Minutes of the 22nd Senate Meeting of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli held on 16.5.2012.

The following members were present:

1. Prof. Sundararajan, Chairman, Senate
2. Dr. Ammasai Gounden, Member
3. Dr. Anantharaman, Member
4. Dr. Asokan, Member
5. Dr. Arul Dinesh, Member
6. Dr. A.K. Banerjee, Member
7. Dr. Balasubramanian, Member
8. Dr. A.K. Bakthavatsalam, Member
9. Dr. Cinderella, Member
10. Dr. Deivamoney Selvam, Member
11. Dr. Gopalan, Member
12. Dr. Jayabalari, Member
13. Dr. T.N. Janakiram, Member
14. Dr. Kannabiran, Member
15. Dr. Kumanan, Member
16. Dr. P.A. Krishnan, Member
17. Dr. Meenakshisundaram, Member
18. Dr. Moses Santhakumar, Member
19. Dr. Muthupandi, Member
20. Dr. Murugesan, K, Member
21. Dr. N. Nagamani, Member
22. Dr. R. Nallaswamy, Member
23. Dr. Narayanashamy, Member
24. Dr. Natarajan, Member
25. Dr. S. Natarajan, Member
26. Dr. Ponalagusamy, Member
27. Dr. Panneesar, Member
28. Dr. Punnamoorthy, Member
29. Dr. T.K. Radhakrishnan, Member
30. Dr. Raghavan, Member
31. Prof. Ramprasad, Member
32. Dr. Raman Sankaranarayanan, Member
33. Dr. Sankaranarayanasamy, K, Member
34. Dr. Sarangan, Member
35. Dr. Sastikumar, D, Member
36. Dr. Selvakumar, Member
37. Dr. Selvaraj, Member
38. Dr. Shanmugam, S, Member
39. Dr. Sivashanmugam, Member
40. Dr. Srinivas Tadepalli, Member
41. Dr. Sundareswaran, K, Member
42. Dr. Sarat Chandra Babu, Member
43. Dr. G. Thamarai Selvi, Member
44. Dr. Umapathy, Member
45. Dr. Venkatasamy Reddy, A, Member
The following members could not attend the meeting:

1. Prof.S.Umapathy  
2. Dr.V.Jagadeeshkumar  
3. Dr.Malathy Duraisamy  
4. Dr. (Mrs.) Hemalatha Thiagarajan  
5. Prof.Joseph Newman Fernando  
6. Dr.Noorul Haq,A  
7. Dr.Parisutheraj,L  
8. Dr. B. Ramdoss  
9. Dr. M. Rajendrakumar, M.  
10. Dr.Samson Mathew  
11. Dr. Udayakumar, M.  
12. Dr.Venkataraman,B  
13. Dr.Viswanatha Iyer  

Director's introductory Remarks

Director in his introductory remarks welcomed Dr.G.Swaminathan, Secretary, Senate, Dr. Nickolas, Dr.A.Chandra Bose, Dr.G.Venkatesa prabhu, Dr.L.Cindrella, Dr Samson Mathew , Dr Raman Sankaranarayanan, Dr.J.Sarat Chandra Babu, Dr.K.Murugesan, Dr.T.N.Janakiraman, Dr.S.Arul Daniel and Dr.Karvembu , the incoming members, to senate and also appreciated the contributions made by Dr.A.K.Banerjee the outgoing Secretary of the Senate.

He emphasized the need for updating faculty profile in our website as it will really enhance the image for the institution and also open up avenues for collaborative work with other institutions/organizations. He outlined the need for upgrading profile of faculty members, students and support staff not only in terms of qualification but also in terms of expertise.

He suggested short term industry related programmes for practicing engineers in emerging areas and inter disciplinary areas may be organized. Accreditation of various courses is a major issue and sought the cooperation of all departments is carrying out the exercise.

He outlined the following strategies for the institute: Board of Studies is important for upgrading the academic curriculum based on latest trends and technology and industry requirements. The institute has to have an overall policy for conducting Board of Studies for all the departments. A committee will be constituted to this effect.
Prof. Sarangi committee has indicated guiding doctoral students and carrying out sponsored research programmes as some of the main criteria for promotion. During CAS interviews, many of the faculty members expressed their difficulties of getting students for guiding in each department. Faculty strength is more when compared to students who are getting admitted for doctoral research. This is creating problems. A study of the present students of the institute indicates that we have to focussed remedial actions to reduce the issues. A committee constituted for the purpose has gone into the details and made several recommendations for discussions during the present senate meeting.

Minutes of Meeting:

1. To confirm the Minutes of the 21st Senate Meeting held on 29.12.2011.
   
   Minutes of the 21st Senate Meeting was approved.

