

Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology

Minutes of the Departmental Faculty Board Meeting

(DFB-04/2019-2020)

October 31, 2019

A series of Class Committee Meetings for the academic session Semester 1, 2019-2020, were held during **October 14-17, 2019** in the Departmental Committee Room (I-230) as per the following schedule:

October 14, 2019	@ 4PM	-	2015-entry UG batch
October 15, 2019	@ 4PM	-	2016-entry UG batch
October 16, 2019	@ 4PM	-	2017-entry UG batch
October 17, 2019	@ 4PM	-	2018 & 2019-entry UG batch, PhD/MSR students

The reports submitted by each of the student batches are enclosed (**Annexure - I**). The Board considered the concerns raised by the students and the faculty members were requested to incorporate the course evaluations.

Outside the mid-semester evaluations of individual courses, some of the other concerns raised by the students are listed below:

- There is an uneven distribution of PEs in the odd and even semesters in the UG course scheduling.
- The LTP structure of BBL732 (Bioprocess Plant Design) course needs to be looked into.
- The students highlighted the issue of core chemical engineering companies not including the departmental students for placement and considering only the students of Chemical Engineering. It was decided to collect the placement data from OCS for further consideration by the board.
- The 2019-entry MSR students wanted the department to consider ways to facilitate interaction with other research students. The Board noted that the newly started Departmental Seminar Series was a positive step in this direction and also suggested that other such fora should be explored further for encouraging positive interactions among the research students in the department.

The list of courses to be floated in the next semester (Semester II, 2019-20) was finalized (**Annexure - II**).

Ritu Kulshreshtha
Convener, DFB

Distribution

All Faculty (by email)

Report for DFB meeting (2019)
2015 Entry Batch

This report contains the agendas to be discussed in Department faculty meeting, which will be held on 14th Oct, 2019. The issues are based on the feedback received from the students.

Item 1: Core Courses:

- BBL735: The course is going well except for the change in the lab timings in mid of semester. Many of the students found it difficult to manage.
- BBL737: Clarity regarding course policy and marks distribution should be told from the start. Evaluation of lab component is also not clear. Students showed their concern regarding Prof. Sunil Nath's part, as it was not properly discussed in the class.

Item 2: MTP:

- MTP is going well for everyone with proper guidance from supervisor. The only problems students sometimes face is regarding lab supplies which are put on hold due to some ordering policies.

Item 3: Program Electives:

- BBL754: Students find it difficult to understand the slides given to them.
- Disbalance in the number of PEs floated in even and odd semesters.

Item 4: Time table for Next sem:

- No problem with the slots and courses floated.

Nitesh Chaudhary
2015BB50010

Report for Class Committee meeting (15-10-2019)
2016 Entry Batch

BBL731 (Bioseparation Engineering) - No issues

BBL732 (Bioprocess Plant Design)

- 5 hrs class, even though it's a 4 credits course. And lack of practice questions, especially some solved examples
- Plant Design, is a course that has 5 hours of lecture per week, but it is a 4 credit course. Hence, I request to decrease the tutorial time to 1 hour

BBL733 (RDT) - No issues

BBD451 (BTP) - No issues

- When any first year or second year student approach to a prof asking for project, they should not reply negatively. It truly demotivates even those who want to explore the department. There are baerly three or four who get into igem. Even iGem is closed now. It might be expensive to give everyone a wet lab work but there is some theoretical work can be assigned. They can be asked to write a review paper. This will be a win win situation for both. Prof will get a paper and student will get paper+exposure+interest....
- We dual degree students have proteomics course in D slot in our 9th semester. And some of students in our batch are going to do RDT in 9th semester which is also in D slot. And since there are only around 15 students who will be doing proteomics, is it possible to change it's slot?
- Please shift the slot of either RDT or proteomics on the next academic year, there are a few who have to do both, and it will clash otherwise
- There are too many credits from Core courses. This makes the Btech program inflexible when compared to the other departments at IITD.

Also, the department should build more relations with foreign universities and hold regular summer internship programmes with these universities/ research centers. Internships can be divided into paid and unpaid categories and floated to students. Currently, students are made to arrange foreign internships by themselves, which takes a lot of time and energy.

Report for Class Committee meeting (16-10-2019)
2017 Entry Batch

The batch is happy with the current courses being taken by Preeti Ma'am and AK Srivastava Sir. There are no complaints.

The only requests are:

1. The grading policy could be made a little more lenient.
2. The classes should finish 10 minutes before the start of the next class, to allow the students to reach the next class.

Regarding future courses:

There is a course titled Environmental Biology (BBL 341) that we would like shifted to slot B, in which a course titled BBL 736 is being scheduled. Since the latter course is not in our recommended courses of study, there should be no issue with other students since no one will be taking it.

