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SOITS

MINUTES OF THE 15TH MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF THE SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANS-DISCIPLINARY STUDIES HELD ON 2ND APRIL, 2014 AT 10.30 A.M. IN THE ROOM NO. 6, 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 Gurukkul | - | External Member |
| 3. Prof. K.S. James | - | External Member |
| 4. Prof. Debal K. Singharoy | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. Anju Sehgal Gupta | - | Member |
| 6. Dr. G. Uma | - | Member |
| 7. Dr. Gaurav Singh | - | Member |
| 8. Dr. Babu P. Remesh | - | Member |
| 9. Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya | - | Member |
| 10. Dr. Sadananda Sahoo | - | Member |

Prof. Ajeet N. Mathur, Prof. Upinder Singh and Prof. Maitrayee Chaudhuri could not attend the meeting.

Prof. Kapil Kumar, Dr. Subhakanta Mohapatra and Shri Ajay Mahurkar attended the meeting as Special Invitees.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members.

The following items were considered:

ITEM NO. 1 TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 14TH MEETING OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF SOITS HELD ON 10TH SEPTEMBER, 2013 AND ACTION TAKEN REPORT

SB 15.1.1 The School Board considered the minutes of its last meeting (14th Meeting) held on 10th September, 2013 and noted the action taken report on the minutes. The School Board confirmed the minutes with the following the modification in **Resolution No.SB 14.7**:

"In the 2nd Para, the term "**resource persons**" is replaced with the term "**experts**".

ITEM NO. 2 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE 16TH MEETING OF THE DOCTORAL COMMITTEE HELD ON 20TH FEBRUARY, 2014

SB 15.2.1 The School Board considered and approved the minutes of the 16th meeting of the Doctoral Committee held on 20th February, 2014 and approved the following recommendations of the Doctoral Committee:

1. Extension of fellowship for the last six months of RTA tenure – Ms. Mridusmita Baruah and Mr. Rembemo.
2. Brief reporting on the status of Ph.D submission by the RTAs –
 - (i) Ms. Beauty Gagoi has submitted final thesis.
 - (ii) Ms. Sayantani Sen Mazumdar submitting final thesis on 24th February, 2014.
 - (iii) Pre submission seminar to be presented by Ms. Mridusmita, Mr. Rembemo and Ms. Sangmitra Sarkar.
3. Request of Ms. Arsala Nizami for change of title of Ph.D.
4. Request of Ms. Subha Banerji, Ph. D student for change of title of Ph.D.
5. Approval on the Progress Reports of following for the period shown against each:
 - (i) Mr. V.P. Yajurvedi for the period March, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (ii) Ms. Subha Banerji for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (iii) Ms. Arsala Nizami for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (iv) Mr. Saibal Kumar Pal for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (v) Mr. Feroz Khan for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (vi) Ms. Indrani Mazumdar for the period April, 2013 to January, 2014.
 - (vii) Ms. Bandana Kumari for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (viii) Mr. Vivek Bajpai for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (ix) Mr. Abhay Chawla for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (x) Ms. Ayushi Agrawal for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (xi) Brig. Sushil Kumar Sharma for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (xii) Ms. Shuchita Gupta for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013.
 - (xiii) Ms. Victoria Thokchom for the period April, 2013 to September, 2013 and September, 2013 to February, 2014.
 - (xiv) Mr. Mahendra Sethi for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013
 - (xv) Ms. Milita Haldar for the period July, 2013 to December, 2013
6. Reporting by Dr. Sadanand Sahoo, Internal Coordinator of Organisation of TEE including paper setting and moderation for SACAR M.Phil and Ph.D students.
7. Approval on upgradation of UGC JRF to SRF for Ms. Surabala Sagolsem.
8. Appointment of next Research Programme Coordinator and Associate Coordinator.
9. Reporting of ICSSR Fellowship being received by Ms. Ayushi Agarwal.

ITEM NO. 3 TO REPORT THE STATUS OF PG DIPLOMA IN POPULATION STUDIES

SB 15.3.1 Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya and Dr. Subhakant Mohapatra, Programme Coordinators presented the status of PG Diploma in Population Studies. The Programme Coordinators have been advised to fill in the new Phase-1 Form and to undertake need assessment study. It was also suggested that the elective in population studies may be developed for BDP. Prof. Debal K. Singharoy suggested sponsorship from government agencies to facilitate PG Diploma in Population Studies. It was also suggested to seek collaboration from Geography faculty from School of Sciences.

ITEM NO. 4 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NEW PHASE -1 FORM FOR PG DIPLOMA IN MIGRATION AND DIASPORA STUDIES

SB 15.4.1 The School Board approved the new Phase-1 Form for PG Diploma in Migration and Diaspora Studies. It was reported that Need Assessment study is under progress which would be reported to next APC along with Phase I Form.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE PHASE 2 FORM OF MA (LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT) IN ODL MODE

SB 15.5.1 The School Board approved the Phase 2 form of MA (Labour and Development) in ODL mode with a lateral exit option (i.e., a PG Diploma in same area, after one year). The School Board viewed that this is an important programme, which needs to be developed at the school in the near future.

