

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

MINUTES OF THE 5TH MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF H. L. COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS) HELD ON 10TH JANUARY, 2026, AT 10:30 AM, AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, HLCC BUILDING, AHMEDABAD.

The following members were present for the meeting:

Sr. No.	Name	Particulars	Attendance
1.	Shri Saurabh Soparkar	Chairperson	Present
2.	Shri Naishadh Parikh	Member	Present
3.	Shri Punit Lalbhai	Member	Present
4.	Shri Abhishek Lalbhai	Member	Present
5.	Dr Shriram Nerlekar	Member	Present
6.	Dr Parag Kalkar	Member	Present Online
7.	Dr. Prateek Kanchan	G.U. Representative	Absent
8.	Dr Mona Kelshikar	Member	Present
9.	Dr Manisha Bhavsar	Member	Present
10.	Dr Parag Shah	Member	Present
11.	Dr. Payal Shastri	SF Program Representative	Present
12.	Shri Dharmesh Shah	Office Attendant	Present
13.	Name not received*	A State Government Nominee	Absent

The Principal welcomed all to the 5th Governing Body meeting of HLCCA.

Chairperson of the Meeting:

Shri Saurabh Soparkar, Chairperson, also welcomed all and the required quorum being present, he commenced the Meeting.

Leave of Absence:

Dr. Prateek Kanchan requested to remain absent from the Meeting and was granted leave of absence.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The minutes of the previous Governing Body Meeting held on 26th July, 2025, were presented before the board. The minutes were reviewed, confirmed, and approved. The Chair confirmed that the minutes had been circulated to all members and there were no concerns or apprehensions in the Minutes. Following the approval of the previous minutes, the discussion proceeded with the agenda items scheduled for the meeting.

Update on Government and Vice Chancellor Nominees:

Dr. Mona Kelshikar apprised the Board regarding changes in the nomination status of Governing Body members. She informed that **Dr. Bharti Pathak**, who was serving as the Vice Chancellor's Nominee on the Governing Body, retired on **14th June, 2025** and therefore a new

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

VC nominee has to be appointed. In her place, **Dr. Prateek Kanchan** has been appointed as the new Vice Chancellor's Nominee and has formally joined the Governing Body. Dr. Mona further conveyed that Dr. Prateek Kanchan had informed her of his intention to attend future meetings in person. With respect to the Government Nominee, Dr. Mona informed the Board that no official communication or nomination had been received as of the date of the meeting. The Board took note of the above updates.

Administrative Staff Appointment by Government of Gujarat

Dr. Mona Kelshikar apprised the Board that the recruitment process for the Junior Clerk post was successfully completed in August 2025. The appointment is pending due to procedural delays of the Higher Education Department. The recruitment process for the Senior Clerk post is currently in progress at our level. Dr. Shriram Nerlekar added that concerns regarding procedural delays have already been communicated to higher authorities and further updates are awaited. The Board noted the status and appreciated the efforts taken by the college administration.

Banking Conclave

Dr. Mona Kelshikar informed the Board about the forthcoming Banking Conclave titled "Banking Digitalization for Viksit Bharat: Innovation, Inclusion and Trust", scheduled on 7th February 2026 (Saturday) at the CEPT Auditorium, Ahmedabad, in collaboration with the National Institute of Bank Management (NIBM). She requested Dr. Shriram Nerlekar to brief the Board.

Presentation by Dr. Shriram Nerlekar

Dr. Shriram explained that the conclave aims to enhance HLCC's academic brand positioning, strengthen industry engagement, and create meaningful platforms for student internships, placements, and mentorship. He briefly introduced NIBM as an institution established by SEBI to promote financial education, research, certifications, and professional capacity building in securities and financial markets.

He highlighted that the collaboration with NIBM will bring domain expertise, institutional credibility, and industry exposure, thereby enriching academic learning with practical perspectives. The conclave structure includes an Inaugural Session, two Panel Discussions focusing on themes related to digital banking, innovation, financial inclusion, cybersecurity and trust, followed by a Valedictory Session.

