

**Date : Saturday 31st July 2021, Time: 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM**

**Report on : Board of Studies meeting in the subject of Biotechnology 2021**

**BOS MEMBERS:**

**Chairman:**

1. Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar, Head of the Biotechnology Department, Assistant Professor, Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College, Mumbai.

**Other University Subject Expert Representative:**

2. Dr. Satish Patil, Assistant Professor, School of Life Sciences, North Maharashtra University, Jalgaon
3. Dr. Virupaksha Bastikar, Assistant Professor, Head, Department of Bioinformatics, Amity University, Navi Mumbai

**Alumni Representative:**

4. Dr. Vaibhav Chikne, Post doctoral researcher, Lund University, Sweden

**Industry/ Corporate sector representative:**

5. Dr. Sivan Kumaraswami, Technical Support Consultant, Thane.
6. Ms. Pratiksha Chedda, Lead Molecular Biologist, AGM, Sir HN Reliance Foundation Hospital

**Mumbai University Subject Expert Representative (VC Nominee):**

7. Dr. Deepali Karkhanis, Head, Department of Biotechnology, V G Vaze Autonomous College of Arts, Science & Commerce, Mulund East, Mumbai

**Department Representatives:**

8. Dr. Tania Karipel
9. Dr. Rachana Acharya
10. Prof. Saleha Khan
11. Dr. Namrata Parab
12. Ms. Smita Jadhav
13. Ms. Jasvinder Kaur

**Members present for the meeting:**

1. Dr. Deepali Karkhanis
2. Dr Vaibhav Chikne,
3. Dr. Satish Patil
4. Dr Virupaksha Bastikar
5. Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar
6. Dr. Tania Karipel
7. Dr. Rachana Acharya
8. Dr. Namrata Parab
9. Prof. Saleha Khan
10. Prof.Smita Jadhav
11. Prof. Jasvinder Kaur

**Meeting Proceedings:**

The meeting for the Board of Studies in the subject of Biotechnology was held on 31st July 2021 at 11:30 am on virtual platform (zoom). The meeting concluded at 1:30 pm.

- The panel of members were welcomed by the Chairman, BOS and Head, Department of Biotechnology Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar.
- A brief introduction of the College and Department of Biotechnology was given by Dr. Tania Karipel. She briefed about the courses offered and facilities in the department.
- The Members of the BOS were introduced by Dr. Namrata Parab & Ms. Smita Jadhav.
- Dr. Rachana Acharya gave an overview of DBT Star Grant that the department received in 2019 and the DBT activities undertaken over the last two years.
- Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar, then took up the agenda for the meeting.
- Prof. Jasvinder gave the vote of thanks at the end of the session

### Minutes of meeting:

1. All the members of BOS unanimously approved the new syllabus proposed for FYBT. Some members suggested a few changes which also were approved by the BOS
  - a. The name of the paper, RJSUBT 107 has been changed from ‘Communication and soft skills development’ to ‘Communication and Computational skills development’ as the paper has more of computer related topics
  - b. A topic on plagiarism was proposed to be included in Paper RJSUBT 107.
2. BOS members approved the proposal of MSc Part II semester III students enrolling and completing an NPTEL online course of 12 weeks minimum for the academic year 2021-22, instead of the 6 months project, due to the current pandemic situation.
3. BOS members agreed on allotting 200 marks to the MSc II, Sem III research project when done offline at institutes for a period of 6 months.
4. Curriculum feedback was discussed with the members and following suggestions were noted down for further implementation:
  - In response to including computer languages, a topic on ‘introduction and application to data sciences’ was suggested to be included in SY syllabus rather than languages like R or python which was proposed by a member of the BOS. Dr. Virupaksha Bastikar will assist in framing the SY syllabus for the same.
  - In response to inculcating a reading habit, Dr. Satish Patil proposed to book review or chapter review can be given to students along with making notes on major topics.
  - In response to the introduction of a project in TYBT, Dr. Satish mentioned, because of the current pandemic scenario, a literature review can be assigned to students.
  - With respect to feedback from students related to stage fear & depression, the Department is planning an Infographic / poster presentation on the topic of environmental sciences and MLT for FYBT & TYBT respectively. Also mentor -mentee interactions will help students open up and speak about problems they may be facing. Dr. Deepali Karkhanis suggested group assignments can be given to students and they can present their team work in the form of working models, presentation of research paper/ poster, videos etc.
  - With respect to inculcating interest in research in UG students, along with Anubhav ke Bol (Illustrious alumni engagement in career guidance) and Gyan Vigyan (popular biological science lecture series) that is already in place, Dr. Vibhav Chikne suggested ‘Talk to a

scientist' can be organised monthly where any PhD fellow can share their work with the UG and PG students and this can be a great platform inspiring students to take up research as career.

- The BOS member agreed to keep the genetic portion of FYBT syllabus unchanged as they were in consent of it being at par with Mumbai University syllabi and it's a revision of whatever they have studied at lower grades