



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL

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](http://www.sophiacollegemumbai.com)

### **Minutes of the Twelfth Meeting of the Academic Council of Sophia College for Women (Empowered Autonomous) – Held via Zoom at 12 noon on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2024**

The meeting was chaired by Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil, Principal of the college. The Vice-Chancellor's nominees, Dr. Uma Shankar and Dr. Manali Londhe (instead of Dr. Pawar) were present. Dr. Usha Mukundan, Dr. Shivram Garje, Dr. Rajiva Kothurkar and Ms Zara Murao (Experts from outside the college) were also present. Ms Padmini Somani (outside Expert) was unable to attend. All the Heads of Departments (except Ms Shahnaz Sheikh, Department of Political Science) as well as the co-opted members – Dr. Rajbinder Kaur Dehiya, Dr. Sunita Jadhav, Dr. Elwin John and Ms Shraddha Prabhu were present. Dr. Rashna Poncha, Vice-Principal (Arts) - Member Secretary - was present.

Dr. Tendulkar Patil welcomed all the members to the Twelfth Academic Council meeting.

The Meeting began with the permission of the members.

#### Agenda:

1. Passing of the Minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting.
2. Approval of the Co-Curricular Courses and Field Projects at Semesters 3 & 4.
3. Passing of Resolutions related to syllabi and rules of promotion for new courses.
4. Any other business with the permission of the Chair.

#### **Agenda1: Passing of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting.**

The Principal presented the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> May 2024. Ms Zara Murao proposed the passing of the Minutes. Dr. Uma Shankar seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

#### **Agenda 2: Approval of the Co-Curricular Courses and Field Projects formulated under NEP for Semesters III and IV.**

The Principal explained the implementation of the NEP for the benefit of Dr. Londhe. She showed the members the Courses that were introduced in Semester III as Co-Curricular Course. She explained the SOPs that have been framed for the Co-Curricular Courses of Semester III.

Dr. Londhe had a query as to whether the courses were taken by both Arts and Science. The Vice-Principals (Arts and Science) explained that students were allowed to choose any course from the basket offered.

The Principal requested the Vice-Principals to explain the method of assessment for the Co-Curricular Course offered to students in Semester IV. The Vice-Principals explained that this was based on students' participation in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities organised by the college as well as participation in inter-collegiate events, and short courses run through the year. Dr. Londhe inquired about the monitoring of the hours. Dr. Tendulkar informed her about the Credit Committee as well as the CUC, who were responsible for monitoring the hours. Dr. Uma Shankar pointed out that their college also has a similar program and staff monitor the hours. She said the students must be given the opportunities to earn the credits.

The Principal explained the system of Field Projects for Semester III. She explained that the Field Projects were run by the Major departments. The list of Field Projects was displayed. Dr. Kothurkar inquired why the Microbiology department did only the Microbiological analysis of water. Dr. Dehiya explained that students had the theoretical background for this and so the Department had chosen to do this as their Field Project. She explained that students went out and collected samples from different areas. Elaborate testing was done in order to see the impact on health issues. Dr. Kothurkar suggested that they also do chemical analysis besides the Microbiological one.

Dr. Garje inquired whether students would be sent to some industries for the Field Project. Dr. Dehiya said they would try to do it for the following batches. Dr. Garje urged them to explore the possibilities. Dr. Tendulkar shared the SOPs that have been put into place for the Field Projects.

Regarding the Community Engagement Projects for Semester IV, the Principal explained the various ideas that had been given by the departments. She said that the SOPs for these were being worked on. She also elaborated on the completion and acquisition of the requisite credits.

### **Agenda 3: Passing of the Resolutions**

The following Resolutions were proposed:

- ✓ **Resolution 1: Resolved that the proposed Cocurricular Courses, Field Project Work and the Community Engagement Programme, its credit and course structure, at the second-year level of UG programme in semesters III & IV, as in compliance with the NEP 2020 are discussed in the Academic Council meeting and hereby are accepted and passed.**

**The changes are in effect from the academic year 2024-25.**

The External members concurred. Proposed by Dr. Garje; seconded by Dr. Londhe.

