



AGENDA

20TH ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

Venue : SKUAST-J, Chatha

Date : 27.05.2020

Time : 02: 00 p.m.

***Sher-e-Kashmir
University of Agricultural Sciences & Technology of Jammu
Chatha, Jammu -180009***

INDEX

Dated: 27-5-2020

Time: 2:00 PM

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Agenda Item No. AC (20) 1 : Confirmation of Minutes of 19th Meeting of Academic Council

The minutes of 19th meeting of Academic Council held on 22nd January, 2019 were circulated among the members vide no. AUJ/Acad/2018-19/F-08/7943-8002 dated 26-03-2019 (**Annexure-I**). Thus the following resolution may be adopted:

“Resolved that the minutes of 19th meeting of Academic Council circulated vide no. AUJ/Acad/2018-19/F-08/7943-8002 dated 26-03-2019 are confirmed.”

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 2 : Admission to Undergraduate, Masters and Ph.D programme for academic session 2019-20.

The University conducted SKUAST-J CET- UG/PG 2019 & SKUAST-J CET- Ph.D. 2019 for admission to various Undergraduate, Masters and Ph.D programme for academic session 2019-20. The CET for undergraduate programme was held on 23-06-2019, for Masters’ programme on 22-06-2019 and for Ph.D on 17-01-2020. The admission to In-service Govt nominee was also made on the merit obtained in SKUAST-J CET-2019. The seats reserved for UG / PG and Ph.D programmes under ICAR quota were filled through nominations made by ICAR, New-Delhi.

The detail of number of candidates admitted to various UG / PG and Ph.D programmes for academic session 2019-20 is as under:

S.No.	Programme	No. of students admitted
1.	B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture	120
2.	B.Sc.(Hons.) Biotechnology	24
3.	B.V.Sc. & A.H.	70
4.	M.Sc.(Ag.)	91
5.	M.Sc. Basic Sciences	13
6.	M.Sc. Biotechnology	04
7.	M.V.Sc.	48

8	MBA(Agri Business Management)	11
9	M. Tech.(Agri. Engineering)	02
10.	Ph.D. (Ag) & Allied Sciences	27
11.	Ph.D. Basic Sciences	09
12.	Ph.D. (Veterinary Sciences)	08

Action taken in this regards is placed before house for confirmation.

After deliberation following resolution was adopted:

“Resolved that the action taken with regards to admission to various courses as detailed below is confirmed

S. No.	Programme	No. of students admitted
1.	<i>B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture</i>	<i>120</i>
2.	<i>B.Sc.(Hons.) Biotechnology</i>	<i>24</i>
3.	<i>B.V.Sc. & A.H.</i>	<i>70</i>
4.	<i>M.Sc.(Ag.)</i>	<i>91</i>
5.	<i>M.Sc. Basic Sciences</i>	<i>13</i>
6.	<i>M.Sc. Biotechnology</i>	<i>04</i>
7.	<i>M.V.Sc.</i>	<i>48</i>
8	<i>MBA(Agri Business Management)</i>	<i>11</i>
9	<i>M. Tech.(Agri. Engineering)</i>	<i>02</i>
10.	<i>Ph.D. (Ag) & Allied Sciences</i>	<i>27</i>
11.	<i>Ph.D. Basic Sciences</i>	<i>09</i>
12.	<i>Ph.D. (Veterinary Sciences)</i>	<i>08</i>

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 3 : Modalities due to Covid-19 pandemic w.r.t online classes, conduct of tests, examinations, awards of grades/ marks and passing criteria for UG, PG and Ph.D programmes for 2nd semester of academic session 2019-20.

Consequent upon the Covid-19 pandemic and complete lockdown situation, the University from time to time constituted the committees (**Annexure-II**) for imparting the academic activities of the students through online mode and following the recommendations of the committees issued for its adoption (refer **Annexure-III and IV**).

