TERI School of Advanced Studies (TERI SAS)- Department of Biotechnology (DBT)

Date: 3rd June 2019; Time: 10:30 AM to 1:15 PM, Venue: C-001

Members Participated:

Dr. Ramakrishnan Sitaraman (RS),
Dr. Anandita Singh (AS),
Dr. Pallavi Somvanshi (PS),
Dr. Shashi Bhushan Tripathi (SBT)
Dr. Prateek Sharma (Dean Academic)
Dr. Udit Soni (Program Co-Ordinator),
Dr. Chaithanya Madhurantakam (Head)

Agenda:

1. DBT program re-structuring (if any), framework, follow up of timelines to be fixed as per the outcome of the meeting.
2. Departmental audit (held on 5- 6 Feb 2019 and 16th April 2019) outcome discussion with Dean Academics

Minutes:

1. **DBT programs re-structuring/ revision strategy**
   a. Faculty members of DBT with consensus resolved that the master's program from the department shall continue as MSc Plant Biotechnology.
   b. After due deliberations and inputs from all faculty members and the Dean Academics, faculty are of the view that MPhil program may be considered from the department and a three-tier program outline like: 'MSc- MPhil- PhD' be envisaged for the future course of action.
   c. MTech program in Biotechnology shall be considered strongly once the department acquires infrastructural capabilities to sustain the program requirements.
   d. PhD program currently offered from the department is in 'Bioresources and Biotechnology' and faculty are of the opinion that it has to be changed to PhD in 'Biotechnology'.
   e. Dean Academics suggested to the DBT faculty to create Program Review Committee headed by Dr. Anandita Singh and Dr. Shashi Bhushan Tripathi. The department welcomes the suggestion as this will help in creating the required framework related to Plant Biotechnology.
   f. Accordingly, the Program Co-Ordinator (PC) shall provide the details of the tasks associated with program revision to all faculty members (Appended Annexure I).

2. Departmental audit and outcome

a. TERI SAS Biotechnology Society will be notified through the office of the Registrar,

Composition for the same:

i. Secretary -To be elected
ii. All DBT faculty
iii. All MSc Students
iv. All PhD Scholars
v. DBT support staff
vi. Alumni's

Mandate of the Society:

i. Promote awareness in Biotechnology
ii. Maintain contacts (Alumni)
iii. Outreach and awareness on recent advances and contemporary issues in Biotechnology

b. Members discussed on the possibilities of following course re-structuring keeping in view of the NAAC regulations and consensus was arrived at:

i. *Applied mathematics* may be considered as an elective and a bridge course
ii. *'Technical Writing (Communication skills and technical writing)', 'Multivariate data analysis' and 'Bioethics and public awareness'* may be considered under value-added courses imparting transferable and life skills mentioned within SSR report of NAAC (Metric Number: 1.3.2)
iii. Choice based 'Value added courses' shall be offered in the revised MSc PBT program.

c. The department proposes the following three-step mechanism to assess the learning levels of the students and to implement appropriate measures for advanced and slow learners. This will be initiated from the academic session July 2019 -2020 as per the TERI SAS- DBT mandate.

Step 1: Assessment:

i. Academic level assessment of students at the time of admission
ii. After admission, departments will conduct "SLA: Scholastic Level Assessment" to determine the learning levels of the students (Pre SLA). Purpose of Pre SLA: Assessment level of students.
iii. Post SLA: At the time of exit i.e. 4th semester, "final" SLA will be conducted. Purposes of Post/Final SLA, to determine the outcome.

Step 2: Implementation:

i. Pre SLA will be conducted during BBP 101 second week.
ii. After evaluation is completed for Test 1, MPEC will be conducted to categorize slow, average and fast learners and also use Pre-SLA data
iii. Based on the recommendations of course coordinators and discussion among all MPEC members.

Step 3: Appropriate measures to include a suitable combination of:

i. Remedial coaching (Framework to be determined at the University level)
ii. Bridge course (Framework to be determined at the University level)
iii. To counsel and mentor both slow and advanced learners who are identified through this process

(Anandita Singh)

(Ramakrishnan Sitaraman)

(Pallavi Somvanshi)

(Prateek Sharma)

(Shashi Bhushan Tripathi)

(Udit Soni)

(Chaithanya Madhurantakam)

Annexure I

Program Review Committee for MSc Plant Biotechnology (TERI SAS- DBT)

Composition:

Co-Ordinator: Dr. Udit Soni

Program outline and framework: Dr. Anandita Singh and Dr. Shashi Bhushan Tripathi

Program feedback (Alumni, Industrial and Academic): Dr. Pallavi Somvanshi and Ms. Sonika Goyal

Structured Feedback Mechanism: Dr. Udit Soni, Dr. Ramakrishnan Sitaraman, Dr. Chaithanya Madhurantakam