



**Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the
Board of Management**

Venue: Board Room of the University

Date: February 21, 2015 at 10.00 am

The Fourth meeting of the Board of management of the IIHMR University was held on Saturday, February 21, 2015 at 10.00 am in the Board room of the University. Dr. S. D. Gupta, the President of the university chaired the meeting. The following members participated in the meeting:

1. Shri Anand Agarwal
2. Dr. Ashok Agarwal
3. Shri Sudarshan Jain
4. Shri Hemant Kaul
5. Dr. Malovika Pawar (on skype from Amsterdam)
6. Dr. P R Sodani
7. Dr. Anoop Khanna
8. Shri Bajrang Lal Sharma

At the outset, Dr. S. D. Gupta welcomed all the participating members of the meeting and thanked them for sparing their valuable time for the meeting. The chairman requested the members to observe silence for two Minutes in reverence and to pay homage to Shri M. L. Mehta, the first Chairman of the University. It was a uniform feeling in the members of the Board that Shri Mehta's untiring and incessant efforts led the IIHMR to its premier position. His prodigious Contributions in building up this organization were remembered with gratitude and respect.

The Chairman granted leave of absence to Shri Shravan Sahani, Shri Vivek Sawant and Dr. Ashok Pangaria. After confirming the quorum of the meeting, the agenda of the meeting was taken for discussion. The summary record of decisions and deliberations held in the meeting is as under:

1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Third meeting of the Board of Management held on November 07, 2014.

The Chairman informed in the meeting that no comments/ observations have been received from the members on the Minutes of the Third meeting and therefore, the Minutes may be confirmed. The Board unanimously confirmed the Minutes of the Third meeting.

2. Review of Action taken on decisions of the last meeting.

The Board considered the action taken report on the decisions taken in the Third meeting of the Board. The Board expressed its satisfaction on the actions taken in compliance of the decisions with certain observations on the following points:

- 2(iii) The modified personnel policy is in force and the policy will be amended as required from time to time.
- 2(iv) As per the decision of the Board, the documents on viability and market needs for the new courses was to be prepared. The Board expressed its displeasure and concern that why the viability document on Health Economics, Finance and Insurance could not be submitted even after 03 months of the decision? The Board authorized the President to look into such matters and take appropriate actions for non compliance of the Board decisions.

The Board also observed that the University should take up the matter related to approval of Distance Education courses with the Union Minister, Higher Education, MHRD and the Chairman, UGC.

- 2(v) On rejuvenating the alumni association, the Board considered a suggestion given by Shri Sudarshan Jain to involve the alumni in decision-making process of the university. It was decided that an alumnus of the university should be a special invitee member of the Board for one year. The president shall nominate such alumnus for participation in the Board meetings for a period of one year.
- 3III(ii) The Board observed that on the matter related to improvement in quality of teaching, research and trainings in the University, we had very strong fundamentals but over these years the other Institutions have come either to our level or have gone even higher on the ladder. Therefore the inertia, which has somehow crept in, needs to be tackled.

3(xiii) The Board deliberated in detail about the MPH programme being offered by the University in collaboration with the JHU. The Board showed its concern on the small class size of 05 students in cohort 2 of the programme. The Board was of the view that the bottlenecks in admission process of the course be removed in periodical consultation with the JHU officials. In view of the Board the programme is quite prestigious and the University should aggressively market this programme on the basis of its strengths, quality teaching inputs, global exposure and high employability. It was also observed by the Board that the University may focus on the concrete steps to be taken for achieving the break even in the course and may also examine the concept of return on investment to the students.

4(iii) The functionality of the Centre for Injury Research (CIR) was also discussed in detail. The Board was very appreciative of the new initiative in collaboration with the JHU. The Board observed as under:

(a) That vehicular accidents and road safety call for a multi-disciplinary approach and hence the convergence of various Government departments and voluntary organizations is a pre requisite for wider consultations and better results.

(b) It was indicated that draft Indian Motor vehicle Act has already been put in public domain and a Parliamentary Committee is also working on it. Therefore, the proposed Centre may involve itself with the processes of the ministry of Road Transport and Highways.

(c) The Board suggested that this notable initiative be given wide publicity.

Shri Sudarshan Jain was of the view that there is abundant scope to connect the activities of the CIR with some Pharmaceutical companies like Medtronic for research grants and impact studies and he assured full co-operation in connecting the University with the concerned.

3. Reporting and ratification items:

I. Updates on marketing activities.

The Board noted the updates. Shri Hemant Kaul wanted to know about the processes and different activities undertaken by Ad Factor and also whether there is any target of achieving the global and national ranks? It was decided in the meeting that the Marketing manager of the University along with the Ad Factor in charge at Jaipur will give a presentation before Shri Kaul in the next week.

II. Academic, placement and internship updates

The Board noted the progress and observed that the University should analyze the trends of pay packages, feedback of the employers and market needs in a systematic manner.

III. Deliberations in Meetings of the Boards of studies

The Board noted the details of the discussions of the Boards of studies.

