

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF TOURISM & HOSPITALITY SERVICES MANAGEMENT

**Minutes of the 3rd School Board Meeting held on 21st April 2009 at 2:30 pm in the Board Room,
Block No-8, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068.**

The following members were present:

1. Dr. Harkirat Bains, Reader - SOTHSM, IGNOU - (in chair)
2. Prof. K.R. Srivathsan, PVC, IGNOU - (Special Invitee)
3. Mr. B.K. Goswami, IAS (Retd), Former Secretary of Tourism GOI. - (Member)
4. Prof. G. Anjaneya Swamy, Head, Dept of Tourism Studies, Pondicherry Univ. - (Member)
5. Mr. Ramesh Takulia, Director -Taj Group of Hotels, Taj Palace Hotel, Delhi - (Member)
6. Prof. Kapil Kumar, Adjunct Professor, SOTHSM - (Member)
7. Prof. N. V. Narasimham, Director - ACD, IGNOU - (Member)
8. Prof. Sri Krishnadeva Rao, Director - School of Law, IGNOU. - (Member)
9. Prof. Sujata Verma, SOS, IGNOU. - (Member)
10. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, Lecturer - SOTHSM, IGNOU - (Member)
11. Ms. Tangjakhombi Akoijam, Lecturer - SOTHSM, IGNOU - (Member)
12. Mr. Arvind Kumar Dubey, Lecturer - SOTHSM, IGNOU - (Member)
13. Dr. Sonia Sharma, Director I/c - SOTHSM, IGNOU. - (Member)

The following members could not attend the meeting:

1. Prof. G.S. Rao, DG, NITH, Hyderabad - (Member)
2. Mr. Jose Dominie, MD and CEO, CGH Earth, Cochin. - (Member)

The Director I/c welcomed all the members to the 3rd School Board Meeting. The item wise discussions and recommendations of the School Board are as given below:

SOTHSM 3.1: Confirmation of the minutes of the 2nd School Board Meeting.

While confirming the minutes of the Second School Board Meeting held on 29th October 2008, it was mentioned that the 10 programmes that the School intends to develop were conceptualised by Prof. Kapil Kumar. The Board agreed to acknowledge this on records under item 2.2.1.

The minutes of the previous School Board were confirmed.

SOTHSM 3.2: Consideration and approval of Phase Forms - 1 and 3 for IGNOU and FHRAI - ET Programme (Four Programmes).

The item was discussed at great length taking into account the academic, infrastructural and legal dimensions. It was also pointed out that the FHRAI - ET after approval from competent authorities of IGNOU have already issued an advertisement for admission to the 4 Programmes i.e.

- i) B.Sc. (Hons) International Hospitality Administration (4 years Programme)
- ii) B.A. (Hons) International Culinary Art (4 years programme)
- iii) M.B.A Hospitality Management (2 years programme)
- iv) Executive MBA in Hospitality Management (1year programme)

The School Board resolved that at the moment only programme no. (i) B.Sc. (Hons) International Hospitality Administration (4 year programme) be launched from July 2009. For this, the existing syllabus of FHRAI - ET should be studied by an expert committee at the earliest and an IGNOU approved syllabus structure adopted. This may take into account which part of and how the FHRAI - ET's earlier syllabus structure is adopted.

As regard the other 3 programmes, it was suggested that Culinary Arts is a highly specialized areas and further discussed under agenda item 3.8. on "Proposal of Culinary Institute submitted to School". The School is considering another proposal to this affect. The Board members felt that the present syllabus structure is not viable for offering a specialisation, as minimum 48 credits are required to offer a major/ specialisation, as per the IGNOU Bachelor's degree programmes. Hence the faculty should first take into account the various syllabus structures being offered internationally as there is no such specialisation offered in the Indian Education System. Hence this program faculty should take into account the recommendations under the proceedings of Agenda item no. 3.8.

It is only after due preparation both academically as well as infrastructurally that the programmes should be offered in future, possibly from July 2010.

