

**Minutes of the 46<sup>th</sup> PGC meeting held on Apr 27, 2020 at 04.30 pm  
(Meeting was held online over Google Meet)**

***Following were present:***

1. Dr. A.V. Subramanyam- PGC Chairman
2. Dr. Anubha Gupta - DoAA
3. Dr. Sriram K
4. Dr Sumit Darak
5. Dr. Syamantak Das
6. Dr. Aasim Khan
7. Dr. Tanmoy Chakraborty
8. Dr. Ganesh Bagler
9. Mr. K P Singh - Academic In-charge
10. Ms. Sheetu Ahuja - Manager(Academics)
11. Ms. Priti Patel - AM (Academics)
12. Mr. Ashutosh Brahma - AM (Academics)

At the outset, Chair PGC welcomed all the members to the meeting.

**Item 1: To discuss about M.Tech. Internship matter**

Chair PGC briefed PGC members regarding the background of the matter related to M.Tech. Internships.

**Background:**

The 6 month long M.Tech. internship during the first four regular semesters were discontinued, although the summer term internships were continued, after a long discussion during one of the Senate meetings last year. However, concerns were raised by ECE Department and other stakeholders and hence, the matter was again taken up in the last Senate Meeting. Following this, it was agreed to re-discuss the matter. The same was discussed multiple times including different stakeholders and a draft proposal was prepared that was discussed in CSE FM. Upon receiving positive recommendation on this draft proposal from CSE department, the discussion was taken up in this PGC meeting.

Chair PGC presented the draft recommendations to PGC (attached as PPT) including details on the benefits of the internships, credits plans and an appropriate process for availing internship. All these details were discussed so that the learning in courses on campus is not hampered, students are able to graduate in time, while being benefitted with the Internship experience. The following primary reasons were highlighted by the faculty members and PGC chair for enabling 6-month long internships: (1) Internships provide practical exposure to students; (2) Internships are useful for increasing faculty collaborations with industry; and (3) they facilitate joint industry-academia M.Tech thesis. While drafting the proposal, all the challenges that were faced earlier and were primarily the reasons for the discontinuance of the long Internship, along with the proposed solution and the conditions for availing Internship opportunity were discussed at length.

During the discussion, M.Tech. (CSE) coordinator informed the PGC about the CSE department recommendation (that was proposed in one of the CSE deptt. FM) that "CSE department is fine with the proposal. However, after a much longer discussion we are still not able to decide how to handle the cases where students leave the thesis without completion".

PhD (ECE) coordinator informed PGC regarding ECE Dept's recommendation on the matter that "faculty whose students have dropped thesis mid-way (or after one semester) are recommended/ advised to give X for incomplete thesis rather than convert the thesis credits to IS or capstone." PGC discussed this suggestion and eventually it was decided that the current rules regarding the conversion of thesis credits to scholarly paper will remain unchanged. Further, wherever thesis is a mandatory component, as in M.Tech.(CB) and M.Tech.(AI), respective regulations regarding completion of thesis will remain unchanged.

After detailed discussion, PGC noted that internships provide practical exposure to students, they increase faculty collaborations with industry, and they facilitate the joint thesis option with industry. Thus, PGC recommended the below proposal for enabling internships for the consideration of the Senate.

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### **Detailed Proposal**

#### **Rules to be added to M.Tech Regulations/Preconditions**

1. No student, having been admitted in the M.Tech program through the GATE qualification channel, will be allowed to drop out of TA duty in the regular semesters (Monsoon and Winter semesters) of the M.Tech degree program.
2. M.Tech students are only eligible for a single 6 month duration internship during the course of their degree program. The earliest that this internship can take place is during the 4th regular semester.
3. In case the M.Tech students enrolling via GATE channel join the internship mentioned in point 2, the TA duty in the fourth semester will be relaxed.

