

**MINUTES OF THE TWENTY EIGHTH MEETING OF THE RESEARCH COUNCIL(RC)  
HELD ON 08<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020 at 11.00 AM THROUGH GOOGLE MEET.**

The Twenty Eighth Meeting of the Research Council was held on 08<sup>th</sup> September, 2020 at 11.00 AM through Google Meet.

The Meeting was attended by the following members.

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|---|--------------------|
| 1. Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Vice Chancellor, IGNOU                            | - Chairperson      |
| 2. Prof. R P Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor                                     | - Member           |
| 3. Prof. Satyakam, Pro-Vice Chancellor                                    | - Special Invitee  |
| 4. Prof. K B Das, Pro-Vice Chancellor                                     | - Special Invitee  |
| 5. Prof. Ashok Sharma, EX Vice Chancellor, VMOU, KOTA                     | - Member           |
| 6. Prof. M. B. Shukla, Ex.Dir, IMS, Kashi Vidyapeeth, Varanasi            | - Member           |
| 7. Prof. Shailendra Parashar, Ex.Prof., Ambedkar PEETH, Vikram University | - Member           |
| 8. Dr. P Prakash, Former VC, SRM University, Sonapat                      | - Member           |
| 9. Prof. Rashmi Sinha, Director, SOSS, IGNOU                              | - Member           |
| 10. Prof. Malati Mathur, Director, SOH, IGNOU                             | - Member           |
| 11. Prof. Sujatha Varma, Director, SOS, IGNOU                             | - Member           |
| 12. Prof. Venkateswaralu Director, SOE, IGNOU                             | - Member           |
| 13. Prof. SantoshPanda, STRIDE, IGNOU                                     | - Member           |
| 14. Prof. G. Thomas, SOSW, IGNOU  | - Special Invitee  |
| 15. Prof Sudeep Jha, SOS  | - Member           |
| 16. Prof. Rajendra Pandey, SOTST, IGNOU                                   | - Member           |
| 17. Prof. Heena K Bijli, Director, SOCE, IGNOU                            | - Member           |
| 18. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, SOTHSM, IGNOU                               | - Member           |
| 19. Dr. PK Jain, SOA, IGNOU   | - Member           |
| 20. Dr. Sanjeev Pandey, Regional Director, RC, Delhi-3, IGNOU-            | - Special Invitee  |
| 21. Dr. Devkant Rao, Director, ACD  | - Member Secretary |
| 22. Dr. Bijayalaxmi Mishra, Director I/c, Research Unit, IGNOU            |                    |



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Prof. Gulab Chand Ram Jaiswal, VC Pataliputra University could not attend the meeting. Dr Satish Gaikwad, Asst. Director, Research Unit, IGNOU was present to assist in the proceedings of the Research Council.

Prof. Nageshwar Rao, Chairperson, Research Council, at the outset, welcomed all the members of the Research Council. He welcomed Prof. Sujata Varma, Director SOS and Prof. Malati Mathur, Director, SOH as the new members of the Research Council. He acknowledged the contribution of outgoing members, Prof. Poornima Mittal, Prof. Neera Singh, and Dr. Kiran Bansal in the deliberations of Research Council. The Chairperson complimented the Research Unit for organizing the meeting through virtual mode on Google Meet making it convenient to all the members to attend the meeting from their respective places. The Chairperson briefed the members about the 33<sup>rd</sup> Convocation of the University held on 17<sup>th</sup> February, 2020 in which PhD and MPhil scholars were awarded degrees. He apprised how the University is effectively utilizing ICT in facilitating the research activities seamlessly, including submission of PhD theses, evaluation of theses and conduct of Viva-Voce in order to protect the interest of the learners.

Giving a brief account of the ICT and online endeavours of the University, the Chairperson shared that, the University Grants Commission exempted IGNOU from Online Regulations, 2018 on 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2020, keeping in view the potential of IGNOU to conduct such programmes which might contribute towards enhancing the GER. He also informed about the contribution of IGNOU in integrated Online and ODL Regulations, which was notified in the Gazette of India on 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2020. The Chairperson brought to the notice of the members that IGNOU had launched 12 new online programmes during this Covid-19 pandemic period, setting a new normal.

