



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

Office of the Principal

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**Minutes of the Third Meeting of the Academic Council of Sophia College (Autonomous)
– Held in the AV Hall at 2 pm on 20th September 2019**

The meeting was conducted by the Chairperson, Dr. (Sr) Ananda Amritmahal, Principal of the college, and was attended by all the Heads of Departments, the additional nominated members of staff and Dr. Yasmin Khan as Member Secretary.

Of the three nominees of the University, Dr. M. M. V. Ramana and Dr Anushree Lokur were able to attend. Dr. Uttara Sahasrabudhe were unable to attend due to bad weather.

From the panel of four experts from outside the college Dr. Rajiva Kothurkar and Ms. Zara Murao were present. Ms. Padmini Somani and Dr. Usha Mukundan were unable to attend.

The meeting started with Sr. Ananda welcoming all the members to the third Academic Council meeting. The minutes of the last meeting were distributed for scrutiny. Dr. Hema Ramachandran proposed that the minutes be passed, Dr. Rashna Poncha seconded the motion which was then passed unanimously.

Sr. Ananda explained that the syllabi accepted in the last AC meeting have been implemented this year. Since this meeting was mid-way through the academic year, very few departments have made any further changes to their syllabi. There were eight departments that had made changes and hence she would only present the proposed changes.

- BSc – IT has modified partially two units in their FYBScIT (Discrete Mathematics, Microprocessor & Microcontroller, and Web Programming) syllabi
- The Hindi department has made minor changes mainly in the novel and drama texts used
- The Life Science department has shifted a few topics from one paper to the other and one topic from FYBSc to SYBSc
- The Microbiology department has revised their Paper 3 in TYBSc
- The Sociology department has modified paper 1 in Semester VI
- The English department has made some changes in their SYBA syllabus, mainly in the texts used, to make it more relevant to the students
- The Philosophy department has changed one unit in SYBA Paper 2. Some other units have been modified slightly to make the syllabus more contemporary. Paper 3 in the SYBA class is completely new, and is based on Greek philosophy.

- The BMM department has revamped their papers to remove sections that were not relevant and have included topics to better equip students for the media industry, based on suggestions from experts in the field. Dr. Ramanna enquired whether the topic of censorship was included. Dr. Colaço mentioned that there was a paper on ethics in media in which the issue of censorship was addressed. Ms Zara Murao wanted to know whether there was a practical component. Dr. Colaço replied that there was no separate practical component but many topics were taught as practicals. The BMM department has also modified their evaluation methods in some papers, e.g. by presenting a visual film clip and then asking questions based on that.

Sr. Ananda also mentioned that some members of the various Boards of Studies had suggested incorporating research into the undergraduate program. Also, some add-on courses worth one credit could be instituted for the students. Another suggestion was to develop e-modules either through the Swayam or the e-Pathshala portal. All these suggestions were being explored.

Then Sr. Ananda requested that the resolutions for accepting the recommendations suggested by the BoS members of the various departments be passed. Dr. Yasmin Khan proposed and Dr. Anushree Lokur seconded the motion, which was then passed unanimously.

Finally the list of paper setters, examiners and moderators had to be accepted. The resolution accepting the proposed list of paper setters etc, proposed by Ms. Swarupa Kamat and seconded by Ms. Zara Murao, was passed unanimously.

Sr. Ananda mentioned that in the examination resolutions passed earlier, a slight modification was made to allow students with learning disabilities to use a writer or technological assistance if recommended. This resolution was proposed by Dr. Andrea Coutinho, seconded by Ms. Jihasa Vachranjani, and passed by all present.

In the ensuing discussion, Dr. Lokur suggested that during the BoS meetings, the question paper pattern should be discussed and formally approved. This had already been done by most Boards of Studies, but the ones who had not yet done it would do so at the next BoS meeting. Dr. Ramanna recommended that Learning Outcomes should be incorporated in the syllabi. This too was to be taken up by the departments in their next BoS meetings. Dr. Ramanna also asked whether there was scope for grade improvement for students. Sr. Ananda mentioned that they could apply for this if they wished to avail themselves of this possibility. Dr. Ramanna suggested that this should be documented and students should be informed that there was provision for such a process.

The meeting ended with the members thanking the Chairperson.



Dr. (Sr) Ananda Amritmahal
Principal, Sophia College Autonomous