

Minutes of meeting

The Department of Biotechnology conducted an online meeting of the Board of Studies on 4th July 2020 at 10:00 am.

Following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar, Head, Department of Biotechnology
2. Dr. Smruti Thombare, Assistant professor, Department of Biotechnology
3. Dr. Tania Karipel, Assistant professor, Department of Biotechnology
4. Dr. Rachana Acharya, Assistant professor, Department of Biotechnology
5. Ms. Saleha Khan, Assistant professor, Department of Biotechnology
6. Dr. Namrata Parab, Assistant professor, Department of Biotechnology
7. Ms. Smita Jadhav, Lecturer, Department of Biotechnology
8. Ms. Jasvinder Kaushal, Lecturer, Department of Biotechnology

9. Dr. Deepali Karkhanis, Mumbai University Representative.
10. Dr. Arpita Gupte, D.Y. Patil University.
11. Dr. Purvi Bhatt NMIMS University
12. Dr. Vishal Narang, Industry Representative

Mr. Nachiket Sawant (Alumni) was unable to attend the meeting because of prior commitments.

Following points were discussed in the meeting:

1. It was informed to all BOS members that due to the current unavoidable situation due to COVID 19, MSc part II students may not be able to do projects in other esteemed institutions or industries. It was proposed that MSc Part II students will enrol and complete a module of NPTEL Swayam for a duration of 12 weeks (decided by the department) which would be assessed and marks will be included as their project marks. This proposal was unanimously agreed by all BOS members and a decision was taken to implement the same.
2. Dr. Deepali Karkhanis informed that for the current academic year, it is possible that the syllabus might be reduced however circular is awaited. In this case it was agreed that whatever action required will be taken keeping in mind guidelines given by the parent university. On this issue Dr. Arpita said that in their college, topics that are 'MUST KNOW' are taught and the topics that are 'GOOD TO KNOW' are given as assignments.
3. Dr. Arpita Gupte suggested the use of V-Labs of IIT Bombay, virtual labs for conducting practicals. Department members will take the required decision after consulting the other college committees such as the Exam cell to have a uniformity with all departments.

4. Dr, Purvi suggested the use of free e-books available on Libgen website and McGraw Hills site.
5. Other suggestions made by the BOS members were
 - a. Students can be asked to write a review on current research topics.
 - b. Students can be asked to write a research proposal on a particular research topic of their interest.
 - c. Students can be asked to carry out surveys on some ongoing issues
 - d. Students can be asked to submit a write up on any current interesting research article related to their practical topics OR there can be discussion on the article like a 'Journal Club'.

The above proposals may be implemented if required, as continuous assessment of practicals for UG or PG, after discussing with the college exam committee.