



Minutes of the 50th meeting of the Senate of IIIT-D held online on April 28, 2021 at 03.00 PM through Google meet

Following were present:

- Prof. Ranjan Bose Chairman
- Prof. Basabi Bhaumik External Member
- Prof. P. Vigneswara Ilavarasan External Member
- Prof. Dheeraj Sanghi External Member
- Dr. Kaushik Saha External Member
- Dr. Lipika Dey External Member
- Dr. Sanjit Krishan Kaul Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Sujay Deb Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Ganesh Bagler Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Sumit Darak Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Vikram Goyal Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Aman Parnami Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Sriram K Ex-Officio Internal Member
- Dr. Pravesh Biyani IIITD Faculty
- Dr. Sneh Saurabh IIITD Faculty
- Dr. Arjun Ray IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Souvik Dutta IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Vinayak Abrol IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Manohar Khushalani IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Sweta Singh IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Indrani De Parker IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Paro Mishra IIITD Faculty (Spl. Invitee)
- Dr. Niharika Sachdeva Alumni
- Dr. Ashok Kumar Solanki Registrar (Secretary)
- Mr. Yash Gupta (2017210) Student Rep. (Spl. Invitee)
- Mr. K.P. Singh Academic In-charge
- Ms. Sheetu Ahuja Manager (Academics)
- Mr. Ashutosh Brahma Asstt. Manager (Academics)
- Ms. Priti Patel Asstt. Manager (Academics)

FIFTIETH (50th) MEETING OF THE SENATE OF IIT-DELHI
(HELD ONLINE THROUGH GOOGLE MEET ON APRIL 28, 2021)

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

50.1 WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairman, Senate welcomed all the members to this special meeting, being the 50th meeting of the Senate and thanked them for their valuable contributions. Thereafter, agenda items were taken up for discussions. Since both Dean, Academic Affairs and Chair PG Affairs could not be present for the meeting, Dr. Sumit Darak, Chair UG Affairs was requested to present the agenda for discussions.

50.2 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE 49TH MEETING OF THE SENATE

The minutes of the 49th meeting of the Senate held on January 27, 2021, placed at Annexure I of the agenda notes were circulated among the members. Based on the comments received from the members, the following are proposed to be added to the minutes of item no. 49.5.2.2

- Eligibility for such programs will be same as defined in the PG regulations.
- Program Name: Industrial Doctoral Program
- Program Fee: Rs.1.5 Lakh per annum (same as sponsored Ph.D. program)

The Chair UG Affairs also informed that minutes of the special meeting of the Senate held on April 06, 2021, placed at Annexure I of the agenda notes were circulated among members but no comments have been received. However, in respect of the PG Diploma program approved by the Senate the following corrections/clarifications need to be recorded in the minutes:

- i) The name of the PG Diploma program will be Computer Science and Artificial Intelligence
- ii) The word “MoU” will be replaced by Collaboration Agreement

After a brief discussion, the Senate confirmed both the minutes with the above changes/clarification.

Action: Academic Section

50.3 ACTION TAKEN REPORT

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the action taken on the various decisions taken by the Senate in its 49th meeting held on January 27, 2021. The Senate noted the position.

50.4 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION/ RATIFICATION

50.4.1 General Matters

50.4.1.1 To ratify the forgoing the financial penalty imposed on Ph.D. students due to Academic Warning

The Chair UG Affairs informed the members that 9 Ph.D. students were put under academic warning due to low CGPA and/or poor performance in their recent yearly review and hence their fellowship was also reduced as per PG Regulations and they were disallowed from doing TAsip in the present semester (Winter 2021).

All of them had submitted their request through Advisors mentioning that the reason for degraded performance is the remote nature of classes. Remote mentoring has also affected research performance adversely. Keeping in view, the requests of Ph.D. students forwarded through Advisors and with favorable recommendations of the DoAA and the Chair PG Affairs, the Director (Chairman, Senate) approved that the warning of these students be continued for the remaining semester, however, the fellowship will not be reduced and also these students will be allowed to continue their TAsips.

