



MINUTES OF THE 13TH ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

Date :: 27th November, 2011
Time :: 11.00 am
Venue :: Board Meeting Hall, NERIST

Following Members were present :-

1.	Prof. Dipankar Pal, Director, NERIST	Chairman
2.	Prof. M. Bhuyan, Tezpur University	Member
3.	Prof. H. N. Sarma, Dean (Faculty of Life Sciences) Rajiv Gandhi University, Doimukh.	Member
4.	Prof. N. N. Patwari, Dean (Engg), Assam Engg. College- Jalukbari, Guwahati	Member
5.	Principal i/c, Rajiv Gandhi Polytechnic, Itanagar	Member
6.	Er. Arung Siram, DGM, BSNL, Itanagar	Member
7.	Prof. P. K. Das, Dean (Acad)	Member
8.	Prof. L. S. Yadav, Dean (P&D)	Member
9.	Prof. H.S. Yadav, Dean (SA)	Member
10.	Prof. J. Choubey, Deptt. of Mathematics	Member
11.	Prof. S.K. Singh, Deptt. of Civil Engg.	Member
12.	Prof. R. Prasad, Deptt. of Physics	Member
13.	Prof. R. M. Pant, HoC (CMS)	Member
14.	Prof. P.K. Tripathi, HoD, Deptt. of Chemistry	Member
15.	Prof. L. K. Arora, HoD, Deptt. of Mathematics	Member
16.	Prof. P.R. Alapati, HoD, Deptt. of Physics	Member
17.	Prof. M. Muralidhar, Deptt. of Mechanical Engg.	Member
18.	Prof. Md. A. Hussain, Deptt. of ECE	Member
19.	Prof. (Mrs.) P. Rethy, Deptt. of Forestry	Member
20.	Prof. Amitava Chatterjee, Deptt. of Physics	Member
21.	Prof. V.K. Dhar, Deptt. of Physics	Member
22.	Prof. M.F. Hussain, Deptt. of Chemistry	Member
23.	Prof. K.D. Ram, Deptt. of Chemistry	Member
24.	Prof. S. K. Pandey, Deptt. of Mathematics	Member
25.	Prof. P.P. Dabral, HoD (AE)	Member
26.	Dr. R. K. Mehta, HoD (EE)	Member
27.	Dr. B. D. Nayak, HoD, HSS	Member
28.	Dr. C. L. Sharma, HoD, Deptt. of Forestry	Member
29.	Dr. Ashis Giri, HoD (ME)	Member
30.	Dr. R. Subadar, HoD (ECE)	Member
31.	Dr. R. K. Prasad, HOD (CE)	Member
32.	Dr. S. K. Srivastava, HoC, CATRD	Member
33.	Dr. M. Sengupta, Deptt. of Physics	Member

- | | | |
|-----|---|------------------|
| 34. | Dr. B. K. Singh, Deptt. of Mathematics | Member |
| 35. | Mr. M. Singh, HoD i/c, Deptt. of CSE | Member |
| 36. | Mr. M. Chandrasekaran, Deptt. of Mechanical Engg. | Member |
| 37. | Dr. R. P. Bhattacharjee, Registrar i/c | Non Member Secy. |

The members who could not attend the meeting are :-

- | | | |
|-----|--|--------|
| 01. | Prof. Sukumar Nandi, Dean (Academic Affairs), IIT, Guwahati | Member |
| 02. | Prof. S. S. Sarkar, Head, Deptt. of Business Administration-
Tezpur University, Tezpur. | Member |
| 03. | Prof. M. Husain, Deptt. of Chemistry | Member |
| 04. | Dr. P. R. Parida, Deptt. of HSS | Member |

At the outset, the Chairman, Academic Council welcomed the members present and called the meeting to order. He appreciated the presence of outside members and thereafter, the Agenda Items were taken up for discussion as under :-

AC 13.1 :: To consider confirmation of the Minutes of the 12th Academic Council Meeting held on 2nd July, 2011.

