

Item 1

**INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY**  
**School of Gender & Development Studies**

**Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the School Board of the School of Gender and Development Studies held on 23<sup>rd</sup> July, 2009 at 2.00p.m. in the Conference Room.**

**The following members attended the meeting**

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|----|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | Prof. Savita Singh    | Chairperson       |
| 2. | Prof. Anu Aneja       | Ex-Officio Member |
| 3. | Prof. Annu J. Thomas  | "                 |
| 4. | Prof. Kamal Yadava    | Member            |
| 5. | Prof. Vimal Thorat    | "                 |
| 6. | Dr. Nilima Srivastava | "                 |
| 7. | Dr. Himadri Roy       | "                 |
| 8. | Prof. Malashri Lal    | Co-opted Member   |
| 9. | Ms. Mina Swaminathan  | "                 |

**The following members could not attend:**

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|----|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Prof. Poonam Agarwal | Co-opted Member |
| 2. | Dr. Sharmila Rege    | "               |

The Chairperson welcomed the members to the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of the School Board of SOGDS. One of the external members raised several queries regarding the move to offer programmes in face-to-face mode and whether this would not go against the mandate of IGNOU by restricting the enrolment to only metropolitan cities whereas the mandate of IGNOU is to reach the unreached section of students. The Chair explained that like all Universities IGNOU is also expanding and going into blended mode of learning whereby all the courses offered in face to face will be offered through ODL also. The member also requested the School to look into the possibility of developing a course in the area of Gender & Agriculture, for which she had earlier submitted details of prepared materials. It was agreed to consider and explore the possibility for such a course further.

**Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of Minutes of 4<sup>th</sup> School Board held on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2009: Minutes of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> April, 2009 were confirmed as circulated.**

**Agenda Item No. 2: Proposal for MA/PG Diploma in Women's & Gender Studies (Face-to-Face Mode):** The proposal for the MA/PG Diploma in Women's & Gender Studies (Face-to-Face mode) was discussed thoroughly. It was suggested that the eligibility criteria for admission to the course may be reviewed.. Final decisions regarding admissions may be left to a Screening Committee which may evolve specific criteria for admission. The Screening Committee may consider including criteria related to academic as well as non-academic experience, and interviews of prospective students. The proposal to launch the MA/PG Dip!oma programme in face-to-face mode was approved by the School Board with the above suggestions.

**Agenda Item No. 3: Phase 1 Form for MA/PG Diploma in Women's & Gender Studies (ODL Mode) :** The Phase 1 form for the course MA/PG Diploma in Women and Gender Studies (Distance Mode) was discussed. The Phase 1 form for development of the MA/PG Diploma programme in ODL mode was approved by the School Board

**Agenda Item No. 4: Proposal for launching M. Phil. in Women's Studies in July 2010 (face-to-face and ODL modes) :** The proposal was discussed by the School Board. The programme coordinator explained that the face-to-face mode was proposed to be launched at CWDS, as per the MoU with CWDS. It was proposed to offer the face-to-face classes from January 2010, and the ODL mode subsequently. It was decided that the proposal may be brought back to the School Board with detailed course structure of each course for launching in both modes.

**Agenda Item No. 5: Phase 3 form for the M. Phil. in Gender and Development Studies to be launched in July 2010 :** The Phase 3 form for the M. Phil. in Gender and Development Studies was discussed. The phase 3 form for M.Phil in Gender and Development Studies was approved by the School Board.

**Agenda Item No. 6: Proposal for Research Methodology Course Structure for Ph. D. in Gender and Development Studies :** After discussion of the above proposal, it was agreed that the proposal for the Research Methodology Course Structure for Ph. D. in Gender and Development Studies should be placed again before the School Board with detailed course structure of optional suggested along with the core/foundation course details already provided to the School Board.

**Agenda Item No. 7: Concept Notes for offer of Programmes in the following areas (a) Gender and Science (b) Gender and Ecology (c) Studies in Gender in Asia (d) Gender and Labour (e) Alternative Sexuality (f) Gender and Law:** The concept notes for all the areas were appreciated by the Board. There was a suggestion from incorporating Sustainable Development in the programme in Gender and Ecology. It was also suggested that the following areas may be explored: Gender in Agriculture, Rural Livelihoods and Natural Resource Management through On-line mode, Literature & Culture in Asia, Family & Community in Asia, and Religion. It was also suggested that additional courses in Alternative Sexuality besides the proposed PG Certificate course could be developed. The School Board agreed that the above areas may be further explored to be followed by normal procedures for programme and course development, as needed.

**Agenda Item No. 8: Proposal for developing Workshop in Capacity Building of Women in Higher Education in the ODL system :** The proposal for developing a workshop in Capacity Building of Women in Higher Education in the ODL system was discussed thoroughly, and two suggestions were offered. One about the need to have Manuals of the workshop created in Hindi along with Manuals in English. The other suggestion was about Need Assessment Survey for conducting this workshop in Hindi or English. The workshop coordinator agreed to incorporate the above suggestions. The proposal was approved with the above suggestions.




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**Agenda Item No. 9 : Discussion on institution of Chair in SOGDS :** The Board approved the possibility of instituting a Chair on Savitri Bai Phule in SOGDS. The modalities for funding such a Chair may be further looked into.

**Agenda Item No. 10: Proposal for a Journal for SOGDS :** The idea for the journal for SOGDS was discussed and appreciated. The Board approved a bi-lingual journal with a tentative title **PURPLE INK** for the School. Members made several suggestions regarding exploring publication possibilities externally (such as penguin, India, Francis & Taylor and others) and internally (IGNOU), the need for having a strong national and international editorial board, and the need for a refereed process for selection of materials. Also, it was suggested that the journal may publish materials in both English and Hindi (in the original languages). It was agreed to explore all of the above suggestions further.

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

  
(Savita Singh)  
Director, SOGDS