

Minutes of the 12th School Board Meeting of the School of Journalism & New Media Studies held on November 24, 2014 at 11.00 am in the Discussion Room, Convention Centre, IGNOU Campus, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi.

The following members were present:

1. Dr. Kiron Bansal, Director, SOJNMS	Chairperson
2. Prof. J.S.Yadav, Former Director, IIMC, New Delhi	Member
3. Prof. Vinod Pavarala, S.N.School of Communication, UoH, Hyderabad	Member
4. Prof. Mangal D.Negi, Head Deptt. of Film Direction, FTII, Pune	Member
5. Mr. Sunil Abraham, Director, Centre for Internet and Society, Bangalore	Member
6. Prof. Swaraj Basu, Prof. SOSS, IGNOU	Member
7. Prof. Neera Kapoor, Prof. SOS, IGNOU	Member
8. Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya, Assistant Prof. SOITS, IGNOU	Member
9. Mr.M.Tahir Siddiqui, Assistant Prof. SOPVA, IGNOU	Member
10. Prof. S.N.Singh, Professor, SOJNMS	Member
11. Dr. K.S. Arul Selvan, Associate Professor, SOJNMS	Member
12. Dr. O.P.Dewal, Associate Professor, SOJNMS	Member
13. Ms Padmini Jain, Assistant Professor, SOJNMS	Member
14. Mr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor, SOJNMS	Member

Prof. Usha V. Reddy could not attend the meeting due to her preoccupation.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed all the members and thanked them for their participation in the meeting. She placed on record a note of appreciation for the contribution made by the outgoing members of the School Board; Prof. Ram Sharan Joshi, Prof. G. Ravindran, Prof. Kiran Thakur, Mr. Ashok Ogra, Prof. Iftexhar Ahmed, Prof. Santosh Panda, Prof. S.R. Jha, Dr. S.K.Vyas, and Shri Anand Gupta. She also welcomed the new members of the School Board, Prof. J.S.Yadav, Prof. Vinod Pavarala, Prof. Mangal D.Negi, Mr. Sunil Abraham, Prof. Swaraj Basu, Prof. Neera Kapoor, Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya, and Mr. Tahir Siddiqui.

She gave a brief overview of the activities of SOJNMS to provide a context to the discussion. Then each Agenda item was taken up and the following decisions arrived at.

12.01 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 11th School Board Meeting held, on April 25, 2014

The Minutes of the 11th School Board Meeting held on April 25, 2014 was taken up and since no comments were received from the members, the same was confirmed.

12.02 Action Taken Report (ATR) on the 11th Meeting of the School Board

The Action Taken on the agenda items of the 11th School Board meeting was reported by the Chairperson to the School Board and was approved.

12.03 To consider and approve the recommendations of the Exploratory Experts Committee on MPhil in Communication Studies

The Minutes of the Exploratory Expert Committee meeting and its recommendations were

placed along with the programme structure of MPhil in Communication Studies. After deliberations, the name of second specialisation was changed to Social and Behavioural Change Communication. The Board recommended that instead of developing a bridge course on communication (for non-communication students), as suggested by the exploratory expert committee, the option of providing existing study materials of PGJMC on the subject may be explored. Further, unlike structured Bachelor and Master Degree programmes, the syllabus of MPhil should be kept dynamic and open-ended by providing extensive list of reading materials, books, journals, online resources to deliver the course-work.

With these suggestions, the programme structure and the list of experts for Expert Committee Meeting for course design of MPhil in Communication Studies were approved by the School Board (Annexure 1).

12.04 To consider and recommend additional names of Unit Writers and Editors for MA-JMC programme

The additional names for Course Writers and Editors for MA-JMC programme were considered and approved. The name of Mr. K.Narendra was suggested for inclusion in the list (Annexure 2).

12.05 To consider and approve the names of Experts Committee for Practical Component of MA-JMC programme

The names of Experts Committee for the practical Courses of MA-JMC programme were considered and approved. Keeping in view their expertise, the names of Mr. Vasuki Belavadi and Mr. Nikhil Pahwa were suggested for inclusion in the list (Annexure 3).

12.06 To consider and recommend additional names of Paper Setters, Moderators & Evaluators for PGJMC programme

The additional names of Paper Setters, Moderators & Evaluators for PGJMC programme were considered and recommended for approval (Annexure 4).

12.07 To review the PGDAPP programme on offer since 2004

The School Board deliberated on the issue and expressed concern on the decrease in enrollments of PGDAPP & CCR programmes. They suggested that before review of the programme by external members; the Programme Coordinator should discuss the issues with internal faculty and propose a detailed road map and modalities of the PGDAPP programme, after review.

