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MINUTES OF THE 12TH MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANS-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES TO BE HELD ON 21ST SEPTEMBER, 2012 AT 10.30 A.M. IN THE ROOM NO. 2, CONVENTION CENTRE, IGNOU CAMPUS, MAIDAN GARHI, NEW DELHI.

The following members were present:

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| 1. Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur | - | Chairperson |
| 2. Prof. Rajan Gurukkal | - | External Member |
| 3. Prof. K.S. James | - | External Member |
| 4. Prof. Ajeet N. Mathur | - | External Member |
| 5. Prof. A.R. Khan | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. C.R.K. Murthy | - | Member |
| 7. Dr. O.P. Dewal | - | Member |
| 8. Dr. Babu P. Remesh | - | Member |
| 9. Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya | - | Member |
| 10. Dr. Sadananda Sahoo | - | Member |

Prof. Upinder Singh and Prof. B.S. Saraswat could not attend the meeting. The School Board was informed regarding the lack of availability of Prof. Satish Deshpande as a member of the School Board.

At the outset, the Chairperson welcomed the members and also thanked the previous school board members for their guidance and support.

The following matters were discussed and decisions/recommendations were arrived at apropos various agenda items considered in the meeting.

SB 12.1.	<p>TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 11TH MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SOITS HELD ON 30TH APRIL, 2012</p> <p>The School Board considered and approved the minutes of the 11th Meeting of the School Board held on 30th April, 2012. A copy of the minutes of the meeting is placed at Appendix - 1.</p> <p>While presenting the ATR, Director (I/C) reported that as regards SB 11.6.2. there is a consensus emerging between the Anthropology Faculty and the SOITS faculty working on MA(Social Anthropology) to have a combined meeting of all concerned along with internal and external experts to decide upon how best the extant resources and material prepared for MASA can be used/integrated to the already existing ODL programme on Anthropology(MAAN). A letter from the Programme Coordinator, (MAAN) in this regard was also tabled. The School Board, after detailed discussions arrived at a conclusion that this matter can be finalised once the school develops a Vision Plan which explains the priority areas and future academic directions of the school. The members felt that we may also seek the possibility of utilizing the inputs from MASA to develop appropriate optional courses for the existing Masters Programme in Anthropology (MAAN).</p> <p>The members emphasized the need for having a detailed Vision Statement/Plan of the School. The need for breaking away from a discipline based approach was highlighted. The School needs to be conceptualized as school of convergence and a space for working on integrated themes. Developing a common methodology of interdisciplinary focusing on creation of knowledge areas for deeper study of themes/issues that warrant interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary approach is underlined in the discussion.</p>
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	<p>Prof. Gurukkal agreed to prepare a concept note which will form the basis of the vision statement of the school. The members unanimously promised their cooperation and opined that this document can be discussed in a workshop to be organised by the school in near future, in which even few more invited papers can be included. It was pointed out that such an exercise will yield a blue print for the school to plan its activities with a long term perspective.</p> <p>It was added that it is important to prioritise focal themes for the School so as to develop programmes in these niche areas. It was also highlighted that while advertising for prospective research scholars and recruiting faculty members, it is ideal to highlight the priority areas of the school to attract right candidates.</p>
S.B.12.2	<p>TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE 10TH MEETING OF THE DOCTORAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 30TH AUGUST, 2012 WITH SPECIFIC APPROVAL TO THE FOLLOWING:</p> <p>(i) ADMISSION TO PH.D PROGRAMME. (ii) PROGRESS REPORTS OF PH.D STUDENTS AND RTAS</p> <p>(The School Board considered this agenda item along with the related Agenda Items 11 and 13)</p> <p>The School Board considered the minutes of the 10th Doctoral Committee meeting held on 30th August, 2012 and approved the following items:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Admission of candidates to the Ph.D programmes under SOITS. Five candidates are recommended for admission to Ph.D programme <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Ms. Suchita Gupta (ii) Brig S.K. Sharma (iii) Mr. Suhail Mircha (iv) Ms. Monika Bisht (v) Mr. Shashikanta Sharma Approved the Doctoral Committee decisions regarding the Progress Reports of following Ph.D candidates: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Lt. Gen. S.P. Kochar, Ph.D. candidate for the period of 1st July 2011 to 1st December 2011. (ii) Ms. Surbala Sagolsem (03 Progress Reports from May 2011, to October 2011, November 2011 to April 2012 and May 2012 to October 2012. (iii) Mr. Ramashbhai K. Vaghela for the period 1st December 2010 to December 2011 (BHASHA). (iv) Mr. Yajurvedi, Progress Report from January –June 2012. (v) Md. Rafiq Sheikh, Progress Report from January –June 2012 Discussed the requests of Ms. Beauty and Ms. Mridusmita, RTAs for grant of Senior Research & Teaching Assistance (SRTA) fellowship and referred this matter for the consideration of a next Doctoral Committee Decision on the matter relating to Research Methodology workshop for SOITS scholars for the batch of 2010 onwards. Decision on constituting a three member Research Advisory Committee for each Ph.D. candidates. Decision that each of the RTAs and Ph.D. students are required to present

