School Board Meeting of SOSS
(through email circulation – 17th August 2020)

ACTION TAKEN REPORT (ATR)

Sl. No.	Agenda item	Minutes of School Board	Action taken by the School
1	Feedback Report received from the Stakeholders (Subject Experts and Teachers) based on the questionnaire provided by CIQA	The Report on the Feedback received from Stakeholders was circulated through e-mail to School Board Members of School of Social Sciences. On the basis of the responses received through email, the agenda stands as approved by the School Board.	The Feedback Analysis Report was shared with all the eight Disciplines of the School to take necessary steps based on the Report.

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (SOSS)

FEEDBACK ANALYSIS REPORT OF SUBJECT EXPERTS ON THE TEACHING-LEARNING PROCESS

1.0: Preamble

(Write about the need and importance of feedback from subject experts on the design and development of curriculum in 150-200 words)

The design of the curriculum forms the backbone of a strong up to date curriculum of any programme. The curriculum needs to be developed in such a way as to include the various aspects related to effective learning and enhancing critical and creative thinking among the learners. It also needs to include the new topics in the subject area. It needs to aim at skill development and enhancing employability skills of the learners. Hence the feedback from the subject experts will help in improving the curriculum. It will make the curriculum a strong and relevant curriculum, meeting the needs of the society and thus benefitting the learners.

Hence the feedback from the subject experts will go a long way to improve the curriculum.

2.0: About the School and experts involved

(Write about the programmes developed/under-development and the subject experts involved in design and development of curriculum in 150-200 words)

School of Social Sciences is one of the largest schools in IGNOU which caters to eight disciplines having Master's Degree, Bachelor's degree, Diploma and Certificate courses including MPhil and PhD programmes also. There are eight disciplines, namely, Anthropology, Economics, History, Library & Information Sciences, Political Science, Psychology, Public Administration and Sociology. Currently, the school offers Bachelor's degree programme in various disciplines as per CBCS pattern. The School offers BA General and BA Honours programmes in various subjects. The courses are under-development for the 3rd year of BAG and 2nd year of BA Hons and BSc (Anthropology) Hons. Courses.

The subject experts involved in design and development of curriculum are senior professors from reputed institutions and universities having sufficient number of teaching experiences, both retired and working. Age group ranged from 30 – 40 years to 50 –above years. They were mostly associated with IGNOU as subject experts, and also as course writers, editors and evaluators.

3.0: Methodology

(Briefly write about the feedback tool and the methodology adopted in getting the response from the subject experts in 150-200 words)

The feedback tool given to the experts has been provided by CIQA. It is a 10-item questionnaire with regard to Curriculum Design and Development on a five-point rating scale ranging from Strongly agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree to Strongly disagree. The questionnaire also included an Open-ended question on suggestions regarding the areas that need attention to bring about desired improvement in the system.

4.0: Feedback of Subject Experts

(Response received from the subject experts on different items/questions depicted pictorially in the form of pie/bar/line diagram)

Feedback from 29 subject experts from various Disciplines of SOSS are represented in the form of pie diagram. The sheet is enclosed.

5.0: Analysis of the Feedback received

(Discuss about the item-wise/question-wise feedback)

Q 1. Experts were briefed about the pedagogy of curriculum design in OU:

Out of 29 experts, 25 experts (86%) strongly agreed on being briefed about the pedagogy of curriculum design in open and distance learning.

Q 2. Need analysis was discussed before finalizing the curriculum:

Out of 29 experts, 18 experts (62%) strongly agreed on this and 9 experts (31%) agreed about it. Thus a majority 93% expressed agreement on the need analysis discussed in the expert meeting.

Q 3. Expert committee reviewed curriculum of other universities:

19 experts (66%) expressed strongly agree whereas 9 experts (24%) expressed agreement on this. However, 10% of the experts are neutral on this aspect.

Q 4. Curriculum development guidelines were provided:

All the experts have expressed agreement on this (76% strongly agree and 24% agree).

Q 5. Experts were involved in curriculum review process:

20 experts (69%) have strongly agreed on their involvement in the curriculum review process. 17% have agreed whereas 14% are neutral about this.

Q 6. Feedback from alumni and industry were discussed:

Though 55% of the experts (27% - strongly agree and 28% - agree) have expressed agreement in this regard, 7% had disagreed that feedback from alumni and industry were discussed and 38% are neutral.

