



## INDIAN INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, ALLA HABAD

(An Institute of National Importance by Act of Parliament)

DeoghatJhalwa, Prayagraj – 211015 (U.P.), India

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### Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> Meeting of Senate of Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad held on 07/06/2021 from 11 am onwards in online mode

#### The members in attendance were the following:

- |  |   |                                |
|--|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. Prof P. Nagabhushan, Director IIITA                     | - | Chairman Senate                |
| 2. Prof U.S. Tiwary, Dean (Special Development Affairs)    | - | Member                         |
| 3. Prof ShekharVerma, Dean (Human Affairs)                 | - | Member                         |
| 4. Prof. Anupam, Dean (Alumni Affairs)                     | - | Member                         |
| 5. Prof. Pavan Chakraborty, HoD(IT)                        | - | Member                         |
| 6. Dr. Rajat Kumar Singh, HoD(ECE)                         | - | Member                         |
| 7. Dr. Ashutosh Mishra, HoD (AS)                           | - | Member                         |
| 8. Dr. Shailendra Kumar, HoD (MS)                          | - | Member                         |
| 9. Prof. G. C. Nandi, Professor (HAG)                      | - | Member                         |
| 10 Prof. O P Vyas, Professor                               | - | Member                         |
| 11 Prof. Neetesh Purohit, Professor, A Dean (R&D)          | - | Member                         |
| 12 Prof. Madhvendra Mishra, Professor                      | - | Member                         |
| 13 Prof. Vrijendra Singh, Professor                        | - | Member                         |
| 14 Prof. Manish Goswami, Professor, A Dean (AAA)           | - | Member                         |
| 15 Prof. Pritish Kumar Varadwaj, Professor, A Dean (Infra) | - | Member                         |
| 16 Prof. Ranjit Singh, Professor                           | - | Member                         |
| 17 Prof. Vijaishri Tewari, Professor & Acting Registrar    | - | Member and<br>Secretary Senate |

#### External Members:

- |   |   |        |
|---|---|--------|
| 18 Prof. K. Sethupathi Professor, Deptt. of Physics, IIT-Madras                         | - | Member |
| 19 Prof. Shekhar Mazumdar, Professor, Deptt. of Mechanical Engineering                  | - | Member |
| 20 Prof. A. G. Ramkrishnan, Professor, Deptt. of Electrical Engineering, IISc-Bangalore | - | Member |
| 21 Prof. Rajiv Tripathi Director MNNIT-Allahabad  | - | Member |
| 22 Prof. K. Chindananda Gowda Ex-VC, Kuvempu University                                 | - | Member |

#### Other Special Invitees included:

- Dr. Akhilesh Tiwari, Chairman SPGC  
Dr. Pooja Mishra, Chairman SUGC  
Dr. Asheesh Kumar, Joint Registrar (AAA)  
Mr. Sahil Udaya Singh, Gymkhana Representative

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Dr. Sumit Ganguly, Deptt. of Computer Science & Engineering, IIT-Kanpur due to preoccupation and Prof. Tapobrata Lahiri, Dean (Academic & Research) due to health issue could not attend the meeting so they were granted leave of absence.

The meeting was initiated with the Welcome note by the Secretary Senate. At the very outset, the Chairman Senate greeted all the members present in the meeting. Then he conveyed his heartiest congratulations to all the newly appointed Professors and introduced them to the External members of the Senate. Chairman Senate expressed his sincere thanks to the external members for accepting their terms upto September 30, 2021 which was extended due to current ongoing pandemic situation. He also informed about the next convocation which would again be an E-Convocation and invited all external members to participate in the forthcoming Convocation.

After sharing of few Covid experiences, agenda items were taken up by the Secretary Senate:-

**ITEM NO. 21.01: To receive the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate of the Institute held on 12.12.2020**

A rectification was brought to the notice by Associate Dean (AAA) that against Agenda Item no. 9 of 20<sup>th</sup> Minutes of the Senate, the proposal was for starting a new specialisation in the existing MTech IT program with no additional increase in seats. Accordingly, the Senate observed that the following inadvertent errors be corrected and the corresponding amendments as mentioned herein below be carried out:

**Following para of Page 5 and 6 of the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting (Item No. 9)**

“HOD IT presented the proposal for starting new M.Tech (IT) Program with specialization in Data Engineering. The proposal was well taken by the Senate and Senate approved the same from the current batch 2020-21.”

**Be corrected and replaced as:**

“HOD (IT) presented the proposal for starting of new specialisation in the existing MTech IT program. The proposal was well taken by the Senate and Senate approved the same from the current batch 2020-21.”

With above correction, Senate confirmed the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of Senate held on 12/12/2021.