The event audience will include HLCC students, banking professionals from across Gujarat, alumni, and academic stakeholders. NIBM has already invited professionals from multiple banks and financial institutions with the objective of facilitating professional networking, knowledge exchange, internship opportunities, and placement support for students.

Suggestions from Board Members

Shri Saurabh Soparkar suggested providing additional viewing arrangements in case of audience overflow. Shri Abhishek Lalbhai recommended inviting cybersecurity experts to strengthen the relevance of discussions. Shri Punit Lalbhai offered support in coordinating with banking professionals and aligning invitations based on designation hierarchy.

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

Dr. Shriram Nerlekar requested Shri Parag Kalkar, Shri Abhishek Lalbhai, and Shri Punit Lalbhai to participate as panelists or attendees, if feasible. The Board appreciated the initiative and endorsed the conclave as a strategic academic–industry engagement activity. On inquiry regarding budgeting, it was informed that the conclave expenses had already been provided for in the approved budget.

Infrastructure Development

Dr. Mona Kelshikar informed that renovation work has commenced for conversion of an existing room into facilities for IQAC, NCC and Student Council. She further informed that new faculty members are currently accommodated in the existing staff room and that restructuring of the Self-Finance staff room will be undertaken after new appointments next year. Conversion of the existing conference room into a video conferencing room has been proposed and included in the 2026–27 budget. Dr. Mona requested the Board’s approval for continued investment in the proposed renovation works. The Board members sought details regarding expenditure and financial implications. After detailed discussion, the Governing Body granted in-principle approval for the infrastructure development, subject to financial prudence and proper utilization.

Overview of Academic and Institutional Activities 2025-26

Dr. Mona requested Dr. Parag Shah to brief the Board regarding academic and student development activities.

Presentation by Dr. Parag Shah

Dr. Parag Shah informed the Board that the College has adopted a strong practice of block teaching engagements through domain experts across Banking, Finance, and FinTech streams. Specialized sessions were conducted by Prof. Vijay Sonaie on Equity Markets and Dr. Amol Charegaonkar on Digital Banking, enabling students to gain practical industry-oriented exposure alongside theoretical learning.

He further reported that a 180-hour comprehensive software training and placement-oriented program titled “**AI Careers for Women**” is being conducted in collaboration with EduCart, a subsidiary of Microsoft, to enhance technical competencies and employability of women students. In addition, a specially curated 8-hour training course on Linux and Kotlin was organized exclusively for BS FinTech students to strengthen their programming and application development skills.

Under NEP-aligned learning initiatives, students were enrolled in SWAYAM online courses including a two-credit course on Environmental Studies, a two-credit course on Ancient Indian Management Systems, and a four-credit course on Banking and Insurance for BS (International Finance) students. Faculty mentors provided offline academic support for clarification, monitoring, and assessment guidance.

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

Dr. Parag Shah further informed the Board about the **Udaan - A Personal Ascent Program**, a 30-hour structured orientation course designed to support freshers in their academic transition and personal development during the initial phase of college life.

Regarding experiential learning, he informed that all 538 final-year B.Com students underwent a mandatory 120-hour internship or training program, out of which 315 students completed internships in organizations and 186 students participated in structured training programs.

He also apprised the Board about the Finishing School Program, wherein 35 students from SY and TY participated in an 80-hour training module aimed at developing industry readiness, employability skills, professional competencies, and General English proficiency. The program was conducted utilizing grant of ₹2,55,000 from KCG.

On industry exposure, Dr. Parag Shah informed that FinTech students visited the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to gain practical understanding of regulatory frameworks, financial governance, and emerging career opportunities in international financial services.

Dr. Shriram Nerlekar additionally briefed the Board regarding the proposed academic visit to NISM for students, aimed at providing exposure to securities market operations, financial education initiatives, and professional certification ecosystems.

The Board appreciated the comprehensive academic planning, integration of industry inputs, skill-based learning initiatives, and structured student development approach adopted by the College.

Recruitment Plan for Academic Year 2026-27

Dr. Mona Kelshikar presented the recruitment proposal for one senior faculty member to coordinate Self-Finance programs, one entry-level faculty member for Self-Finance courses, one Placement Coordinator at AES level for all autonomous colleges, and one Examination Coordinator for HLCC Self-Finance programs, citing increasing student strength, academic load, compliance requirements, and placement activities.

