

MINUTES

Meeting of Board of Studies for Balwant Sheth School of Architecture (BSSA)

31st May, 2019

10.30 am



SVKM'S Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS)

V. L. Mehta Road, Vile Parle (W), Mumbai 400 056

TEL. : 91-22-42332000 FAX: 91-22-26114512

Email : sptm@nmims.edu

VISIT US AT: www.nmims.edu

SVKM's
Narsee Monjee Institute of Management Studies (NMIMS) (Deemed to be University)
Balwant Sheth School of Architecture

31st May, 2019

Minutes of Meeting

The following are the minutes of the Board of Studies (BOS) meeting of Balwant Sheth School of Architecture (BSSA) held on **Friday, 31st May, 2019 at 10.30 am in the Conference room** of Balwant Sheth School of Architecture.

The following members were present for the meeting:

1. Mr. Amit B. Sheth, Mentor
2. Mr. Naushir DeVitre, Talati and Panthaky Associated Designers LLP., Member BoS
3. Mr. Nitin Killawala, Group Seven Architects and Planners Pvt. Ltd., Member BoS
4. Prof. Ar. Aparna Surve, Dean
6. Prof. Vidya Raghu, Associate Dean
7. Prof. Atrey Chhaya, Assistant Professor & Coordinator M. Arch. Programme

The leave of absence was granted to Ms. Firoza Kavrana, Talati and Panthaky Associated Designers LLP., Member BoS.

The following agenda was discussed during the meeting:

- Increase in credits to subjects as per COA norms
- Teaching number of days, weeks, hours and credits
- Implementation of newly proposed subjects
- Internal Continuous Assessment (ICA) for elective subjects
- Amendment in Specialization Studio
- Discuss the syllabus for 2nd year M. Arch. programme
- Increase in credits and teaching hours for M. Arch. programme

The following points were discussed with respect to B. Arch. Programme at BSSA:

A draft of the revised BSSA Syllabus and Course Structure was explained based on the need to fulfill credits and teaching hours as part of draft COA guidelines 2017 and UGC. Details given as follows;

- Course credits for the entire five years need to be minimum 260 credits for B. Arch.
- Course credits per semester need to be 26 – 30 credits.
- Design subjects should have 9-16 credits per semester.
- Teaching hours should be 26 – 30 hours per week with 15 teaching weeks.
- There are broad guidelines for categories of courses and percentages for the same.

fm

The same was reviewed and approved with incremental changes without much change to the syllabus and course structure should. It was decided that the detailed course syllabus and course outline across 5 years will need further deliberation and will be accordingly revised for A.Y. 2020-21.

Following were the changes discussed and approved with details of course structure, syllabus and teaching scheme attached as annexure;

- 1) Semester I was falling short of 10 credits to reach 26 and hence new subjects were added as per the gaps found in technical course requirements. Accordingly, 'Building Construction' and 'Structures' were added as new subjects. 'Advance Workshop' was being undertaken as a specialization every year for tool training and carpentry, which was added as a credited course. The same was approved by the BoS Members.
- 2) Semester VII was falling short by 8 credits. The same was proposed to be augmented by adding 'Design Research and Publications' as a credited course and further to develop research capacities amongst students and prepare them for Dissertation in upcoming semester. Further credits were added to existing courses of 'Advanced Services'. The same was approved by the BoS Members.
- 3) Semester IX was falling short by 8 credits. The same was proposed to be augmented by adding credits to Design Dissertation and adding a new subject of 'Allied Seminar' to enhance the process and outcome of Design Dissertation incorporating technology, services, sustainability and research. The same was approved by the BoS Members.
- 4) New Design Courses were proposed to be added in Sem IV, V and VII to augment required design credits, while retaining ones in all other semesters. The same was approved by the BoS members as per the course structure, teaching scheme and syllabus attached as annexure.
- 5) It was observed that there were high variations in teaching hours per week across semesters. This has been streamlined to achieve minimum 26 to 33 hours per week. This was done by streamlining hours for the few subjects while maintaining the course objective and outcomes. The same was agreed and approved by BoS members.
- 6) Wherever, credits needed to be augmented, the same was done by adding credits to existing subjects, across semesters. The same was approved by the BoS members as per the course structure, teaching scheme and syllabus attached as annexure.
- 7) 'Graphics' was proposed to be moved to earlier semesters as the subject needed further attention. Hence, 'Graphics' was introduced to Semester II, III and removed from Semester IV. The same was agreed and approved by BoS members.



