



**DEPARTMENT OF BIOTECHNOLOGY
HIMACHAL PRADESH UNIVERSITY**

Summer Hill, Shimla-171 005 (HP), India
(NAAC Accredited "A" Grade University)

जैव प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग
हिमाचल प्रदेश विश्वविद्यालय
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**Proceedings of the Meeting of
Board of Studies (BoS) in the subject of Microbiology,
Department of Biotechnology, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla
[December 19, 2019, 12:00 Noon]**

A meeting of the Board of Studies (BoS) in the subject of Microbiology of Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla was held on December 19, 2019 at 12:00 Noon in the Seminar Room of Department of Biotechnology, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla to discuss various issues related to the department i.e. Revision of Course curriculum, proposal for starting new entrepreneurial/ skill development courses and other issues related to faculty, technical, ministerial staff and students etc.

The following were present:

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Prof. Arvind Kumar Bhatt | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. M. K. Gupta | External Expert Member |
| 3. Prof. T.C. Bhalla | Special Invitee |
| 4. Prof. S.S. Kanwar | Member |
| 5. Prof. Reena Gupta | Member |
| 6. Prof. Duni Chand | Member |
| 7. Prof. Wamik Azmi | Member |
| 8. Dr. Savitri | Member |

Prof. Rani Gupta, External Expert Member from Department of Microbiology, Delhi University, South Campus could not attend the BoS Meeting due to last time change of program.

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed all the members of the Board of Studies (BoS) in the subject of Microbiology and expressed sincere thanks to all his predecessors, Chairpersons, faculty members, technical and support staff, researchers and students for overall growth and development of the Department, due to which it is currently among top 10 Universities in India running DBT- Govt. of India Funded PG Teaching program in Biotechnology. The Chairman discussed the detailed future plans of the Department and detailed the reason for convening this meeting of the BoS. Thereafter, the following agenda items were taken for consideration, discussion and following decisions were taken:

Item - 1 Revision of Course Curriculum of M.Sc. Microbiology

It was informed that with changing time need-based timely revision of course curriculum is must and accordingly based on the feedback of the students, the usefulness of the contents for competing in various Entrance Exams including UGC-CSIR NET and various others, the need based changes have been made by the faculty members in the existing Syllabus.



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The Chairman placed before the BoS the revised Draft of the Syllabus to be implemented from the next academic session i.e. July, 2020. Suggestions and approval of the Experts and Members for improvement of the Proposed Draft of the Revised Course Curriculum for M.Sc. Biotechnology to be implemented from Academic Session 2020 onwards.

Decision Taken: The Draft syllabus proposed was approved after incorporating several useful suggestion as detailed at Annexure – I.

Item - 2 Requirement of minimum core Faculty Members, Technical & Ministerial Staff for M.Sc. Microbiology course as per UGC Guidelines.

The BoS was informed by the chairman that in addition to Biotechnology, the University has a separate Department of Microbiology under the Faculty of Life Sciences but it has remained non-functional due to want of faculty, technical, ministerial staff. However, on the demand of students, the Department of Biotechnology started course of M.Sc.-Microbiology in 2007 and 30 students are admitted every year through Entrance Examination conducted by Himachal Pradesh University. But even after 12 years of starting M.Sc. Microbiology course, no single person has been recruited in the department. However, creation of bare minimum required positions is must as per the UGC Guidelines and also the requirements of funding and regulatory agencies i.e. UGC/ RUSA/ NAAC/ NIRF etc. In view of the past suggestions of the Advisory Committee and the feed-back from the students and parents, qualified Faculty Members, Technical and Ministerial Staff strength is required to be provided for successfully running M.Sc. Microbiology course. This will ease pressure on Biotechnology Faculty and office and help to provide better quality education to the students of both Microbiology & Biotechnology.

