



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

Office of the Principal

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**Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the Academic Council of Sophia College (Autonomous)
– Held via Zoom at 3 pm on 30th August 2021**

The meeting was chaired by Dr (Sr) Ananda Amritmahal, Principal of the college. From the Vice-Chancellor's nominees, Dr. Uttara Sahasrabudhe had excused herself from the meeting. Dr. Anushree Lokur also informed that she was caught up in her previous engagement and would try to attend if possible. Dr. M.M.V. Ramana was also unable to attend. From the panel of four experts from outside the college, Ms. Padmini Somani was there, however, Dr Usha Mukundan, Ms. Zara Murao and Dr Rajiva Kothurkar were unable to attend. All the Heads of Departments and senior members of the college were present.

Dr. (Sr.) Ananda welcomed all the members to the sixth Academic Council meeting. She mentioned that this would be the last meeting with this committee since the three year term would end. She thanked all the members, especially the external members for their valuable inputs during the meetings and assistance at all times.

Sr. Ananda reminded the group that during the last meeting the starting of and MA program in Gender Studies and the Diploma in Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable adults had been discussed, but the formal resolution had not been included. She read out the resolution "Resolved that the proposed courses, i.e. MA in Gender Studies, and Diploma in Safeguarding of Children and Vulnerable Adults, be and hereby are accepted, and are to be passed on for ratification to the Governing Body of Sophia College (Autonomous), Mumbai." She requested that it be included in the earlier minutes. This was approved by the committee.

The minutes of the previous meeting were studied. Sr. Patricia proposed the passing of the motion and Ms. Padmini Somani seconded the motion to pass the minutes, and the minutes were unanimously accepted.

Sr. Ananda then presented a brief report of the first three months of 2021-22. She mentioned that the teaching pattern remained unchanged and was being conducted in the online mode. The assessment also is as per the second semester of 2020-21, ie, a 50:50 weightage is given for Internal Assessment (IA) and for Semester end exam (SEE). For IA a minimum of 3 tests or maximum of 4 tests of 25 marks each to be conducted; at least one of the first two should be of a subjective type and students should be given their marks and answers discussed after the first two. The SEE for this semester would be conducted in October for SY and TY students and probably in December for FY students.

The college has conducted skill development programs for faculty in the conduct of Add-on courses, MOOCs since each department is now required to conduct at least one course per year. Most of these syllabi have been passed by the BOS of the respective departments.

Most of the departments are continuing with their previous syllabi since they have been revised recently. Only Department of Microbiology and French have introduced very minor changes.

Sr. Ananda presented a brief overview of the syllabus for MA in Gender studies and details of the mode of conduct of this program. It is a 2 year program consisting of 4 semesters and a total of 64 credits. The third semester will have an internship component while the fourth semester has a research component. There is an option of students to earn a diploma on completion of the first two semesters.

The Principal also listed out the Add – on courses that have been finalized by various departments

The meeting concluded with the proposal of three other resolutions:

- Resolved that the proposed add-on courses be and hereby are accepted and passed. The courses will be conducted in the academic year 2021-2022.
- Resolved that the proposal to continue with the ratio of SEE to IA, viz. 50:50 be and hereby is adopted, for the academic year 2021-2022.
- Resolved that student be awarded non-academic credits, according to the hours of work involved, for their engagement with add-on courses, extracurricular activities, and social work and outreach.

Ms. Padmini Somani proposed the passing of the resolutions and Dr. Andrea Coutinho seconded the motion and the resolutions were passed.

Sr. Ananda ended the meeting by thanking everyone for their presence and valuable suggestions.



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