

Deccan Education Society's
Fergusson College (Autonomous), Pune, Maharashtra
Internal Quality Assurance Cell

**WORKSHOP ON CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT (OVERALL)
FACULTY OF ARTS**

Date: 3rd February, 2017

Venue: IQAC

Time: 11.30 am onwards

Agenda:

- (a) Feedback on Autonomy- Academics, Examination and Administration
- (b) Curriculum Content of all subjects in Arts (First and Second Year B.A.)
- (c) Integration of Contents in the curriculum and enrichment of Interdisciplinary Content
- (d) Possibility of Introducing short term "Add On" Courses under Faculty of Arts

Members Present:

1.	Dr. Nitin Kulkarni	Vice Principal, Faculty of Science	
2.	Shri. Prakash Pawar	Vice Principal, Faculty of Arts	Prakash
3.	Dr. Samir Terdalkar	Coordinator IQAC and Secretary, Academic Council	Samir
4.	Dr. Chitra Shreedharan	GB Nominee	Chitra
5.	Smt. Arati Khatu	AC Nominee	Arati
6.	Radhika Jadhav	Philosophy & Logic	Radhika
7.	Deepthi Bangarane	Philosophy	Bangarane
8.	Jaya Gadgil	French	Jaya
9.	Madhuri Mandlik	History	Madhuri
10.	Nishant Gadpayle	Sociology	Nishant
11.	Raju Pardeshi	History	Raju
12.	Agale S.K.	Marathi	A
13.	Falte N.R.	— 90 —	BE
14.	Vijay P. Rangari	Psychology	Rangari
15.	Dr. Suresha Rongate	Economics	Rongate
16.	Chetan Sonawane	English	Sonawane
17.	Chaitanya Joshi	Marathi	Chaitanya Joshi

Minutes of the Workshop of the Arts Faculty for Autonomy

Agenda:

1. Discuss overlaps in the syllabi
2. Understand the interdisciplinary aspects of the proposed syllabi
3. Work out the possibilities for starting Add-on courses in the next Academic Year as extra credits for the students

Minutes:

Feedback on Autonomy:

Attendance of students in classes has improved.

Students have a better grasp of the syllabus.

Exams were easier to tackle because of smaller portions to tackle.

Students have a higher motivation levels due to better scores in exams.

There is a need for the language laboratory for enhancing the oral component of the subject.

Language Lab needs to be available.

Not only should it be occupied, but also acquire the required software. One IT person should be on the team deciding the vendors.

We should have freedom for the assessment of students.

Need of different system of assessment for different courses.

Study exam patterns of other Autonomous colleges and then suggest changes that need to be brought about.

Patterns of papers have been restrictive so far. SPPU papers have a far wider choice. We have taught much more, but are not able to assess students as rigorously.

We can include a dissertation in the assessment. At the CIA III it is ok to have for under graduates but for post graduate students, it would be fine to have an entire course as dissertation.

Exam:

Man power for Supervision for the Mid Semester was an issue that needs to be handled.

Responsibilities of Non-teaching staff should be specified. For e.g., display of seating arrangement on Notice Boards; seat nos. on benches. Time-table of the mid-semester should be correlated with availability of teachers as Junior Supervisors. Can exams be taken in the classes itself? Not possible for bigger departments with more students.

Mark-Entry: Special person should be allocated for this work. 2017 - 18, there will be F.Y., S.Y. Exams to be conducted. That will be a bigger load on the exam system as well as for the teachers delivering the academic content. So everybody need to develop an entire examination system is timely.

We should all take up exam work at all levels seriously without any hassles and with full enthusiasm.

Arrangement for blind students and other aspects of conduct of examination for them should be planned out and executed smoothly. Need for teachers to communicate amongst themselves and for Heads of Departments to communicate with the teachers in order to prevent the students from taking advantage of the lack of communication.

Rules have to be laid down for students as well.

We need to foresee the requirements of exams and plan accordingly so that we can smoothly conduct all exams. The complete discretion regarding conduct of re-exams should be with the concerned teacher only. We should simplify the system and reduce bureaucracy. The teacher should be the final authority in these matters. The teacher should be free to take exams for students who missed them and also decide the level of difficulty with which to assess the students. In terms of the reasons for missing exams, the teacher should have the final say on the genuineness of the student's excuse.