It was also informed that two posts of Assistant Professors are lying vacant and even after being advertised from time to time, these have not been filled. Based on the facts stated above, as recommended by the Departmental Council, bare minimum requirement of Faculty, Technical and Ministerial staff as per UGC guidelines have been proposed for Microbiology so that the Department becomes functional and the students are benefitted. The Chairman informed the BoS that accordingly, the proposal has been prepared following the recommendations of the Departmental Council and is placed before the BoS for consideration and decision. After approval of the BOS the request will be sent to various academic and statutory bodies for implementation.

Decision Taken: The BoS approved the request of the department as per the recommendation of the Departmental Council for making the Department of Microbiology functional and recommended the following Teaching and Technical positions for Department of Microbiology:



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Sr. No.	Positions	Remarks
A: TEACHING POSITIONS (minimum as per UGC Norms)		
1.	Professor : 1 (one) (Rs.37400-67000+AGP 10,000)	• Industrial/ Molecular/ Medical Microbiology
2.	Associate Professor : 1 (one) (Rs.37400-67000+AGP 9,000)	• Industrial/ Environmental / Food Microbiology
3.	Assistant Professors : 4 (Four) (Rs. 15,600-39,100+ AGP 6,000)	• General Microbiology/ Medical/ Environmental/ Food Microbiology/ Fermentation
B: MINISTERIAL STAFF		
1.	Section Officer (Rs.15600-39100 +5400 GP)	: 1 (One)
2.	Supdt. (Rs. 10300-34800 + 4800 GP)	: 1 (One)
3.	Junior Office Assistant (Rs. 5910-20200 + 1950 GP)	: 1 (One)
4.	Store Keeper-cum-Clerk (Rs. 5910-20200 + 1900 GP)	: 1 (One)
5.	Peon (Pay scale of Rs. 4900-10680 +1300GP)	: 1 (One)
B: TECHNICAL STAFF		
1.	Laboratory Technician (Rs. 10300-34800 + 3200GP)	: 1 (One)
2.	Laboratory Assistants (Rs. 5910-20200 + 1900 GP)	: 2 (Two)
3.	Laboratory Attendants (Rs. 5910-20200 + 1900 GP)	: 2 (Two)

It was further recommended that in order to impart quality education to the students, the above positions be created for the Department of Microbiology which is already in existence but has been non-functional for nearly 25 years now. This on one hand will help to provide better education to Microbiology students and on the other will also ease pressure on Biotechnology Faculty and help the students in various ways and the department must act fast.

Item - 3 Starting Ph.D. Degree course in Microbiology from next Academic Session i.e. 2020 onwards.

The BoS was informed that in view of the demand of students and also requirement of specialized degrees for filling various positions in various Public and Private Sector organization, including in the subject of Microbiology, the department on the recommendations of the Departmental Council has proposed to start Ph. D. Degree Program in Microbiology. This has become more important in view of the fact that the students with Ph.D. degree in the subject other than the subject studies at Master's level are not given due benefit of the Ph.D. and are thus not selected or considered for various positions advertised by various Institutes/ Universities and other organizations. Therefore the proposal for starting Ph.D. Degree course in Microbiology has been placed before the BoS for consideration and appropriate decision. The BoS was also requested that, if approved, the students who have already been registered for Ph.D. in the department of Biotechnology and have not submitted their Ph.D. Thesis yet, may also be given option to take this change if willing, so that their future is also not affected.

Decision Taken: The BoS approved the request of the department for starting Ph. D. Degree Program in Microbiology from the next Academic Session and also agreed with the recommendation of the Departmental Council to give option to those already registered for Ph.D. Biotechnology in the department and have not submitted their thesis.



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Item - 4 Request of Researchers of Biotechnology & Microbiology for their eligibility for Life Science and other posts as per UGC Guidelines.

