

**DHIRUBHAI AMBANI INSTITUTE OF
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY
GANDHINAGAR**

**MINUTES OF THE
THIRTYTHIRD MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

The 33rd meeting of the Academic Council was held on 7th January, 2020. The following members were present:

1. Prof K.S. Dasgupta, Chairman
2. Shri Tapan Misra
3. Prof Naresh Jotwani
4. Prof Sanjay Srivastava
5. Prof Binita Desai
6. Prof Suman Mitra
7. Prof Sanjeev Gupta
8. Shri Soman Nair, Secretary

Leave of absence was granted to Prof Surendra Prasad, Prof David Koilpillai, Shri K Narayan, and Shri Suresh Rangachar.

Item No. 1

To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th January, 2019

The Council confirmed the minutes of the 32nd meeting of the Council held on 10th January, 2019.

Item No. 2

To note the actions taken on the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 10th January, 2019

The Council noted the actions taken on the minutes of the meeting held on 10th January, 2019 as details placed before the meeting. Referring to the remark 'no action taken' recorded against the decision on reduction in credit requirements for B.Tech (ICT) and (CS) Programs and review of technical electives, the Council pointed out that the failure in implementing the decision of the Council is dishonouring its decision. In future, if the decision of the Council could not be implemented, the reasons with justification should be presented before the Council.

Item No. 3**To ratify the approval of Chairman, Academic Council to implement separate Academic Requirements for PhD Programme in Humanities, Social Sciences and Design**

The Chairman, Academic Council, invited Prof Manik Lal Das, PG Convenor to brief the Council on agenda items 3 to 4. He briefed the Council on the recommendations of the PG Committee to introduce separate academic requirements for PhD Programme in Humanities, Social Sciences and Design streams. He stated that they included (a) introduction of part time sponsored and external registration categories, (b) revision of credit requirements from 96 to 80 for MSc/BTech/MCA/MA graduates and (c) comprehensive examination consisting of two parts an examination, and *viva-voce*. He also informed that with the approval of the Chairman, Academic Council, the recommendations of the PG Committee were implemented effective from the academic year 2019-20.

The Council ratified the approval accorded by the Chairman, Academic Council.

Item No. 4**To ratify the approval of Chairman, Academic Council to implement the Academic Requirements for PhD Programme in Engineering in ICT disciplines, Science and Mathematics**

Prof Manik Lal Das informed the Council that Academic Requirements for PhD Programme in Engineering in ICT disciplines, Science and Mathematics have been drawn up separately on recommendation of the PG Committee. He explained that the changes made in these streams were the same as of the PhD Programme in Humanities, Social Sciences and Design streams except that the comprehensive examination consisted of written or qualifies and proposal defense. The recommendations were implemented effective from the academic year 2019-20 with the approval of the Chairman, Academic Council.

The Council ratified the decision taken by the Chairman.

Item No. 5**To approve the report of MTech (ICT) Revisit Committee and the revised Academic Requirements**

Prof Manik Lal Das briefed the Council on the report of the MTech (ICT) Revisit Committee. He informed the Council that based on the recommendations of the Committee, specializations in Communication and Signal Processing, Machine Learning, Software Systems and VLSI and Embedded Systems have been introduced. The other changes made were (a) introduction of resident and external registrations, (b) fixation of semester load requirements to 14/15 credits per semester in the first year and second year, (c) reduction in credit requirements from 60 to 55 out which 36 credits for coursework, and (d) discontinuation of project mode and group

core courses and instead, introduction of program core and specialization core courses. He brought to the notice of the Council that these changes were implemented from the academic year 2019-20 with the approval of the Chairman of the Council.

The Council ratified the decision taken by the Chairman.

The Council suggested that besides the formal graduation certificates, PhD Scholars and M.Tech students be issued with separate specialization certificates. In case of PhD Graduates, the Certificates should state broad areas in which the Scholars have prepared his dissertations. The Council advised the Director to constitute a Committee to identify and classify the possible areas of specializations for PhD Scholars. It was decided that these Certificates are to be issued separately by the Registrar's Office.

