

Agenda for 4th meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) to be held on September 9th, 2020 at 3.00 pm through Google meet

General Items

Item No.1 To confirm the minutes of the 3rd meeting of the AAC held on 18th Aug, 2020

New Items

Item No.2 To discuss the timeline for allowing PhD Admissions through Rolling.

Item No.3 To discuss PhD applicants who are coming with DST fellowship provisional award letters.

These students seek admission to PhD programs on the basis of their provisional fellowship award letter. The grant of fellowship depends upon further evaluation of the research proposal submitted by them to DST. The grant of fellowship depends on the evaluation of the proposal. Should such students be counted on external funding at the time of their admission?

Item No. 4 To discuss the changes in regulations of various B.Tech. programs that are arising because of the recent change in the core course of first year i.e. PIS to HCI.

The Senate in its 46th Meeting approved the change of the core course, PIS currently added in first semester in all UG programs. The Senate approved replacing PIS with HCI.

While concluding the discussions, the DOAA informed that since we are moving the HCI course to first semester and the course is currently listed as a core/elective course in the later semesters in other program regulations, changes need to be made to those regulations too. The proposal for such changes will be made in the next meeting of the Senate. Further to the Senate, the matter was sent to the CSE, SSH and DES department to share their suggestions about the proposed changes in the regulations of other programs that may be incorporated due to this change of PIS to HCI.

CSE FM recommendation: The suggestions given were to add PIS and Practical Bioinformatics as alternatives to the HCI course in fourth semester.

SSH FM recommendation : The department would like to leave the slot open for students to choose from the list of electives. HCI was listed with Graph theory as a suggested elective in the 4th semester for the BTech CSSS 2019 batch onwards. Now since HCI is being moved, Graph theory can remain as a suggestion in brackets, but students are free to choose other electives.

Item No.5 To consider the proposed regulations regarding 300 or 400 level courses for M.Tech. CB program.

Currently M.Tech. CB regulations does not have any clause that allows M.Tech CB students to take 3xx/4xx level courses. The Members of CB FM recommended the following change in the existing MTech CB program guidelines:

“A MTech student should be allowed to take a maximum of one 300 or 400 level course (4 credits) from the CB Department approved course list (both Bio and Non-Bio courses included).”

This proposal is in line with the existing rules that are applicable for M.Tech CSE and ECE batches.

Item No. 6 To discuss the following matters related to UG programs:

- i. The current regulation states that UG students are allowed to take two 2xx level courses in their 3rd and 4th years. However, the regulations are not clear about the below points:

If 2xx level CSE courses will count towards 32 credits requirements of CSE/CSAM/CSD etc. programs.

- ii. CN is listed in semester 5 for CSE students. It has a 2xx number, will it count towards 2xx limit. What if a CSAM student for whom CN is not a core course, will it count towards 2xx limit. If yes, will it count towards the 32 credit requirement.
- iii. Many SSH courses on offer for senior students have 1x, 2x number, will these courses count towards 2xx limit

Item No.7 To discuss the matter of sharing the performance of UG students with their parents.

Item No.8 If PG students can do an audit course for credits in next semester. Also, can they sit through a course and can do the same course for credits in next semester.

Item No.9 To consider the request of M. Tech. CSAI candidate from Navy, Sachin Gupta, to consider him for an exemption from the Grad Algo course. [Dr Saket Anand will brief the item]

Item No.10 To discuss the current TAship point mentioned on IIITD website

Currently below point is mentioned on IIITD website. With the recent changes in the internship rules where GATE students are bound to do TA duty in the first 3 semesters, failing which they will not be considered for internship, we should update the below point mentioned on IIITD website.

"The Institute also believes that a student should be given an option of pursuing M.Tech without assistantship so he/she can focus full time on the program, and possibly finish the program sooner, as compared to a student who is on Assistantship and so has to do part-time work in lieu of the assistantship."

Item No.11 To discuss the policy of M.Tech and Ph.D. theses submission in the Library and making these theses public. And inclusion of TRs.

Deferred Items

Item No.12 Guidelines for B.Tech. Internships.

Item No.13 To discuss the following points related to BTPs:

1. Follow up item from 37th -A UGC Meeting, Agenda Item 8.: In case of BTP extension of one month, a poster presentation is mandatory. Can such students submit their BTP reports after the extra month or should they have to submit an interim report as per the BTP submission date mentioned in the calendar?
2. Procedure to be followed if the advisor of continued BTP wants to change the evaluators assigned earlier.
3. How many students can register for one BTP as a team?

4. Over the past few years, many faculty members have been assigned close to 5-10 BTPs for evaluation. It becomes increasingly hard to evaluate so many BTPs. As a consequence, faculty ultimately rely on the BTP advisor to award the grade. Should we take an Easy Chair approach where faculty can bid for BTPs to be evaluated and if possible, it can be restricted to 2-3 BTPs or so?
5. Should there be a CGPA cut-off for BTP given the fact that at least 7 CGPA is mandatory to register for an IP?
6. What should be the latest semester for starting a BTP?
7. Should we restrict BTP advising to only a few visiting/guest faculty members (e.g. the ones who are experts in their core disciplines and come from sister institutes like IITs)?
8. At present, below is the criterion followed by the committee for deciding BTP awards. Once there was a concern raised by the Senate regarding this criterion and hence this needs discussion.
All BTPs in the following three categories be forwarded to the Committee for consideration:
 - a. All A+ Grades
 - b. All A grades
 - c. All Popular Votes
9. In case of a joint BTP, if the student participants are having different grades (e.g. one student is having A grade and another is having B), will the award be given to both the students or only to the student with the higher grade?