- ✓ **Resolution 2: Resolved that the alterations in the assessment and evaluation pattern at the second-year level of UG for cocurricular courses, Field project and Community Engagement Programme as in compliance with the NEP 2020, are discussed in the Academic Council meeting and hereby are accepted and passed. The changes are in effect from the academic year 2024-25.**

The External members concurred. Proposed by Dr. Kothurkar; seconded by Sr. Patricia.

#### **Agenda 4: Concluding Remarks**

Matters arising from previous meetings – The Principal informed the Council that NOCs had been received for permanent posts as well as for Clock Hour Basis posts. The interviews had been held and appointments had been made.

The Principal also spoke about enrollment for the MA in Gender Studies. She explained that 6 students had joined the course which was being run in the hybrid model.

The Principal informed the Academic Council that the Science section has started with the Three Subject model for the FYBSc from this academic year. She showed the Council the new assessment pattern for the FYBSc. Dr. Roshan D'Souza, Nodal Officer, NEP, explained the system of 2+2 credits - 50 marks for Continuous Assessment and Summative Assessment and 50 marks for Practicals. Dr. Londhe clarified that this was the M1, M2 and M3 pattern. Dr. D'Souza concurred. Dr. Tendulkar informed the Academic Council that the college is likely to implement this pattern would to the Arts section also.

- ✓ **Resolution 3: Resolved that the Three-Subject Model and the consequent alterations in the examination and evaluation pattern at the first-year level of UG of the Bachelor in Science Programme as in compliance with the NEP 2020, are discussed in the Academic Council meeting and hereby are accepted and passed. The changes are in effect from the academic year 2024-25.**

The External members concurred. Proposed by Dr. Londhe; seconded by Dr. Sunita Jadhav.

Dr. Anagha Tendulkar explained to the Academic Council that the tenure of this Council would conclude in December. She announced that the next meeting of this Academic Council - which would be its last meeting - will be held on 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

The Agenda for that meeting would include plans for the Academic Year 2025-26, change in the nomenclature of the MA in Gender Studies, and implementation of NEP at the Third-Year. She explained the College was exploring the possibility of an unaided division for Psychology. Dr. Londhe inquired about the number of students and agreed that Psychology was the most sought-after subject but infrastructure needed to be upgraded for larger numbers. She asked

Dr. Londhe also said that the College had brought in good initiatives and that she was happy that the College was thinking about adding another division for Psychology. She liked the basket offered for the Common Courses and found them very interesting. She understood that it was a challenge for the timetable Committee to set the timetable with the Multidisciplinary approach. She inquired about the possibility of Yoga as a Common Course offered by the Philosophy department. Dr. Allis informed her that Yoga was being done as a VSC and that it could not be offered as an Open Elective as Philosophy did not take any OEs.

Dr. Uma Shankar thanked the Principal and wished her and the College the best. She was very happy with all the Nep compliance. She said that all colleges were in an experimental stage with NEP and that it all depended on the number of students. She asked Dr. Allis about Yoga as a VSC and he explained. She explained that they could not offer subjects like Logic as an OE due to room constraints; and that each college had to plan their NEP programs designs around their resources available and constraints.

Dr. Garje said that the College was taking care of all 6 verticals very well and that NEP compliance was been handled well. He felt that the Field Projects could be more hands-on by sending students to industries. He felt that a few OEs from Commerce would also benefit the students. He wished the Principal and the College all the best.

Dr. Kothurkar was also pleased with the initiatives being brought in.

Ms Murao was happy to see that, as always, the interest of the students was put first at Sophia College. She was happy that the MA in Gender Studies had resumed, and that Psychology would have an additional division. She also passed on her best wishes.

The Principal ended the meeting by expressing her gratitude to all the Heads of Department; the Vice-Principals, the Coordinator of the Mentor-mentee Program, Ms. S. Kamat; the Controllers of Exams, Dr. Sunita Jadhav and Dr. Prabha Shetty; and the NEP Nodal Officers, Dr. Roshan D'Souza and Dr. Trevor Allis.

She reminded the Council that the College was awaiting the NAAC Peer Team Visit and that the College had completed the RUSA project. She thanked everyone for attending. The meeting ended with the External Members extending their best wishes for NAAC Peer Team Visit.

*A.P. Patil*  
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**Dr. Anagha Tendulkar Patil**  
Principal, Sophia College for Women  
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