

DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCE

Sophia College (Autonomous)

7th BoS Meeting Minutes

Date: 12th February, 2022

Members:

Name	Designation
Dr. Sree Nair	Chairperson: Assistant Professor and Head, Department of Life Sciences, Sophia College (Autonomous), Mumbai
Dr. Priya Sundarrajan	Vice Chancellor's Nominee: Associate Professor, Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai
Dr. Indu Anna George	Subject Expert: Associate Professor and Head, Department of Life Sciences, University of Mumbai
Dr. Krishanu Ray	Subject Expert (from outside the parent university): Professor and Chairperson, Department of Biological Sciences, TIFR, Mumbai.
Dr. Swati Patankar	Subject Expert (from outside the parent university): Professor, Department of Biosciences and Bioengineering IIT-Mumbai.
Dr. Aditee Ghate	Representative from the Industry or the Corporate Sector/ Allied Area: General Manager -Compliance and Commercial Excellence Integrace Health
Dr. Radhika Tendulkar	Post-Graduate Meritorious Alumnus Assistant Professor, Department of Life Sciences and Biochemistry, St. Xavier's College (Autonomous), Mumbai

Minutes of the meeting:

1. The chairperson welcomed and introduced all members attending the BOS meeting.
2. Following members were present for the virtual meeting: Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran Dr. Indu George, Dr. Swati Patankar, Dr. Radhika Tendulkar, Dr. Sree R.Nair (Chairperson), Ms.Divya Sinha, Dr.Tressa Jacob, Ms.Sukaina Abbas and Ms.Kajal Sankhala.
3. Following members were unable to attend the meeting due to prior commitments:
Dr. Aditee Ghate, Dr.Bhavna Daswani (unwell) and Dr. Krishnanu Ray.

4. The meeting commenced at 11.00 am as per the agenda scheduled for the meeting.

Agenda 1

The minutes of the Sixth BOS were presented by the chairperson. Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran proposed the passing of the minutes of the 6th BOS meeting and Dr.Indu George seconded the passing of the minutes.

Agenda 2

Outcome of online mode of teaching for FY BSc syllabus change: For the change made with respect to MIC and AST: Dr Radhika Tendulkar and Dr Priya Sundarrajan both suggested that we should focus on microbiology culturing techniques in first year, they suggested to make them prepare media in groups, pour plates and check the bacteria flora diversity. They agreed to add MIC in the third year.

Dr Indu George cross checked with respect to the shifting of Bioinformatics theory and practical is exchanged with what. Sree mentioned that the Bioethics course is shifted.

Dr Swati Patankar asked about the connection with the practical across the years for PG with respect to fish behavior. Hema suggested that they will start with Daphnia in 1st Semester PG and then move on with fish behavior in the final year as the fishes could be returned back to the aquarium

Dr.Indu George had a question about the add on courses and if it is across the streams, Dr.Hemalatha Ramchandran said yes.Dr. Indu George asked if the add on courses has credits,Dr.Hemalatha Ramchandran said yes, Dr. Priya Sundarrajan enquired if scientific writing is in the syllabus, Dr.Hemalatha Ramachandran said it is an add on course. Lab report writing is introduced in the Fy BSc and Msc sem I.

Dr. Priya Sundarrajan recommends it to be a part of the MSc component.Dr.Hemalatha Ramachandran said its there in Research methodology. Priya also suggested exposing the FyBSc and SyBSc to it. To this Dr. Sree Nair said that we have elements of it in different ways for FyBSc and SyBSc, they suggested incorporating it in hard and fast as a component in the syllabus which would be useful for NAAC.Dr. Radhika Tendulkar replied she checked the syllabus and as Dr. Sree Nair mentioned the elements are incorporated in the syllabus.

Dr. Radhika Tendulkar asked about the details of the neuroanatomy session at JJ hospital. This initiative well appreciated by all members of the Board of studies

Dr. Priya Sundarrajan enquired about RUSA funding and asked details of how to apply: Hema mentioned its for research and infrastructure.

