

The Institute of Health Systems

Organisation & Structure

The Institute of Health Systems (IHS) is a civil society institution, registered under the Societies Registration Act¹. The IHS is registered as a charitable scientific institution under section 12A of the Income Tax Act². Contributions to IHS are eligible for exemption under section 80G of the Income Tax Act³. The Institute has been granted permanent registration by the Government of India, Ministry of Home affairs under the Foreign Contributions Regulation Act⁴. Starting with the first meeting held in July 1994, annual general body meetings are conducted ever year, around December - January. IHS files its audited accounts with the Income Tax department every year. Annual reports are filed with the registrar of societies and are accessible to public through the registrar of documents. In addition the annual reports, and audited accounts of the Institute are made available, along with other publications of the institute, to interested persons for a small charge.

Membership of the institute is open to any person who has consistently evinced interest and demonstrated commitment towards objectives of the Institute and to institutions with complementary objectives. In addition, the Executive Council may elect as an Honorary Member of the Institute, any person who has rendered conspicuous service in any of the areas covered by the objectives of the Institute. The Executive Council may also invite and appoint any person or body in any foreign country who has evinced interest or demonstrated commitment to pursue objectives similar to that of the Institute, to be an Honorary Correspondent of the Institute. The Director may, on application in the prescribed manner, admit as an Associate Member of the Institute any person interested in the areas of work of the Institute or in availing it's services and facilities for study. An Associate Member shall not be deemed to be a member of the General Body but will be entitled to avail the services and facilities of the institute.



Dr. P. Hrishikesh, Chairman of IHS is a Harvard School of Public Health alumnus and a pioneering public health personality of the State.

IHS Mission and Goals

IHS mission is to groom skills, gather evidence and generate knowledge, for people's health. The Institute strives to build local capacity and the global knowledge base for public health and socioeconomic development. IHS activities fall into research, education, training and various other services. The Institute conducts health systems research on applied and operational issues to improve equity and efficiency of the health care sector. IHS offers training programmes to improve managerial skills and health system research capability in India.

The Institute strives to maintain a balance between various modes of learning and application to provide an environment for intellectual development, knowledge based work and at the same time keep the skill set of its faculty well grounded to realities of social services delivery in India and other developing countries. While seeking to develop itself as a premier school of public health in India, the Institute has chosen a different organisational path to sustain a high level of creativity and operational efficiency. IHS is a civil society institution and has so far been entirely funded out of revenue generated by its faculty and staff through sponsored research programmes, tuition fee collections and other service charges.

¹ Registration number 3748/90, under the AP Telengana Area Societies Registration Act. 1350 Fasli

² Commissioner of Income Tax letter No.II/12A & 80G.64/90-91 dated December 19, 1990

³ First granted by Commissioner IT AP-II, Hyderabad letter no. H.Qrs. No.II/12A & 80G/64/90-91 dated December 31, 1990. Latest renewal for the period 01-04-99 till 31-03-2002 by Commissioner IT, AP Proceedings number Hqrs-II/12A & 80G/77/97-98, dated 07-10-99

⁴ IHS permanent FCRA registration number is 010230292 vide Govt. of India, Ministry of Home Affairs letter no. II/21022/61(4)/93-FCRA-II

Administrative Structure

The Institute is governed by a system of authorities consisting of : (a) the General Body, (b) the Executive Committee, and (c) the Board of Governors. The General Body of the institute is constituted by all types of members including charter members, honorary members, and institutional members but excluding all types of associate members. The General body elects members to the Executive Council; considers the annual report and audited accounts of the Institute and make such observations as deemed fit; advises the Executive Council on all academic matters; makes recommendations to the Executive Council regarding the policy and qualifications for admission of new members, priorities for research and training, and improvement of the functioning of the institute for achievement of the objectives. The Director presents a report on the Institute's activities to the General Body every year, along with the audited accounts of the Institute. These documents are available for purchase by interested members of the public across the Front office.

The Executive Committee is composed of the President of the Institute (ex officio), three persons nominated by the board of governors either from among themselves or from among reputed professionals in any of the areas relevant to the objectives as well as management of the Institute, representatives of the Central Govt. and the Govt. of the State in which the registered office of the Institute is located, if they have exercised their option to be charter members, upto four persons elected by the General Body, in accordance with it's own procedure, and the Director of the Institute who is the member secretary. The Executive Committee oversees management of the Institute and appoints the Director and the Finance Officer.



