

VCSG UTTARAKHAND UNIVERSITY OF HORTICULTURE & FORESTRY BHARSAR, PAURI GARHWAL

OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR

Minutes of the 9th Academic Council meeting

The 9th meeting of Academic council, VCSG UUHF Bharsar was held in committee room College of Forestry, Ranichauri, on 23rd of June, 2018 under the Chairmanship of Prof. C.M. Sharma, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor VCSG UUHF, Bharsar. At the outset Dr. S.P. Sati, Registrar, VCSG UUHF & Member Secretary of Academic Council welcomed the Chairman and the members of the Academic council. Member Secretary placed the agenda items to be discussed in the house including matters related to implementation of course curriculum for B.Sc. (Hons.) Forestry and B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture degree programmes, drafting of academic regulations, nomenclature of the different departments, supplementary examination and creation of departments in the College of Hill Agriculture and other issues with the permission of chairman.

In the inaugural remarks Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, UUHF, Bharsar gave the detailed account of the University, its infrastructures, Colleges, Research stations and its aim of establishment and other development works undergoing in the University. After his remarks Member Secretary tabled agenda items to be discussed in the council

Item No. 2018:9:1

Implementation of course curriculum for B.Sc. (Hons.) Forestry, B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture and B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture degree programmes as per 5th Dean's committee recommendations.

The Member Secretary of Academic Council apprised the house for necessity of implementation of course curriculum for B.Sc. (Hons.) Forestry, B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture and B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture degree programmes as per 5th Dean Committee recommendations. The council has reviewed the entire curricula/syllabus presented by different colleges and subsequently approved by the BOS of respective colleges for all the UG programmes as per 5th Dean's Committee. The council recommended the implementation of above UG courses as per the 5th Dean's committee recommendations and approved the syllabus for UG programmes presented in the Council w.e.f. 2018-19 batch. The house suggested that, the nomenclature of all the courses/subjects needs to be abbreviated as per subjects (not as per Departments in case of common courses to be taught in Basic Sciences and other allied departments) of 4 words in courses, example for the Course title like "Fundamentals of Entomology" it should be abbreviated as "ENTO-123" and so on.

Reviewing of academic regulations (admission procedure, eligibility, examination, grading systems and hostel rules etc) of VCSG UUHF Bharsar.

Member Secretary placed before the house that there is a need to review academic rules and regulations and form academic calendar for each academic year. In order to review the existing academic rules and regulations, a committee was constituted by the council comprising- Dean COF, Dean COH, Assistant Registrars of COF, COH, ADSW, Mr. Sumit Chaudhary, Dr. Ajay Kumar Yadav under the chairmanship of Registrar and will submit its report latest by one-month time. Besides, the council approved the "online submission of applications" for the entrance examination 2018 to take admission in different programme of the University in the academic year 2018-19.

Item No. 2018:9:3

Nomenclature of different departments in the College of Forestry, Ranichauri as approved in the 5^{th} Academic Council meeting held in 2014.

In the 5th Academic Council Meeting held on date 04.05.2014, the creation of five departments and two divisions in College of Forestry was resolved. During the discussion on the issue, all the members unanimously agreed to keep the same departments and divisions for next academic session of 2018-2019 for implementation of 5th Dean Committee recommendations. The house resolved that "Nomenclature of the different departments in the College of Forestry, Ranichauri to be kept as such approved in the 5th Academic Council Meeting held in 2014.

Item No. 2018:9:4

Nomenclature of different degree programmes at the Under Graduate and Post Graduate levels

The matter was thoroughly discussed in the council and after detailed deliberations it was decided to keep UG degree programmes as B.Sc. (Hons.) Forestry, B.Sc. (Hons.) Horticulture and B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture and PG degree programmes as M.Sc. Forestry (Agroforestry), M.Sc. Forestry (Silviculture), M.Sc. Forestry (Forest Products and Utilization), M.Sc. Forestry (Tree Improvement) as such. The council also approved the separate PG programmse as M.Sc. Forestry (Forest Ecology and Wildlife Management) in the college of Forestry. For Horticulture the P.G. programmes approved were M.Sc. (Horticulture) Fruit Science, M.Sc. (Horticulture) Vegetable Science, M.Sc. (Horticulture) Postharvest Technology, M.Sc. (Horticulture) Floriculture and Landscaping. The nomenclature of the PG programmes should be as per ICAR guidelines.

Item No. 2018:9:5

Consideration of the petition of Ms. Priyanka Raturi, M.Sc. student

The matter was placed for deliberation before the council. Considering the petition of Ms Priyanka Raturi, all the members of the council unanimously agreed to provide her a chance on humanitarian ground, however, this is one time relief and should not be made precedence for future.

