



Minutes of the 20th Senate Meeting of IIT-D held on October 17, 2012 at 02.00 PM
in Senate Room, B-wing, R&D Building, IIT-D Campus, Okhla Industrial Estate Phase-3, New Delhi

Following members were present:

- Prof. Pankaj Jalote - Chairman
- Dr. Astrid Kiehn - UGC Chair & Internal Member
- Dr. Debajyoti Bera - Internal Member
- Dr. Gaurav Gupta - Internal Member
- Dr. Pushpendra Singh - Internal Member
- Dr. Somitra Kumar Sanadhya - Internal Member
- Dr. Subhasis Banerjee - Internal Member
- Dr. Vinayak Naik - Internal Member
- Mr. Piyush Yadav - PG Student Representative
- Sh. Ashwani Kumar Kansal - Secretary

Following members attended via Telecon:

- Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi - External Member from IIT Kanpur
- Prof. M. Chelliah - External Member from Yahoo !
- Mr. C. Anantaram - External Member from TCS

Special Invitees:

- Dr. Ashwin Srinivasan - PGC Chair - IITD
- Dr. Srikanta Bedathur - Faculty – IITD
- Dr. Anirban Mondal - Faculty – IITD
- Dr. Sujay Deb - Faculty – IITD
- Dr. Hrishikesh B. Acharya - Faculty – IITD
- Dr. Angshul Majumdar - Faculty – IITD
- Mr. K.P. Singh - In-charge-Academics
- Apurv Mehra (BTech2009) - Student
- Sudip Mittal (BTech2009) - Student
- Vivek Tiwari - AM-Academics

TWENTIETH (20TH) MEETING OF SENATE OF IIT-DELHI

Minutes of the Meeting

20.0 Opening remarks of the Chairman

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

20.1 Confirmation of minutes of the 19th Senate meeting

Since there were no comments, the minutes of the 19th meeting were confirmed.

20.2 Degree granting date: The Chairman of the senate presented the background of the proposal. After detailed deliberations, it was agreed to de-couple the degree granting date from the date of convocation and the proposed dates were approved as follows:

- May 21 for the students who finish their requirements during the Winter semester. (e.g. 8th semester of BTech)
- Aug 21 for those who finish the requirements during summer semester.
- Dec 21 for those who finish the requirement during the Monsoon semester.

It was clarified that even if requirements are completed early during a semester (e.g. final thesis defense is done towards the start of the semester), the degree date will be as above.

It was also decided that in the current convocation all students who have either completed the requirements in Winter and Summer semester, or are likely to graduate till December 21, 2012 be invited. The last category of student will be mentioned in the brochure/citation as “Expected to Complete in December 2012”, and they will be actually awarded degree only after the above mentioned degree granting date.

20.3 Final list of MTech students to be granted degree: The proposed list was approved.

20.4 Final list of BTech students to be granted degree: The proposed list was approved.

20.5 The best MTech thesis award: PGC Chair, Prof. Ashwin Srinivasan presented this item and apprised the senate of the opinion/recommendation of the external experts, with the final recommendation that none of the thesis being considered are worthy of the award for “Best MTech Thesis”. It was therefore decided not to give this award to any student in the forthcoming convocation.

For future, it was also decided that detailed procedures for evaluation of thesis (as done in the case of BTP) for the purpose of award may be circulated to all concerned.

20.6 To approve the Degree formats: As proposed the Degree formats were approved. However, the respective dates of completion of the requirement will be mentioned in their degrees.

20.7 Dual Degree Programme: The Chairman Senate presented the detailed background related to the proposal. Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi (IITK) provided his valuable inputs during the course of discussions. The two students (Sudip Mittal and Apurv of BTech2009 batch) who were invited to this meeting for this item also gave their views. After detailed deliberations, the senate agreed to the proposal and recommended the same to the BOG for approval with some minor modifications as shown in **Appendix-1**.

It was also suggested that the students may be encouraged to appear in GATE exam for the purpose of award of GATE scholarship.

20.8 Moving to the new National Test for admission to IIIT-Delhi: There was a considerable discussion on pros and cons of adopting the National Test. In the end, it was decided, that while there are advantages of continuing with the format that IIIT-D has evolved over the years focusing on Aptitude, it is desirable to move to the new National Test for admission to IIIT-D as it takes away the huge responsibility of conducting the test, as well as can increase the source base for getting students. However, keeping in view the concerns expressed by some of the members, it was decided to communicate to CBSE that they consider:

(i) including an aptitude component in the test

(ii) provide subject wise break-up of scores obtained by the candidates.