   Prof.C.Natarajan and Prof.S.Kumanan raised objection to the Point No.3 “A new department for Energy, Environment, Safety and Health will be formed during the next academic year by pooling resources from all Departments. This department will offer post graduate and doctoral courses”. Detailed discussions followed with each senate member giving his/her point of view (The members were requested to mail their views separately).

2. To consider and recommend the award of Provisional degree to Ph.D & M.S. Candidates who have successfully completed the requirements of the degree.
   
   Few spelling mistakes were pointed out with regard to name and designation of the Doctoral Committee member and it will be rectified. The list of candidates was approved

3. Approval of Directed Study course

   The directed study courses introduced by various Departments for Ph.D. are approved. Dr Sastikumar sought the permission of chair to include a course “Advanced ultrasonic Testing”. This was also approved.

4. Sponsored/Part-time Ph.D. Programme:
   
   A committee with the following members was constituted to the possibilities of extend sponsored / Part time Ph.D programme. The committee has come out with a report. Prof.C.Nagamani, Chairperson presented salient features of the findings of the committee. Extensive deliberation was made and the faculty were requested to give their views to Director by mail.

5. Students Representations

   (i) Ms. Jayasree (CYK 0307) a part time research scholar, Department of Chemistry is given extension of one year.
(ii) Mr. C. Swaminathan, part-time research scholar, Department of Mechanical Engineering is given extension of one year.

(iii) It was mentioned that 30% of PG students may be permitted to do project outside in established organizations.

(iv) Representations of Shri. Akanksha Gupta (Roll No: 102109006) and Shri. R. Uppiliappan (Roll No: 112109028) were accepted. Similar cases like them will also be given benefit and their attendance will be counted for calculating % of attendance from the actual day of joining only. The maximum permission period will be restricted to 2 weeks.

(v) Shri. V. Arvind Kumar (Roll No: 106109102) was permitted to withdraw from VI semester examination. But request for special supplementary 6th semester examination in May/June 2012 was negated.

(vi) Shri. Lovedeep Prakash (Roll No: 110106033) will be permitted to attend classes with regular students for the 3 subjects.

(vii) Shri. Abdur Rahman Sultan's request for conversion to M.S. was not permitted. However he can apply as a fresh candidate for M.S. Programme (Sponsored).

(viii) In provisional certificates the term "Part-Time" will be removed for those who are completing Ph.D programmes through Projects and otherwise.

(ix) The institute has received a number of requests from M.Tech. students who have joined organizations like VSSC, BHEL, etc. asking for permission to carry out their project work in their respective organizations. The Senate agreed to permit them, provided they have completed all the course requirements and also based on the permission letter from their management indicating their willingness to provide facilities to do the project work. All institute formalities for project evaluation have to be completed.

6. Any other item with the permission of Chair.

(i) Request of Dr. C. Meenakshisundaram, Professor, Humanities Department – Offered new Elective course for IV B.Tech. Students. The course on ‘Executive Communication’ (HM 452) was approved.

(ii) Request of Dr. Meenakshisundaram for offering new global elective course HM 302 for B.Tech. students has been deferred.

(iii) Request of Dr. M. Udayakumar, Professor, Mechanical Engineering, Department – B.Tech 8th semester subject HM402 Management principles and Concepts to be handled by the staff of Humanities Department. It is in vogue and approved.

(iv) Modification of 1 year B.Tech syllabus in Physics Modified syllabus was approved.
Energy, Environment, Safety and Health are emerging as major interdisciplinary areas. NITT has got capability and capacity to focus on this area. Currently the activities (Teaching and Research) are carried out in isolation with course being offered by different departments like Chemical, Mechanical, Civil and others. CEESAT activities have been revived to focus on these inter-disciplinary areas. Number of faculty members were trained in UK under UK India Energy Project. Their services would be effectively used.

In order to have coherent and directed approach, it was decided to shift all these activities to CEESAT. Accordingly, the TEQIP course on Environmental Engineering will be organized by CEESAT. Faculty specializing in Energy and Environment looking forward for research and industrial consultancy activities in these areas and who have received special training in these areas will be requested to move to CEESAT. CEESAT will be henceforth the nodal centre for all activities which also include submission of project proposals, focused research and consultancy on subject areas of energy and environment.

Prof. S. Natarajan presented the salient features of part time M.Tech. degree in Corrosion and Surface Engineering by CECASE with industry participation.

Following decisions were taken:

The centre may offer short-term courses with industry and academic participation and use these courses to modify and finalize the syllabus, already arrived at for M.Tech. in Corrosion and Surface Engineering. The decision to go ahead with the part-time courses was deferred to the next meeting. The centre is suggested to begin with offering short term courses for people from Industry and Academia. Discussion on M.Tech course was deferred.

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Deferred.

Secretary, Senate

Chairman, Senate