

Minutes of the 71st Meeting of the School Board of SOCE held on 12th February, 2025

The 71st Meeting of the School Board of School of Continuing Education (SOCE) was held on 12th February, 2025 from 11:30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. in hybrid mode. The following members were present:

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| 1. | Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen
Director, SOCE, IGNOU | Chairperson |
| 2. | Prof. S.P. Mishra – Joined Online
Former Founder Vice Chancellor
Dev Sanskriti Vishwavidyalaya
Haridwar | Member [under 10A (2) (e)] |
| 3. | Prof. Shagufa Kapadia – Joined Online
Former HOD, Department of Human
Development and Family Studies
MS University of Baroda, Vadodara | Member [under 10A (2) (e)] |
| 4. | Prof. Kiran Bains – Joined Online
Professor and Dean
College of Community Science
Punjab Agricultural University
Ludhiana, Punjab - 141004 | Member [under 10A (2) (e)] |
| 5. | Prof. Jyoti Aggarwal
Department of Fabric and Apparel Science,
Institute of Home Economics,
University of Delhi - 110007 | Member [under 10A (2) (e)] |
| 6. | Prof. Lalita Vatta – Joined Online
Professor of Extension and Communication,
Department of Home Science,
Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi – 221005 | Member [under 10A (2) (e)] |
| 7. | Prof. D. Venkateshwarlu
Professor,
School of Education, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (d)] |
| 8. | Prof. Nayantara Padhi
Professor,
School of Management Studies, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (d)] |
| 9. | Dr. Akshay Kumar
Associate Professor,
School of Computer & Information Sciences, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (d)] |

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| 10. | Dr. Mita Sinhamahapatra
Associate Professor,
School of Agriculture, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (d)] |
| 11. | Prof. Deeksha Kapur
Professor, Nutritional Science,
SOCE, IGNOU | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 12. | Prof. Neerja Chadha
Professor, Child Development,
SOCE, IGNOU | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 13. | Prof. Heena K. Bijli
Professor, Home Science,
SOCE, IGNOU | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 14. | Prof. Arobindo Mahato
Professor, Rural Development
SOCE, IGNOU | Ex-Officio [under 10(A) 2 (a) & (b)] |
| 15. | Dr. Balkar Singh
Assistant Professor,
SOCE, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (c)] |
| 16. | Dr. Preetika Badgujar
Assistant Professor,
SOCE, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (c)] |
| 17. | Dr. Ankita Gupta
Assistant Professor,
SOCE, IGNOU | Member [under 10A (2) (c)] |

Special Invitees

1. **Prof. Swati Patra**
Professor of Psychology,
SOSS, IGNOU
2. **Dr. Priyanka Suryavanshi**
Associate Professor, Child Development
SOCE, IGNOU

Dr. Suman Singh, Assistant Professor, SOCE could not join the meeting as she is on CCL.

The Chairperson, Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen, extended a warm welcome to all the members of the School Board. She apprised the School Board that new members have been inducted into the School Board under the various clauses, consequent upon the completion of the term of the earlier members. She placed on record the contribution of the outgoing members and expressed expectation of

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cooperation and valuable guidance from the new members. Thereafter, the Chairperson began the presentation of the Agenda Items:

Agenda Item 1 To confirm the Minutes of the 70th Meeting of the School Board held on 11th November, 2024.

SB 71.1.1 The draft minutes of the 70th Meeting of the School Board held on 11th November, 2024 were circulated to all the members. Comments were received and after incorporating these, the minutes were circulated as Final.

SB 71.1.2 The School Board confirmed the Final Minutes of the 70th Meeting of the School Board.

Agenda Item 2: To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF), Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) form for offering the Masters of Science (Nutrition and Dietetics) Programme through Regular mode as per the NCAHP Act.

SB 71.2.1 The following discussion took place with respect to the feasibility of offering programme Masters of Science (Nutrition & Dietetics) in the face-to-face mode:

1. The School Board, in principle, approved the offering of the programme in face-to-face (regular mode). However, along with this, in principle, approval the School Board, pointed out that prior to this announcement all infrastructural requirement should be put into place by the University and that this must include the following :

- ✓ Adequate human resource for teaching
- ✓ Dedicated space for classrooms specifically earmarked for the various courses of study of each programme
- ✓ Dedicated space, equipment and materials for setting up of laboratories and conduct of practical.
- ✓ Library facilities
- ✓ Hostel and stay arrangements for students
- ✓ Food facilities
- ✓ Recreation and health facilities

2. The School Board observed that while the NCAHP 2021 Act must be respected and followed, IGNOU is governed by its own Act and its mandate of making education accessible to large sections of the population and that this vision must not be lost sight of. Till date the programme Masters of Science in Dietetics and Food Service Management (MSCDFSM), has benefitted a large number of students who have no other way of pursuing education other than the ODL Mode.