For MBA Hospitality Management and Executive MBA in Hospitality Management, the members felt that the institute does not have the requisite academic faculty to launch such programmes, as highly qualified management experts are required for teaching these programmes. Besides, the syllabus structure has to be developed with the help of highly experienced expert in this area and the present syllabus structure being proposed by the institute is not sufficient. Hence enough homework has to be done in this area including the nomenclature of MBA.

The Board observed that the courses are best launched only after taking these aspects into consideration and the detailed proposals may be brought to the School Board for approval at a later stage.

In the light of these decisions of the School Board, it was also recommended to withdraw the admission announcement for the other three courses.

SOTHSM 3.3: Consideration and approval of the Phase Forms - 1 and 3 for IGNOU - MPSTC Programme - (3 Programmes).

The item was approved with the clarification that at the moment it is only applicable in the State of Madhya Pradesh. The members noted that the program is being done at the request of and funding provided by the MP Government.

SOTHSM 3.4: Ratification and approval of the Doctoral Committee as well as the minutes of the Doctoral Committee Meeting held on 25th February 2009.

Name of the Doctoral Committee members:

1. Dr. Harkirat Bains, Director I/c
 2. Prof. Kapil Kumar, Adjunct Professor
 3. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, Lecturer
 4. Dr. Sonia Sharma, Lecturer
 5. Ms. Tangjakhombi Akoijam, Lecturer
 6. Mr. Arvind Kumar Dubey, Lecturer

 7. Prof. Inayat Ali Zaidi, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Coordinator Tourism Programme, Jamia Milia Islamia, New Delhi.
- OR
- Prof. Sandeep Kulshreshtra, Course Coordinator, IITTM, Gwalior.
- OR
- Prof. Manjula Choudhry, Department of Tourism and Hospitality, Kurukshetra University.

The item was approved.

SOTHSM 3.5: Consideration and approval of the minor revision work in the MTM courses - 04, 06, 09 & 15.

The item was approved.

SOTHSM 3.6: Consideration and approval of the new courses in the Bachelors and Masters level i.e. TS-8 and MTM - 17

The item was approved.

SOTHSM 3.7: Consideration and approval of the Evaluators list for TEE, Assignments, Project reports paper setters, etc for CTS, DTS, BTS, BHM, MHA BA-IHA, & MTM programmes.

The item was approved. The Board authorised the Director of the School to approve the any more name of Evaluators, paper setters etc in case of emergency and the same should be placed for ratification in the School Board, later on.

SOTHSM 3.8: Approval of the Proposal of Culinary Institute submitted to the School.

The item was discussed at great length and Mr. B.K. Goswami described the requirements in this area. The School Board approved that the faculty may go in for an expert committee to develop a project in this area for which the financial and administrative approval taken separately from the competent authority.

SOTHSM 3.9: Report on B.Sc. in Hospitality and Hotel Administration (BHM) – change from annual system to semester system.

The item was approved.

SOTHSM 3.10: Consideration and Approval of the initiation of the BA-IHA International Programme Centres.

The item was approved.

SOTHSM 3.11: Any Other Item

Under any other item, the proposal for awarding degrees to existing FHRAI students batch 2005-09, 2006 – 10, 2007 – 11 were discussed. This has been earlier approved by the competent authority and placed before the School Board for perusal and consideration.

The matter was discussed at great length keeping in view the legal aspect of doing so and the credibility of IGNOU's degree. It was mentioned that credit - transfer for IGNOU degree can be done only for such courses and programmes that are recognised within the University system/AICTE/State Technical Education Dept./Deemed to be University etc.

However in the present case the students were admitted by FHRAI an institute that is yet to be recognized. It is also not legally correct to grant postfacto credit transfer for past courses that are not recognized by the University system.

In the unanimous opinion of the School Board members present that both from the legal perspective and in the best academic interests of IGNOU, credit transfer for un-recognised courses of FHRAI for the period prior to its agreement with IGNOU is not possible.

It was also pointed out that IGNOU should award degrees for its programmes and courses from the year IGNOU launches its programmes with FHRAI that conform to the School's Expert Committee recommendations.

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

Dr. Sonia Sharma
Director I/c - SOTHSM