- 8) Teaching/Marking Scheme has been revised for Electives and marking has been now made internal alone to reduce burden on external marking for non-core subjects. The same was approved by the BoS members as per the teaching scheme attached as annexure.
- 9) In the previous course structure, value added subjects such as Specialisation and Design Research Publications were undertaken with specific teaching hours and attendance, the same was removed to reduce burden while maintaining grading for the same. While doing so, we have integrated study tour documentation and other activities within value added subjects. The same was agreed and approved by BoS members.

The following points were discussed with respect to the M.Arch. Program at BSSA:

1. Based on the prevailing Vision for the Master's Program at BSSA, the following 4-part Course Objectives were proposed and agreed upon by the Members of the BOS.
 - a) To expand the base knowledge of the profession through specific areas of research that would affect it in the coming decades. These are Increasing Urbanisation, Environmental Changes and Shifting Knowledge Realms.
 - b) To augment Theoretical and Applied Skills.
 - c) To experience collaborative work environments among Architect and Architect, Architect and Engineer, Architect and Coder, Architect and Planner etc and understand the Changing Definition of Practice.
 - d) To experiment with Contemporary Tools and Digital Fabrication Technologies and their possible Simulations and Prototyping in live contexts.
2. To achieve the Course Objectives the following Subjects with respective Hours and Credits proposed in the Second Year of the Program. It was presented and approved by the members of the BOS as per the course structure, teaching scheme and syllabus attached as annexure.
 - a) The Design Studio continues in Semester 3 with the focus shifting towards Urban Environments. The total hours allocated would be 150 for 10 credits.
 - b) Seminars would include Urban Data Visualisation, Allied Technical Studies and Thesis Research. The total hours allocated would be 60 for 3 credits. They include 2 Studio Credits and 1 Practical Credit to conduct Class Exercises and Workshops.
 - c) Electives would include Critical Writing and Urban Morphology in Elective 1 that would be more Theory based and Project management and Performative Building Skins in Electives 2 that would be more Application based are proposed. The total hours allocated



would be 60 for 3 credits. They include 2 Studio Credits and 1 Practical Credit to conduct Class Exercises and Workshops.

- d) The Design Thesis is proposed in Semester 4 with total hours allocated 330 for 19 credits.
 - e) Electives from Semester 3 would continue through Semester 4. These include Critical Writing and Urban Morphology in Elective 1 that would be more Theory based and Project management and Performative Building Skins in Electives 2 that would be more Application based are proposed. The total hours allocated would be 60 for 3 credits. They include 2 Studio Credits and 1 Practical Credit to conduct Class Exercises and Workshops.
3. The total hours for Semesters 1 and 2 have been increased to achieve 450 contact hours for 25 credits to match with UGC and NMIMS norms. To achieve the same, Studio hours have been increased to 150 for 10 credits, Seminar hours have been increased to 60 for 3 credits and Electives have been introduced for 60 hours for 3 credits. It also addresses concerns indicated by the Faculty that they would require additional hours to conduct Exercises, Readings, Lectures, Site Visits within the course duration. It was presented and approved by the members of the BOS as per the course structure, teaching scheme and syllabus attached as annexure.
 4. An Elective Bouquet comprising of Advance Fabrication Techniques and Digital Tools and Processing is introduced in the First Year of the Program based on the suggestions by the BOS. Advance Fabrication Techniques would impart and enhance the skills of Building Prototypes using Contemporary Fabrication Techniques and Digital Tools. Digital Tools and Processing would expose students to Allied Digital Design Applications such as real time sensors, data feedback etc. It was presented and approved by the members of the BOS as per the course structure, teaching scheme and syllabus attached as annexure.
 5. A credited Practical Training component is included for the first batch of students (Batch 2018-20) in Semester 4 to obtain the required overall credits. It would add 420 hours for 14 credits. It was presented and approved by the members of the BOS as per the syllabus attached as annexure.



All the matters above are approved by all the members and the meeting was ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Mr. Amit B. Sheth

Amit B. Sheth

Mr. Naushir DeVitre

Naushir DeVitre

Mr. Nitin Killawala

NK

Ms. Firoza Kavrana

Ab.

Prof. Ar. Aparna Surve

Aparna Surve

Prof. Vidya Raghu

Vidya Raghu

Prof. Atrey Chhaya

Atrey Chhaya