Allowing the employees of the State Forest Department as In-Service candidates for pursuing higher studies to improve their qualification, knowledge and skill with one seat in each discipline

After the deliberations at length, the council resolved to admit working professionals not below the rank of Range Forest Officer (RFO) of the state provided the candidate full-fills the minimum eligible criteria, however, only sponsored candidates from the forest department will be considered for the same. A maximum of two seats to be reserved for inservice candidates from the forest department in each discipline of M.Sc. Forestry. This will enhance the networking, brand, visibility, field exposure and more interactions with forest department for the benefit of students and the university. The house unanimously agreed The house also agreed that in service candidates may also be allowed in Agriculture and Horticulture disciplines. The house also proposed that international students for the admission in various programmes at university will be invited for creating diverse and international environment in the university.

Item No. 2018:9:7 Holding of Convocation of the University each year

The council unanimously agreed that convocation of the university should be held every year.

Item No. 2018:9:8

Institution of Ph.D. Degree programmes in the departments of Silviculture, Agroforestry, Forest Product and Utilization, Tree Improvement, Forest Ecology and Wildlife Management, Vegetable Science, Floriculture and Landscaping and Fruit Science with the intake capacity of 2 students in each department.

The Member Secretary briefed the house that in order to strengthen the research in forestry there is need to start Ph.D. degree in Forestry in different disciplines. All the members of the council agreed to initiate Ph.D. degree in Silviculture, Agroforestry, Forest Products and Utilization, Tree Improvement and Forest Ecology and Wildlife Management with the intake capacity of 2 candidates in each department/discipline. The institution of Ph.D. Degree in the above proposed subjects at College of Forestry, Ranichauri was approved by the council as per ICAR/ 5th Dean's committee recommendations. However, a 4 member committee was constituted to develop/review the syllabi of Ph.D. as per ICAR/5th Dean's committee and to streamline the Ph.D. Degree programmes at various Colleges comprising of following members (1) Dr. V.P. Khanduri (Chairperson), (2) Dr. Amol Vasishth, (3) Dr. Arvind Bijalwan and (4) Dr. Gargi Goswami.

It was also decided to consider M.Sc. degree programmes in certain disciplines of agriculture in next meeting of council.

Item No. 2018:9:9 Criteria for Make Up examination

After detailed discussions in the council, it was resolved that 'make up examination' shall be allowed only for the final examination in a semester in the condition of the student being hospitalized, after producing medical certificate duly verified by the CMO. It should also be organized for the students who are affected by natural calamities/ demise of the nearest family members/appearing in competitive examination of repute for final year students with the discretion of Dean of the respective Colleges.

Item No. 2018:9:10

Provision for maximum of two courses for supplementary examination in a semester

The house unanimously decided that the student can be allowed to appear in supplementary examinations only for two courses in a semester irrespective of marks obtained in the subjects. "Failing in more than two subjects, the student should not be allowed to appear for Supplementary Examination in any of the subject in which he/she is failed. In that condition the student will have to repeat all the courses in which they are failed". It was also decided to charge Rs. 1000/- (One Thousand only) as the fee for the supplementary examination for each paper.

Item No. 2018:9:11 Counting of attendance for waiting list students

Keeping in view the extended period of registration and operation of the waiting list, the house unanimously resolved that the actual period of counting of attendance should be counted from the date of registration of the students.

Item No. 2018:9:12

Word "Compartment" to be replaced with Supplementary Examination in Academic Regulations 2014

The council agreed, that the word "Compartment" be replaced with "Supplementary Examination" in Academic Regulations-2014, since word "Compartment" is no longer in use in the professional institutions.

Item No. 2018:9:13

Provision for fee refund to the students who withdraw or surrender their seats allocated through CET examination before registration

The house unanimously resolved that fee can be refunded if a candidate withdraws or surrenders his/her seat before the registration date. The amount equivalent to tuition fee and caution money shall be refunded. However, in case a student withdraws afterwards from any programme, only caution money would be refundable.

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Supplementary Examination to be conducted before the Mid-Term Examination

The supplementary examination should be conducted before the Mid-Term Exam of the succeeding semester.

Item No. 2018:9:15

Provision for minimum 75% attendance in each course to be eligible for appearing in final examination of the respective semester

The members of the council unanimously decided to keep a minimum of 75% of attendance as an eligibility for appearing in the final examination of the semester. However, the final decision on the matter will be taken by the respective Deans of the Colleges and/or by the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor.

Item No. 2018:9:16

Marks deducted in lieu of missed Pre Mid-Term and Mid-Term examination

The council agreed that the provision of deduction of marks in lieu of missed premidterm and mid-term examination be abolished (w.e.f. from the first semester of academic year 2018-19).

Item No. 2018:9:17

Creation of Departments in the College of Hill Agriculture Chirbatiya

Considering the paucity of faculty members in the College of Hill Agriculture Chirbatiya, the house deferred the creation of departments in the College of Hill Agriculture Chirbatiya.