[A communication had been received from HoD (AE) that nomenclature of M. Tech in ^{Dairy} Diary and Food Engineering is in existence at IIT, Kharagpur and HoD (AE), has not found any nomenclature like M. Tech. in Food Processing Technology in AICTE website. Therefore, the nomenclature of M. Tech. in Food Processing Technology may be replaced by M. Tech. in ^{Dairy} Diary & Food Engineering. The Chairman requested the members to express their comments and the change in nomenclature received no opposition from any member.]

Resolution :: The minutes of 12th Academic Council were approved with the above correction.

AC 13.2 :: (a) To consider Action Taken Report (ATR) on the minutes of the 11th AC meeting [Agenda Item No. AC-11.6].

[The Academic Council in its 11th meeting (vide Agenda Item No. 11.06), had constituted a committee under the Chairmanship of Prof. S. Nandi, Dean (Acad), IIT, Guwahati, to deliberate on the issue of signing an MoU by the Institute with other University/Institute. The recommendation of the Committee which was received on 25.11.2011 was placed before the Academic Council]

Resolution:: It was resolved that report of the Committee shall be studied/ examined by the Chairman, Academic Council, and it will be discussed in the next AC.

However, in the meantime, on a case to case basis MoU will be taken up by the administration as they arise, which, if needed may be ratified in the light of the report if the AC adopts it.

It was also resolved that Agenda wise Action Taken Report (ATR), on the previous meeting should be prepared from next AC meeting and shall form the Agenda item No. 2 of each meeting

AC 13.3 :: To consider report from In-charge (Training & Placement), for improvement of placement avenues of our students.

[The In-charge (Trg. & Placement), of this Institute submitted a proposal, vis-à-vis steps to be taken immediately so as to improve the placement avenues of our students, since the scenario of placement of our students is absolutely grim. The matter was discussed in threadbare. The details of the proposal-wise decisions by the Academic Council are as under:-]

1. As per grading pattern and its conversion to percentage of marks, a student's highest percentage can be 88% (16X5 + 8), on a 5.00 pointer scale. This is in spite of a student scoring 75 or 97 in the highest grading A. This is placing our students at a disadvantageous position against other Institutes. The 10 pointer scale may be adopted to rectify the problem.

Resolution :: The conversion from CGPA to percentage has been deliberated at length and it has been agreed that it is to be rectified in the light of the aforesaid anomaly. A Committee in this regard has been constituted as under:-

- | | | |
|--------------------|----|----------|
| 1. Dean (Acad) | :: | Chairman |
| 2. Dean (P&D) | :: | Member |
| 3. In-charge (T&P) | :: | Member |

2. With the increase of NITs (having brand name) in the North Eastern States, we may need to re-arrange our modular pattern of Base, Diploma and Degree modules. In the last 24 batches of Base module, there is not a single case of appointment on Base Module holder student. The diploma

Pranav
6/2/11

module and the degree module may be re-arranged in line with the standard diploma and degree modules' duration of 03 years and 04 years respectively with mobility from diploma module to degree module. After class-X, the entry may be in the diploma module and the entry in the degree module may be done through AIEEE with North Eastern States' quota being applicable. This will increase acceptance of our students in North East as well as in all India level.

Resolution:: The Academic Council deliberated on the matter and the proposal was not considered.

3. Through present Entrance Examination, with zero cut off marks in NERIST Entrance Examination, quality of intake students is degrading. Suitable cut off marks may be applied at present NEE-I and NEE-II entrance with vacant seats being filled up from NE open merit and Arunachal quota (as followed now).

Resolution:: The Academic Council deliberated on the matter and it has been resolved that present system of non-zero cut off mark will continue. However, steps need to be taken to fill up the vacant seats by increasing the numbers in the waiting lists.

