

UNIVERSITY OF DELHI

ORDINANCE XX - __

DELHI SCHOOL OF CLIMATE CHANGE & SUSTAINABILITY

Preamble

The Delhi School of Climate Change & Sustainability (DSCC&S) at the University of Delhi shall be established under Ordinance XX of the University. The DSCC&S shall serve as the key platform to promote and foster research and teaching excellence in the area of climate, global change and sustainability. The World Bank Group Climate Change Action Plan (2016-2020) highlights some of the key challenges the world faces today. It identifies climate change as the most critical driver that influences development. The Action Plan recognizes the enormous task before the international community to feed over 9 billion humans and to provide housing for additional 2 billion urban population. Two of the biggest risks to human development come from availability of and access to sustainable food, energy and water resources. The climate change related risks from natural disasters which are already on the increase are a grim reminder that the issue needs to be discussed and dealt with not only at the government level, but equally at the community level. The COP 21 (the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which guides the Conference) Paris Agreement identified the need for concrete actions to be taken by each nation and to deliver on the promises and set targets. These nationally determined contributions (NDCs) underline the need for sustainable and clean energy generation, transport, sustainable agriculture and sustainable urban ecosystems. In order to achieve the set ambitious goals, a cadre of qualified professionals and practitioners needs to be built, who are adequately skilled and empowered to deliver the desired results. By establishing DSCC&S, the University is responding to the urgent societal need.

In recent years, climate change has emerged as both a potent threat and challenge to the human communities and biodiversity. Climate reconstructions have shown the 19th century to be the century with highest rates of warming in Earth's history. The annual global mean surface temperature of the Earth has reportedly warmed by about $0.61 \pm 0.16^{\circ}\text{C}$ between 1861 and 2000. Such levels of climate change and global warming have significantly affected changes in glacial cover, agriculture and crop productivity, disease outbreaks, human health, human livelihoods, water availability, species phenology, species geographic ranges, vegetation structure and community composition.

The School shall be under the overall administrative and financial supervision of the Governing Council of the Institution of Eminence and the Executive Council of the University of Delhi.

Vision

Under five broad sub-themes, “Critical Zone Studies”, “Climate Change & Agriculture Sustainability”, “Climate Change, Food & Nutritional Sustainability”, “Resilient Lives & Livelihoods”, and “Sustainable Energy”, the DSCC&S would aim to encourage researchers and students to take up climate change focused inter-disciplinary research and studies with cutting-edge curriculums as potential career avenues in order to provide sustainable climate change solutions for India and the world in the forthcoming century.

Objectives

The objectives of the School are as follows:

- (i) To initiate and develop research/teaching programmes related to the “Critical Zone” of the Earth.
- (ii) To provide a platform for understanding this most compelling area of Critical Zone research known as "the living, evolving, outer skin of our planet where rock, soil, water, air and organisms interact to regulate the environment that is critical to life".
- (iii) To provide a platform for state-of-the-art research, teaching and outreach programmes on issues related to the Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability as may be identified by the Governing Body and its designated body from time to time.
- (iv) To promote research on Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability relating to such identified areas and issues.
- (v) To establish networks for dialogue and cooperation among scholars, policymakers, policy professionals, the regulators and those involved in the process of climate change and sustainability studies.
- (vi) To evolve and mobilize new, online technologies for training scholars in various themes and sub-themes under Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.
- (vii) To organize national and international seminars, workshops and conferences on issues related to the Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability in terms of science, technology and policy.
- (viii) To organize documentation of resource materials on issues of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.
- (ix) To evolve new pedagogical tools for learning and training on issues related to Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.
- (x) To provide platform to students and scholars to share and debate ideas related to Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.
- (xi) To publish research papers, books, newsletters and online journal in the broad area of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.
- (xii) To introduce and run academic programmes in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability.

- (xiii) To generate financial resources from public and private sources both at the national and international level; and
- (xiv) To undertake such other activities as decided upon by the Governing Body from time to time.

2. Governing Structure

The governance of the DSCC&S shall be carried out through the following bodies under the overall control and supervision of the Governing Council of the Institution of Eminence (IoE) and the Executive Council of the University. There shall be the following governing structure:

- 2.1 Governing Body
- 2.2 Advisory Council
- 2.3. Area Coordinators

2.1.1. Constitution of the Governing Body

There shall be a Governing Body for the management of the DSCC&S which shall comprise:

- i. Vice Chancellor or his nominee - Chairperson
- ii. Pro-Vice Chancellor (Ex-Officio)
- iii. Director General, IoE (Ex-Officio)
- iv. Treasurer (Ex-Officio)
- v. Registrar (Ex-Officio)
- vi. Two Deans from the Faculty of Arts, Social Sciences, Science, Law, Management Studies, Mathematics, Commerce and Financial Studies, by rotation
- vii. Two eminent scholars of international repute from outside the University of Delhi to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor/Governing Council
- viii. Two Heads/Representatives of the leading institutions in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability to be nominated by the Governing Council, IoE
- ix. Up to three members from the Government, Corporate Sector and Civil Society to be nominated by the Governing Council, IoE
- x. Director/Joint Director - Member Secretary

2.1.2. The Term

Except for the ex-officio members, all other members of the Governing Body shall have a term of two years. The Governing Body shall meet at least once in the financial/academic year. The quorum in the meetings of the Governing Body shall be one third of the total membership.