As far as the Research Degree programme is concerned, the Chairperson informed that the University is maintaining the highest standards in the conduct of the Research Degree Programmes complying with the provisions of Research Ordinance and Regulations of the University. Speaking on the Research Entrance Test of 2020 to be conducted by the National Testing Agency, in the first week of October, he said that the University is also trying to maintain the highest standards in the admission process for the highest degree programme.

Research Unit



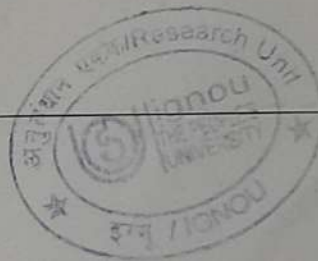


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Prof. Shailendra Parashar appreciated the efforts of IGNOU for its noteworthy initiatives towards enhancing the GER and online facilitation for PhD students, thus setting an example for other Universities and institutions in the country.

Thereafter, the Chairperson requested the Director I/c Research Unit and Member Secretary of the Research Council to present the Agenda. The Agenda was then presented as under:

Item No.	Subject
RC 28.1	<b>To Confirm the Minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council held on 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2019 and the Action Taken thereon.</b>
RC 28.1.1	The agenda was presented by the Member Secretary in detail. The Member Secretary informed the members that the Minutes of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council held on 25 <sup>th</sup> October, 2019 were circulated amongst the Members of the Research Council. Since no comments were received from the Members on the Minutes, the Minutes were circulated among Schools of Studies for initiating action. The Action Taken Report on the Minutes of 27 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council was placed before the Council. The Member Secretary informed that no action on the Minutes was pending.
RC 28.1.2	The Research Council confirmed the Minutes of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council and noted the Action Taken thereon ( <u>Annexure I</u> ) ( <u>Annexure II</u> )
RC 28.2	<b>To Consider and approve the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council Standing Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> August 2020 and ratify the Action Taken thereon.</b>
RC 28.2.1	The Agenda was presented by the Member Secretary in detail. The Member Secretary informed the members that the Minutes of the 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council Standing Committee held on 19 <sup>th</sup> August, 2020 through virtual mode, were circulated amongst the Members of Research Council Standing Committee. Since no comments were received from the Members, the Minutes were circulated among the Schools of Studies for initiating action. The Action Taken Report prepared on the Minutes of 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council Standing Committee was also placed for consideration of the Research Council. The Member Secretary further informed that the Research Unit was in the process of taking actions.
RC 28.2.2	The Research Council confirmed the Minutes of the 20 <sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council Standing Committee and noted the Action Taken thereon ( <u>Annexure III</u> ) ( <u>Annexure IV</u> )



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RC 28.3	To Consider and approve the PhD Guidelines harmonizing with the IGNOU Research Regulations for Conducting Research Degree Programmes (IRCRDP)
RC 28.3.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed the members that consequent upon approval of the Ordinance and Regulations by the Visitor and notification of the same in the Gazette, there was a need to harmonize the Ph D Guidelines with the Regulations and to remove the repetitions and deviations in the Guidelines wherever required. She also apprised about the committee, constituted by the Vice Chancellor to synchroize the Guidelines with Regulations. Accordingly, the Committee recommended amendments in the Guidelines. The details of changes were explained to all the members by Prof. Sudeep Jha. Prof Ashok Sharma appreciated the efforts of IGNOU to have laid down Guidelines which were working norms for smooth facilitation of Research Degree programmes.
RC 28.3.2	The Research Council approved the PhD Guidelines as recommended by the Committee (Annexure V).
RC 28.4	To Consider and approve Minor/ Major changes/modifications in Research Topic of Mr.Vikas Bhaskar, a PhD scholar, in Nursing Discipline, School of Health Sciences (SOHS)
RC 28.4.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed that the Doctoral Research Committee recommended Minor / Major changes/modifications in research topic of Mr.Vikas Bhaskar, a PhD scholar, in Nursing Discipline, School of Health Sciences (SOHS) as under:





