

ABOUT IGNOU

The Indira Gandhi National Open University was established by an Act of Parliament in 1985. Today it serves the educational aspirations of over 1.8 million students in India and abroad through 21 Schools of studies and an elaborate network of 65 regional centers, 1804 study centers, and 46 overseas centers. IGNOU made history by establishing the first school of social work in ODL system.

The University is making all efforts to take higher education to the doorsteps of the hitherto unreached. Apart from teaching, research and extension, training constitutes the mainstay of its academic activities. It also acts as a national resource centre and more importantly, functions as an apex body to promote and maintain standards in distance education. The Commonwealth of Learning has recognized it as one of its Centres of Excellence. IGNOU also has the unique privilege of hosting the Secretariats of SAARC Consortium of Open Distance Learning (SACODiL) approved by Heads of Governments of SAARC Nations and Global Mega Universities Network (GMUNET) initially promoted by UNESCO.

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

The first School of Social Work in Open and Distance Learning was established by IGNOU in 2007. The school is currently offering Bachelor in Social Work (BSW minimum 3 years and maximum 6 years) with special courses on Family Education, Substance Abuse and HIV/AIDS; Master in Social Work with a special course on "HIV/AIDS: Stigma, discrimination and prevention" (MSW: minimum 2 years and maximum 5 years); Certificate in HIV and Family Education (CAFÉ: minimum 6 months and maximum 2 years) and Diploma in HIV and Family Education (DAFE: minimum 1 year and maximum 4 years). The School of Social Work also offers three elective (optional) courses on Family Education, HIV/AIDS and Substance Abuse and counselling in B.A., B.Sc. and B.Com. programmes. Apart from these, the school also offers 3 months certification programme on HIV/AIDS to para-professionals and a ten day crash course on HIV/AIDS for those involved in HIV/AIDS related work. Some of the new programmes under development include (i) M.Phil in Social Work, (ii) P.G. Diploma in Social Work, (iii) P.G. Diploma in Counselling services and (iv) P.G. Diploma on Social Work intervention with tribal communities.

ABOUT THE SEMINAR

IGNOU has initiated several forms of awareness and formal programmes of study in social work and HIV/AIDS with the launching of the first distance education programmes in social work : BSW in 2004 and MSW and Ph.D in 2008. Since 2004 the University has been organizing an

Annual National Seminar on Social Work Response to HIV/AIDS. This seminar is also a modest attempt to generate response from all corners towards creating a compassionate and friendly society for those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS. The 5th Annual National Seminar on Social Work Response to HIV/AIDS is to be held from August 28 – 31, 2008 in Indian Social Institute, Bangalore.

The Annual National Seminar is a unique opportunity for social work teachers, practitioners and students from across the country to meet, share and learn from one another. Apart from meaningful involvement in academic activities, the seminar also provides opportunity for the much needed relaxation and enrichment through networking with people and institutions that matter.

SEMINAR THEME

Involvement of Faith Based Organizations

Two sub - themes of the seminar are:

Involvement of faith based organization in the area of social work profession including social work education and practice, and

Involvement of faith based organization in the area of HIV/AIDS including awareness, education, training, care and support, stigma and discrimination, targeted intervention etc.

VENUE

The seminar will be held at Indian Social Institute at Bangalore. Bangalore is well connected by train and air from all major cities in the country. Bus services may be an option for several of the participants from the states of Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Goa. Those interested in availing discounted tickets offered by various airlines may reserve their booking well in advance.

- a. If you are traveling by TRAIN get down at the CANTONMENT RAILWAY STATION. The Indian Social Institute is in Benson Road, Benson Town which is nearer to the station. You can walk or take an autorickshaw from the station through Miller's road to the Institute, which is about 1.5 Kms away from this station. Benson Road is just before the Railway Overbridge on left side of Miller's Road, opposite Benson Town Post Office. Benson Road cuts across Benson Cross Road. Though the fare is only for a minimum distance, you have to pay a maximum of Rs.15-20.
- b. If you are traveling by state BUSES, get down at the MAJESTIC BUS STAND. Go to the BTS bus stand section, which is on the opposite side of the Inter-city/inter-state bus stand. From platform 16, Bus No.124, 126, 153, 294 and a few other buses come closer

Bangalore Meet

5th Annual National Seminar on Social Work Response to HIV/AIDS

August 28 – 31, 2008

Theme:
“Involvement of Faith Based
Organizations in Social Work and
HIV/AIDS”



Jointly organized by:

Indira Gandhi National Open University, New Delhi
and
Indian Social Institute, Bangalore

to Benson Town. Get down at the Coles Park stop and walk across railway line to reach ISI. The auto fare will be around Rs. 35-40. If you come by private buses, you may have to take an auto from Kalasipalaya. Address of ISI is:

Indian Social Institute
24, Benson Road
Bangalore-560046.

