Minutes of the Emergency Academic Council Meeting held on 9th October,2009

The following members were present:

Prof. Sabyasachi SenGupta	Chairman,	Vice Chancellor, WBUT
Prof. B.B. Paira	Member	Director, HITK
Prof. Satyajit Chakraborty	Member	Director, IEM
Dr. Sanjay Prasad	Member	CIO,TCS eserve Ltd
Prof. Amitava Sarkar	Member	Director, School of Management
Prof. Amitabha Sinha	Member	Director, School of Information Technology
Prof. Subrata Dey	Member	Director, School of Biotechnology
Prof. Sudakshina Kundu	Member	Head, Department of Computer Sc. & Eng
Dr. Sajal Kr. Giri	Member	Teacher, BIT
Dr. Prabir Biswas	Member	Teacher, IBMR
Dr. Syed Rafikul Islam	Secretary	Registrar
Prof. Asit Kr. Guha	Permanent Invitee	Controller of Exam.WBUT

The following member was absent:

Prof. J. Duttagupta	Member	SINP
Prof. Kalyan Kr. Datta	Member	Director, SET, JU

 The meeting was presided over by Prof. Sabyasachi SenGupta, Chairman of the Council.
 The discussion took place on the following agenda.

To review the rules and regulations of this university related to the detention of students in a class.

Background of convening the emergency meeting

It was reported that in the last semester examinations (even)-2009 the failure rate was slightly higher in comparison to the earlier results. Several representations from the college authorities, students' community and other fora were submitted to the Vice-Chancellor to address the problems pertaining to the year lag and detention in a class. Moreover, a study of the relevant rules and regulations in some of the technical Universities of the country, specially the large affiliating one4s, and the socio-economic issues involved (like high tuition fees, refusal of banks to support a detained student etc.) prompted the discussion. The twin guidelines of a student-friendly review without compromising on the academic standards moderated the discussion.

To review of the total situation Vice- Chancellor constituted an Expert Committee with the following members:

1. Director, School of Engineering & Technology, WBUT
2. Director, School of Management & Sciences, WBUT
3. Prof. Satyajit Chakraborty, Member, Academic Council
4. Prof. B.B. Paira, Member, Academic Council
5. Principal, G.C.E.L.C.
6. Principal, C.T.T. Uluberia
7. Principal, Narula Institute of Technology
8. Prof. D. Bhattacharya, Director, A.O.T.
9. Prof. M.K. Ghosh, Formerly Dean (U.G.) IIT,Kharagpur
10. Prof. Prabir Biswas, Principal, IBMR & Member of Academic Council
11. Prof. Prabir Panda, Member, Executive Council
12. Controller of Examinations, WBUT
13. Asstt. Controller of Examinations, WBUT

Three students nominated by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor from different colleges were invited to submit their opinion.

Prof. Buddhadeb Chattopadhyay, Principal, G.C.E.L.C was proposed to act as the Chairman of the above committee and Controller of Examinations, WBUT to act as the Convenor.

The committee met on 16-09-2009, noted the submission of the students, and deliberated upon various aspects of the problems. At the said meeting, opinion converged on some focal points related to the issue and the members met again on 7th Otober, 2009. The following observations on Regulations for promotion and detention vis-à-vis Students' performance were made.

The Convenor of the said committee placed the observations before the Academic Council.

Post declaration of results, candidates are classified as (Regulation, Ch2, Art 6.2, pp14-15):

P	Passed and Promoted
XP	Eligible for promotion with backlogs;
X	Ineligible for promotion

Based on the observations of the appointed Committee the Academic Council discussed the issue in details to arrive at the following resolutions:

Em 1

Resolved that students under 'X' category, i.e. year lag students should attend the remedial classes with other regular students. College may demand up to a maximum of 10% of the regular tuition fee from the 'X' category students. While appearing at the University examination they need to pay 50% of the fee paid by regular students irrespective of the number of subjects (The students may be evaluated for the Internal assessment –max.marks 30– in accordance to the existing norms of marks distribution)

Em 2

In exercise of the powers conferred on the Academic Council (Section 17, The WBUT Act 2000), it was **resolved that** for all three-year first-degree UG programmes the YGPA be lowered to 4.5 for being eligible for promotion (under Clause 6.2ii) and the DGPA to pass the programme for a degree to 5.5 (under Clause 6.1 of the first regulation)

Em 3

Further resolved that for students of "XP" category remedial measures like assignment/guided studies etc. should be arranged by the colleges for the backlog papers along with their regular programme. They need to attend at least 2 (two) class tests for backlog subjects and earn their new Internal Assessment Marks (max. marks 30)

Em 4

Vice Chancellor thereafter placed two letter one from some affected students and another from the Leader of the Opposition, WB State Assembly, forwarded by the Hon'ble MiC, HE,. A prolonged discussion did not lead to a consensus.

Resolved to leave the matter to the Chairman for appropriate decision through further consultation.

(Sabyasachi SenGupta)   (Syed Rafikul Islam)
Chairman & Vice Chancellor   Secretary & Registrar

A review of regulations existing in similar Universities of the country suggest that the YGPA may be considered to be a good indicator of the general quality of a student. Further, most Universities have also made the 6.0 YGPA as a cutoff for passing the class or the course. WBUT also stipulates a DGPA of 6.0 for successfully completing a four year degree programme (Article 6.1, First regulations,pp 63)

Consequently, in connection with Article 6.2.iii, FR pp 64, the Chairman, Academic Council, in exercise of the authority extended at the Emergency Academic Council meeting held on 9th October,2009 **proposes that** for all four-year first-degree programmes, students with a YGPA of at least 6.0 and has not more than one backlog at any stage below the present level from which the promotion is sought and the total number of backlog papers including those in the present level not exceeding a total of four backlogs will be eligible for promotion to the next higher level.

It may also be **proposed that** for all three-year first degree UG programmes, students with a YGPA of at least 5.5 and has not more than one backlog at any stage below the present level from which the promotion is sought and the total number of backlog papers including those in the present level not exceeding a total of four backlogs will be eligible for promotion to the next higher level.

The proposal contained in the above two paragraphs along with the resolutions adopted at the Emergency Academic Council meeting held on 9th October,2009 be implemented with immediate effect.

(Sabyasachi SenGupta)
Chairman AC & Vice Chancellor