



Report on Workshop on Syllabus Restructuring for PGELT held on 18.09.2019 at Salt Lake City Office Campus, DD26, Sector I, Kolkata 64.

Inauguration:

The workshop was conducted as a follow-up/sequel to the proceedings and resolutions of the consecutive BOS meetings held on 17.08.2019 and 18.09.2019. It was inaugurated sharp at 2.00 pm with a welcome address by the Director of SoH, Professor Manan Kumar Mandal to the audience of Course Writers across the four(4) semesters of the forthcoming CBCS syllabus for PGELT at NSOU. The Director extended a warm thank to Professor S Mohanraj as an honoured and valued invitee-expert who has been contributing his continuous support and guidance to the challenges of framing a standard CBCS syllabus for PGELT to be introduced in compliance with the requirements as stipulated in UGC Regulations (2019). He urged upon the participants in this Workshop of Course Writers to figure out their problems, if any, and seek the valued advice of the invited subject-expert to resolve them. On a note of thanks to the audience of Course Writers, the Director of SoH concluded his inaugural speech, and invited Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay, Assistant Professor, ELT to anchor and conduct the uptake of the workshop.

Objective and Focus:

The objective of the workshop was to apprise Course Writers of the status of progress so far in course writing as per stipulations of UGC Regulations(2017) and in terms of CBCS format of Syllabus for PGELT Courses under the penumbra of School of Humanities, NSOU. The focus of the workshop was to enlighten the Course Writers on the modalities of course writing as warranted by CBCS pattern.

Addresses and Responses:

Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay elaborated on the status of progress in course writing, and motivated the course writers to live up to the challenge of writing SLMs as user-friendly and at the same time qualitatively precious and at par with the excellence of the best course materials of peer universities in the Open and Distance Mode of Learning.



Prof S Mohanraj addressed the participants on a friendly, yet scholarly, note pinpointing every likely impediment that may crop up during the process of writing an ideal and holistic self-study material. He advised the participants to avoid jargons as far as possible, and to befriend the target reader with preponderant uses of "We" instead of "You". He insisted upon the use of learner-friendly language, and a mode of writing that must not distance the learners. Direct questions must be replaced by friendly and persuasive questions that encourage the learner to think out his/her answer with self-esteem and self-confidence.

Chair's Address: The workshop was chaired by Ex-Director, SoH, Professor Swapan Banerjee. He called on to the dais the participants, one by one, and enquired, with a voice of sympathy, about their problems and progresses in course writing. Course writers spoke for their convenience if they were given a whole module to write apiece. With consent from Prof. S Mohanraj, course writers were assigned Module-centric task of writing according to their choices. All Modules across all Courses including Electives and VACs, were distributed among the Course Writers. In other terms, Courses from Sem. Three to Sem. Four were assigned to Course Writers on the dais of the workshop.

In hindsight, it may be noted that Courses in Sem. I and Sem. II had been assigned to Course Writers prior to the workshop, and a considerable chunk of written scripts was submitted to the competent authority.

Outcome:

In fine, the workshop happened to be a success in terms of the presence and motivation of the Course Writers, and the impact of the Addresses of the chair, Prof S Banerjee, Prof S Mohanraj and Dr Sumana Bandyopadhyay