

Sophia College For Women (Empowered Autonomous)
Department Of Economics
Minutes Of The Board Of Studies In Economics
Held On 24/9/2024

Date: September 24, 2024

Time: 4.15 pm to 5.00 pm

Mode: Online Meeting on the Zoom app

Members Present:

1. Dr. Sangeeta Dubey, HOD, Chairperson
2. Dr. Swati Raju, Vice Chancellor's Nominee
3. Dr. Vibhuti Patel, Subject Expert
4. Dr. Snehal Herwadkar, Industry Expert
5. Dr Sunita Jadhav, In-House Faculty Member
6. Ms Nisha Yadav. In-House Faculty Member

Agenda:

1. Approve the Co-Curricular Course and Field Project for SYBA Semester III.
2. To share the details of the field trip organised by the department for the TYBA Economics class related to Paper VI- Economics of Agriculture and Co-operation.
3. Any other matter with the permission of the Chair.

Minutes:

Dr. Dubey, welcomed all the members of the Board of Studies. She informed the board about the inability of Prof. Shagata and Ms. Richa to attend the meeting due to some prior professional engagements.

Dr. Dubey initiated the discussion by highlighting the requirements under the National Education Policy (NEP) to be fulfilled by the SYBA Major students in Semester 3. She informed the members that as per the NEP every major department has to conduct a co-curricular course related to the subject. Hence the Department of Economics, in collaboration with Meghnad Desai Academy of Economics (MDAE), has offered a co-curricular course on Data Visualization. The objective of this course is to equip students with practical skills that they can apply for the field projects.

Dr. Dubey further explained that the SYBA Economics Major students are required to undertake a field project as part of their curriculum. The department has instructed students to conduct a field survey on any topic of their choice for the project, with submissions due by the end of the September. Teachers of the Department will assess the students through a viva voce examination. Students have been divided into groups for the project work. Dr. Dubey informed

the board that the students have been guided in doing the project thoroughly by all the department faculties. Dr. Dubey mentioned about some topics undertaken by students as field project to illustrate the nature of the project. Some of the topics mentioned were; examining how saving decisions are made by defense personnel and assessing the adequacy of health insurance coverage.

Dr. Swati Raju raised the question regarding the importance of collecting primary data. She stressed the need to teach students the significance of conducting primary surveys to gather first hand information. In response, Dr. Jadhav clarified that the project would serve as a pilot study. She assured the members of the BOS that any gaps in the process would be addressed, as teachers have been assigned mentorship responsibilities. The project topics are closely related to the students' academic subjects.

Stressing on the need to teach students sampling techniques, Dr. Vibhuti Patel proposed that a dedicated course on sampling techniques should be introduced by the department, which was seconded by Dr. Swati Raju. The course will aim to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the sampling process, ensuring accurate data collection in their fieldwork.

Dr. Dubey informed the BOS members that the TYBA students recently visited "Save Farms" as part of a field visit. The aim of the visit was to provide exposure to the students to the agro-economy. The visit included activities such as a pottery workshop, a farm tour, and an introduction to water harvesting techniques.

Dr. Swati Raju suggested that as a part of field visit students can be introduced to Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), such as the Aarey Company, and others which explores agricultural alternatives like horticulture and dairy farming. She also recommended field visit to Karnala Wildlife Sanctuary in Raigad to further their understanding of sustainable practices. She further recommended that the department could offer a basket of options as field visits. This suggestion was proposed by Dr. Snehal and seconded by Dr. Swati Raju.

Dr. Vibhuti referred to a case involving a school where students exhibited low BMI, indicating potential malnourishment. In light of this, she suggested that students take up community engagement projects focused on health-related topics such as the prevalence of malnourishment. Dr Swati Raju suggested that other possible places to explore may include the following- farm cooperatives, dairy cooperatives, Yusuf Meherally Centre Tara, old age homes, schools for differently abled children. Further initiatives were discussed, including encouraging students to donate books and conduct surveys at schools for specially-abled children. These efforts will allow students to actively contribute to community welfare and gain practical insights into social issues.

Conclusion

The meeting concluded with a general consensus on the proposed initiatives and courses. Prof. Swati suggested that the department can incorporate a 2-credit course on "Sample Survey Techniques" along with the Primary Survey Format of the Field Project in future. This will improve project quality and help students have a fair idea of the sampling techniques. The members expressed their commitment to ensuring that students receive a well-rounded education through field projects, surveys, and community engagement activities.

The next meeting will be scheduled at a later date to review the progress of the ongoing projects and the newly introduced courses.

The following Resolutions were proposed:

1. Resolved that the proposed Co-Curricular Course on ‘Data Visualisation’ for SYBA students for Semester III, in compliance with NEP 2020, is hereby accepted and passed by all BoS members present at this meeting.