Item No. 14 To discuss the number of 300 level courses a PhD student can take.

Item No. 15 (i) To discuss Ph.D. programs other than regular and sponsored programs

PGC in its 45th Meeting discussed the matter where Chair PGC apprised the members of the draft proposal for adding categories under the existing Sponsored PhD program. Since for working professionals, it is difficult to stay on campus to complete coursework requirement, Category B was proposed. Further, a Category C was proposed for self-funded candidates who are not under the payroll of an institute/enterprise and may have their own consultancy.

After detailed discussion, PGC recommended to forward the below proposal to all the departments for their inputs. The matter was forwarded to the departments on 11 November 2019.

Sponsored PhD Program			
	Category A	Category B (proposed)	Category C (proposed)
	Existing Sponsored PhD Program	For working professionals	For Self-funded
Eligibility criteria	Same as regular PhD Program	· Same as regular PhD Program · Number of working years – to be discussed	· Same as regular PhD Program
Fees	Tuition Fees- Rs. 1 Lakh + campus maintenance	To be discussed	To be discussed

Admission process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · NoC from the employer is an essential requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · NoC from the employer is an essential requirement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · An undertaking from any authorized person
Coursework requirement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · Physical presence is required for course work completion 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · For highly experienced people, the number of credits may be relaxed, say half or 3/4th of sponsored programs. · Online courses can also be considered (with approval from advisor and PGC) · Physical presence won't be required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program · Physical presence is required for course work completion
Review requirement (Yearly / Mid-year review)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Same as regular PhD Program
Conversion to other program (regular PhD/ MTech on the way)	To be discussed	To be discussed	To be discussed

Below are the recommendations received from the departments.

CB Dept recommendation: CB Department is aligned with the proposed format.

ECE Dept recommendation: Sponsored PhD without mandatory in class course requirement. We broadly agreed but the exact implementation details need to be thought through. Evaluation should be at IIITD and qualification should not be relaxed at any point.

CSE Dept recommendation: It is suggested to add additional clauses with the existing rules, rather than making new categories. To enable addition of students who cannot come to campus for the one year duration continuously, online courses can be considered. However, the student should visit the Institute for small sessions like, for 30 days once in a year. Sponsored students must stay a few weeks per semester with their advisors. We should explore the new ideas for a year or two years instead of making new policies.

For Self-funded: If a student does not want to take a stipend, his TAsip can be waived off. Also, an undertaking is needed for a sponsored/working person to keep the employer informed about association with IIIT-Delhi. We also need to work on rules for transfer across different PhD schemes.

(ii). To discuss the proposal for some changes in PG regulations to encourage more sponsored candidates from industry for PhD

Item No. 16 The Senate in its 42nd meeting discussed the matter related to attendance of B.Tech students and suggested to take it up for discussion in FM.

To consider the recommendation of the UGC for modification of Attendance Policy Dr. Anubha Gupta, ADOAA apprised the members of the existing Attendance Policy approved in 29th Senate held on 21st April, 2015 and the new Attendance Policy now recommended by the UGC in its 23rd meeting held on 13th February, 2019. She informed that the number of students not attending the courses is gradually increasing. The number of letters to students having less attendance are also increasing. During the course of deliberations, she also answered the queries made by the members. The Senate members suggested finding out the correlation between student attendance and grades and find out the attendance data during the start of the semester and towards the end. The Senate also suggested that it should be upto the instructor to take the attendance or not. After detailed deliberations the Senate desired to refer the matter to FM to relook into the recommendation of the UGC for imposition of penalty of reduction of one letter grade upon securing less than 75% attendance in all core and elective courses.

Item No. 17 To discuss having a common code for the following courses (in ERP)

Program	Credits	Present nomenclature	Proposed
PhD	Research Credits	CSE799/ ECE799/ MTH799	To have a common nomenclature
	IP/ IS (4 credits)	CSE790/ ECE790/ MTH790	To have a common nomenclature
	IP/ IS (2 credits)	CSE790A/ ECE790A/ MTH790A	To have a common nomenclature
MTech	Research Credits	CSE699/ECE699/ MTH699	To have a common nomenclature
	IP/ IS (4 credits)	CSE690/ ECE690/ MTH690	To have a common nomenclature
	IP/ IS (2 credits)	CSE690A/ ECE690A/ MTH690A	To have a common nomenclature
BTech	BTP		To have a common nomenclature
	IP/IS/UR		To have a common nomenclature

Item No. 18 To discuss 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 student must earn an additional 8 discipline credits
- 2) The student must have done 16 credits of Thesis
- 3) At graduation time students must have at least 8 CGPA (As per the records of last 4-5 years, around 50% students graduate with at least 8 CGPA)
- 4) The student must not have any F grade (This is not there in the UG program. Since in M.Tech. students have to do less courses, this might be added. Just a suggestion)

Item No. 19 Convocation Awards

Arising out of discussions, some members suggested that more awards should be given to encourage and motivate the students. Both UGC and PGC may examine the suggestion and make appropriate recommendations for further consideration of the Senate. (Item from 44th Senate Meeting)

Item No.20 Any other item with permission of Chairperson-AAC.