



Programme Report

Date: 11th August, 2023, Friday; 12:00 noon- 02:00 pm

Venue: Conference Hall, School of Education, NSOU, Salt Lake Campus & G- meet

Mode: Blended Mode

Chairperson: Prof. (Dr.) Atindranath Dey, Director, SoE, NSOU

No. of Participants: 15

Nature of Participants: Faculties from NSOU and Research Scholars of the Department of Education, School of Education.

Presenter: Mr. Subrata Naskar, Research Scholar of SoE, NSOU (F2F)

The Rationale of the Research Club:

The research club is held to critically evaluate published article of others or to present original own published research works. Through critical evaluation of others article researcher get to identify strength or weakness of the findings with relevancy and usefulness of the study. Through presentation of researcher's own work, helps to explore strengths and limitations by group discussion and feedback from the participants. It also helps to induce divergent as well as critical thinking skills by considering a single subject from various dimensions.

Objectives of the Research Club: The main objectives of the research club are:

- To increase awareness and reflection on contemporary knowledge and research trends in multidisciplinary areas
- To improve presentation and communication skills
- To enhance confidence, critical and creative thinking
- To strengthen the application of interdisciplinary approaches by engaging learners from different disciplines

Proceedings of the Research Club (RC)

Set off: Dr. Atindranath Dey, Director-SoE welcomed everyone and introduced the presenter to the audience and set the tone of the club session.

Presentation: Mr. Subrata Naskar, was the presenter of this 3rd RC who presented his own previously published research paper. The study titled “Tapping of key innovative ICT components that make OER more acceptable to learners: Breaking the conventional mental barriers” looked at the awareness on utilization of OER and attitude towards utilization of OER in blended learning among the learners of Open and regular higher educational institutions. It was a collaboration work with his Ph.D supervisor, Dr. Papiya Upadhyay. The paper was accepted for presentation in PCF 10 conference held in Calgary, Canada, at the Calgary TELUS Convention Centre from 14th September to 16th September 2022. Commonwealth of Learning (COL) and Athabasca University (AU) hosted the Tenth Pan-Commonwealth Forum on Open Learning (PCF10). The Forum takes place every three years and is considered one of the world’s leading international conferences on open, distance and technology-enabled learning. This paper was also published in *OAsis, Commonwealth of Learning's online institutional repository*. The presenter started by focusing on the conference where the paper was accepted for presentation and the platform where the paper was published. He described the objectives of the study, the hypotheses of the study, the methodology, including the population, sample, tool, variables, data collection technique and data analysis. He also mentioned that the study was conducted on undergraduate learners of Open and regular higher educational institutions in West Bengal. He pointed that there was no significant difference in awareness on utilization OER and attitude towards the utilization of OER in blended learning between undergraduate learners of regular and Open higher educational institutions. Mr. Naskar also mentioned that to increase attitude towards the utilization of OER in blended learning we should first increase the level of awareness on OER among the learners because there was a strong positive relationship between awareness and attitude. He further graphically presented the effectiveness of NSOU ICT services

provided during the year 2019-2020 & 2020-2021. From this graphical representation he concluded that there was a gradually increases in the use of different ICT services by the learners of NSOU for continuing their learning. He acknowledged the PCF 10 conference organizing committee for selecting this paper for scholarship, presentation and publication. He also acknowledged his Ph.D supervisor and Coordinator of PHDED, Dr. Papiya Upadhyay, for her supervision, guidance and contribution throughout the stretch of the work. He also extended his thanks to all the respondents for their participation and NSOU for integrating the impact analyses for assessing the outcome of this study. Finally he expressed his thanks and gratitude to the Director-SoE, faculty members, fellow scholars and all esteemed participants attended the Research Club.

Opening the house for Interaction and Discussion:

After the presentation, there was an enriched discussion. Dr. Upadhyay encouraged the attendees to give their reflection about presentation. Dr. A.N. Dey, Director, SoE, NSOU appreciated the presenter for wonderful presentation and encouraged the presenter to do more innovative study in this field. Dr. Parimal Sarkar asked how we can generate mass awareness on OER among the learners. The presenter replied that small group workshop with technology enabled intervention may be helpful to increase mass awareness on OER among learners. Dr. Upadhyay also mentioned that educational institutions should organize different seminar, webinar, workshop and hands on training on different aspects of OER (finding, developing, integrating, building attribution & releasing with CC licenses etc) to increase awareness among learners. Mrs. Subhashree Pal pointed out some of the challenges of using OER in learning process like language barrier. The presenter replied that to overcome this problem we may develop OER in regional language that would be very helpful for our learners. Mr. Santanu Patra asked the preferable effective measures between online and technology enabled offline mode to built awareness on OER among the learners. The presenter replied that offline small group workshop with hand on training would be most effective to develop awareness on OER among learners. Prof. Nimai Chand Maity, Prof. D. P. Nag Chowdhury, Prof. Sibaprasad De and Prof. Mukti Ganguly appreciated the concept of research club as well as the presentation. Ph.D research scholars Mrs. Priya Topno, Mr. Shantanu Saha, Mrs. Shardiya Sultana also conveyed their thanks for the pertinent publication and lucid presentation. Dr. Rituparna Acharya and Prof. Ashok K Sarkar, Faculties, Department of Commerce & Management congratulated for carrying out the work and suggested to explore possibilities of OER awareness among the regular teachers of HEIs.

Wrapping up:

Everyone appreciated the session and appraised the presenter for his crisp deliberation. Dr. A.N. Dey, Director, SoE, NSOU appreciated the presenter and his supervisor Dr. Upadhyay for the international publication and also smartly presenting the ideas and thoughts of the paper. He acknowledged the value of getting recognition of this work in an international platform like PCF 10. Everyone expressed their content to attend research club in near future also.

Suggestion:

- Prof. Mukti Ganguly of SoE suggested that a prior intimation of the topic of the presentation may be given to all the members and participants so that a focused and more fruitful discussion/interaction may happen.

Thanks giving:

Dr. A.N. Dey, Director, SoE, NSOU expressed heartfelt thanks on behalf of the SoE to everyone for their active presence and participation. The entire session was moderated by Dr. Upadhyay, the Coordinator, PHDED of the Department of Education.

Link of the Paper Presented in the Research Club: <https://doi.org/10.56059/pcf10.4914>



Report Prepared by

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