Proposed by: Dr Vibhuti Patel.

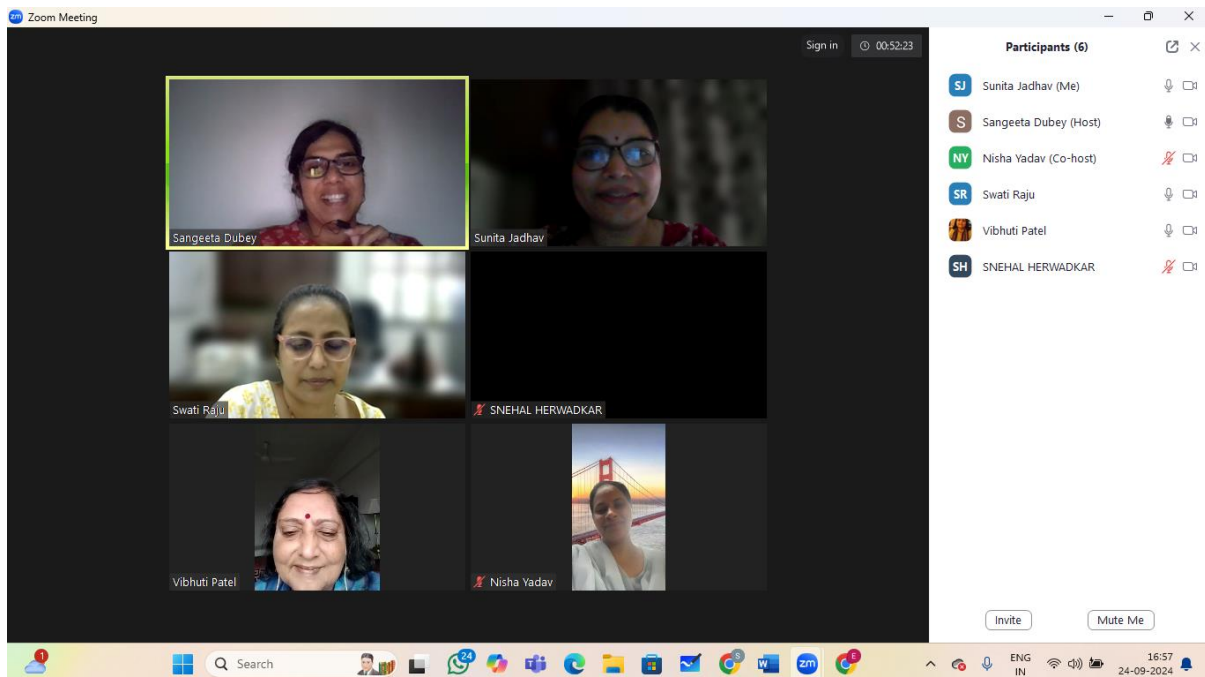
Seconded by: Dr. Swati Raju.

