

Minutes of the Second (2nd) Senate Meeting held on Friday, March 27, 2009, IIIT (Transit) Campus in NSIT, Dwarka

Members Present: PI Jalote, V. Bansal, A. Kiehn, V. Goyal, M. Vatsa, R. Singh (IIITD), KK Biswas (IITD), Saugat Sen (Cadence).

Through Audio Conference: R. Moona (IITK), C. Anantaram (TCS), M. Gupta (IBM), Kamal Karlapalem (IITH)

1. The “B. Tech in IT” program

The Director gave a brief overview of the BTech program – the objectives, its foundation part as well as its elective part, and how these parts and their structure was evolved keeping in mind the end goals. The members felt that the program is well structured and contemporary. The following suggestions were made:

- Aspects of concurrent programming should be included. Perhaps through courses like the “advanced programming” course in second year
- DS + Algo may be called DS; Specialized stream-non IT may be called Specialized stream – applications
- Option to make available courses on Fundamentals of EE, circuit theory, signals and system should be explored
- Project work should be emphasized in courses where appropriate
- For a “project” course, the number of units may be determined after the project; also for a project grade perhaps a satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade may be considered – it can avoid issues of setting elaborate evaluative structures to determine the grade, particularly if the project is done as internship.

After discussion, the structure of BTech inIT program was approved. Members were requested to suggest other courses that can be added to the list of electives

2. “Community Work” and “Self Growth” Courses

Members appreciated the concept of taking education beyond the class room and felt that these courses were indeed in the right director and bring in some new thought into the curriculum. The courses were approved.

3. The structure of the PhD Program

The following points emerged in the discussion.

- For course work, to not tie down students with sufficient background in course work, a clause “some of these requirements may be waived / reduced for candidates with necessary background” may be added
- The rule of “two papers in good conferences means that the thesis is deemed to be acceptable” needs to be thought and discussed more. As there is plenty of time for this, this rule will be discussed and finalized later.

After discussion, the PhD program structure was approved (except for the above)

4. Collaborative PhD Program

The collaborative PhD program with a partner group / institute was approved as it envisages a co-supervisor and spending time in another Institute by a PhD scholar – both of which are generally allowed by most Institutes.

5. Policy for termination from program due to poor academic performance

It was felt that the general framework of warning, probation, and expulsion is sound. However, it was felt that the detailed rules for transition between these states need to be carefully developed and can be done later. However, the proposed rule for first year students for repeating the year as well as for termination was accepted.

The meeting ended with thanks from the Chair to all members for attending the meeting and contributing to its deliberations.
