Minutes

of the ordinary meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Botany held on Monday, 18th April, 2016 at 10:30 a.m. in the Conference Hall of the department. The following were present:

1. Dr. Irfan Ali Khan
2. Prof. Mohammad Anis
3. Prof. Firoz Mohammad
4. Prof. Nafees Ahmad Khan
5. Prof. Irshad Mahmood
6. Prof. (Mrs.) Ghazala Parveen
7. Prof. Mansoor A. Siddiqui
8. Prof. M. Badruzzaman Siddiqui
9. Prof. Abrar A. Khan
10. Prof. Hisamuddin
11. Prof. Tabrez Ahmad Khan
12. Prof. Samiullah Khan
13. Prof. Zaki A. Siddiqui
14. Prof. Shamsul Hayat
15. Prof. Fareed A. Khan
16. Prof. (Mrs.) Razia Khatoon Zaidi
17. Prof. (Mrs.) Sheila Shahab
18. Prof. Altaf Ahmad
19. Dr. (Mrs.) Kiran Lata Chauhan
20. Dr. Athar A. Khan
21. Dr. Qazi Fariduddin
22. Dr. Anwar Shahzad
23. Dr. Asim Masood
24. Dr. Tariq Aftab
25. Prof. M. Yunus Khalil Ansari (In the Chair)

Before taking up the agenda for consideration, Prof. Irshad Mahmood on his behalf and on behalf of faculty members welcomed the new Chairman Prof. M. Yunus Khalil Ansari, who took the responsibilities on February 25, 2016.

Point of order was raised by Prof. Altaf Ahmad that space allocation does not come under the preview of board of Studies. Chairman gave the ruling that space allocation comes under 22(3C) statutes of university.
Item No. 1

a. The minutes of meetings of Board of Studies held on 22.11.2014, 28.01.2015, 30.05.2015 & 05.10.2015, were confirmed.

b. The minutes of meetings of Board of Studies held on 09.09.2015 & 23.01.2016 were confirmed except few items mentioned below:
   i. Meeting held on 09.09.2015 confirmed except item No.02.
   ii. Meeting held on 23.01.2016 item No.03 not confirmed. This item will be considered in the next Board of Studies.

c. Meeting held on 22.12.2015 was not confirmed

Item No. 2 Matter related to research:

The board considered and recommended minor changes (specifications)/ major changes in the title of Ph.D. programme of the following students.

(a) Major changes

   New Topic
   “Assessment of genetic variability and evaluation of mutants developed through heavy metals and chemical mutagens in Lens culinaris Medik”.

   Old Topic
   “Studies of genetic diversity at Morphological, Cytological and Molecular level in Brassica species”.

(b) Minor changes/specifications

   New Topic
   “Effect of GA3, and Tria Application on the Performance of Peppermint Grown under Salinity Stress”

   Old Topic
   “Effect if different plant growth regulators on peppermint grown under salinity stress”

New Topic
“Studies on disease complex involving *Meloidogyne javanica* – *Rotylenchulus reniformis* in *Beta vulgaris* L. and its management”

Old Topic
“Studies on disease complex involving *Meloidogyne javanica* – *Rotylenchulus reniformis* in Sugarbeat and its management”


New Topic
“Dynamics of some chemical mutagens in the induction of mutation in *Linum usitatissimum* L.”

Old Topic
“Study of Genetic Diversity of *Linum usitatissimum* L. using cytomorphological, biochemical and molecular analysis”

(c) Change of supervisor/ Appointment of Co-supervisor

The board considered the application of Mr. Afaan Fazli addressed to chairman, department of Botany, AMU regarding appointment of co-supervisor. Deliberations were made but no faculty member from Physiology Section to which the student belong, was ready to guide him under their supervision. Therefore, in the absence of any supervisor the matter under question be forwarded to CASR for consideration.

Item No. 3

The board considered the application of B.Sc. Final year students submitted to the Chairman, Department of Botany for providing a room in the department as Seminar Library. The matter was discussed at length in B.O.S. and board was opinion that room No. 39 close to Lecture Theatre B2 (class room for B.Sc. Final) may be provided to them as Seminar Library. However, both faculty members, Prof. Shamsul Hayat and Dr. Qazi Fariduddin already have a big Central Research Lab. (1400 sq feet; 40X35 feet) for their research scholars beside their personal labs. Each of them have already occupied almost double the space than most of the other teachers in the department. Therefore, there is no further need to allot them additional space as department is
already space constrained. Moreover, request from Women’s College faculty for space is already pending. The two members (Prof. Shamsul Hayat and Dr. Qazi Fariduddin) who gave their dissent somehow manipulated with the connivance of the then chairman Prof. Firoz Mohammad to have an extra space in the pretext of developing the so called proteomics lab.

