

Minutes of the Meeting held on 06/04/2021

An online meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) to discuss the agendas as per the requirement of NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) accreditation of Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University, Dehradun, was convened on 06/04/2021. The following members attended the meeting:

1. Shri A.S. Rawat, Director, FRI & VC, FRIDU/Chairman IQAC, FRI Deemed to be University.
2. Shri Jagdish Chandra, PCCF & Managing Director, Haryana Forest Development Corporation Limited, Panchkula, Haryana (Member)
3. Dr. N.S.K. Harsh, Scientist-G (Retd.), Forest Pathology Division, FRI (Member)
4. Dr. H.S. Ginwal, Dean (Academic), FRI Deemed to be University. (Member)
5. Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Registrar, FRI Deemed to be University. (Member)
6. Dr. Manisha Thapliyal, Scientist-F, Silviculture Division, FRI (Member)
7. Dr. Vipin Prakash, Scientist-E, Forest Protection Division, FRI (Member)
8. Dr. Vikas Rana, Scientist-E, C&P Discipline, Forest Products Division, FRI (Member)
9. Dr. Shailendra Kumar, Scientist-C, Forest Products Division, FRI (Member)
10. Ms. Diksha Mishra, Student, M.Sc. Forestry, FRI Deemed to be University. (Member)
11. Dr. V.K. Varshney, Scientist-G, Chemistry and Bioprospecting Division, FRI (Member Secretary)

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members of IQAC and after that the Member Secretary of the IQAC with the permission of the chair started the proceedings of the meeting.



(V.K. Varshney)

Member Secretary, IQAC
FRI Deemed to be University
Dehradun



(A.S. Rawat)

Chairman, IQAC
Director, FRI & VC
FRI Deemed to be University
Dehradun

Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University, Dehradun

Minutes of the meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) as per the requirement of NAAC (National Assessment and Accreditation Council) Accreditation of Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University, Dehradun.

Agenda Item No. 1/2021: To consider confirmation of the minutes of meeting of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) held on 28.10.2020

Resolution No. 1/2021: Members having gone through the minutes approved the same.

Agenda Item No. 2/2021: To consider the compliance report on the resolutions of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) in its meeting held on 28.10.2020

Resolution No. 2/2021: Members having gone through the compliance report accepted the same

Agenda Item No. 3/2021: Activities of Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University during academic session 2020-2021 (January 2021-June 2021)

Following activities are proposed during academic session 2020-2021 (January 2021-June 2021).

- (i) Conduction of examination of M.Sc. courses.
- (ii) Declaration of result of M.Sc. courses and pre Ph.D. compulsory course.
- (iii) Commencement of regular M.Sc. classes through online/offline mode.
- (iv) Notification of Entrance Examination for M.Sc. and Ph.D.
- (v) Entrance examination for M.Sc. courses through online/offline mode.
- (vi) Submission of term papers and Master's Thesis by M.Sc. students and their evaluation.
- (vii) Organization of online expert lectures by resource persons/ guest faculty for M.Sc. students.
- (viii) Organization of lectures pertaining to incubation cell.
- (ix) Conduction of one day study tours and field excursions for M.Sc. students.

Resolution No. 3/2021:

The Cell, having gone through the proposed activities, resolved to grant the approval to carry out activities during even semester (January 2021 to June 2021) academic session 2021-2022.

Sh. A.S. Rawat, Chairman suggested that the term paper topics should be more innovative and duplication of term paper topics should be avoided. He also said that in case of late submission the marks should be deducted. He further suggested engaging faculties from different research centres of ICFRE and other Institutes to deliver specialized lectures to the M.Sc. students.

Dr. N.S.K. Harsh suggested preparation of database for term paper topics in order to maintain the quality of the term papers.

Dr. Jagdish Chandra suggested the names of two resource person Dr. Sanjeev Chauhan and Dr. K.K. Prathiman for expert lectures for students as well as for faculties.