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S. No.	Name of Student/ Enr.no / Discipline School	Existing Title	Minor changes/modifications
1.	Mr. Vikas Bhaskar, 173102150 Nursing/ SOHS	A study to assess the knowledge, Competence, level of Satisfaction and barriers perceived by Community Health Officers (CHO) regarding management of non-communicable Diseases in selected Health and Wellness Centres of Uttar Pradesh	A study to assess the knowledge, Competence, level of satisfaction and barriers perceived by Community Health Officers (CHO) and beneficiary feedback regarding management of Non-communicable diseases in Health and Wellness Centres of Uttar Pradesh

**RC 28.4.2** The Research Council approved the changes in the research topic of Mr.Vikas Bhaskar, a PhD scholar, in Nursing Discipline, School of Health Sciences (SOHS) as recommended by the DRC and the School Board.

**RC 28.5** **To Consider and approve the modalities to deliver two credit course on Research and Publication Ethics(RPE) prescribed by UGC, to be made compulsory for all Ph D students for pre- Ph D registration course work from 2020.**

**RC 28.5.1** The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed the members that UGC had issued a circular No D.O. No. F.1-I/2018 (Journal/CARE) Dec 2019 directing all Universities to introduce a two credit course on Research and Publication Ethics to the M Phi/ Ph D students from the year 2020 as a part of their pre-PhD registration course work. The matter was placed before the RCSC at its 20<sup>th</sup>

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	<p>Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2020 which decided to constitute a committee of the following members to chalk out the modalities for the two credit course on Research and Publication Ethics (RPE) in compliance with the UGC circular.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prof. Rashmi Sinha, Chairperson</li> <li>2. Prof. D. Venkateshwarlu, Member</li> <li>3. Prof. VV Subramanyam Member</li> <li>4. Prof. Sunil Kumar, Member</li> <li>5. Director, RU, Convenor</li> </ol> <p>The members of RC deliberated on the recommendation of the above mentioned Committee in detail, particularly with regard to the need of restructuring the credit structure of the coursework which had to be uniformly applicable to all the disciplines offering Research Degree Programmes. Since there was no specific mention in the UGC circular whether the two credit course would be a part of the already existing 16 credit coursework or additional credits, the members felt that the ambiguity should be clarified before approving the course for implementation.</p>
RC 28.5.2	After thorough discussion, the Research Council decided to authorize the Vice Chancellor to take a final decision with regard to the credit structure and the <i>modus operandi</i> of the two credit course to be imparted to the Research students on Research and Publication Ethics (RPE).
RC 28.6	<b>To Consider and approve the extension of registration of Ms. Bandana Kumari, PhD scholar of School of Inter-Disciplinary and Trans-Disciplinary Studies (SOITS)</b>
RC 28.6.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed the members that Ms Bandana Kumari, (bearing enrollment number 131636569) of SOITS under the joint supervision of Dr Shubhangi Vaidya and Dr Babu P Ramesh was pursuing her PhD on Silk Weaving and Weavers in the Silk Industry: Case of Silk workers in Bhagalpur. She exhausted the maximum validity period including the extra 2 years' time granted to women candidates by 13 <sup>th</sup> January, 2020. However, she could not complete her Ph.D work timely due to her family circumstances and applied for extension of time for one year. The DRC of SOITS considered her request as she had done considerable amount of work





