

Board of Studies (BOS) - Nov 2025

Minutes of Meeting

First Meeting

Ref No. BU/APCPH/2025/BOS/

The BOS meeting was held on 20th November 2025, from 03 pm at Ground Floor, Conference Hall, Amrita Patel Centre for Public Health (APCPH)

Sr. No	Agenda Number	Agenda
1	25.01.01	Welcome Address by the Chair - Inaugural Meeting
2	25.01.02	Overview of Master of Public Health (MPH) Program - Regular
3	25.01.03	Amendments to MPH Program
4	25.01.04	Overview of Master of Public Health (MPH) Program - Working Professionals
5	25.01.05	Amendments to the existing MPH Program - Working Professionals
6	25.01.06	Introduction of a new program - Integrated Bachelor of Public Health & Master of Public Health - Regular
7	25.01.07	Introduction of a new program - Integrated Master of Public Health & Ph.D. program- Regular
6	25.01.08	To discuss any other matter with the permission of Chair

Following members were present:

1. Dr. Deepak Sharma
2. Dr. Uday Shankar Singh
3. Dr. Dharmik Patel
4. Dr. Dhiren Modi
5. Dr. Kallol Roy
6. Dr. Swati Roy
7. Mr. Baiju Verghese

Special Invitee

1. Dr. Madhavi Patel
2. Dr. Bhakti Bajpai

The following members had sought leave of absence

1. Dr. Atul Trivedi
2. Dr. Rakesh Patel
3. Ms. Nasreen Bha
4. Dr. Mrina Patel

Proceedings

25.01.01 - Welcome Address by the Chair - Inaugural Meeting

Dr. Deepak Sharma welcomed all the members of the Board of Studies constituted for Amrita Patel Centre for Public Health. This was the first meeting of the BOS. He requested all the members to kindly introduce themselves before the proceeding began.

25.01.02 - Overview of Master of Public Health (MPH) Program - Regular

Dr. Deepak Sharma asked Dr. Kallol Roy to discuss the agenda items for the meeting. Dr. Kallol thanked Dr. Sharma and briefed the key features of the approved Master of Public Health curriculum for regular students. The main point being the one year exit program post completion, a student who successfully completes all the theory and practicals in the first two semesters successfully if wishes to exit the MPH program can do so as per UGC and NEP 2020 regulations. The program also had the feature of a credit based system; having 80 credits for 02 years and 20 credits for each semester. The program will follow the University norms for Academic Bank of credits in (ABC) Credit System.

Resolutions:

The members noted the features of the MPH curriculum - regular.

25.01.03 - Amendments to MPH Program

Dr. Kallol highlighted the proposed changes for the existing MPH curriculum, in which the team wishes to propose mandatory field visits for the training of MPH students. Dr. Dhiren Modi highlighted the importance of such inclusions. He mentioned that students from various Universities are posted for rural exposure at SEWA Rural (Jhagadia) for a certain duration to learn from the field. He mentioned that MPH training is majorly done on field. Dr Bhakti enquired whether these will be a part of the practical work. There were discussions on having the field visit components separately and being evaluated. However after discussion the consensus was reached that the field visits will be a part of practical and shall be evaluated as mentioned in the curriculum. A separate

document of the field visit for clinical postings at Shree Krishna Hospital, Places of Public Health importance and a detailed plan of the community based visit shall be shared with the members along with the minutes for their approval and suggestions.

Discussions were underway on the existing internal (40%) and external assessment (60%) break up. Mr Baiju Varghese suggested that as per NEP 2020 policy of continuous assessment, internal and external assessment balance could be kept at 50-50 each; The members suggested that a terminal assessment at the end of the three months or mid semester should be incorporated for evaluation of the student and also as per requirements for NAAC. That usually applies the concept of fast learner and slow learners.

The APCPH team agreed that along with the suggested changes, there are minor modifications required in the existing MPH program, which shall be addressed, post which it shall be shared with the members for their approval.

Resolutions

Field Visits: It was resolved that field visits will not be a separate component but will be integrated into the practical work and evaluated as per the curriculum.

Assessment Structure: The members resolved to incorporate a terminal assessment (mid-semester or end of three months) to evaluate students and identify fast vs. slow learners, satisfying NAAC requirements

Action Points

APCPH Team: To prepare and share a separate detailed document/plan regarding clinical postings (e.g., Shree Krishna Hospital), places of public health

importance, and community-based visits with BOS members for approval.

APCPH Team: To share the MPH curriculum for review and approval from all the members with suggested changes in terms of internal assessments, places of field visits etc.

25.01.04 - Overview of Master of Public Health (MPH) Program - Working Professionals

Dr. Kallol gave an overview of key features of the Master of Public Health program for working professionals. The major being regular and offline weekend classes. A detailed plan for remuneration of the faculty for these weekend classes will be shared with the higher management for discussion.

Resolutions

The Board noted the key feature of the program being regular offline weekend classes.

Action Points

APCPH Team: To share a detailed plan regarding the remuneration of faculty for weekend classes with higher management for discussion.

25.01.05 - Amendments to the existing MPH Program - Working Professionals.

