

Minutes of 2nd Equal Opportunity Cell MEETING

Meeting No. : 02/ 2024
Day / Date : Tuesday, November 19, 2024
Time : 05.00 p.m. to 05.30 p.m.
Mode : Offline
Place : NICMAR University, Pune
VC Conference Room,
25/1, NIA Post Office, Balewadi, Pune - 411 045

Members Present

Sr. No.	Name of the Members	Designation
1.	Dr. Mrs. Sushma S. Kulkarni	Chairperson
2.	Dr. P. K. Samanta	Advisor
3.	Dr. Yuvraj Dilip Patil	Member Secretary
4.	Dr. Rammakrishna Nallathiga	Member
5.	Dr. Komal Handore	Member
6.	Dr. Prashant Dave	Special Invitee

Dr. Mrs. Sushma S. Kulkarni

Vice Chancellor, NICMAR University, Pune

Sr . No	Agenda No	Subject in Brief	Responsible Person	Timeline
1.	1	Welcome the chairperson and members of the EOC	Dr. Yuvraj D. Patil	✓
2.	2	Presentation on the modalities and scope of the EOC	Dr.Pradeepta K. Samanta Dr. Ramakrishna	Presented Scope and function of EOC Attached Annexure I
3.	3	Presentation on the hindrances for the barrier free movement in the University campus	Dr. Komal Handore , Dr. Prahsant Dave	Presented hindrances for the barrier free movement in the University campus Pune Attached Annexure II
4.	4	Proposal for awareness generation programme on Equality and liberty	Dr. Yuvraj Patil ,	In upcoming semester-organize First lecture for everyone to sensitize about Equity, equality and liberty
5	5	Prepare google form and invite the students for lectures on 'Communication Skill'	Dr. Ramakrishna Dr. Komal Handore, Dr.Pradeepta K Samanta	In upcoming semester- Plan in coming semester



Annexure I



Equal Opportunity Cell

Background

- India is a country of diversity. It is a country of the people of different religions, castes and cultures.
- Indian society is characterized by a highly entrenched system of social stratification and religious dissection.
- It is these social inequalities that create the barriers of denial of access to material, cultural and educational resources to the disadvantaged groups of society.
- These disadvantaged groups include SCs, STs, women, OBC (non-creamy layer), minorities and physically challenged persons.
- It is clear from the demographic features that a large section of the population of our country is still disadvantaged and marginalized.
- On achieving independence, India took a conscious decision to undo the historic wrongs and eliminate social disparities.
- For the eradication of social disparities, various provisions were made in the Indian Constitution.
- Our Constitution has enshrined democratization as one of the main objectives of education and anticipated the democratic expansion of education to serve social and economic upward mobility.
- As higher education is a tool for social and economic equality, the UGC has been addressing the national concerns of access, equality, while ensuring the quality standards and relevance of education by implementing policies and promoting several schemes and programmes for the disadvantaged groups that would help in eliminating social disparities.

Aim of EOC

- In this backdrop, the University Grants Commission (UGC), the apex body of higher education in India, has planned to establish Equal Opportunity Cell in the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs) so that the HEIs become more responsive to the needs and constraints of the disadvantaged social groups.
- The disadvantaged groups are SCs, STs, women, OBC (non-creamy layer), minorities and physically challenged persons.

NICMAR UNIVERSITY, PUNE: 25/1, Balewadi, N.I.A. Post Office, Pune 411 045, India.

Tel: (+91) 020-6685 9100/200 / (+91) 020-6685 9162(D). Email - president@pune.nicmar.ac.in

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- The Aim of EOC will be:

“To oversee the effective implementation of policies and programmes for disadvantaged groups, to provide guidance and counselling with respect to academic, financial, social and other matters and to enhance the diversity within the campus.”

Functions of EOC

- The **EOC shall be an Advisory Committee** to review the implementation of various schemes and programmes for the welfare of the disadvantaged and marginalized groups of the society and other related activities undertaken.
- **As per the UGC guidelines, the broad functions of the EOC include:**
 - Oversee/monitor various welfare schemes/programs sponsored by the Government of India/State Government, UGC, or any agency/ organization as well as those devised by the university for the disadvantaged groups for their effective implementation
 - Ensure the effective functioning of SC/ST Cell and other such Cells/Centers dealing with the problems of different socially disadvantaged groups.
 - Convene meetings with the in charge of other Committees/Programmes dealing with social issues, such as the Gender Sensitization Committee against Sexual Harassment (GSCASH), National Service Schemes (NSS), etc., to review their activities.
 - Coordinate with the SC/ST Cell, Remedial Coaching and Other schemes/ Women’s Study Centre, Population Education Cell etc.

Constitution of EOC NICMAR University Pune

- In pursuance of the UGC’s guidelines, the NICMAR University, Pune has established the Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC) on April 25, 2024.
- The EOC constitutes the following members:
 - Dr. Mrs. Sushma S. Kulkarni, Vice Chancellor, Chairperson
 - Dr. Prashant Dave, Registrar, Special Invitee
 - Dr. Yuvraj Patil, Member Secretary
 - Dr. Pradeepta Kumar Samanta, Advisor
 - Dr. Ramakrishna Nallathiga, Member
 - Dr. Komal Handore, Member

Scope of EOC at NICMAR University Pune

- Provide barrier-free access to and equal opportunity in material, cultural and educational resources to the disadvantaged groups in the University.