Item No.6

To ratify the decision taken by the Chairman, Academic Council to approve the course structure of MTech Program in EC with specialization in Wireless Communication and Embedded Systems and the Academic Requirements

Prof Suman Mitra, Dean (AP) briefed the Council on the genesis of launching the MTech (EC) with specialization in Wireless Communication and Embedded Systems (EC) jointly with CR Rao Advanced Institute of Mathematics Statistics and Computer Science, Hyderabad. He informed the Council that the Board of Studies of PG Programs at its meeting held on 12th April, 2019 approved the course structure and the total credit requirements for award of Degree at 61 credits out which 40 credits are to be earned through coursework and 21 credits through research. He informed the Council that with the approval of the Chairman, Academic Council, the academic requirements have been implemented from the academic year 2019-20.

The Council ratified the decision taken by the Chairman.

Item No.7

To ratify the decision taken by the Chairman, Academic Council to approve the curriculum, scope and program outcome of M.Tech Programme in Computer Science & Engineering with specialization in Data Sciences and Information Security

Prof Suman Mitra, Dean (AP), briefed the Council on the curriculum, scope and program outcome of the M.Tech Programme in Computer Science and Engineering with specialization in Data Sciences and Information Security offered in collaboration with IIT Jammu. He informed the Council that with the approval of the Chairman, Academic Council the curriculum has been implemented and 26 students are undergoing their winter semester studies at DA-IICT.

The Council ratified the approval of the Chairman.

Item No. 8**To approve the proposal to launch B.Tech (Mathematics and Computing) Programme**

The Chairman recalled that at the meeting of the Council held on 15th November, 2018, a proposal was mooted to launch an integrated MSc Program in Mathematics and Computing. He stated that on studying the report prepared by the Working Committee and on consultation with academia and Industry, it was felt that it would be more worthwhile to launch a B.Tech Program in Mathematics and Computing. Based on this conclusion, the Working Committee with Prof V Sunitha as Convenor had prepared a proposal. With the permission of the Council, he invited Prof Sunitha to brief the Council on the program. .

Prof Sunitha briefed the Council that the Committee has designed the program after soliciting feed back from stakeholders such as faculty, alumni, prospective employers. She stated that the curriculum is designed in such a way that the students will acquire a wide variety of competence that will be apt for a whole range of occupations and for research and managerial careers. Prof Sunitha also briefed in detail the curriculum of the program.

The Council studied the curriculum and accorded it approval to the program. It was decided to launch the program from the academic year 2020-21.

Item No. 9**To approve the proposal to launch M.Sc Program in Data Science**

The Chairman briefed the Council on the report submitted by the Working Committee under the convenorship of Prof Bhaskar Chaudhury to launch an M.Sc Program in Data Science. He invited Prof Chaudhury to brief the Council on the program. Prof Chaudhury summarised the important aspects of the program and stated that unlike M.Sc(IT) Program, the admission to the Program will be for Science, Statistics, Mathematics and Engineering Graduates. After detailed discussions, the Council made the following recommendations:

- The course titled 'Critical Thinking and Term Paper Presentations' in second semester be replaced with 'Mini Project 1' with same credit structure. Mini Project 1 will provide the required foundation for the students to prepare detailed proposal for 'Mini Project 2' in semester 3.
- Credit Structure for 'Big Data Processing' course be changed to 2-0-2-3.
- Credit Structure for 'Optimization' course be changed to 2-0-2-3.
- The title of the course 'Numerical Methods for Data Science' be changed to 'Numerical Methods.'
- Depending on the duration of SAS training, the course on SAS should be assigned a proper credit structure with a well defined evaluation methodology.
- Offer more electives on emerging areas as Technical Electives.

Item No. 10**To consider the appeal of Mr Nileshkumar M. Banker, deregistered PhD Scholar**

The Council approved the request of Mr Nilesh M Banker, the deregistered PhD Scholar, to rejoin the PhD program and authorised Dean (AP) to complete the procedures for his readmission.