Further, pursuant to the submission initiated by the Dean F.BSc and Dean FoA (**Annexure-V**), it has been recommended that in view of suspension of regular classes in University because of COVID-19 pandemic (lockdown conditions), the written comprehensive examination and other academic matters shall be reframed/relaxed and its part evaluation, wherever necessary shall be taken up. The evaluation of the comprehensive examination shall be done on the basis of course scores obtained in the Semester reports of the Major/ Minor courses cleared. Under normal circumstances the written comprehensive examination in the university are conducted as per the provisions of clause 11.2 Chapter-V of RRI-2009 of SKUAST-Jammu and the amendment made vide notification No: 83(acad.) of 2016 dated 16-11-2016 under rules in vogue (**Annexure VI**). However, in view of the advisories issued to Agricultural Universities by ICAR, New-Delhi regarding the unprecedented situation arising due to COVID-19 pandemic (**Annexure-VII**) following measures are recommended to ensure smooth teaching and learning process in SKUAST-Jammu during 2nd Semester of academic session 2019-20:

- i) The students who have applied and are eligible to appear for written comprehensive and have already***

completed the required courses, their scores obtained as semester report under Major and Minor courses shall be considered for awarding S/US in the written examination.

- ii) For such students whose written comprehensive shall be evaluated on the basis of semester report grades, the oral comprehensive examination duration shall be increased by one hour than normal comprehensive examination hours.”***

“Resolution:

“It is resolved that guidelines framed above with respect to written comprehensive examination of Master and Ph.D. students shall be adopted as such only under COVID-19 pandemic situation.”

3.(A) Curricula delivery through e-learning

- i. The current situation necessitates dependence on online learning Apps and Platforms such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, Google Hangout, Cisco Webex Meeting, YouTube Streaming.
- ii. E-Courses for under graduate programmes in seven disciplines namely; Agriculture, Fisheries Science, Dairy Science, Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry, Horticulture, Community Science and Agricultural Engineering are available at ICAR website <https://ecourses.icar.gov.in> and the same may be made available to all the students.
- iii. The faculty may contribute for the benefit of students through WhatsApp groups, other social media tools and emails. Even after posting the lecture material online, teachers need to maintain communication with the students and discuss course material with them on a regular basis.

Resolution:

“It is resolved that e- learning apps / platforms such as Google Classroom, Google Meet, Google Hangout, Cisco Webex Meeting, YouTube Streaming, Zoom etc and other reliable apps and platforms shall be used under COVID-19 pandemic situations.”

3(B) Implementation of Student READY

- i. To complete the Student READY programme in the final year of under-graduation, the university may customize its five components (RAWE, Experiential Learning, In-plant training, Hands-on training and Student project) to suit the students based on the prevailing situation. In case the students are not able to complete their allotted component, the other components may be assigned based on their suitability (The students undergoing different components of Student READY programmes may be guided to complete the same through alternate means viz. carrying out activities while sitting at home wherever possible (Floriculture and Landscaping, Food Science & Technology), practical oriented Project Assignments, interpretation of data obtained in Project works, etc while maintaining proper record).

Resolution:

“It is resolved that guidelines framed above for Student READY programmes shall be adopted as such only under COVID-19 pandemic situations.”

3(C) Internship for B.V.Sc. and A.H. students

- i. In order to complete the mandatory requirement of internship for B.V.Sc. & AH students, possibilities may be explored to attach

them in the dispensaries/Veterinary hospitals/Clinics near to their locations in compliance with the VCI regulations.

- ii. The internees shall produce a certificate from the concerned hospital/ dispensary/ clinic for the period.

Resolution:

“It is resolved that guidelines framed above for Internship for B.V.Sc. and A.H. students shall be adopted as such only under COVID-19 pandemic situations.”

3. Examinations and Evaluation

The teachers are adopting adopted on-line mode of teaching during lockdown situation arising due to COVID-19 pandemic. There are still two months left for completion of current semester and academic session-2019-20. It is recommended that if the current situation persists, university may extend the current semester by 15 days or 20 days and instruct the teachers to evaluate the students at UG, Master and Ph.D. levels as per prevailing guidelines issued by designated committees of ICAR/UGC for evaluation of students (Annexure-V).

Resolution:

“Following resolutions are recommended for adoption under COVID-19 pandemic situation.

- i. The university shall conduct examinations (First Test, Mid-term and Semester end examinations) in offline / online mode, as per the Rules and Regulations, Scheme of Examinations, observing the guidelines of “social distancing” and keeping in view the support system***

available with the University and ensuring fair opportunity to all students.

