Minutes of the 48th PGC meeting held on June 16, 2020 at 02.30 pm
(Meeting was held online over Google Meet)

Following were present:

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

At the outset, Chair PGC welcomed all the members to the meeting. He informed that comments on the minutes of the 47th meeting were received from two members, namely Prof. Pushpendra Singh (regarding Fee waiver) & Dr Sumit Darak (regarding M.Tech. internship) and both of them have been incorporated in the minutes, a copy of the final minutes is placed at Appendix I. The PGC thereafter, confirmed the minutes of the 46th and 47th meeting of the PGC.

Chair PGC also informed that there was a reporting item regarding 50% fee waiver granted to Ajay Fuloria on the discretion of the Director. The PGC noted the same.

- Thereafter, the M.Tech. Internship item was taken up and deliberated as follows:

   i.   Regarding Eligibility CGPA cut-off for M.Tech. internship –Chair PGC briefed the PGC regarding the discussions happened in 46th& 47th meeting. From the discussions held in the previous meetings the PGC came to the conclusion that CGPA policy is primarily guided by placement cell and industry and that is an appropriate arrangement. PGC is of the view that CGPA part of internship eligibility should not be guided by PGC. The PGC therefore, agreed to the recommendation made vide minutes of the 46thPGC meeting for this item.

   ii. As regards the Internship guidelines related to non-GATE students – the PGC discussed the item in brief. It was noted that non-GATE students are not required to do TAship and hence there will be no TAship grade for these students. After a brief discussion, the PGC agreed that the PGC recommendation made vide 46th meeting for this item will stand except for the removal of clause related to 2 Satisfactory and 3 Satisfactory grade requirement for interview and joining eligibility, respectively, in TAship for non-GATE students.

The above recommendations at point (i) & (ii) will be applicable from incoming batch i.e. from AY 2020-2021.

   iii. Internship guidelines for 2019 batch M.Tech. students
        Chair PGC apprised the members of the discussions in the 45th Senate meeting held on February 13, 2020 about the internship ban. He informed that Senate Chair has desired to discuss the ban on internship and formulate a policy to be placed in the next Senate meeting. He also clarified several points raised by the members. After detailed deliberations the PGC recommended to

revert to the previous policy which existed before the internship ban in order to honour the promise made to the 2019 Batch M.Tech. students at the time of their joining.

1. **To consider Dual Degree Rules for B.Tech. CS+X students(matter referred by the Senate)**
   We currently have Dual Degree programs which allow students to do Dual Degree in M.Tech.(CSE) and M.Tech(ECE). With new B.Tech. programs added in last few years, we should decide about the criteria of allowing students of B.Tech. CS+X programs to enroll for M.Tech.(CSE) dual degree program.

   The recommendation of CSE FM is as below: "CSE FM:The students need to take either M.Tech. bucket courses or CSE core courses. If the student meets this requirement, they can be given the dual M.Tech. degree subject to the completion of other dual degree requirements. "

   PGC considered the above recommendation of CSE FM on the matter. PGC also noted that the Senate has allowed the CS+X program students to apply for M.Tech. Dual Degree. Chair PGC also clarified the points raised by the members.

   After a brief discussion the PGC is of the view that the CS+X program student knows upfront the course requirement towards M.Tech.(CSE) degree and hence they can plan their semester registration accordingly.

   Hence the PGC recommended that when a CS + X student completes either the bucket course requirements or completes all the 8 CSE core courses, he/she can be considered eligible for M.Tech.(CSE) Dual Degree program, provided the student has fulfilled other dual degree requirements.

   PGC has also recommended that the messaging to the student should be done properly and quickly so that the student who are planning to opt for Dual Degree can plan their semester registrations accordingly.

2. **Refer Item 2 of 46th PGC Meeting**
   Item :To consider a case of Ph.D. student who has returned early from ORF due to COVID 19.
   PGC Recommendation (on TAship requirement) : Since student has spent less than 4 months duration in ORF and in view of the fact that the student returned due to current pandemic, PGC has waived 1 TAship requirement for the student (out of 2 mandatory TAship requirement).

   The student has now requested that due to personal reasons she won't be able to do one TAship requirement (as required against ORF support) and ready to pay the compensation amount, if any, to waive off the TAship.