Ananya activity that Hema conducted with the TYBSc students on war and environmental consequences due to the war, appreciated.Dr. Indu George asked about the zentangle art which was explained to her.To the question from Dr. Swati Patankar regarding incorporation of the art into the curriculum ,it was explained to her that it is already being attempted in the PG classes. Dr.Hemalatha Ramachandran gives them anatomy assignments,wherein the students have to draw the brain structures using the zentangle art. The zentangle calendar was also well appreciated.

Dr.Hemalatha Ramachandran also explained that the BUILDER grant presentation went off well and chances of getting a grant is high.

Agenda 3

With regard to extra-academic activities, Dr. Sree Nair discussed the status of grants sanctioned/received by the department for the year 2020-2022, bioinformatics course and webinars conducted. She informed the members about the DBT Star Status, and DST WOS-A grant (PI: Dr. Bhavna Daswani) and WOS-B grant (PI: Mrs. Divya Sinha) have been received for the year 2020-22. She informed the board that the following members have received the fundings from RUSA.

	Staff	Project title	scsd Sanction
1.	Dr. Yasmin Khan	Investigation on lithium induced changes in differentiation state of C6 glioma cells: in vitro and in vivo studies	5 Lakh Rupees
2.	Dr. Hema Subramaniam	Autophagy, Apoptosis and cell survival in Malpighian Tubules of Drosophila model of Parkinson's Disease	2.5 Lakh Rupees
3.	Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran	A Comparison of Emotional Intelligence, Locus of Control, Self-Esteem and Brain Dominance in Senior College Students, in Maharashtra and Goa.	1.82 Lakh Rupees
4.	Dr. Sree Nair	The Effect of Hyperglycemia on Various Physiological Aspects of <i>Caenorhabditis elegans</i>	3 Lakh Rupees

Dr. Sree Nair enlisted the webinars/talks/sessions conducted by the department namely-The "Environmental Consequences of war" (as part of Ananya) (coordinated by Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran in collaboration with the Department of Education), 'Scientific Temper :Antidote to Superstitious Beliefs' (coordinated by Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran along with NSS unit). Another program was organized in collaboration with WHO. Ms. Sukaina Abbas organized 'A National Colloquium – Safe Maternal and Newborn care' – student poster presentations and art corner. "Mitochondria"-where they come from and where they take us" was organized as a of superannuation Dr. Hema Subramanian. Teaching-learning process need to learn and unlearn' (coordinated by Dr. Ramachandran and Dr. Ivan John), 'Genome Editing' in collaboration with IWSA (coordinated by Dr. Sree R. Nair), Sophia Nobel Oration in Physiology/Medicine 2021 (coordinated by Ms. Kajal Sankhala) and Career Counseling Talks –Careers in Environmental Sciences (coordinated by Dr. Tressa Jacob) were the other activities organized by the department. Dr. Sree Nair presented the cover page of SCRIBE (Science Chronicles in Research and Investigation Based Education), an in-house Science Journal, (cover page of volume 1(2020) and volume 2(2021) and informed the board that this year's issue is in the process. Dr. Sree Nair also shared a screenshot of the publications of the department by Dr. Bhavna Daswani along with Dr. Yasmin Khan and Dr. Hemalatha Ramachandran along with Ms. Divya Sinha. She also shared a screenshot of Dr. Bhavna Daswani's paper presentation in Indian Academy of Neurosciences and also of a poster presented by TYBSc students in Paryavarnam 2021. She also showcased the zentangle calendar made by the staff and students of the Department of Life sciences.

Dr. Indu George, Dr. Swati Patankar, Dr. Priya Sundarrajan and Dr. Radhika Tendulkar congratulated the department on the many extra-academic activities conducted

The BoS members appreciated the efforts taken by the department with respect to the courses and extracurricular activities for the students even after the lockdown in this year

Everyone thanked the Chairperson and the experts.