

National Institute of Technology Silchar

Minutes of Sixty-third (63rd) Meeting of the Senate

The sixty-third (63rd) meeting of the Senate was held on 23/12/2019 at 4 PM in the Meeting room (New Administrative Building) of the Institute. The following members were present:

1. Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director and Chairman, Senate
2. Prof. S. Baishya, Professor, ECE Dept.
3. Prof. K. M. Pandey, Professor, ME Dept.
4. Prof. B. K. Roy, Professor, EE Dept.
5. Prof. R. D. Misra, Professor, ME Dept.
6. Prof. M. A. Ahmed, Professor, CE Dept.
7. Prof. Gurudas Das, Professor, HSS Dept.
8. Prof. A. I. Laskar, Professor, CE Dept.
9. Prof. N. Sinha, Professor, EE Dept.
10. Prof. P. K. Patowari, Professor, ME Dept.
11. Prof. Asim Roy, Professor, Physics Dept.
12. Prof. N. C. Shivaprakash, Professor, IISc Bangalore
13. Dr. Mausumi Sen, Head, Maths Dept. (Special invitee)
14. Dr. Agnimitra Biswas, Head, ME Dept. (Special invitee)
15. Dr. Sujit Nath, Assoc. Dean (Exam) (Special invitee)
16. Dr. A. K. Goswami, Assoc. Dean (Acad), (Special invitee)
17. Dr. A. K. Das, Head, MS Dept. (Special invitee)
18. Prof. A. K. Barbhuiya, Registrar and Secretary, Senate

At the outset, the Chairman, Senate welcomed all members and initiated discussion on the agenda items. The Senate also took note of the induction of new Senate member Prof. K. K. Sharma, Professor, ME Dept. and welcomed him in absentia.

The following resolutions were adopted.

S-63/19/1: **To consider confirmation of the minutes of the 62nd meeting of the Senate held on 17/11/2019**

The Senate confirmed the minutes of the 62nd meeting held on 17/11/2019.

S-63/19/2: **To consider actions taken on the decisions adopted in the 62nd meeting of the Senate**

The Senate noted the action taken report.

S-63/19/3: **To consider the report of the committee on rearrangement of mid-semester exam.**

After a detailed discussion on the committee report, it was resolved that rearrangement of a missed mid-semester exams be made for genuine grounds (same as for awarding I-grade). The following modalities shall be applicable:

- The students must apply with relevant supporting documents to the concerned Chairperson, DUPC/DPPC/DPMC as the case may be within 7 days of the date of missed exams or earlier
- The concerned DUPC/DPMC/DPPC shall scrutinize the case and send its report to the Dean (Academic)

- A final decision shall be taken by the following committee:
Dean (Academic) : Chairman
Dean (SW) : member
Concerned Head of the department : member
- The exams shall be conducted by the concerned DUPC/DPPC/DPMC, within one week from the date of notification by the academic section, but before the concerned end-semester exams. The questions paper has to be of same standard as that of regular exams
- If there is a grievance on the decision of the above committee then the decision of the Chairman, Senate shall be final
- This policy shall also be applicable in case of MOOCs courses.

Furthermore, Chairman, Senate was authorized to take a decision on rearrangement of missed mid-semester exam of July-Dec, 2019 session, with revision of grades, if any. The Senate further resolved that, henceforth same procedure is to be followed in awarding I grade as well. Necessary amendments (rearrangement of missed mid-semester exam and award of I grade) on the concerned Regulations be made accordingly.

S-63/19/4: **To consider the final report submitted by the committee on the modalities for awarding Silver Medals in respect of PG programs**

The Senate have gone through the final report submitted by the committee on the modalities for awarding Silver Medals in respect of PG programs and resolved that the following shall be the eligibility criteria for awarding the PG Silver medal

1. Silver medal shall be awarded to every specialization of PG programs offered by the Institute, subject to a minimum strength of 5 students (excluding part-time/sponsored) at the time of passing out of the given specialization and batch.
2. He/she has not failed in any subject at any stage during his/her academic career in that program.
3. He/she passed all the prescribed subjects and cleared all other requirements, if any, obtaining an overall CPI/CGPA not lower than 9.0.
4. No disciplinary action has been taken against him/her for any offence violating code of conduct at any stage during his/her academic career in that programme

S-63/19/5: **To consider the new course structures and syllabi of the PG (2-4 semesters) and B.Tech. (fourth semester) programs**

The syllabi content is approved. However, the Senate noted the following:

- Some of the programs and syllabi have not been accompanied with the PO and CO statements, respectively
- In some cases, there are too many pre-requisites, while in some other cases, the stated pre-requisites are not well defined
- As per B.Tech. Regulations, already there is a retention policy: without passing all the first/second year courses, a student cannot register third/fourth year courses
- Very few PG courses have proposed open electives
- Head, Mathematics pointed out that there was Mathematics IV course in B.Tech. (CSE), which is missing
- B.Tech. 5-8th semesters curriculum/syllabi and M.Sc. (Applied Chemistry) syllabi not placed

