

University of Mumbai



No. AAMS(UG)/101 of 2021-22

CIRCULAR:-

Attention of the Principals of the Affiliated Colleges and Directors of the Recognized Institutions in Faculty of Science & Technology.

They are hereby informed that the recommendations made by the Ad-hoc Board of Studies in Hospitality Studies at its online meeting held on 20th May, 2021 vide Item No. 1 and subsequently passed by the Board of Deans at its online meeting held on 11th June, 2021 vide item No. 6.22 (R) have been accepted by the Academic Council at its meeting held on 29th June, 2021 vide item No. 6.22 (R) and that in accordance therewith, regarding feasibility of summer intership for Sem – III of B.Sc. in Hospitality Studies and suggest suitable alternatives in view of the ongoing (Covid-19) pandemic has been brought into force with effect from the academic year 2021-22 accordingly. (The same is available on the University's website www.mu.ac.in).

MUMBAI – 400 032
8th October, 2021

(Dr. B.N.Gaikwad)
I/c REGISTRAR

To

The Principals of the Affiliated Colleges and Directors of the Recognized Institutions in Faculty of Science & Technology.

A.C/6.22 (R) 29/06/2021

No. AAMS(UG)/101 -A of 2021-22

MUMBAI-400 032

8th October, 2021

Copy forwarded with Compliments for information to:-

- 1) The Dean, Faculty of Science & Technology,
- 2) The Chairman, Ad-hoc Board of Studies in Hospitality Studies,
- 3) The Director, Board of Examinations and Evaluation,
- 4) The Director, Board of Students Development,
- 5) The Co-ordinator, University Computerization Centre,

(Dr. B.N.Gaikwad)
I/c REGISTRAR

Copy to :-

- 1. The Deputy Registrar, Academic Authorities Meetings and Services (AAMS),**
- 2. The Deputy Registrar, College Affiliations & Development Department (CAD),**
- 3. The Deputy Registrar, (Admissions, Enrolment, Eligibility and Migration Department (AEM),**
- 4. The Deputy Registrar, Research Administration & Promotion Cell (RAPC),**
- 5. The Deputy Registrar, Executive Authorities Section (EA),**
- 6. The Deputy Registrar, PRO, Fort, (Publication Section),**
- 7. The Deputy Registrar, (Special Cell),**
- 8. The Deputy Registrar, Fort/ Vidyanagari Administration Department (FAD) (VAD), Record Section,**
- 9. The Director, Institute of Distance and Open Learning (IDOL Admin), Vidyanagari,**

They are requested to treat this as action taken report on the concerned resolution adopted by the Academic Council referred to in the above circular and that on separate Action Taken Report will be sent in this connection.

- 1. P.A to Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor,**
- 2. P.A Pro-Vice-Chancellor,**
- 3. P.A to Registrar,**
- 4. All Deans of all Faculties,**
- 5. P.A to Finance & Account Officers, (F.& A.O),**
- 6. P.A to Director, Board of Examinations and Evaluation,**
- 7. P.A to Director, Innovation, Incubation and Linkages,**
- 8. P.A to Director, Board of Lifelong Learning and Extension (BLLE),**
- 9. The Director, Dept. of Information and Communication Technology (DICT) (CCF & UCC), Vidyanagari,**
- 10. The Director of Board of Student Development,**
- 11. The Director, Department of Students Welfare (DSD),**
- 12. All Deputy Registrar, Examination House,**
- 13. The Deputy Registrars, Finance & Accounts Section,**
- 14. The Assistant Registrar, Administrative sub-Campus Thane,**
- 15. The Assistant Registrar, School of Engg. & Applied Sciences, Kalyan,**
- 16. The Assistant Registrar, Ratnagiri sub-centre, Ratnagiri,**
- 17. The Assistant Registrar, Constituent Colleges Unit,**
- 18. BUCTU,**
- 19. The Receptionist,**
- 20. The Telephone Operator,**
- 21. The Secretary MUASA**

for information.

