RGNIYD University
Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development
Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Govt. of India
Sriperumbudur – 602 105

Minutes of the Second Academic Council (AC) Meeting

10 August 2009

Venue: RGNIYD

1. The Second Academic Council Meeting of RGNIYD University was held on 10 August 2009 at 11 a.m in the Mini Conference Hall. The meeting was chaired by Sri. G Rajasekaran, Director/Vice Chancellor, RGNIYD University and Chairperson, Academic Council. The following personnel participated in the meeting.

Sri. G Rajasekaran, IAS Director/Vice Chancellor, RGNIYD University and Chairperson, Academic Council

Dr. A Sukumaran Nair Ex-Vice Chancellor, MG University, Kottayam, Kerala.

Prof. PK Abdul Aziz Vice Chancellor, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh.

Prof. PR Ramanujam Director, STRIDE, IGNOU, New Delhi.

Dr. R Jayasree Dean, School of Social Sciences, Sri Padmavati Women’s University, Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh.

Prof. (Ms.) Ashum Gupta Professor, Dept. of Psychology, University of Delhi, Delhi.

Prof. G Palanithurai Professor, Rajiv Gandhi Chair, Dept. of Political Science and Public Administration, Gandhigram Rural University, Gandhigram.
2. The meeting started with an introductory address by Sri. G Rajasekaran, IAS, Director/Vice Chancellor, RGNIYD and Chairperson, Academic Council. He welcomed all the academicians who have come from different parts of the country to the meeting, which was convened to suggest, strengthen and support the academic initiatives of this University. At the outset, the Chairperson gave a brief sketch about the progress of development activities taking place in the University.

3. After the introductory remarks by the Chairperson, Academic Council, agenda points were taken up in the following order for discussions.

4. **Agenda Item 1: Approval of the minutes of the First AC Meeting.**

   Minutes of the first AC meeting held on 12 May 2008 at RGNIYD campus was presented before the meeting.

   Resolution: **Approved.**
5. **Agenda Item 2: Action taken on the Minutes of the First AC Meeting**

Action taken on the minutes of the First AC meeting was presented by Dr. Reghu, Academic Co-ordinator. Members of the Academic Council suggested diverse strategies for marketing of the M.A. programmes like communicating the programme details to the foreign embassies, Commonwealth of Learning, etc.

Resolution: **Noted and Approved.**

6. **Agenda Item 3: Ph.D. in Youth Development**

Discussions took place towards ensuring the quality of research work proposed to be undertaken by the students registering for Ph.D. The need for developing a 'Data bank for research topics' was suggested. Ensuring 'Quality in research' was the focal point of discussions. After listening to the comments expressed by the members, Academic Co-ordinator mentioned that detailed Ph.D. regulations have been worked out based on the recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee and every possible care has been taken to ensure quality in research. He indicated that introduction of course work, activating 'Research Quality Circle' for presenting the research programme at regular intervals, conduct of pre-submission seminar as a mandatory one, etc. as some of the steps visualized to ensure quality and standards in research.

After detailed deliberations, the Ph.D. programmes (Interdisciplinary) in the following disciplines have been approved.

(a) Youth Empowerment.
(b) Career Counselling.
(c) Gender Studies.
(d) Local Governance.
(e) Life Skills Education.

Resolution: **Approved.**

7. **Agenda Item 4: Launching of M.Phil. (Inter-disciplinary)**

Similar to Ph.D., members expressed their views towards ensuring quality in research towards launching of M.Phil.
(a) Youth Empowerment  
(b) Career Counselling  
(c) Gender Studies  
(d) Local Governance  
(e) Life Skills Education

Resolution: **Approved.**

8. **Agenda Item 5: Revision of syllabus**

Revised syllabi of the following M.A. programmes have been presented before the Academic Council.

(a) M.A. Youth Empowerment  
(b) M.A. Career Counselling  
(c) M.A. Gender Studies  
(d) M.A. Local Governance  
(e) M.A. Life Skills Education

Members made their comments and suggestions after going through the revisions suggested. The following comments and suggestions put forward by the members need to be incorporated in the syllabus.

**M.A. Youth Empowerment:**

(i) In the core paper on Youth Development, a suggestion of incorporating the components of traditional art and culture was made.

During the discussions, it was pointed out that in MAYD 101, Block II, the components of cultural integration through festivals, data collection from Indian folklore, traditional art, dance, etc. have been already been included.

Resolution: **Discussed and Approved by incorporating the suggestions.**

**M.A. Career Counselling:**

(i) In MACC 141 (Career Counselling for differently abled population), Block II title ‘Legal benefits’ needs to be modified suitably to incorporate the ‘Human Rights perspective’.
Resolution: **Discussed and Approved by incorporating the suggestions.**

**M.A. Gender Studies:**

(i) In MAGS 149 (Women's Movement and Feminist Theories), contribution of Gandhi and Kasturba needs to be included in Block I.