Q 7. Curriculum of your subject was updated:

A majority of the experts (73% - strongly agree and 17% - agree) answered that it was updated, however, 10% were neutral.

Q 8. Curriculum matches with the level of the programme:

All the subject experts have expressed agreement on this (79% strongly agree and 21% agree).

Q 9. Orientation was given regarding development of SLM:

19 experts (65%) strongly agreed on orientation being given on SLM development, whereas 6 experts (21%) expressed agreement. However, 14% experts were neutral in their answer.

Q 10. SLM are learner-centric:

A majority of experts (69% strongly agree and 28% agree) agreed on this, whereas only 3% were neutral.

OPEN-ENDED QUESTION: (suggestions regarding the areas that need attention to bring about desired improvement in the system)

The subject experts provided 30 suggestions, which were analysed and categorized into **six major groups**. These are described below. The categories are listed in decreasing order in terms of number of responses received, that is, maximum number of responses received for the first category and then in decreasing order.

Self Learning Material (SLM):
   (a) SLM needs to be more learner-centric
   (b) More examples need to be included
   (c) SLM need to be at par with other universities
   (d) Learner feedback need to be taken for the development of SLM
   (e) Use of ICT in the development of SLM
   (f) MCQs can be included in the SLM under self assessment
   (g) SLM and questions need to be applied in nature and ensure the use of cognitive abilities

Curriculum:

(a) Some of the experts opined that the curriculum is at par with top universities.
(b) However, others suggested periodic revising and updating of the curriculum to stay competitive.
(c) Curriculum of other universities need to be considered.
(d) Feedback from alumni and industry need to be considered
(e) Curriculum Review Committee need to be apprised of the above

Courses:

(a) need analysis needs to be done
(b) courses in new and upcoming areas
(c) new topics as per the market and need of the society
(d) practical, fieldwork and internship courses need more attention

Course Writers:

(a) orientation on developing SLM
(b) Regular intensive workshop for SLM writers on SLM development
(c) Improving standard of writers
(d) Payment not adequate

Faculty strength:

(a) So many courses of different programmes are there, but faculty strength is less. It needs to be improved.

Operational issues:

(a) long time gap between course writing and launch of programme
(b) more student-teacher interaction is needed

6.0: Conclusion and recommendations

The subject experts agreed that the curriculum matches with the level of the programmes, however, they indicated a need to keep the curriculum updated and involvement of the experts in the curriculum review process. The curriculum of other universities, feedback from alumni and industry need to be considered. The experts expressed the need for orientation of the experts regarding SLM development process.

Analysis of responses of the subject experts with regard to the open ended question on improving the system, six major categories highlighted were the Self Learning material (SLM), Curriculum, Courses, Course writers, Faculty strength and Operational issues.

Thus, based on the overall responses of the subject experts, the following recommendations can be made:

- SLM needs to be more learner-centric, it needs to include the ICT and feedback from the learners
- SLM needs to highlight applied aspects and test the cognitive abilities of the learners
- Curriculum needs to stay updated by considering the curriculum of other universities, feedback from alumni and industry
- Practical, fieldwork and internship courses need more attention
- Regular intensive workshop for SLM writers on SLM development
- Faculty strength need to be increased to facilitate the course development and implementation

7.0: Annexure (Enclose Questionnaire format)

Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi

FEEDBACK FORM FOR SUBJECT EXPERTS

Background Information
Name:

Age Group: 20-30   30-40   40-50   50 and
above Male: Female:

Place of Employment:

Are You Associated with IGNOU: Yes   No If Yes, in what Capacity:

Subject /Discipline:

Teaching Learning is an important component in any Open University. Feedback is very important for University to grow. You have contributed in the design and development of the curriculum. To improve the system, kindly respond to the following statements.