Item No. 11**To approve and recommend to the Board of Governors the award of Degrees to the students who have fulfilled their academic requirements for graduation**

The Council approved and recommended to the Board of Governors the award of Degrees to 475 students including 8 PhD Scholars who have successfully completed their studies in the academic year 2018-19 as per the list placed before the meeting. The Council also resolved to recommend to the Board of Governors to approve award of President's Gold Medals to the following students:

Sr No	Student Id	Student Name	CPI	Program
1	201501020	SHUBHAM D ANNADATE	9.60	B Tech (ICT)
2	201501099	AGAM ALKESHKUMAR SHAH	9.51	B. Tech (Honours) in ICT with minor in Computational Science
5	201712001	RANADE ARCHAN CHANDRASHEKHAR	9.14	M Sc (IT)

The Council noted that as per rules on award of President's Gold Medals, Mr Shah Ketul Tejabhai, M.Tech (ICT) Student who is the topper in the class (CPI 9.49) became ineligible for award of Gold Medal since he received an 'F' Grade in the Course 'Computational Optimization' which he registered as an Audit course in Autumn 2018-19 semester. The Council felt that the student who has obtained the next highest CPI deserves award of Gold Medal. Accordingly, the Council recommended award of Gold Medal to Ms. Dimple Jayendrabhai Shah, M.Tech (ICT) student who obtained the next highest CPI of 9.32. It was also recommended to make appropriate provisions in the Gold Medal Rules to award the Gold Medal to the next topper in the list of merit in case the first topper becomes ineligible for award of the Medal.

The Council noted that out of the 7 graduating students of M.Des (CD) Programme, no student is found to be eligible for award of Gold Medal as all of them have obtained less than CPI 8.

Item No. 12**To note the Report on 2019 Admissions**

At the invitation of the Chairman, Prof Mukesh Tiwari briefed the Council on Admissions 2019. He highlighted that a comparative analysis of the applications received shows that the negative trend of applications during the years 2015-18 was halted in 2019. While DA-IICT is able to attract applications from outside Gujarat, the final acceptance of admission by the students from other States was quite less especially in the B.Tech Programs. Most of the high JEE ranked candidates did not participate in the online counselling and a few who did, cancelled their admission at DA-IICT when they received admit from IITs, IIITs, NITs and private Institutes like VIT and SRM. It was pointed out that the applicants preferred B.Tech (Hons.) with minor in Computational Science compared to B.Tech (ICT) Program.

Regarding admission to PG Programs, Prof Tiwari stated that Introduction of specializations in M.Tech (ICT) Program had an overall impact on the number of applications received and Machine Learning was the most preferred specialization. Average GATE score in Machine Learning and VLSI and Embedded Systems specializations were higher than Communication and Signal Processing and Software Systems. For M.Tech (EC), the the GATE score of candidates applied was low. Applicants with high GATE score who got admission in higher ranked Institutes preferred those over DA-IICT.

The Council noted the Admissions Report 2019.

Item No. 13**To note addition to faculty**

The Council noted that the following faculty members have joined the Institute during April to December, 2019:

- 1) Dr Priyanka Singh, Assistant Professor
- 2) Dr Supantha Pandit, Assistant Professor
- 3) Dr Ahlad Kumar, Assistant Professor
- 4) Mr Avijit Dutta, Assitant Professor
- 5) Dr Abhishek Jindal, Assistant Professor
- 6) Dr Tapas Kumar Maiti, Associate Professor

The following additional items were discussed with the permission of the Chair:

Item No. 14(i)**Proposal to introduce one credit core course for extra-curricular activities**

The Council discussed the proposal in detail and felt that it is not advisable to award credit for extra-curricular activities since they are outside the realm of normal curriculum.

Item No. 14(ii)

To approve the Academic Calendar 2020-21

The Council approved the Academic Calendar 2020-21.

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

