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Minutes of the 14th School Board Meeting of the School of Journalism & New Media Studies held on December 18, 2015 at 11.00 am in the Discussion Room, Convention Centre, IGNOU Campus, MaidanGarhi, New Delhi.

The following members were present:

1. Dr. Kiron Bansal, Director, SOJNMS	Chairperson
2. Prof. Usha V. Reddy, Former Director, CEMCA, Hyderabad	Member
3. Prof. Vinod Pavarala, S.N. School of Communication, UoH, Hyderabad	Member
4. Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya, Assistant Prof. SOITS, IGNOU	Member
5. Prof. S.N. Singh, Professor, SOJNMS	Member
6. Dr. K.S. Arul Selvan, Associate Professor, SOJNMS	Member
7. Dr. O.P. Dewal, Associate Professor, SOJNMS	Member
8. Ms Padmini Jain, Assistant Professor, SOJNMS	Member
9. Mr. Amit Kumar, Assistant Professor, SOJNMS	Member
10. Dr. Ramesh Yadav	Special Invitee

Prof. J.S. Yadav, Prof. Mangal D. Negi, Mr. Sunil Abraham, Prof. Swaraj Basu, Prof. Neera Kapoor and Mr. M. Tahir Siddiqui could not attend the meeting due to their preoccupation.

The Chairperson welcomed the members in the 14th meeting of the School Board and thanked them for their participation. She said that many members had confirmed their participation but due to various personal and professional reasons could not attend the meeting and their presence will be missed. She specially thanked the external outstation members of the School Board for their participation. Then each Agenda Item was taken up for discussion.

14.01 Confirmation of the Minutes of the 13th School Board Meeting held on May 5, 2015

The Minutes of the 13th School Board Meeting held on May 5, 2015 were taken up and one comment received from Dr. O.P. Dewal was included in the Minutes and the Minutes were confirmed.

14.02 To consider and approve the ATRs on the Minutes of the 13th School Board Meeting held on May 5, 2015

The Action Taken on the Agenda Items of the 13th School Board meeting was reported to the School Board. While discussing the ATR on MPhil programme, the mode of delivery was not found addressed by the Research Unit and it was suggested that till such period PhD and MPhil Ordinance gets approved; the academic work may be initiated. Further, the Biannual Seminar Series approved in 13th School Board would be of immense benefit to all the faculty and research scholars currently enrolled therefore every effort should be made to start the series at the earliest and not linked with MPhil programme.

With these observations the ATR was confirmed.

14.03 To consider and approve the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee meetings held on August 24-25, 2015 and October 29-30, & December 3, 2015

The Minutes of the Doctoral Committee meeting held on August 24-25, 2015 and October 29-30, & December 3, 2015 were presented to the School Board. The members were

apprised about the progress reports presentations and seminar presentations held during above Doctoral Committee meetings.

Regarding Agenda items 12-19 on the lists of examiners for PhD thesis of eight scholars received from their supervisors, it was observed that as per UGC norms, experts who hold PhD degrees and have research background should only be considered as PhD examiners. In this regard, the Board authorized the Director, SOJNMS to review and finalise the lists in consultation with the supervisors. (Annexure - sealed envelope).

On Item no. 19 regarding recognition as a PhD supervisor, it was suggested that the matter may be considered only when the faculty completes the stipulated period of five years in April 29, 2016 and taken to the next School Board.

With these observations, the Board approved the Minutes of the Doctoral Committee.

As a regular practice followed during the School Board meetings, Ms Padmini Jain and Shri Amit Kumar, who are also research scholars at the SOJNMS recused themselves during discussion on Item no. 14.03, and joined the meeting thereafter.

14.04 To consider and approve the issues pertaining to MA in Journalism & Mass Communication (ODL) programme

The members were apprised of the issues pertaining to MA in Journalism & Mass Communication (ODL) programme raised in the 37th, 38th, 40th and 41st meetings of the ACSC and approval of the programme in the 64th meeting of the Academic Council held on July 10, 2015.

On the issue of ACSC noting regarding updation and relevance of the SLMs, the members noted that the material is still under development and each Course Coordinator has already taken the responsibility for offering the latest updated content. One External Board member, who is also the Content Editor of one course of MA-JMC programme said that the content of the course being edited by her is updated and relevant. With these observations, the item was ratified.

The Board was further informed that a communication was received from the UGC regarding nomenclature of degrees in accordance with UGC Gazette. In this regard it was proposed that MA in Journalism & Mass Communication may be titled as MA (Journalism & Mass Communication) to align with the UGC list and the same was approved.

14.05 To discuss the compatibility of Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) framework for MA in Journalism & Mass Communication (ODL) programme

On Agenda item 14.05 the Board observed that the CBCS framework may be adopted for MA-JMC programme. If a template has not been provided by the UGC for PG programmes, the School may take a lead and draw upon the template provided for Under Graduate programmes comprising a mix of Core, Skill Enhancement and Interdisciplinary Courses spread over MA 1st and 2nd years.

Since the CBCS framework has to be adopted across boards in the University and other Schools will be going through similar exercise, the issues related to equivalence in credits, evaluation, semester system, etc. need to be worked out at the University level in consultation with STRIDE and other Schools and Divisions.

14.06 To consider and approve the revised programme structure of BA (Journalism & New Media) programme

The revised programme structure of BA (Journalism & New Media) designed in the light of the recommendations of 12th School Board of SOJNMS, 47th Meeting of the Academic Programme Committee (APC) and the CBCS Guidelines was presented in the School Board and was approved.

14.07 To consider and approve the proposal for upgrading the Certificate in Community Radio programme into a new Diploma in Community Media programme

The Board considered the Phase 1 Form and proposal for upgrading the Certificate in Community Radio (CCR) programme into a new Diploma in Community Media. It recommended that the programme should also incorporate print and digital media apart from audio and video. In addition to CEMCA, organizations like UNESCO Chair for Community Radio may be involved in content generation. Keeping in view the popularity of community media in the South Asian region, the programme may be offered in these countries and the content may accordingly be designed and developed for a wider outreach of the programme.

14.08 To consider and approve the Phase Form for Appreciation Programme in Media and Information Literacy

The Phase Form of Appreciation Programme in Media and Information Literacy (APMIL) was presented by the Programme Proposer, Dr. K.S.Arul Selvan and was approved. It was agreed that the list of Course Writers earlier approved in the 13th School Board will be used for course writing.

14.9 To consider and approve organizing practical training of a PGDAPP student with special needs (Tabled Item)

A tabled item regarding a disabled student of PGDAPP who is an employee of All India Radio, Bolangir, Odisha was presented by the Programme Coordinator Dr. O.P.Dewal. The student has expressed his inability to come to headquarters for participating in the practical training currently being organised only at headquarters after the discontinuation of Gyan Vani stations. The School Board approved the proposal for considering cases of special needs on humanitarian grounds and suggested that appropriate mechanism may be devised for conducting training and evaluation for such students on a case-to-case basis.

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

To: All concerned

Kiron Bansal
(Kiron Bansal) 29/12/15

डॉ. किरण बंसल
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