In view of this, the Senate also resolved that

- there shall be no prerequisites for compulsory courses. However, prerequisites may be there for elective courses, but it has to be well-defined course(s) (code and subject name) from the curriculum of the given program
- there shall be no open elective for the PG programs
- all the syllabi designs need to be uniform. Curriculum/syllabi for a program be started with PO statements of the given program, followed by the structure and the syllabi of the courses. A syllabus shall have its content, Text/Reference books/Study materials, followed by the CO statements only.
- Course codes as decided in the HOD meeting, vide resolution Acad-22 dated 16/10/2019, be followed

Accordingly, the approved curriculum and syllabi (first semester onward) be forwarded to the concerned departments for minor modifications, if any. The modified version be sent to the academic section by 15th January, 2020. The Chairman, Senate was authorized to approve the curriculum/syllabi after incorporating these modifications. It was also resolved to place the rest of the curriculum/syllabi in the next meeting of the Senate.

S-63/19/6: To consider introduction of new subjects by the HSS Dept. at Ph.D. level

The Senate approved DPMC recommended courses along with the syllabi "HU 717: Knowing India: Genealogies and Ideologies, and HU 718: The Analytics of Public Culture: The South Asian Perspective", at PhD level. Further, the Senate also approved the updated syllabi of two courses namely HU 707: Post-colonial Literature and HU 710: Women's writing in India and their Quest for Identity. The approved syllabi are appended in **Annexure I**.

S-63/19/7: To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of reviewing and modifying the decision of the Senate in its 62nd meeting (S-62/19/3)

The Senate noted the action taken by the Chairman, Senate in respect of reviewing and modifying the decision of the Senate in its 62nd meeting in respect of SPARC project and ratified the following decision taken by the Chairman, Senate in this regard.

- the course be run as an elective course for UG, PG/Ph.D. programs and as a credit course
- however, a student can opt for the course as an audit course

S-63/19/8: To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of approving the subject ME 2547 as Elective II in first semester M.Tech. curriculum of CAD-CAM and Automation from academic session 2019-20

The Senate ratified the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of approving the subject ME 2547 as Elective II in first semester M.Tech. curriculum of CAD-CAM and Automation from academic session 2019-20.

S-63/19/9: To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of approving introduction of two courses of B.Tech. and M.Tech. programs of CSE dept.

The Senate ratified the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of approving introduction of the following two courses, along with the syllabi, of B.Tech. and M.Tech. programs of CSE dept. respectively.

1. CS 1483: Machine Translation as Open Elective II, 8thsem B.Tech. (old course)
2. CS 1549: Machine Translation as Elective II, 2ndsem, M.Tech. in CSE (new course)

S-63/19/10: To note the report of the committee constituted by the Senate to look into the circumstances leading to placing before the Senate (61st meeting) the 3rd position holder in B.Tech. (ECE) as the Silver medal winner.

The Senate noted the report submitted by the committee.

S-63/19/11: To note the punishment imposed on the students who adopted unfair means in the End semester exam held in Nov'2019

The Senate noted the punishment imposed on the following students who adopted unfair means in the End semester exam held in Nov'2019.

SN	Name/Regn No.	Sub Code/Name	Nature of offence	Punishment Imposed
1	Deepjyoti Das 1711021	CE 1302 Structural Analysis II	Mobile was in the desk. Repeated offender caught with a mobile.	'F' Grade was awarded in the concerned subject for the end semester exam. However, students of 2017 & prior batches were allowed to appear the subject in re-exam.
2	Purusuttam Medok 1811040	CE 202 Material Testing & Evolution	Caught with a Chit.	
3	Bikash Raj 1414089	CH 1101 Chemistry	Student brought hand written material.	
4	Kaushal Kumar Singh 1913132	CH 101 Chemistry	Found reading from a Xerox sheet in the toilet. Physically Challenged the invigilator while catching the paper.	
5	A.SaiBalaji Reddy 1912164	PH 101 Physics	At 8-50 AM, this boy went to the washroom and on suspicious ground followed and heard the sound of using Mobile. After coming out, he initially denied having mobile but on physical check found it in his pocket.	
6	Subham Patar 1912088	PH 101 Physics	Found mobile Phone while coming out of the toilet.	
7	Manish Kr. Poddar 1913105	CH 101 Chemistry	Was taking his phone while getting caught in the corner of wash area.	
8	Richmond Marngar 1711014	CE 1303 Transportation Engg.	Caught red handed copying from hand.	
9	P. Shashidhar Sai 1712111	ME 1302 Fluid Mecjamoscs-II	Caught red handed while cheating deliberately from hand.	
10	Souradeep Chakraborty 17-13-011	EE 1303 Power Systems-II	Caught copying from chit.	
11	M. Sushma 1913109	EC 101 Basic Electronics	Caught with chits and also student has written on palm.	
12	Bishal Roy 1815020	CS 203 Micro Processors	Cheating from Mobile Phone.	
13	J. Sai Vivek 1914151	EC 101 Basic Electronics	Answers copied from Smart Phone.	
14	Debasish Kalita 1614016	EC 1402 Power Electronics	Caught with a chit at the back of the question paper.	
15	Monu Kumar 1614027	EC 1402 Power Electronics	Caught with a chit at the back of the question paper.	