SA: Strongly Agree, A: Agree, DA: Disagree, SDA: Strongly Disagree

S. No	Statement	SA	A	Neutral	SDA	DA
1	You were briefed about to the pedagogy of Curriculum Design Development in an OU					

2	Need Analysis was discussed before finalizing the Curriculum					
3	Subject Expert Committees reviewed the curriculum of other universities					
4	Guidelines were provided for the development of the curriculum					
5	As subject experts you were involved in the curriculum review process					
6	Feedback from others like alumni and industry was discussed during the framing of curriculum					
7	Whether the Curriculum of your subject was updated					
8	Curriculum matches with the level of the programme					
9	Orientation was given in the development of Self Learning Material					
10	Self Learning Materials are Learner Centric					

List the areas that need attention to bring desired improvement in the system

_____
_____
_____

Indira Gandhi National Open University
School of Social Sciences, New Delhi

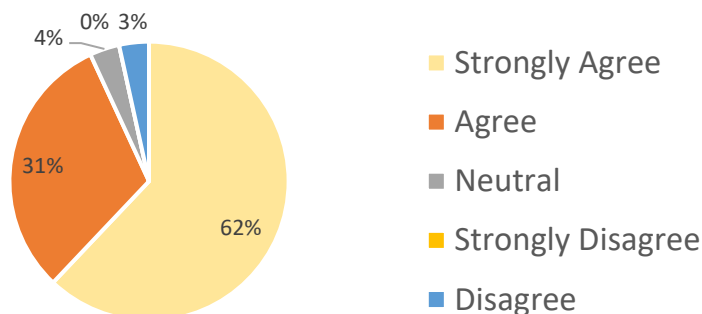## FEEDBACK FORM FROM 29 SUBJECT EXPERTS

1. You were briefed about to the pedagogy of Curriculum Design Development in an OU

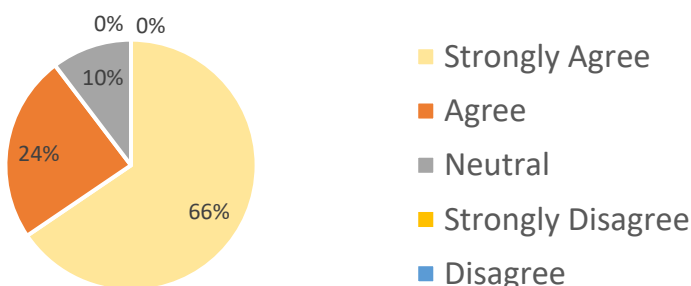| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
25	2	1	0	1
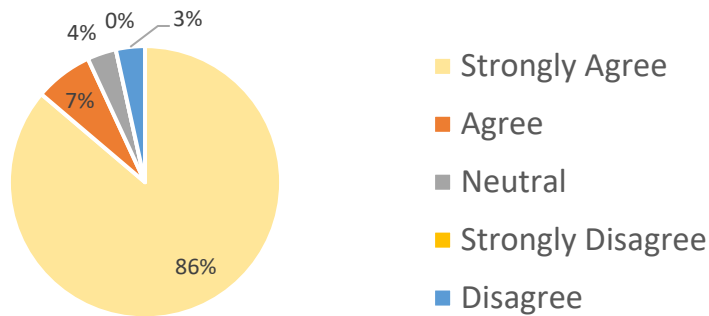
2. Need Analysis was discussed before finalizing the curriculum

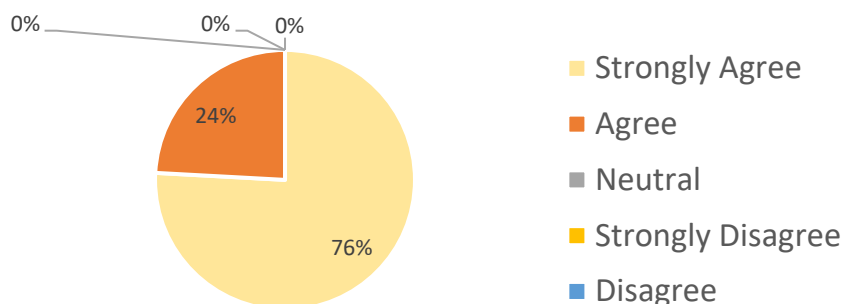| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
18	9	1	0	1

3. Subject Expert Committees reviewed the curriculum of other universities

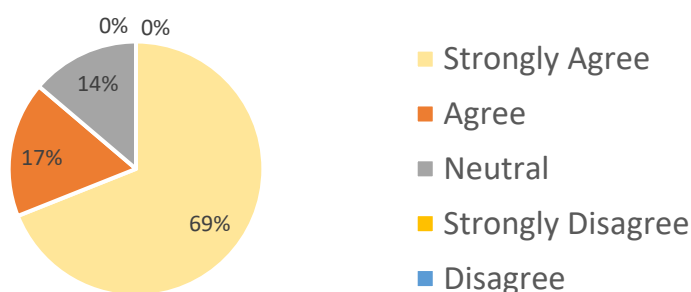| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
19	7	3	0	0

