Minutes of virtual meeting of Editorial Advisory Board, UCP Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences (JHSS) held on 31st July, 2024

A virtual meeting of Editorial Advisory Board, UCP JHSS was held on Wednesday, 31st July, 2024 in Board Room, Building A, University of Central Punjab, Lahore at 12:00 (GMT) where Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt, Editor-in-Chief was in the Chair and the following attended:

- **Dr. Marvin G. Weinbaum**
  Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, University of Illinois, USA

- **Dr. Tasneem Zafar**
  Professor Economics, Director, Civil Services Academy, Lahore, Pakistan

- **Dr. Paul Rollier**
  CNRS Research Fellow, Center for the Study of Religion, France

- **Dr. Farhat Mahmood**
  Professor, Ex Chairman Department of History, GC University, Lahore, Pakistan

- **Dr. Xiaoqing Xie**
  Associate Professor, School of Public Administration, China University of Geosciences, Wuhan, China

- **Dr. Umbreen Javaid**
  Professor & Ex Chairperson, Department of Political Science, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Pakistan

- **Dr. Ibrahim Abubakar**
  Ex- Chairman, Department of Theology and Philosophy, National University of Malaysia.

- **Dr. Arslan Tariq Rana**
  Editor- JHSS & Head, Department of Economics, University of Central Punjab (UCP)

- **Sanwal Hussain Kharl**
  Manager Correspondence – JHSS & Associate Lecturer, UCP

- **Adeel Ahmed**
  Manager Journals – UCP

Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad (Professor Emeritus of Political Science, Stockholm University, Sweden), Dr. Aneeq Ahmed (Professor of Psychology, Henderson University, USA) and Dr Sobia Tahir (Head of Philosophy Department, GC University Lahore, Pakistan) could not attend the meeting due to their prior commitments, but they sent their proposals and feedback by email. However, Dr. Asir Ajmal (Dean, GIFT University, Pakistan), Dr. Shahida Batool (Professor of Psychology, GC University, Pakistan), Dr. Babar Aziz (Dean of Arts and Social Sciences, GC University, Pakistan), Dr. Isabella Rabaud (Associate Professor, Economics Laboratory of Orleans, France), Dr. Tazvin Ijaz (Post- Doctoral Visitor, Department of Psychology, York University, Canada) could not make them available for the meeting.

Below are the agenda items and decisions thereon:

Agenda	Discussion	Decision
1. Current Status of the Journal	- The Chair presented the report on JHSS and stated that since its inception in 2022, 2 volumes and 4 issues had been published and also placed online so far. It had been recognized by HEC in 2023 and placed in Y category. - Dr. Farhat Mahmood appreciated the progress of the Journal within a short span of time and congratulated the team. - Dr. Paul Rollier praised the editorial team for running the journal successfully. - Dr. Sobia Tahir showed satisfaction about the current status of the journal.	All members were satisfied with the progress of the Journal and suggested to continue its with same spirit.
2. Quality Improvement Strategies	- Dr. Weinbaum suggested for further improving the quality of articles by adopting a more rigorous selection and editing process. - Dr. Rollier seconded the suggestion of Dr. Weinbaum to include the quality research article in the Journal. - Dr. Ishtiaq Ahmad, emphasized improving of quality by including only high-quality papers.	The Chair also endorsed the idea, so it was a consensus to improve the quality of the journal by adopting rigorous process of selection of research articles and editing.
3. Citation Improvement	Dr. Tasneem Zafar proposed using of Search Engine Optimization (SEO) and she	The Chair shared that for

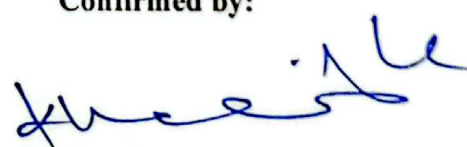|		
	also emphasized the extensive presence of journal in social media which would enhance its outreach and readership. She also suggested pursuing for SCOPUS indexing. • Dr. Umbreen Javaid also proposed applying for SCOPUS and Social Sciences Citation Indexing (SSCI) to improve the visibility and citation metrics of the Journal. • Dr. Xiaoqing Xie pointed out that google did not work in China so there was no visibility of Journal there thus she suggested to find a mechanism to enhance its visibility and outreach particularly in China.	SCOPUS indexation, we would be eligible next year, after the completion of mandatory 3 years of publishing. It also agreed to put more efforts to get the SEO. The Chair also shared that we would ask ORIC of our university to get Digital Object Identifier (DOI) to run the Journal according to the international standards which would make it more authentic.
4. Fee Submission	• The Chair was of the view to increase the publication fee for the author from 20,000 PKR (approximately 72$) to 25,000 PKR (approximately 90$) for the sustainability. • Dr. Umbreen Javaid proposed that fee should be increased in case, it was so necessary for sustainability. She left this matter to the Editor-in-Chief to make the final decision. • Dr. Marvin Weinbaum and Dr. Paul Rollier were not in favor of the proposal for fee enhancement. • Dr. Ibrahim Abubakar was also of the same opinion that increasing the fee would create hardship particularly for students. So we should facilitate the young scholars by maintaining the fee.	The Chair informed that we got some funding from HEC for the Journal thus accepted the opinion of majority members to keep the current fee for the submission of articles in the Journal.
5. Other Matters (a)	• Dr. Aneeq Ahmed suggested abstracts of articles should also be in Urdu language as some journals had been doing this	This idea was discussed but deferred because it

	• practice in France, Japan and China. • Dr. Rollier supported Dr. Ahmed's suggestion to add Urdu abstract in the article.	required further deliberations.
(b)	• Dr. Sobia Tahir suggested that frequency of Journal's publication should be made Quarterly instead of Biannual. • She also mentioned to adopt Chicago Manual footnote citation style instead of APA. • Dr. Tahir was of the opinion that generally peer reviewers took to-much time and did not support the different dimension of literature. She suggested, to add some progressive, and open-minded referees who would accommodate different and diverse points of view.	The suggestions of Dr. Tahir were discussed, and the Chair agreed to, accelerate the review process. However, the idea regarding frequency of the journal's publication and its citation style was not carried.

- The board empowered the Editor in Chief to make decisions from time to time on urgent matters for smooth functioning.

- In the concluding remarks, the Chair thanked all the members who participated in the online meeting online and for their valuable suggestions and contributions.

- Meeting was then adjourned sin-e-die.

Prepared by:

Confirmed by:

Sanwal Hussain Kharl
(Manager Correspondence)

Dr. Khalid Manzoor Butt
(Chair)