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- Create awareness among the functionaries of the NICMAR University Pune about the specific educational needs of disadvantaged groups of students.
- Equip the NICMAR University Pune with the state of art facilities to provide equal access to disadvantaged groups of students
- Monitor the implementation of all existing and future legislation/ policies and schemes, pertaining to higher education of disadvantaged groups of students
- Ensure admission of disadvantaged groups of students through the open quota and through the reservation policies
- Provide information to the disadvantaged groups of students about the fee concessions, examination procedures, reservation policies, etc.
- Study the aptitude of disadvantaged groups of students and assist them in getting appropriate employment when desired by them after their studies
- Organize awareness programmes for the disadvantaged groups of students and display respect to the disadvantaged groups in the NICMAR University.

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Annexure II

Suggestions by the Chairperson of EOC [VC ma'am] to the special invitee Registrar sir, NICMAR University Pune-

1. Phase 2 required two external lifts.
2. At the entrance of 1st gate at climbing there is need of ramp with railing
3. In parking of faculty parking no ramp at steps towards lift
4. Lift in the old building should be operative all the time.
5. Railing also required at the ramps.

Suggestions by the Chairperson of EOC [VC ma'am] to the special invitee Registrar sir, NICMAR University Pune

For financially weak students - below 5lakhs try to provide 25 to 30% financial support- through introduction of "Ajit gulabchand scholarship". The EOC will decide on the application of special scholarship.

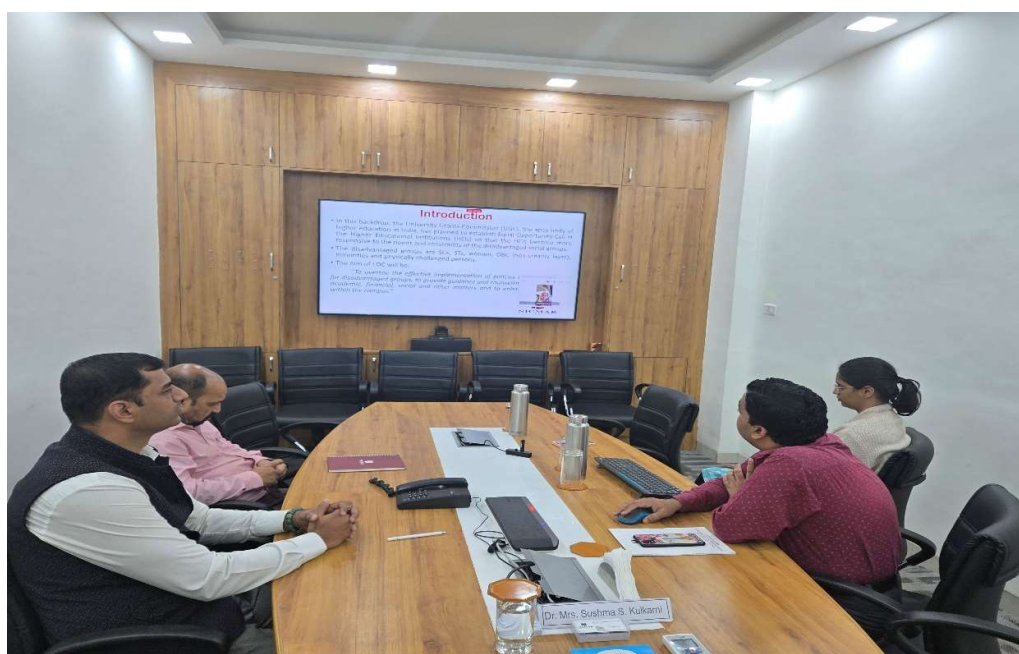
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Annexure III

2nd Meeting photos



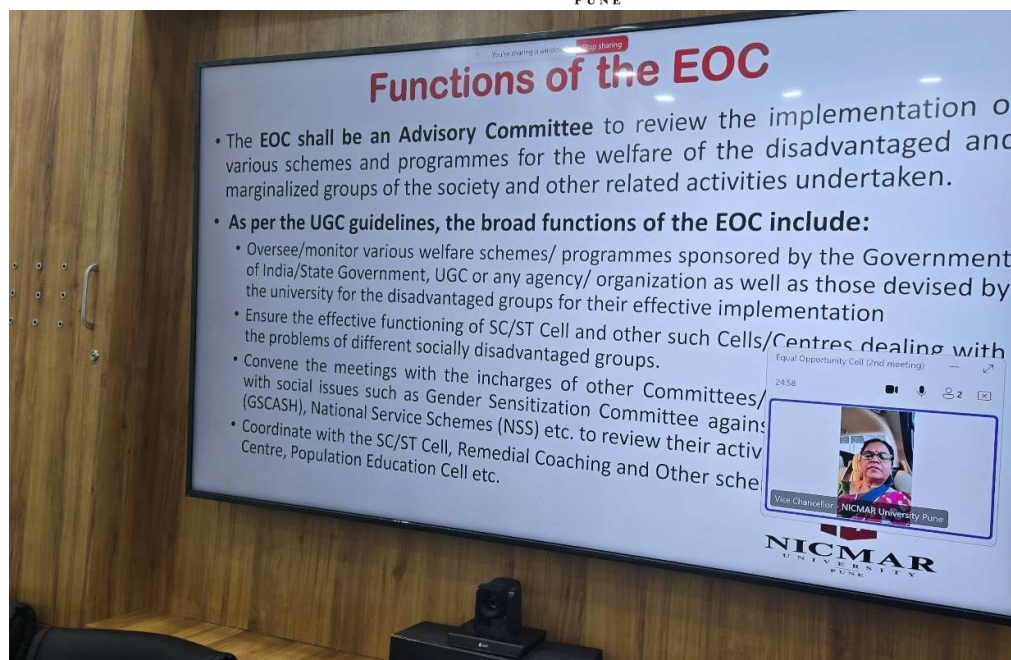
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Dr. Yuvraj D. Patil
Associate Professor
Member Secretary- Equal Opportunity Cell
NICMAR University Pune

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