During the course of discussion one of the external members, Prof. B. Bhaumik suggested that the issue of taking a lenient view for TAsip should be discussed by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) as we may get similar requests from other students in future. Dr. Aman Parnami also pointed out that if the student receives two consecutive warning he/she has to exit the program if not able to meet the requirement. The purpose of academic warning and reduction of TAsip is to put pressure on the students so that he/she does the research work more seriously otherwise the students will have to exit the program. He further informed that two out of the nine students whom he knew did not fall in the category of students who had a lack of time. He also suggested that whatever policy decision is taken in the current pandemic situation it should be applicable to all. Thereafter, Dr. Sumit Darak suggested taking up the issue of allowing/disallowing such students do TAsip with the AAC for further deliberations. Dr. Vikram also agreed with the view of Dr. Darak. After detailed deliberations, the Senate ratified the approval given by the Chairman, Senate. Chair UG Affairs was requested to put up the TAsip matter to AAC for further deliberation in the light of the discussions held at the meeting.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.2 To ratify following proposals for TA stipend for UG students and BTP presentation date

The Chair UG Affairs informed the members that the Senate in its 48th meeting held on November 18, 2020 had approved the new TA policy for UG students according to which the students will have 3 options to do TA duty, i.e. with stipend, for credits, and to volunteer for TA duty. Students who will do TA duty with stipend will be paid Rs.10,000 for a semester. Previously, UG student's stipend for TA work was Rs.6000 per month (for an effort of 8 hours per week). Somehow it was missed to take on record Senate's approval for TA's stipend

(i.e. Rs.10,000 per course for a semester). The Chairman, Senate had approved the payment of TA's stipend (i.e. Rs.10,000 per course for a semester).

Secondly, as per the Academic Calendar approved by the Senate the BTP presentation date for the current semester is May 7, 2021. Since the semester is being run online and the number of BTPs is more, it has been observed that it is to complete all presentations in a single day. Therefore, the Chairman, Senate had approved the proposal to distribute the BTP presentations over 2 days, i.e. May 10-11, 2021.

After a brief discussion, the Senate ratified the approval given by the Chairman, Senate.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.3 To consider the End of Semester Summary Report (Monsoon 2020)

The Chair UG Affairs presented the summary of various activities of academics undertaken in the previous semester (Monsoon 2020) including the performance of UG/PG/Ph.D. He highlighted through slides 2 key points i.e. plagiarism cases and the number of A+ grades awarded in Maths-III. During the course of discussion one of the external members asked about the effectiveness of plagiarism policy to which it was clarified that the plagiarism policy has been working well as the number of cases in 2nd and 3rd years get reduced though the number of 1st year cases continue to be almost same. It was clarified that in order to make aware the students the policy has been placed on the website. Besides, the plagiarism policy is being communicated to the students at the time of induction, as well as, emails are sent to the students before the start of the semester and before the start of examinations in each semester. During the course of discussion it was also noted that the number of students getting A+ grades in Maths-III had significantly increased. After detailed deliberations, the Senate desired the AAC to revisit the plagiarism policy keeping in view the policies of other Institutes, and to see if the policy can be made more effective.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.4 To ratify the calendar for the Summer Term 2021

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the Academic calendar for the Summer Term 2021 placed at [Appendix-I](#), approved by the Chairman, Senate and requested for ratification. After a brief discussion the Senate ratified the approval given by the Chairman, Senate.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.5 To report the list of new courses approved during the Academic Year 2020-21

The Chair UG Affairs presented the list of new courses approved during the Academic Year 2020-21 as per Annexure-III to the agenda note. The Senate noted the same.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.6 To report the submission of NAAC Self Study report for Cycle 2 accreditation

The Chair UG Affairs informed that due to the COVID-19 lockdown, the NAAC had given the Institute an extension to submit the SSR for Cycle 2 accreditation. Accordingly, the SSR has been submitted on April 7, 2021. The next step is the physical visit by the NAAC team, which NAAC will notify in the due course. The Senate noted the position.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.7 To ratify the decision taken by Chairman Senate regarding closure of ongoing semester.

The Chair UG Affairs informed that considering the Covid-19 pandemic and several requests received from students and faculty members, the committee, consisting of DoAA, AAC Chair, PGC-Chair, and UG-Chair recommended to implement the following measures for the closure of the current semester:

a) The pending evaluations (including the end-sem exams) can be stopped immediately and marks can be normalized based on existing performance to relieve students of evaluations. The committee members noted that IIITD follows formative assessments and by the end-sem, a good number of evaluations have already taken place. Therefore, a normalization based on past performance will be an apt approach. There is no requirement to take the end-sem exam.

