatis mutandis.		MoU for academic purposes, the vice chancellor would be signatory authority. For any other purpose the Registrar	The Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal.

This item is scheduled to be placed before the Finance Committee, which are scheduled to be held on March 20, 2019. As such the proceedings will be placed before the EC for approval in its meeting scheduled to be held on March 20, 2019.	shall be the signatory authority.	
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Item No. 17	To Authorize the Vice Chancellor for framing the Academic Calendar for each Academic Session.	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
It is submitted that framing of Academic Calendar is a necessity for maintaining systematic academic environment in the University.	<p>Vice Chancellor explained to the Council that due to various extra-curricular intervention and exigencies variations in the framing of academic calendar in each session happens.</p> <p>Therefore, it is desirable that the vice chancellor be authorized for framing the Academic Calendar for each Academic Session.</p>	The Academic Council unanimously approved the proposal.

Item No. 18	Reporting Items	
Agenda Note	Discussion	Decision
Reporting Items	<p>A. With the prior approval of Hon'ble Chancellor, HPNLU, Shimla admission under the category of International Student / NRI for the Academic Session 2019-20 shall be made <i>as per</i> the definition laid down by the Supreme Court i.e. "An NRI candidate is NRI himself/herself who has a valid residential proof of the place and the country in which he/she is living."</p> <p>B. Marksheet for UG & PG Programmes</p> <p>C. Provisional Degree for UG & PG</p> <p>D. Combined Scoresheet for UG & PG Programmes</p> <p>E. Teaching Feedback Proforma-I (Ph.D. Scholars)</p> <p>F. Student Feedback Proforma-II (UG & PG Students)</p>	<p>The Academic Council authorized the Vice Chancellor to adopt standard format for</p> <p>(i) Marksheet / Certificate</p> <p>(ii) Course Evaluation Form</p>



Meeting concluded with expression of Thanks to the Chair.



Professor V. Vijayakumar



Professor K.P.S. Mahalwar



Professor Sunil Deshta

Sri B.C. Thakur



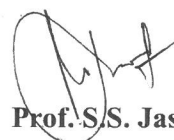
Sri I. N. Mehta



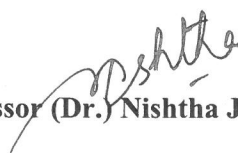
Dr. Ruchi Sapahia



Dr. Chandreshwari Minhas



Prof. S.S. Jaswal



Professor (Dr.) Nishtha Jaswal