A question was raised regarding payment for the assessment work done for Internal Exams. Dr. NMK said that this could be done if pointed out that payment has not been made for internal assessment work.

Soft skills training required for office staff.

Photo-copied paper sets should be given in envelopes sealed with decent coloured tapes rather than wrapped in newspaper and secured with black electrical tape.

Interdisciplinary Courses:

AK shared her experience from the Political Science Syllabus Revision Workshop. Prof. Sadhana Kulkarni from St. Meera's College suggested that NAAC Accreditation for Autonomous Colleges will involve the interdisciplinary aspects of syllabi and there will be a need for justifying overlaps if any in syllabi of different subjects.

CS responded by saying that different departments are still in the process of evolving and upgrading their own syllabi for the purpose of imparting quality education under autonomy. The purpose of this exercise is actually not to eliminate aspects of syllabi that overlap, but to integrate teaching in order to enrich the students' learning experience. Syllabus components that can be dealt with by teachers from another department can be invited to do so. Add-on Courses could be devised in such situations in order to enable the students to understand the interdisciplinary aspects of courses that overlap.

For International Students who offer Optional English as Second Language since they think that they won't be able to cope with foreign languages find it difficult. Can they be given instead a choice of Indian Languages, so that it helps them in coping with day to day living in the city? It was discussed whether this course would be offered as an option to Optional English or as an Add-On Course.

Ms. Jaya Gadgil expressed the apprehension that this might bring down the number of international students who enroll for their French Beginners Batch.

It was agreed by everyone that in the process of enhancing academic flexibility and giving wide choice of subjects to students, work-load should not be affected in any way.

Ms. Jaya Gadgil said that they would like to offer French Beginners as an option for S.Y. B.A. and T.Y. B.A. General Level as well.

Dr. SST asked the French and German Departments to prepare a note about the same and prepare a Syllabus and get it approved by their respective BOS.

AK raised a question regarding constraints of time-table and enrolment of foreign students for French and German Beginners Batches. Course in American Studies also needs to be incorporated as an Add-on Course. Which is the Board of Studies to approve the Syllabus? Should we constitute a BoS for Interdisciplinary Courses?

SST: Prepare a Syllabus and get it approved by your subject BoS for the moment. We shall start the process for constituting an Interdisciplinary BoS.

Jaya Gadgil and CS talked of a Translation Studies Course.

AK said that the Add-on courses will have to fit in the Semester timings. No longer can we have annual courses. Also asked that the way in which the Certificates Courses in collaboration with the SPPU Womens' Studies Centre will now be run.

SST said that they will continue to be run in collaboration, but we need to get the Syllabi of all the Add-on courses approved by the Academic Council.

Deepti Gangavane raised the question of the Workload of the small Departments. Can the additional courses taken under Autonomy solve the question of our workload? Will posts be protected?

AK talked about the Admission policy. Everybody agreed that there needs to be a rethinking of the Admission policy now that the 220 students coming from FC Junior College will not be there.

Dr. SST said that in another 5 years we shall be facing the UGC Committee for continuation of Autonomy. We need to gear up and set-up systems in order to function efficiently in Autonomy. The problem is that UGC Guidelines are there but State Government GR may not be there. So, we have difficulties even though UGC policies are fairly liberal. By 25th February 2017, syllabi of all Arts Departments as approved by their respective Board of Studies should be sent to Ms. Arati Khatu. She will put them all together and send them to everyone. We will then know the possibilities of integration, if we want to work it out.

F.Y. B.A. Admission procedure:

A discussion on revamping F.Y. B.A. Admission procedure followed. Aspects of medium, faculties of students were stressed for the consideration of admission. Dr. SST talked about devising a procedure for giving admissions to students at S.Y. B.A. Level.

Ms. Arati Khatu
GB Member

Dr. Chitra Sreedharan
AC Member

Dr. Samir Terdalkar
Secretary, Academic Council