The committee noted that some students may still want an evaluation (those expecting to do better) and therefore individual instructors may take an exam for such students if such requests come and it is feasible. The decision of this exam format, if at all, is with the instructor only and as per the choice it could be online, viva-voce, or take-home, etc.

b) Only the last week of classes are pending. Some of the instructors may be in the middle of a topic, while some may be starting a new topic. It is advised that the instructor may complete their classes, but record them and share them with the students. If an instructor feels that last week's classes could be only revision classes then that will also be fine. The instructors are advised to discuss in the class and plan accordingly. For faculty who are COVID positive, they may request another faculty to cover classes or may share online resources or similar for the remaining classes.

c) For BTP evaluations, the BTP supervisor may discuss with other examiners and examinees to plan the BTP evaluations. There is a provision of 1 month of delay in the BTP evaluation and that can be used for better planning. The faculty are advised to consider a lenient approach that is cognizant of the stressful conditions that students are currently in. Some of the students may also be graduating and therefore need to complete.

He further informed that the Chairman, Senate had approved the above recommendation of the committee and requested the Senate for ratification. After a brief discussion, the Senate ratified the approval given by the Chairman, Senate.

Action: Academic Section

50.4.1.8 To report the status of Suit No. CJ/1151/2018, filed by Animesh Attri in the court of Hon’ble Shri Gaurav Gupta, Civil Judge Junior Division-x, Civil Courts, Amritsar

Registrar, Dr. Ashok Kumar Solanki, apprised the members of the status of the pending court cases. He informed that adjournments in the past have been mainly due to current Covid-19 pandemic. The Senate noted the position

50.4.1.9 To report the status of Suit No. CS SCJ/116/19, filed by Nikhil Gautam in the court of Hon’ble Shri Sushil Anuj Tyagi, JSCC-cum-Addl. SCJ-cum- Guardian Judge, South East, Saket, District Court, New Delhi

The Senate noted the position

50.4.1.10 To report the status of Compliance Affidavit filed by the Institute in the matter of Courts on its own Motion in re: Suicide Committed by Sushant Rohilla, Law Student of I.P. University (W.P.(CRL) 793/2017)

The Senate noted the position

50.5 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND CONSIDERATION

50.5.1 PG Matters

50.5.1.1 To consider the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) regarding credit transfer under the Joint Ph.D. program with QUT

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the following observation/recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) made in its 9th meeting held on December 23, 2020 for credit transfer under the Joint Ph.D. program with QUT and requested for approval of the Senate:

“The course “IFN001 Advanced Information Research Skills (AIRS)” is a mandatory requirement towards the Joint Ph.D. program with QUT and is similar to the course titled “Research Methodology (RM)” offered by the Institute. Since RM is a mandatory course for Ph.D. students, the AAC has recommended the following:

i). The course “IFN001 Advanced Information Research Skills (AIRS)” will be allowed to be transferred against the “Research Methodology (RM)” course only and will not count towards the Ph.D. course credit requirement.

ii). The above recommendation will be applicable to all Ph.D. students admitted under the Joint Ph.D. program with QUT. A note of the above decision shall be kept in the QUT document for future reference.”

After a brief discussion the Senate approved the above recommendation of the AAC.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.1.2 To consider and approve (i) the proposed FAQs concerning B.Tech., M.Tech. & Ph.D. students and the respective answers and (ii) the changes in the existing PG Regulation for supervision of M.Tech. thesis, recommended by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC)

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the proposed FAQs concerning B.Tech., M.Tech. & Ph.D. students along with answers recommended by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) in its 10th meeting held on February 10, 2021 as per details mentioned in Annexure-IV of the agenda notes. He also apprised the members of the following changes in the existing provision in Clause **15 (4) a.** about supervision of M.Tech. thesis recommended by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC):

“The M.Tech. thesis shall be done under the guidance of thesis supervisor(s), who shall be **regular faculty member(s) of the Institute or a Visiting Faculty (with a Ph.D degree).** A thesis may also have co-supervisors, who may be Adjunct Faculty of the Institute or external co-supervisors approved by **the AAC.**”

