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Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD)

Minutes of the First Academic Council Meeting

12.05.2008

Minutes of the first meeting of the Academic Council held on 12.05.2008
at the Mini Conference Hall, RGNIYD

The meeting started with an introduction by Shri. G.Rajasekaran IAS, Director RGNIYD and Chairman of the Academic Council at 11.20 a.m. He welcomed the members of Academic Council and briefed about the broad objectives of the institute. Director informed the members about the nature of discussions and deliberations organized by RGNIYD to launch M.A. programmes in collaboration with IGNOU. He also narrated the steps taken for launching Academic Programmes like Workshop for Curriculum Development, Workshop for Course Writers, Preparation of Course Materials etc. Chairman also informed the members, that a detailed study was conducted before finalising the present M.A. Programmes, ensuring the scope for employability and professionalism in youth work. No other academic institutions in India have conducted such innovative programmes.

Agenda Item 1 - Academic Programmes

Dr. V. Reghu, Faculty Head & Academic Co-ordinator explained the structure of M.A. programme and requested honourable members to offer their suggestions and comments for improvement.

It was followed by a brief presentation of M.A. Programmes by the respective Faculty Heads. Each Division will be responsible for one M.A. Programme. They were presented in the following order.

1. M.A. Youth Empowerment Training Orientation and Extension Division
2. M.A. Career Counseling Research, Evaluation and Documentation/Dissemination Division
3. M.A. Gender Studies International Centre for Excellence in Youth Development Division
4. M.A. Local Governance Panchayati Raj Institutions and Youth Affairs Division
5. M.A. Life Skills Education Social Harmony and National Unity Division

The Academic Council members shared the following observations

1. Necessary steps are to be taken for marketing of the programmes.
2. Professionalism should be strengthened in all P.G. programmes.
3. Uniqueness and rationale of the programmes should be visible in the objectives.



4. Members also pointed out that course objectives should be well aligned with the mandates of the Institute.

Agenda Item 2 - Curricula of Courses

1. *It was observed that new paradigms should be initiated in all courses especially in Research areas.*
2. It was suggested that knowledge part in the content of the course should be validated to the Indian Social Contexts
3. Council members mentioned that knowledge component and implementation system of the programmes need to be taken care of.

M.A Youth Empowerment – Suggestions

- In Youth Empowerment Course II the title should be **Concerns and needs of Youth**, instead of Needs and Problems of Youth. Leaders names need not be specified.
- Concept of Empowerment is to be highlighted in the course I paper I. Course II **Guidance** should be highlighted as separate unit. Disaster preparedness and risk reduction may also be strengthened.
- In course III focus may be given to Development, Community Development and Business Management with due weightage.

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- Course III the title may be changed to of Community Work. There should be an introduction on Community Development.
 - Course V **Entrepreneurship Development and Business Management** may be divided into two sections.
 - In Second Year Course III Accountability of NGO's; Role of NGO's in Youth Development may also be considered as a unit.

M.A Career Counseling – Suggestions

- Micro counseling skills should be added in the syllabus in detail.
- Studies conducted by other national agencies may be incorporated.
- Studies by University Grants Commission need to be referred.
- Research studies carried out by Indian Council of Social Science Research related to Career Counseling may be referred and relevant contents are to be incorporated in the syllabus.
- Personality development needs special attention in the syllabus. This is to be incorporated as a separate unit.
- Practical work may be given special attention.

M.A Gender Studies – Suggestions

- Objectives of the course may be redesigned to suit Indian Context.
- Indian Feminism may also be included.
- A Sub committee has been formed comprising: -

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1. Dr. Samitha Sen
 2. Dr. Jayasree
 3. Dr. Ramathal, to go deep into the syllabus and suggestions may be given for modifications. This committee may study the syllabus in detail and submit its report at the earliest.

M.A Local Governance – Suggestions

- Studying bare acts for regular students is not needed.
- Democratization and decentralization (Block title) should be dealt separately
- Decentralization should be discussed in terms of globalization.
- There should be ample space for theory of Local Governance in the Programmes.
- There should be separate Unit for Centre- State relationship and State – Local relationship.
- Instead of going for comparison of U.K and U.S, Norway, Scotland and some Asian Countries may be added.
- Poverty reduction programmess should not specify the names of programmes
- Further improvement was also suggested.

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M.A Life Skills Education – Suggestions

- Special attention may be given on practicum.
- Media and Peace may be included in the syllabus.
- Special attention need to be given to non-violence.
- Second Year Block V is to be strengthened with Personality Development programmes.
- Studies available on Personality Development may be incorporated.

General Suggestions

- Add references to all Courses
- Mention about skills
- Think about giving Optional Papers, if possible
- Role of Theory in Research should be mentioned
- Theory should be part of every programme
- Objectives should be specified
- Professional skills should be given to all courses
- Research methodology adopted in such a way to incorporate programmes specific methodologies
- The students should know about the training methodology as well as training techniques (Career Counseling and Life skills)

- Practical / practicum for every course may be included.

Agenda Item 3 - Admission Procedures for Academic Programmes

Detailed deliberations have taken place and approved.

Agenda Item 4 - Distance Learning Programmes, in Collaboration with IGNOU

Detailed deliberations have taken place and approved.

Agenda Item 5 - Academic Qualifications for the Members of Teaching Faculty

- Instead of specifying qualification and subjects, It may be mentioned as Social Sciences/ Humanities
- In Life skills, Medicine should also be considered as one of the qualifying subjects for faculties.


Agenda Item 6 - Credit and Semester System

The Council accepted converting all M.A Programmes into Credit and Semester system.

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Director, RGNIYD appreciated the contribution and creative suggestions made by the members of the Academic Council. He also assured the members that the creative suggestions given by the members will be incorporated in the curriculum. It was followed by a formal vote of thanks by the Academic Coordinator.

The meeting of the Academic Council came to and end by 2.15 p.m.


**Director (RGNIYD)
and Chairman Academic Council**