Minutes of the 26th meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) held on 10th February, 2023 in the Senate Room, 7th Floor, R&D Block at 2.30 p.m.

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Following members/special invitees were present:

- Prof. Anuradha Sharma – AAC Chair and Chair-PG Affairs
- Prof. Pushpendra Singh – DoAA
- Dr. Sumit J. Darak - Chair-UG Affairs
- Prof. Sujay Deb
- Dr. Ganesh Bagler
- Dr. Saket Anand
- Dr. Debika Banerjee
- Dr. Gayatri Nair
- Dr. Vinayak Abrol
- Mr. Tathagat (Student Member)
- Mr. K P Singh –Academic In-Charge
- Ms. Nisha Narwal - Assistant Manager (Academics)

At the outset, Prof. Anuradha Sharma (AAC Chair) welcomed all members/special invitees to the AAC meeting. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up for discussion and the following decisions/recommendations were made:

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Item 1.

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The minutes of 25th AAC meeting held on 13th January, 2023 were confirmed as circulated.

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Item 2.

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Reporting Items

1. **The Department of CSE recommended adding the following new courses to the bucket of "Additional AI Applications Courses" for B.Tech. CSAI students. It was deliberated and approved over email.**

   Speech and Audio Processing
   Concurrent and Learned Data Structures
   Computer Graphics
   Digital Image Processing
   ML Techniques for Real-Time Control
   Advanced Embedded Logic Design (AELD)
   Interactive Systems

2. **The Department of CSE also proposed to include the Concurrent and Learned Data Structure (CLDS) course in the DE and AI specialization of the MTech (CSE) program. It was shared with AAC members over email. Since no comments were received, it is considered as approved.**

3. **To consider the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) for revisions in the minor on Quantum Technologies**

4. **The Center for Quantum Technologies (CQT) had approached the Academic Affairs Committee for the following changes in the minor on Quantum Technologies:**

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	1) Quantum Information Theory (QIT) to be moved from bucket 2 to bucket 1. This would allow students to choose 3 courses from 5 (As of now, there are only 4 courses in bucket 1 that are being offered and the students have limited option). 2) The following courses would be added to bucket 2: Information Theory (ECE501), Coding theory (MTH514), Lattices in Computer Science (CSE526), Advanced Solid State Devices. It was circulated over email and since no comments were received it is considered as approved.

Item 3.	**To deliberate on Inclusion of ECE551/CSE515 - Bayesian Machine Learning in the AI (additional) core courses (B. Tech. CSAI Regulations document, App. I, part B.), and not an Application course for CSAI students.**
	
	The Department of CSE has also proposed the below mentioned courses for inclusion in AI core and Math elective buckets for consideration and further deliberation by AAC:
	
	The following three courses were recommended to be included in "Additional AI Core Courses" (Appendix-I.B).
	1. Meta-Learning (AI course - needs little justification)
	2. Trustworthy AI Systems (AI course - needs little justification)
	3. Theories of Deep Learning (AI course - needs little justification)
	
	It was also agreed to include the following three courses to be included in the "Math Elective" (Appendix-I.D) (This is in addition to the core Math courses that include optimization, etc.)
	
	    1. Information Theory (New)
	    2. Econometrics-1
	    3. Econometrics-2
	
	Justification for the Math Electives.
	Information Theory has many applications in AI/ML.
	
	For Econometrics (1 & 2), the following is the justification from Gaurav Arora (current instructor). "Like ML and other data science courses, econometrics relies on multiple linear regression models as the mainstay methodology. A training in Econometrics is however a fundamental value-add as it deals with the journey from correlation (what/how) to causal inference (why); from employing experimental data to employing observational/non-experimental data for empirical analysis; and from a goodness-of-fit to inference-based models. These dimensions distinguish Econometrics from mathematical statistics or any other data science/engineering courses, which necessitates a mathematical exposition of the course. The mandatory project provides exposure to applications-based learning of statistical methods
	
	Dr. Saket Anand will present this item.
	
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	Recommendation for agenda Item No. 2. 2

The AAC noted that as per clarification given by the CSE department over email, the Concurrent and Learned Data Structure (CLDS) course will be an open elective of AI and hence no update is required. For DE specialization, this course may be updated in the google sheet and shared with the students of **MTech (CSE) program.**

Action: Academic Section

Recommendations for agenda Item No. 2 .1 and 3:

Dr. Saket Anand presented the proposal and clarified the points raised by the members. After detailed deliberations the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) agreed to the proposal of CSE department for inclusion of the following courses in their respective buckets and recommended for approval of the Senate:

       Additional AI Core Courses (Appendix-I.B).