While the NCAHP Act came into force in 2021, the Commission was formed in 2023-24 and the process of forming the syllabi and regulations for various sectors covered under the Act is still not complete. Accordingly, it was felt that in this window period, till the full and proper guidelines of the NCAHP Act

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2021 are put into place and enforced, IGNOU could continue to offer the programme MSCDFSM as it is at present, by providing necessary information to the students unambiguously regarding eligibility, expected outcome, employment opportunities and registration requirements with regulatory bodies post programme completion, in order for the students to make an informed choice whether or not to enroll in the programme.

3. The School Board observed that once the full and final guidelines regarding offering of programmes under the NCAHP Act are available and enforced, the existing MSCDFSM programme may be revised and adapted suitably as a new programme, without interfering or being in conflict with the NCAHP Act, as per the syllabus provided in the Act guidelines, and offered through the ODL mode.

4. It was clarified by the members of the School Board that an Act cannot be enforced from retrospective effect. Accordingly, the students of IGNOU who have enrolled in the programme till date would be governed by previous provisions and cannot be discriminated against. The IGNOU should strive to get the University listed as a recognized institution on the portal which governs registration of students, so that the students who complete the programmes in the window period available till the guidelines are formulated and announced as finalized, are not penalized and do not suffer.

Additionally the following points were stated:

a. The nomenclature of the Masters of Science (Nutrition & Dietetics) programme should be stated as the same across all PPF, PDF and PPR forms.

b. While the IGNOU forms mention 'Number of Counseling Sessions', it should be clarified in the PDF form for Masters of Science (Nutrition & Dietetics) that these will actually be face-to-face theory classes.

SB 71.2.2

The School Board of SOCE gave in principle approval to offer the programme Masters of Science (Nutrition & Dietetics), in regular (face-to-face) mode with the above observations, and approved the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) and Concept Note, Programme Development Form (PDF), and Programme Project Report (PPR) of the programme.

Agenda Item 3:

To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF), Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) form for offering Master of Science (Counseling and Family Therapy) (MSCCFT) Programme through Regular mode as per the NCAHP Act.

SB 71.3.1

The following discussion took place with respect to the feasibility of offering programme Masters of Science (Counselling and Family Therapy) in the face-to-face mode:

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1. The School Board, in principle, approved the offering of the three programme in face-to-face (regular mode). However, along with this, in principle, approval the School Board, pointed out that prior to this announcement all infrastructural requirement should be put into place by the University and that this must include the following:

- ✓ Adequate human resource for teaching
- ✓ Dedicated space for classrooms specifically earmarked for the various courses of study of each programme
- ✓ Dedicated space, equipment and materials for setting up of laboratories and conduct of practical.
- ✓ Library facilities
- ✓ Hostel and stay arrangements for students
- ✓ Food facilities
- ✓ Recreation and health facilities

2. The School Board observed that while the NCAHP 2021 Act must be respected and followed, IGNOU is governed by its own Act and its mandate of making education accessible to large sections of the population and that this vision must not be lost sight of. Till date the programme MSCCFT has benefitted a large number of students who have no other way of pursuing education other than the ODL Mode.

While the NCAHP Act came into force in 2021, the Commission was formed in 2023-24 and the process of forming the syllabi and regulations for various sectors covered under the Act is still not complete. Accordingly, it was felt that in this window period, till the full and proper guidelines of the NCAHP Act 2021 are put into place and enforced, IGNOU could continue to offer the programme MSCCFT as it is at present, by providing necessary information to the students unambiguously regarding eligibility, expected outcome, employment opportunities and registration requirements with regulatory bodies post programme completion, in order for the students to make an informed choice whether or not to enroll in the programme.

3. The School Board observed that once the full and final guidelines regarding offering of programmes under the NCAHP Act are available and enforced, the existing MSCCFT programmes may be revised and adapted suitably as new programmes, without interfering or being in conflict with the NCAHP Act, as per the syllabus provided in the Act guidelines, and offered through the ODL mode.

4. It was clarified by the members of the School Board that an Act cannot be enforced from retrospective effect. Accordingly, the students of IGNOU who have enrolled in the programme till date would be governed by previous provisions and cannot be discriminated against. The IGNOU should strive to get the University listed as a recognized institution on the portal which governs registration of students, so that the students who complete the

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programmes in the window period available till the guidelines are formulated and announced as finalized, are not penalized and do not suffer.

