INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY KANPUR Minutes of the IAC meeting held on June 5, 2014

Time: 3.00 p.m.; Venue: FB-212

Members Present:

Drs. Indranil Manna, A.M. Raina, Manindra Agrawal, Amalendu Chandra, Dheeraj Sanghi (also in place of Dr. Prabhat Munshi), A.K. Ghosh, R.K. Sachan, Sanjay Mittal, S. Ganesh, P.K. Bhattacharya (in place of Dr. Nishith Verma), P.K. Bharadwaj, V.K. Gupta, Harish Karnick (in place of Dr. Sumit Ganguly), S.P. Das, Munmun Jha, Rahul Varman, Sandeep Sangal (also in place of Dr. Anish Upadhyaya), Mohua Banerjee (in place of Dr. Debasis Kundu), P.K. Panigrahi, Avinash Singh, I.S. Sen (in place of Dr. Rajiv Sinha), Mukesh Sharma, Mr. Munish Malik, and Acting President, Students' Gymkhana

The Chairman welcomed all the members present and called the meeting to order.

Item 1: Confirmation of Minutes of Last IAC Meeting

The minutes of the IAC meeting held on March 21, 2014, as circulated on May 6, 2014, were confirmed. It was decided that the minutes of the IAC meetings should be shared by various HODs with the faculty members of their departments with the understanding that the decisions taken in the IAC meetings were advisory in nature.

Item 2: Conversion of Vacant Faculty Positions into 100 Renewable Post-Doctoral Positions

The Chairman indicated that based on the current student strength, the Institute has 620 sanctioned faculty positions and that a large number of these positions are likely to remain vacant for a long period of time. He proposed a temporary conversion of these positions to about 100 post-doctoral fellowships, thus leading to the availability of a maximum of 7-8 such fellowships in each department, provided the laboratory and office space issues are sorted out apriori at the departmental level. He also proposed that these positions could be made available to our own PhD graduates for a period of one year or to the PhD graduates from other institutions for a period of three years (with yearly review). However, there would be no guarantee that a post-doctoral fellow will be absorbed as a faculty member in the Institute. It was decided to constitute a three-member team of Head, MATHs (Convenor), Head, ME and Head, BSBE, to review the recently formulated guidelines for post-doctoral fellowships and to make fresh recommendations on the issues of salary, status in the department, and selection procedure for these positions.

Item 3: (a) Skill Enhancement Training for Technical and Ministerial Staff; and (b) Orientation Programme for Freshers and Career Development Cell

- (a) The Chairman stressed upon the need of skill enhancement training for non-teaching staff in the Institute. It was agreed that the activities of existing Staff Training Unit need to be strengthened. In this direction, DOAA will prepare syllabus for the courses on soft skill development. Further, the Acting Registrar will prepare a proposal for arranging visits of the technical staff to the local industries as a measure to expose to current industrial practices in large manufacturing units and encourage them to explore new and innovative measures.
- (b) The Chairman also stressed upon organizing an extended orientation programme from this year so that the new students can enhance their reading, writing, communication and comprehension skills besides getting an exposure to various activities on the campus. Such a programme this year will be organized by DOSA and Chairman, Counselling Service. This will be optional from July 12 and compulsory from July 15 for the undergraduate students and compulsory from July 18 for the postgraduate students. There will be evening classes during the orientation programme and the issues of safety and ethics would be included in these classes. DOSA in consultation with Students Gymkhana will also develop a detailed proposal of Career Development Cell for UG and PG students through professional experts for honing the skills for communication, comprehension and composition for ultimate improvement of their personality and professional profile. Furthermore all these information about IIT Kanpur will be displayed on the web-site of the Counseling Service.

Item 4: Admission Guidelines for Direct Ph.D. Applicants

The IAC considered the (a) Proposal for PhD Admission without GATE/JRF/NET/CEED Qualification, and (b) Proposal for Institute Fellowship to PhD Students, both prepared by the committee of Head, CE (Convenor), Head, CSE, Head, Design, Head, HSS and Head, MATHS. It also considered the proposal of DOAA for giving three Institute Assistantships per Department to international PhD students from the endowment funds. It was decided to refer these proposals to the departments for their feedback.

Item 5: Estate Office and Officer

The situation arising out of the difficulty faced by the SE, IWD while discharging the additional duty as Estate Officer was discussed and it was agreed that anybody other than the Acting Registrar could be assigned the responsibilities of Estate Officer. Acting Registrar will prepare a guideline for better functioning of the Estate Office.

Item 6: Any Other Item with Permission of the Chair

- (a) The Chairman announced that revised HAC-I guidelines will be soon circulated for the knowledge of all concerned.
- (b) The Chairman announced that a document prepared for the delegation of financial powers at various levels will be soon circulated to the Departments for their feedback.
- (c) The proposal received from MHRD for the increase in stipend/assistantship for PhD students was considered and agreed upon. Further, it was felt that the assistantship amount needs to be increased for the MTech students as well. Chairman will write to MHRD to convey the same.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

(Vinav K Gupta)

Convenor

(Indranil Manna)

Chairman