

Minutes of the 4th meeting of the School Board of the School of Gender & Development Studies held on 6 April, 2009 at 2:30 pm in the Board Room, Block 8, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi.

The following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Latha Pillai	PVC.
2. Prof. Savita Singh, Director	Chairperson
3. Prof. Malashri Lal	Member.
4. Prof. Poonam Agarwal	Member.
5. Prof. Vimal Thorat	Member
6. Prof. Kamal Yadav	Member
7. Prof. Anu Aneja	Member
8. Prof. Annu J Thomas	Member
9. Dr. Himadri Roy	Member

The following members could not attend:

1. Prof. Sharmila Rege, Member
2. Prof. N.K. Banerjee, Member
3. Dr. Nilima Srivastava, Member
4. Ms. Mina Swaminathan, Member

The Chairperson introduced the new members of the School Board. The valuable contributions of the Nodal Office in overseeing the functioning of the School until the joining of the new Director and faculty were appreciated and recorded

Item 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the School Board of SOGDS

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of the School Board of SOGDS, held on 29 October, 2008, had been circulated to the members. Prof. Annu J. Thomas, Programme Coordinator noted that in the text of item 3.5 "*Women's Studies*" may be replaced by "*Gender and Development Studies*" for the programme title, the item title remaining the same. The Minutes were confirmed with the above mentioned correction.

Item 2. Approval of Proposed Vision Document for SOGDS

A brief vision document re-visiting the vision of the School for the future was placed before the members for discussion. It was pointed out by the Chairperson that the previous vision had been re-structured as the Director had proposed several new group headings under which the School may carry out different academic activities. The issue of starting "Faculties" under various different group headings within the School was extensively discussed by all present and various inputs were provided. Finally, it was agreed that to begin with, there will be three "Faculties" or groups, namely,

- i. Faculty of Women's and Gender Studies,
- ii. Faculty of Gender and Science and
- iii. Faculty of Asian Studies and Gender/ Gender Studies in Asia.

It was also suggested that within the Faculty of Women's and Gender Studies there could be further specializations like Sexualities, Labour, Literature, and Cinema & Visual Arts which could evolve based on future requirements.

All the above suggestions were approved by the School Board. It was agreed that a modified vision statement would be prepared taking into account the above suggestions.

Item 3: Approval of Phase 3 Form for Master's Degree Programme in Gender & Development Studies and PG Diploma in Gender & Development Studies.

The Phase 3 form for the M.A. Programme in Gender and Development Studies under the co-ordination of Prof. Annu J. Thomas and Prof. Savita Singh, was placed before the School Board members. It was suggested that a justification regarding the number of hours may be added in the credit structure. It was also suggested that the soft skills packages may be re-visited in the light of credit weightage. It was agreed that the PG/ MA programme in Gender & Development Studies would be offered in face to face mode starting in July 2009. (An exit point would be provided for learners to earn the postgraduate diploma after successful completion of the first year courses.) The Programme Coordinator agreed to incorporate the suggestions. The Phase 3 Form for MA Gender & Development Studies with an exit point for PG Diploma after successful completion of first year courses was approved by the School Board.

Item 4: Approval of Phase 3 Form for PG Certificate in Gender, Entrepreneurship and Development

The Phase 3 form for the PG Certificate Programme in Gender and Development Studies being co-ordinated by Prof. Annu J. Thomas was placed before the School Board. It was suggested that the eligibility requirements for the programme may include preference for undergraduates who had already successfully completed the Diploma in Women's Empowerment & Development programme (DWED). It was agreed to incorporate the above suggestion. The Phase 3 Form for the PG Certificate Programme in Gender and Development Studies was approved by the School Board

Item 5: Approval of Minutes of the Doctoral Committee Meetings for Ph.D. in Women's Studies

The Minutes of the Doctoral Committee meetings for the Ph.D programme in Women's Studies held on 25-11-08, and 26-3-09 were placed before the School Board for approval. In reference to the doctoral committee meeting held on 26-3-09, it was suggested that in the case of Ms. Monica Neeta Laloo, RTA, the candidate may be asked to submit a *revised* proposal rather than a *fresh* proposal. The Programme Coordinator agreed to incorporate the suggestion in the communication to be sent to the candidate. The Minutes of the above two meetings were approved by the School Board.

Item 6: To Report about the Transfer of Ms. Shaista Zafar, RTA from SOCE to SOGDS

It was reported that subsequent to the shifting of the discipline of Women's and Gender Studies and transfer of the concerned faculty from SOCE to SOGDS, the transfer of the Ms. Shaista Zafar, RTA, from SOCE to SOGDS had been approved by the competent authorities. The School Board took note of the transfer.

Item 7: To Report about the Progress Report of Ms. Shaista Zafar, RTA in Women's Studies

As per university regulations Ms. Shaista Zafar had submitted a progress report towards the Ph.D programme in Women's Studies. The progress report was approved by the School Board.

Item 8: To discuss the initiation of Face-to-Face postgraduate programmes for SOGDS

There was a preliminary discussion regarding initiation of face-to-face programmes in SOGDS, drawing from the models adopted by UK Open University and the Open University of Hong Kong. Details regarding tutorials, internet based discussion groups, proportion of face-to-face tutorials and self learning materials were discussed. It was decided to prepare a more concrete proposal to be brought before the School Board at its next meeting. It was also agreed that the PG/ MA programme in Gender & Development Studies would be offered in face to face mode starting in July 2009. (An exit point would be provided for learners to earn the postgraduate diploma after successful completion of the first year courses.)

Item 9: Any Other Items:

The Chairperson reported about the two seminars held in SOGDS in 2009 and also proposed the beginning of monthly Seminars, Newsletter and Memorial Lectures. The potential of highlighting areas of specialization through designated Chairs in the School was discussed. These new suggestions were appreciated by the members present.

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