Agenda Item No. 4/2021: Activities initiated by Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University to be included under best practices during academic session 2020-2021 (January 2021-June 2021)

Following activities are explored and identified by the Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University under best practices during academic session 2020-2021 (January 2021-June 2021)

Administration:-

1. Recognition of following Institutes as Ph.D. Research Centres has been submitted for approval of Board Management in its meeting held on 8th March, 2021

(i) National Institute of Hydrology, Rorkee

(ii) Zoological Survey of India, Northern Regional Centre, Dehradun

(iii) Central Agroforestry Research Institute (ICAR-CAFRI), Jhansi

The Board of Management approved the proposal of National Institute of Hydrology, Rorkee and Zoological Survey of India, Northern Regional Centre, Dehradun. The Board of Management also approved the proposal of Central Agroforestry Research Institute (ICAR-CAFRI), Jhansi and resolved to constitute a committee to visit the institute and to submit the report.

2. As per UGC guidelines, latest Student Handbook published and uploaded on University's website

3. Inclusion of students from Iran under Foreign Nationals category has been submitted for approval

4. An MoU between Forest Research Institute Deemed to be University (ICFRE), Dehradun, India and Beijing Forestry University, Beijing, China has been submitted for approval.

5. The University maintains a ragging free campus

6. The students are part of various decision making process of the University like Student's welfare & disciplinary committee, Anti-sexual harassment committee, Student Counseling centre, Internal Quality Assessment Cell etc.

7. The University has initiated Prof. Puran Singh Best Thesis Cash Award to provide recognition and incentive to outstanding original research done by the doctoral degree students and to promote high quality doctoral thesis research in the area of Forestry.

8. Revised Memorandum of Association (MoA) of FRI Deemed to be University was compiled and finally approved by the Board of Management.

10. FRI Deemed to be University provides merit scholarship to the topper students in each course. The scholarship may be up to Rs.11, 000/- per semester and is awarded separately for each semester depending on the result of the previous semester. For the purpose of award of scholarship in the first semester the result of the entrance test is considered and the topper in general category and SC/ST category are awarded the scholarship in each course.

Academic:-

1. The University prepare a detailed academic calendar and course plan at the beginning of every semester and all activities are carried out while strictly adhering to the same.

2. Orientation programme for newly admitted students is conducted at the beginning of every academic year during which the students are familiarized with the academics and administration of the University. At last the students were sent to library and various divisions of the Institute to understand their working process.

3. The University follows Choice Based Credit System.

4. In M.Sc. Wood Science and Technology Programme of the University students are attached to reputed Industries nationwide for a period of one month to expand their practical knowledge in the field.

5. Incubation Cell has been established in the University to encourage the students in innovation and entrepreneurship.

6. Round the year, guest talks, seminars and symposiums are organized wherein eminent personalities from the research/corporate field are invited to share real life experiences with students. A good blend of theory and practical is experienced by the students.

7. The University maintain its academic awards in an electronic depository enabling online access of academic awards which will eliminate the need for persons to approach educational institutions for obtaining transcripts of such awards or marks-sheets for verification.

8. Regular academic meetings were conducted by the University for timely completion of the curriculum and conduction of examinations. The attendance, IT related issues, etc were understood and analysed regularly to ascertain the quality of academic delivery.

9. During COVID-19 pandemic students were given exposure to laboratory assignments/practical experiments through virtual laboratories, sharing of the recorded visuals of laboratory work and digital resources available for the purpose. Virtual classrooms and video conferencing facility were developed and all teaching staff were trained with the use of the technology. The online classroom platforms like webex and google meet were used for the optimum utilization of teaching.

Resolution No.4/2021:

The Cell, have gone through the activities and resolved to approve them under the best practices during even semester (January 2021 to June 2021) academic session 2021-2022.

Sh. A.S. Rawat suggested Industrial attachment/Internship component in the curriculum of M.Sc. Forestry and Environment Management. He also suggested utilization of opportunities in FRI for Master's Thesis/dissertation under various projects going on in various divisions of FRI.

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