Report for Class Committee meeting (17-10-2019)
2018 Entry Batch

BBL133 (Mass and Energy Balances in Biochemical Engineering)

- Arbitrary marking scheme in BBL133.
- "Many people used phones to copy the proof for question 1 in minor. Nothing was done about it, making it unfair to those who didn't use their phones. The proof was straightforward, so copying was highly beneficial. Furthermore, it was the only question many people got right.
- Requesting for appropriate action being taken to ensure fairness in grading of students"
- "Minor 1 graded people solely on their ability to take the correct assumptions in how to understand the (arguably vague) question
- Minor 2 included one question on multicomponent systems which was out of syllabus. The other two questions hinged on thermodynamics knowledge not covered in class, and were borderline out of syllabus (in my humble opinion).
- All-in-all highly dissatisfied with the testing procedures. Requesting professors to take an appropriate action, or atleast keep that in my mind for the future."
- I feel that i dont get the way of teahing of Prof. Sunil Nath. I feel he must teach relevant stuff.
- In Mass energy balance not able yo understand a single thing..
- If possible, mention to the biochem prof that he should have shown minor 1 papers before minor 2 , we couldn't assess what kind of answers he needs and that affected minor 2 as well. Ask Prof. Nath to pace up a bit in class. This might help us interact more with him. Usually he is stuck on some basic thing and we could not connect what he is asking.
- Attending BBL133 isn't helping
- BBL133, syllabus not clarified
- Syllabus is mostly unclear. Every professor should provide detailed syllabus, with the individual topics well listed, and they should mail it to us.
- I have one request to Professor Sunil Nath. I never understand his way of teaching. I request him to deliver the content and syllabus in detailed manner. It is like he teaches very basic things in class, and ask detailed questions in examination

Annexure - II

Courses floated in Semester II, 2019-2020

Departmental Core Courses (DC)

SI	Course Number	Course Title	L - T - P Structure			Credits	Course Coordinator	Slot
			L	T	P			
1	BBL431	Bioprocess Technology	2	0	0	2	ZAS	J
2	BBL432	Fluid Solid Systems	2	0	0	2	TRS	H
3	BBL433	Enzyme Science and Engineering	3	0	2	4	RE	D
4	BBL434	Bioinformatics	2	0	2	3	DS	F
5	BBQ301	Seminar Course – I	0	0	2	1	HoD	P
6	BBQ302	Seminar Course – II	0	0	2	1	HoD	P
7	BBQ303	Seminar Course-III	0	0	2	1	HoD	P
8	BBD351	Design – NGU	0	0	2	1	AKS	
9	BBD451	Major Project Part 1 (BB1)	0	0	6	3	RE	
10	BBD452	Major Project Part 2 (BB1)	0	0	16	8	RE	

Program Core Courses (PC)

SI	Course Number	Course Title	L - T - P Structure			Credits	Course Coordinator	Slot
			L	T	P			
1	BBL736	Dynamics of Microbial Systems	3	0	0	3	RJ	B
2	BBD851	Major Project Part 1 (BB5)	0	0	12	6	RK	
3	BBD852	Major Project Part 2 (BB5)	0	0	28	14	RK	
4	BBD853	Major Project Part 1 (BB5)	0	0	8	4	RK	
5	BBD854	Major Project Part 2 (BB5)	0	0	32	16	RK	

Departmental Elective (DE)

SI	Course Number	Course Title	L - T - P Structure			Credits	Course Coordinator	Slot
			L	T	P			
1	BBL341	Environmental Biotechnology	3	0	0	3	SM	B
2	BBL445	Membrane Applications in Bioprocessing	3	0	0	3	GPA	J

Program Elective Courses (PE)

SI	Course Number	Course Title	L - T - P Structure			Credits	Course Coordinator	Slot
			L	T	P			
1	BBL740	Plant Cell Technology	3	0	2	4	AKS	F
2	BBL742	Biological waste treatment	3	0	2	4	TRS	B
3	BBL745	Combinatorial Biotechnology	3	0	0	3	PS	J
4	BBL746	Current Topics in Biochem Engg & Biotech	3	0	0	3	LED	H
5	BBL747	Bionanotechnology	3	0	0	3	PM	E
6	BBL749	Cancer Cell Biology	3	0	3	4.5	RK	F
7	BBL752	Microbial Ecology	3	0	0	3	SS	H

Note: BTech students need to complete 10 credits of DE and dual degree students need to complete 12 credits of PE. The BTech students can also register for PEs to complete their DE requirement.

MSR/PhD Courses

SI	Course Number	Course Title	L - T - P Structure			Credits	Course Coordinator	Slot
			L	T	P			
1	BED800	Major Project	0	0	80	40	RJ	
2	BBD895	Major Project	0	0	72	36	RJ	