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395

269 /

**Minutes of the Research Council Meeting held on 27th November 2012 at Mascot
Hotel, Thiruvananthapuram**

Members Present

1. Dr. B. Ashok, Vice Chancellor, Kerala Veterinary & Animal Sciences University.
2. Prof. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai, Executive Vice President, KSCSTE
3. Dr. K. Kumanan, Director of Research, TANUVAS
4. Dr. A. Jalaludeen, Director of Academics & Research, KVASU
5. Dr. H. Subramanian, Dean, CVAS, Mannuthy
6. Dr. Leo Joseph, Dean, CVAS, Pookode.
7. Dr. Rajendrakumar, Dean, CDST, Mannuthy
8. Dr. P. I. Geevarghese, Professor, CDST, Mannuthy
9. Dr. K. A. Mercey, Professor and Head, Department of Statistics
10. Dr. Kuttinarayanan, Professor and Head, Department of Livestock Products Technology, CVAS, Mannuthy
11. Dr. George T. Oommen, Professor and Head, Department of Livestock Products Technology, CVAS, Pookode

Special Invitees -

1. Dr. K. P. Sreekumar, Registrar, Kerala Veterinary & Animal Sciences University
2. Dr. S. Ramkumar, Director of Entrepreneurship, KVASU
3. Dr. P. Rajashekharan Nair, Chief (Agriculture Division), Planning Board
4. Dr. K. G. Suma, Director, Department of Animal Husbandry, Kerala
5. Shri Isacc Thayyil, Deputy Director, Department of Dairy Development
6. Dr. K. Devada, Professor (Research Coordination), CVAS, Mannuthy
7. Dr. P. C. Alex, Professor (Clinics)
8. Dr. E. A. Jayson, Scientist, Department of Wild life, KFRI
9. Dr. Asha K V, Professor, Department of Agadatantra
10. Dr. Joshua Allan

The meeting started at 10.30 am with the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Dr. B. Ashok, IAS in the chair. Dr. A. Jalaludeen, Director of Academics and Research welcomed the members and special invitees to the Research Council meeting.

Dr. B. Ashok, IAS, emphasized the importance of quality research. He stressed upon the need for every faculty to undertake external aided projects as well as the need for field oriented need based research. He commended that about 20 researchers of KVASU ran most of the externally aided projects and that there is a need to bring in the rest of the

398 271/

faculty to undertake large research projects. In this regard, he emphasized in the importance of giving incentives for carrying out quality research and for bringing in funds for research. He also stressed upon the need to conserve native breeds of livestock and poultry.

Dr. V. N. Rajasekharan Pillai lauded the KVASU for convening the Research Council meeting within a short span of its inception. He deliberated upon the importance of publishing research outputs in refereed journals and the conduct of Research Council meeting frequently for efficient review of ongoing and planned research.

Dr. K. Kumanan informed that about 150 externally funded projects are operating in TANUVAS and that they have got a two tier research review system. The Vice Chancellor reviews projects once every year and the Director of Research reviews projects once every 6 months. The importance of publishing articles in peer reviewed journals and value of carrying out patentable research towards increasing the outlook of the University was stressed upon. He also stressed on the need of University - Industry collaboration and on the need of animal testing laboratories.

Dr. A. Jalaludeen made a detailed presentation on priorities of research to be undertaken by the University with a brief note on some of the important ongoing projects and major achievements.

Dr. K. G. Suma emphasised on field oriented problems including infertility due to various causes including lowered conception rate by artificial insemination, metabolic diseases, lower production, poor immune response to vaccination, climate change and the importance of carrying out research on these areas.

Dr. Leo Joseph deliberated on the need for a review of crossbreeding policy and he opined that indiscriminate crossbreeding is taking place in the state. He stressed on the maintenance of separate sire line and dam line and establishment of pure bred stock. He also mentioned the need for evaluation of nutritional management for individual genetic make up should be taken up

Dr. P. I. Geevarghese emphasized on the importance of a proper breeding policy.

Dr. S. Ramkumar mentioned about a rethink on the crossbreeding policy of the state.

Dr. H. Subramanian, deliberated on the need to assess the quality of milk produced by crossbred cows.

399

273

Dr. Rajasekharan Nair suggested the possibility of applying principles of agro-ecological zonation in Animal Husbandry and dairying practices and GIS planning. He stressed the need for starting State Coordinated Research Projects in line with All India Coordinated Research Projects, incentive based research and commercialization of technologies and research. He emphasized the importance of a Policy Research institution in line with Agriculture Policy research institutes and suggested some of the areas for policy intervention such as credit, pricing of products, insurance, risk management, reduction in vulnerabilities etc.

Dr. Jaison, Scientist, Department of Wild life, KFRI stressed upon the need for research on wildlife welfare, conservation, rehabilitation and medicine and also investigations in the area of human - wild animal conflict.

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor mentioned that the Research Policy document must have a provision for 'version control', should be revised periodically and shall have an initial validity period of two years with a provision to include other areas of research, if essential, even within the period of two years. Furthermore the Directorate of Academics and Research shall have a Research Manager, preferably, a non-veterinarian, a Research Assessor and a Research Funding Expert.

Dr. P. C. Alex suggested that to be recognized as an institution of international repute, there must be provisions for individual faculty/Scientist level collaboration and University level collaboration with foreign institutes.

The Registrar, KVASU thanked the Chairman, Chief Guest, other dignitaries, Research Council members and invitees for accepting the invitation to attend the Research Council meeting.

Based on the comments made by the members and invitees, the Director of Academics and Research, suggested to take up region wise assessment in the state of Kerala beginning with the District of Wayanad to study all components of livestock farming.

Suggestions for change in the draft research policy

1. VISION: Food technologists to be replaced by Livestock products technologists.
2. VISION (b): animal health care to be replaced by animal health care and veterinary services.
3. VISION (c) : To add food quality
4. MISSION (e): to add development of new functional foods

- 275
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401
5. Products, Processing and Marketing (f): to be changed as adulterants and contaminants in dairy and meat products.
 6. Products, Processing and Marketing: To include Energy conservation measures in dairy and food processing.
 7. Products, Processing and Marketing: To include Ethnic food products and patenting.
 8. Products, Processing and Marketing: To include Development of production process through modern innovative technologies for traditional, fermented and functional foods.
 9. 5.4: Products, Processing and Marketing to be renamed as Livestock Products, Processing and Marketing.
 10. Products, Processing and Marketing (d): small scale milk processing to be replaced by small scale milk and meat processing.
 11. 5.0 Focus Themes to be renamed as Core Areas of Research.
 12. 5.6 Other focus themes: To include veterinary forensics.
 13. 5.6 Other focus themes: To be renamed as Other Core Areas of Research.

The Director of Academics and Research was authorized to effect the decision of the meeting and issue action taken report for the next meeting.

The meeting came to an end at 1.30 pm.

Sd/-

(Director of Academics and Research)