



SYMBIOSIS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND COMMERCE
(An Autonomous College under SPPU)
Senapati Bapat Road, Pune 411004

GBM 2020-2221/1

The Minutes of the Governing Body Meeting held on 14th August 2020

The minutes of the virtual Governing Body Meeting (GBM) held on Friday, 14th August 2020 at 11:30 a.m.

The following members were present:

- 1] Dr. S. B. Mujumdar
- 2] Dr. Mrs. Vidya Yeravdekar
- 3] Dr. N. M. Joshi
- 4] Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath
- 5] Mr. Pradeep Bhargava
- 6] Dr. Mohan Khatal
- 7] Prof. Dr. R. K. Shukla
- 8] Dr. S. R. Parchure
- 9] Dr. Shirish Limaye
- 10] Ms. Jasmina Kumar
- 11] Dr. H. M. Soman

The following member was granted the leave of absence:

Dr. Rajeshwari Deshpande

Dr. S. B. Mujumdar, Chairman requested Dr. Soman to call the meeting to order.

Item No: 1 [GBM/2020-2021/1/1]

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2019.

A copy of the minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2019 was circulated among the members after the meeting. There were no suggestions and the minutes were unanimously approved without any modifications.

RESOLUTION

[GBM/2020-2021/1/1]

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the minutes of Governing Body Meeting held on 7th October 2019 are hereby confirmed.

Item No: 2 [GBM/2020-2021/1/2]

To welcome new State Government Nominee-Joint Director of Higher Education Dr. Mohan Khatal

Dr. Soman welcomed the new member, Dr. Mohan Khatal, Joint Director, Pune Region. He recently appointed as a Government Representative on Governing Body.

Item No: 3 [GBM/2020-2021/1/3]

Action Taken Report (ATR)

No specific action taken report.

Item No: 4 [GBM/2020-2021/1/4]

A] To approve a new programme B. Com. (Interdisciplinary)

In connection with the National Education Policy, the College proposed an integration of liberal arts courses into the B.Com. programme named as B.Com. (Interdisciplinary) from the academic year 2020-2021.

Dr. Soman presented the proposal of this new programme, and explain the philosophy and purpose behind it. Members appreciated the initiative. The details of the proposals were discussed and approved as follows:

- A total of 14 courses will be offered from four major streams of study such as Humanities and Social Sciences, Literature and Language, Sciences, Performing Arts.
- The College has established a separate Board of Studies for this purpose.
- The student is expected to study 12 courses out of 14 courses offered, over a period of 3 years i.e. 2 courses per semester.
- The student has a freedom to opt out of two courses (subject to some conditions) from the regular B.Com. programme to avail two interdisciplinary courses.
- The student will get the subject of specialization as per the prevailing practice.
- The Student will be eligible to enroll for 'Degree with Honors' programme as per the prevailing terms and conditions.
- Each course will be of 3 credits; thus the interdisciplinary component will be of 36 credits in this B. Com. programme.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar suggested to add an element of Research Methodology in the programme.

RESOLUTION

[GBM/2020-2021/1/2-A]

IT IS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the proposal to introduce a new programme B. Com. (Interdisciplinary) has been approved. It was further resolved that the college should necessary steps to implement the program from the academic year 2020-2021.

B] In continuation with the discussion regarding introducing interdisciplinary element in the B.Com. programme, other elements and inputs were also discussed to make the B. Com. Programme more relevant and contemporary.

- a. Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath suggested to build in an outreach component as well with a few credits and also to add internship which can help the students in getting professional placements.
- b. Dr. Soman said that as per the recent guidelines issued by the UGC, internship will be compulsory as an integral part of the main stream education. The College is planning to implement these guidelines at the earliest.
- c. Dr. R. K. Shukla suggested that if students do internship they should submit a project report.

In continuation with the discussion, Dr. Soman further proposed to offer Degree programme in various performing arts in collaboration with various music / dance schools as partner institutes from next academic year.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar suggested that for photography SCAC can collaborate with the School of Photography of Symbiosis (Deemed) University which was welcomed by everybody. She further suggested that the college can explore 'Film Making' as an additional programme.

RESOLUTION

[GBM/2020-2021/1/2-B]

IT IS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the proposal to introduce a new degree programme in performing arts with the help of various partner institutes from the academic year 2021-2022. It was further resolved that the college should prepare a detailed programme structure and present it to the Governing Body for its approval.

C] The recommendations of the NEP were briefly discussed at this juncture.

Dr. Meenakshi Gopinath suggested that, as the Symbiosis has the trend setting network, the college can start the concept of 'National Credit Bank'. Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar appreciated the idea and proposed to have internal collaboration between SCAC and Symbiosis International (Deemed) University. She further suggested that this project can be extended to all the international partner institutes of Symbiosis.

RESOLUTION

[GBM/2020-2021/1/2-C]

IT IS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT to explore the possibility of establishing 'Academic Credit Bank'

Item No: 5 [GBM/2020-2021/1/5]

To discuss about the reconstruction of the existing building

Dr. Soman expressed his optimism in having greater opportunities for the college due to NEP. He further stated that the main impediment in availing such opportunities is the space constraint. Therefore, he further urged to consider the proposal of reconstruction of the present building at the earliest.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar said that actual idea was to demolish the old building as it was not designed to cater the present needs. The building is very old. But the problem is minimum one year will be required for the construction, it may not happen in a span of 4-5 months.

