Agenda for 9th meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee (AAC) to be held on December 23rd, 2020 at 2.30 pm through Google meet

Item 1 **To confirm the minutes of the 8th AAC meeting held on 9th Dec, 2020.**

A. **The following items were discussed over email and concluded as below:**

i. **To approve the following courses :**

1. Trustworthy AI Systems: By Prof. Anantram
2. Introduction to Blockchain and Cryptocurrency: By Dr. Donghoon
3. Meta Learning : By Guest Faculty, Dr. Gautam Shroff

Course descriptions of the above courses were circulated via email dated 6th Dec 2020 and were approved by AAC after addressing the comments received from AAC members.

4. AELD : By Dr. Sumit Darak
Updated course description of AELD course was shared with AAC members vide email dated 16th Dec 2020.

ii. **To discuss an observation regarding Course Outcomes of OOPD course offered by Dr. Naveen Prakash.**

While initiating the course feedback for Monsoon 2020 semester, It was noted that the course instructor has circulated a different course description among the students, which was not as approved by the AAC.

The AAC discussed this matter (reference email dated 30th Nov, 2020) and recommended the following:

- The course instructor should follow the course approval process and share the final course description with AAC after circulating the same among departments.

The AAC approved the current COs (as communicated to the students at the beginning of the semester) for the purpose of taking feedback.

Action: The department of CSE has to initiate the course approval process for the OOPD course.

iii. **To consider the request of Credits Transfer of 2 PhD students ; Namrata Bhattacharya & Pranjal Bhatia (Reference email dated 20th December 2020).**

Both students were admitted under joint PhD program of IIIT-D and QUT, Brisbane. They have registered for IFN001 Advanced Information Research Skills (AIRS) course at QUT and requested to allow them credits transfer from QUT to IIIT-D.

Student Name	Advisor Name	Course Name	Course Credits	Course Duration
Namrata Bhattacharya	Debarka Sengupta	IFN001 Advanced Information Research Skills (AIRS)	4 credits	3 months
Pranjal Bhatia	Sayan Basu	IFN001 Advanced Information Research Skills (AIRS)	4 credits	3 months

The course description and course assessment criteria were shared with AAC members over email.

iv. **To consider adding the course "Modeling and Analysis of Random 5G Network (ECE 541/5GN)" as CSP elective (Reference email dated 16th December 2020).**

v. **To consider revised BTP guidelines that are prepared based on recent recommendations of the AAC (Reference email dated 17th December 2020).**

Also to discuss below point: "A BTP has to span at least over 2 regular consecutive semesters (i.e., Monsoon and Winter) and can span at most 3 consecutive semesters. However, in case of an approved semester leave, the semester leave will not be considered as a gap and the student will be allowed to continue the BTP after a semester leave."

In the above point, it is proposed to add that the student will be allowed to continue the BTP after a semester leave with the consent of the advisor.

Item 2   **To discuss below concerns regarding creating a bucket for Science /Bio Slot in time table.**

In the regulations of UG CSE, ECE and CSAM programs, there is a Sci/Bio slot in the 4th semester. As per the graduation requirements of these programs, CSAM need to mandatorily do a Sci/Bio course, however, it is not mandatory for CSE and ECE.

The regulations of these 3 programs are not clear about which courses can be offered in the Sci/Bio slot. Since it is not a requirement for some programs, students do ask for allowing them to do open elective in this slot. For instance, CSAM students don't have DBMS as a core course. However, they have a Sci/Bio slot. Students do ask for taking DBMS in the mentioned slot and take some Sci/Bio elective later. The AAC may confirm if CSAM students can take the open elective (DBMS) in the mentioned slot and can take Sci/Bio elective later.

The AAC may suggest if a bucket of Sci/Bio courses can be created for this slot, where students can choose from the bucket.

