

Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology
DRC MEETING NOTICE
(DRC-04/2018-2019)

11th Jan 2019

The fourth meeting of *Departmental Research Committee* (DRC) for the academic session 2018-2019 was held on **11th Jan 2019** at 11.30 am in the Committee Room (I-230) of the Department.

The following members were present:

Prof. T. R. Sreekrishnan (*Chairperson*)
Prof. Saroj Mishra
Prof. A. K. Srivastava
Prof. Atul Narang
Prof. D. Sundar
Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha
Prof. Preeti Srivastava
Prof. Shilpi Sharma (*Convenor*)

1. To confirm the minutes of the 3rd meeting of DRC for the session 2018-2019 held on 4th Dec 2018, and minutes circulated vide email dated 8th Jan 2019 concerning synopsis of Mr Tushar Dash's thesis.

The minutes of 3rd meeting of the DRC for the session 2018-2019 held on 4th Dec 2018, and minutes circulated by email dated 8th Jan 2019 concerning synopsis of Mr Tushar Dash (Entry No 2011BEZ8420) for his thesis entitled “Biotransformation of amides using *Delftia acidovorans* whole cells and cross-linked enzyme aggregates (CLEA)” were confirmed as circulated.

2. To report the matters arising from minutes of Meeting No. 03/2018-2019 and action taken.
None

3. Conduct of Paper I of Ph.D. comprehensive examination

It was decided to conduct the written comprehensive examination (Paper I) on 6th Feb 2018. Prof. A. K. Srivastava (Bioengineering) and Prof. Saroj Mishra (Biosciences) will coordinate the setting of question paper, and conduct the examination.

4. Plan of Work of Ph.D. students

The Committee finalized the results of the Ph.D. written Comprehensive Exam (Paper II) conducted by the respective SRC members of Ph.D. students as per the following dates:

| Entry Number | Name | Date of Comprehensive Examination | |
|--------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------|------------|
| | | Paper I | Paper II |
| 2017BEZ8285 | Priyanka Dubey | 14.05.2018 | 16.11.2018 |
| 2017BEZ8286 | Indranil Mondal | 14.05.2018 | 23.0.2018 |

| | | | |
|-------------|--------------------|------------|------------|
| 2017BEZ8288 | Anika Goyal | 14.05.2018 | 27.11.2018 |
| 2017BEZ8291 | Soumya Rajpal | 14.05.2018 | 16.11.2018 |
| 2017BEZ8293 | Dhvani Sandip Vora | 14.05.2018 | 10.01.2019 |
| 2017BEZ8418 | Rupsa Chatterjee | 14.05.2018 | 16.11.2018 |

Based on the marks obtained the students were declared to have passed the exam. The Plan of Work for Ph.D. submitted by the students was discussed, and based on the recommendations of the respective SRC, the same were approved.

(Action: Chairman DRC to forward the Forms w/ enclosures to Dean Academics)

5. Plan of Work of M.S.(Res) student Jagat Narayan Prajapati (2017BEY7501)

Plan of Work for Jagat Narayan Prajapati (2017BEY7501) was discussed, and approved on the basis of recommendations by the members of SRC.

(Action: Chairman DRC to forward the Form w/ enclosures to Dean - Academics)

6. Allotment of Ph.D. topic to Shubham Dubey (2017BEZ7534)

Shubham Dubey was allotted the topic "Domestication of microbiome to mitigate stress in arable land" under the mentorship of Prof Shilpi Sharma

7. Allotment of topics to new Ph.D. students (Jan 2019 entry)

The Ph.D. coordinator was requested to collect preferences of topics from Ph.D. students (Jan 2019 entry) from the list of projects floated. The students should submit the same to the Coordinator (after interacting with faculty members) latest by 15th Feb 2019.