	<p>their work-in-progress seminars as separate open seminar under SOITS seminar series.</p> <p>The School Board considered the agenda item related to holding of a doctoral committee meeting to consider the award of Senior Research Fellowships for eligible RTAs, along with the related Agenda items 11 and 13 and unanimously suggested that it is desirable to offer the fellowships at the existing level to all candidates without any further delay, where as the award of SRF can be discussed as per norms in the next DC meeting. The members also highlighted that the earlier DC's recommendation need to be reviewed on the basis of the API scores – which is a more reliable indicator of performance.</p>
SB 12.3	<p>TO CONSIDER THE MATTER OF FILLING UP THE VACANT FACULTY POSITIONS AT SCHOOL AND RECRUITMENT OF CONSULTANTS</p> <p>It was reported that there are three vacancies in the School, One Professor (SC) and Two Assistant Professors which need to be filled up through recruitment of permanent faculty members. Till such recruitment is done, it was reported that, for the smooth running of the academic programmes of the school at least two full time consultants/sr. consultants need to be inducted. After detailed discussions, the School Board considered and recommended necessary follow up regarding this matter.</p>
SB 12.4	<p>TO CONSIDER GIVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO FAILED F2F STUDENTS OF SOITS TO REAPPEAR IN THE FORTHCOMING TERM-END EXAMINATION IN DECEMBER, 2012</p> <p>The School Board is requested regarding the conduct of repeat examinations for those students of on-campus Masters Programmes (MLD and MASA), who either failed in or could not write one or few of the papers in their first and second semesters – so that the students will get at least one chance to reappear for these examinations, before their course duration is over. For the previous batches such opportunity was given along with the examinations of their immediate junior batch students. As there is no junior batch currently, the school proposed separate improvement examinations for those who failed in or could not write one/some paper(s) in I and/or II semester, along with the TEE of III and IV Semester. The improvement examinations pertaining to I semester will be planned along with III Semester TE examinations and those pertaining to II Semester will be planned along with TE examinations of IV Semester.</p> <p>The School Board considered and approved the matter.</p>
SB 12.5	<p>TO CONSIDER THE NAME OF DR. SUBHAKANTA MOHAPATRA, READER IN GEOGRAPHY, SOS(IGNOU) TO CONTINUE AS THE PROGRAMME COORDINATOR FOR P.G. DIPLOMA IN POPULATION STUDIES AT SOITS</p> <p>The School Board suggested that the matter can be considered after preparation of the Vision Document, which gives definite directions and guidelines about the priority areas of the school and about the possibilities of including adjunct faculty from other schools. It was also suggested that for all such programmes, involving faculty from other schools, there is a need of having a co-coordinator from SOITS – to develop in-house academic competence and to facilitate smooth functioning of the programmes.</p>

SB 12. 6	<p>TO CONSIDER PHASE I & II FORM FOR M.A. IN LABOUR & DEVELOPMENT (MLD) THROUGH ODL MODE</p> <p>The School Board approved the name of Dr. Babu P. Remesh as the Coordinator of MLD (ODL). Earlier Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya was the co-coordinator and Phase I form had been approved. With the change in Coordination, the revised Phase I form and Phase II form for M.A. in Labour & Development (ODL mode) were considered and approved by the School Board.</p> <p>The School Board noted that existing programme outline and course contents may be fine tuned in the forthcoming expert committee meetings and placed in the subsequent School Board meetings.</p>
SB 12. 7	<p>TO CONSIDER PHASE I FORM FOR PG CERTIFICATE IN CORPORATE ETHNOGRAPHY</p> <p>The concept was agreed and there was a suggestion to appropriately renaming the programme, removing the discipline wise (social anthropology related) focus and bringing in the component of business history.</p> <p>The School Board suggested the Programme Coordinator to bring the Revised concept note and phase form to the next School Board meeting.</p>
SB 12. 8	<p>TO REPORT THE PROGRESS OF FACE-TO-FACE PROGRAMMES OF MASA AND MLD</p> <p>The School Board appreciated the overall achievements of the school in terms of the success of the candidates of both the masters' programmes.</p>
SB 12. 9	<p>TO REPORT THE ORGANIZATION OF SEMINARS, WORKSHOPS AND DISCUSSIONS AT THE SCHOOL</p> <p>The School Board noted the UGC support for the Research Project entitled, "A Comparative Study of Environmental History of Mewar & Marwar (Rajasthan) in the pre-Colonial Period" to Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur.</p> <p>The Board also approved the activities being organised under the SOITS Seminar Series. Further to this, the School Board approved the proposals to hold the following in this academic year:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Organization of regular talks/seminars under 'SOITS seminar series' – with talks/presentations by faculty members from the school and other schools of IGNOU; invited experts/faculty from outside the University (available in Delhi); and research scholars of the school. 2. Organisation of a research methodology workshop for research scholars (Ph D Students and RTAs) on Interdisciplinary Research. (A 21 days programme was recommended in interdisciplinary research methodology.) 3. Organisation of a National Seminar on Changing Dimensions of Internal Migration and Emerging Labour Issues 4. Conduct of other activities – such as film screening, symposia, and panel discussions – on themes/topics of interdisciplinary importance.

