

A Report on

Faculty Development Programme for the faculty members of IGNOU on 'Innovative Use of ICT Tools for Providing Web Enabled Academic Support for Distance Mode Programmes'

Organised by NCIDE

The National Centre for Innovation in Distance Education (NCIDE) organized a Faculty Development Programme for the faculty members of IGNOU on '*Innovative Use of ICT Tools for Providing Web Enabled Academic Support for Distance Mode Programmes*' during January 8-14, 2020, at the Conference Room, NCIDE, IGNOU.

The main objectives of the workshop were to sensitize the participants about Web enabled Academic Support (WEAS); to empower the participants to use innovative tools for providing web based academic support to the students; and also to enable the participants to develop and deploy the Web Based Academic Support scheme for their distance mode programmes.

At the onset Dr. Oum Prakash Sharma, Director, NCIDE welcomed the participants and emphasised the need and importance of the web enabled academic support for the learners of distance mode programmes. Dr. Sujata Santosh, coordinator of the workshop briefed the participants about the workshop, its aim and objectives and invited them to share their experiences regarding providing academic support to the learners of their programme. The participants who attended the workshop represented various schools of IGNOU.



Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, co-coordinator of the workshop sensitised the participants about the Web Enabled Academic Support (WEAS /व्यास) scheme and highlighted the features of WEAS which could be used effectively for providing technology enabled academic support to the learners of distance mode programmes. Dr. Sujata Santosh, Assistant Director, NCIDE and Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit, Deputy Director, NCIDE were also the resource persons for the workshop. The workshop comprised of total 20 face-to-face sessions. The sessions were a combination of theory and hands on. The hands-on activities were completed by the participants with zeal.



Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Nageshwar Rao visited the workshop on 10th January, 2020 and interacted with the participants. The Vice Chancellor appreciated the efforts by the NCIDE towards using technological support to the distance learners. He also encouraged the participants to use it to reach out the distance learners at the remotest places. He said that WEAS could be used as an important means for direct interaction with learners through web counselling, video-based interaction, discussion forum, and chat, etc. He hoped that this mechanism may help in increasing enrolment also and will prove to be cost effective for the University. He suggested to facilitate for assignment submission and its evaluation through this portal directly. He further suggested to develop such facility for popular programme also.



At the end of the workshop each participant developed on their own the following for their programmes

1. Each participant was technologically empowered to use ICT Tools to design and develop video programmes and web portals,
2. Each participant recorded, edited and developed promotional videos and programme welcome videos for their respective programme,
3. Each participant designed and developed a Web Portal for their programme which included programme wise programme details, SLM, discussion forum, web counselling, quiz, assignments, learning resources, calendar of activities, announcement etc.,
4. Promotional web pages were also developed for each programme,
5. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) were also generated through ideation workshop method for each programme.

Each participant demonstrated her/his work during the valedictory session which was chaired by Prof. R.R. Kanhere, Pro Vice-chancellor. He gave away certificates of participation to all the participants. Prof. Kanhere interacted with the participants and gave them best wishes for carry forwarding and implementing what they learned in the workshop for their programmes.



Comments from a few participants of the FDP

“I am very grateful to be part of this workshop as a participant. Here I have learned and empowered myself with the use of modern technology and made a webpage for the Diploma in Urdu Course in the guidance of both of you.”

“One of the most productive workshop that I have attended after joining IGNOU 10 years back. Thank you for your patience and empowering us with the technology skills that will go a long way in helping distance learners.”

“I am placing my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Jyotsana and Dr. Sujata for making the workshop a great success and I gained confidence to interact with our learners through ICT tools.”

“Thanks for the wonderful FDP. This will help us in many ways to deliver our programmes. Thanks for dealing with us patiently.”

Dr. Sujata Santosh

Assistant Director, NCIDE and Workshop Coordinator

Dr. Jyotsna Dikshit

Deputy Director, NCIDE and Workshop Co-coordinator