Item No. 2018:9:18

Exemption of NSS for first batch of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture and implementation of Physical Education instead of NSS

The house agreed that the exemption of NSS for first Batch of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture and implementation of Physical Education in place of NSS in VI and VII semester for the batch 2015-16 of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture should be offered as a special case. This provision is made only for 2015-2016 batch (first batch) of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture students as a special case.

Item No. 2018:9:19

Reduction of time duration for each practical class from three hours to two hours

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The house agreed that time duration for each practical class in UG and PG courses should be reduced from three hours to two hours as this duration is prevalent in most of the agriculture universities of the country.

Item No. 2018:9:20 Formulation of Academic Calendar

The council constituted a 3 members' committee under the Chairmanship of Registrar comprising of Assistant Registrars, College of Forestry and College of Horticulture as members to formulate the academic calendar of the University. The academic calendar will be implemented from the coming academic session of 2018-19.

Item No. 2018:9:21

Implementation of already running B.Sc. Agriculture (Hons.) course as per IV Dean's committee recommendation

The house approved that already registered students in B. Sc. Agriculture (Hons.) would get degree as per IV Dean Committee.

Item No. 2018:9:22

Creation of Department of Basic and Social Science as per 5th Dean's Committee

All the members of the Academic Council agreed that as per 5th Dean Committee there is a need to establish Department of Basic and Social Sciences in the College of Forestry.

Item No. 2018:9:23

Renaming of "remedial course" and its grading

The house after deliberations on this agenda approved that as per 5th Dean's Committee, it would be termed as 'Remedial course' at both UG and PG levels. The student would be marked/graded as "Satisfactory" or "Unsatisfactory" i.e. if the student scores less than 60% in that particular course, he/she will be marked "Unsatisfactory" otherwise "Satisfactory"

Item No. 2018:9:24

Submission of yellow form/course programme and synopsis of PG students

It is proposed that for post graduate students, the yellow form/course programme giving the details of courses to be studied in a degree programme should be submitted before the beginning/commencement of II semester and the Synopsis of research work to be conducted by the students in Masters programmes should be submitted before the beginning/commencement of III Semester (before the beginning/commencement of 5th semester of students studying deficiency courses). The agenda was discussed at length and the house approved it as such.

Item No. 2018:9:25

Co-option of advisory committee member for PG. students.

It was proposed that in case of absence of any advisory committee member on a particular day of synopsis seminar /thesis viva-voce, provision for co-option of member should be allowed.

The agenda was discussed at length and the house approved it as such.

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Item No. 2018:9:26 Condonation of attendance.

As already discussed by the house in agenda item No. 2018:9:15 above, there would be no provision for condonation of the minimum 75% of attendance in a semester as it is mandatory for enabling a student for appearing in final examination.

Item No. 2018:9:27 Disposal of old answer sheet

The answer sheets of all the examinations of every course should be retained for one year and there after the same can be disposed-off. The procedure for the disposal of the answer sheets would be followed as per state Government norms/University norms.

Item No. 2018:9:28 Criteria for studying remedial courses

The council suggested that a set of remedial courses would be formulated for PG students as per the requirement of disciplines. The formulation of such courses would be done by the members of Board of Studies (BoS) of the respective Colleges before the commencement of Academic Year 2018-19.

Item No. 2018:9:29 Nomenclature of existing PG programmes.

The agenda has already been discussed in agenda item No. 2018:9:4.

Item No. 2018:9:30 Appointment of Dean PGS

The house unanimously suggested that there is an urgent need of a Dean PGS at University. Therefore, it is proposed that Dean PGS should be appointed to scrutinise the PG research and course work to meet the quality standards

Item No. 2018:9:31 Budgetary provision for Lab equipments

Separate budget should be allocated for the purchase of basic lab equipments as per requirements submitted by the concerned scientists.

Item No. 2018:9:32 Elimination of supplementary Examination system.

The matter has already been discussed in Agenda Item No. 2018:9:10

Reconsideration of external examination question papers

The house proposed that there should be separate subjective and objective parts of the final examination papers. However, the objective part of the paper should be taken back after 45 minutes of examination to maintain the sanctity of objective question paper in the examination.

Item No. 2018:9:34

Affiliation of private Colleges with VCSG UUHF Bharsar

After the detailed deliberations the house decided that the remarks of His Excellency, The Chancellor/Governor of Uttarakahnd regarding affiliation of private colleges, there should be comprehensive guidelines framed by the state government, till then no decision can be taken for the affiliation.

Item No. 2018:9:35

Any other items with the permission of Chair

The meeting ended with the vote of thanks by the member secretary to all the members for fruitful deliberations. He also thanked Prof. V.K. Kaul making his presence in the meeting and valuable suggestions in the improvement of academics in the University.

The Meeting ended with the vote of thanks of the Secretary Academic Council

(S.P. Sati)

Registrar & Secretary Academic Council VCSG UUHF

Bharsar