Item No. 4: Any other item(s).

i. The matter regarding the Central instrument facility (room no. 62) was discussed in the meeting. It was unanimously decided that lab No. 63 adjacent to central instrument lab should be interconnected with a sliding door to avoid the inconvenience to working persons. Moreover, single Technical Assistant (Instrumentation) will be sufficient to look after both the rooms.

ii. The members of B.O.S. wanted to know the content of the letter written by the then chairman Prof. Firoz Mohammad addressed to Pro Vice Chancellor regarding BUILD programme. He took away with him original letter as it is not available in the office of the chairman. Prof. Firoz Mohammad vehemently said in the B.O.S. “you write to higher authority I don’t care and I will not give the copy of the same”. As he denied to produce the original letter, the members suspect that the content of that letter may be objectionable or derogatory. The chairman apprised the Board that he has already written two letters, regarding the aforesaid letter.

The chairman is the custodian of all the papers sent from the department to the competent authorities, therefore, the original copies of all the papers must be maintained in the office record as ready documents.

(M. Yunus Khalil Ansari)
Professor & Chairman

Copy to:

1. All members of Board of Studies.
2. Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences.
3. Deputy Registrar (Council).

(M. Yunus Khalil Ansari)
Professor & Chairman
Note of Dissent on the agenda item
"Space allocation" of the BOS meeting held on April 18, 2016

Please find our submissions in this regard:

1. The new Plant Proteomics Lab (Room No 39) was developed in the space allotted by the Chairman, Department of Botany after due approval of the Vice Chancellor dated February 20, 2016.

2. The order of the Vice Chancellor cannot be defied as it does not fall in the purview of the BOS.

3. Presently, the said laboratory has been made fully functional facility after investing huge amount of funds, time and labour and our PhD students have started working in this lab.

4. The Board of Studies was wrongly apprised that students of BSc (F) Botany gave a representation asking for a library space. In fact, the application for a library space was taken by pressurising the students and the same was exploited to form a basis to dismantle the existing modern facility of plant Proteomics.

Even if the students of BSc (F) need to be allotted a separate library space, then how logical a decision is to dismantle already developed and fully functional laboratory which is only of its kind in the entire University. If the directives of the Vice Chancellor for space allocation was not acceptable to the Chairman, then the space could not have been allotted at the first place and even if the space was allotted then the renovation work as per the requirements of a modern Proteomics lab could not have been allowed. This could have saved our (the concerned teachers and most importantly the associated research scholars) time, money and labour in developing the lab with meticulous planning and executing the research programme involving one of the most modern areas of biology i.e. the proteomics research.

5. This newly developed facility has equipments worth of approximately Rs 50 lacs.

6. If any endeavour is made to dismantle this facility by citing untrue reason, this will be a loss of national property in general and departmental property in particular. Moreover, the dream of students who have already started working in this new field of plant proteomics will be shattered.

Therefore, we as members of Board of Studies submit the Note of Dissent on the agenda item "Space allocation" of the Board of Studies meeting held on April 18, 2016 with the comments that the approval of the Honourable Vice Chancellor on the developed running facility of plant proteomics lab (Room No 39) to us must be honoured and prevail.

(Signature)

Dr. Shamsul Hayat

(Signature)

Firoz Mohammad

(Signature)

Dr. Qazi Fariduddin
Rejoinder of the dissent submitted by 03 members of B.O.S.

1. Wrong information was furnished by both of you (Prof. Shamsul Hayat, Dr. Qazi Fariduddin) and the then Chairman Prof. Firoz Mohammad for the allotment of room No.39. You did not inform the Vice Chancellor that both of you have a central plant physiology lab for your research scholars which is the biggest lab in the department (1400 sq feet; 40X35 feet), besides your sitting rooms. Space allotted to both of you is already much more than the most of the faculty members of the Department.

2. Board is not defying the order of the Honourable Vice Chancellor but he should be apprised about the facts.

3. Most of the equipments were purchased almost 04 years back under 12th five year plan. These equipments were already installed and functional in your labs. Moreover, no recent purchase of equipments was done. Both of you conspired with the then Chairman and intentionally put equipments to grab the space. Board has full right to acquire the space in the interest of the department.

4. Your allegation that students did not give application for space is baseless and highly condemnable as the application given by B.Sc. III year students was produced before the Board. Renovation work was done from the funds of the Department and not by individual projects.

5. Most of the equipments were procured almost 04 years back. For example 2 D Gel Electrophoresis issued on 14.12.2012; leaf area meter and Gel electrophoresis on 26.02.2013 and leaf Fluorometer Licor on 24.10.2007. Both of you are trying to provide false information to grab the space. Out of 25 members present in board only 03 members who are party to decision gave their dissent.

6. There is no question of dismantling lab. No.39 at all, as all the equipments are handy and portable which may be shifted back to its original place. Both of you are unnecessarily creating havoc to grab additional space. You are thinking for yourself only but Board has to keep interest of all faculty members and students in mind.

Therefore, the equipments put in the Lab No.39 is an illegal attempt to occupy the space in the circumstances when Department is facing serious space constraints. It is expected that both of you (Prof. Shamsul Hayat and Dr. Qazi Fariduddin) shall vacate lab No.39 at an earliest in the interest of the Department by honouring the decision of the Board.

(M. Yunus Khalil Ansari)
Professor & Chairman

Chairman
Department of Botany
Aligarh Muslim University
Aligarh-202002

N. B. Signature of B.O.S. members