**ITEM NO. 21.02: To receive the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate of the Institute held on 12.12.2020**

While reviewing the Action Taken Report on the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Senate, a request of Gymkhana were brought to the notice by Associate Dean (AAA) that students have an issue with the Agenda Item No. 12 of the 20<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting regarding the proposal for Six-Months Spring Internships for Final Year Students. The resolution of the Senate against above Agenda Item is as follows:-



*“Dean (A&R) presented the matter in detail. Senate approved the same but clarified that this internship would not be the project work of the students. All the project requirement should be complied with as per assessment system of the Institute. This internship is entirely different. An undertaking should be given whenever the project is done outside the Institute.”*

Students of IT and ECE department through email apprised that they wanted to move the 8th Semester elective subject to that of 7th one so that they can pursue the project outside IIIT-Allahabad. Senate considered the issue and mentioned that the internship and project work were different things and cannot be clubbed. Ordinances should not be changed merely on the request of students. The Ordinances were made after a thorough discussions, observations, considerations and recommendations of various bodies.

A lot of discussions happened but could not come to the conclusion. After that, Chairman Senate constituted a committee consisting of 1) Head of Department (IT), 2) Head of Department (ECE), 3) Associate Dean, AAA, 4) Prof. U.S. Tiwary and 5) Prof. Shekhar Verma. It was also suggested by the Chairman Senate that committee may take a view of Prof. Rajiv Tripathi, Director, MNNIT, Allahabad in this regard telephonically. Gymkhana representative was also asked to make a representation before the Committee to tell the exact requirements expressed by the students.

The Committee was requested to take a call and come up with the way to resolve the issue at the departmental level in view of demand of students without altering the spirit of ordinances. In order to save time, it was also suggested that the committee will make its recommendations within a week to the Chairman of the Senate.

**ITEM NO. 21.03: To consider and approve the Recommendations of the Committee on IIITA's Ordinance for Flexible Academic Program (FAP) 2021**

Prof. Neetesh Purohit, Associate Dean (R&D) made a presentation in this regard and told that it is a new initiative in the light of NEP 2020 which has flexible features like Multidisciplinary, Multimode, Multi entry and Lateral Entry, Multi Exit as well as Multi Lingual program. It is also a Multi-Institute Program because students of one Institute may take admission in other Institute for the subject of their choice in other Institute which is not available in their respective Institutes. There would be a Consortium of the participating Institutes in Active and Passive mode. The consortium would make various committees which would look after the implementation of above programs. He presented the model and told that MoUs would be signed with other Institutes of National importance, IITs, IIITs and other Universities.

After a detailed presentation, Prof. Neetesh Purohit requested Senate to approve the proposal in principle so that the same may be forwarded to the BoG and other bodies of other Institute for approval.

Many members, including all external experts and all senior members contributed their opinions. The reactions were mixed. Everyone expressed that the idea should be appreciated for its novelty and for addressing the need. However, all of them strongly suggested that many issues need to be fixed before taking up such an initiative. The major suggestions were:-

- (i) to be careful with regard to admission policy to such programs, lest it should not adversely affect the image of the Institute.



- (ii) to be careful with the type of certifications planned to be issued at exit points and their social relevance and utility value.
- (iii) to perhaps limit the program to PG level and beyond only
- (iv) to first get the MoUs done with the intents received from the other institutes in creating the proposed Consortium.
- (v) to clearly demark the focus between the skill orientation and research orientation in such programs.
- (vi) to check the relevance and validity of such parallel program in offering B.Tech programs.

Based on all discussions, the Senate resolved to conceptually accept the proposal and suggested that the proposer (the investigator) could primarily work on the following:-

- 1) to formally create a consortium by receiving the intentions from the participating Institutes which is pivotal in the program
- 2) to assure how standards of teaching-learning-researching would be maintained.
- 3) to also assure that it does not imply a backdoor entry for second level aspirants, since the program will be in a parallel mode.

The Senate complimented Prof. Neetesh Purohit and the subcommittee for the novel initiative and suggested that Prof. Neetesh Purohit could rework on the observations made above.

**ITEM NO. 21.04:To consider and approve the fixation of a maximum number of Ph.D. seats for the institute's PG students.**

Prof. Neetesh Purohit explained the Agenda before Senate. Members of the senate felt that the Ph.D. ordinance fallowed by the institute already takes care for the internal P.G. candidate wishing to join the Ph.D. programme. Therefore no fresh changes were required. After a detailed discussion, it was agreed not to provide any extra reservation for the internal M.Tech/MBA candidates for admission to Ph.D. Hence it was unanimously decided to drop the Agenda.

