Don Bosco Institute of Technology, Mumbai

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER ENGINEERING

Session 2021-22 Even Semester

Academic Advisory Council Report

Meeting Date: 12th March 2022

Meeting Time: 2:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Panel Members:

1. Mr. Atul Gandre- Global Head for Emerging Technologies, Cognitive Business Operations, TCS

2. Mr. Thomas Lobo- Founder and CEO Roots2Wings Training Solutions

3. Prof. Surya S. Durbha- Professor at CSRE, Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IITB)

4. Mr. Reyner Dsouza- Digital Business Integration Consultant, Accenture

Attendees:

1. Dr. Firoz Shaikh (HOD, Comp. dept.)	2. Dr. Amiya Kumar Tripathy
3. Prof. Imran Ali Mirza	4. Prof. Sana Shaikh
5. Prof. Dipti Jadhav	6. Prof. Sejal Chopra
7. Prof. Ditty Varghese	8. Prof. Kalpita Wagaskar
9. Prof. Priya Kaul	

Highlights of Meeting:

The meeting started with an address by Prof. Priya Kaul (AAC Coordinator) extending a warm welcome to the Advisory Council Committee members and sincere gratitude was expressed towards all the members present. After the welcome address and introduction of panel members, Dr. Firoz Shaikh- Head of the Department of Computer Engineering discussed the agenda of the meeting in detail and emphasized the current challenges faced by the department. The Minutes of Meeting of the last AAC (dated 02 Oct 2021) was presented before the AAC members for approval. Minutes got approved by the panelists.

The meeting proceeded with a presentation by Dr. Firoz Shaikh highlighting the various activities and achievements of the department in the academic year 2021-2022. The suggestions given by AAC members in the previous meeting along with the Action plan were presented in great detail by Dr. Firoz. Also, initiatives taken by the Computer Department for achieving the objectives of the 3-track program were presented in front of the AAC member. After the presentation, all panel members appreciated the efforts made by the department. After the department progress discussion, further agenda points were discussed through a series of queries raised by the faculties

Queries raised by faculties and Suggestions provided:

1. How should students approach the **Core computer engineering jobs/profiles** and how to get them motivated for coding? – Prof. Dipti Jadhav

It was suggested that logic building and coding form the basis of Computer Engineering. Hence, every computer engineering graduate must master their coding skills. But at the same time if a student can crack a job profile of his choice – not involving much coding skills – that is also completely acceptable. Dr. Prasanna Nambiar shared her concerns about how to envisage the coding skills that will be useful for the students. It was agreed by all that the logic building and problem-solving skills of the students must be honed at the DBIT campus so that they emerge as Solution architects at the end of the 4-year degree program.

2. The question asked by Ms. Dipti was followed by the discussion on **Research areas** in the department.

Dr. Surya Dhurba appreciated the publication statistics of the department. He suggested following a more converged approach towards Research. 3 core Research areas can be finalized by the department and faculties should be motivated to work in one of the areas of their choice. Information regarding these areas and work done in those fields can be put up on the college website, hence inspiring students to be a part of these research teams.

3. How should students prepare themselves to get a **job in the preferred domain**- Ms. Dipti Jadhav

- Mr. Atul Gandre shared his opinion about the culture of Mass recruitments wherein a candidate can be put in any domain without any appropriate on-job training. He focused on the ability of quick learning and how it can help students navigate smoothly through the journey of cracking preferred jobs.
- Mr. Reyner Dsouza emphasized the importance of networking and the ability to approach the right people in the right way as the key to getting a job in preferred domains.
- Dr. Surya Dhurbe shed insights on how industries do not inspire students to think and create. Bright students having the ability to research are confined to a specific project with very less scope for exploration.
- Mr. Thomas Lobo suggested that Entrepreneurship is one of the graduate attributes and must be promoted amongst students in the college.

4. Discussion on **Higher Studies statistics** of the department.

- It was suggested that statistics about the count of students pursuing MTech, MS, and those opting for jobs can be put together in one single slide for the presentation. Another slide drawing a comparison of KPIs of the department for previous years will help shed light on the overall progress of the department.
- Dr. Prasanna shared her views about an MS degree being used as a ticket for some students to get settled abroad and many other students pursuing MS degrees because of pressure from their parents.

5. What strategies department should opt for to get **MOU with companies** – Prof. Sana Shaikh

- It was suggested that highlighting the research projects done by the department on the website would help create a brand for the department and help get the attention of industries for MOU
- Dr. Prasanna pointed out that collaborations with alumni can help us in getting MOUs with industries.