20.9 Recommendation/Report by UGC: As the course description form was under revision UGC suggested to have it contain explicitly the numbers of tutorial and lab hours (the LTP structure). In particular, for core courses some contents (roughly, 80%) as well as the LTP structure should be mandatory that is the course instructor would be obliged to follow it. It was further discussed whether text books for core courses should be prescribed or not. The senate suggested further discussion in the faculty meeting before it would take a decision.

20.10 Recommendation/Report by PGC: None.

20.11 Any other item with permission of the Chair: None.

Proposal for a Dual Degree Program in IIIT Delhi

Background. Dual degree programs are quite common in India – most IITs have it and IIIT Hyderabad also has it (IIITH has it with MS). The main motive behind such a program is to have some of the UG students of an Institute do their MTech in the Institute, so the Institute's research activity can benefit by having these students, who are well trained in fundamentals and have good skills, do focused research for about a year for their Masters thesis.

The main features of these programs are:

- The student may be admitted directly into the dual-degree program (many IITs have this, CSE/IITK earlier had this), or it may be allowed to migrate into this program after some point in the BTech program (CSE, IITK has now moved to this model), or it may be a combination of the two (IIITH uses both).
- It is treated as a program with its own requirements. The student gets a BTech and an MTech (or MS) together at graduation time. (There may be some exit clause, in case student is not able to complete MTech.)
- One common objective of all these programs is to ensure that in the 5th year, the student is primarily doing thesis work with very little course load (at most one per semester).

Common approach for achieving the above objective is to reduce some requirements for BTech and reducing some requirements for MTech.

- In CSE/IITK – in 4th year the student does one course less, does not do his BTP (which is equal to 3 courses) – instead is expected to do 4 MTech level courses in the 4th year. The MTech course requirement is reduced from 6 to 5, which means that the student has to do only 1 course in the 5th year, besides doing the thesis.
- In CSE/IITB – similar to IITK. They have a higher course requirement in MTech (9), but ensure that the dual degree student has to do 2 courses in the fifth year.
- In IIITH – has only dual degree with MS with Research program. The course requirement is lesser in the MS program. They allow migration after 2nd year, and Their data is that only about half the dual degree students finish the program in 5 years.

Proposal. As IIIT-Delhi follows a credit based system, to achieve the main objectives of dual degree programs, we will have to formulate our regulations accordingly. It will be desirable if the credit requirements for degrees are not changed, as they will have impact on existing regulations. Following regulations are proposed:

- A student may opt for migrating to the dual degree program anytime before the last date of Add/Drop of his/her 7th semester in the BTech program. Only students with CGPA of 7.0 or above are eligible for this. [Application process and other operational details to be worked out and finalized for selecting from the applicants]
- Any extra CSE course credits earned beyond what is required for BTech, up to a maximum of 12 credits, may be counted towards course credit requirements for the MTech degree. (So, a student can do extra courses in 3rd and 4th year, as Honors

- students do, and get these credits counted towards satisfying the MTech course credit requirements.)
- As the student have undergone the BTech program of IIIT-D and so has the necessary background and strength in foundations, the core course requirement of MTech program, which is designed to impart some core knowledge to students, may be deemed to be satisfied. In other words, the core course requirement of MTech (CSE) is waived for the dual degree students for earning their MTech. (In MTech programs where the core course requirement is more than three courses, only three of these may be waived.)
 - A dual degree student will be considered as an BTech student till the time he/she completes the requirements of the same; thereafter he/she will be considered as an MTech student.
 - The dual degree student must spend at least two semesters as an MTech student. [NOTE: This is to prevent someone trying to do it in one semester through overload etc.]
 - A dual degree student must do an MTech thesis, which may be a continuation of the work done in BTP. (Operational details for this continuation to be worked out later.)
 - As the MTech degree is expected to be completed in one year after BTech (rather than two years, as with regular MTech), the fee for the MTech portion of the dual degree program will be half of regular MTech fee. I.e. the total fee for the dual degree program is fee for BTech program + half of the fee for MTech program.
 - The dual degree student will not be eligible for campus placement in his/her BTech portion, and will be eligible only in his/her last year to use placement services.

It is envisaged that this program will play out as follows:

- A student will decide sometime in 3rd year that he/she wishes to pursue the dual degree. He/she will do up to 3 courses extra during 3rd and 4th years, as for Honors, but the extra credits will get counted towards MTech. I.e. the load during the first 8 semesters is same as for Honors.
- With waiver of core requirements in MTech, a student will have to do 5 courses for MTech in with-thesis option. Having done 3 extra courses in 3rd/4th years, he/she will have to do 2 more in the 5th year for their MTech credits, and will have to do at least 16 credits of MTech thesis.
- For the current batch (which initiated this,) which may not have earned sufficient extra credits in the BTech, some special provision will have to be provided during the summer to earn some extra credits. Or they will have to do some more courses in 5th year.