- ii. The University shall conduct semester-end examinations, after making a comprehensive assessment of level of preparedness, residential status of the students, status of COVID-19 pandemic spread in the region / UT and other factors. In case the situation does not appear to be normal in view of COVID-19, in order to maintain “social distancing”, safety and health of the students, GPA of the students could be composite of 50% marks on the basis of the pattern of internal evaluation (First Test, Assignment and Mid-term) adopted by the university and the remaining 50% marks can be awarded on the basis of performance in previous semester only (if available).*
- iii. In the situations where previous semester marks are not available, particularly in the first year, 100% evaluation may be done on the basis of internal evaluation. If the student wishes to improve the grades, he/she may appear in special exams for such subjects during next semester. This provision is only for the current academic session (2019-20) in view of COVID-19 pandemic, while maintaining safety and health of all the stakeholders and sanctity and quality of examinations.”*

4. Students' Research and Evaluation

- i. The lockdown and pandemic situation has affected the conduct of experiments which were designed and planned as a part of **Students' Research Work** during current semester leading to the delay in completion of the proposed research work.
- ii. It would be appropriate that during the period of lockdown, laboratories are maintained by the research staff of the concerned department on rotation basis, without violating the norms of "social distancing".
- iii. The university may conduct the *Viva -Voce* Examinations of Ph.D. and M.Sc. students through Video Conferencing and other reliable Apps/Platforms for award of Ph.D./M.Sc. Degree. While conducting the Viva-Voce Examination through Video Conferencing or Apps/Platforms using electronic means, it may be ensured that it will be open to be attended by members of the Student's Advisory Committee, all faculty members of the department, research scholars and other interested experts/ researchers, besides the Research Guide/Chairperson and Expert(s)/Examiner(s), as applicable. The on line viva voce may be recorded for any future reference.
- iv. The concerned Dean of the faculty shall maintain due record of the same, including the report received from Expert(s)/ Examiner(s) appointed for conducting the same.
- v. The M.Sc. or Ph.D. students, whose maximum period for submission of their Dissertation/Thesis is expired/expiring during the Corona pandemic period, may be allowed to submit their Dissertation/Thesis, including completion of pending formalities, within six months from the date of expiry of regular prescribed period. The extension of six months may also be considered for those students who are yet to submit their Dissertation/ Thesis.

- vi. The Faculties/Divisions may conduct synopsis and thesis seminars of M.Sc. and Ph.D. students through Video Conferencing or other reliable Apps/Platforms.

Resolution:

“It is resolved that guidelines framed above for students’ research and evaluation through Video Conferencing and other Apps/Platforms shall be adopted as such only under COVID-19 pandemic situations.”

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 4 : Eligibility criteria, reservation procedure and other condition for admission to various UG/PG programmes through SKUAST CET UG/PG-2020 for academic session 2020-21.

The university has issued Notification No 23(Acad) of 2020 dated 12-05-2020 for inviting application from eligible candidates for admission to various UG/PG programme through SKUAST-CET UG/PG -2020 for academic session 2020-21 after getting the recommendations from the committee constituted vide no AUJ/Acad/F-03/19-20/5972-81 dated 15-01-2020. The committee submitted its preliminary report. However, uncertain situation arising due to Covid-19 led to lockdown since 20th March, 2020; and with the implementation of the Jammu and Kashmir Re-organization Act-2019, the state of Jammu and Kashmir has been bifurcated into UT of Jammu and Kashmir and UT of Ladakh. The committee recommended the following modifications for admissions in different UG and PG programmes through SKUAST-J CET -2020 as:

