

## **Report on Restructuring of the Academic Programme in K.R.Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science & Arts, Kottayam**

### **Introduction :**

The Kerala State Higher Education Council considered the draft syllabus formulated by the KRNNIVSA Kottayam under the Chairmanship of Mr.G.Rajasekharan, former Director of the institute. The Council also sought expert opinion from Shri.Kumar Shahini, Film Director on the proposal submitted by the Director on the draft syllabus and with regard to the restructuring of the academic programme of the institute as 2 year PG Diploma programme in credit- semester pattern with effect from 2019-2020 academic year. The 2 year PG Diploma programme suggested for the institute under the restructured pattern include, Animation & Visual Effects,Cinematography,Editing,Sound Recording and Design, Direction & Screen writing and Acting

Based on the draft syllabus, expert opinion given by Shri.Kumar Shahini and detailed discussion in the Council, the following recommendations are submitted.

### **1. About the future of the KRNNIVSA.**

The Council is of the opinion that K.R.Narayanan National Institute of Visual Science & Arts, Kottayam, located in the serene setting in nearly 13 acres of land area, should be developed as an autonomous institute, which can be elevated to the level of **The Film and Television Institute of India, Pune** or **Satyajit Ray Film and Television Institute, Kolkata**. This can ensure a bright academic future for the institute and liberate it from controls and regulations which will stifle creativity and timely technological updation of the institute

To quote from the expert opinion of Sri. Kumar Shahini *"In order to ensure academic and professional excellence, the Institute should be autonomous and free of bureaucratization. It should be completely de-bureaucratized and decentralized. We should make sure that the governing body of the Institute is so constituted as to be ensuring the conduct of an institution of creative freedom and collective decision making, which precludes hierarchy. In the Governing body, insightful politicians and bureaucrats could be there, but inevitably the academics who matter in the field should be the dominant force over there. The Institute should have a famous academic as its head, who is a visionary with critically and creativity. We have to ensure that the Institution's campus environment is distinct for the power of academics and the authority of their creativity"*.

### **2. 2 Year PG Diploma Programmes in the Institute**

- a. The proposal to start Two year (4 Semester) P.G diploma Programmes in, Animation & Visual Effects, Cinematography, Editing, Sound Recording and Design, Direction & Screen writing and Acting w.e.f. 2019-20 academic year is a welcome step.
- b. All the mandatory requirement for the commencement of the programme such as approval of the Academic Council and other authorities in the institute should be strictly adhered to.

- c. The Regulation PG Scheme and syllabi for all the PG Programmes should be approved and published in the Website of the Institute before the Comment of the programme.
- d. The PG Regulation should contain all the details at the 2 year (4 Semester) Programme such as the qualification for admission to various programmes, duration of the programme, distribution of mark/credit per semester, the maximum period permitted for completion of the programme/provision for reappearance of examination etc.
- e. A degree from a recognised University/Higher education Institution should be minimum eligibility condition for admission to the PG Programme.

The total credit for the two year programme shall be 80. Each of the four semesters shall have 20 credits each with reasonable degree of flexibility.

- f. The credit distribution, course content and scheme of the syllabi should be in line with the credit distribution of leading institutions in the field of film studies and universities to avoid problems of recognition/equivalency of degrees.
- g. Courses should be designed on the basis of predetermined learning outcomes. Special care should be taken for designing courses in specific areas of specialisation.
- h. Being a professional programme learning outcomes should be very clear which should enable the students to perform successfully after the completion of the programme.
- i. Film screening and review by faculty-student combined as the main curriculum component of learning experience is a very good idea in the curriculum.
- j. In all post graduate programmes professional excellence with academic depth in science, technology, aesthetics should be insisted upon.
- k. In all specialisations aesthetics is inevitable. For this, the institute should draw insights from classical/folk traditions in Indian theatre, dance-drama, sculpture and architecture. The products of the institute should be rooted in the philosophy and critical aesthetics of parallel cinema.
- l. The idea of running short term certificate programmes for one week/one month may be given up, because it would adversely affect the institute's quality and academic rigour. One year diploma course can be taken up after stabilising the regular programmes.
- m. Entrance exam should be conducted for selection of candidates with real aptitude. For this the institute should device its own system of selection of candidates instead of entrusting the same to outside agencies and maximum weightage should be given to the aptitude of the candidate instead of excessive reliance on OMR test.
- n. The guidelines issued by UGC for adoption of Choice Based Credit System can be used for determining the credit system of the various programmes.
- o. A detailed draft Regulation of the program is prepared (see annexure 1).

#### **Recognition of the Institute**

The Institute, instead of seeking affiliation from universities, may opt for recognition of the PG diploma programmes from Cochin University of Science and Technology (CUSAT), as it would be beneficial for the autonomous functioning of the Institute.

### **Faculty positions in the Institute**

For the effective implementation of the new academic programs and maintaining quality in teaching-learning a core and regular faculty shall be created and appointments should be made in each department. There should be provision or freedom for the institute/department for inviting leading academics, artist, technicians etc in film and cinema field from all over the world. The existing vacancies in the various department should be filled on a priority basis for the attainment of curricular objectives of various programmes and for maintaining academic standards at par with leading similar institution in the country.

### **Infrastructural problems in the Institute**

There are several infrastructural inadequacies reported in the institute which stand in the way of the smooth functioning of the institute and delay in completing the ongoing courses. They include problems related to music studio, 5.1 mixing studio, sound edit cubicles, class rooms, man power shortage in house light unit, problems of computer hardware, shortage of practical class rooms and edit crt, digital image technicians, shortages in the animation and vfx department etc. Step should be taken at the government and institutional level to provide the required infrastructural facility to all the departments in institute.

### **Grievances of the present students**

The delay in completing the courses and conduct of examinations of the ongoing batch of students requires urgent attention. The problems caused by faculty shortage and infrastructural inadequacies have adversely affected the students in completing their work/courses in time. Steps may be initiated to redress the grievances of the ongoing batch of students and to complete their courses/examination in time.

Member Secretary

Kerala state higher education council