TAMIL NADU OPEN UNIVERSITY
DOTE CAMPUS, GUINDY, CHENNAI 600 025.

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Planning Board held on

4th August 2005 at 11:00 Hrs.

Members Present :

1.	Prof. M.S. Palanichamy, VC, TNOU	Chairman
2.	Prof. S.C. Garg Pro-Vice Chancellor, IGNOU, New Delhi	Member
3.	Prof.A. Gnanam, Kaveri Nagar, Pondicherry.	Member
4.	Thiru. S. Natarajan, IAS Managing Director, Overseas Manpower Corporation, Chennai	Member
5.	Dr. P.N. Sridharan, Vice President, Hexaware Technologies, Chennai	Member
6.	Dr. R. Sreedhar, Director, EMRC, Anna University, Chennai	Member
7.	Dr. C. Thangaraj, Director, Arulmigu Kalasalingam College of Engineering, Krishnan Koil	Member
8.	Prof. M. Sankaran, Director, BIM, Trichy	Member
9.	Dr. S. Manickam, Registrar i/c & Head SOSS, TNOU, Chennai	Member-Secretary
10.	Dr. S. Thangasamy, Head, SOE, TNOU, Chennai	Member
11.	Dr. K. Murugan, Director i/c SSSD, TNOU, Chennai	Member
12.	Dr. P. Thiyagarajan, Head, SOCE, TNOU, Chennai	Member

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The Vice-Chancellor and Chairman of the Planning Board welcomed the members to the First Meeting of the Planning Board and in his welcome address enumerated the important developments and achievements of the University since its inception.

In response, the members appreciated the unprecedented rapid growth of the University within a short span of two years and congratulated the Vice-Chancellor for providing the dynamic leadership to make it possible.

The members made the following suggestions for consideration, while planning the future course of action of the University :

(i)	The University may depart from the treaded path of conventional Universities offering distance education in Tamil Nadu and diversify its programmes to suit the local needs of the State.
(ii)	In order to ensure the effectiveness and credibility of the programmes offered apart from systematic evaluation by the University feedback from all the stakeholders - students, employers, Government and the Society should be carefully weighed while charting the future course of action.
(iii)	The University should not confine to the use of the CDs made available by other Universities and steps should be taken to produce Multimedia materials.
(iv)	Instead of reinventing the wheel, the University may share the resources & materials with other Universities and saving resulting therefrom can be used for improving the delivery mechanism using ICT facilities.
(v)	The University may develop a road map based on the assessment of the skills / knowledge requirements of the work force of the State / Country to keep the work force abreast of latest advancements and requirements.

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(vi)	Collaboration with specific organisations, whereby all employees of the organisations study a particular programme of the University may be encouraged. One or two such flag ship programmes may be planned.
(vii)	The University may open out the research programmes to help the aspirants in the Industry in particular.
(viii)	The University may develop expertise in teaching Tamil Language and make it available to Bhasha Mandakini Project of Central Institute of Indian Lanugages (CIIL). Quoting this specific requirement, the University may apply for funds to DEC for the creation of a studio separately.
(ix)	Possibilities for offering joint Degree Programmes in collaboration with other recognized institutions may be explored.
(x)	As Tamil Nadu along with Kerala is in the forefront as supplier of manpower to many Foreign Countries, introduction of a programme, designed to help the aspirants for foreign placements, to pass the English Language Test may be considered.
(xi)	The University may open Study Centres in other States and other Countries to cater to the needs of Tamil population settled there.

After the initial remarks of the members, the Planning Board proceeded with the discussion on Agenda Items.

ITEM NO. 1.1

CONSIDERED THE DRAFT VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT

Resolved to recommend to the Syndicate the adoption of the following Vision & Mission Statement for approval.

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VISION

Tamil Nadu Open University shall make available learner-centred, seamless educational provisions that are innovative, socially-relevant and are of high-quality by employing appropriate technologies to achieve equity in education, to harness the potential of people and to build their capacity to contribute to sustainable social transformation and composite national development.

MISSION

Towards becoming a Centre of Excellence in Open and Distance Learning (ODL) by offering quality programs to meet the current and emerging needs of the adult population, by widening the access to higher education and by functioning as a catalyst to bridge social, including digital, divides and to build a developed India, Tamil Nadu Open University shall:

- Evolve flexible, robust curricula and instructional designs in areas of social and market demand with a view to widening access, deepening knowledge frontiers and creating entrepreneurial skill sets.

- Establish networked environments for quality assurance and operational efficiency.

- Foster private-public partnerships for synergy of operation and value addition.

- Set up research and development for new knowledge generation, feedback, benchmarks, product improvement and service efficiency.

- Bridge the digital divide through affordable and appropriate technological means.

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- Implement 'anywhere / anytime' learning environments.

- Reach the rural communities through appropriate context-specific, lifelong learning programmes for livelihood improvement and wealth creation.

- Colloborate with organizations/institutions for cost-efficacy in products and product delivery.

- Emerge, with collaboration, as a nodal centre and digital repository for ODL, housing learning objects and databases and a centre for staff development for continuous professional development and for creating proactive, multi-tasking work culture.

- Become a leader in ODL in the State and coordinate and implement standards in ODL.

ITEM NO. 1.2

CONSIDERED THE PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION OF BUILDINGS FOR THE UNIVERSITY IN THE LAND ALLOTED BY THE GOVERNMENT AT SAIDAPET

Resolved that the Draft Plans and Financial Estimates for the construction of Buildings in the land allotted by the Government at Saidapet, be recommended to the Syndicate for approval.

Further resolved that it be a recommendation to the Syndicate that the work may be entrusted to Public or Private Builders, through competitive bidding with built-in provision for the maintenance of time schedule and quality to prevent cost escalation.
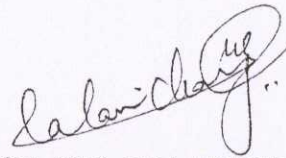
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ITEM NO. 1.3

CONSIDERED THE PROPOSAL TO INTRODUCE A BACHELOR PROGRAMME IN AUDIOLOGY, SPEECH & LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND DIPLOMA IN AUDITORY VERBAL THERAPHY AS OFF-CAMPUS PROGRAMMES
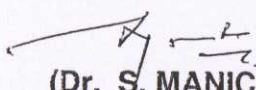
Resolved that the Proposal to introduce a Bachelor Programme In Audiology, Speech & Language Pathology and Diploma in Auditory Verbal Theraphy as Off-Campus Programmes may be recommended to the Syndicate for approval.

Further resolved that it be a recommendation to the Syndicate that a School of Health Sciences with skeleton staff may be established in the University to take care of the two proposed programmes and other programmes in this area, that may be introduced in future.

Directorate of Technical Education
Campus, Guindy, Chennai - 600 025.

(PROF. M.S. PALANICHAMY)
Vice-Chancellor

Date : August 04, 2005

(Dr. S. MANICKAM)
Registrar i/c

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