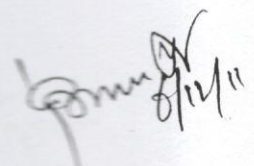
4. Presently for NEE-II entrants and NEE-III entrants, 60% marks is the minimum eligibility criteria. But this criterion is not maintained for NERIST students who do not fulfill the criteria for vertical mobility (CGPA-3.25/60%) and opt for NEE-II and NEE-III. Proper steps may be taken to address the problem.

Resolution::The Academic Council deliberated on the matter and the proposal was not considered.

5. Absence of any accreditation of our academic programmes by appropriate agencies like NAAC etc. is proving detrimental for the placement of our students. Immediate steps should be taken for accreditation of our academic programmes.

Resolution :: The Chairman apprised the members about the action already initiated to this end. Prof. P. K. Tripathy who is looking after NAAC informed that NAAC papers will be ready by 15.12.2011. Prof. Md. A. Hussain who is looking after NBA informed that NBA papers would be ready by mid-January, 2012. The Institute will apply for the same by February, 2012 to the concerned agencies.

+ 9 -



AC 13.4 :: To consider proposal from HoD, Deptt. of Physics

[The HoD, Department of Physics, submitted a proposal to reduce eligibility criteria of B.Sc. students for admission into M.Sc. (Physics), from the existing 60% to 55% (for pass course) and 50% (for honours course) (with 5% relaxation for SC/ST)].

Resolution:: It was resolved that the eligibility criterion would be 55% in aggregate for Pass Course and 50% in Honours/ Major in the concerned subject from next Academic Year 2012-13. It was further resolved that this would also be applicable for M.Sc. (Chemistry & Mathematics) admission.

AC 13.5 :: To consider proposal from HoD, Deptt. of Mathematics regarding (i) Revision of syllabus for M.Sc. (Maths) (ii) to revise eligibility criteria for admission to M.Sc. (Maths) and (iii) for postponement of End Semester Exam (July-December, 2011)

Resolution:: (i) It was resolved that syllabus revision need to be initiated by the department through BoS. (ii) Admission criteria for admission would be same as the resolution of Agenda item-13.4. (iii) deferment of end semester examination was not approved.

AC 13.6 :: To consider proposal from HoD, Mechanical Engineering Department regarding (i) to start of M.Tech. Programme in Thermo Fluid Engineering (ii) inclusion of Hydrology subject as an elective in UG and PG programme and (iii) for consideration of Ph.D. Thesis evaluation by 03 Indian Examiners.

- Resolution ::**
- (i) M. Tech programme in Thermo Fluid Engineering has already been approved in the 4th Academic Council and it was resolved to start the programme from next Academic session.
 - (ii) Referred to Board of Studies (BoS).
 - (iii) It was resolved that the Ph.D. thesis of the Institute would be examined by either two Indian examiners

or one Indian and one abroad examiner excluding the supervisor.

AC 13.7 :: To consider proposal from HoD, Department of Forestry.

[The existing Board of Examiners for Ph.D. thesis evaluation of a candidate consist of one (or two) internal examiner(s), normally the Supervisor(s) and two external examiners, one from within India and another from abroad who can be the expert in the subject of thesis.

The HoD, Department of Forestry, proposed that both the external examiners for Ph.D. thesis evaluation can be constituted from within India excluding one internal examiner (Supervisor)]

Resolution :: As decided in Agenda Item No. 13.6, it will be applicable for all the departments including Dept. of Foestrtry.

AC 13.8 :: To consider proposal from Co-ordinator (NERIST TEQUIP Unit).

