



An Institution of
the Society for the Higher Education
of Women in India

Sophia College for Women
Empowered Autonomous

Bhulabhai Desai Road
Mumbai – 400026

Ph: 022-23512642 / 23523304

www.sophiacollegemumbai.com

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the Academic Council of Sophia College (Autonomous) – Held via Zoom at 2.00 pm on 23rd February 2024

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil, Principal of the college. The Vice-Chancellor's nominees, Dr. Uma Shankar and Dr. D.V. Pawar were present. Dr. Shivram Garje was unable to attend. Dr. Usha Mukundan, Ms Zara Muraio, Ms Padmini Somani, and Dr. Rajiva Kothurkar - the panel of four experts from outside the college were unable to attend. All the Heads of Departments and as well as the co-opted members – Dr. Rajbinder Kaur Dehiya, Dr. Sunita Jadhav, Dr. Elwin John and Ms Shraddha Prabhu were present. Dr. (Sr.) Ananda Amritmahal, Dean and Administrator, and Dr. Rashna Poncha, Vice-Principal (Arts), and the Principal Secretary for the meeting were present.

Dr. Tendulkar Patil welcomed all the members to the Tenth Academic Council meeting. The Meeting began with the permission of the members.

The Principal reminded members of the Council that as per the last meeting, this meeting was to have been held in person and in November of 2023. However, due to the delay in the Chemistry department getting the name for the Vice-Chancellor's Nominee on their Board of Studies; and the composition of the Board of Studies for BA(SCJ) being changed as three members resigned due to personal reasons of ill health, their meetings had been delayed. This meant that the Tenth Academic Council could not be held in November. She also informed the members that on asking for their preference, the Vice-Chancellor's nominees and the experts had asked for an online meeting.

The Principal informed all the members that the new syllabi for all the courses as well as the Co-Curricular Courses introduced for the FY NEP batch had been emailed to all the members.

Item 1: Passing of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting.

The Principal presented the Minutes of the previous meeting. Dr. Uma Shankar proposed the passing of the motion and Dr. D. V. Pawar seconded the motion to pass the minutes, and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

Item 2: Approval of the new syllabi formulated under NEP for Semester II.

The Principal presented the syllabi of the departments which were mailed to the external experts in advance. She inquired if the external members would like to go through the syllabi of all departments again. The external members responded that they have checked the syllabi online and since these were ratified by the respective Board of Studies members; the syllabi were taken as approved.

Item 3: Scrutiny and approval of the Co-Curricular Courses formulated under NEP for Semester II.

The Principal explained the details of new Co-Curricular Courses that have been introduced for the FY NEP batch.

Dr. Pawar enquired as to who was running the courses. The Principal informed in that the courses were run by outside experts, however, the Coordinators of all the courses were inhouse. He also inquired whether the students had any complaints about the payment. The Principal informed him that those who had trouble with the payment had been given concessions and those who could not pay were funded by the College. Dr. Pawar further inquired whether approval had been taken from the Finance Committee. He suggested that if they gave their approval then there are Government Scholarships for social welfare that could be of use to pay for these students.

Dr. Uma Shankar had a query about the equal amount charged for all the courses. The Principal informed her that though the amounts for each course varied, the decision had been taken by the NEP and P&E Committees that the amount charged to the students would be equal for all.

Dr. Pawar made some suggestions about other courses that could be run, eg. Bottle Gardening.

The external members commended the College on the detailed and unique Co-Curricular Courses.

Item 4: Plans for the future.

The Principal proposed that the next Academic Council would be held in April 2024. The agenda would be to review the courses and credits for the third and fourth semesters. The Boards of Studies meetings to ratify the syllabi for SY NEP would be held in April 2024. These would also be in person meetings. The external members concurred.

The following Resolutions were then proposed:

- ✓ **Resolved that the proposed new NEP syllabi, credit and course structure, as in compliance with the NEP2020 in courses taught at first year level of UG and PG programme in Semester II are hereby accepted and passed. The changes are in effect from the academic year 2023-24.**

The External members concurred. Proposed by Dr. D.V. Pawar; seconded by Dr. Sree Nair.

- ✓ **Resolved that the new Co-Curricular Courses, credit and course structure, as in compliance with the NEP2020 at first year level of UG in Semester II are hereby accepted and passed. The changes are in effect from the academic year 2023-24.**

The External members concurred. Proposed by Sr. Patricia; seconded by Dr. D.V. Pawar.

Before the meeting ended Dr. Uma Shankar asked for a general review of the conduct of the first semester examinations and results under NEP. The Controller of Examinations, Dr. Sunita Jadhav, responded that overall, it had been a positive experience, and the results for the FYs had been declared on time.

Dr. Pawar inquired about the attendance for the Common Courses. Both he and Dr. Shankar reported that it was difficult to get the students to attend. The Vice-Principal (Arts), Dr. Rashna Poncha, responded that attendance was not as high

as the College would have liked, but also that from the students' point of view FY NEP was a heavy burden on the students.

The Meeting ended with the Principal, Dr. Tendulkar, thanking the members for attending the meeting.



A.P. Patil

Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil
Principal, Sophia College Autonomous