

Minutes of the 60th Meeting of the Board of Governors of The ICFAI University, Dehradun held on April 23, 2024 at 11:00 hrs. through blended mode.

Members present:

Prof. (Dr.) Uday B. Desai, Chancellor	Chairman
Prof. (Dr.) Ram Karan Singh, Vice-Chancellor	Member Secretary
Prof. R P Kaushik	Member (through video conferencing)
Prof. J Mahender Reddy	Member (through video conferencing)
Dr. T R K Rao	Member (through video conferencing)
Dr. S Kishore Kumar	Member (through video conferencing)
Dr. P. P. Dhyani	Member (through video conferencing)
Dr. Ramesh Chand Ramola, Registrar	Secretary

Invitees:

Mrs. Ratna Bhanu, GM Finance	(through video conferencing)
Mr. Srikanth Pothuri, Vice President	(through video conferencing)
Prof.(Dr.) Arun Kumar Singh, Director- IQAC	
Prof. (Dr.) Santanu Roy, Director- IBS	
Prof. (Dr.) Tapan Kumar Chandola, Dean- ILS	
Dr. Meena Bhandari, Dean In charge -IED.S	
Dr. Puneet Kr. Gupta, Research Coordinator	
Mr. G. F. Chakravarthi, CEO - IUD	
Mr. Amit Kumar Bera, Deputy Director- IQAC	
Mr. Diwakar Das, Placement Manager- ILS	

The meeting was convened under the chairmanship of Prof. (Dr.) Uday B. Desai, Chancellor. Prof. (Dr.) Desai presided over the meeting and welcomed all the members. He also allowed member secretary to start meeting. Throughout the meeting, the following agenda items were presented, approved, reviewed and noted.

60.01 Grant of Leave of absence, if any

Principal Secretary (Higher Education) Govt. of Uttarakhand, Prof. (Dr.) Rupa Shah, and Prof. (Dr.) Surekha Dangwal could not attend the meeting and were granted leave of absence.

60.02 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Governors

The Minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Governors of The ICFAI University, Dehradun held on December 26, 2023 were confirmed.

60.03 Follow up Action on the minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Governors:

The follow-up action taken on the minutes of the 59th Meeting of the Board of Governors convened for The ICFAI University, Dehradun, was presented and noted. In response to the deliberations, the board articulated several strategic directives aimed at enhancing the institution's academic excellence and operational efficiency.

Firstly, the board advocated for the convening of a dedicated strategic planning meeting slated for the second week of June 2024. This meeting is envisioned as a pivotal forum for articulating both the long-term and the short-term goals of the university. Emphasizing the importance of clarity and conciseness, it was suggested that each

schools outline their respective action plans in succinct executive summary with bullet points.

Furthermore, recognizing the pivotal role of faculty in shaping the academic landscape, the board endorsed measures to augment the faculty cadre ratio. To this end, the university has already initiated recruitment drives, resulting in the appointment of four faculty members within the Tech School (ITS). Concurrently, recruitment processes are underway for the Law School (ILS), Business School (IBS), and Education School (IEdS).

Addressing concerns regarding the workload of PhD scholars and its impact on research quality, the board proposed guidelines to limit scholars' weekly workload to a maximum of six hours or the equivalent. Additionally, to incentivize research pursuits, the board recommended augmenting the doctorate fellowship and initiated proceedings to secure approval from the Head Quarters (HQ).

In alignment with academic best practices, the board underscored the importance of aligning PhD admissions with national standards, advocating for adherence to the National Eligibility Test (NET) and the university's entrance examination criteria.

Moreover, recognizing the significance of data transparency and accountability, the board advised the university to actively upload relevant data to the ABC portal post obtaining requisite approvals from HQ.

In a move to enrich the curriculum and promote indigenous knowledge systems, the board endorsed the introduction of a 2-credit course titled "Indian Knowledge System," scheduled to commence in the forthcoming semester. This course is envisioned to encompass seminars, term papers, guest lectures, and other related activities aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of India's rich cultural heritage and knowledge traditions.

Additionally, as part of its commitment to educational reform, the university is actively working towards the expeditious implementation of the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) across all undergraduate courses, in accordance with national directives.

