

**Department of Biochemical Engineering and Biotechnology
Departmental Research Committee Minutes
(DRC-4/2023-24)**

15 April 2024

The fourth meeting of the Departmental Research Committee for the academic session 2023-24 was held on 10 April 2024 in the DBEB Committee Room at 2 pm.

The following members were present:

Prof. Prashant Mishra (Chairperson)
Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha
Prof. KJ Mukherjee
Prof. Ziauddin Shaikh Ahammad
Prof. Preeti Srivastava
Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan
Prof. Anjan Roy
Prof. Kumari Priti Sinha
Prof. Lucinda Elizabeth Doyle (Convenor)

Agenda Items

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the third meeting of the DRC for the session 2023-24 held on 21 February 2024.
[The minutes were confirmed as circulated.](#)
2. Matters arising from the minutes of Meeting No. 3/2023-24.
[None.](#)
3. Modality and shortlisting criteria for PhD and MSR admissions.
[The Committee decided to hold the PhD and MSR admissions for Semester 1, AY 2024-25, on May 16th and 17th. It was decided to use the same shortlisting criteria as in Semester 1 AY 2023-24 \(MSR\) and Semester 2, AY 2023-24 \(PhD\) with the addition of M.Tech in Agricultural Biotechnology in the list of acceptable majors for PhD admission. It was also decided to conduct a written test for screening the applicants for PhD admissions.](#)

Action:

- a. [PhD coordinator to collect questions from faculty members for the written PhD entrance exam.](#)
- b. [PhD and MSR coordinators to request projects for floating once number of available MHRD fellowships is circulated by the Institute.](#)

c. PhD and MSR coordinators to prepare draft shortlisting criteria documents for approval.

4. Constitution/reconstitution of SRCs.

The following SRC compositions were approved:

New

Name/Entry No	Supervisor (s)	Chairperson	Internal expert	External expert
Tanya Bansal	Prof. Preeti Srivastava Prof. D. Sundar	Prof. Shilpi Sharma	Prof. Ishaan Gupta	Prof. Ashok Kumar Patel (KSBS)
Kreeti Pandey 2023BEZ8539	Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha	Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. Vivekanandan Perumal (KSBS)
Aishwarya Srivastava 2023BEZ8545	Prof. Atul Narang	Prof. KJ Mukherjee	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. Shaunak Sen (EE)
Arushi Katoch 2023BEZ8543	Prof. Kumari Priti Sinha	Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan	Prof. Ashish Misra	Prof. Dhiman Mallick (EE)

Reconstituted

Name/Entry No	Supervisor	Chairperson	Internal Expert	External Expert
Mansi 2022BEZ8511	Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha	Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. Saran Kumar (KSBS)
Aastha Singh 2019BEZ8182	Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha	Prof. Prashant Mishra (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. Manoj Balakrishnan Menon (KSBS)
Garima Yadav 2018BEZ8241	Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha	Prof. Prashant Mishra (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. Vivekanandan Perumal (KSBS)

Name/Entry No	Supervisor	Chairperson	Internal Expert	External Expert
Ritanksha Joshi 2021BEZ8444	Prof. Ritu Kulshreshtha	Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Ishaan Gupta	Prof. Manoj Balakrishnan Menon (KSBS)
Argha Sinha 2022BEZ8516	Prof. Shilpi Sharma	Prof. Lucinda Doyle (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Preeti Srivastava	Prof. P. Hariprasad (CRDT)
Shatakshi Bhattacharjee 2022BEZ8508	Prof. Amit Das	Prof. Ravikrishnan Elangovan (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. Anjan Roy	Prof. Anita Roy (KSBS)
Palistha Tuladhar	Prof. Ashish Mishra	Prof. Atul Narang	Prof. KJ Mukherjee (in place of Prof. D. Sundar)	Prof. James Gomes

5. Approval of Plan of Work for PhD students.

- a. Plan of work of Riya Rani (2022BEZ8360) for the thesis entitled “Multifunctional mesoporous silica nanoparticles for triple negative breast cancer therapy”, under the supervision of Prof. Prashant Mishra.

The plan of work was approved based on recommendation by the student’s SRC.

Action: Supervisors are to ensure two hard copies of the Plan of Word document are submitted to the Department office.