4. Guidelines were provided for the development of the curriculum

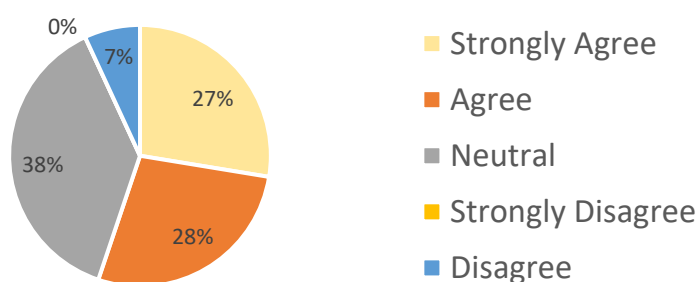| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
22	7	0	0	0

5. As subject experts you were involved in the curriculum review process

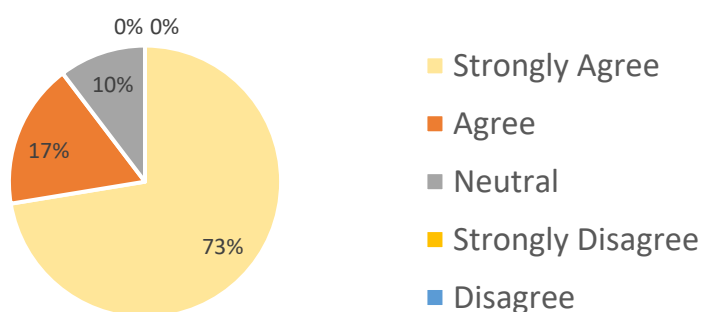| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
20	5	4	0	0

6. Feedback from others like alumni and industry was discussed during the framing of curriculum

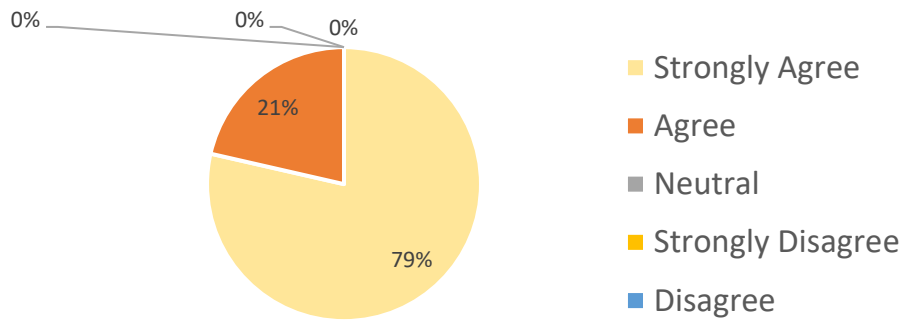| Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
8	8	11	0	2

7. Whether the Curriculum of your subject was updated

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
21	5	3	0	0

8. Curriculum matches with the level of the programme

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
22	6	0	0	0

0% 0% 0%

21%

79%

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree

9. Orientation was given in the development of Self Learning Material

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
19	6	4	0	0

0% 0%

14%

21%

65%

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree
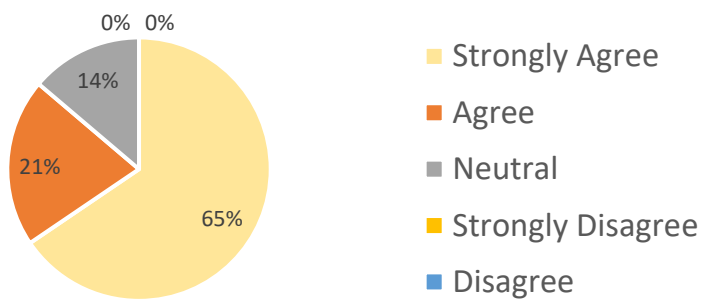
10. Self-Learning Materials are Learner Centric

Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Strongly Disagree	Disagree
20	8	1	0	0

3% 0% 0%

28%

69%

- Strongly Agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Strongly Disagree
- Disagree