(ii) In MAGS 146 (Sociology of Gender), the Block II title 'Systems of Oppression' needs to be modified suitably.

Resolution: **Discussed and Approved by incorporating the changes.**

**M.A. Local Governance:**

(i) The title of the course MALG 165 (Indian Constitution and Governance) may be changed to 'Indian Constitution' and the contents may be suitably modified.

(ii) In Block II, Unit II of MALG 166 (Conceptual Analysis of Local Governance), 'Marxian thought of local government' is to be deleted and 'Sarvodaya movement' to be included in this unit which will highlight the contributions of Vinoba Bhave, JC Kumarappa, Jayaprakash and Ram Manohar Lohia.

(iii) In MALG 173 (Comparative Study of Local Governments: World Perspectives), Local Governance in a Norwegian Country is to be included.

(iv) In MALG 176 (Development Programmes), current flagship schemes are to be included.

(v) The title and contents of the course MALG 180 (Personality Development) may be changed altogether. The course may be replaced with the title and contents regarding 'Leadership'.

(vi) 'Women in Governance' needs to be incorporated as a separate Block in MALG 182 (Inclusive Development: Policies and Programmes).

Resolution: **Discussed and Approved by incorporating the changes.**
M.A. Life Skills Education:

(i) There is an apparent overlap/repetition of certain components in some courses which needs to be looked into.

Resolution: Discussed and Approved by incorporating the changes.

9. Agenda Item 6: Renaming of Departments as Schools

The action taken by the Director/Vice Chancellor, by renaming the existing departments as Schools (as given below) keeping in view the academic expansion of the existing departments and visualizing a better functional devolution and coverage to their academic domains, has been appreciated by the members.

(a) Department of Youth Empowerment is renamed as School of Youth Studies and Extension.

(b) Department of Career Counselling is renamed as School of Counselling.

(c) Department of Gender Studies is renamed as School of Gender Studies.

(d) Department of Local Governance is renamed as School of Governance and Public Policy.

(e) Department of Life Skills Education is renamed as School of Life Skills Education and Social Harmony.

Resolution: Ratified and Approved.

10. Agenda Item 7: Change in Internal Assessment of all M.A. programmes

The suggestion of striking the provision of giving weightage (5 marks) to 'Attendance' from the internal assessment of courses and then modifying the weightage for 'Seminar' to 10 marks has been accepted. It is suggested that this may be incorporated in the Programme Guide.
The changes suggested in the Evaluation pattern (Internal and External) for the courses MACC 128 (Semester I), MACC 132 (Semester II), CCPR 138 (Semester III) and CCPR 144 (Semester IV) of M.A. Career Counselling has been accepted.

Resolution: Approved.

11. **Agenda Item 8: Limiting the number of Seats in M.A. Programmes**

The suggestion for limiting the number of seats for all the M.A. programmes to 15 has been taken up for discussion. After discussions, it has been agreed to limit the maximum of seats for all the M.A. programmes to 20.

Resolution: Approved.

12. **Agenda Item 9: Innovative programmes – To be launched.**

The following innovative programmes are to be initiated by the concerned Schools.

A. **School of Youth Studies and Extension**
   - (a) Certificate in Management of Youth Organisations
   - (b) PG Diploma in NSS Management

B. **School of Counselling**
   - (a) Certificate in Career Counselling

C. **School of Gender Studies**
   - (a) Certificate in Gender Mainstreaming.

D. **School of Governance and Public Policy**
   - (a) Certificate in Climate Change and Disaster Management
   - (b) Certificate in Local Administrative Governance
   - (c) Diploma in Managerial and Governance Skills
   - (d) Diploma in Social Auditing
E. School of Life Skills Education and Social Harmony
   (a) Certificate in Life Skills Education
   (b) PG Diploma in Life Skills Education
   (c) Certificate in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution
   (d) PG Diploma in Peace Building and Conflict Resolution
   (e) Certificate in Vocational Education by Community College

Resolution: Approved.

13. Agenda Item 10: Duration of Certificate/Diploma Programmes

   The suggestion for limiting the minimum duration of Certificate/Diploma courses to be launched by the University has been taken up for discussions. A minimum duration of 3 months, inclusive of classes for two months and field work/assignments for one month, has been agreed upon. For diploma courses, one year is the minimum period.

Resolution: Approved.

14. Towards the end, the Director/Vice Chancellor appreciated the contributions made by the participants during the meeting which will definitely strengthen the academic endeavours of the University. It was followed by a formal vote of thanks by the Academic Co-ordinator.

15. The meeting of the Second Academic Council came to an end by 2 p.m.

To

Faculty Head, ICEYD
Faculty Head, SNNW
Ps to Director

Director/Vice Chancellor,
RGNIYD University and
Chairperson, Academic Council