   Chair PGC briefed the PGC regarding the background of the item. PGC also looked into the existing guidelines regarding ORF. It was noted that the guidelines are slightly unclear as to what action will be taken in the event when a student fails in completing the TAship requirement as due against ORF. PGC also noted that the student had submitted the undertaking stating that she will complete the TAship requirement as required against ORF support. After brief discussion PGC is of the view that the student was well aware of the TAship requirement and hence PGC has recommended to withdraw the entire ORF support provided to this student.

   Further, PGC has recommended to add below guidelines in the existing ORF guidelines:

Student who have availed ORF and failed to complete TAship requirement will be required to refund the full ORF support provided to him/ her. Additionally, a penalty equal to an amount required to hire 2 Ph.D. TAs in a semester will also be recovered from him/her.

Rest of the agenda items are deferred to the next meeting.

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

Minutes of the 47th PGC meeting held on May27, 2020 at 02.30 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. Pushpendra Singh
4. Dr. Sriram K
5. Dr.SumitDarak
6. Dr. Syamantak Das
7. Dr. Aasim Khan
8. Dr. Ashish Kumar Pandey
9. Dr. Sankha Basu
10. Dr. Tanmoy Chakraborty
11. Dr. Ganesh Bagler
12. Dr. PraveshBiyani
13. Dr. Saket Anand   – Special Invitee
14. Dr. Debarka Sengupta   – Special Invitee
15. Dr. Arun Balaji Buduru   – Special Invitee
16. Mr. K P Singh   - Academic In-charge
17. Ms. Sheetu Ahuja   - Manager(Academics)
18. Ms. Priti Patel   - AM(Academics)
19. Mr. Ashutosh Brahma   -AM(Academics)

At the outset, Chair PGC welcomed all the members/special invitees to the meeting. He informed that Prof. Pushpendra is the new PGC member in the capacity of Ph.D. Coordinator of HCD Department. He also informed that confirmation of the minutes of the 46th meeting will be taken up in the next meeting.

3. **To discuss the request for fee waiver by Mr. Ajay Fuloria (offered admission as a sponsored Ph.D. student) under the guidance of Dr Arun Balaji Buduru. PGC has earlier considered the request and was not in favor of giving fee-waiver, the same was communicated to the student and the advisor. Dr Buduru requested to present his view to PGC to re-consider the fee waiver request for the student.**

   Dr Arun Balaji Buduru briefed the PGC about the background of Mr. Ajay Fuloria (a serving personnel in Indian Army) and put up a proposal that in view of the possible collaborations, and to increase organizational connectivity, PGC may consider fee waiver for Sponsored students who are serving personnel in Indian Army/ Navy/ Air Force.
   Chair PGC clarified that PG regulations does not support the concept of fee waiver to sponsored Ph.D. students. He added that the website does mention regarding fee waiver for sponsored Ph.D. students who are working in Academic Institutes but that too is not mandatory.
   PGC also did not find any financial limitations at the candidate's end for paying the full fee.

After a brief discussion the PGC has decided that the fee waiver cannot be recommended in this case. Further PGC suggested to explore the possibilities to have an MoU with Indian Army with proper fee arrangement.

4. **To discuss regarding the PG diploma program in partnership with IBM. Given the current situation, the proposal is to take the program up online with a substantial reduction in the program fees. The changed program document is attached as Annexure I. It may be noted that there is no change in the program curriculum.**

Dr. Debarka Sengupta briefed the PGC about the 9-months PG diploma program to be run in partnership with IBM. It was initially approved by the PGC to be conducted on IIITD campus. Now in view of the changed circumstances due to COVID 19 pandemic, the following two changes in the initial proposal are put up for consideration.
The two changes are:
1. Mode of conduct of program will be online (exams will be conducted offline for all 3 trimesters) -LMS facility will be used for lectures etc., which the team is currently exploring.
2. The program fee has been reduced to Rs.2.5 Lakh/student (program fee) – He informed that the fee matter is already under process through the Finance Committee.

He also answered the points raised by the members and added that there is no change in the program curriculum.

During the course of discussion, Dr. Debarka also mentioned that IIIT-D Act and statutes enable the institute to grant degree/diploma through Distance mode learning and this program will be governed under this clause. During discussions Manager (Academics) raised a concern about the program fee for other regular program if and when run online. To this it was clarified that reduction of program fee is only for the inaugural batch of 9-months PG Diploma program being launched from 2020 and it should be quoted in that way only.