Shri Punit Lalbhai suggested that recruitment should be phased and incremental, and expressed concern regarding centralized responsibilities across colleges. Dr. Shriram Nerlekar assured that the proposal would be further discussed at AES Governing Body level and a detailed, feasible recruitment plan would be tabled before the next HLCC Governing Body meeting. The Board noted the proposal.

Academic and Institutional Plan for 2026-27

Dr. Mona Kelshikar briefly outlined initiatives including career counselling sessions, industry expert lectures, finishing school programs, campus-to-corporate modules, entrepreneurship skill-building activities, incubation centre in collaboration with House of Starts, industry

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

visits, faculty development programs, staff training for technology adoption, and continuous quality improvement initiatives aimed at achieving higher institutional ranking and academic excellence. The Board directed that a detailed action plan be presented in the next meeting.

Proposed Budget for 2026-27

Dr. Mona Kelshikar requested Dr. Payal Shastri to present the budget for the year 2026-27 to the board.

Presentation by Dr. Payal Shastri

Dr. Payal Shastri presented the overview of the budget covering actual figures of 2025-26 up to December 2025, estimated figures from January to March 2026, and the proposed yearly budget for 2026-27. She highlighted that despite enhanced academic, infrastructure, and student-centric spending provisions, profit levels remain consistent with previous year, indicating strong financial discipline and sustainability. The Board noted the healthy revenue-expenditure balance and optimistic future outlook. She highlighted the current year expenditure includes the expenditures to be spent towards renovation of men's and women's toilets which was proposed early as capital expenditure but as per the suggestion of the board it is treated as revenue expenditure for the upcoming year. Dr. Mona Kelshikar highlighted that the renovation of the toilets and its maintenance is essential considering the hygiene standards and student welfare and she also assured that such essential spending would be carefully monitored and the same is already budgeted adequately. The Board approved the renovation expenditure with emphasis on quality execution, long-term after renovation maintenance, hygiene sustainability, and optimal utilization of funds.

Date of Next Meeting

On the proposal of Dr. Shriram Nerlekar for the next meeting date, the Board decided that the next Governing Body Meeting will be held on 18th July 2026 at 10:30 AM.

Any other matter with the permission of the Chair:

With the permission of chair and all the members, the following agenda was taken for discussion:

Proposal for Enhancement of Intake Capacity for B.S. (Hons.) International Finance Programme:

The Governing Body was apprised of a proposal concerning the enhancement of student intake for the B.S. (Hons.) International Finance programme of H. L. College of Commerce (Autonomous). It was noted that the present sanctioned intake of the programme stands at 60 students, and it was proposed to increase the intake by 40 students, thereby enhancing the total intake to 100 students with effect from the academic year 2026-27 onwards. It was placed before the Governing Body Meeting, and there was detailed deliberation with Shri Saurabh Soparkar, Chairperson, and other GB members. During the discussions, the growing demand for CFA-aligned and international finance-oriented programmes was considered, along with the strong academic performance demonstrated by students of the programme.

H L COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (AUTONOMOUS)

H. L. Campus, S.V. Desai Marg, Vasant Vihar, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad-380009

After due consideration, members, conveyed their approval to the proposed enhancement of intake to 100 students for B.S. International Finance Program, observing that the same would be beneficial to students, strengthen the institution's academic positioning, and contribute positively to the long-term academic and financial sustainability of the programme, and thus the following resolution was passed:

RESOLVED THAT the proposal for enhancement of student intake in B.S. (Hons.) International Finance programme, from 60 to 100 students with effect from the academic year 2026-27, is hereby approved by the Governing body.

FURTHER RESOLVED THAT a formal resolution shall be forwarded to the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and Registrar, Gujarat University, for obtaining the necessary approvals, and the college shall complete all related procedural and regulatory formalities in this regard.

Thereafter, there being no other business to transact the meeting was concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Place:

Date:

Shir Saurabh Soparkar
Chairman