**ITEM NO. 21.05:To consider and approve the implementation of Study in India Program at IIIT Allahabad**

Joint Registrar (AAA), explained the agenda in brief. The Senate considered the same and ratified the following:-

- 1) The details as filled up on the SII Program Portal (Seats & Fees details , personnel, etc for the academic session commencing July 2021 and onwards which were approved by the Chairman Senate already.
- 2) The MOU signed between IIIT Allahabad and SII
- 3) The consolidated seats matrix of the Institute
- 4) The participation of the Institute in the Virtual Fairs for marketing of the Institute Programs being offered through SII.



**ITEM NO. 21.06: To consider and approve the following sub agenda received from R& D Section**

1. Termination of Mr. Sabyasachi Mandal (RSM2018004)
2. To consider and approve the decision of SPGC on request of Mr. Puneet Upadhyay (RSS2018506) to revoke termination to reinitiate his research studies with new Supervisor
3. To approve the Admission in Ph.D. Program & appointment of their Supervisor in Academic Session July-December 2020 and January-June-2021
4. To consider and approve the Appointment of New Supervisor to the students who were earlier supervised by Lt. Prof. Shirshu Verma.

Secretary Senate apprised and provided short details about the Agenda items received from R&D section. Chairman Senate asked if due process had been followed and the recommendations are made with diligent care. The Senate was informed that the decisions were strongly upheld in the Pre-Senate meeting also. Therefore, Senate resolved as follows:-

1. The termination of Mr. Sabyasachi Mandal (RSM2018004) was approved.
2. The decision of SPGC was upheld and the request by Mr. Puneet Upadhyay (RSS2018506) was denied and his earlier termination was further ratified.
3. The Admissions in Ph.D. Program & appointments of their Supervisors in Academic Session July-December 2020 and January-June-2021 were approved.
4. The Appointments of New Supervisors to the students who were earlier supervised by Late Prof. Shirshu Verma were approved.

**ITEM NO. 21.07: To consider and approve the addition of Two Electives and Change of LTP Format of Elective – 3 & 4 for B.Tech 7<sup>th</sup> Semester of ECE Department**

The Senate noted that being an Institute of National Importance, the department has the flexibility for addition and changes in the elective through its departmental meeting. The Senate approved the addition of Two Electives for B.Tech 7<sup>th</sup> Semester of ECE Department. However, looking into the practical type of the courses, the Senate advised that the department should relook the L-T-P credits assigned to these electives.

**ITEM NO. 21.08: To consider and approve the proposal of HoD (AS) to increase the number of seats in M. Tech (DSA) program**

HoD (AS) apprised the Senate about the reason and benefits for increasing the number of seats in M. Tech (DSA) programme. Senate considered and approved the same in principle with a remark that the distribution of seats should be in accordance with rules. The Senate further suggested that M.Tech - DSA should also incorporate other observations which would be proposed with regards to other M.Tech programs from time to time.

**ITEM NO. 21.09: To receive the confirmation from the Chief Guest for the XVI Convocation alongwith the brief Convocation Statistics.**

Joint Registrar (AAA) told the Senate as per the tradition of the Institute, the XVI Convocation would be held on 11th September this year. Due to pandemic time, it may be again conducted in

online mode as conducted last year. He gave a brief introduction of the Chief Guest for the XVI Convocation, Padma Bhushan, Padma Sri Dr Devi Prasad Shetty, Chairman Narayan Hrudayalay Limited. He also gave a brief statistics of XVI Convocation.

Senate noted and appreciated the same. Chairman Senate requested all the external Senate members to be present in the next Senate Meeting which would be close to the date of Convocation and also invited all the external members to attend the XVI Convocation of the Institute, most possible in E-mode.

**ITEM NO.21.10: To consider and approve the recommendations of the committee to explore the possibility of launching Multidisciplinary M. Tech programmes by each of the two centres on the model of Data Science and Analytics M. Tech programme, in fully Self Supporting mode.**

Prof. U.S.Tiwary was requested to give a brief presentation about the programs. He apprised the Senate that in line with the current M.Tech Data Science and Analytics Programme which was approved last year, the centres are proposing two new Programs 1) M.Tech in Cognitive Computing and 2) M.Tech in Robotics in a fully self supporting mode. These programs are proposed by two Centers of Excellence. These programs are multidisciplinary and research oriented. Both the Programs would be self financed two years multidisciplinary programs. The program would be open for both GATE and non-GATE candidates. The Program structure would be same as other M.Tech courses as per CCLCAA Ordinances. There would be an all India Test for admitting these students and a limited number of GATE candidates may be considered for fellowship, which might arise because of being unutilized. He also apprised the Senate that running of these courses would be maintained within the finance available and further even some corpus would also be generated. He added that the detailed Program Structure would be presented in the next Senate meeting.