Finally, the board expressed its commendation for the university's participation in the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024 ranking exercise and encouraged sustained engagement in future rankings, underscoring the institution's commitment to excellence in education and its ongoing pursuit of continuous improvement and growth.

60.04 Minutes of the 75th Meeting of the Board of Management

The minutes of the 75th Meeting of the Board of Management of the ICFAI University, Dehradun were noted.

60.05 Minutes of the 56th Meeting of the Academic Council

The Academic Council convened for its 56th meeting, during which the minutes of the previous session were thoroughly reviewed and acknowledged by the board members.

60.06 Review of Operations

i) Webinars /Guest Lecture/ Workshop Conducted

The Board noted the webinars, guest lectures, and workshops conducted by various schools of the University.

ii) Details of Research Publications by Faculty Members/Research Scholars

The research publication data was presented, and the Board congratulated the faculty members and research scholars for their contributions, including research articles, book chapters, conference proceedings, patents/design/copyright, and books, during the academic year 2023-24. The Board suggested that the Research Department furnish quarterly data on research publications, distinguishing between faculty and research scholars. This data would facilitate a comparative analysis of research productivity within the university ecosystem.

iii) Faculty Achievements

The Board appreciated the faculty's diverse achievements, including serving as reviewers for journals, acting as Session Chairs during international conferences, receiving awards like the International Education Excellence Award in Legal Studies, delivering online lectures, and mentoring the winners of the Rajasthan Police Hackathon.

iv) Student Achievements

The student achievements were presented and noted. The Chairperson highlighted two notable student achievements to the Board:

- i) B.Tech 3rd year students from ICFAI Tech School, The ICFAI University, Dehradun, participated in the Rajasthan Police Hackathon 1.0 and chose the problem 'Identify Fake websites, advertisement, and customer care numbers.' Our team, Kube Centrix, demonstrated exceptional talent and dedication, securing the prestigious FIRST Prize along with a Cash Prize of INR 50,000 at the Grand Finale of Hackathon 1.0 on January 18, 2024. The award ceremony was graced by the presence of the Hon'ble Governor of Rajasthan, Shri Kalraj Mishra.
- ii) Our Law BA-LLB (H) 3rd and 4th year students achieved the SECOND Prize along with a Cash Prize of INR 11,000 at the 1st International Moot Court Competition organized by Acropolis Institute of Law in Indore, Madhya Pradesh, on March 16-17, 2024.

The Board congratulates the students and mentors for these remarkable achievements.

v) Student Activities

The student activities were presented and noted.

60.07 Faculty Profile

The faculty profile and cadre ratio was presented and noted.

The presented school-wise faculty profiles were duly noted by the Board. The University is actively engaged in ongoing efforts to enhance the faculty cadre ratio, demonstrating a commitment to academic excellence. Furthermore, the Chairperson informed that ITS has successfully recruited four faculty members who are expected to join shortly, while recruitment processes for ILS, IBS and IEdS are currently underway. Additionally, the Board discussed the importance of appointing Professors of Practice from retired professors or industry experts in proximity to the university. This strategic move aims to enhance the university's reach within its ecosystem and foster closer ties with industry stakeholders.

60.08 Entering of MoU by The ICFAI University, Dehradun

The Board noted and expressed appreciation for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) established between The ICFAI University, Dehradun and KYIV National

Economic University, Ukraine, on November 07, 2023. This MoU signifies a commitment to fostering academic exchange and cooperation in education and research between the two esteemed institutions.

Moreover, the Board acknowledged the university's proactive efforts in enhancing collaborations and academic partnerships. It was highlighted that the university is actively pursuing the establishment of approximately 40 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) in both academia and industry by May 2024. The Board voiced its full support for these endeavors and eagerly anticipates the positive outcomes that will result from such collaborative efforts.

60.09 Status of Ph.D. Students

The details of research scholars, categorized by school and phase (full-time and part-time), were presented to the Board and duly noted.

60.10 Status of Placement

The details of school wise placement data was presented and noted. It was reported that the highest Cost to Company (CTC) for the University in the academic year 2023-24 is 36.75 lakhs per annum. Additionally, ITS students participating in internships have received a stipend of Rs.25000/- per month and Rs.18000/- per month for BCA students. The Board extended their congratulations to the Vice Chancellor and his team for this notable achievement.

