

(x) University Space Committee -  
Report of the Committee

The space Committee appointed by the Council has submitted its final report which is placed at Annexure 'A'

The matter is placed before the Council for consideration.

FINAL REPORT  
OF THE SPACE COMMITTEE (CONSTITUTED BY NEHU EC)

Receiving a number of representations from various departments of the University, especially science departments that have moved to permanent buildings in the main campus of the University, the Executive Council of the University constituted a Space Committee to recommend the Council ways and means of approaching the problem and for an optimal use of accommodations available in permanent buildings in the Campus as well as the specific problems of the city based departments. The Committee had several meetings during 1997 & 1998 including onspot verifications in the Campus. The Committee also called for detailed information from all the departments and centres to which 10 departments responded (Annexure-A). The Committee presumes that other centres & departments may not have any serious problems at the moment.

On the basis of discussions, spot visits and analysis of data obtained from departments certain picture emerges and the difficulties faced by some departments could be viewed in that light. Some of the issues have been already highlighted in the interim report of the Committee of March, 1998. The Committee is of certain general opinions and specific recommendations based on the general and specific analysis.

#### GENERAL

1. Whereas there are shortages of space in the permanent campus, the buildings vacated or likely to be vacated a Bijni Complex are not optimally used. Specific allocation to academic or administrative wings must be made based on certain objective criteria like students and teacher strength or number of administrative staffs in units. Most allocations are adhoc at the moment. This needs a coordinated and norm based approach for readjustments and all future allocations.
2. All future permanent construction plans must use norms stated by UGC plus a projected faculty, students and staff strength for the next 10 years or so, lest when a new building is constructed, the units by the time move there are already in shortage of space.
3. There has also been no parity in construction plan of some of the science departments with similar faculty and students strength but large disparity between space allocated/constructed, say between Physics/Chemistry vis-a-vis biology departments or with Mathematics department within the same school.

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4. Some departments in Mayurbhanj complex also are in acute shortage of space affecting their academic programmes that requires attention.

5. Buildings constructed for a specific department/centre must be allocated to **them only**. In cases where departments are reluctant to move, the building may be allocated to another willing department on permanent basis and the former may be debarred from further allocation.

#### SPECIFIC

1. Some recommendations have already been made in the interim report. The Committee reiterates them.

2. However, Mathematics department has the lowest allocation in the building plan of Physical Sciences(566 sq.m) and are in acute shortage of space. It was reported that an annexe has been constructed for them which may be allotted to them at the earliest. However, to overcome immediate problems(Mathematics has provided office space for the Dean's Office and Proctor's Office from space allotted to them from Chemistry Dept.) they may be given one small and one **big** room of the annexe immediately and the University may use rest of the space for other pressing needs. Once the first phase of the administrative block is ready, they may be given the entire annexe.

3. In light of the recommendations on the Botany and Zoology Deptt. the structural suitability of the first floor constructions may first be verified by CDD.

4. In light of shifting of the Chemistry department, the Examination has to move out. The Committee deliberated on the issue of space problem of the Examination Department (Admn) and is of the opinion that from functionality point of view the department should be at one place. Since in the permanent campus there is acute shortage of space, it could be temporarily housed in Bijni Complex. It is also suggested that the auditorium in the lecture hall complex that is lying unused pending furnishing may be temporarily given to Examination for storage purposes till the hall is otherwise ready and this will ease space requirement of the Examination Dept.

5. In Mayurbhanj Complex, Hindi department could be moved to a small wing of Political Sc. once it moves to permanent campus. The other half of political sc. may be allotted to Economics which is in shortage of space. The space vacated by Hindi may be allotted to Linguistics. Department of Commerce can be moved to Sociology once it moves out. This will help Commerce and Economics faculties to interact and utilise each other strengths and expertise.

6. At the time, Geography department is seriously handicapped and fragmented with some labs and the map section located now near the DSW's Office. There are shortages of class rooms and for a batch of 32 students only one cartographic lab is available - minimum should be two. There is no lab space for Aerial Photogrammetry, and at least one lab would be necessary - these are compulsory papers. There is no common room for students, shortage of two rooms for the existing faculty and no space for nearly 50 Ph.D scholars. Once History moves out, the entire wing may be given to geography. It may be noted Geography does not figure in the building plan of Ninth Plan either and the density may further increase in next 5-7 years.

The Committee feels that steps as suggested may help in easing the situation both in the Permanent Campus as well as in the city based units.

Sd/-

A C Mohapatra

Chairperson  
Shillong dated 10th July, 1998.

- (v) Release Advertisement to University News on bill basis.

EC:97:98:6:7:(v): This item was read along with item No.5:1:(i).

- (vi) Allotment of P. Type Quarter.

EC:97:98:6:7:(vi): The Council considered the allotment of P. Type Quarters to Prof. JB Bhattacharjee and Prof. RL Walli and RESOLVED that both be allotted P. Type quarters and they be required to vacate the present quarters within the prescribed time. The allotment of the quarters should be finalised at the earliest possible.

- (vii) Nomination by Executive Council of one member to the Governing Board of NEHU, Publications.

EC:97:98:6:7:(vii): The Council considered the nomination of a member to the Governing Board of NEHU Publications and RESOLVED to nominate Dr. RN Sharan, Reader in Bio- Chemistry.

- (viii) Deferment of House Building Advance by 2 (two) years.

EC:97:98:6:7:(viii): The Council considered the deferment of the House Building advance granted to Prof. SS Khare by a period of two years and RESOLVED that the advance be deferred to the year 2000 and the next person in line be granted the 1998 allotment.

- (ix) Powers and Functions of the Chief Proctor and Constitution of the Disciplinary Council.

EC:97:98:6:7:(ix): The Council considered Ordinance OD-8 and RESOLVED to replace the existing ordinance with the ordinance at Annexure 'D' and also further resolved to approve the amendment of Statute 9 as per Annexure 'E'.

- (x) University Space Committee- Report of the Committee.

EC:97:98:6:7:(x): The Council considered the recommendations of the Space Committee and RESOLVED that the same may be examined by Estate Section.