- i) **Admission to seats under VCI for B.V. Sc. & A.H. :** With implementation of J&K Re-organization Act-2019, various provisions of centre laws including VCI Act are directly applicable/operational in UT of Jammu and Kashmir. Therefore, the seats reserved under VCI quota may be filled through VCI nominations. The University has already taken up the matter with the Commissioner Secretary, Animal Husbandry, J&K UT for clarification regarding admission under VCI quota seats. However, in the Information Brochure it mentioned that such seats will be filled through the VCI nominations.
- ii) **Reservation of seats under UG and PG programmes:** The jurisdiction of SKUAST-Jammu is within the territorial boundaries of UT of Jammu and Kashmir. However, the Board of Professional Entrance Examination (BOPEE), J&K invited applications for admissions in different professional courses during 2020 with eligibility criteria being valid Residence Proof Certificate of UT of J&K or UT of Ladakh, as the case may be. The BOPEE, J&K has followed Jammu and Kashmir Reservation Act-2004 for admissions in professional courses. Taking reference to BOPEE, similar provisions have been kept in the Information Brochure of SKUAST-J CET-2020. The intake capacity of seats to different degree programmes for the Academic Session 2020-21, as intimated by Dean FoA/Dean, F.V.Sc. & A.H./Dean, FBSc., has been reflected in Information Brochure. The Govt issued notification SO 127 dated 20/04/2020 for amendment made in the Jammu & Kashmir Reservation Rule, 2005 and therefore, The reservation of seats in Under graduate and Post graduate programmes will be done according to the said notification. However, the seat allotment to reserve category for PG programme will be done after clarification from concern department.
- iii) **In-service Govt. Nominee seats:** The Principal Secretary, Animal/Sheep Husbandry and Fisheries Department, J&K has

intimated the University that in partial modification of Govt. Order No. 13-ASH of 2019, dated 21-01-2019, paravets working in J&K Animal/Sheep Husbandry Department shall neither be entitled to nor sponsored /nominated /deputed for B.V. Sc. & A.H. Degree Course at SKUAST-Jammu/SKUAST-Kashmir or any other State/Central Agricultural/Veterinary Sciences Universities. *if no candidate will appeared or nominated for such seats then same may be filled through NRI/NRIs sponsored categories*

iv) NRI/NRI sponsored seats.

The GADVASU, Ludhiana and CSK, HPKV, Palampur have the provision of admissions to UG programmes under NRI category wherein they admit only NRIs or wards of NRIs. The SKUAST-Jammu has been granting admissions till 2019 to NRI/NRI sponsored candidates and total seats kept under this category are 10 percent of total intake capacity of any degree programme, the committee discussed Hon'ble Supreme Court Judgment and its implementation in SKUAST-Jammu. However keeping in view the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic followed by lockdown situation, the ongoing practice of admissions to NRIs/NRI sponsored candidates may be continued for the academic year 2020-21.

In addition to above, in the All Vice-Chancellor meeting it was resolved that admission for agriculture courses will be given to the candidates who have passed from ICAR accredited institution/university.

*Besides this, the university vide no AUJ/Acad/2020-21/01 dated 28-04-2020 approached the Department of Social Welfare, JKUT for clarification of roaster/reservation in Masters programmes. However as per the reservation percentage given vide SO127 dated 20-4-2020 issued by Govt of Jammu and Kashmir on the basis of roaster given for direct recruitment of 100 seats, (**Annexure-VIII**) the following roaster for fixation of category wise seats, for Masters programme is proposed:*

Roaster of Reservation of seats given in the direct recruitment

Category	Number of Seat
Backward Area (10%)	2, 12, 22, 33, 43, 53, 64, 74, 84, 95
SC (8%)	3, 15, 27, 39, 51, 63, 75, 89.
ST(10%)	6,16,26,36, 46, 56,66, 76, 86,96
EWS(10%)	9,19,29,40,50, 60, 70, 81, 91, 99
PSP(4%)	13, 35, 62, 88
Social Caste (4%)	17,42,71,93
ALC/IB(4%)	10, 38, 67, 97

Proposed Roaster of PG Reservation of seats given in the direct recruitment:

Category	Number of Seat
Backward Area (10%)	2, 12, 22, 33, 43, 53, 64, 74, 84, 95
SC (8%)	3, 15, 27, 39, 51, 63, 75, 89.
ST(10%)	6,16,26,36, 46, 56,66, 76, 86,96
EWS(10%)	9,19,29,40,50, 60, 70, 81, 91, 99
PSP(4%)	13, 35, 62, 88
Social Caste (4%)	17,42,71,93
ALC/IB(4%)	10, 38, 67, 97
CDP(2%)	11, 61
SP(1%)	25

Further, the Govt. of Jammu and Kashmir issued the SO 166 dated 18/5/2020 for Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile Certificate(Procedure) 2020 and also issued SO 175 dated 20/5/2020 **(Annexure-IX)** where in rule 4 of Board of Professional Entrance Examination is substituted with:

“Rule 4 Eligibility for Admission : Any candidate who are interested to appear any test conducted by BOPEE shall have domicile certificate issued under Jammu and Kashmir Grant of Domicile (Procedure) 2020 and such age and qualification, including of category certificate and experience for prescribed by Government for such course from time to time.”

