H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF STUDIES – B.S. FINTECH (SELF-FINANCE PROGRAMME) OF H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS) FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025–26 – SEMESTER 3 & 4, HELD ON 25TH APRIL, 2025, AT 11:00 AM, AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, HLCC CAMPUS, AHMEDABAD.

The following members were present for the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Particulars	Attendance
1.	Dr. Mona Kelshikar	Principal & Chairperson	Present
2.	Prof. Pravin Parmar	Head, Department of Statistics	Present
3.	Dr. Nisha Bhavsar	Head, Department of Accountancy & PG Program In-charge	Present
4.	Prof. Yogendra Shastri	Placement Officer	Present
5.	Dr. Sandip Parmar	Head, Department of Management	Present
6.	Dr. Radha Tiwari	Department of Economics	Present
7.	Dr. Jayvantsinh Sarvaiya	Principal, H K Arts College	Online
8.	Mr. Rahul Kewalramani	Industry Expert	Online
9.	Mr. Chirag Shah	Industry Expert	Present
10.	Mr. Vipul Shah	Alumni, HLCC	Absent
11.	Mr. Bhavesh Rathod	Alumni, HLCC	Present

Chairperson of the Meeting:

The meeting commenced with a warm welcome by Dr. Mona Kelshikar, Principal and Chairperson, who highlighted the importance of the meeting in the context of reviewing and finalizing the curriculum for the **B.S. FinTech (Self-Finance) Programme** for the **Academic Year 2025–26**. She acknowledged the valuable contributions of all members present and emphasized the need for continual curriculum enhancement to stay aligned with industry and academic standards.

Subsequently, the agenda was taken up for discussion as follows:

1. Review on the curriculum Changes in Semester 1
2. Syllabus Framing and Finalization for Semester 3 and 4 (Academic Year 2025–26) for Fintech Programme

1. Review of Curriculum Changes in Semester 1

The Board discussed the relevance and applicability of existing Semester 1 courses and proposed key changes to align them more closely with the needs of FinTech students. Two subjects were revised after careful deliberation:

a) The first revision was for **Subject Code 106**, where *Yoga in Practice* was replaced with **Introduction to Computer Programming**. The industry experts Mr. Chirag Shah and Mr. Rahul Kewalramani advised that the topic *Pointers* may be removed as it involves a complex programming concept which is not immediately necessary at the introductory level for FinTech students. They also suggested merging the topic *File Processing* with *File I/O* to make the content more cohesive and avoid overlapping instruction. These changes are expected to offer a smoother learning curve while still providing foundational technical knowledge essential for further technical modules in the program.

b) The second revision was for **Subject Code 107**, where *Vedic Mathematics* was replaced with **Environmental Studies**. This course will be delivered through the SWAYAM Online Portal, thereby integrating digital learning with the formal curriculum. The content and structure of this subject were aligned with the version discussed and approved in the B.Com BFS Board of Studies meeting. Since the subject content overlaps across programs, the same framework was adopted and ratified for B.S. FinTech as well.

2. Syllabus Framing and Finalization for Semester 3 and 4 (Academic Year 2025–26)

The framing of the syllabus for Semester 3 and Semester 4 was undertaken with active participation from subject experts, faculty, and industry professionals. The following changes and inputs were discussed and finalized:

➢ **Semester 3**

a) **Code 301 – Digital Banking:**

This subject will focus on emerging components of the digital financial ecosystem. Prof. Nisha Bhavsar recommended the inclusion of practical elements such as *Wallets, Cards,* and *FASTags*, which are becoming integral to day-to-day digital banking. These elements will help students understand real-world banking tools and their operational implications. The remaining components were reviewed and ratified in the B.Com BFS Board of Studies, and are therefore adopted here as well.

b) **Code 302 – Blockchain and Cryptocurrency:**

The syllabus for this subject was framed with academic insights from Mr. Vipul Shah. Mr. Chirag Shah recommended that only the *introductory aspects* of blockchain and cryptocurrencies should be covered at this stage. The focus will be on conceptual clarity, terminologies, and basic architecture, avoiding deeper technical or coding-related topics. This is to ensure foundational understanding before advancing to more complex areas in subsequent semesters.

c) Code 303 – Banking Operations:

This subject has been adopted from Semester 1 of the B.Com BFS program. It was deemed appropriate due to its comprehensive nature and strong alignment with FinTech operations. It includes core banking practices, branch functions, and customer service operations, and is ratified here without modification.

d) Code 304 – Business Laws:

The syllabus for Business Laws has already been finalized in the B.Com BFS BOS meeting and was reviewed for its relevance in the context of FinTech. The subject is ratified here in the same format to maintain consistency and inter-program harmony.

e) Code 305 – Microservices Backend – I:

Mr. Chirag Shah suggested removing the *practical component on Connecting Data and Communication* from this part of the course. These elements will be transferred to the follow-up course *Microservices Backend – II* in Semester 4. This separation will ensure better sequencing of practical components and reduce cognitive overload for students in Semester 3.

f) Code 306 – Advanced Spreadsheet Tools:

This subject is focused on enhancing students' hands-on capabilities in data processing, analysis, and visualization using spreadsheet software. It was already reviewed and ratified in the B.Com BFS meeting and is thus adopted without any changes.

g) Code 307 – Ancient Indian Management:

The subject was discussed and finalized in the B.Com BFS BOS, focusing on traditional Indian principles of management and ethics. These teachings are contextualized to modern business environments and included here to offer a well-rounded perspective on leadership and values.

➢ **Semester 4**

a) **Code 401 – Data Driven Fintech Analysis:**

This subject aims to introduce students to statistical techniques used in data analysis specific to financial applications. Mr. Pruthvi Kalal recommended including key topics such as *Descriptive Statistics*, *Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)*, and *Probability Distributions* in Unit 1 to build strong analytical foundations. It was also decided to remove *Unit 5: Big Data and Cloud Computing*, as these topics are already covered extensively in Semester 5 to avoid repetition and ensure progressive learning.

b) **Code 402 – Cyber Security and Laws:**

This subject includes essential elements related to information security and legal aspects in the digital domain. Mr. Vipinchandra's suggestions were accepted to incorporate *Cyber Forensics* into Unit 2. This addition will provide students with insights into digital crime investigations, evidence handling, and forensic tools used in cybercrime detection and analysis.

c) **Code 403 – Insurance Products and Operations:**

The course was enhanced with inputs from Mr. Bhavesh Rathod, who emphasized the inclusion of practical elements such as *Policy Documentation* and the *Claim Process*. These additions will help students understand how insurance products function from an operational standpoint and will equip them with skills that are applicable in roles related to insurance operations, customer servicing, and underwriting.

d) **Code 404 – Corporate Finance:**

This subject has already been discussed in the B.Com BFS BOS and contains robust content on financial decision-making, capital budgeting, and valuation techniques. It is ratified for the FinTech program without modifications due to its universal applicability.

e) **Code 405 – Microservices Backend – II:**

The second part of this subject builds upon the first part offered in Semester 3. Based on inputs from Mr. Chirag Shah and Mr. Rahul Kewalramani, the practical components removed earlier—such as *Connecting Data and Communication*—will now be included here. This sequencing will allow for a more advanced and cohesive understanding of backend technologies in FinTech development.

f) **Code 406 – Financial Modelling:**

Prof. Nisha Bhavsar proposed a balanced distribution of lecture hours for effective subject delivery. It was agreed to allocate *7 lectures to one unit* and *8 lectures to each of the remaining three units*, totaling 30 sessions. The subject will train students in

building financial models using tools like Excel, enabling them to project financial performance and analyze scenarios.

g) Code 407 – Personal Financial Planning:

This subject was reviewed and ratified from the B.Com BFS syllabus. One minor correction was implemented – the unit titled *AIF and Investment* has been replaced with *Insurance*. This adjustment was made to better reflect the course's focus areas and ensure relevance for FinTech students.

Any Other Matter with the Permission of the Chair

Dr. Mona Kelshikar invited the members to raise any additional matters with the permission of the Chair. It was suggested that more **expert guidance be incorporated for technical subjects**, if feasible during the review process. This addition aims to enhance student engagement, provide better career guidance, and address academic or professional concerns effectively.

With no further matters raised, the meeting was concluded with a note of appreciation for the contributions of all members.

Vote of Thanks:
The meeting was thus adjourned at 12:15 P.M. with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson.

Place: Ahmedabad   Dr. Mona Kelshikar
Date: 25th April, 2025   Chairperson