DHIRUBHAI AMBANI INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY GANDHINAGAR

MINUTES OF THE TWENTY-FIRST MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Twenty-First meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 27th January 2024 at 11.00 am at DA-IICT Gandhinagar.

The following members were present.

1. Ambassador T.S. Tirumurti, in Chair
2. Dr Alok Nath De
3. Shri Shrenik Vaishnav
4. Shri Shrikant Kulkarni
5. Ms. Alpna J Doshi, through video conference
6. Shri Punit Garg, through video conference
7. Professor Tathagata Bandyopadhyay, Director
8. Professor Maniklal Das, Dean- Faculty
9. Professor Bhaskar Chaudhury, Dean- Academic Programmes

Leave of absence:

1. Ms. Tina Ambani
2. Shri Anmol Ambani
3. Professor Tridip Suhrud
4. Professor Bimal Kumar Roy
5. Shri Mukesh Kumar, IAS, Principal Secretary (Higher and Technical Education) Education Department, Govt of Gujarat
6. Ms. Mona Khandhar, IAS, Principal Secretary (I/C), Department of Science and Technology, Govt of Gujarat

Non-Member Secretary: Shri Siddharth Swaminarayan, Executive Registrar

At the outset, it was informed to the members that the President, Ms. Tina Ambani, has nominated Shri T.S. Tirumurti to Chair meeting and to Preside the Convocation Ceremony to be held in the evening.

The members were briefed about the detailed schedule of the day.

The Chairman welcomed all the members and adopted the agenda items of the meeting.

The Board noted and accepted the request of Professor Abhay Karandikar to accept his resignation from the Board on becoming the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.

The Board noted with thanks his contributions as a member since July 2021.

Agenda Item 1

To confirm the minutes of the Board meeting held on January 28, 2023.

The Board was informed that no remarks/observations were received from the members on the minutes of the above-referred meeting. The members confirmed the minutes.

Agenda Item 2

Action taken report on the recommendations of the Board in its 20th meeting.

The Board noted the actions taken on the minutes of the meeting held on 28th January 2023.

Concerning the decision taken in the last meeting on the tagline "Engineers with Social Responsibilities," the Director briefed the Board that the faculty, in general, are uncomfortable with the word "Engineers" given that the institute offers programs in humanities, data science, agricultural analytics, science, and design. It may be broadened to subsume all these disciplines. The Board discussed the matter and recommended developing a few taglines involving faculty members that align with the institute's vision and mission. The taglines may be put up before the Board (by sending a proposal by circulations) for further consideration.

The Board also suggested registering our logo under the Trade Marks Act in two separate forms.

  i)   Only logo
  ii)   Logo with the tagline

Agenda Item 3

To consider the recommendations of the Academic Council to confer the Degrees and the President's Gold Medals to the eligible students in the 18th Convocation to be held on 27th January 2024.

The Board perused the recommendations of the Academic Council in its meeting held on 19th January 2024, accepted them, and adopted the following resolutions:

"Resolved that the 65 students of Bachelor of Technology (Honours) in Information and Communication Technology with a Minor in Computational Science; 301 students of Bachelor of Technology in Information and Communication Technology; 10 students of Doctor of Philosophy; 13 students of Master in Design (Communication Design); 44 students of Master of Science (Data Science); 121 students of Master of Science (Information Technology); 4 students of Master of Technology (Communication

Systems and Machine Learning); 1 student of Master of Technology (Electronics and Communication); and 51 students of Master of Technology (Information and Communication Technology) who have completed their graduation requirements and whose names appearing in the list placed before the meeting, to be conferred respective Degrees at the Convocation to be held on 27th January 2024"

"Also resolved to adopt the recommendations of the Academic Council to award the President's Gold Medal to the following students in the seven Programmes."

Student Id	Student Name	CPI	Program
201901162	RATHOD SIDDHARTH VANRAJSINH	9.66	B Tech (ICT)
201901028	KEDAR BHAVYA HASMUKHLAL	9.2	B Tech (Honours) ICT with minor CS
202111032	VINAY SHETH	9.75	M Tech (ICT)
202115008	SRI SAI ADITYA PUSULURI	8.5	M Tech (CS&ML)
202112063	VIVEK JAYESH DOSHI	9.02	M Sc (IT)
202118012	LAKHANI DHAIRYA PURSHOTTAM	8.54	M Sc (DS)
202114011	RAVAL RUSHI DEVENDRABHAI	8.49	M Des (CD)

The members also suggested to revisit awarding of Gold Medals keeping in view the size of the cohort of students in different programs.