After a brief discussion, the PGC agreed to the proposed change no. 1 and mentioned that fee matter should approved by FC. The PGC also recommended for approval of the Senate for running online the 9-months PG diploma program in Data Science and Artificial Intelligence in partnership with IBM (attached along with the minutes).

5. **To discuss regarding below points related to M.Tech. internship**
   - Internship guidelines related to Non-GATE students
   - Internship guidelines for 2019 batch M.Tech. students
   - Eligibility CGPA cut-off for M.Tech. Internship interview

Dr Saket Anand (special invitee) briefed the PGC regarding the meeting held with Director, HoD-ECE, DoAA, Chair PGC, M.Tech.(ECE) Coordinator & Placement Coordinator. During the said meeting, placement related statistics and feedback were analysed and it was observed that many of the Masters students are not found well prepared during the internship interviews and hence a need to put CGPA threshold is felt. Dr. Saket added the goal is to motivate and inspire the students to do better in courses.

Some concerns regarding the CGPA cut-off for M.Tech. internship were raised-
   - The CGPA requirement for any opportunity (job/internship) should be put from the industry end and not from the Institute. At the least, PGC should primarily address the academic points which are related to course credits and TAship.

- By adding threshold, unnecessary pressure will be built on the student from the first semester itself.
- Do IITs or any other institute put such thresholds?
- It was also noted that having a CGPA cut-off for appearing in the internship or internship+FT may deprive some students of the opportunity while not having it may lead to some offers being null and void (in case min. graduation requirements are not satisfied).

It was noted that none of the IITs allows internships for Masters students, however, there are few other Universities/ institutes who do allow the similar internships/ practices. In view of the same, it was suggested to seek details regarding practices being followed by BITS (through Prof. B. N. Jain).

This item could not be concluded during the meeting and will be taken forward in the upcoming PGC meeting. Though only few members were present towards the end of 2 hour long meeting (designated duration – 1 hr 30 mins.), they conveyed that CGPA cut-off is Industry driven and it would be good to continue that way. Also, this item will be revisited later as and when detailed data is available.

6. **To discuss regarding Honors in M.Tech. program (below are the proposed requirements which are mostly in line with our BTech program).**

   M.Tech. students can graduate with Honors degree, requirements for which may be as follows:
   1) The students must earn an additional 8 discipline credits
   2) The student must have done 16 credits of Thesis
   3) At graduation time students must have 8 CGPA (As per the records of last 4-5 years, around 50% students graduate with >8 CGPA)
   4) The student must not have any F grade (This is not there in UG program. Since in M.Tech. students have to do less courses, this might be added. Just a suggestion)

   Item Deferred.

7. **To consider recommendation of ECE Deptt. for addition of VLSI Specialisation courses:**
   ECE Dept has recommended the below changes in VLSI specialization courses:
      to remove:
   - VLSI Design & Test Flow
   - Memory Design

      to add:
   - VLSI Design Flow
   - Digital Hardware Design
   - Low Voltage Analog Circuit Design
   - Verification and High-Level Synthesis of VLSI Designs
   - Memory Design and Testing
   - Intelligent Applications Implementation on Heterogeneous Platform
   - Introduction to Nanoelectronics

   Ph.D.(ECE) Coordinator briefed the PGC regarding the recommendation of ECE Department to update the list of elective courses as above. This was recommended by VLSI group and further approved by HoD-ECE vide email dated 21st May 2020 (Annexure I, attached below).

PGC has approved the above recommendation of the ECE Department.

8. **CB Department has recommended to consider addition of BDS course under eligibility criteria for admission to M.Tech. CB.**

M.Tech.(CB) coordinator briefed the PGC regarding the present criteria for M.Tech.(CB) admissions. PGC has noted that BDS is a 4 year Degree program and has been recommended by the CB Deptt. to include BDS in the eligibility criteria for admission to M.Tech. CB program. In view of the same the PGC has approved the recommendation of CB Dept to include BDS in the eligibility criteria for the M.Tech. (CB) program.

9. **Thesis Defense/Scholarly Paper Report Submission name :**

In a recent decision of the PGC and subsequent approval of the Senate, it was decided to grade Thesis/SP/CapP. During the semester, current practice will be followed, where S/X will be awarded will be awarded for multiple credit registration. When the student is expected to complete the min credit, in that particular semester S/he will be registering for the defense or report submission. Following are the proposed name:

M.Tech. Thesis Viva (16 Credits)
Scholarly Paper Report (4/8 Credits)
Capstone Project Report

Item deferred.

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