Dr. Soman said that due to corona presently, the college is conducting online lectures and therefore during the reconstruction period a combination of conventional classes and online classes can be adopted to facilitate the reconstruction of the old building.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar suggested Dr. Soman to give a project plan along with its impact on finance at the earliest.

Item No: 6 [GBM/2020-2021/1/6]

To update on admission scenario 2020-21

Dr. Soman informed committee members that the college has received 3376 total paid applications from all parts of the country.

- A. For F.Y. B.A. received 841 applications as against 120 seats.
- B. For F.Y. B. Com. There are three categories in B.Com.
 - 1] For regular B.Com. 1818 applications received for 480 seats
 - 2] For F.Y. B.Com. (Interdisciplinary) 234 applications received for 120 seats.
 - 3] For F.Y. B.Com. with ACCA 483 applications received for 120 seats.

The Symbiosis Center for International Education (SCIE) is processing the admissions for international students' admissions.

In continuation with the admission discussion, Dr. Soman informed to the committee members that this year due to pandemic, the college is allowing students to pay fees in installments. However, some of the T.Y. Students have requested for reduction in fees. For the T.Y. students of the current academic year 2020-2021, the college has increased the fees by Rs. 1,000/- as compared to their S.Y. B.Com. fees for the last year i.e. 2019-20. The fee rise is mainly for the following reason:

Many of the senior teachers have retired and five more teachers will be retiring in this academic year. Maharashtra Government has an embargo on teachers' recruitment since last 7-8 years. Therefore, the College has to appoint new teachers and pay their salary from college funds. Hence the increase in the fees is inevitable.

Dr. S. B. Mujumdar suggested Dr. Soman that try to re-appoint the retiring teachers instead of appointing fresh teachers and pay them the salary of fresh teachers. Dr. Soman agreed to the suggestion that the experience of our old teachers is always useful than the fresh teachers. Still the financial aspect remains the same.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar explained to the committee members that, though the students are expecting a reduction in fees due to the fact that there will be online classes, this would not be possible since the college has to maintain the quality of education, use infrastructure and other technology for the online education. Hence the college has to increase the fees to maintain these expenses.

Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar suggested to start the online classes at the earliest so that students will realize and appreciate the efforts taken by teachers for imparting education. Dr. Vidya Yeravdekar will be sharing a draft reply which has been sent by SIU to the students in this connection.

Mr. Pradeep Bhargava raised a query, if there is any change in SPPU fee structure especially in their tuition fees. Dr. Soman explained that SPPU had increased the tuition fees earlier, however due to pandemic they have continued with the old tuition fees and therefore the college has also kept the old tuition fees.

Item No: 7 [GBM/2020-2021/1/7]

To consider the proposal of charging additional fees from the students taking admission to all programmes offered by Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce under the 'Discretionary Quota' (DQ)

Dr. Soman put the proposal of charging additional fees from the students seeking admission to all programmes offered by Symbiosis College of Arts and Commerce under the 'Discretionary Quota' (DQ).

Dr. S. B. Mujumdar said that this year no additional fees should be charged for the admissions under 'Discretionary Quota' (DQ).

The committee members agreed to the same.

Item No: 8 [GBM/2020-2021/1/8]

To discuss about the utilisation of Autonomy Grant for 2019-20

Dr. Soman put the proposal of utilization of Autonomy Grant for 2019-2020 which was duly approved.

Item No: 9 [GBM/2020-2021/1/9]

To discuss about the proposed expenditure of Autonomy Grant for 2020-2021

The Budget related to Autonomy Grant for the year 2020-2021 was discussed. The members gave suggestions and asked Dr. Soman to submit the revised budget incorporating those suggestions. The College will be submitting the same to the UGC after getting approval by the Governing Body.

Item No: 10 [GBM/2020-2021/1/10]

To appoint faculty members Dr. Marcelle Samuel and Dr. Tessy Thadathil as teacher representatives in Governing Body in place of Dr. Shirish Limaye and Ms. Jasmina Kumar on account of their retirement

Dr. Soman put the proposal to appoint faculty members, Dr. Marcelle Samuel and Dr. Tessy Thadathil, as Teacher Representatives on Governing Body in place of Dr. Shirish Limaye and Ms. Jasmina Kumar on account of their retirement.

Dr. Shirish Limaye expressed gratitude towards Symbiosis especially to Dr. S. B. Mujumdar.

RESOLUTION

[GBM/2020-2021/1/3]

IT IS UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED THAT the proposal to appoint faculty members Dr. Marcelle Samuel and Dr. Tessy Thadathil as teacher representatives in Governing Body in place of Dr. Shirish Limaye and Ms. Jasmina Kumar is approved.

Item No: 11 [GBM/2020-2021/1/11]

To discuss the opportunities offered by new National Education Policy (NEP) to the College.

Dr. Soman made a presentation on the highlights of the NEP 2020 and the various opportunities for the College in this framework. The members discussed these opportunities in detail and appreciated the presentation.

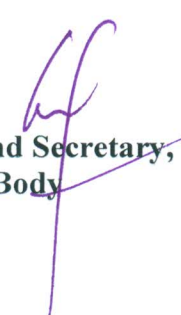
Dr. S. B. Mujumdar suggested that the college will need a new campus to be able to translate these opportunities into reality.

Item No: 12 [GBM/2020-2021/1/12]

Any other matter

There was no other matter.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


Principal and Secretary,
Governing Body

Chairman,
Governing Body