12.08 To consider and approve the proposal of conducting practical training/Internship for CCR & PGDAPP students at headquarters

The School Board took note of the status of practicals in PGDAPP & CCR programmes and observed that the students already admitted in the programme are the responsibility of the University and they should be provided practical training at the Headquarters until

alternative arrangements are made.

For CCR internship the School Board directed the School to move a proposal for Agreement/MoU with select CR stations to provide internship to students. In future, the School may follow the policy decisions of University on programmes with low enrollments.

12.09 To consider and approve the names of Experts for Appreciation Programme in Media Literacy

The list of experts for the Expert Committee Meeting on Appreciation Programme on Media Literacy was approved to design the programme structure with additional names of K. Hariharan, LV Prasad Film Institute, Hyderabad, Venkatesh Chakraborty, film critique, Prof. Suresh Chabaria, Alton Grizzle, UNESCO (through skype) and Prof. Jaideep Sharma of IGNOU (Annexure 5).

12.10 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee meeting held on October 29, 2014

The minutes of the Doctoral Committee meeting held on October 29, 2014 were presented to the School Board.

To a question on Item 2 on the assessment of Progress Reports of the PhD scholars it was informed that a score chart defining the scales of Very Good/Good/Satisfactory/Needs improvement was developed to infuse parity in assessment and improve the quality of research work. The members appreciated the efforts made by the School.

On Item No. 6, the Chairperson informed that the Doctoral Committee suggested some minor changes in the thesis titles of the scholars of July 2010 batch, which were duly forwarded to the Research Unit. However, at the time of thesis submission of one scholar, the Research Unit insisted on retaining the original titles, initially proposed by the scholars of 2010 batch, as the changes were made after the deadline.

The Board took a strong note of the matter and observed that this being an academic issue, the School should have the flexibility to make minor changes in the thesis titles at the time of thesis submission. In view of this, it was suggested that the proposed titles of 2012 batch of scholars may be considered as Working Titles and the School should have the option to make minor changes, as per University guidelines/Ordinance.

With above suggestions, the Board approved the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee.

During the discussion, need for a Standing Committee of the School Board for resolving routine matters was expressed. The senior IGNOU members suggested that Research Standing Committee of the School Board may be constituted for addressing issues related to PhD programmes, as per University norms.

During discussion on item no. 12.10, Ms Padmini Jain and Shri Amit Kumar, who are also research scholars at the SOJNMS recused themselves and joined the meeting, thereafter.

12.11 To consider and approve the revised Phase-I Form and Programme Structure of BA-JMC programme

Dr. Ramesh Yadav made a brief presentation on BA-JMC programme which was initially proposed as 48 credit component in BDP programme. The Programme Design Expert Committee suggested that in view of the market needs, the nomenclature of the programme may be made BA in Journalism and New Media. The following suggestions were made during the meeting:

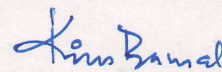
1. In view of the University policy of preparing the prospectus one year in advance, the programme launch date of July 2016 should be made realistic and tentative.
2. In the light of experiences of different programmes, the quality control on the Project component should be seriously considered and suitable monitoring mechanism should be evolved to check the menace of unfair means. The project either be made optional or an alternative to project may be explored.
3. The distribution of 4 credits courses as Indian Social Structure, Political Theory & System, Indian History, Indian Economy etc. was rather rigid. It was suggested that at the time of deliberations of Course Committee meetings, contemporary issues such as human rights, environment, gender, disability, science and technology etc. should be appropriately incorporated to make the structure more relevant in the present context. The syllabi of other universities may be examined to make the structure futuristic and in tune with the market needs.
4. The proposed title of the programme is BA in Journalism and New Media. However, out of total 96 credits; only 16 credits have been devoted to New Media. It was suggested that more aspects of New Media including social media may be incorporated to justify the addition of New Media in the programme title.

With above recommendations, the Phase 1 Form was approved.

12.12 To consider and approve the names of Experts for Course Design Committees for BA-JMC programme

The members observed that the lists of Experts were highly Delhi-centric and keeping in view the national character of the University, experts from across the country may be included in view of their specialisation. The Board authorized the Director of the School to finalise the list of experts.

The Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to all the members.


(Kiron Bansal) 2/12/14

To: All concerned

डॉ. किरण बंसल
Dr. Kiron Bansal
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