SB 71.3.2

With the above observations the School Board of SOCE gave in principle approval to offer the programme Master of Science (Counselling and Family Therapy) (MSCCFT) in regular (face-to-face) mode and approved the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) and Concept Note, Programme Development Form (PDF), and Programme Project Report (PPR) of the programme.

Agenda Item 4:

To consider and approve the Programme Proposal Form (PPF), Programme Development Form (PDF) and Programme Project Report (PPR) form for offering Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy (PGDCFT) Programme through Regular mode as per the NCAHP Act.

SB 71.4.1

The following discussion took place with respect to the feasibility of offering the programme Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy in the face-to-face mode:

1. The School Board, in principle, approved the offering of the programme in face-to-face (regular mode). However, along with this, in principle, approval the School Board, pointed out that prior to this announcement all infrastructural requirement should be put into place by the University and that this must include the following:

- ✓ Adequate human resource for teaching
- ✓ Dedicated space for classrooms specifically earmarked for the various courses of study of each programme
- ✓ Dedicated space, equipment and materials for setting up of laboratories and conduct of practical.
- ✓ Library facilities
- ✓ Hostel and stay arrangements for students
- ✓ Food facilities
- ✓ Recreation and health facilities

2. The School Board observed that while the NCAHP 2021 Act must be respected and followed, IGNOU is governed by its own Act and its mandate of making education accessible to large sections of the population and that this vision must not be lost sight of. Till date the programme PGDCFT has benefitted a large number of students who have no other way of pursuing education other than the ODL Mode.

While the NCAHP Act came into force in 2021, the Commission was formed in 2023-24 and the process of forming the syllabi and regulations for various sectors covered under the Act is still not complete. Accordingly, it was felt that in this window period, till the full and proper guidelines of the NCAHP Act 2021 are put into place and enforced, IGNOU could continue to offer the PGDCFT programme as it is at present, by providing necessary information to the students unambiguously regarding eligibility, expected outcome,

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employment opportunities and registration requirements with regulatory bodies post programme completion, in order for the students to make an informed choice whether or not to enroll in the programme.

3. The School Board observed that once the full and final guidelines regarding offering of programmes under the NCAHP Act are available and enforced, the existing PGDCFT programme may be revised and adapted suitably as a new programme, without interfering or being in conflict with the NCAHP Act, as per the syllabus provided in the Act guidelines, and offered through the ODL mode.

4. It was clarified by the members of the School Board that an Act cannot be enforced from retrospective effect. Accordingly, the students of IGNOU who have enrolled in the programme till date would be governed by previous provisions and cannot be discriminated against. The IGNOU should strive to get the University listed as a recognized institution on the portal which governs registration of students, so that the students who complete the programme in the window period available till the guidelines are formulated and announced as finalized, are not penalized and do not suffer.

SB 71.4.2

With the above observations the School Board of SOCE gave in principle approval to offer the programme Post Graduate Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy (PGDCFT), in regular (face-to-face) mode and approved the Programme Proposal Form (PPF) and Concept Note, Programme Development Form (PDF), and Programme Project Report (PPR) of the PGDCFT programme.

Agenda Item 5:

To consider and recommend names for the Expert Committee Meeting for revision of Diploma in Panchayat Level Administration and Development (DPLAD).

SB 71.5.1

The School Board considered the agenda item and approved the given names. In addition, the following names were proposed by the Programme Coordinator as Experts for revision of Diploma in Panchayat Level Administration and Development (DPLAD): (1) Prof. R.P. Singh, Former Professor, SOCE, IGNOU, (2) Dr. Gurchain Singh, Former Associate Professor, SOCE, IGNOU and (3) Dr. Santosh Tanwer, Former Associate Professor, SOCE, IGNOU.

SB 71.5.2

The School Board considered and approved the names for the Expert Committee Meeting for revision of Diploma in Panchayat Level Administration and Development (DPLAD) along with the additional names.

Agenda Item 6:

To consider and recommend the list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres.

SB 71.6.1

The list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres was presented for consideration and recommendation of the School Board of SOCE.

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SB 71.6.2

The School Board considered and recommended the list of Evaluators for the Programme(s) at SOCE sent by Regional Centres/Regional Evaluation Centres.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.



(Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen)

Chairperson

प्रो. रेखा शर्मा सेन
Prof. Rekha Sharma Sen
निदेशक (रा.श.वि.) / Director (SOCE)