        1. Meta-Learning
        2. Trustworthy AI Systems
        3. Theories of Deep Learning
        4. Bayesian Machine Learning

       Math Elective" (Appendix-I.D) (This is in addition to the core Math courses that
         include optimization, etc.)

        1. Information Theory
        2. Econometrics-1
        3. Econometrics-2

The AAC also recommended that this information should be added on the institute webpage (https://www.iiitd.ac.in/academics/btech/csai).

Action: Academic Section/ Senate

Item 4.	**To review if the Institute should have a CGPA criteria with respect to the semester exchange program with JKLU.**
	The AAC discussed the proposal and after a brief discussion asked the Academic Section to send the proposal to the departments of CSE, ECE and Design to deliberate and intimate as to what should be the CGPA criteria for the students coming from JKLU.
	Action: Academic Section
Item 5.	**To review the bucket courses for M.Tech. CSE Program.**
	Here is the Department recommendation for reference. *Here are the details when the proposed bucket courses were offered.*

	Consideration of this item was deferred to the next meeting.
Item 6.	**To deliberate on M.Tech. Refresher/Preparatory Module offering** The AAC considered the recommendations of the ECE, CB and CSE departments and after a brief discussion agreed to their recommendation to offer a refresher module for the upcoming batch. However, the AAC did not agree to the suggestion of the ECE department to have Winter admission to the PG program. The AAC further suggested that keeping in view that M.Tech. students admitted in the Winter semester will face problems in getting GATE scholarships, it was suggested that Winter batch admission should only be initiated if there are any vacant seats during the Monsoon admission process. It was further suggested to have 15% extra applicants in the merit list instead of 10% which will take care of withdrawals from the M.Tech. program at the end. **Action: Academic Section/concerned Departments/Senate**
Item 7.	**To deliberate on the process of Result Notification to be issued to Ph.D. students after Thesis defense.** *Sample Copy of [Provisional Certificate](), IIT Delhi* *Sample Copy of [Result Notification](), IIT Delhi* Dean of Academic Affairs apprised the members of the background related to issue of result notification after the Ph.D. thesis defense. He also clarified the points raised by the members. After detailed deliberation the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) recommended starting the issue of result notification in line with the format of IIT-Delhi. **Action: Academic Section/ Senate**
Item 8.	**To discuss the TAship allocation vs coursework of Ph.D. students** It was noted that currently, we allocate courses for TAship to Ph.D. students before the beginning of the semester. Many course instructors expect their TAs to attend all their lectures, and hence Ph.D. students can't take any course offered in the same slot. After detailed deliberation the AAC suggested that PhD students should only select those courses as a choice for TAship that do not have a timetable clash with the courses that they want to attend. While assigning TA duty it should be ensured that such TAs should be given an extra date so that they can exercise their preference properly and PhD students should be allocated the TAship as per their first choice only. **Action: Academic Section**
Item 9.	**Two ECE instructors taught a course in the Monsoon semester 2022 but the course topics, evaluation, and exams were completely different. It was highlighted in the grade moderation meeting of the Department of ECE.**

	After detailed deliberations the AAC recommended the following: If a course is taught by two or more instructors in different sections, then the instructors should coordinate with each other and ensure that the topics covered, evaluation criteria, quizzes/assignments/exams and grading should be the same for all the sections. Ideally, instructors should discuss the course plan before the commencement of classes. This point should be mentioned in the Instructor Manual. **Action: Academic Section**
Item 10.	**In the 24th AAC Meeting, the AAC discussed the travel support provided to B.Tech. & M.Tech. students for attending conferences.** As per regulations, a travel assistance of Rs. 10k is provided to B.Tech. & M.Tech. students for attending conferences. A B.Tech. student can avail this facility once in their tenure and an M.Tech. student can avail it twice in their tenure. It was felt that the current travel support for B.Tech. & M.Tech. students are insufficient and need revision in view of the rising cost of fare, registration fee, accommodation, etc. over the years. After detailed deliberation the AAC with a view to inspire the students recommended to FC to increase the travel assistance amount from 10k to 20k. It was noted that input from the Departments of ECE, Maths & CB were received and they are agreeing to the proposed amount. **Action: Academic Section/FC**
Item 11.	**To deliberate on the domain of BTP for doing B.Tech. degree with Honors** The AAC decided that students can do BTP for Honors in any domain. **Action: Academic Section**
Item 12.	**To review IIITD Course Description format.** *The current course description document has information that keeps on changing every year (e.g., textbook, weekly schedule, etc.). This creates confusion among students and future instructors as to what is mandatory and what is tentative. It is proposed to divide the description into two parts: A mandatory part (changes require approval), e.g., name, description, credits, presence of lecture-tutorial-lab-project components (not necessarily the schedule), COs, (maybe) list of topics. And a "Tentative plan" component that may include a weekly schedule of labs-lectures-tutorials, books, evaluation plan, etc.; this component is required during course approval to understand the feasibility and intended workload+rigor of a course, but may not be necessary for students (information could be retained for guiding future instructors). Further, guidelines should be laid down for core and elective courses on which components require further approval when modified in a future semester.*

