



DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

SCHOOL OF EARTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF KASHMIR,

Hazratbal, Srinagar-190006, Kashmir, J&k

NOTES

No: MoM-Res.Sch/ENVSC/KU-24
Dated: 10-9-2024

Minutes of first meeting of Coordinator with research scholars of Environmental Science on 10/09/24 under the chair of Dr. Sami Ullah Bhat

Agenda: **Feedback/suggestions/Grievance of Research Scholars of Environmental Science regarding research and administrative matters if any**

The meeting was convened as a past practice to have an understanding on the issues and grievances if any from the Research Scholars of the Department. They were given a free hand to have their genuine grievances/feedback/suggestions registered and recorded in a cordial atmosphere before the Coordinator in presence of Research In-charge. During the discussion and deliberations following grievances/feedback/suggestions surfaced which are listed below along with proposed response/ action taken as the case may be on part of the Departmental Research Committee Members.

S.No	Grievance/observations/suggestions	Response/Action Taken
The meeting started with the opening remarks by the coordinator of the Department regarding the purpose of the meeting and expectations, role and responsibility of the scholars, faculty and staff of the Department. The coordinator spelled out that the issues related to research scholars fall mainly in five categories/interfaces wherein each stakeholder has its own role and responsibility.		
1	Scholar-University Interface	The Scholar–University interface mainly dominated by the policies, statutes and regulations of University which are being followed by Department in letter and spirit and thereby leaves little scope for the Department.
2	Scholar –Department Interface	This interface is very crucial where Department has a principal role to address the issues and grievances of research scholars and this interface needs to strengthened for effective delivery of services and disposal of cases.
3	Mentor–Mentee Interface/Relationship	This interface is heart of the research ecosystem in Department and holds the key for upward research trajectory of the Department. This interface must cultivate the culture of asking relevant research questions to enrich academic and research deliberations, meetings and discussions within the group/ Lab/Department to contribute meaningfully in research plans and priorities of the Department. Regular progress review meetings under this interface should be accorded top priority for having productive and meaningful professional relationship.
4	Research Scholar- Research Scholar Relationship	There needs a conducive environment in the labs for the research scholars to work smoothly. Strong, mutually beneficial relationship among research scholars enhances collaboration, learning, and support. Open communications between scholars where research ideas, challenges, and results can be discussed without fear of criticism or competition. The scholars need to share resources like tools, software, reading materials and methodologies and working together on presentations, papers and projects for better productivity and successful contributions. The Department will try to create a conducive atmosphere and culture for strengthening this interface.



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5	Research scholar-PG Student Relationship	The scholars can act as mentors to the students providing guidance, support and advice on cracking competitive exams, potential career paths, Ph.D. programs, internships, or scholarships etc. Department is mulling a proposal to involve the research scholars in teaching- learning process in light of UGC guidelines.
Feedback/Grievances/Issues/ Suggestions		
6	Drinking Water facility (RO System) be upgraded or replaced in Department	Dr. Mohd Muslim has been asked to procure a new water purification system on priority. Old RO system will be also be repaired.
7	Maintenance of Hygiene and cleanliness of Washroom in the Department needs a serious attention	Hygiene and Sanitation Committee 2024-25 with due representation from students and research scholars has been constituted to monitor and maintain the overall hygiene sanitation and civic look of the Department.
8	Air Conditioning facility for Labs	This demand is not possible for time being as it has a financial implications. However, in the future Department will take the matter with University authorities for meeting its expenditure.
9	Course work should be completed in a time bound manner	It is the domain of concerned Dean and the process has been streamlined from last two years. The Department will also take steps for completion course work in arranging lectures/workshops.
10	Meeting time lines for completion of research programme	Timely completion of PhD research work and conduct of various seminars and RPAC presentation has been streamlined now and there has been no delay on part of Department. However at the same on the request of Research Scholars the course work/ seminars/ RPAC/resubmission have been postponed.
11	Scope of Environmental Science in the present scenario	Research scholars are encouraged to reach out to relevant quarters and recruitment agencies/ departments for expanding the scope and employable opportunities and the Department/ University will take all possible steps for expanding the scope and prospects within the UT of Jammu and Kashmir.
12	IGNOU (Sharing of Project reports) and distance mode degree	University of Kashmir as a policy matter does not recognise the science degree in distance mode. However, it has no role to stop the IGNOU from offering the Degree in Environmental Science. Department will make sure that work carried out by PG students/ Research Scholars here is not shared/copied/stolen with any one including IGNOU students/candidates
13	Batch 2023 Corse work Examination	The matter will be taken with Dean of the school at the earliest.
14	Electricity and water problems in Labs	A committee has been constituted by the Department to visit each lab and identify the requirements related to water and electric supply (Repairing of Wash basins, Electrical switches, sockets and wiring) to be placed before Departmental Committee for addressing such issues.
15	Cleanliness in Labs	The Department will carry separate lab visit to assess the situation. Besides a committee for maintaining Environmental Hygiene in the department has been already framed.
16	Wifi	The matter will be taken with the IT department on priority. Mr. Hashim Jalil Chishti has been asked to monitor the issue.

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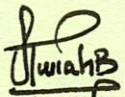
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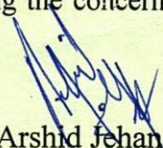
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17	Skill based workshops	The department will try to arrange the funds to conduct skill based workshops for research scholars. The scholars are encouraged to apply for such programmes in various institutions/departments across the country.
18	Attendance/discussion during Presentation/ Seminars	It was resolved to cultivate a practice of having a meaningful participation in seminars by bringing diverse perspectives on the table for enhancement and improving the research ecosystem in the Department. It is also desired by the DRC that scholars who have to present their work in RPAC/Pre-submission/Viva Voce need to screen it in his/her lab/group first for fitness and appropriateness and share the same with Research In-charge 1-2 days in advance for comments/suggestions.
19	Networking and Collaboration	The scholars are highly encouraged to link with the experts of their respective fields which will not only help them in their research but also in publications and carrier opportunities. The mentors are asked to facilitate their networking and collaboration through recommendations and references or facilitating their training/ analysis in various labs of the country and abroad.
20	AI in Research	AI can be cautiously used for correction of language and grammar but not to generate data and upholding the ethics and highest standards of professionalism.
21	Awareness about Lab Analysis/High-end Equipment facilities availability for research scholars in the Department	Information regarding availability of such high-end facilities and analysis will be put on Departmental website. Research Scholars are encouraged to go through website of DST Govt of India and other academic/research institutions in the country.
22	Research Scholars details on Departmental website	We are updating our Departmental website. We intend to keep brief sketch of 100 words with a photograph of all the research scholars on our Departmental website.
23	Request of Mohammad Younis with regard to relaxation in pursuing research programme	A separate meeting with the concerned research scholar will be held in the Department.

The meeting closed with a positive note that the Department will try its best to take all possible necessary steps and measures for addressing the concerns and genuine grievances of the research Scholars.


Dr. Sami Ullah Bhat
Member


Dr. Arshid Jehangir
Member


Dr. Mohd Muslim
Member


Dr. Sami Ullah Bhat
Chairman/Coordinator

Copy to:

1. All concerned Faculty members/Lecturers
2. Departmental Website
3. Research Scholars representatives
4. File