ITEM NO. 6 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE EXPANSION OF COORDINATION TEAM OF MA (LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT) IN ODL MODE

SB 15.6.1 The School Board considered and approved the expansion of Coordination Team of MA (Labour and Development) in ODL mode, by including Prof. Narayan Prasad, School of Social Sciences, as a member of the team. With this, the Coordination Team of the programme now includes, Dr. Babu P. Remesh (Programme Coordinator), Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya, Dr. Sadananda Sahoo, Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur and Prof. Narayana Prasad.

ITEM NO. 7 TO REPORT THE STATUS OF MA (LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT) PROGRAMME – IN ODL MODE

SB 15.7.1 The School Board took note of the progress in the preparatory works of MA (Labour and Development) Programme in ODL mode.

ITEM NO. 8 TO REPORT THE OUTCOME OF THE NEED ASSESSMENT STUDY OF MA (LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT)

SB 15.8.1 The School Board appreciated the School's effort in conducting the need assessment study in a time bound and cost-effective manner. It was suggested that since the outcome of the need assessment study is supportive, now the school can expedite the preparatory works of the programme.

ITEM NO. 9 TO REPORT THE MINUTES OF THE EXPLORATORY MEETING OF EXPERTS AND EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETING OF MA IN LABOUR AND DEVELOPMENT (ODL)

SB 15.9.1 The School Board took note of the decisions and recommendations of the members of Exploratory Meeting and expressed its satisfaction

about the follow up action taken.

ITEM NO. 10 TO APPROVE THE LIST OF COURSE COORDINATORS, COURSE WRITERS AND OTHER RESOURCE PERSONS AND THE BROAD PLAN OF AUDIO-VIDEO PRODUCTION FOR THE PROGRAMME (MLD)

SB 15.10.1 The School Board approved the list of Course Coordinators (for the courses in the first year) as follows:

MLD-01- Labour and Development: Basic Concepts and Theories (Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur), MLD-02-Structure of Labour Market (Dr. Babu P. Remesh), MLD-03-State and Labour: Labour Law, Administration and Welfare (Dr. Shubhangi Vaidya), MLDE-04-Changing Organisation of Production and Forms of Labour (Dr. Babu P. Remesh), MLD -05 - Human Recourse Management and Industrial Relations (Dr. Sadananda Sahoo), MLDPE-06-Project Work- I (Dr. Babu P. Remesh)

The Board also approved panel of resource persons/experts for preparing the self-learning materials.

SB 15.10.2 As regards the production of audio-video programmes for MLD (ODL), it was suggested that the school may initially plan for a limited number of productions and along with this explore the possibility of getting the already existing audio-video programmes of other organisations.

ITEM NO. 11 TO CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF THE EXPLORATORY MEETING OF PG DIPLOMA IN CONFLICT AND PEACE STUDIES AND THE COURSE IN BDP IN ENVIRONMENT AND PEACE STUDIES

SB 15.11.1 The minutes of the Exploratory Meeting of PG Diploma in Conflict and Peace Studies were reported. BDP Coordinator, Shri Ajay Mahurkar reported that the proposal for BDP elective course in environment and peace studies had been reported in the last School Board meeting of School of Social Sciences and would be placed before the BDP Coordination Committee in its next meeting. The School Board while approving the proposal sought clarification on the nature of collaboration between the two schools, i.e., SOITS and SOSS. It was further suggested that since SOITS meets all the financial requirements for this course, it is desirable to have it as a primary activity of SOITS (in collaboration with SOSS).

ITEM NO. 12 TO CONSIDER THE FINALIZATION OF THE VISION & MISSION STATEMENT OF SOITS WITH REFERENCE TO DRAFT MINUTES PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

SB 15.12.1 The Vision and Mission document was finalised and approved in the meeting. (Appendix)

ITEM NO. 13 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CONFIDENTIAL LIST OF EXAMINERS FOR PH.D THESIS OF MS. SAYANTANI SEN MAZUMDAR, RTA

SB 15.13.1 The School Board considered and approved the confidential list of examiners to examine the Ph.D thesis of Ms. Sayantani Sen Mazumdar, RTA. However, the Board suggested that the Ph.D Supervisors in future be advised to supply brief bio data of each examiner for due verification at the school level, before sending it for final approval of competent authority.

ITEM NO. 14 TO REPORT THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF EMPC WITH SOITS REGARDING PRODUCTION OF AUDIO/VIDEO PROGRAMMES AND TELECONFERENCING

SB 15.14.1 The School Board noted the minutes of the meeting of EMPC with SOITS regarding production of audio/video programmes and teleconferencing.