Dr. Prasanta Mahapatra, Founder and President of IHS, is a physician civil servant, whose visionary zeal and enterprise steers the IHS.

The Board of Governors is constituted by the charter members of the Institute. The Board of Governors elects the chairman of the institute; appoints the president and the nominee members of the executive council of the Institute; makes ordinances with regard to maintenance of accounts and administration of the funds and other properties of the Institute, the conduct of business by the Executive Council and the General Body, the duties of the officers and employees of the Institute, their qualification, system of recruitment, salaries allowances and other conditions of service. The Institute functions under the general supervision of the Board of Governors and the board is empowered to review the actions of the executive council, general body or any of the office bearers.

The General Body and the Board of Governors meet annually. Office Bearers of the Institute consist of the Chairman and the President. The Chairman presides over the meetings of the Board of Governors and the General Body. The President chairs the Executive Committee. The Ethics Committee examines all research proposals and activities to assure that ethical standards of research are satisfied. New research proposals are discussed in the Faculty Committee to satisfy about the objectives, and research methodology.

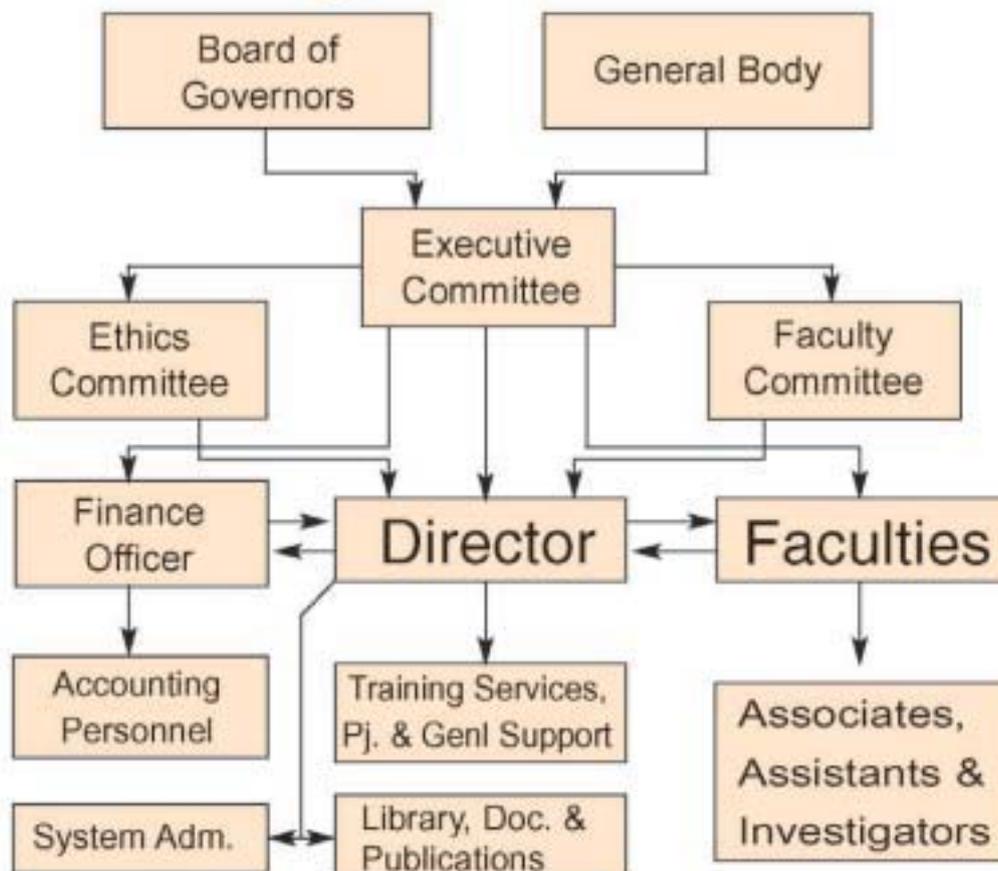
Ethics Committee

Research projects taken up by the institute adheres to the high moral and ethical standards in choice of methodology to test various hypotheses. The ethics committee reviews the proposals for research to assess among other considerations whether the research so designed would yield meaningful results that could not be obtained by other methods. The ethics committee also assesses whether voluntary and informed consent of the individuals participating in the study is obtained and whether the study has been planned in a manner so that the degree of risk taken and inconvenience caused does not exceed that determined by the humanitarian importance of the problem to be solved by the experiment and also sees that the study will be conducted by persons who possess the requisite competence and qualities to carry out the research. The ethics committee consists of about five members, two of the members are from outside the institute. Director of the institute is a member and convener of the committee. Life of the committee is permanent, with members joining it according to the terms of their appointment. The committee after examining the details of a proposal, may either certify that the project has obtained the committees' clearance as such or with specific conditions, or advise appropriate modifications to methodology so as to meet social ethical considerations.



Dr. Prasanta Mahapatra, President, IHS and D.R. Garg, IAS, Charter Member share a moment with Dr. Lalji Singh, Director, Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB).

IHS-Organisation Chart



IHS Faculty