2.1.3. Functions of the Governing Body

Subject to the overall control of the Governing Council of the University, the Governing Body shall exercise the following functions:

- i. Recommend the appointment of the Director and Joint Director to the Governing Council;
- ii. Approve the appointments and the related affairs as recommended by the Advisory Council;
- iii. Appoint/invite Area Coordinators, Fellows and Associates on the recommendations of the Advisory Council;
- iv. Approve academic proposals, programmes, outreach activities and research projects;
- v. Consider and approve faculty/staff requirement, create positions and initiate steps for making appointments;
- vi. Consider and approve infrastructural requirements and make arrangements for their acquisition; consider and approve the annual report of the School;
- vii. Consider and recommend the annual budget of the School for the approval of the Governing Council;
- viii. Consider and recommend the annual accounts and audit report for approval of the Governing Council;
- ix. Make such rules, as it may consider necessary, for regulation and smooth functioning of the School;
- x. Exercise such other powers and functions, as may be assigned by the Governing Council from time to time;
- xi. To appoint, suspend or terminate the services of administrative, academic and non-academic staff of the School and to determine the emoluments and conditions of service: provided, however, that the qualifications for appointment, emoluments, and conditions of the service of such persons shall be in accordance with those laid down for similar posts in the University;
- xii. To appoint or terminate the services of the non-academic staff on contract basis on the recommendation of the Advisory Council in order to improve the efficiency of the School;
- xiii. To determine the infrastructure requirements, including building, make arrangements for procurement and consider the recommendations of the Advisory Council.

2.2.1. Constitution of the Advisory Council

There shall be an Advisory Council for planning, designing and managing the academic activities and programmes of the DSCC&S. It shall comprise:

- i. Chairperson to be nominated by the Vice Chancellor;
- ii. Three eminent scholars of international repute nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- iii. Three members of the Governing Body nominated by the Vice Chancellor
- iv. Up to three academics of high standing from the leading institutions in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability to be nominated by the Governing Council

- v. Up to five members from the Government, Corporate Sector and Civil Society to be nominated by the Governing Council
- vi. Up to three Area-Coordinators from the School;
- vii. One representative of the Institute of Informatics and Communication, or a technical expert nominated by the Governing Body.
- viii. Director/Joint Director, DSCC&S (Ex-Officio) - Member Secretary.

2.2.2. The Term

Except for ex-officio members, all other members of the Advisory Council shall have a term of two years. The Advisory Council shall meet at least twice in one academic year. The quorum in such meetings shall be one third of the total membership and virtual participation of Area Coordinators for such purposes shall be permitted.

2.2.3. Functions of the Advisory Council

Subject to the overall control of the Governing Body, the Advisory Council shall exercise the following functions:

- i. Monitor and evaluate the ongoing learning, research activities, academic programmes and outreach activities of the School;
- ii. Plan and examine fresh proposals for new programmes.
- iii. Formulate long term plans for the activities of the School, i.e., research, documentation, data repository, seminars, collaboration with national and international organizations, etc.;
- iv. Constitute Resource Groups led by Theme Leaders to carry out the programmes of the School;
- v. Formulate collaborative programmes in association with groups or national and international institutions working in areas of common interest;
- vi. Affiliate those individuals, groups and organizations involving students, teachers, researchers of this and the other Universities, policymakers and private practitioners who are engaged in the activities that are of interest to the School; such individuals, groups and organizations will be eligible for financial and other assistance from the School, subject to the approval of the Governing Body on a case to case basis;
- vii. Perform such other functions, as may be assigned by the Governing Body from time to time.

3. Office Bearers

3.1. The Director

- i. There shall be a Director with distinguished credentials in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability who shall be the Head of the School appointed by the Governing Council, IoE on the recommendation of the Governing Body. The Governing Body shall define the qualifications and procedure for appointment of the Director. The

term of appointment of Director shall be 5 years. The Director shall be eligible for appointment for another term.

