Exit degree for IIT Bombay-Monash Research Academy Students

(reference 250 and 251 Senate Meeting)

IIT Bombay-Monash Research Academy students are admitted for the joint Ph.D. programme through a rigorous selection process that involves active participation of faculty from IIT Bombay and Monash University. The rigour in the selection process ensures that only meritorious students are admitted to the programme. In addition to other requirements specified by parent academic units of IIT Bombay, the Academy students are also required to obtain a CPI of 8.0 in the course work component of the Ph.D. programme.

Ever since the joint Ph.D. programme started, 100 students had to discontinue the Ph.D. degree due to various reasons, noting that a majority of these students have successfully completed the course work and (sometimes) the qualifier requirements of the academic units.

Most prestigious international institutes/universities offer an exit degree for students enrolled in the PhD. programme; but are not successful in completing the same. Hence, it is proposed to have an exit degree option for the students enrolled in Ph.D. programme of IIT Bombay-Monash Research Academy.

Typically, the students who discontinue spend about two to three years in the programme. Since most students are at IIT Bombay "home", this duration is spent at IIT Bombay where course work and other requirements as specified by the parent academic unit of IIT Bombay are undertaken. In addition, most of the students also carry out reasonable amount of research work.

Procedure for transfer of registration from IITB-Monash to IITB for completing exit degree of IITB:

1. The degree shall be awarded for eligible candidates by IIT Bombay only. This will not be a joint award with Monash University. Monash University will cancel the candidature of students who are eligible for the exit degree. The student will thereafter be treated as a Self-Finance (SF) category of IITB alone.

2. The exit from Ph.D. programme with a degree shall not be a right of the student. However, in the event of the recommendation of post graduate committee (RPC if the

Ph.D. registration is already completed) about sufficient work being completed that is deserving such consideration, the ACOS shall consider exit with a lower degree.

3. The exit with M.Phil./M.S. by Research degree may happen either when the student on their own volition formally requests for it or the post graduate committee/RPC and ACOS may make such a recommendation during the termination of studentship on the grounds of unsatisfactory progress.

4. The recommendation of the postgraduate committee/RPC for award of M.Phil./M.S. by Research degree per se means that the student may be eligible for such lower exit degree on the date of the recommendation. Application from the student requesting for the exit option from the existing programme is not required. The student will automatically be registered to the lower (Exit) degree on approval of ACOS.

   The student may be given up to six months to complete work and submit the dissertation for award of M.Phil./M.S. by Research Degree. However, the registration of the student from Ph.D. programmes shall be terminated immediately on the approval of the ACOS for exit and the student shall be deemed to be registered for M.Phil./M.S. by Research for submission of dissertation/thesis. The continuation of such registration shall be subject to payment of fees and other usual conditions, same as that of original programme of admission. Registration for any other course credits shall cease as soon as the exit is approved.

   Once a student is registered to the lower (Exit) degree on approval of ACOS, the student will cease to be enrolled in the Ph.D. Programme of IITB and Monash University. Their enrolment at Monash University shall be altered to "withdrawn in good standing".

5. Whenever the student's registration is transferred from IITB-Monash Research Academy to IITB, from the date of approval of such transfer, the student will no longer be on the rolls of the Academy but will be on the rolls of IITB and has to follow the rules of IITB for completing his/her exit degree. On completion of the requirements of exit degree of IIT Bombay, the degree will be awarded.

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