




ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES

To : Dean Academic Affairs.
From : Head, Department of Management Studies,
Sub. : Minutes of 8th Board of Studies meeting.

Respected Sir,

The 8th Board of Studies meeting of the Department of Management Studies was conducted on 30th December 2024. The minutes of the meeting are attached for your perusal.


[Prof. Parvez A. Mir]
Head DMS

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Encl: Minutes of meeting (02pages).



MINUTES OF THE 8th BOARD OF STUDIES MEETING Held on 30-12-2024

The 8th Board of Studies (BOS) meeting for the Department of Management Studies was held in the Business Lab on 30th December 2024 (Monday) at 11:00 am. The following members were present in the meeting:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. Prof. Parvez Ahmed Mir (Dean, SBS & Head, DMS) | (Chairperson) |
| 2. Prof. Amirul Hassan Ansari (<i>Attended online</i>) | (Subject expert/Member) |
| 3. Mr. Faiz Bakshi (<i>Attended online</i>) | (Industry expert/Member) |
| 4. Dr Asif Iqbal Fazili | (Member) |
| 5. Dr Anisa Jan | (Member) |
| 6. Dr M.A. Parray | (Co-Opted) |
| 7. Dr M. Asif Bashir Naqshbandi | (Co-Opted) |
| 8. Dr Irfan Bashir | (Co-Opted) |
| 9. Dr Shakeel ul Rehman | (Co-Opted) |
| 10. Dr Adil Zahoor | (Co-Opted) |
| 11. Dr Danish Khan | (Co-Opted) |
| 12. Dr Imran ul Amin | (Co-Opted) |

The Chairperson, Prof. Parvez Ahmed Mir, welcomed all the members and informed them about the department's activities. Prof. Mir also outlined the agenda for the meeting, which was subsequently discussed.

Item 1: Ratification of the approval of the delinking of SWAYAM courses from specific semesters in the IMBA program.

The Board extensively deliberated on the operational challenges faced by the department due to the existing mandate requiring students to complete SWAYAM courses during the third and fourth semesters of the IMBA program. Members highlighted that institutions offering SWAYAM courses frequently fail to adhere to the scheduled timelines for conducting examinations and publishing results. This misalignment has caused significant administrative difficulties for the department, particularly in meeting the deadlines for result submission. It was also noted that these delays have resulted in postponement of degree conferrals, adversely impacting students' academic and professional prospects. To address these issues and ensure a smoother operational framework, the department proposed that the SWAYAM courses be delinked from specific semesters and that students be allowed to complete the minimum number of SWAYAM-related credits by the end of first five semesters so that the results of the Swayam credit can be forwarded with the award rolls of the sixth semester. The proposal was forwarded to the Dean of Academic Affairs and was subsequently approved by the competent authority (communicated vide No: IUST/DAA-Acad/24/370, dated 23-07-2024) contingent upon ratification by the Board of Studies.

Furthermore, the university policy mandates that a student must earn a minimum of six credits through open electives to complete a 3-year degree program successfully. However, the competent authority accorded a one-time exemption of considering Swayam-I, Swayam-II and Psychological



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Islamic University of Science and Technology
1-University Avenue, Awantipora, J&K

Foundations of Management courses as open electives to the IMBA (Batch 2018) to allow them to exit the program after 3 years with a BBA degree. The approval was communicated to the department vide No.: IUST/Acad/22/377, dated 28-02-2022, to be placed before the Board of Studies for recommendation and ratification.

Decision: After comprehensive deliberation, the Board unanimously approved the proposal, acknowledging its potential to streamline operations, improve student flexibility, and reduce the risk of delayed degree issuance. Under the revised framework, students would have the option to complete the required four SWAYAM-related credits within the first five semesters, thereby enhancing academic flexibility and minimizing administrative challenges. The Board recommended that the award rolls for the SWAYAM credits be submitted along with the award rolls of the sixth semester, facilitating a more operationally efficient credit allocation process. Additionally, it was resolved that the four SWAYAM credits and the Psychological Foundations of Management course would be counted as open electives following the university's statutes for awarding a three-year degree program. The arrangement shall apply to all the batches of IMBA program, effective retrospectively from Batch 2018.

The Board suggested that credit transfers for SWAYAM courses occur through the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) to ensure a seamless transition and academic progression for students.

Item 2: Creation of industry-specific courses for student internships in MBA, MBA-IB, and IMBA programs.

Against the growing emphasis on apprenticeship-embedded programs and NEP 2020's focus on imparting skill-oriented education and training, the Board highlighted the importance of internships in providing students with practical exposure and bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and real-world applications. It noted that internships are pivotal in equipping students with industry-specific skills, enhancing employability, and fostering an understanding of organisational dynamics. The board was presented with a detailed proposal for 20 industry-specific internship courses. These courses were designed to serve diverse sectors, reflecting the industry's evolving needs and students' varying interests. The proposed sectors included automotive, banking, tourism, hospitality, telecommunications, healthcare, public policy, and more.