The matter has been placed before Hon’ble members of Academic Council for discussion and deliberation . If agreed the following resolution be adopted:

“Resolved to:

- 1. The action taken with respect to inviting application for admission to UG/PG programmes for academic session 2020-21 including Inclusion of Candidates of Union territories of J&K and Ladakh for normal and self financing seats reserved for domicile candidates only, the intake, eligibility, selection procedure, determination of merit, counseling as described in information brochure of SKUAST-J CET UG/PG 2020 is ratified.**
- 2. Ratification of adoption of SO 127 dated 20/04/2020 for amendment made in the Jammu & Kashmir Reservation Rule, 2005 and accordingly allotment of the reservation of seats in Under**

graduate and Post graduate programmes for academic session 2020-21 and onwards.

- 3. Filling of VCI quota seats from nominations/allotment (NEET score) made though VCI is adopted.**
- 4. Adoption of following fixation of numbering of seat roaster based on SO 127 & dated 20/4/2020 as given under:**

Proposed Roaster of PG Reservation of seats given in the direct recruitment of 100 seats:

Category	Numbering of Seat
Resident of Backward Area (10%)	2, 12, 22, 33, 43, 53, 64, 74, 84, 95
SC (8%)	3, 15, 27, 39, 51, 63, 75, 89.
ST(10%)	6,16,26,36, 46, 56,66, 76, 86,96
EWS(10%)	9,19,29,40,50, 60, 70, 81, 91, 99
PSP(4%)	13, 35, 62, 88
Social Caste (4%)	17,42,71,93
ALC/IB(4%)	10, 38, 67, 97
CDP(2%)	11, 61
SP(1%)	25

- 5. Ratification of considering the existing system due to prevailing conditions due to COVID-19 for admissions to NRI/NRI sponsored candidates during academic session 2020-21.**
- 6. Only the candidates who passed from ICAR accredited institution/University are eligible for admission in PG programme is adopted**

7. Addendum shall be issued to delete the permanent resident certificate wherever appear in notification no 23(Acad)of 2020 dated 12/5/2020 and in information brochure of SKUAST CET UG/PG 2020.” Moreover University shall follow Govt. guidelines/instructions issued from time to time with regard to PRC/ Domicile.

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 5 : Change in Course distribution No GPBR-221 (Principles of seed Technology)

The Board of Studies , Faculty of Agriculture in its 17 meeting held on 24-1-2020 at its agenda item no 17(5) recommended that as per Vth Dean's committee report the course title “Principle of Seed Technology” course code GPBR-221 be of 1+2 credits hr. instead of 2+1 credit hr. Besides, Dean, FoA vide letter no. AUJ/Dean-FoA/19-20/F-9/10394 dated 02-03-2020 (**Annexure- X**) has also proposed a change in credit hr of course no. GPBR-221 (Principle of Seed Technology) 1+2 credits hr. instead of 2+1 credit hr. Since mentioned course has been offered in the current semester i.e. 2nd semester of academic session 2019-2020 with credit hr 2+1 after the approval of Competent Authority with the condition that same be ratified from Academic Council.

The matter is placed before the august house for deliberation and if agreed, the following resolution is adopted.

Resolved to:

“Ratify the change of credit hrs of Course No GPBR-221 ‘Principles of Seed Technology’ (GPBR-221) is of 1+2 credits hr instead of 2+1 as per recommendation Vt^h Dean Committee report”.

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 6 : Shifting of Course No. FOR-111 (Introduction to Forestry) with Course no. PATH-121 (Agricultural Microbiology) in semester-II

In the 17 meeting of Board of Studies Faculty of Agriculture in its agenda no. BOS (FoA) 17(2) it was recommended to shift the Course No. FOR-111 (Introduction to Forestry) in Semester-I and Course No PATH-121 (Agricultural Microbiology) in semester-II. The matter is placed before the house for discussion and deliberation. If agreed following resolution be adopted:

Resolved to

“Swaping of Course No. FOR-111 (Introduction to Forestry) with Course No PATH-121 (Agricultural Microbiology) in semester-II is adopted.”