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	<p>and recommended her extension which was subsequently endorsed by the School Board. The matter was placed before the RCSC at its 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> August, 2020. The RCSC decided that the yearly progress of Ms Bandana Kumari be presented before the Research Council for taking a final decision on the extension of her registration.</p> <p>The Director SOITS who was asked to present the yearly progress of the scholar appealed to the Research Council for some more time to be granted to the scholar for completion of the thesis work. The members however, felt that the matters pertaining to the extension should not be brought to the Research Council and should be left to the Vice Chancellor to take a final decision.</p>
RC 28.6.2	The Research Council deferred the matter and directed the Research Unit to place the matter before the Vice Chancellor for consideration and necessary action.
RC 28.7	<b>To Consider and approve the Co- Supervisor in respect of Mr N Sabari Vel, PhD Scholar, in the Discipline of Nursing, School of Health Sciences (SOHS)</b>
RC 28.7.1	The Agenda was presented in detail. The Member Secretary apprised the Research Council that the, Doctoral Research Committee of the Nursing Discipline recommended a Dr. Nitesh Manohar Gonnade (Asst.Professor, Dept. of PMR, AllIMS, Jodhpur) as Co-Supervisor to Mr. N Sarbari PhD student of Nursing Discipline presently under the Supervision of Dr. Reeta Devi and working on topic entitled "Effectiveness of Interactive guided Imagery and Mirror Therapy on Quality of Life among Stroke Patients." The recommendation of the Doctoral Research Committee was ratified by the School Board/School Board Standing Committee.
RC 28.7.2	The Research Council approved the name of Dr. Nitesh Manohar Gonnade (Asst.Professor, Dept. of PMR, AllIMS, Jodhpur) as Co-Supervisor to Mr. N Sarbari PhD student of Nursing Discipline as recommended by the DRC and the School Board.
RC 28.8	<b>To Consider and approve cancellation of registration of Ms. Anju Bala, a research scholar in the Discipline of Hindi, School of Humanities(SOH).</b>
RC 28.8.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. She informed the members that, the Doctoral Research Committee of Hindi, SOH, recommended cancellation of admission Ms. Anju Bala a PhD student in Hindi since the Scholar failed to submit her synopsis. The recommendation of the Doctoral Research Committee was ratified by the respective School Board, SOH. The Director SOH also informed the members that the scholar had never responded to the mails/ communications sent by the School.

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RC 28.8.2	The Research Council approved the cancellation of registration of Ms. Anju Bala a PhD student in Hindi as recommended by the DRC and the School Board.
RC 28.9	<b>To Consider and approve the extension of period of registration of Shri Baidyanath Mishra and Shri Nisheeth Kumar, Ph D scholars, School of Tourism and Hospitality Service Management (SOTHSM)</b>
RC 28.9.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed the members that, the Doctoral Research Committee of SOTHSM recommended extension of registration period in respect of the two students namely Shri Baidyanath Mishra and Shri Nisheeth Kumar. However, the matter was yet to be placed before the concerned School Board. The Research Council reiterated that such matters should not be brought before the Research Council.
RC 28.9.2	The Council deferred the matter and directed the concerned school to place the matter before School Board and subsequently before the Vice Chancellor.
RC 28.10	<b>To Consider and approve the change of supervisor of a PhD Scholar Ms. Suyasha Gupta Enroll No. 149500432 School of Tourism and Health Service Management (SOTHSM)</b>
RC 28.10.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed the members that, Ms. Suyasha Gupta, Enroll No. 149500432, a Ph D scholar of SOTHSM had requested for change of supervisor. Dr. Paramita Suklabaidya, the existing supervisor had given her consent for the change of supervisor and stated that the work of the research scholar was almost complete and on the verge of submission. The matter was approved by the concerned DRC, however, the meeting School Board had not yet been conducted.
RC 28.10.2	The Research Council referred back the matter to the concerned School for complying with the due procedure.
RC 28.T1	<b>To consider and approve the change of supervisor of two M Phil students of STRIDE M Neetu and Ms Sushma Kumari, who were working under the supervision of Prof. C.R. Murthy</b>
RC 28.T1.1	The Agenda was presented in detail by the Member Secretary. The Member Secretary informed that two M Phil Scholars of Distance Education were allocated to Prof CRK Murthy as their Supervisor. The DRC and School Board SOE had reallocated Research supervisors for the two M Phil students as per the following details :

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	Name/ Enrolment/ Programme	Research Topic	Existing Supervisor	Changed Supervisor
	Neetu 173102950 / MPHILDE, SRTIDE (SOE)	A Study of the Problems Faced by Distance Learners of IGNOU	Prof. CRK Murthy	Dr. Anita Priyadarshini
	Sushma Kumari 173102981 / MPHILDE, STRIDE (SOE)	Study Habits of Distance Learners of IGNOU in Rural and Semi Urban Areas of Delhi and Haryana	Prof. CRK Murthy	Prof Manjulika Srivastava
RC28.T1.2	The Research Council approved the change of Supervisors in respect of the above mentioned M Phil students of Distance Education as recommended by the DRC and the School Board.			

The meeting ended with a Vote of Thanks to the Chair.



**Bijayalaxmi Mishra**  
Member Secretary, RC