Board members acknowledged the proposal's comprehensiveness and commended its alignment with emerging industry trends and the specialised requirements of different sectors, recognising that these courses would provide students with targeted training and exposure, enabling them to contribute effectively to their chosen fields.

Decision: The Board unanimously approved the introduction of the proposed industry-specific internship courses. The department will allocate faculty members to supervise and coordinate the internships. The proposed courses will be offered to students from batch 2023 and onwards (for MBA and MBA-IB programs) and batch 2020 and onwards (for the IMBA program), as these batches are scheduled to undergo internships in the ensuing session.

Item 3: Inclusion of additional research-oriented courses in the discipline-centric electives of the MBA-IB program in line with NEP 2020.

The Board discussed aligning the MBA-IB program with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 principles, mainly its focus on fostering research, interdisciplinary learning, and holistic education.

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It was highlighted that including research-oriented courses would enhance students' analytical and problem-solving capabilities while equipping them with skills critical for academic and professional success in International Business.

Three new elective courses were proposed:

- a) Term Paper - International Business: In this course, students identify a relevant issue or trend in international business, conduct a detailed investigation, and present their findings in a term paper. The course aims to build skills in independent research, critical thinking, and scholarly writing.
- b) SWAYAM Course from the International Business Area: This course allows students to choose an advanced-level SWAYAM course in International Business. Students can explore specialised topics, learn from national experts, and engage with diverse academic content.
- c) Background Research Paper (International Business): This course focuses on students developing a comprehensive background paper on a selected international business topic. It involves a systematic literature review, analysis of global case studies, and formulation of actionable insights for guiding future research.

The Board underscored the importance of these courses in enhancing academic rigour and practical relevance, enabling students to develop a deeper understanding of global business dynamics. Members also noted that these electives would help students build strong research portfolios, which would aid in pursuing higher studies or competitive roles in multinational corporations and global consultancy firms. The evaluation scheme for the term paper shall be the same as approved by the 7th Board of Studies for the MBA and IMBA programs.

Decision: The Board unanimously approved the inclusion of the proposed electives in the MBA-IB program. The department was directed to ensure that adequate resources, such as access to databases, research tools, and faculty mentorship, are provided to support these courses. Additionally, the department shall explore opportunities to link these courses with real-world projects to offer solutions to pressing issues faced by businesses, economy, and society.

Any other item with the chair's approval:

Considered modification in the statutes governing the IMBA program notified vide University Order No.: 109 (Est.) of 2018, dated 11-06-2018.

The statutes governing the IMBA program state that "at the successful completion of ten semesters, students will be offered BBA and MBA degrees." This clause has created challenges for students who have successfully completed six semesters and progressed to the seventh semester because they are not offered the BBA degree until they have completed ten semesters. The BBA is offered only to students who exit the program after completing six semesters.

Decision: The Board realised that due to the unavailability of degree certificates, the students who successfully complete six semesters and progress to the seventh semester face hurdles in applying for jobs for which the minimum qualification is graduation. Therefore, to allow such students explore future career prospects without losing precious time, the Board recommended that the BBA degree (along with the transcript) be granted to students who successfully complete the first six semesters of the IMBA program, irrespective of whether they exit. For those who choose to continue the program, a separate

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Handwritten signature: Irfan Haidar

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Handwritten signature: Egrah Pige

Handwritten signature: Danish

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Handwritten signature: Pabehar



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transcript and degree for an MBA will be granted at the successful completion of ten semesters. The Board emphasised that allowing multiple exit options also upholds the spirit enshrined in the NEP 2020 vision.

Additionally, Prof. Ansari advised the department to start working on introducing a one-year MBA program in line with the NEP 2020 recommendations. Prof. Parvez A. Mir informed the board that the department will soon introduce a B.Voc in Tourism & Hospitality Management. The preliminary work on drafting the curriculum and program structure has already started and is currently in the completion stage. Based on the input of Mr. Faiz Bakshi (an industry expert), the Board advised the department to explore the possibility of offering courses on adventure tourism and horticulture management.

To address the evolving academic and industry requirements, each program's course structure and content were revised to ensure that the changes accounted for more than thirty percent. This approach reflects a commitment to keeping the curriculum relevant and aligned with current standards.

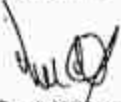
Note: The revised course structures for the MBA, MBA-III, and IMBA programs, after incorporating changes based on the decisions taken at the 8th BoS meeting, are appended to these minutes in annexures I, II, and III, respectively.


Dr. Imran ul Amin
Co-opted

Irfan Bashir

Dr. Irfan Bashir
Co-opted


Dr. Danish Khan
Co-opted


Dr. Asif Bashir
Naqshbandi
Co-opted


Dr. Akhbar
Co-opted


Dr. M. A. Paray
Co-opted


Dr. Shakeel ur
Rehman
Co-opted


Dr. Ansa Jan
Member


Dr. Asif I. Fazli
Member


Mr. Faiz Bakshi
Industry expert


Prof. Amir ul Hassan
Ansari
Subject expert


Prof. Parvez A. Mir
Chairperson