ITEM NO. 15 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE TWO CONSULTANTS KEEPING THE VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT OF SOITS IN MIND AND PROGRAMMES UNDER DEVELOPMENT SUCH AS LABOUR, MIGRATION & DIASPORA STUDIES, AMONG OTHERS

SB 15.15.1 The School Board considered and approved the appointment of two consultants keeping in view the Vision and Mission statement of SOITS in mind and programmes under development such as labour, migration & diaspora studies, among others.

ITEM NO. 16 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE CONFIDENTIAL LIST OF EXAMINERS FOR PH.D THESIS OF MR. REMBEMO ODYUO, RTA

SB 15.16.1 The School Board considered and approved the confidential list of examiners to examine the Ph.D thesis of Mr. Rembemo Odyuo, RTA.

ITEM NO. 17 TO REPORT THE FIRST PH.D VIVA VOCE EXAMINATION IN SOITS

SB 15.17.1 The Board noted the holding of first Ph.D Viva Voce examination in the School on 20th March, 2014 for Lt. Gen. S.P. Kochhar, Ph.D student (under the supervision of Late Prof. Vijay Kapur).

ITEM NO. 18 TO CONSIDER AND APPROVE THE NAME OF DR. BABU P. REMESH AS NEW PROPOSED SUPERVISOR OF LT. GEN. MUKESH SABHARWAL (RETD.) FOLLOWING THE SUDDEN DEATH OF PROF. VIJAY KAPUR (FORMER PH.D SUPERVISOR)

SB 15.18.1 The School Board considered and approved the name of Dr. Babu P.

Remesh as new proposed supervisor of Lt. Gen. Mukesh Sabharwal (Retd.) following the demise of his Ph.D Supervisor, Prof. Vijay Kapur.

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


(Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur)
Chairperson

डॉ. नंदिनी सिन्हा कपूर / Dr. NANDINI SINHA KAPUR
निदेशक (प्रमारी) एन.ओ.आई.टी.एन./Director, (IC) SOITS

Appendix (Item No.12)

Draft Vision Statement of School of Interdisciplinary and Transdisciplinary Studies

"Interdisciplinary work, so much discussed these days, is not about confronting already constituted disciplines none of which, in fact, is willing itself to let itself go. To do something interdisciplinary it is not enough to choose a subject (a theme) and gather around it two or three sciences. Interdisciplinary consists in creating a new object that belongs to no one." (Roland Barther)

Introduction

IGNOU's School of Interdisciplinary/Transdisciplinary Studies (SOITS) is a platform for the promotion of teaching and research across disciplines. Facilitation of convergence of disciplines is the central strategy behind the pedagogic activities of the School. Organisation of academic programmes across a wide range of sciences of social concerns, in holistic perspective, is the primary commitment of the School.

The philosophy of SOITS is disciplinary transcendence in knowledge production and transmission through democratization of disciplines and strengthening of critical self-reflexivity enabling research on research and knowledge about knowledge. It is the philosophy of convergence, which highlights themes wherein multiple disciplines and sub-disciplines sustain their stake of scholarly access.

Objectives:

The main objectives of SOITS are:

- To provide a teaching and research platform for original studies along the interfaces of established disciplines;
- To promote interactive academic co-existence amongst scholars of diverse specializations facilitating convergence of disciplines and transactional mutuality of holistic wisdom;
- To strengthen the social extension aspect of research and facilitate issue based production of knowledge through incessant interaction with and participation of people.

The central objective of SOITS is to let disciplines converge on issues and generate new knowledge capable of resolving them or leading to evolving resolutions. A crucial objective of SOITS is fostering critical reflexivity.

The founding of SOITS is to effectively supplement and creatively influence production of knowledge beyond the disciplinary constraints i.e., through interdisciplinary works.

Knowledge generated beyond disciplines and across their interfaces is strikingly fresh, regenerative and converging. Convergence cuts across not only disciplinary barriers but also faculty differentiation between the natural and social sciences.

Objectives:

Unlike the other schools of IGNOU, which allow specialisation in identified 'disciplines', the SOITS will plan its activities around prioritised 'streams' from time to time. This deviation is specially to maintain the inter and trans-disciplinary character of the school. The following streams have been identified to begin with the activities of the school.

Labour Studies
Diaspora Studies
Diversity and Inclusivity Studies
Marginalised Communities and Communities at Risk
Sustainability Studies and Food Security

Addition or deletion of streams will be done after periodic reviews, depending upon the changed priorities of school and available expertise of faculty members.

Due to the unique and innovative character of the School, SOITS will attempt to draw upon the existent expertise in other Schools of Study and Divisions in IGNOU and invite Adjunct Faculty to take up time bound assignments and engage in collaborative activities with SOITS for programme development. Similarly, SOITS faculty members may also collaborate with other Schools on similar terms, to strengthen research and studies of interdisciplinary and trans-disciplinary nature.