- ii. However, in order to meet the pressing needs of the School, the Vice Chancellor may appoint a Director for a duration as mentioned in the appointment letter and report the same to the Governing Council, IoE. Till such time a Director is appointed, the Vice Chancellor may appoint an Honorary Director and report the same to the Governing Council.
- iii. The Director shall function under the overall control of the Governing Body. S/he will be responsible for the management and administration of the School in accordance with the Act, the Statutes, the Ordinances, the rules and regulations of the University.
- iv. The Director/Joint Director shall act as:
 - Member Secretary of the Governing Body;
 - Member Secretary of the Advisory Council
- v. The Director shall be authorized to maintain and operate an Imprest Account for meeting day to day expenditure of the School.
- vi. In the absence of the Director, the Joint Director shall perform all such functions and responsibilities which are vested with the Director under the Ordinance.

3.2. Joint Director

- i. There shall be a Joint Director with distinguished credentials in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability appointed by the Governing Council on the recommendation of the Governing Body. However, in order to meet the pressing needs of the School, the Vice Chancellor may appoint a Joint Director and report the same to the Governing Council.
- ii. In case the Joint Director holds a substantive position as a Professor of the University or equivalent position in the University/College of the University, s/he shall hold the position of Joint Director in addition to her/his regular duties at his/her parent Department/Institution/College.
- iii. The term of the Joint Director shall be up to three years which may be renewed.

3.3. Officer on Special Duty (OSD)

- iv. The Vice Chancellor may appoint an OSD to assist the Director/Joint Director in the discharge of their functions and such other functions entrusted to her/him by the Governing Body, Advisory Council and/or the Vice Chancellor.
- v. In the absence of the Director/Joint Director, OSD shall discharge the functions vested with them.

4. Webmaster

- a) There shall be a Webmaster to develop, manage and administer the online platform of the School.

- b) A Webmaster shall be appointed by the Governing Body in accordance with the rules and regulations of the University.
- c) The Governing Body shall have discretion to outsource the functions of the Webmaster to an individual/agency on contract basis.
- d) The salary and other monetary compensation for the Webmaster's position shall be decided by the Governing Body within the existing rules and regulations of the University.

5. Faculty members/Fellows/Post-doctoral Fellows, and Research Associates

The School shall have Faculty members appointed as per the relevant rules of the University. The School shall also have Visiting Faculty/Fellows/Post-doctoral Fellows, and Research Associates, the number of which will be determined by the Governing Body from time to time.

i. Visiting Fellows/Faculty:

- a) Scholars who have made notable contributions in the field Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability and the allied fields or those who have experience with Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability may, with the recommendations of Advisory Council and approval of the Vice Chancellor be invited as Visiting Fellows/Faculty.
- b) Visiting Fellows/Faculty may be invited for a period up to one year and not less than two weeks to deliver a course or lectures or take seminars or participate in such other activities that help in advancing the research and teaching work of the University. In exceptional circumstances, the duration may be extended to a maximum period of three years, with the approval of the Governing Body and the Vice Chancellor. They shall, however, not be members of any statutory committee of the School or of the University.
- c) The Vice Chancellor will determine, with the approval of Governing Council, other terms and conditions as may be required, including the emolument of the appointments.

ii. Distinguished Fellows:

The Vice Chancellor on the recommendation of the Governing Body may designate eminent experts in the field of Climate Change, Global Change and Sustainability associated with the School as Distinguished Fellows.

iii. Affiliated Fellows:

Teachers and researchers of the University of Delhi's Departments/Colleges/Centres/other institutions or organisations including government departments may be considered for Fellowship for specific periods by the Governing Body on the recommendations of the Advisory Council for enabling them to work on specific research projects for a specific period. They may continue working in their respective parent departments/colleges/institutions and at the same time locate their research projects in the School and participate in its programmes.

iv. Fellows on Secondment/Transfer/Deputation:

- a) On the recommendations of the Governing Body, Fellows already in the employment of the Departments/Centres, Colleges or other institutions of the University of Delhi may be placed in the School on secondment/transfer or deputation for a specific period with full pay protection. They shall also be entitled for all allowances and benefits as applicable including continuity of service prior to their placement in the School.
- b) In the event of a Fellow being selected from outside the University, such appointment shall be for a specific period on terms and conditions as decided by the Governing Body of the School.

v. Associates:

Teachers/ Research Scholars working in University Departments/Colleges/Centres will be considered for affiliation as Associates of the School for a specific project for a specific period by the Governing Body.

6. Finances

- i. All expenditures of the School such as on the web management and conduct of research/teaching outreach, seminars, research projects, publications, administration and other support activities shall be made as per the budget and allocations approved by the Governing Council.
- ii. All financial operations shall be conducted according to the rules and regulations of the University of Delhi.