Agenda Item 4

To ratify the decision of the Academic Council to launch a new Programme

B Tech in Electronics and VLSI Design from AY 2023-24

The Board ratified the Academic Council's decision to launch the new B. Tech Programme in Electronics and VLSI Design from academic year 2023-24.

Following were the observations and recommendations of the Board on the presentation made by Professor Biswajit Mishra, Programme Coordinator, on the current status of the Programme after its launch.

i. The Programme Coordinator was requested to assess the infrastructure required for the labs to be set up, considering the number of students admitted and the lead time needed to set up the labs. The Institute should explore possible collaborations with the relevant industries and check the possibilities of Government funding schemes for the VLSI Design/ Semiconductor infrastructure.

ii. Explore the possibilities for MoU with foreign universities collaborating with leading semiconductor industries like Foxconn, Micron, etc.

iii. Also, explore collaboration possibilities with the Indian Institute of Sciences, Bengaluru, Department of Semiconductor Technology.

Agenda Item 5

Approval of the Institute's Annual Report for the academic year 2022-23

The Annual Report for the AY year 2022-23 was circulated with the agenda and notes of the meeting, and the same was placed on the table for the perusal of the Board. The Board approved the Annual Report for the year 2022-23.

The Board suggested incorporating the Annual Accounts of the Institute in the Annual Report from the next Annual Report.

Agenda Item 6

Ratification of the decision taken by the Chairman Finance Committee to approve Audited Annual Accounts for the FY 2022-23.

The Board ratified the Audited Annual Accounts for the FY 2022-23 approved by the Chairman of the Finance Committee.

Agenda Item 7

Ratification of the decision of the Chairman of the Finance Committee for the authorized signatories for operations of the bank accounts.

The Board ratified the above decision as an ongoing arrangement.

The Board suggested that the Finance Committee reconsider the existing arrangements and work out specific financial limitation conditions for the signatories, preferably with two sets of authorized signatories.

Agenda Item 8

Proposal to revise Semester-wise tuition fees for all our Programmes and Hostel Fees, etc.

The Board perused and deliberated on the recommendations of the duly appointed Committee on the above matter. The Director briefed the Board that our fee structure is relatively lower than some of the Centre of Excellence Universities in the State of Gujarat, and the institute generates its revenue primarily from tuition fees. Moreover, to recruit and retain quality faculty members, it is essential to pay the compensation at least at par with the 7th Central Pay Commission. Besides, the institute needs to create incentives for doing good research.

The Board approved the recommendations of the Committee to revise the Programme-wise Semester Tuition Fees and Hostel Fees as per the following details, w.e.f. Academic year 2024-25. The revised fee structure shall apply to the students admitted from the AY 2024-25. Considering inflationary factors, the Institute will increase the following fees by 7-10 percent annually for the batches of students to be admitted from the AY 2024-25 and after that.

The Board also recommended enhancing the amount spent on financial assistance/scholarships to the students so that meritorious students can pursue their studies.

Sr No	Name of the Programme/Particular	Existing Tuition Fee per Semester (Rs.)	Proposed Revisions per Semester (Rs.)
1	B. Tech.	1,02,500	1,50,000
2	M. Tech (ICT)	64,500	71,000
3	M. Sc. (IT)	1,00,000	1,10,000
4	M. Sc. (DS)	1,25,000	1,37,000
5	M. Sc. (AA)	65,000	85,000
6	M. Des (CD)	80,000	1,04,000
7	Hostel Fees	23,000	27,500

Agenda Item 9

Noting the new faculty member joined us at the Institute last year.

The Board noted the names and profiles of the new faculty members who joined the institute last year.

To overcome the shortage of faculty members in Computer Science, the Board suggested recruiting our MTech students as lecturers through a properly laid out process after completing their degree requirements. At the same time, they may be provided an opportunity to pursue Ph.D. on a part-time basis.

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