

Minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies in Philosophy.

Date: 26th September, 2024

Time: 7pm - 8pm

Members:

1. Dr. Himani Chaukar – Head of the Department and Chairperson
2. Ms. Jyoti Waghmare – Faculty
3. Ms. Charuta Kulkarni – Faculty
4. Ms. Tejashwini Havannavar – Faculty
5. Ms. Nirzari Potnis – Faculty
6. Ms. Deepa Jaydev _ Faculty
7. Prof. Priya Vaidya – V.C. Nominee (Dept. of Philosophy, University of Mumbai)
8. Prof. Mukul Raj Mehta – Subject Expert (Dept. of Philosophy, BHU)
9. Dr. Radhika Jadhav – Subject Expert (HOD, Philosophy, Fergusson College)
10. Dr. Milind Agarwal – Industry Expert (Founder & CEO, Quickwork)
11. Mr. Yogeshwar Joshi – Alumnus (M.Phil.)

The Board of Studies meeting began with a formal address and introduction of the attending members by HOD Dr. Himani Chaukar. Dr. Chaukar mentioned that Prof. Mukul Mehta could not be present for the meeting.

Agenda 1: Passing the minutes of the earlier meeting that discussed the changes in the syllabi as per NEP2020 structure for SYBA (Semester III & IV for academic year 2024-25) and MA (Part II for the year 2024-25).

The minutes of the last meeting were passed and we moved on to the next agenda.

Agenda 2: To discuss on Field Projects/ CEP (Community Engagement Program) to be conducted for semester IV students.

As the most important agenda, Dr. Himani Chaukar said that suggestions would be well appreciated. Dr. Radhika Jadhav suggested that IIT Bombay has a good programme for Community engagement which has been designed by them, particularly for college students. She further said that the institute has a scheme where they will train the students and help them find projects; and currently IIT Bombay is signing MOUs with various colleges. Dr. Jadhav said that it would be a good thing at the college level, as they have a variety of subjects to offer; and IIT Bombay would be able to come to the college to introduce what they have to offer. Dr. Chaukar appreciated the suggestion, and said that the department will get further details about the same. Further, she said that a few years back the college had introduced the concept of CEP because some of the students are really inclined to community-based programs. The students used to maintain and fill a diary when they worked for an organization. One such organization was Samaritans, which dealt with suicide prevention. Dr. Chaukar mentioned that there was no MOU signed at that time, but the students used to voluntarily work towards its cause. She further mentioned that this vision was on the lines

that organizations around the college could be contacted, and the college could get in an MOU with them, as it has become a formal part of the syllabus. She also agreed with the point that Mehta sir had put forth, which was - due to the large number of students it becomes quite challenging to organize and manage field projects.

Another alternative which Dr. Radhika Jadhav suggested that a person, with whom she is in contact with, is into online content development for platforms like Wiki source. And they would require help from students to digitize and proofread data related to the subject. Dr. Jadhav also suggested that Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute is looking forward to working with students on projects related to manuscript management. Dr. Chaukar also put forth that the department is also in contact with K.R. Cama Oriental Institute. And the institute was looking forward to working with students on digitization of data for their library. With this, there was a notion that the department can enter an MOU with the institute, which could provide students with a learning opportunity.

- Dr. Jadhav also suggested that we could collaborate with the CTK NGO as the students are allowed to volunteer and learn from such experiences.

Dr. Milind suggested that there can be workshops organized on career guidance for different segments of the society. To involve people from different sectors and different professionals to bring in awareness of the subject and spread the scope of the subject such workshops and seminars would be beneficial. He also spoke about how students can engage in discussions with local MLA's and local people surrounding the college area to understand the geopolitical and social structure of the society which would benefit the students in understanding and being aware of the current situations in the society and what role do they play in it.

Dr. Priya Vaidya suggested that students can also engage in meeting cancer survivors, army veterans and rape survivors to be acquainted with the challenges and problems faced by such communities.

Mr. Yogeshwar Joshi suggested that we could collaborate with the libraries enriching the students with more insights and curiosity with IKS. He also suggested that some group topics could be assigned to students with the IKS topics and to put them out in practicality.

All the insightful suggestions were highly appreciated by Dr. Chaukar as she said that, this discussion will lead to a promising start for setting up meetings with various organizations and getting ready for an MOU, which would be beneficial for the students and the college as well.

The meeting ended with a formal vote of thanks for the valuable time and priceless contribution given by the esteemed members of the BOS to the discussion, by Dr. Himani Chaukar.



Dr. Himani Chaukar

Associate Professor and Head, Dept of Philosophy



Principal
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RAMNARAIN RUIA AUTONOMOUS COLLEGE, MUMBAI-19

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Studies in Philosophy

Date: 2nd April 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Venue: Google Meet

Members Present: 7/8

The Board of Studies meeting began with a formal address by Dr. Himani Chaukar, Head of the Department and Chairperson. The following member was granted a formal leave of absence:

1. Dr. Mukul Mehta (Subject Expert).

The agenda of the meeting focused on finalizing the syllabus of TYBA under the NEP framework, reviewing the Vocational Skill-based Course (VSC), discussing changes in FY and SY syllabus, examining modalities of examination, and suggesting ideas for Field Projects and CEP.

Agenda 1: To discuss and finalize the TYBA syllabus under NEP.

- Dr. Himani Chaukar gave a brief overview of the NEP structure, covering major, minor, and elective papers.
- Mr. Yogeshwar Joshi suggested the inclusion of a contemporary thinker like M.K. Gandhi or Vinoba Bhave instead of Mohammed Iqbal for the paper 'Advanced Studies in Indian Philosophy'.
- Dr. Priya Vaidya proposed incorporating Indian perspectives and thinkers into the Social and Political Philosophy syllabus.
- She also recommended Sri Aurobindo's 'The Foundations of Indian Culture' as a reference book (specific paper to be confirmed).
- In the Social Philosophy paper, it was proposed that Gender Discrimination be included in place of Racial Discrimination under the unit of Social Awareness, since Caste Discrimination is already covered.

Agenda 2: To discuss the syllabus of Vocational Skill-based Course (VSC) for TYBA.

- It was proposed to introduce 'Philosophical Counseling' under Philosophical Practice as part of the VSC syllabus.
- Dr. Milind Agarwal emphasized the importance of including topics such as Ethics of AI and Social Media in the Semester V paper 'Contemporary Ethical Issues'.

Agenda 3: To review any changes required in FY and SY syllabus.

No significant changes were proposed. The existing syllabus was reviewed with a focus on alignment with NEP requirements.


Agenda 4: To discuss modalities of examination and On-the-Job Training (OJT).

- Discussion was held regarding the conduct of OJT for Semester VI.
- Dr. Chaukar noted the challenge in offering OJT to all TYBA students due to their large numbers.
- It was suggested that some students may be offered OJT opportunities at NPCA and other associated organizations.
- Dr. Milind Agarwal proposed that some students could be sent to Quickwork for their OJT.
- Dr. Chaukar also proposed dividing the 4-credit OJT into two parts: 2 credits for OJT and 2 credits for a course related to Career and Professional Skills. Final decision is yet to be taken.

Agenda 5: Suggestions for Field Projects and CEP.

Suggestions were received regarding the structure and content of Field Projects and the CEP. These will be taken up for detailed discussion in the next meeting.

Signature:


Dr. Himani Chaukar,
Head, Dept. Of Philosophy



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