(Action: Ph.D. Coordinator)

8. Constitution of SRC for Ph.D. student Shubham Dubey (2017BEZ7534)

SRC for Shubham Dubey was constituted as follows:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| Chairperson | Prof R. Elangovan |
| Internal Expert | Prof P. Srivastava |
| External Expert | Prof P. Hariprasad, CRDT |
| Supervisor | Prof S. Sharma |

9. Note received from Dean Planning, regarding plan of action for admitting foreign PhD students

The committee agreed to initiate the following activities for recruiting foreign PhD students:

(a) Briefing about departmental research activities to students of foreign institutions by video conferencing

(b) Drafting, and wide circulation of Departmental Brochure

(c) Request for departmental faculty volunteers for visits to neighbouring countries for motivating students to apply for our Ph.D. programme

Ph.D. coordinator was requested to coordinate the activities.

(Action: Ph.D. Coordinator)

10. Request received from Ph.D. student Vidhu S. (Entry No 2013BEZ8510) for extension of Ph.D. registration and fellowship for a period of 6 months

It was noted that Vidhu S. has completed five years in the Ph.D. program and based on the recommendations of the supervisor, the Committee decided to forward the registration of the students beyond 5 years, and an extension of fellowship for the period. Vidhu is required to register for the DTD899 doctoral thesis course in the new semester and the requirement of submitting progress report each semester along with the recommendations of the Supervisor/SRC will continue until the thesis is submitted.

11. Request for semester withdrawal by Ph.D. student Priyanka Bharadwaj (2016BEZ8005)
In view of her prolonged illness Priyanka Bhardwaj's application for withdrawal of semester (Sem II, 2018-19) was recommended for forwarding to Dean Academics. The funding agency may be duly intimated.

12. Request received from Ph.D. student Shubham Dubey (Entry No 2017BEZ7534) for fee payment as per norms for 2017 entry students
The request was forwarded to concerned authorities.

13. Criteria for Research Excellence Travel Award (RETA)
The committee deliberated on the criteria laid down by the institute for RETA. Ph.D. Coordinator was requested to come up with recommendations for additional criteria, to be discussed in the next DRC meeting. *(Action: Ph.D. Coordinator)*

14. Application of Ms. Renu Bala Sharma for admission to departmental Ph.D. Programme under QIP, 2019-2020.

As the candidate did not meet the minimum eligibility criteria for admission to departmental PhD programme, her candidature was declined.

15. To report the matters for ratification by the DRC
(a) Project proposals submitted by departmental faculty

| S. No | Project Title | Project Investigator | Funding Agency |
|-------|--|----------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Molecular basis of asphaltene biotransformation by a microbial consortium | P. Srivastava | DBT |
| 2 | Medical Device Catalyst (MDcat):One stop facility for accelerating Medical Device Innovation from TRL4 to TRL8 | R. Elangovan | BIRAC |

The above projects were circulated to members, since no specific comments were received from the members on the proposals, the projects were forwarded to Dean IRD and item was ratified in DRC.

(b) Progress Report submitted by Ph.D. students for Semester I, 2018-2019, and award of grade for the course DTD899 (Doctoral Thesis).

On the basis of the progress reports submitted by the PhD students, Ph.D. Coordinator awarded a satisfactory (X) grade to the students for the semester in DTD899 course and the progress reports were forwarded to the PG section. This was ratified.

(c) Application received from Ph.D. student Ms Swati Varshney (2016BEZ8325) regarding release of DST Inspire Fellowship

The committee ratified the forwarding of application received from Ms Swati Varshney requesting Institute Assistantship for the period Jan 2019 to June 2019, to Dean Academics in view of the delay from the sponsoring agency in release of her fellowship for the period.

(d) Request by Prof. Saroj Mishra for change of title for proposal approved in DRC minutes 3/2017-18

The change of title for an earlier approved proposal submitted to DBT was noted and approved. The new title is "Novel laccases for degradation of complex dyes for textile waste water treatment".

16. Any other item with the permission of Chair

The project proposal submitted by Prof Shilpi Sharma entitled "Ecological engineering of rhizosphere microbial communities for sustainable control of human pathogens in organic farming" 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 in DRC.

The meeting ended with thanks to all members.

Shilpi Sharma
Convenor, DRC

Distribution

All DBEB faculty members (by email)