

MINUTES OF THE TWELFTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON 23 DECEMBER 2011 AT 11:00 HRS AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM

The twelfth meeting of the Board of Management was held on 23 December 2011 at 11:00 hrs at the Conference Room.

PRESENT:

The following were present:

Dr R K Pachauri Chairman

Prof Bhavik R Bakshi

Dr Rajiv Seth

Dr Leena Srivastava

Dr Arabinda Mishra

Dr Prateek Sharma

Prof Vinod Tewari

Prof V K Bhalla

Dr Prodipto Ghosh

Mr T N Thakur

Mr Shri Prakash

Prof S Sundar

Mr Prabir Sengupta

Mr V J Rao attended the meeting on behalf of Mr Tulsi Tanti.

Mr Sunil Kumar, Mr Anurag Behar, Mr Arun Seth and Prof Parthasarthi Shome were unable to attend the meeting.

The meeting started with a welcome by the Chairman to the newly appointed members of the Board of Management. Thereafter, the Registrar gave a detailed presentation to the Board of Management on the structure of the University, the existing programmes, the multidisciplinarity across programmes and collaborations with other institutions.

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Item No. 1 To confirm the minutes of the eleventh meeting of the Board of Management held on 12 May 2010.

The minutes of the eleventh meeting of the Board of Management held on 12 May 2010 were confirmed, as circulated.

Item No. 2 Matters for information

(i) The Board was informed about the status of the M.Sc., MBA, MA (PP&SD), MA (SDP), M.Tech and the doctoral programmes at the TERI University.

There was a discussion on the MA (SDP) programme, including the programme outlines. It was brought out that policy oriented programmes should not be replicas of the MBA programmes and that they must have a very clear policy orientation.

It was suggested that the content of the programme should be reviewed, keeping in mind potential avenues of employment of the students who graduate from the programme.

It was also suggested that a stakeholder dialogue could be held so as to involve stakeholders, who could also be potential employers.

(ii) The Board was informed about the MoUs signed by the TERI University since the last meeting of the Board – these include MoUs with Carleton University, Canada, ESRI India, TOR Vergata Economic Foundation, Italy and Freiburg University, Germany.

Item No. 3 New programmes.

The Board was apprised about a new programme - leading to MBA (Urban Management) - which is planned to be introduced in the academic year commencing July 2012.

Item No. 4 Chairs/Scholarships

(a) The Board was informed that UNESCO has approved an Academic Chair in Climate Science and Policy at the TERI University.

The Board discussed and approved the appointment of Prof. V Ramanathan, Distinguished Professor of Atmospheric and Climate Science at the SCRIPPS Institute of Oceanography, University of California as the UNESCO Chair for Climate Science and Policy.

It was also suggested that this Chair could leverage the IMD-TERI linkage.

(b) The Board was informed that the Open Society Institute is likely to offer up to ten scholarships for students from Afghanistan and Nepal effective from the next academic year.

Item No. 5 To report the decisions taken by the Chancellor on behalf of the Board of Management.

The Board was informed about the various decisions taken by the Chancellor on behalf of the Board of Management.

These include appointment of faculty members, re-designations, and inclusion of names in the panel of experts to sit at the Selection Committee for faculty members. The Board of Management approved all the decisions taken by the Chancellor.

The Chairman requested members of the Board to suggest names of experts, who they felt could be included in the potential list of experts for selection of faculty members.

Item No. 6 To approve the audited accounts of the financial year 2009-10.

The audited accounts of the financial year 2009-10, as recommended by the Finance Committee, were discussed and approved by the Board of Management.

Item No. 7 To approve the audited accounts of the financial year 2010-11.

The audited accounts of the financial year 2010-11, as recommended by the Finance Committee, were discussed and approved by the Board of Management.

It was pointed out that the auditor has indicated that assets at the University have not been physically verified during the financial year. It was suggested that a physical verification of the assets be carried out and discrepancies, if any, are to be appropriately dealt with, in the books of accounts.

It was also brought out that the amount budgeted for the library was very small. However, since the main library is located in TERI, and is available for use by students and faculty, it was suggested that this be indicated as a footnote in future.

Item No. 8 To consider and approve the financial estimates for the financial year 2011-12.

The income estimates of recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the financial year 2011-12, as recommended by the Finance Committee, were discussed and approved by the Board of Management.

The Chairman suggested that the University could institute ten fellowships for deserving Ph.D students from the next academic year. This was approved by the Board.

Item No. 9 To consider and approve the creation of the Department of Business Sustainability.

The Board discussed and approved the creation of a new Department of Business Sustainability, which would offer the existing, as well as new MBA programmes at the University.

The Department of Business Sustainability would be created under the Faculty of Policy and Planning.

Item No. 10 To discuss on issues related to the University's future growth.

The Board discussed issues related to University's future growth.

- (i) It was suggested that a study be carried out on the scope and relevance of all the programmes offered at the TERI University, keeping in mind the demands of society. The study could bring out the potential employers in various programmes and these programmes could be made more relevant, not only to the requirements of society, but also to market opportunities.
- (ii) It was suggested that the TERI University should try and sensitize the industry to what the graduates of the University could do. This could be done through various industry bodies, and possibly road shows through affiliates of these bodies. The Department of Public Enterprises could be approached to provide the requirements of the public sector. It could also be approached for various projects, for which proposals could be drawn up at the University. The National Banks Association could also be approached for looking at the requirements of the banking sector.
- (iii) It was suggested that there could be a greater involvement of the TERI BCSD for ascertaining the requirements of various sectors of the industry, especially with regard to the MBA programmes at the TERI University.
- (iv) It was suggested that feedback could be taken from the alumni working in various positions, in order to ascertain any revision which might be required in the syllabi at the University.
- (v) It was suggested that a study could be done on the profile of students seeking admission to the TERI University and to study whether there has been any change in the last few years. This could help in future marketing of the programmes at the University.
- (vi) It was suggested that a greater use be made of Skype/video-conferencing for lectures from foreign faculty/Indian faculty who might not be able to be physically present at the University for guest lectures in various topics.
- (vii) A larger emphasis on MDPs, including certification courses, was suggested. These could include short programmes on carbon financing, CDM, EIA etc.

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The Registrar presented a summary of the possible new programmes at the existing and proposed campuses of the TERI University in the next 3 years.

For the upcoming campus at Hyderabad, the proposed campus plan as well as business plan is to be circulated to the members of the Board for their suggestions.

The Chairman suggested that the University draws up a five year perspective plan and present this at the next Board of Management meeting, so as to have a more detailed discussion on future growth of the University.

Item No. 11 Any other item with the permission of the Chair.

The Chairman announced that Dr. Bhavik R Bakshi, Vice Chancellor, has decided to leave the University and go back to his previous assignment.

He thanked the Vice Chancellor for the efforts put in during his tenure at the TERI University.

There being no other point, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.