60.11 Program Promotional Activities for the Admissions for AY 2024-25

The Marketing Head briefed the Board on the admission status for the academic year 2024-25, highlighting that the projected admission target for all programs at IUD is set at 900.

Additionally, it was noted that the University successfully organized a Principal Conclave on February 05, 2024, held in the University auditorium and coordinated by the Marketing Department team. Principals from various states in the northern region, including Uttar Pradesh, NCR, Jammu, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttarakhand, were invited to the event, with approximately 135 principals participated. The Board extended their congratulations and best wishes for the upcoming admission session in 2024.

60.12 University Ranking /Awards by External Agencies

The Board expressed their appreciation to the University for receiving rankings and awards from various external agencies. They emphasized the importance of focusing on NIRF ranking in the future and recommended a two-part representation for the ranking. One part would reflect the general ranking achieved by the University, while the other would detail the specific steps taken by the University to improve its NIRF ranking.

60.13 Budget for the Financial Year 2024-25

As per the Statute 1.14.1 of the ICFAI University First Statutes, 2004 the budget for the Financial Year 2024-25 is presented for the consideration and approval of the Board of Governors as per Section 21 (2)(d) of the ICFAI University Act. 2003. The Board members approved the same.

60.14 Information about NIRF, AISHE and AQAR

It is to inform the Board that The ICFAI University, Dehradun, actively participated in the National Institute Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2024 assessment, targeting rankings in the categories of Management, Law, and Overall performance. The university diligently compiled and submitted the required data for NIRF evaluation in January 2024, showcasing our commitment to benchmarking against national standards and enhancing institutional excellence across key disciplines.

Furthermore, the university submitted comprehensive data for the All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) for the academic year 2022-23 on April 03, 2024. This submission ensures that our institution's statistical data and performance metrics are accurately reflected in the national higher education database, supporting evidence-based policymaking and institutional planning.

Additionally, it is to inform the Board that the university diligently worked on the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for the academic year 2022-23. During the meeting, details about the report were discussed, highlighting the various quality enhancement initiatives, achievements, and challenges encountered by the institution. The AQAR is scheduled to be submitted before April 2024. This comprehensive report serves as a vital tool for internal assessment and continuous improvement, providing insights into the institution's performance and guiding future strategic initiatives. The Board members duly noted and expressed appreciation for the university's efforts in compiling the Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for the academic year 2022-23, NIRF 2024 and AISHE 2022-23.

60.15 Roadmap for Laboratory Enhancement (2024 – 2028)

The roadmap for Laboratory Enhancement (2024-2028) was presented to the Board and duly noted. During the discussion, a suggestion was made by a board member regarding the establishment of a Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Lab under the social science domain. Additionally, it was emphasized that the university should focus on incorporating the impact of engineering and technology into the course curriculum across various disciplines, including social sciences. These suggestions were carefully considered and will be taken into account in the future planning and development of the university's laboratory infrastructure and academic programs.

60.16 Compliance Report

The Compliance Report for the period ending March 31, 2024 was presented and noted.

60.17 Any other item with the Permission of the Chair:

During the meeting, the following implementation points were discussed:

- i. It was proposed that the vision of the Human-Computer Interaction (HCI) Lab should be highlighted in detail during the next Board of Governors (BoG) meeting. This presentation is expected to span approximately 2 to 3 pages and will provide a comprehensive overview of the lab's objectives, goals, and anticipated impact within the university ecosystem.
- ii. The university is urged to implement a rigorous monitoring system to track the peer-reviewed journal publications of each faculty member. This monitoring should occur

twice during each academic year to ensure consistency and adherence to scholarly publishing standards.

- iii. In order to foster a culture of research and innovation, it was suggested that faculty members be encouraged to write at least one Research and Development (R&D) project every three years and two research papers every academic year. This initiative aims to stimulate academic engagement, promote interdisciplinary collaboration, and contribute to the advancement of knowledge within respective fields.

These proposed implementation points underscore the university's commitment to academic excellence, research productivity, and continuous improvement.

60.18 Date for the Next meeting

It was agreed that the date of the next meeting will be fixed in consultation with the Chancellor and will be intimated later.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Prof. Uday B. Desai
Chairman