	Also, it is proposed that the current taxonomy be updated with the revised "Bloom's taxonomy" (Given below) from "Computing Curricula 2020" which has more actions/verbs which will allow more flexibility to design the COs. Annexure II *It may also be desirable to upfront list which program objective (POs) this course satisfies; this helps during accreditation and could in general be beneficial to understand where this course fits with respect to a program* *Consideration of this item was deferred to the next meeting.*

Item 13	**There are several UG and PhD students in the institute who neither apply for a semester leave nor register for the course/thesis credits. Some of the PhD students are in the 21st semester, and there is no update from them about their research progress or their plans for thesis submission. Many of them do not even respond to the emails sent by the institute/academic team. Here are the details for 0 registrations in the Winter 2023 semester.**
	
	Chairperson apprised the members of the background. After detailed deliberation, the AAC recommended as under:
	
	    i. For PhD students who have not registered, mark them "Absent Without Leave" on ERP, stop their fellowship and other facilities immediately. For B.Tech. & M.Tech. students who have not registered, mark them "Absent Without Leave" on ERP. If a candidate remains "Absent Without Leave" for two semesters, his/her registration shall be terminated and a termination letter will be issued to the student with a copy to the Head of the Department (and to the advisor(s) in case of PhD students).
	
	    ii. The Annual Review should be made mandatory for all PhD students, even after 5th year of PhD.
	
	    iii. After the 5th year of PhD, the default fee waiver will be stopped. The student must pay a fee applicable to sponsored students failing which his registration shall stand terminated. The advisor(s) may request for a waiver of fee in genuine cases.
	
	    iv. After completing 7 years in the PhD program, all PhD students will be required to pay a fee applicable to sponsored students mandatorily. The fee waiver request will not be accepted in any case.
	
	    v. PhD students can be allowed to register courses and complete the program within a maximum of 10 years.
	
	    vi. The maximum duration of the PhD program will be 10 years from the date of joining. If a PhD student does not submit his/her thesis within 10 years from the date of joining, his/her registration will be terminated and a termination letter will be issued to the student with a copy to the Head of the Department and to the advisor(s).

	Action: Academic Section/Senate
Item 14	**To deliberate on having financial penalty on Academic Warning cases for PhD students in Monsoon 2022 semester.** Here are the details
	Chairperson apprised the members of the background. During discussions, the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) noted the financial penalty clause of PG regulation for Ph.D. students on account of Academic warning. After detailed deliberation, the AAC recommended that there should not be any financial penalty because of academic warnings in the case of Ph.D. students. Similarly, such students can also be assigned TAships. Rest of the rules remain the same.
	Action: Academic Section/Senate
Item 15	**To deliberate on the Mapping of Great Learning courses to credits (PG Diploma in CS&AI in collaboration with Great Learning)**
	This item was discussed in the 23rd AAC Meeting and the AAC requested for extra details about the duration of live sessions and recorded sessions for further consideration.
	This item was in continuation of the earlier discussion held in the 23rd AAC meeting where extra details about the duration of live sessions and recorded sessions were requested for further consideration. The Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) further deliberated on mapping of courses to credits of PG Diploma in CS and AI being run in collaboration with Great Learning. Dr. Sanjit Kaul, Program Director, presented the proposal and answered the queries made by the members. The AAC, after detailed deliberations, recommended considering the Class and Async Learning hours for mapping of credits. It was noted that a total of 452 hours effort is required by the student, which includes Quizzes and projects. For credit mapping a total of 293.5 hours is to be considered which includes only lecture content (i.e. in class and asynchronous learning) and the Capstone, where 1 hour of asynchronous learning is considered equivalent to 1.5 hours effort. The basis of the mapping is 10 hours per course credit, the total credits of the program comes to 30 credits which is at par with PGDDSAI Program with IBM. **Here** is the detailed table with course wise credit mapping.
Item 16	**To deliberate on a 6 months Internship policy for B.Tech. students in their 6th or 8th semesters.**
	Dr. Piyush Kedia and Dr. Arjun Ray presented the proposal and answered the points raised by the members. After detailed deliberation, the AAC did not agree to the proposal of having an internship without semester leave for B.Tech. students in 6th semester.
	The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and by the Chairperson.

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