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 7 : Nomination of ICAR seats in MBA (Agri-Businees Management) for academic session 2020-21 and onwards

Head, Division of Agril Economics & ABM through email dated 23-04-2020 informed that during last academic session ICAR nominee students had not been deputed by ICAR to our institution despite of ICAR accredited degree programme. The confusion created at the ICAR level was mainly attributed to the fact that the office of the Registrar in its communication to ICAR has informed that the MBA (ABM) programme of this university is self financed scheme, which thereby acted as a barrier for inflow of ICAR MBA (ABM) nominees for admission to this institution. Normally the self financed programmes run by the universities across the country are charging quite high amount of fees, whereas in our case the fee charged under self financing is very meager less than all other universities of the country.

The word self financed used in this university for this programme is an internal arrangement of funds within the university and there is no need to make correspondences of this course by categorizing it under self financing.

The MBA (ABM) programme under GBPUA&T, Pantnagar is also a self financed arrangement in the university and they are also not mentioning it to external agencies. Pantnagar is receiving the students as ICAR nominee under MBA (ABM) Programme and are charging very high fees more than our institution.

It is pertinent to mention here that ICAR quota in each discipline of PG programme is of 20% of intake capacity with condition that programme is of ICAR accredited and non self financed.

Earlier also ICAR has nominated three batches of students for pursuing their MBA (ABM) programme but due to this confusion prevailed during last academic year, the ICAR has not deputed the students.

The MBA (ABM) Programme in SKUAST-Jammu is ICAR accredited, therefore it is brought to the notice of this august house that using the term self financing must only be treated as internal arrangement within the university for purpose of management of funds but not to make one of the category, which acts as a barrier and deprives the ICAR nominee students to get admission in this institution. The fee charged by this university is lower than that of any other SAU's and CAU's of the country. Moreover, the student pass outs of our institution undertaken this course are/were very satisfied and are being regularly getting absorbed in various private and public sectors. Secondly, the Division has also upgraded its activity by establishing a Agri-Business Incubation Centre sponsored by Ministry of Agriculture, GOI, which has given an additional opportunity to our pass outs to start their start ups.

The matter is placed before the Hon'ble members of Academic Council for discussion and deliberations, if agreed following resolution shall be adopted:

Resolution :

“The term self financing shall be used only for internal correspondences within the university for purpose of management of funds but not to make it as one of the category, which will facilitate in removing the confusion/ barrier for inflow of ICAR nominee students and the university shall be in a position to fill the specified 20 per cent of seats under ICAR quota under the degree programme for academic session 2020-21 and onwards.”

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 8 : Moderation Committee for Comprehensive Examination

Following the amended regulation in the RRI of 2009 of SKUAST-Jammu at clause 11.2 Chapter V w.r.t. mode of evaluation, paper setting vide University notification No: 83(Acad.) of 2016 dated 16-11-2016 and the instant implementation of the change of examination system, the faculty and the Examination cell expressed some genuine apprehension in the interest of the student's in general.

Pursuant to several meetings, it was desired that the examination system at present in vogue is full proof system accept the gap of proper coordination between the taught, teacher, course content and external examiner in order to maintain the balance with all these stake holders, the University issued a memorandum no. AUJ/Acad/19-20/6987-7010 dated 25/02/2020 and suggested a little improvement by constituting a moderation committee (**Annexure-XI**) whose role is confined to the following:

- a) The moderation committee will look after the question paper setting is as per the guidelines, standard and pattern fixed by the university.
- b) The moderation committee suggests that the setting of question paper will be within the course content.
- c) The moderation committee will observe that setting of question paper shall be in such a way that the candidate/ student will be answer within time frames/time limit.

The matter is placed before the Hon'ble member for deliberation and ratification. If agreed the following resolution be adopted:

“Resolved to constitution of moderation of comprehensive examination of PG students as per Annexure XI be ratified”

Agenda Item No. AC (20) 9	: Any other Agenda with the permission of Chair
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