IV. Conference under School of Pharmaceutical Management

The Board noted the contents of the deliberations of the conference. Dr. Malovika Pawar wanted to know from Shri Sudarshan Jain that despite the rapid expansion of the Pharmaceutical industry in India why is it that the SPM Academic Programme of the University is on a decline? Shri Sudarshan Jain categorically stated that the programme has suffered on account of poor faculty and sub optimal course contents. The Board observed that the University should take all possible steps to turn around the situation.

V. Management Development Programmes

The Board noted the diversity of MDPs and expressed its satisfaction.

VI. Research Projects undertaken by the University

The Board noted the progress in research projects.

VII. Approval of the Minutes of the Academic Council

The Board considered the Minutes of the Academic council held on February 16, 2015 and approved them.

VIII. Proposed UGC inspection

The Board noted the details of the proposed activity.

IX. Second Report of the Fee Fixation Committee

The Board considered the Minutes of the Second meeting of the Fee Fixation Committee. It also ratified the decision the decision of the then Chairman on lowering the fee structure of the four courses to Rs. 3.00 lakhs for the academic session 2015-16 in place of Rs. 4.20 lakhs approved by the Fee Fixation Committee. The Board also observed that the decision on the fee structure will be reviewed again for the academic session 2016-17.

4. Issues for Discussion and Decision

I. Transitioning of the University

Dr. S D Gupta apprised in the meeting that after IIHMR's incorporation as a University, Late Shri M. L. Mehta, the then chairman asked Dr. Vivek Bhandari to prepare a road map for its future. Dr. Bhandari has submitted a document on transitioning of the IIHMR University. Dr. S D Gupta shared his experience in the meeting and emphasized that the IIHMR has a strong legacy of health research management, therefore it should capitalize on this acquired excellence and may continue its focus on the vast disciplines of health for some years, and after about a decade it may consider for expansion in other areas.

Shri Anand Agarwal was of the view that even with focus on the health related legacy the University has an innate opportunity to work on a bigger canvass. Therefore the University may consider the paradigm shift to diverse disciplines.

Dr. Malovika Pawar contended that while keeping focus on health, the University may also choose to have other schools like

School of Pharmaceutical Management (SPM) and School of Rural Management (SRM). She further added that though the Pharmaceutical Course under the SPM is directly related to health and has high employability yet the admissions are plummeting. Likewise the Rural Management Course has adequate employment opportunities in rural banks, NGOs, Livelihood and Skill development missions and Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects but the Course failed to attract students. She was of the view that the Board should take an informed decision about the functionality of the schools, and provide resources and man power so that the schools can grow well. There is urgent need for an enabling environment and the full support of the University. We shall have to take necessary steps to support the new schools.

Shri Hemant Kaul stated that the university can carry on with building the traditional discipline but it should address what it aspires for? He drew attention of the Board members to Dr. Bhandari's document which reveals that recent trends in admission applications, placements and MDPs are the cause of concern virtually at all levels. He observed that the University should realize that it has become static and needs to reinvent itself.

After having discussed in detail about the transitioning issue the Board finally observed:

- (a) The sponsoring body is in search of a professional consultancy firm who can guide the University appropriately on this matter.
- (b) The University is going for its annual retreat sometime in April wherein this issue will also be addressed in-house.
- (c) The University will take all necessary steps to comply with the decisions already taken by the Board regarding functionality of the Schools.

(II) Recruitment of faculty members and other support staff in the University.

The Chairman apprised the Board for requirement of the faculty and support staff in the University. After having discussed the matter, the Board authorized the President to recruit the necessary personnel and to report in the next Board meeting for ratification.

5. Any Other matter with the permission of the chair.

(i) Regulations/policy on fee exemption, award of scholarships and fellowships and institution of medals and prizes

The Chairman shared with the Board members that a document on policy on scholarship has been prepared. He further clarified that a Committee has also been constituted at the corporate level to formulate policy on scholarships. Dr. Malovika Pawar suggested that Government of India Post Metric Scholarships are also available to all the postgraduate students belonging to Scheduled caste, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and the Minorities. Therefore the University can facilitate such students for award of the scholarships. The Board observed that in light of the corporate committee's report the University may formulate its regulations.

(ii) It was also brought to the notice of the Board that the Budget for the Year 2015-16 is being prepared and that it may be considered by the members by circulation. The Board observed that the Budget may be mailed for consideration and approval to the members.

(iii) The Chairman informed the Board that the admission process for the second cohort of the Ph.D. Started in January and for 20 seats in this programme 117 students applied and after the admission test and personal interview

14 students have been given admission so far. Owing to Reservation Policy of the State the vacant slots will be filled in first week of the next month. The Board noted the progress and acknowledged the hard work of the team.

- (iv) The Chairman also shared with the Board that a grant worth Rs. 20 lakhs have been set apart in the current financial year for in-house research of the University. He further added that for this grant some 18 proposals were received. Out of the 18 proposals received, 07 proposals worth Rs. 9.74 lakhs have been cleared by the Research Grant Committee. The Board noted the progress and appreciated the initiative.
- (v) The Board observed that the annual calendar of the Board meetings for the next year may be finalized for saving the dates well in advance. The Board decided to have three meetings in the year 2015-16 on **May 20, 2015** (also the convocation day), **October 9, 2015** (also the Foundation day) and **March 19, 2016** respectively.

The Meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.