SOITS

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY AND TRANSDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Ref: IG/SOITS/2010 11th February, 2010

7th School Board Meeting, 5th February, 2010, Conference Room Time: 10-30 A M, IGNOU, New Delhi

The introductory and welcome speech was given by Dr Nandini Sinha Kapur, Director (I/C), SOITS

The following members were present:

- 1. Prof K. R. Srivathsan, Pro Vice Chancellor, in charge of SOITS
- 2. Dr Nandini Sinha Kapur, Director(I/C), SOITS
- 3. Prof Vijay Kapur, Advisor to VC, IGNOU, external member
- 4. Dr. V. Venugopal Reddy, Director, Research Unit, IGNOU, special invitee
- 5. Prof D. Gopal, SOSS, IGNOU, special invitee
- 6. Prof C. K Ghosh, SSC, IGNOU, member
- 7. Prof. M.K. Salooja, member
- 8. Dr. Chandan Mahanta, IIT, Guwahati (Assam)
- 9. Dr .Suhash Mehera, SACAR, special invitee
- 10. Prof. Gracious Thomas, Director, SOSW, special invitee
- 11. Dr Nandini Sahu, SOH, IGNOU, special invitee
- 12. Dr. Babu P. Remesh, Reader, SOITS
- 13. Dr. Subhangi Vaidya, Lecturer, SOITS, special invitee
- 14. Dr. Ratheesh, Lecturer, SOITS, special invitee
- 15. Ms Beauty Gogoi, RTA, SOITS

Prof. P.R. Ramanujam & Prof. B.K. Patnaik, Prof. D.P. Chattopadhyaya and Prof. Dilip. Ahuja could not attended this meeting.

Prof. K.R. Srivathsan chaired this meeting. He read out the minutes of the 6^{th} School Board Meeting which were adopted by the School Board members.

Prof. C.K Ghosh explained the courses of Physics and Astrophysics in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Astrophysics. He pointed out that for the first time students were participating in the exhibition of National science Congress. He also informed that the members he planned to hold a national seminar, inviting eminent scholars in this area by the end of March, 2010. Prof Srivathsan, Suggested that eminent scholar like Govind Swarup will be available in the first week of April and he could be invited to hold workshop in this area. Prof. Ghosh supported him.

Dr Nandini Sinha Kapur, presented the progress of the school with reference to face to face teaching programmes of MLD and MASA. She also mentioned that visiting faculty from JNU and Delhi University were invited to deliver distinguished lectures and teach parts of courses. She reported that Students had done quite well in their end term Examinations. Silver Jubilee seminar series continues to be organised regularly (once/twice a month).

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Dr Babu P Remesh, placed his proposal to the board that SOITS would like to offer Ph D programme in respect of MLD and MASA. He proposed that two RTAs each in MLD and MASA be considered. He also proposed that RTAs should extend their helping hand in these courses as teaching assistants. He also expressed that SOITS was also interested in launching ODL programme in MLD and MASA (online-mode). In this direction he sought assistance from all the faculty members of SOITS teaching MLD and MASA face to face classes.

Dr V. Venugopal Reddy stressed on IGNOU guideline on M. Phil / Ph D programme. He pointed out that there are Category-A and category-B students those who are pursuing Ph D. The guideline as follows:

1. After completing successfully 32 to 36 credits course work and 12 to 16 credits dissertation, an M. Phil degree will be awarded.

2. After completing successfully 32-36 credit course work and 64-68 credit thesis work, a Ph D degree will be awarded (Category-B).

3 After completing successfully 64-68 credits thesis work for Ph D, a Ph D degree willbe awarded(category -A)

4. After completing successfully 32-36 credit course work 12-16 credit thesis for M.Phil and 64-68 credit for Ph D an M Phil and Ph D Degree will be awarded under the Integrated Research Degree Programme

RTAs are under category –B:
The process of registration for Ph D, as per the IGNOU rule, the synopsis should be first approved by the Doctoral Committee; the guide should be approved by the school board. Research council demand the CV of Research Guide and short write up on research area.

Close monitoring of research progress is also must. Prof. D. Gopal mentioned that Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur had taken the initiative, convened a meeting of the faculty members and other senior members and we have chalked out a one-month intensive programme on M.Phill/Ph.D course-work (proposed for April) as we have 14 directly registered RTAs/Ph.Ds with SOITS

Dr Nandini Sahu, stressed on the course of Folklore and cultural studies, which could be launched through EDUSAT. Regional centres are not able to handle the enrolment process for this process the School Board suggested and accepted the proposal that all enrolment and delivery of study-material related work would be centralizes under the supervision of Dr. Nandini Sahu and with the help of SOITS. It has been decided that the school would share one of its JATs (computer operator) with Dr. Nandini Sahu for enrolment work (PGDFCS) till a full-time operator can be appointed for the purpose of centralized admission and also suggested that she should requite consultant to assist in her work, though it is a unique course.

Prof Srivathsan appreciated Dr Sahu's initiatives and he suggested online teaching of folklore and cultural studies.

Dr. Suhash Mehra, Admin Incharge, SACAR, Pondicherry attended School Board meeting at the suggestion of Dr. Venu Gopal Reddy as a special invitee to address issues related to M.Phill/Ph.D candidates. The school Board upon the recommendation of Dr. V.V. Reddy unanimously agreed to register all the M.Phil/Ph.D students from Oct 08 sessions into

the Jan 09 session. List of supervisors/expert for the M.Phil/Ph.D placed before the School Board approval for and after the approval of minutes School Board it will be presented in next Research Council meeting.

The ICIS courses for July/August session were reported and ratified

- 1. PG Certificate Programme in Applied Integral Studies
 - Studies of the Rig Veda: Hymns to the Rising Sun, Surya Savitri
 - Integral Education: From Reflection to Action
 - Explorations towards a New Creation of the Society.
- 2. Master in Aplied Integral Studies
 - Introduction to Integral Studies: Key Perspectives from the works of Sri Aurobindo & The Mother
 - Introduction to the Vedas in the Light of Sri Aurobindo
 - Paradigms of Psychological Knowledge:a Historical & Crosscultural perspective
 - Exploration towards a New Creation of the self
 - The Upanishads in the light of Sri Aurobindo
 - The study of the Bhagawad Gita in the light of Sri Aurobindo
 - Explorations towards a New creation of the society
 - Integral Education: From Reflection to Action
 - Studies of the Rig Veda: Hymns to the Rising Sun, Surya Savitri
 - Foundations in Growth of Consciousness
 - Foundation Course for Facilitators

Prof. Gracious Thomas reported action taken by the Vice-Chancellor in locating BA Philosophy in SOITS which was noted by School Board members. He also presented phase I and phase III of MA Philosophy to be run through the CBC chair and housed in SOITS. It was discussed by the members that additional courses on Philosophies of Sri Aurobindo and Gandhi would be included in future to make it more in tune with to the courses already launched SOITS.

Prof. Gopal, presented the Gandhian Studies programme. He explained about integrated M. Phil/ Ph D programme. The course-contents and evaluation methods were submitted to the School Board which were accepted and adopted. The concept note and draft of the face to face in "Environmental studies" which can be followed by ODL at a later stage was discussed.

Dr Chandan Mahanta, gave several of constructive suggestion.

Prof Vijay Kapur pointed out the importance of Anusarka seminar series under SOITS and its continuity.

> Dr. Nandini Sinha Kapur) Director (I/C), SOITS

The DISPITS PARTY