Dr. Kallol mentioned the proposed minor modifications to the MPH working professionals curriculum. Dr. Deepak Sharma mentioned that PO-CO mapping shall be revised as per the regular MPH program for smooth conduct and

delivery of the training. Dr. Bhakti Bajpai requested the APCPH team to provide justification on the duration of the regular MPH program and the MPH program for working professionals. She mentioned that as per UGC inspection audit query, how can the proposed MPH program for regular candidates and for working professionals be of the same duration - 02 years. There should be more clarity/justification of the duration of these two programs. The point was noted and an appropriate justification will be drafted and shared accordingly. Dr. Kallol mentioned the inclusion of a mandatory no objection certificate for working professionals through proper channels from the host/working organization to ensure no administrative concerns arise when the professional is going to attend the weekend classes at a different institute.

Resolutions:

PO-CO Mapping: It was resolved that the Program Outcomes (PO) and Course Outcomes (CO) mapping must be revised to align with the regular MPH program to ensure smooth training delivery

NOC Requirement: It is mandatory for working professionals to submit a No Objection Certificate (NOC) from their current employer/host organization to address administrative concerns regarding attendance.

Action Points:

APCPH Team: To draft and share an appropriate justification regarding the difference in duration between the regular MPH program and the weekend-based working professional program to address UGC inspection audit queries.

25.01.06 - Introduction of a new program - Integrated Bachelor of Public Health & Master of Public Health - Regular

Dr. Kallol started with the presentation for introducing a new integrated Bachelor of Public Health and Master of Public Health program for regular students. He gave a brief context that such integrated programs are currently offered only in few institutes in India and hence APCPH would like to introduce this program for students after 12th standard. There were discussions on whether students of Commerce or Arts stream or different backgrounds could be eligible for this integrated program. After brief discussion it was decided that it would be relevant to have science graduates only to pursue this integrated BPH-MPH program. He also asked the inputs of the Board for having multiple exits of the program at the end of year 1,2,3 and 4. The members suggested adhering to the concept of your NEP 2020, multiple exits at the end of each year.

Dr. Kallol cleared that at the end of three 3 years a student can exit the Bachelors program taking a B.Sc Honours degree and at the end of 4 years he or she can exit taking a B.Sc Honours with research degree. The subjects/courses through semester 1 to 10 were displayed. Modifications in title were suggested by the members. Dr. Bhakti and Dr. Madhavi mentioned that 'Introduction to' subject name would be ideal for a recently 12th passed student. Heavy names /complex terms can be avoided wherever possible.

Mr. Baiju Varghese suggested that for this extensive program it would be ideal to have a proper framework for each year to be passed through the Board of Studies where details of each PO-CO, major course, minor course, value added course etc. such details are clearly mentioned.

Dr. Bhakti emphasized to adhere to the proposal of new programs as per UGC framework & norms along with the credits for each course.

There were major discussions on the one year Master's degree concept.

Mr. Baiju Varghese suggested that regulatory body guidelines are not seen as of now for having a one year masters degree post completion of a four year graduation degree with research.

He suggested that the team may keep this proposal in some waiting period till a much better clarity on the integrated approach. The concept of having a UG program - (3+1) year can be done as the UGC mandates are quite clear in that.

Resolutions:

Eligibility: Admission to the Integrated BPH-MPH program will be restricted to Science stream graduates only.

Exits: The program will adhere to NEP 2020 concepts, allowing multiple exits at the end of Year 1, 2, 3 (B.Sc), and 4 (B.Sc Honours with Research).

Subject Titles: Subject titles for early semesters (fresh from 12th grade) should be simplified (e.g., using 'Introduction to...') to avoid complex terminology.

Master's Component: The proposal for the one-year Master's degree following the 4-year degree is deferred/placed on a waiting period due to a lack of clarity from the UGC.

Action Points:

APCPH Team: Till clarity of the PG program for one year as per UGC norms is made clear, the integrated concept (BPH-MPH) may be kept on halt.

A (3+1) year undergraduate program is feasible as it aligns clearly with the UGC mandates.

25.01.07 - Introduction of a new program - Integrated Master of Public Health & Ph.D. program- Regular

Dr. Kallol proposed the next agenda item of having an integrated MPH - Ph.D. program in Public Health. He mentioned that this was the new concept where the first two years of MPH training shall be a baseline and an incubation period for a three years integrated Ph.D. program. Dr Madhavi mentioned that as per UGC norms all Ph.D. programs must have an entrance exam and the detailed 12 credit Ph.D. course work program. Also, another eligibility would be that a student can be eligible for Ph.D. if he or she attains 55% mark post completion of PG degree.

The major discussion was if these were mandatory, then it would be hard to have leveraging points for admission to this program. It was decided that until some other universities have Integrated MPH - Ph.D. is found out and the norms are confined to UGC guidelines.

Resolutions

The introduction of the Integrated MPH-Ph.D. program is currently put on hold due to strict UGC norms regarding Ph.D. entrance exams, coursework credits, and eligibility criteria (55% marks post-PG).

Action Points

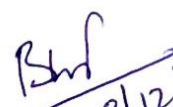
APCPH Team: To research other universities offering Integrated MPH-Ph.D. programs and review specific UGC guidelines to find a viable leverage point for admission.

25.01.08 - To discuss any other matter with the permission of Chair

Dr. Deepak Sharma briefed the members that the list of faculties were identified for MHA program - Regular. The remuneration plan and ad-hoc arrangements for certain topics were shared with The Provost and Registrar for approval. This has been approved by them. For certain contents, external faculty from SP University and others shall be identified. He thanked all the members for their constructive and positive suggestions for improvising the existing programs for better academic outcomes.


17/12/2025

Dr. Deepak B. Sharma,
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18/12/2025

Dr. Bhakti Bajpai,
Controller of Academics
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