Minutes of the meeting of Ad-hoc Board of Studies in Hospitality Studies was held on 20th May, 2021

- I. It was **resolved** that the Ms. Dopati Banerjee started the meeting by wishing and welcoming everyone. She mentioned that during the last academic year (2020-21) due to the Covid-19 pandemic, UGC had prohibited any offline on the job internship and only online internships were permitted. As online internship in the hospitality sector was not practically possible, the internship was replaced by an online Research Project irrespective of the semester i.e III /IV). The recommended proposal was passed in the Board of Deans' and the Academic Council and was later implemented across all the Hospitality Studies colleges affiliated to the University of Mumbai. As this was something totally new being introduced in the curriculum, a two-day orientation programme was conducted for training all the teachers of Hospitality Studies in various aspects of Research Methodology and formal research, finally generating a project report. The teachers were also provided with the guidelines, marking pattern, literature and link of online national library to assist students in data collection. This change was made only for the academic year 2020-21 as the BOS was optimistic that in a year we will come out of the pandemic and offline internship would be possible.

However, a little more than over a year into the pandemic and the second wave that our city, state and country is going through at this moment, for this academic year (2021-22) colleges are facing the same challenge as the second wave of the Covid-19 pandemic is even more infectious than the previous one. Hence the objective of this meeting was to take a decision on whether it was feasible to send students for internship in semester III or look at online Research Project or any other alternative as the members may deem fit.

While one alternative could be to make all students finish off their academics in semester III and send them for internship in semester IV, hoping and being optimistic that the pandemic would disappear in the next 6 months. This however, has one major limitation. This can only be followed in smaller colleges. The bigger colleges will find it difficult to have an academic semester with the full strength thereby altering their regular workload of faculty drastically. Placing all the students for internship in hotels/restaurants/clubs etc. in the fourth semester may be a greater challenge for colleges. The hospitality industry is badly hit due to this pandemic. The curbs on international & domestic travel has led to a drop in business. To provide placement for internship for all students may not be possible.

Ms. Dopati Banerjee also reiterated that last year Dr. Vinod Patil, Director BOEE had instructed her that we must take and implement a uniform decision for both Semester III & IV for one academic year. If half of the students go for offline internship (Industrial Training) and the other half go for the online Research Project, the marking for that batch will not be uniform as parameters for evaluation of internship and research project are very different. This year there is a 100% possibility of a third wave coming as predicted by epidemiologists and the prediction

is that it would affect the younger generation specifically. In the light of the above mentioned facts Ms. Dopati Banerjee requested all the other members to give share their opinion/views and suggestions on this issue.

- II. Mr. Kamlesh Barot said that the hotel industry was not completely shut down, certain hotels were functioning as Covid-19 quarantine centre etc. and if need be he would intervene and help colleges to get internship for their students. However, he was also of the opinion that it would be very risky to send the students for an offline internship (Industrial Training). Hence an online Research Project as the last academic year would be the best option in the present scenario.

Ms. Annabelle Rodrigues said that for this academic year 21-22, online Research Project was the best option. She also pointed out that in the new education policy of 2020 the subject of research had been included and was given a lot of importance. Though hospitality has never given much consideration to formal research, this would be a nice way to introduce it to the students.

Mr. Conrad D'Souza said that neither UGC nor the University of Mumbai had given permission for offline classes so far, hence continuing with online Research Project was the best option. He further explained that if we are not allowing students to come to college for offline theory classes and practical, we must not send them out for internship to the industry where the risk factor is very high. He also made a mention about the third wave of Covid-19 infecting the younger generation. Understanding that though the young may have better health to resist or fight the pandemic, yet they may be carriers/vectors of the virus passing it on to infect several others who come in contact with them.

- III. **To conclude all the members unanimously were in favour of continuing with the online Research Project for the academic year 2021-22 and implement it over semester III & IV to ensure uniformity for the students of one batch. This would indeed be the best option to protect our students from this deadly virus. There would be a considerable amount of learning while they participate in the online research and they could do it all online from the safety of their homes. The data collection would also be done in an online mode, eradicating the need to leave his/her residence. Monitoring of their progress and follow ups would be done by faculty assigned as mentors over Zoom, Google meet or Microsoft teams. The final evaluation (presentation & viva) would be done online as well. The faculty have already been trained last summer to handle the Research Methodology & Research Project, and the BOS had already laid down all guidelines, rules and methods of evaluation and format of mark sheet for the research project. Implementing this would be the best viable option under the turmoil filled current circumstances.**
- IV. **The same guidelines, rules & regulations, evaluation & marking scheme is proposed, to be followed by colleges for this academic year (2021-2022) for Semester III & IV as was laid down by the BOS for the academic year 2020-21. Thus, the offline internship for Semester III & IV of B.Sc. in Hospitality Studies is to be replaced by an online Research Project for Semester III & IV of the academic year 2021-22.**