

**Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology**  
**Minutes of DRC Meeting N0 07/ 2015-2016**  
(DRC-07/2015-2016)

June 27, 2016

The seventh meeting of *Departmental Research Committee* (DRC) for the academic session 2015-2016 was held on **Wednesday, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2016** at **10:00 a.m.** in the Committee Room (I- 230) of the Department.

The following members were present:

Prof. Prashant Mishra (*Chairman*)  
Prof. V. S. Bisaria  
Prof. T. R. Sreekrishnan  
Prof. A. K. Srivastava  
Prof. Atul Narang  
Dr. D. Sundar  
Dr. Ritu Kulshreshtha  
Dr. Preeti Srivastava  
Dr. Shilpi Sharma (*Convenor*)

1. To confirm the minutes of the 6th meeting of the DRC for the session 2015-2016 (*DRC-06/2015-2016*) held on April 27, 2016

The minutes of 6th meeting of DRC 2015-16 held on 27th April 2016 were confirmed as circulated

2. To report the matters arising from minutes of Meeting No. 06/2015-2016 and action taken.

Item # in DRC Meeting No. 06/2015-2016	Brief description	Gist of the decision of the DRC	Action taken / Present status
3	PhD and MSR selection, Sem I, 2016-17	Selection process finalised	Shortlisted candidates intimated through email on 29th April 2016
15	SRC composition of PhD students	Constituted	Forwarded for Jananee, Rohit, Rabab Anjum

With reference to 'item No 8: Guidelines for forwarding project proposal', It was resolved that:

- a) **Faculty** will circulate an abstract of the project proposal with the self declaration sheet to all DRC members
- b) Head will forward the proposal on IRIS within **3** working days of submission after seeking clarification from the PI
- c) PIs should apply for clearances (*viz. ethical, safety, biosafety*), if any, before submission to DRC.

3. Discussion on comprehensive examination of the department.

The present system of comprehensive examination of the department was debated and the committee came up with the following procedure to be further taken up in the next DFB meeting:

- (a) A student should obtain a CGPA  $\geq 8$  in the 6 credits assigned to departmental core courses for Ph.D. In case a student fails to obtain the requisite CGPA, the student will be given chance to take exam conducted by SRC of the respective student. SRC will conduct a re-exam from prescribed

syllabus of the two core courses. The student will be required to score 65% marks in this examination to be eligible for (b). This examination will replace the current practice of two papers of written comprehensive examination

(b) After successful completion of (a), SRC of the respective student will conduct written comprehensive examination from syllabus prescribed by the supervisor(s). A student will be provided a maximum of two attempts to pass the comprehensive examination as per institute norms.

(c) After the student has passed the written comprehensive examination, SRC will conduct his/her oral comprehensive examination which will involve Plan of Work presentation by the student.

#### 4. Pre-Ph.D. courses of DBEB

The committee decided to frame and float four new courses, two of which to be taken by each Ph.D. student of the department as core courses.

(i) Advanced Methodology and Biostatistics (3 credits)

(ii) Biology for Engineers (3 credits)

(iii) Biochemical Engineering for Biologists (3 credits)

(iv) Research Communication Skill (3 credits)

While (i) and (iv) will be compulsory courses for all Ph.D. students, depending upon the student's background, he/she will be required to opt for (ii) or (iii). For the remaining 8 credits students will chose courses from across the Institute upon supervisor's/ DRC recommendation.

*(Act: Head to take up in next DFB meeting)*

#### 5. New projects for Ph.D. and MS(R)

New projects sent by faculty members were approved.

#### 6. Cover sheet for self-declaration by faculty members when submitting a new proposal to DRC

Cover sheet for self declaration by faculty members was finalized as in Annexure I.

*(Act: Head to take up in next DFB meeting)*

#### 7. Proposal entitled "Development of an expression platform for *Pichia stipitis* to overcome its limitations in ethanol production" submitted by Prof Atul Narang for submission to DBT.

The above project was circulated to members, since no specific comments were received from the members on the proposal, the project was forwarded to Dean IRD and item was ratified.

#### 8. Proposal entitled "Linking bacterial community structure and function with heavy metal pollution and remediation potential: A field study across the Ganga river basin to identify markers" submitted by Dr Shilpi Sharma for submission to DBT.

The above project was circulated to members, since no specific comments were received from the members on the proposal, the project was forwarded to Dean IRD and item was ratified.

#### 9. Request for change in topic of M.S.(R) student Radhika Khera

The change in topic was approved. It was decided that such requests may be considered favourably upon SRC's recommendation without the need to be taken up in DRC meetings.

#### 10. Report on Comprehensive Examination and Approval of Research Plan of Sonia Gupta (2014BEZ8391)

Based on the recommendation of the students' SRC, plan of work of Sonia Gupta (2014BEZ8391) was approved. *(Action: Chairman DRC to forward the Form w/ enclosures to Dean - Academics)*

11. Matters for information

None.

12. Any other item with the permission of Chair

- Proposal entitled "Nanofiltration based partial separation of mixed sugars in lignocellulosic hydrolysate for ethanol fermentation by wild type yeasts" submitted by Prof. G. P. Agarwal for submission to ONGC.

The above project was circulated to members, since no specific comments were received from the members on the proposal, the project was approved for forwarding.

- Request from Sonia Gupta (2014BEZ8391) regarding continuation of her fellowship during her stay at Newcastle University for two months

The request was considered favourably as the host Institute was only providing accommodation and subsistence per diem.

*(Action: Chairman DRC to forward the request to Dean - Academics)*

- Application received from Arpita (2012BEZ8188) for partial financial assistance for presenting a paper in 17th European Congress of Biotechnology to be held in Poland

The Chairman informed that the application received from Arpita (2012BEZ8188) has already been forwarded for partial assistance to present a paper in 'Pichia 2016'. This item was ratified by the committee.

- It was decided that for allotment of MSR students to faculty members, a cap of 2 students per faculty member be maintained.

The meeting ended with thanks to all members.

**Shilpi Sharma**  
Convenor, DRC

**Distribution**

All DRC members and other DBEB faculty (by email)

Cc: DRC File

**Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology**

Annexure I.

**Research Grant Application Coversheet**

Proposal Number from IRIS
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This coversheet must be completed and submitted to the Head of the Department for forwarding the grant application to the IRD Unit. **Return the completed hardcopy to the Head's office and email the scanned copy to [hoddbeb@admin.iitd.ac.in](mailto:hoddbeb@admin.iitd.ac.in)**

<b>Application Details</b>	
Funding Agency (scheme)	
Closing date of submission to the funding agency	
Project Title	
PI	
Co-PI	
Major equipment required for the project	
Major equipment requested in the grant application	

**Regulatory Impact**

<b>Does this grant application require any of the CLERANCES listed?</b>			
If YES, please complete details below		<input type="checkbox"/> No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes
Indicate the relevant clearance required by ticking the relevant box	Has the relevant Committee's approval been received?		
	Yet to apply	Pending	Approval received dated
<b>Institutional Bio-Safety Committee (IBSC)</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Ethical Clearance</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

**Declaration :**

- (A) No additional space is required as existing space is sufficient for the proposed work
- (B) Space needed is available in the department (indicate place & approximate area)
- (C) No hazardous chemicals are required for the project

**Principal Investigator's Certification**

I certify that all details on this application are correct and that health and safety implications have been considered in the design of the project and necessary clearances will be obtained before execution.

**Date:**

**Signature of the Principal Investigator**

**Signature of the Head of the Department**