After detailed deliberations, the Senate approved the above recommendations of the AAC. The new rule will be applicable for all thesis registration from the upcoming summer semester onwards. For currently registered students, old policy will be followed.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.1.3 To consider and approve the recommendation of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) regarding the timeline within which the students are required to defend the Ph.D. thesis after receiving evaluation reports from all the examiners

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the following observation / recommendation made by the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) in its 10th meeting held on February 10, 2021:

“Chair PG Affairs apprised the members of the background of the item. He also informed that as per present Ph.D. Thesis Evaluation Guidelines, there is no defined timeline within which the defense is to be scheduled after receiving the evaluation reports from all the external examiners. The AAC discussed the item in detail and recommended that the student is required to address the comments of all the examiners (external & internal) within 8 weeks from the date of receipt of all evaluation reports and should be ready for the oral defense.”

During the course of discussions the members pointed out that no policy for timeline is needed since the students would like to have the degree at the earliest possible. The delay on the part of the student could happen only in genuine cases like medical sickness, compelling personal reasons etc. which could be considered on a case-by-case basis. For any major revision, the extensions may be allowed depending on the nature of major revisions suggested by the examiners. For any delay due to strained relations between the student and the supervisor, the concerned faculty could be counseled suitably to expedite the timely

completion of the degree requirement. After detailed discussions, the Chair UG Affairs was requested to take back the matter to AAC for re-discussions in the light of the feedback provided by the members during the meeting.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.2 Other Matters

50.5.2.1 To consider the revision in the formats of Degree/Certificates/Provisional certificate issued to IITD students and suggest some more Convocation Awards.

The Chair UG Affairs informed the members that during the conduct of the 9th Convocation of the Institute which was held on September 26, 2020, the Chairman, BoG had shared following observations:

- The degree, certificates and transcript needs redesigning.
- Adding some security features in our degrees and transcripts.

Given the above observations of Chairman, BoG, an internal Committee at the Institute was constituted to take up the task. The Committee reviewed the contents of the existing degrees/certificates, etc. and proposed the revised contents of Degrees and Certificate to Academic Affairs Committee (AAC). The AAC in its 12th meeting discussed the revised contents and recommended to the Senate. The Senate at its 50th meeting held on April 28, 2021 considered the recommendation of the AAC and approved the revised contents as per draft samples placed at Annexure V of the agenda notes. To a query raised by Student representative, Mr. Yash Gupta, regarding certificates for joint BTP, it was clarified that in the case of joint BTP award the names of all the students will be printed on the certificates. The Senate also authorized the Chairman, Senate to make any correction while finalizing the draft of the Degrees/Certificates, if required.

It was mentioned that the Committee constituted for the purpose has also discussed the redesigning and adding security features in Degrees, Certificates and transcripts, and has suggested to hire a professional designer to design these documents. The committee will provide all necessary inputs to the designer so that the redesigned documents visually reflect the vision of the Institution and instill a sense of value and pride in the student receiving it. The design, style, typography and colours will be in tune with the aims, aspirations and brand value of the institution.

The Chair UG Affairs further informed that the AAC in its 12th meeting held on April 17, 2021 has also discussed creating some new awards and changing the names of some of the existing awards as detailed in the agenda note. During the course of discussions the proposed new awards as well as changing the names of some of the existing awards were discussed in detail. The points raised by the members were answered by the Chair UG Affairs. After detailed deliberations the Senate agreed to the following:

1. **Renaming** "Best Academic Performance Certificate" for UG students as "Institute Silver Medal" was agreed to. However, there was no unanimity among the members on the

suggestion to give “Institute Silver Medal” to the topper of the entire B.Tech. batch, i.e., the topper of the entire B.Tech. batch should get both Chancellor's Gold medal and Institute Silver medal. In view of the above, the Senate Authorized the Director (Chairman, Senate) for taking a final decision after taking input from the Chairman, BoG in this regard.

2. **Creating "Institute Silver Medal"** for best academic performance in each M.Tech. program of the Institute (i.e., one each in M.Tech. (CSE), M.Tech. (ECE), M.Tech. (CB)) was discussed. Some of the members were of the view that number of courses being done by M.Tech. students is very small as compared to the UG students. It was suggested that they could be considered for a few high-quality research-based awards which they do as M.Tech. students and the number of such awards could be increased. In view of the above, it was decided to take this proposal to AAC for further deliberations in the light of the views expressed by the members.
3. **Doctoral Dissertation Award:** The Chair UG Affairs informed that the proposal for creating "Doctoral Dissertation Award" to recognize excellent work in doctoral dissertation is being further discussed by the AAC. In view of the same the consideration of this item was deferred to the next meeting of the Senate.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.2.2 To consider and approve the plan for 1st year-2nd semester (to start from 3rd May 2021).