6. Student requests.

- a. Request of Rashi Tyagi (2020BEZ8525) to apply for RETA award.
The Committee approved the request.
- b. Request of Partha Pratim Mondal (2018BEZ8438) to apply for RETA award.
The Committee approved the request.
- c. Request of Preetha Ganguly (2020BEZ8521) to extend stay at Sorbonne University by one month, i.e. until 5 June 2024, to complete ongoing work.
The Committee approved the request.
- d. Request of Aishwarya Srivastava (2023BEZ8545) for maternity leave from third week of April to the end of July (rejoining first week of August).
The Committee approved the request.
- e. Request of Ganesh (2023BEZ8394) to use the credits of ELP-830 Semiconductor Processing (0-0-6) to fulfill his credit requirements.
The Committee approved the request.
- f. Request of Arushi Katoch (2023BEZ8543) to have fellowship error corrected, i.e. source to be listed as UGC (not CSIR).
The Committee approved the request.

- g. Request of Surbhi Chauhan (2021BEZ8446) to attend local conference (International Symposium on Advances in Technology and Business Potential of New Drug Delivery Systems) in Mumbai from 29 Feb – 1 March, and to avail DBT-JRF contingency for registration fee and TA/DA.
[The Committee approved the request.](#)
- h. Request of Kolli Venkata Supraja (2020BEZ8516) for Ex-India leave (6 – 18 June 2024) and to avail of RSTA to attend International Conference on Algal Biomass, Biofuels and Bioproducts, Florida, USA.
[The Committee approved the request.](#)
- i. Request of Soumya Sahai Saxena (2021BEZ8009) for Ex-India leave (12 – 18 May 2024) and to avail of RSTA to attend Food System Microbiomes 2024 International Conference, Torino, Italy.
[The Committee approved the request.](#)
- j. Request of Juwayria (2020BEZ8514) for Ex-India leave (6 – 17 May 2024) and to avail of RSTA to attend Cancer Evolution: From Genome to Ecology, Cambridge, UK.
[The Committee approved the request.](#)
- k. Request of Nidhi Nitin Patil (2019BEZ8669) for Ex-India leave (11 – 21 June) to attend ASM Microbe 2024, Atlanta, Georgia, USA.
[The Committee approved the request.](#)
7. The request of Prof. Kumari Priti Sinha for matching equipment grant from the Institute was discussed. [The Committee approved the request.](#)
8. Matters for ratification.
- [Upon notification of conversion from M.Tech to Ph.D., assignment of Prof. Preeti Srivastava and Prof. D. Sundar as PhD Supervisors for Tanya Bansal \(2023BEZ2002\) on the topic of 'Characterization of plasmid replicons from *Rhodococcus* sp. IITD102' was ratified.](#)
 - [The resignation letter received from Sarvesh Kumar \(2023BEZ8541\) was discussed and ratified.](#)
 - Project proposals submitted by faculty members:

S. No.	Project Name	Investigator	Funding Agency
1.	Development of an integrative bidirectional promoter based gene expression system for production of antimicrobial peptides	Prof. Preeti Srivastava (PI) Prof. Shilpi Sharma (Co-PI)	DBT
2.	Droplet assisted aeration proof-of-concept for oily water treatment	Prof. Kumari Priti Sinha (Co-PI) (PI = Prof. Bahni Ray)	SERB

3.	Identification of Bioactive Lipids as a Liquid Biopsy Tool for Early Detection of HCC and Evaluation of the Treatment	Prof. Ishaan Gupta (Co-PI) (PI = Dr. Ujjaini Dasgupta)	DBT
4.	Characterising the tumour immune microenvironment in responders	Prof. Ishaan Gupta (PI) (PI = Dr. Prabhat Singh Malik)	DBT
5.	Developing a Novel Digital Pathology diagnostic solution for precision oncology in Lung Cancer	Prof. Ishaan Gupta (PI) (PI = Dr. Prabhat Mallik)	ICMR
6.	Streamlining microbial co-conversion of carbon dioxide to 2,3-butanediol	Prof. Ashish Misra (PI) (Co-PIs = Prof. Shaikh Ziauddin Ahammad and Prof. Shyam Masakapalli)	DBT
7.	Directed evolution of rhizospheric communities for drought stress mitigation in tomato	Prof. Shilpi Sharma	DBT
8.	Development of biomanufacturing hub at IITD	Prof. Atul Narang (PI) Prof. KJ Mukherjee (Co-PI)	BIRAC

The above projects were circulated to members. As no comments were received, the projects were forwarded to the concerned authorities, and the item was ratified.

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



Lucinda E. Doyle
DRC Convenor