Following is the list of courses that are offered for 2nd year students in the Winter semester:

Course No.	Course Name	Credits	On offer for
BIO213	Introduction to Quantitative Biology	4	CSB-Core, CSE,ECE,CSAM-Sci/Bio Elective
BIO221	Practical Bioinformatics	4	CSB-Core
CSE202	Fundamentals of Database Systems	4	CSE,CSB,CSSS,CSD-Core,CSAI-Core Elective,CSAM-Elective
CSE222	Analysis and Design of Algorithms	4	CSE,CSAM,CSSS,CSAI-Core, CSD-Core Elective
CSE223	Analysis and Design of Algorithms(B)	4	CSB-Core, CSD-Core Elective
CSE322	Theory of Computation	4	CSAM-Core, CSE,CSD,CSAI-Core Elective
CSE342	Statistical Machine Learning	4	CSAI Core
DES204	Human Computer Interaction	4	CSD-Core, CSE-Core Elective,CSSS-Elective
DES205	Design of Interactive Systems	4	CSD-Core
ECE214	Integrated Electronics	4	ECE-Core
ECE230	Fields and Waves	4	ECE-Core
ECE240	Principles of Communication Systems	4	ECE-Core, CSE,CSAM-Sci/Bio Elective
ECO221	Econometrics 1	4	CSSS Core, CSD-SSH Elective
MTH204	Maths IV - ODE/PDE	4	ECE,CSAM-Core, CSE,CSD,CSAI-Core Elective
MTH212	Abstract Algebra I	4	CSAM-Core, CSE-Sci/Bio Elective
MTH300	Introduction to Mathematical logic	4	CSAI-Core Elective,CSE,ECE,CSAM-Sci/Bio Elective
MTH310	Graph Theory	4	CSE, CSAI-Core Elective, CSSS-Elective, CSAM, ECE-Sci/Bio Elective
MTH372	Statistical Inference	4	CSAI-Core Elective

Item 3 **To consider taking feedback from TAs (through the opine survey), which may help to get a sense of how TA's are being utilized. This may also help in addressing TA grievances (if any).**

It is proposed to start taking TAs feedback (through the opine survey) w.e.f. Winter 2021 semester. Before starting its implementation, all faculty members should be informed in advance. Also this feedback will not be linked to the yearly review rating of the faculty member and Teaching Excellence award.

It is proposed to add following questions in the feedback form:
- Whether the TAship load was equally divided among all the TAs.
- Whether the TA workload was evenly distributed across the semester.
- Any suggestion on the work management with respect to TAs.

● Any other experience/ observation (if student would like to share)

Item 4   **To discuss the below recommendation of the Department of CSE regarding the exit policy for Ph.D. students .**

The Department of CSE discussed exit policy for Ph.D. students in the department FM . During the discussion, they identified three categories of Ph.D. students exiting the program :
1) Students who leave PhD program abruptly and do not register for MTech,
2) Students who leave PhD program and go for MTech, and
3) Students who change their supervisor.

Out of the three categories, the third one is considered to be fine as per the flexibility given to the PhD students in IIIT-Delhi.

There were following suggestions regarding Categories 1 and 2.

1. For Category 1: It was proposed to explore the option of increasing caution money. It was also suggested to get some agreement signed that may have some refund option against the stipend paid to such students. The agreement may work as a deterrent for such students.
2. Category 1: It was also suggested to have NOC as a formality to complete the PhD leaving process.
3. Category 2: It was suggested to introduce a three years locking in period for the students before they can convert their Ph.D. into an M.Tech. degree.

Item 5   **To discuss guidelines related to Conflict of Interest for PhD thesis evaluation.**

It is observed that our present PhD Thesis evaluation guidelines needs to be revisited with regard to the Conflict of Interest.

It is proposed to add following clauses to ensure CoI checks during the PhD Thesis evaluation process (in addition to the present clauses related to CoI)

▪ The proposed examiner is in a blood/legal relationship with the student/ advisor(s).
▪ The proposed examiner was a PhD student of the advisor within the past ten years.
▪ The proposed examiner was a PhD advisor of the advisor within the past ten years.
▪ The proposed examiner has an affiliation with IIITD in the last five years/ ten years.
▪ The proposed examiner works in the same department and/or institution as another examiner.
▪ The proposed examiner is married to, closely related to or has a close personal or professional relationship with another examiner.

Item 6   **Any other item with permission of AAC Chair.**