The BoS was informed that Hon'ble Vice Chancellor has forwarded the request of the Researchers of Biotechnology & Microbiology addressed to Hon'ble Chief Minister to allow them to be considered for the positions of Assistant Professors in Life Science for positions advertised by State Public Service Commission which presently is not the practice although they are allowed to appear in UGC NET/SLET in Life Sciences and several State Governments allow the Microbiology & Biotechnology Graduates for teaching positions in Life Science. As per UGC guidelines 2018, the eligibility criteria for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in higher education is master degree with 55% marks in a relevant/allied subject from any Indian University. They have also requested for creation of college cadre in Microbiology/Biotechnology and introduction of Microbiology/Biotechnology courses in government colleges of H.P. The Departmental Council has also recommended that the State Govt. may be requested to consider the demand of the Biotechnology / Microbiology Graduates to consider them for the positions of Life Science in State after approval of the BoS and Academic Council. The suggestions/ recommendation of the BOS is required in this connection.

Decision Taken: The BoS recommended that since the Biotechnology & Microbiology students are eligible for UGC-CSIR NET and are also considered for teaching positions in the field of Life Science in several states, their candidature may also be considered for Teaching positions in the area of Life/ Allied Sciences by State Govt. for College Cadre posts as per the UGC Guidelines-2018.

Further, keeping in view the usefulness of these modern Life Science subjects globally, BoS was also of the view that these subjects should also be introduced in Government colleges in Himachal Pradesh as well as at 10+2 level as elective subject live Environment Science. Further it was also recommended that State Govt. should be requested by the University to have at least one teaching position for Microbiology/ Biotechnology in these colleges/ schools wherever so that the students can be benefited by these advanced Life Science subjects.

In addition to the agenda items confirmed earlier, two items were placed on spot due to urgency of the matters.

Item - 5 Formulation of curriculum for Course Work for Ph.D. Microbiology:

The BoS members were of the view that in order to start Ph.D. Degree course in Microbiology, the syllabus for Course work is also required. The Chairman informed the members that the syllabus being taught for M.Phil. Biotechnology can be used as Course Work for Ph.D. Microbiology but the same is also to be approved by BoS.

Decision Taken: The Curriculum for Course work of Ph.D. Microbiology as recommended by the Departmental Council was approved by BoS as per Annexure-II.



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Item - 6 Revision of Course Curriculum of B.Sc. (Hons.) Microbiology under New yearly system of CBCS

The BoS was informed that due to switch over of CBCS system at UG level in the State from Semester to yearly system, the revision of the course curricula to suit the changed system was done and the total outline of the Course was finalized. Further, due to urgency, the detailed syllabi for the courses of first year was also finalized in the previous meeting of BoS and it was desired that the syllabus for the second and third year will be finalized before start of second year. Subsequently, the appropriate changes/ amendments as suggested by the members according to the finalized outline were incorporated well in time. Draft of the revised Course Curriculum/ Syllabus prepared for second and third year was placed before the committee for comments/ suggestions.


Decision Taken: After detailed deliberations and discussions on various issues vis-à-vis the usefulness of the curriculum for the students, the detailed syllabus of B.Sc. (Hons.) Microbiology, after incorporating required/ suggested changes, was finalized and approved as per Annexure-III.

Finally, while appreciating the efforts of the Department and University, the BoS was of the view that the focus should be on strengthening the existing facilities for improving quality and introducing need based job oriented courses like Food Technology, Industrial Microbiology/ Biotechnology, Bioinformatics, Biochemistry and Forensic Science etc. with focus skill development, entrepreneurial possibilities and more hands on practical and job training for increasing employability of the students and the Departments of Life Science especially Biotechnology and Microbiology should take lead in this.

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Dr. Savitri)



(Prof. Wamik Azmi)

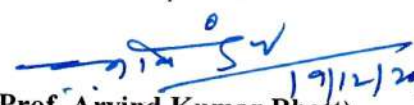

(Prof. Duni Chand)


(Prof. Reena Gupta)


(Prof. S.S. Kanwar)


(Prof. M.K. Gupta)
External Expert Member


(Prof T.C. Bhalla)
Special Invitee


(Prof. Arvind Kumar Bhatt)
CHAIRMAN- BoS