S-63/19/12: Any other matter with permission from the Chair

(A) **To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of postponing the re-exam for the recently concluded end semester examinations**

The Senate noted the action of the Chairman, Senate in respect of postponing the re-exam of the recently concluded end-sem exams to 30 Dec, 2019 – 04 Jan, 2020.

(B) **To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate for changes in PhD course work and change in credit of Research Methodology**

Due to the revision in the credit points of the PG courses w.e.f. 2019 curriculum, the credit points for the PhD course work was needed to be revised. However as per UGC Regulations, 2016 the minimum credit assigned to the M.Phil / Ph.D. course work is 8 credits and a maximum of 16 credits with a mandatory Research Methodology course of minimum 04 credits. Accordingly, the credit of the mandatory course Research Methodology was revised as 04 credit with a course Code of IC 0001 (4-0-0: 4 credits).

Therefore, with the approval of the Chairman, Senate the clause 7.5.1 of the PhD Regulation (wef July 2014) have been modified as follows:

“The course IC 0001 (4-0-0: 4 credits): Research Methodology (4 credits) is mandatory for all Ph.D. scholars. In addition to this, the minimum PhD/PG level course work requirements are as follows:

For qualifying degree	Minimum course work requirement	Remarks
B.E./B.Tech.	18 credits	Minimum 12 credits in the core areas of proposed Ph.D. work
PG	6 credits	Minimum 03 credits in the core areas of proposed Ph.D. work

Maximum 15 credits shall be allowed to be registered in a semester. The supervisor, cosupervisor, and Joint supervisor shall not be permitted to teach all the courses offered to a student solely. At the most 50% or two courses (whichever is higher) is permitted to be taught solely by the supervisor, cosupervisor and Joint supervisor.”

(C) **To ratify action of the Chairman, Senate for revision in Credit of some PG / PhD level subjects**

The credit / subject code of the M.Tech / MSc / MBA (1st Sem) Courses have been changed w.e.f. 2019 curriculum. As per the approval of the Chairman, Senate dated 23-09-2019, the course work requirement for PhD student has also been modified as per the new credit definition. But still some courses were running in the various departments as per the earlier regulation. Neither the subject code nor the credit was modified for the courses as listed below:

Table 1

Dept.	Code	Subject Name	Present Credit
Math	MA 6303	Numerical Methods & Computer Programming	08
	MA 513	Discrete Mathematics	06
Chemistry	CH 703	Physical Methods in Chemistry	06
	CH 713	Organic Reactions and Mechanism	06
HSS	HU 702	Report Writing	06

	HU 703	Quantitative Techniques	06
	HU 706	Agricultural Economics	06
	HU 712	Economy of North Eastern Region	06
MS	BA 605	Supply Chain Management	06
	DoMS-700	Statistical Methods and Lab	06
	MS 702	Financial Management I	06
	MS 701	General Management	06
	MS 703	Financial Management II	06

Further, as per the decision of the Senate in its 59th Meeting, the PhD Scholars admitted under TEQIP-III have been allowed to pursue the online courses. Most of the online courses opted by such scholars are available in the existing curriculum. However, the following three online courses are not available in the curriculum of the Institute:

Table 2

Sl No.	Online Subject Code	Online Subject
1.	noc19-cs60	Data Science for Engineers
2.	noc19-cs59	Python for Data Science
3.	noc19-cs52	Introduction to Machine Learning

Considering the above, to bring uniformity, the credit for all the above mentioned subjects (table 1, table 2 and other similar subject, if any) have been revised to 03 credits with the approval of the Chairman, Senate.

(D) **To ratify the action of the Chairman, Senate for modified Leave rule of PhD student (JRF / SRF)**

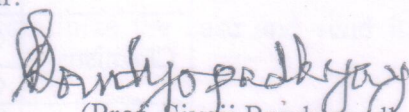
As per the OM issued by MHRD vide dated 31-01-2019 (Annexure-I) and DST vide dated 30-01-2019 (Annexure-II) the JRF and SRF are only eligible for casual leave while Research Associates are entitled to leave as per the host Institution rules.

As per existing PhD Regulation (wef July 2014) the PhD students are entitled for 30 days of General Leave in one year (July-June) on pro-rata basis. A maximum of 15 (fifteen) days of the left over leave in a year can be carried forward (accumulated) to the next year, which is not in accordance with the aforesaid OM issued by the MHRD and DST respectively.

In this regard, a four member Committee was constituted to look into the matter. Accordingly, the Committee has submitted the report. Based on the report submitted by the said committee and subsequent approval of the Chairman, Senate the clause 6.1 of the Section 6, of the PhD Regulation (w.e.f. July 2014) has been modified as follows:

“A PhD student (JRF / SRF) is eligible for 18 days Casual Leave in an academic year (July to June) on pro-rata basis. However, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, whether intervening, prefixed or suffixed, shall not be counted as Casual Leave. Casual Leave shall not be carried forward to next academic year. Head of the Department may sanction Casual Leave on recommendation of the Supervisor.”

The meeting ended with vote of thanks to the Chair.


(Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay)
Director & Chairman, Senate