The Chair UG Affairs informed that considering the current conditions due to Covid-19 pandemic and discussion with the student body, a meeting of the academic team (Manager-Academics, DoAA, AAC/PGC/UGC Chairs) and the instructors of the 1st year, 2nd semester has been conducted on April 19, 2021 and the committee suggested to implement the following for the upcoming semester:

- a) The instructor will have a choice to evaluate the 75% of the approved syllabus, however can teach the complete curriculum
- b) The number of evaluations, especially after the mid-sem exam, is to be limited to avoid an extreme number of deadlines that students have to go through. It is requested that the instructors plan the course evaluations such that total evaluations (including mid-sem and end-sem) are around 5 for a course.

During the course of discussions the members raised several queries which were answered by the Chair UG Affairs. In general, the members were not in favour of reducing a course. The members suggested that for reducing the syllabus by 20-25% the course summary to be taken from the instructors which should contain the topics covered for the purpose of future reference. After detailed deliberations, the Senate desired to request the Instructors to share the updated document with the Department which will approve and show as to how we can reduce 25% of the course load in some courses keeping in mind the dependency of courses to be offered in the future semesters. It was also suggested that instructors should also report

in the course end summary the content which will be covered. The Senate also desired that students may be informed of the 16-credit rule so that they become aware that if the course load is high they can take the option of reducing the load in a semester.

One of the Senate members also observed that if there is a possibility of reducing the course curriculum by 20-25%, we should also relook the content of courses to remove such redundant parts altogether, if it is there.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.2.2(i) To consider a proposal for delaying the starting date of 1st year-2nd semester

The Chair UG Affairs informed that the previously-approved starting date of 1st year-2nd semester is May 3, 2021 but keeping in view the current Covid-19 situation in which many of our students, faculty and their family members are going through a difficult time, a meeting of Student Senate, Manager (Academics) and Chair UG/PG Affairs was held recently and after sharing the information with the Heads of the Departments it has been recommended to delay the semester by one month. As per the proposal the semester which was to start from May 3, 2021 will now start from June 1, 2021 (tentative) and will end on September 8, 2021(tentative). The new plan which is currently being finalized will contain the various dates as shown through the slides and the final calendar will be put up for approval of the Chairman, Senate whereafter the same will be reported to the Senate for ratification. During the course of discussion some members raised the question of overlapping and conflict of instructors which were answered and clarified by the Chair UG Affairs. After detailed deliberations, the Senate approved the proposal for delaying the starting of 1st year-2nd semester by a month.

Action: Academic Section

50.5.2.3 To consider and approve recommendation of the AAC to allow M.Tech. students to register for 8 credits of Thesis/ Capstone/ SP/ Course work in summer

The Chair UG Affairs apprised the members of the tabled agenda and informed that the AAC in its 12th meeting held on April 17, 2021 discussed the proposal to allow M.Tech. students to register for 8 credits of Thesis/ Capstone/ SP/ Course work in summer and recommended allowing M.Tech. students to register for 8 credits in the Summer semester. The 8 credits could be of any nature. After a brief discussion, the Senate approved the above recommendation of the AAC.

Action: Academic Section

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



Semester Schedule for Summer Term 2021

S.NO.	Activity	From Date	Day	To Date	Day
1	Course Add/Drop	10-May-21	Monday	28-May-21	Friday
2	SG/CW Presentations	12-May-21	Wednesday		
3	Commencement of Classes	31-May-21	Monday		
4	Mid-Sem Examinations	17-Jun-21	Thursday	19-Jun-21	Saturday
5	Last date for Late Drop	25-Jun-21	Friday		
6	End-Sem Examinations	20-Jul-21	Tuesday	22-Jul-21	Thursday
7	BTP Poster Presentation	23-Jul-21	Friday		
8	Moderation Meeting	26-Jul-21	Monday		
9	Announcement of Grades (tentative)	29-Jul-21	Thursday		