SUBMISSION OF PAPERS

The paper should be written in about 3000 words. Case studies may, however, vary from 1000 to 1500 words. Papers are invited only from social work teachers and practitioners. Students will have the opportunity for participating in poster presentation. Papers which are not based on the seminar theme will not be considered for presentation. The papers may be provided in word format and a soft copy sent to Prof. Gracious Thomas through e-mail not later than June 30, 2008:

e-mail: gracious_thomas@indiatimes.com
gracious_thomas@hotmail.com

POSTER PRESENTATION

Students of social work as well as other participants interested in making poster presentation are most welcome to make entries for the same well in advance. The organizers will provide space and stand for mounting the posters exclusively based on the seminar theme. The last date for making the entry by providing the theme is July 15, 2008.

ACCOMMODATION

Participants who are interested in availing moderate accommodation provided free of cost by the organizers may apply for the same along with the registration form. This accommodation is on a first-come- first-served basis. Accommodation will be available from August 27 – 31, 2008 only. Those intending to travel with family may kindly arrange for boarding and lodging on their own. Children are not allowed in the conference venue.

REGISTRATION FEE

All participants are expected to submit a registration fee of Rs. 500/- (non- refundable) by Demand Draft (DD) in favour of "5th National Seminar on HIV/AIDS" payable at Bangalore. Last date for submission of registration form and fee is July 10, 2008. The registration form and registration fee along with the paper (if any) may kindly be mailed to Prof. Gracious Thomas, Block G: 114, IGNOU, Maidan Garhi, New Delhi - 110068 by registered/speed post so as to reach on or before July 10, 2008.

REGISTERED PARTICIPANTS WILL GET THE FOLLOWING FACILITIES

- Participation in all seminar sessions
- Breakfast (for outstation participants only)
- Morning and evening tea
- Lunch
- Dinner (for out-station participants only)
- Institutional visits (to be confirmed on arrival).

OTHER FACILITIES PROVIDED

Upto 3rd A.C/ bus fare (to and fro): to all NAPSWI life members, paper presenters and special invitees.

Sleeper class: (second class: Non A/C): NAPSWI students only.

Moderate boarding/ lodging (for only out-station participants on first come, first served basis).

Local participants will be provided Rs. 100/- per day towards T.A for not more than three days.

RELEASE OF SOCIAL WORK BOOKS

The School of Social Work, IGNOU has published several volumes for MSW (1st years) which will be released during the seminar. These books have been prepared by the best of experts in the country and abroad over a period of three years.

SPECIAL SESSION FOR STUDENTS

Students of Social Work will have opportunity to interact with senior social work educators and practitioners from across the country. In all the national seminars, the organizers ensure the participation of the best of experts from practically every state in the country. Annual seminar is a forum for continuing education for both the professionals and Para-professionals. Panel discussions/interactions and special lectures by social work teachers and practitioners will be available exclusively for the students. Students of social work will have face to face interaction with subject specialists as well as social work authors and practitioners who have made significant and contribution to the profession.

EXPERT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Best of experts in Social Work from across the country will be participating in the proposed seminar at Bangalore. During this meet, a series of expert committee meetings on curriculum for MSW/ M.Phil in social work, meetings of NAPSWI, ASSWI, state associations and meetings on the proposed Social Work Council will be held.

EDUCATIONAL-CUM-CULTURAL EXPOSURE VISIT TO MYSORE

The educational cum cultural exposure visit to Mysore is scheduled for August 31, 2008 only for those interested and have applied for the same along with a Demand Draft of Rs. 600/- (per person) in favour of "5th National Seminar on HIV/AIDS" payable at Bangalore. The tour to this beautiful city of Karnataka, will start early morning at 5:30 AM. The distance between Bangalore and Mysore is less than 150 Km. to be covered in about three hours. Participants will be back at Bangalore for dinner on the same night.

Places we propose to visit include Tipu Sultan's Summer Palace, Gumbaz, Brindavan Gardens, Mysore Palace, Ranganathaswamy Temple and St Philomena's Church.

Alternatively participants may like to visit the following places in Bangalore:

Vidhana Soudha, Lalbagh, Palace of Tipu Sultan, Bull Temple and the Museum apart from shopping for the family.

REFUND

Provision for refund of Rs. 600/- submitted for the Mysore Trip will be available on written request made on or before July 31, 2008 by those who wish to drop out. Registration fee will not be refunded under any circumstance.

INSTITUTIONAL VISITS

Participants will have the opportunity for field visits to some of the social and welfare institutions in and around Bangalore. Efforts shall also be made for:

- Local sightseeing at Bangalore
- Cultural programme during the inaugural session
- Cultural evening by social work students.

Kindly note that registration for the seminar as well as acceptance of papers for presentation will be as per first come first served basis. Registration fee and charges for Bangalore visit can be made in one DD in favour of "5th National Seminar on HIV/AIDS" payable at Bangalore.

For further information please contact:

Prof. Gracious Thomas

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