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SB 12.10	<p>TO CONSIDER INTERNAL FACULTY MEMBERS AS COURSE COORDINATORS FOR COLLABORATIVE PROGRAMMES</p> <p>The Chairman informed the School Board that the SOITS has ODL programs in Gandhian & Peace Studies and Folklore Studies with other faculty drawn from School of Social Sciences and School of Humanities, IGNOU. The school board, as recommended in the case of agenda item no. SB12.5, strongly recommended the participation of internal faculty in all collaborative programmes. The board also pointed out that any relocation of IGNOU programmes to SOITS needs to be discussed and approved by the School Board, in the first instance. As regards the Specific agenda item (SB 12.10), the School Board considered and recommended that the School may assign some of the internal faculty members as course coordinators for the existing ODL programmes, mentioned above.</p>
SB 12.11	<p>TO CONSIDER THE REPRESENTATION OF MS. BEAUTY AND MS. MRIDUSMITA, RTAS FOR GRANT OF SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP AS PER HIGH API SCORE</p> <p>The Item was discussed along with Item No. 2 and the decision is as per discussions pertaining to agenda item 2.</p>
SB 12.12	<p>TO REPORT CORRECTION IN RESOLUTION NO. SB 10.18.1 & 2 OF THE MINUTES OF 10TH SCHOOL BOARD MEETING OF SOITS THAT ONLY PHASE 1 AND 2 FORMS OF MASA ODL AND NOT PHASE 3 & 4 FORMS WERE REPORTED</p> <p>The School Board noted the correction and suggested to keep this matter on abeyance till the preparation of Vision Document.</p>
SB 12.13	<p>TO CONSIDER LONG DELAY IN THE RELEASE OF RTA FELLOWSHIP FOR EXTENSION WITH DOCTORAL COMMITTEE APPROVAL DUE TO RTAS OF SOITS</p> <p>The Item was discussed along with Item No. 2 and the decision is as per discussions pertaining to agenda item 2.</p>
SB 12.14	<p>TO CONSIDER PHASE 1 FORM OF PG DIPLOMA IN INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS, LABOUR LAWS AND WORKER RIGHTS</p> <p>The School Board considered and approved the Phase 1 Form of PG Diploma in Industrial Relations, Labour Laws and Worker Rights. It was suggested that the existing material of MLD can be appropriately used in this programme.</p>
SB 12.15	<p>TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL TO INITIATE RESEARCH PROJECT ON EMPLOYMENT AND LABOUR RELATIONS OF PRIVATE SECURITY GUARDS</p> <p>The school Board was appraised about the recently completed a research study on 'Migration from North-East to Delhi Region', with full financial support of National Labour Institute (NLI). Apart from its mandated outputs, the project also provided direct learning and research opportunities to the students of the school, besides acquiring a good collection of books to the school's library. Subsequently, a proposal to to initiate another short-term research project on 'Employment and Labour Relations of Private Security Guards' .Presently, no cost is involved for the pilot phase of the project. At a later stage, if the need arises funding from external agencies will be sought. (Dr. Babu P. Remesh,</p>

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	<p>Associate Professor, SOITS will be the Project Director.)</p> <p>The School Board considered and approved the proposal to initiate Research Project on Employment and Labour Relations of Private Security Guards.</p>
SB 12.16	<p>TO CONSIDER THE APPROVAL OF QUESTION PAPER SETTERS AND EVALUATORS FOR IGNOU – I2IT PUNE MBA/MS PROGRAMMES</p> <p>The School Board noted that as such there is no direction from the competent authority about locating the programme of I2IT in SOITS. The School Board further observed that the school does not have any competence to run the programme. Since the school is considering the preparation of vision statement, it is better not to host any programmes prior to the finalization of priority areas.</p>

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


(Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur)
Chairperson

डा.नन्दिनी सिन्हा कपूर / Dr. NANDINI SINHA KAPUR
निदेशक (प्रशासकीय) एस.ओ.आई.टी.एस./Director, (IC) SOITS