#### **Eligibility Criteria for appearing in the Internships or Internships+Full Time (FT) job Interviews**

M.Tech students are eligible to appear for internship related interviews in the 3rd long regular semester at the successful completion of the first year+Summer semester (after the results and grades for T.Aship are announced) and provided they satisfy the following conditions:

1. The student has completed 32 credits towards graduation (by doing 12 graduation credits each in first two semesters and 8 graduation credits during summer semester after the 1 year) besides successfully completing the OOPD, RM and Refresher Courses, without taking any academic overload (above 20 credits) in any of the first two regular semesters,
2. Students who were admitted to the program based on GATE based fellowship must have received 2 S grades (Satisfactory) in TA duties during the first two regular (long) semesters.

#### **Eligibility Criteria for joining the Internships or Internships+FT offers**

If the student is offered an internship or Internship+FT offer, such offers will remain provisional. The student will be allowed to join the internship during the fourth semester provided s/he satisfies the following conditions:

1. The Student will be allowed to go for internship only after completing all their graduation requirements before joining the internship. In case, a student has not completed the graduation requirements by the end of 3rd semester, even if an Internship offer (with or without full time job opportunity) is available for 4th semester, the offer will become invalid. In other words, such a student will be prohibited from joining the Internship in the 4th semester. In such a scenario, the student will be required to register on campus for credits and be available on campus for completing the graduation requirements, if any, irrespective of the type of credits left for completion (say IP/IS/Thesis). No request for exception will be entertained in this regard.
2. Student has a minimum CGPA of 6.5

3. Students who were admitted based on GATE based fellowship must have an additional 3 S grades (Satisfactory) in TA duties during the previous three long semesters.

Thus, an M.Tech student has to mandatorily spend first three semesters on campus to complete his/her graduation requirements. No request for exception to the above rules will be entertained and hence, will not be granted by the Institute at any time. Students eligible for joining internship are not required to do TA duty in the 4<sup>th</sup> Semester. Failure of any of the above conditions will lead to the termination of Internship and/or Internship+FT offer that is the student cannot proceed to join Internship, even if no graduation credits are left for completion (in case of failure of satisfying 3S TA requirements). In such cases, the student would be required to do TA duty on campus (for the GATE students) in the 4th regular semester and may register for required or additional credits to enrich the learning experience. All these students will be eligible to sit in subsequent Interviews for FT offers. Also, in such cases, the placement section can help students via postponing the Internship and/or Internship + FT offer to begin from the end of 4th regular semester.

**Item 2: To consider a case of PhD student who has returned early from ORF due to COVID 19.**

DoAA did not participate during the discussion of this item because the student concerned is working under her guidance. Chair PGC briefed the PGC members regarding the case of the student that student went on ORF late November, 2019 and that the ORF duration was approved until May 2020 end for a duration of six months. However due to COVID 19, the student returned to India on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2020, spending less than 4 months on ORF.

- i). Student was provided USD 6000 against her ORF (@ 1000 USD per month).

PGC has discussed the matter and recommended that the purpose of providing ORF support money is to support the student stay overseas. Since the student has returned early from overseas, the excess support money should be recovered from the student. PGC added that the student may have booked the return travel ticket and advance accommodation for remaining duration and in case if the student is bearing any loss due to sudden unplanned return those, loss may also be covered from the ORF support money. The student would be required to furnish relevant support documents along with her request. However, such request (additional costs of sudden return ticket etc.) has to first come from the student.

PGC further recommended that the exact amount to be recovery and the mode of recovery should be checked from the finance section.

- ii). In lieu of ORF support, a student is required to do 2 semesters of TAsip.

PGC noted the guidelines that indicate that in lieu of ORF support a student is required to do 2 semesters of TAsip. However, considering the scenario due to which student was forced to return from her ORF within 4 months, PGC is in the view that this was an exceptional condition where student has spent the time almost equivalent to one ORF duration (slightly above this). Since the student would be asked to refund the money of the remaining duration of more than 2 months, the student will be required to do only one TAsip in lieu of the ORF support.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to and by the chair.