

MINUTES OF THE 29TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TIRUCHIRAPPALLI HELD ON 30 JULY 2016 AT 10.30 AM IN THE OOM ROOM, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TIRUCHIRAPPALLI

PRESENT:

1. Dr. G. Kannabiran

Director i/c and

Chairperson i/c

2. Dr. T.K. Radhakrishnan

Member

3. Shri A. Palanivel

Member Secretary

Ministry of HRD offered their comments through email dated 29th July 2016.

The following members expressed their inability to attend the meeting.

- 1. Ms. Darshana M. Dabral
- 2. Shri. Karumuttu T Kannan

GENERAL MATTERS

ITEM NO. 1 WELCOME ADDRESS BY THE CHAIRPERSON.

The Chairperson welcomed all the members of the Finance Committee.

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Member Secretary began deliberations on the Agenda Items.

TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 28TH MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON 23 MARCH 2016

The Minutes 28th FC meeting was shared with the members and resolved to confirm the minutes in the next FC.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/1

RESOLVED THAT the Minutes of the 28th Meeting of Finance Committee held on 23 March 2016 be confirmed in the next FC.

DECISIONS AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE REVISION OF THE MONTHLY SALARY OF TEMPORARY FACULTY MEMBERS

The salary (consolidated) for temporary faculty fixed in 2013 as Rs. 42,000 (Ph.D. holders) and Rs. 35,000 (Non Ph.D. holders). The salary levels have generally gone up and therefore retaining qualified candidates has become increasingly difficult. Other NITs such as NIT Surathkal and NIT Warangal have increased the salary of temporary faculty. The FC considered and discussed the following proposals

- (1) To revise the salary (consolidated) of all temporary faculty as Rs. 50,000 (Ph.D. holders) and Rs. 40,000 (Non Ph.D. holders) from the current academic year.
- (2) To consider 3% increase in salary every year.
- (3) If any temporary faculty acquires Ph.D. during the term of appointment, he/she will be paid salary of Ph.D. holder from the date of acquiring Ph.D.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/2

RESOLVED THAT the above three proposals relating to increase in salary, annual increment and incentives for completion of PhD be placed in the next FC.

TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE DISBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURE TOWARDS PATENT FILING

The proposal was considered and recommended to BoG.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/3

RESOLVED THAT the expenses towards filing patent by faculty members be covered under proposed Interim CPDA guidelines to be issued by the institute, as approved by MHRD.

ITEM NO. 5 TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE REIMBURSEMENT OF TELEPHONE BILLS & INTERNET CHARGES TO FACULTY MEMBERS

The proposal was considered and recommended to BoG.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/4

RESOLVED THAT the faculty members be reimbursed the telephone bills and Internet charges as per Government of India norms.

TO CONSIDER AND RECOMMEND THE ISSUE OF LAPTOP TO FACULTY MEMBERS

Leading institutions such as NIT Trichy has adopted ICT tools to support teaching-learning processes, particularly in the blended learning contexts. The institute is setting up Smart class rooms under TEQIP-II, which necessitates faculty to have laptops for effective adoption of emerging environments and related tools.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/5

RESOLVED THAT the proposal to issue laptops to faculty in a phased manner for use in Smart class rooms and ICT-based teaching be considered in the next FC.

TO CONSIDER AND RATIFY THE SANCTION OF EXPENDITURE TO ORIENTATION PROGRAMME FOR FIRST YEAR U.G. STUDENTS

In a pioneering effort to provide an effective on-boarding of first year students to academics and campus living, an orientation programme for three weeks was introduced in 2015. It received excellent feedback from students, parents and other stakeholders.

The programme was further improved both qualitatively and quantitatively in 2016. Accordingly, an estimated budget of Rs. 47.00 Lakhs was considered.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/6

RESOLVED THAT the proposed budget of Rs. 47.00 Lakhs for the conduct of orientation programme for first year students be recommended to the BoG.

TO CONSIDER AND RATIFY THE OPENING OF A NEW CURRENT ACCOUNT IN SBI, NIT BRANCH

The proposal to open a new Current Account was discussed.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/7

RESOLVED THAT the proposal to open a Current account be approved as per the guidelines of Ministry of Finance, Government of India.

REPORTING ITEMS

ITEM NO.9

Grants received from Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under Plan and Non-Plan Funds for the year 2016-17

The Finance Committee noted the Grants received from the MHRD under Plan and Non-Plan funds for the year 2016-17.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/8

RESOLVED THAT the Grants received from the MHRD be noted

ANY OTHER ITEMS

ITEM NO.10

(a). PAYMENT OF HONORARIUM TO FACULTY FOR CARRYING OUT FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT.

It has been observed that a small percentage of slow learners are not able to pass the subjects despite repeated attempts in supplementary examinations. Such students have to be helped to clear the subjects by making them put in minimum required efforts.

In order to help the slow learners, a new assessment approach, called Formative Assessment (FA) was introduced from 2015-16 academic year. Under this, a student who is not able to pass the subjects, will spend prescribed

number of hours (15-20 Hrs.) with the faculty member and complete the assessment components, as specified by the faculty.

The faculty members who are helping the students with additional teaching /assessments are required to put in additional efforts and time. Therefore, it was proposed to pay an honorarium to the faculty at the rate of Rs. 6000/- per student for a given subject.

(B) INCREASE IN NUMBER OF PHD FELLOWSHIPS

An increase in in-take of PhD students is considered. There has been as increase in the number of applications for PhD programmes in all departments. Increasing the number of fellowships would help more students to take up PhD programmes and thereby institutions would help more qualified teachers. Further, availability of PhD students also helps the institute for lectures and tutorials. Therefore, as recommended in the 35th meeting of the Senate, it is proposed submit a proposal to MHRD for increase in number of PhD fellowships to 135 from the current level of 90 per year.

(C) PROCUREMENT OF A FESEM

It is proposed to procure a new FESEM (Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscopy) as an Institute level facility with an estimated cost of 3.5 Crore. The Expert Committee consisting of Two from IIT Madras and One from PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore assessed the proposal for the purchase of the new FESEM. As per the recommendations of the committee, in order for the Departments to meet the current

international publication standards, as well carry out comprehensive materials characterization, a high resolution Scanning Electron Microscope with attachments such as EDS, WDS and EBSD are considered absolutely essential. The FESEM with field emission gun can facilitate obtaining ultra-high magnification and high resolution images suitable for publications. Therefore, it is proposed to procure FESEM at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.5 Crores.

RESOLUTION 29/FC/2016/9

RESOLVED THAT the items brought under any other items (a), (b) and (c) be approved.

The meeting ended with Vote of Thanks.

Member Secretary

Chairperson i/c