[Prof. (Dr) M. Muralidhar, Co-ordinator, NERIST TEQIP Unit, submitted a proposal relating to NERIST TEQUIP Unit. The proposal wise resolution is as follows]

I. To consider for establishment of corpus fund and methods to generate corpus fund in NERIST.

[TEQIP-II of NERIST is an Institute project approved by NPIU or MHRD-World Bank Mega Project. As per the guidelines every project Institute has to open an account for corpus fund and generate some funds for the Institute. It is proposed to form a committee for suggesting methods for generation of Corpus Funds with Institute Co-ordinator, TEQIP Unit, Prof-in-charge (T&P) and Co-ordinator, Sponsored Research and Industrial Consultancy].

Resolution:: After deliberation, it was resolved that the issue of corpus fund needs to be handled in line with NPIU guidelines which is coordinating TEQIP. However Prof. (Dr) M. Muralidhar, Co-ordinator, NERIST TEQIP Unit was authorized to form any working committee as deemed fit with the knowledge of Chairman for the purpose.

- II. To consider allotment of practical classes (Laboratories and Workshops of UG and PG) and show it in time table for all full time Ph.D. Scholars who are paid scholarship from the Institute or from Projects.

[The total strength of full time Ph.D. scholars in NERIST is around 44. Out of this, 03 are from Engineering disciplines and 41 scholars are from Science, Humanities and Management studies. Practical classes for around 06 hours per week may be allotted for research scholars as per UGC/AICTE guidelines. However, Course Co-ordinators will be a full time faculty member].

Resolution :: After deliberation it has been resolved that practical/tutorial classes shall be allotted to the PG/Ph.D. scholars. PG & Ph.D. students with scholarship will be empanelled in the teaching load by Chairman (CTTC). Scholars without scholarship may be given a honourarium for this engagement with the approval of the competent authority. Engagement of scholars under Projects will be decided by Principal Investigator.

- III. To consider 2011-12 (July 2011 to June 2012) academic year to declare as Silver Jubilee Academic Year to accelerate academic programmes throughout the year by conducting STTPs/National Seminars/Industrial Experts Lecture/Industrial visits.

[First batch of NERIST students was admitted in August, 1986. This Academic year, it will be completing 25 years and hence this academic year may be considered for declaring as Silver Jubilee Academic Year].

Resolution :: After deliberation, it was resolved that since Silver Jubilee of the Institute is already over, there is no significance for celebration of Silver Jubilee Academic Year. However activities as proposed can be organized throughout the year.

AC 13.9 :: Debarring of students to organize Picnic out side the NERIST campus, at the river side areas.

[Handwritten signature]
2/12/11

[The Chairman, Hostel Management Council (HMC), has informed that in spite of several advices to the students/boarders not to arrange any Picnic at the river side outside the NERIST campus, the boarders are still organizing such Picnic parties outside the campus, in the river side areas during the winter season. In the past, a few boarders of our Institute have lost their precious lives by drowning in the river during such picnic parties.

Hence, Chairman (HMC), has proposed that a clause may be incorporated in the Hostel Rules of the Institute Academic Bye-laws regarding ban on organizing a Picnic Party by the students outside the Institute campus at the river side]

Resolution:: The item was deliberated and it was resolved that students should not be allowed to organize Picnic outside the campus along river side. It was also resolved that necessary amendment in the Bye-laws (Hostel Rules) will be incorporated.

AC 13.10 :: Provisions for improvement of Examination result for PG students at NERIST.

[Shri Taru Miri and Shri Ramanuj Mishra, pass out students in M.Sc. (Physics), from this Institute in this year, have submitted an application to permit them to appear for improvement, as they could not secure 60% marks (CGPA-3.25). Their application was forwarded by the HoD (Physics)].

Resolution :: After deliberations, the appeal of Shri Taru Miri and Ramanuj Mishra, was not considered, as they had already completed their studies. However, issue of improvement during study will be governed by Academic Bye-laws.

AC 13.11 :: Provisions of distance limit for Ph.D. (Part Time) programme.