Programmes and activities of the institute are carried out by a team of faculty and staff lead by the Director, who is the chief Academic and Executive Officer of the Institute. The Institute is equipped with a core group of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary full time faculty. These include people from various background including Community Health, Nutrition, Health Economics, Social Sciences, Health Care Management, Environmental Sciences, Biotechnology, and Computer Applications. Every Faculty is involved in research or applied work, assumes teaching responsibility and is available to health care organisations for consultation. The combination of theoretical, practical, and educational work by each of the faculty fosters an enriched environment for creativity, relevance, authenticity and effectiveness. The Institute is constantly searching for people interested in health sector, and with interdisciplinary skills to contribute towards health systems development. For many such extraordinary people a full time association with the Institute may not be feasible. The Institute seeks out such distinguished guest faculty, usually from a wide range of health and related disciplines. The Institute-Guest Faculty connect happens in many ways such as; (a) active and directed search for a person with a given profile to meet a specific requirement, (b) serendipitous encounters between the IHS and potential guest faculty, and (c) active and directed search by people for an institution like that of the IHS. Individual profile of current faculty is available elsewhere as a separate chapter / document. The Institute's faculty meet from time to time to review the Institutes research activities, academic programmes and share information about their respective projects. The faculty committee advises the director about academic matters and general management of the Institute.

Accreditations and Affiliations

- ✎ The IHS is a member of the National Consortium of Training Institutions in Community Health (NCTICH)⁵, organised by National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW).
- ✎ The Institute is recognised by the NTR University of Health Sciences, for practical training of MD(SPM) students⁶
- ✎ The IHS is affiliated to Andhra Pradesh State Board of Technical Education and Training⁷ for conducting courses in Health Informatics.
- ✎ The IHS is an institutional partner of the Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (AHPSR), World Health Organization (WHO), Geneva⁸.
- ✎ The IHS is a member of the HL7 organisation⁹, which is an international professional body for development and use of health informatics standards.
- ✎ The Institute is a recognized by the Council for Advancement of People's Action and Rural Technology (CAPART), Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India for campus recruitment under the Young Professional (YP) Scheme and placement of Institute's students with reputed NGO's.¹⁰



Dr. Robert J. Kim-Farley, WHO representative to India, delivering a lecture at the IHS, on 15th November, 2000.

⁵ NIHFW LetterNo. ET/NCT/2002, dated 29/04/2002

⁶ NTR University of Health Sciences, Vijayawada, Letter No.7204/ag/90, dated 20/09/2000

⁷ Proceedings of the Chairman State Board of Technical Education & Training and Commissioner of Technical Education, AP., B1/3108/2003 dated 8/05/2003, B1/3108/2001, dt. 29/07/2001; B1/3108/2000, dt. 27/07/2000 and B1/5495/97, dt 21/01/99

⁸ Dr. Miguel Gonzalez Block, AHPSR Program Manager, message dated 24 February, 2000

⁹ Health Level Seven, Inc., 3300 Washtenaw Ave., # 227 Ann Arbor, MI 58104-4250. Letters dated March 1, 2001 & March 7, 2002

¹⁰ CAPART, New Delhi Letter, DO No. DD(CD)/Misc/2002, dated 2nd May 200