After that the matter was open for discussions. Many members appreciated the idea offered many suggestions and sought many clarifications. Based on the elaborate discussions carried out, the Chairman Senate summarized and suggested that the following points to be resolved before presenting the revised version in the next Senate meeting (As already conveyed by Prof. U.S. Tiwary)

1. The concept of Fully Self Supported Programmes as brought out, should be thought of as a way to create Self Supported Seats in other M.Tech specialization programmes as well. Also conversely, incorporating the possibility of CCMT based admission for the proposed programs should also be explored.
2. If self supported seats are going to be tried for other M.Tech Programmes then the revised seat matrix for all M.Tech programmes should be brought out.
3. It should be very clear that the idea of proposing new M.Tech programmes could originate from anywhere,-Departments/Labs/Centres/A group of faculty members/Gymkhana etc. However, all academic and research programmes are of institution, and as such they cannot exclusively be considered to be owned by any Lab/Department/Centre.
4. Every M.Tech Programme should have an Advisory cum Executive Board as suggested in this proposal as a Faculty board from various concerned departments.
5. Including these new proposals, with regard to all existing M.Tech specialisation programmes, it should be reexamined if multiple GATE streams could be considered for CCMT based admissions to accomplish multi /cross disciplinarily in admissions.

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6. It is necessary to study to extend the policy of conducting exclusively institute based admission process as suggested here, for self finance seats in all programs, if it is going to benefit the selection of candidates with better research aptitude.
7. The proper criteria should be worked out to reutilize the unallocated/unutilized fellowships which are GATE based. The cut-off percentile should be maintained in reutilizing GATE fellowship.
8. It is very necessary to explicitly justify the proposal of terminating/aborting the M.Tech in Robotics which is already in place in the department of IT and re-versioning it under fully self-supported scheme as proposed here by one of the centres now.
9. While relooking at all M.Tech programmes as said above, it may be good to have a relook at M.Tech DSA also for the sake of completion.
10. Practicing the already approved M.Tech specialisation by research programs should also be seriously thought of, to encourage research oriented programs.
11. It is necessary to strongly justify the need for M.Tech in new disciplines/specializations. It is also necessary to present the operation viabilities. Further it should be made clear that any new proposal is sufficiently exclusive and does not have any overlap with the other ongoing M.Tech specialisation programmes.
12. A clear strategy to create and offer TA Ships for non-fellowship candidates should be thought of.

A suitable subcommittee, including external expert (s) would be constituted by the Chairman Senate for the purpose.

The Senate recommended as follows:-

Overall, the proposal for instituting M.Tech in Cognitive Computing with the justifications included as mentioned above along with the academic details may be presented in the next Senate. However, regarding M.Tech Robotics, more clarity is required as brought out in the suggestions above. A review of all other M.Tech specialization courses as suggested above should be taken up.

**ITEM NO. 21.11:To consider and approve the proposal to offer an Honorary Faculty Position to Prof. Ramji Lal at IIIT Allahabad.**

The Senate unanimously accepted the recommendations of the committee to offer an Honorary Faculty position to Prof. Ramji Lal at IIIT Allahabad for five years under the provision of 4-Tier flexible cadre structure for Honorary Faculty Position. Chairman Senate mentioned that the long research career and experience of Prof. Ramji Lal would definitely helpful and beneficial for the students as well as for the Institute.

**ITEM NO. 21.12:To consider and approve the Intake Seat Matrix for various UG and PG Programs of the Institute, for the academic years 2021-22 and 2022-23**

The Senate ratified and approved Seat Matrix for various UG and PG Programs of the Institute including intake for various PG Programs through DASA, for the academic years 2021-22 and 2022-23.



## REPORTING ITEMS

**ITEM NO. 21.13:To consider and ratify the academic modalities for the year 2020-21, alongwith that of Summer Semester 2021 (including its Fees structure)**

The Senate noted and ratified the academic modalities for the year 2020-21, alongwith that of Summer Semester 2021 including its Fees structure.

**ITEM NO. 21.14:To ratify the reinstatement of Ms. Zartab Khanam in M.Tech (Bioinformatics) program.**

The Senate ratified the reinstatement of Ms. Zartab Khanam in M.Tech (Bioinformatics) program for which approval was sought by circulation.


**ITEM NO. 21.15:To ratify the appointment of Additional Supervisor for Ms. Trapti Srivastava (RSI2019002)**

The matter of identifying and providing an Additional Supervisor for Ms. Trapti Srivastava (RSI2019002) was ratified by the Senate.

**ITEM NO. 21.16:Any other item with the permission of the Chair**

No "Any other items" were considered.

Meeting then ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

  
Prof. V. Naishri Tewari  
Secretary Senate

  
Prof. P. Nagabhushan  
Chairman Senate

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