6. How to mitigate the risks of a **gap year in admission** w.r.t publications, placements, and overall department progress? – Prof. Priya Kaul

- It was suggested that in the absence of final year students, current second-year students should be mentored and encouraged to organize the workshops, sessions and manage department activities with vigor and enthusiasm
- Dr. Surya Dhurba insisted that applying for patents can be very beneficial for the department that will in turn lead to its branding
- Dr. Prasanna insisted on the fact that the gap is only in the mind, instead, this situation can be utilized by faculties to do quality research projects thus not affecting the research publications of the department

7. How to strengthen/ standardize the **internal internship policy** of college? – Dr. Amiya Kumar Tripathy

- Mr. Atul Gandre highlighted the role of the TPO in helping students with the internships
- As per Dr. Surya Dhurba undertaking projects that lead to products not only will help in getting patents but will also help the department attract more students for internal internships
- Also, incentivization of internal internships will help garner attention from students
- Internship in the final semester from companies as a part of the placement process must not be allowed as it interferes with the academics of the students and in some cases may become exploitive.

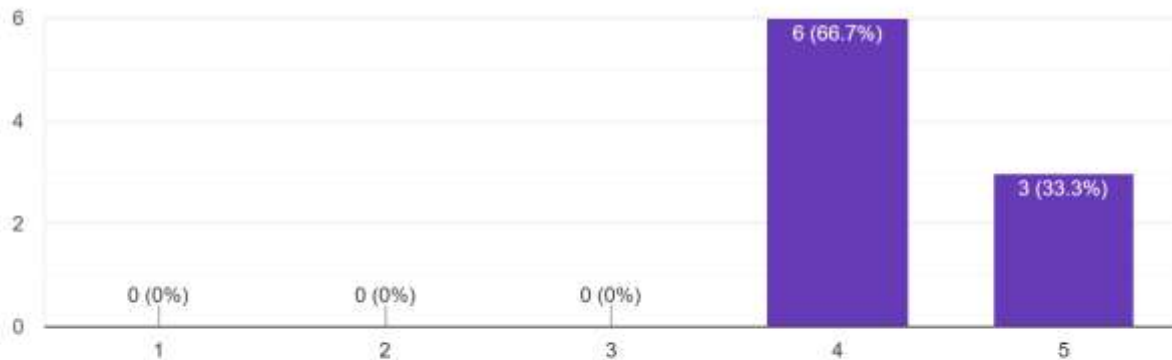8. Discussion on **AI as a new branch of Engineering**

"AI as a new branch of Engineering: a fad or the future" – all panelists, Dr. Prasanna, and faculties had a discussion on this topic with some calling the trend a fad and some considering it a branch with many prospects.

Towards the end of the meeting, Dr. Prasanna requested faculties to discuss their takeaways from the discussion that happened. This was followed by collecting feedback from the faculty and the panel members. The meeting was closed by extending a heartfelt appreciation towards the panel members and they were assured that a sincere effort to accomplish the suggestions will be done by the department. The meeting was concluded by extending a vote of thanks to the members by Ms. Kalpita Wagaskar.

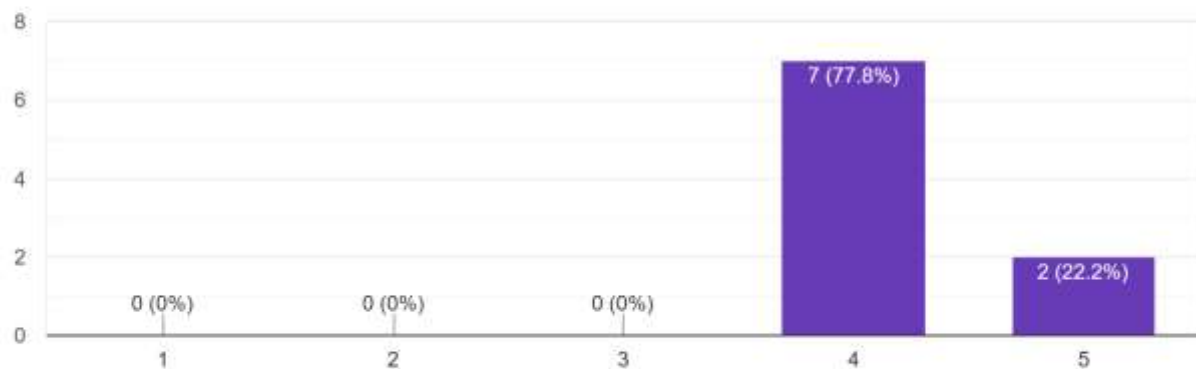## Analysis of Feedback from Faculties:

The inputs pertaining to popularize the coding culture thereby helping students to get placed in Core companies were useful
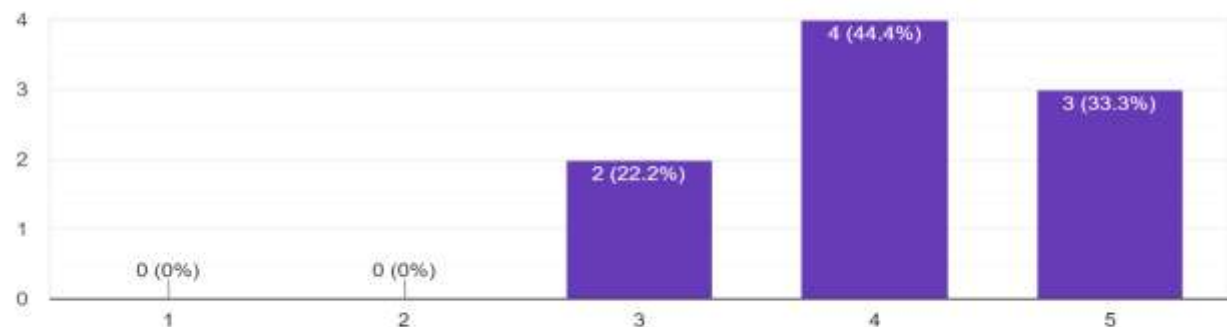
9 responses

The discussion related to the establishment of 3 niche areas of research and encouraging students to work towards the same was insightful.
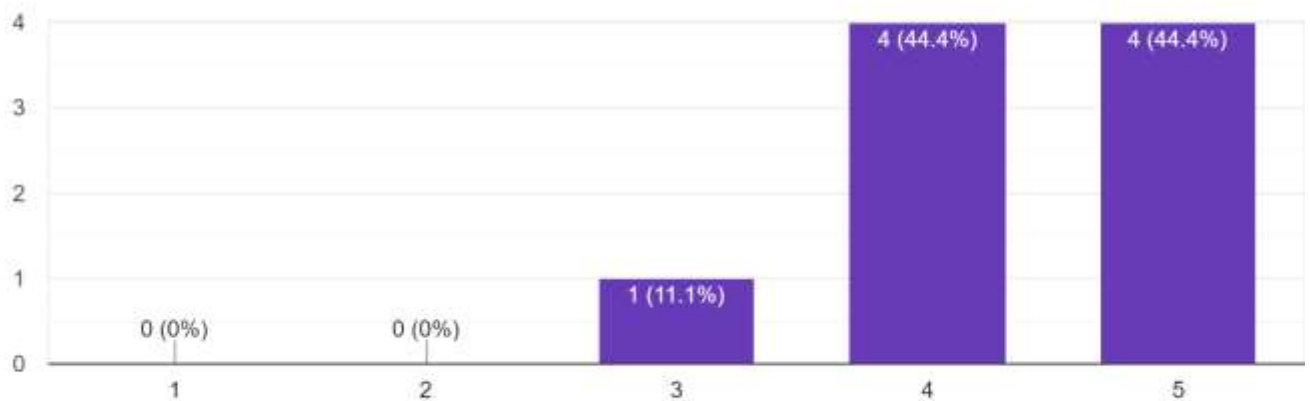
9 responses