Resolution::It was resolved that limiting applicants based on physical distance has not much significance left in this era of IT and e-learning. This is all the more important as some places in the North-East may be physically closer but yet takes more travel time as compared to places such as Delhi, Mumbai and Kolkata. However residence criteria must be strictly adhered to and the

Ramanuj
6/12/11

following committee was constituted for modification of the Ph.D. Bye-laws to this end:-

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|----|----------|
| 1. | Dean (Acad) | :: | Chairman |
| 2. | HoD (Physics) | :: | Member |
| 3. | HoD (Chemistry) | :: | Member |
| 4. | HoD (HSS) | :: | Member |

The Committee will submit its report before next AC meeting.

AC 13.12 :: To consider recommendation of 21st BPGS held on 18.11.2011.

[The recommendations of the 21st BPGS, held on 18.11.2011 was placed for consideration of the Academic Council]

Resolution:: The Academic Council ratified the decision taken in 21st BPGS.

AC 13.13 :: Reporting item(s) :-

- (a) The NERIST Study Leave Committee, by its meeting held on 11.11.2011, has recommended study leave for 02 (two) faculty members of this Institute, which may please be ratified.

Resolution :: Ratified.

- (b) To ratify the declaration of result of Jan-May, 2011 semester.

Resolution :: Ratified

AC 13.14 :: Any other item(s) with permission of the Chair.

- I. Shifting of M. Tech in Information Technology (IT) from the Department of ECE to the Department of CSE.

Resolution :: It was resolved that due to the matching of the domains the M. Tech in IT will be shifted to the Dept. of Computer Science & Engg. with effect from 2012-13. However the contribution of the Dept. of ECE in running the programme so far was also acknowledged.

10/4-

10/12/11

II. Developing NERSIT to become a QIP Centre itself

Resolution:: It was resolved that the Institute will take necessary action to become a QIP Centre and all necessary paper works regarding this will be processed by Dean (Acad).

III. To consider doing question paper moderation departmentally

Resolution:: Moderation of Question Papers shall be done within the Institute by our own faculty members. However, for viva-voce, outside experts may be engaged.

IV. Considering VLSI as an Elective in B. Tech (ECE) curricula.

Resolution:: Prof. D. Pal, Director, NERIST, circulated a course structure regarding this. It was resolved that the Department of ECE would examine it for introduction from next academic session.

V. Considering admission of candidates with M. Sc. (Electronics) for Ph.D programme.

Resolution:: It was resolved that this is principally approved. However residence and other criteria shall be looked after by the PhD bye-laws being modified by committee proposed in 13.11

VI. Starting M. Tech programme in VLSI

Resolution:: It was resolved that during the 12th Five Year Plan, Institute may start M. Tech. in VLSI and HoD (ECE) has given the responsibility to prepare all necessary papers regarding this.

VII. The proposal of enhancement of honorarium for Chairman, NEE and other honorariums/ fees

10 15-

Handwritten signature and date: 8/12/11

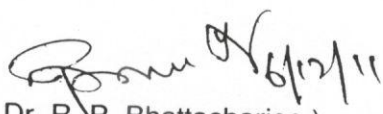
Resolution:: It was resolved to consider it at an appropriate level such as Deans' Meeting/ BoM etc. as AC is not the appropriate platform to discuss such administrative matters.

Additional Items :-

AC 13.15 :: To consider recommendation/proposal from Board of Studies, CMS, NERIST.

Resolution :: The proposal of HoC (CMS) regarding electives in B. Tech. programme has been allowed. Regarding change of Course Code from HS-6006 to MB-6007, it was resolved to float a new Course Code named MB-6007 instead of changing HS-6006. Regarding start of part time 03 yrs. MBA programme, it has been allowed for self financing and sponsored candidates. However, details of this will be submitted by HoC (CMS) to be placed before the BoM.

The Chairman thanked all the members, especially the outside members for their active participation in the meeting. The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Dr. R. P. Bhattacharjee)
Registrar i/c & Non-Member Secretary,
Academic Council. NERIST