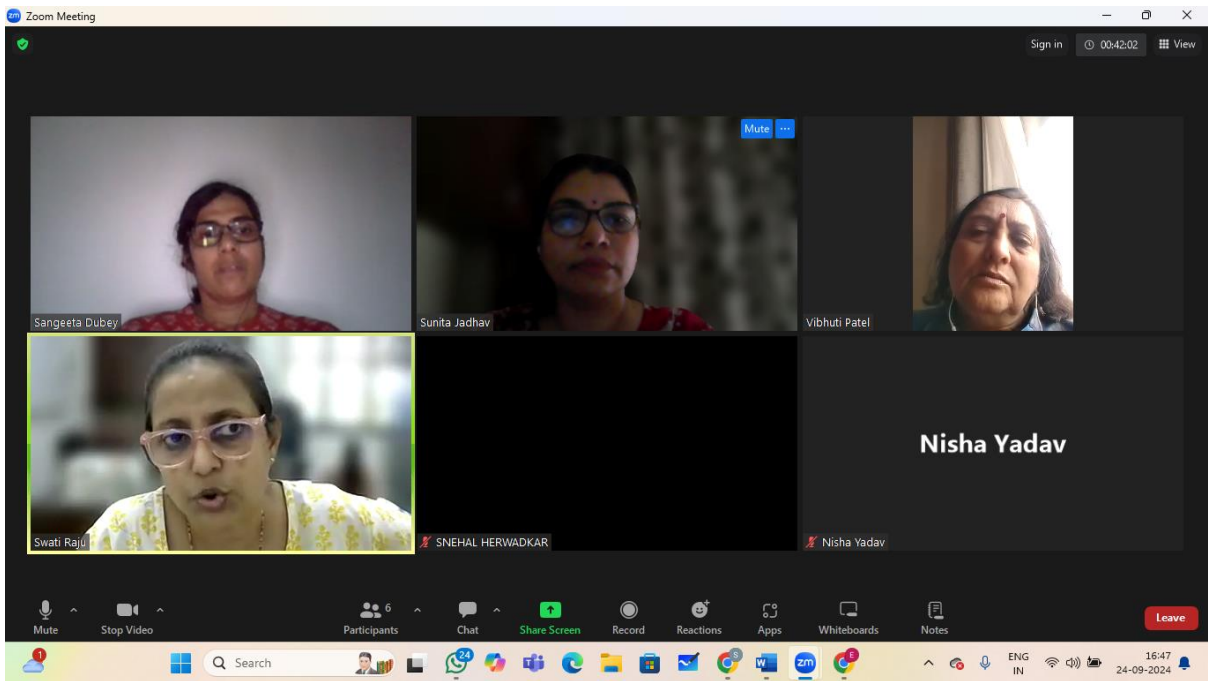
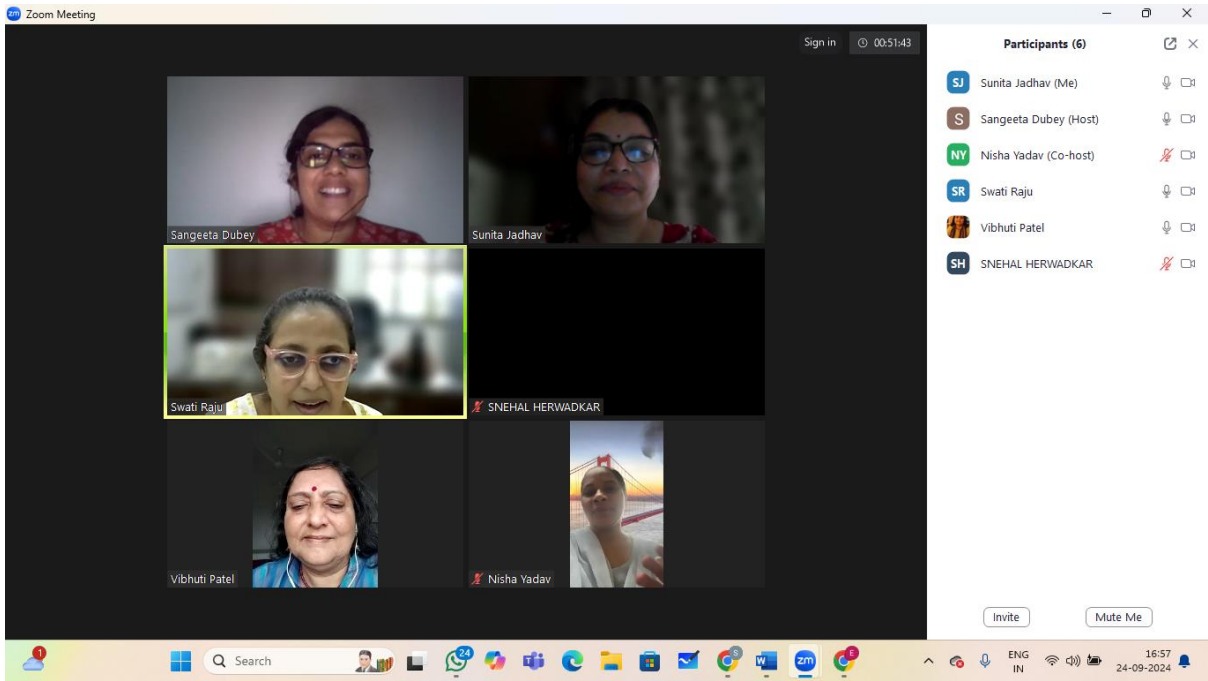
2. Resolved that the nature of Field Project for SYBA Major students in Semester III, in compliance with NEP 2020, based on any topic related to the subject using Sample survey method is hereby accepted and passed by all.

Proposed by: Dr Snehal Herwadkar.

Seconded by: Dr. Vibhuti Patel.

Pictures of the Online Meeting





Zoom Meeting

Sign in 00:19:09

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Editing

Over the months and the following period of the first term of the Academic Year 2023-24. The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

AGENDA:

1. To approve the CoCurricular Course and Field Project undertaken for SYBA Major students in Semester III.
2. To share the details of the field trip organized by the department for TYBA Economics class related to Paper VI- Economics of Agriculture & Cooperation.
3. Any other matter with the permission of the chair.

Sangeeta Dubey

Sunita Jadhav

Sunita Jadhav

Vibhuti Patel

Swati Raju

Swati Raju

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SNEHAL HERWADKAR

Speakers (Realtek(R) Audio): 100%

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