Useful guidelines were provided by committee members for mitigating the impact of gap year on overall department progress and it's activities.
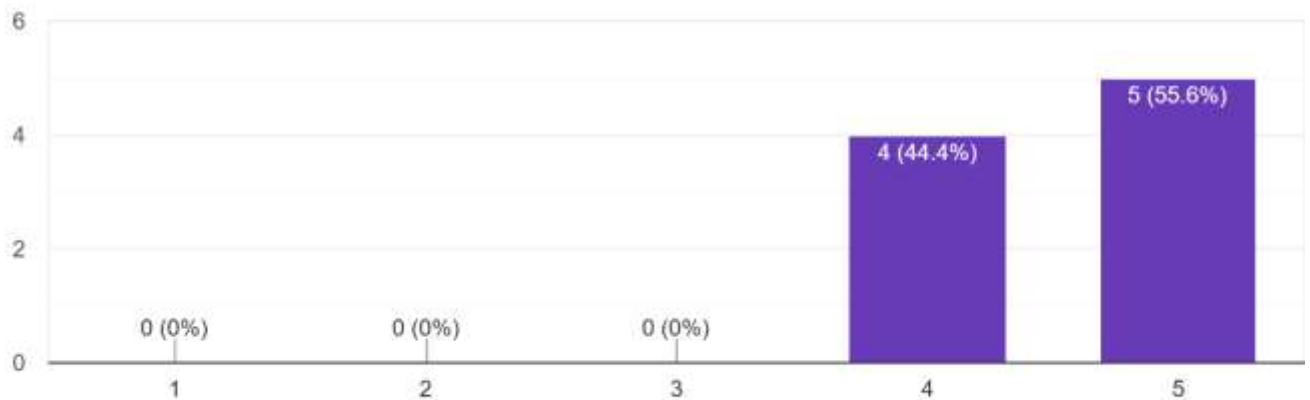
9 responses

The inputs for standardizing the inhouse Internship for students were perceptive and helpful.

9 responses

The suggestions given by panel members for branding of the department were interesting and useful
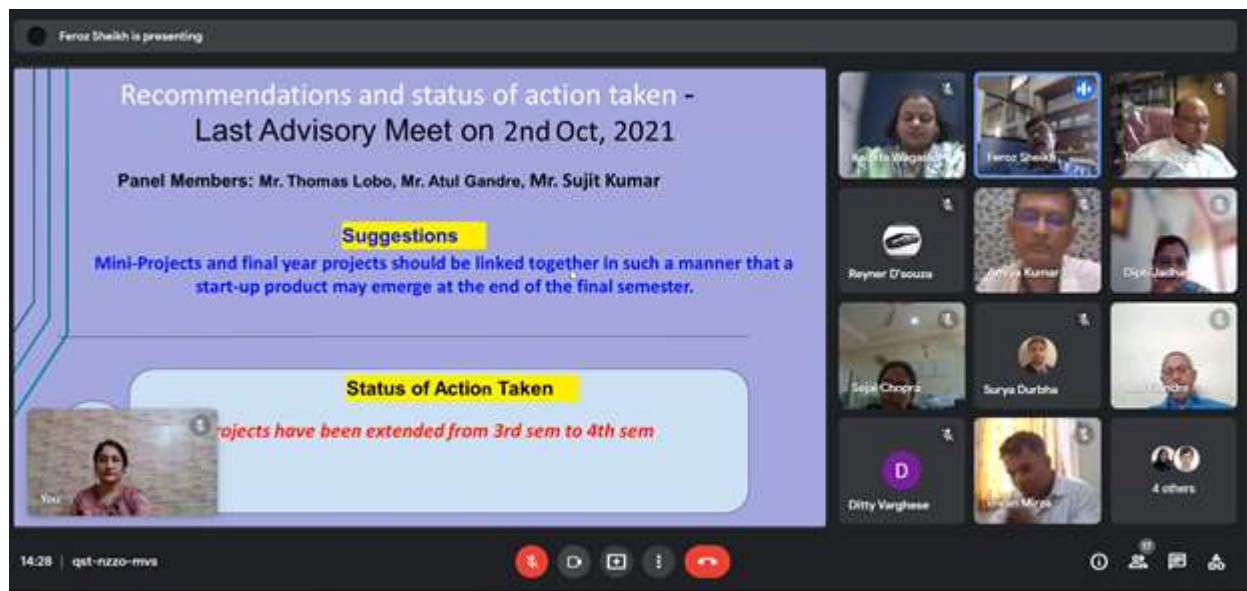
9 responses

Suggestions by faculties - Two hours were not enough for our discussion. This can be optimized with relevant tasks and by reducing the historical data discussion.

<u>Analysis of General feedback from Panellists:</u>

<u>Analysis of feedback from Panellists on Vision, Mission, PSOs, PEOs:</u>

<u>Snapshots of Event:</u>

Report Prepared By: **Report Approved By:**

Prof. Priya Kaul   Dr. Firoz Shaikh
Prof. Kalpita Wagaskar   (HOD, Computer Engg. Dept.)
(AAC Coordinators)