

Vivekanand Education Society's College of Arts, Science and Commerce (Autonomous)
Department of Biotechnology
Meeting with the Board of Studies (2024-25)

Date: 20th March 2025

Time: 1.30 pm

Mode: Hybrid

Agenda: Framing of syllabus for TYBSc Biotechnology (Sem V) as per NEP guidelines

Attended by:

1. Chairperson

Ms. Vinaya Jategaonkar

Coordinator, Department of Biotechnology

2. The entire faculty of each specialization:

A. Ms. Shmilona Jain

B. Ms. Geetanjali Harale

C. Ms. Ankita Jadhav

D. Ms. Mayuri Vaidya

3. External Subject Expert Member:

1. Dr. Bhakti Mhatre

Assistant Professor

D Y Patil University

4. University Nominee:

Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar

Head of Department (Biotechnology)

Ramniranjan Jhunjhunwala College, Ghatkopar

5. Subject Expert (R&D/ Industry):

Mr. Virochan Chavan

Sr. Clinical Data Coordinator at IQVIA

Mumbai

6. PG Alumnus:

Ms. Vishakha Mali

Certified Senior Genetic counselor

MedGenome Laboratories

Minutes of the meeting:

1. Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar began the meeting by welcoming all members and stating the agenda of the meeting. She mentioned that the Sem V syllabus is based on the progressive pattern of subject introduction to the students from Sem I onwards.
2. Major I - Medical Microbiology II was presented by Ms. Mayuri Vaidya. The paper was accepted as it is by all present members with no suggestions or queries.
3. Major II - Industrial Biotechnology I was presented by Ms. Geetanjali Harale. The paper was accepted by all without queries. However, Dr. Sucheta Golwalkar suggested using an easy to understand reference material rather than 'Fermentation technology by Stanbury and Whittkar'. Either 'Industrial microbiology by Casida, L. E' or any other book by Indian author can be used.
4. Major III - Tissue Culture Techniques was presented by Ms. Ankita More. Mr. Virochan Chavan enquired whether instrumentation of tissue culture would be taken in detail. Ms. More confirmed that only applications of the instruments with respect to tissue culture

would be taught. Dr. Bhakti Mhatre suggested a change of reference material for Plant tissue culture to 'Introduction to Plant Tissue Culture by M.K. Razdan'.

5. Practical paper based on Major I and II was presented by Ms. Vinaya Jategaonkar. The paper was accepted as it is by all present members with no suggestions or queries.
6. Major Elective I - Molecular Biology II was presented by Ms. Geetanjali Harale. There was a discussion regarding the syllabus being too elaborate for 50 marks. The board suggested shifting the topic 'molecular markers' to subsequent semesters if required.
7. Major Elective II - Introduction to Biostatistics was presented by Ms. Vinaya Jategaonkar. The paper was accepted as it is by all present members with no suggestions or queries.
8. Minor - Biochemistry III and Practical paper based on minor were presented by Ms. Shmilona Jain . The paper was accepted as it is by all present members with no suggestions or queries.
9. Vocational Skill Course - Bioinformatics was presented by Ms. Geetanjali Harale. Dr. Bhakti Mhatre suggested using Swiss-PROT or any other latest protein visualization tools instead of Rasmol.
10. Practical paper based on VSC was also presented by Ms. Geetanjali Harale and passed by the board.
11. Ms. Vinaya Jategaonkar then introduced the implementation ideas for Field Projects which carry 2 credits. Each student is supposed to show 60 hours of work under this. The department had planned dividing the class into groups and giving them application based projects involving either surveys or lab work. Dr. Bhakti Mhatre suggested a problem based learning approach where the teacher mentor gives a problem and asks the students to come up with solutions for the same. The same project could be continued in the fourth year as a research project.
12. Lastly, under AOB Ms. Vinaya Jategaonkar proposed that the department apply for starting M.Sc. program in Biotechnology. NEP students in their second year were asked about their future plans and nearly 75% said they want to pursue a four year B.Sc. (Hons) course. The college has urged all departments having undergraduate programs only to apply for PG programs. This is a mandate under NEP to start with the fourth year of the undergraduate program. The board approved of the proposal and asked the department to go ahead with the formalities for the same.
13. Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar also proposed to increase the capacity of FYBSc Biotechnology from 36 to 50. This was proposed due to the recent receipt of the PM USHA grant, which has enabled expansion of laboratory infrastructure. The proposal was passed unanimously.

Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar
Coordinator
Department of Biotechnology