

LNMI Institute of Information Technology, Jaipur

(Deemed to be University)

Twenty Seventh Meeting of the

ACADEMIC COUNCIL

(At 10.30 AM)

Date: April 21, 2012, Saturday

Minutes

Minutes of the 27th meeting of the Academic Council held on April 21, 2012

The following were present:

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| 1. Prof. Ranjan Gangopadhyay | - | In Chair |
| 2. Prof. V Sinha | - | Member |
| 3. Prof. S K Gupta | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. O P Katyal | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. Ravi Prakash Gorthi | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. R Sharan | - | Member |
| 7. Dr. Anupam Singh | - | Member |
| 8. Mr. Aproov Purwar | - | Invited Member |
| 9. Mr. Kunal Sethi | - | Invited Member |

The following members could not be present in the meeting and were granted leave of absence:

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| 1) Prof. R Tomar | - | Member |
| 2) Prof. M S Gaur | - | Nominated Member |
| 3) Mr. Keshav Sharma | - | Nominated Member |
| 4) Mr. Gaurav Somani | - | Member |
| 5) Mr. A P Singh | - | Member |

The LNM Institute of Information Technology, Jaipur

At the outset the Chairman welcomed Mr. Apoorv Purvar and Mr. Kunal Sethi as students' senate nominees to the Academic Council. He further welcomed all those present and called the meeting to order.

Thereafter, agenda items were taken up for discussion.

Agenda Item No. 1: Confirmation of the Minutes of 26th meeting held on January 17, 2012 as well as Emergency Meetings held on February 01, 2012 and February 13, 2012.

No comments were received on the circulated minutes. Therefore, the Minutes, as circulated were confirmed.

Agenda Item No. 2: Announcements, if any, by the chairman.

- i) **Joining date of the Director designate:** Prof. S S Gokhale has indicated his joining date as June 30, 2012 / July 01, 2012.
- ii) **Progress on construction work in the campus:** Report on the progress of construction work viz. Boys' Hostel, Faculty Offices, Faculty Quarters and students' Mess, currently underway, is yet to be received. In this respect, the chairman requested Dr. Anupam Singh, Dean, Academic, to assess the availability of these infrastructures before the commencement of next academic year and give a concrete picture of these to the Academic Council in its next meeting.
- iii) **Admission-2012:** All necessary steps for a smooth conduct of admission have been initiated. The advertisement, which is brighter than previous years, has been sent to the press for publication immediately. The last date for receipt of completed applications, as given in admission brochure, is May 15, 2012. We may review this date on May 10, 2012 and, if required, extend the last date by another ten days.

Agenda Item No. 3: Report on action taken on the minutes of the Emergency meeting held on february13, 2012 and earlier meetings of the Academic Council .

The council observed that it is more than a year and half the Governing Council had considered the proposal for introducing M. Tech interdisciplinary programmes with B. Sc pass candidates as intake and the abnormal delay in finalizing it, does not speak good of the Institute's academic leadership.

Further, the council expressed the view that we could exploit this provision of allowing B.Sc. pass students to enroll for some new M. Tech programmes in the institute in a manner beneficial to the native students from Rajasthan. Certain degree of consolidation is needed in this and as the Government of India, too, has similar programmes, to be introduced shortly, financial support from them may be availed of.

Arising out of discussion, the Chairman observed that we are not doing well in our PG Programme and there is need to have an exhaustive planning for the PG Programme. Also, after the completion of End Term examination, we should concentrate on this and after a month or two we should be able to come-up with few good PG Programmes.

Agenda Item No. 4: To consider approval of the amendments of the Constitution of the Students Gymkhana.

The Academic Council took up the revised agenda item, placed on the table, for consideration. It was brought out that Students' Gymkhana has been in existence since the year 2009 and certain changes in its constitutions have been brought about since then.

The Academic Council considered the articles one by one (not in chronological order) and gave its ruling as below:

9.1 The Academic Council ruled that amendment to any article of the existing constitution of students' Gymkhana will need its approval / ratification (as the case may be).

Further, the approved amendment(s) will be effective from the date the Chairman, Academic Council or the Academic Council approves/ratifies it.

2.1 The Academic Council desired that the words Chief Counselor, appearing in the proposed amendment be replaced with Dean, Students' Affairs, wherever it finds a mention in the article.

3.2 The Academic Council accepted the proposal that the Annual Gymkhana Election be held around middle of March every year. However, under exceptional conditions, there may be a postponement by ten days, maximum.

3.4 The Academic Council disallowed the proposal

3.10 (a) The Academic Council allowed the proposal that the Chief Election Officer shall ensure that the students failing in any one or more of the categories mentioned be not allowed to contest election for any position of the Students' Gymkhana, with the exception that for the current year, the students with CPI less than 7.0 are allowed to contest, as a very special case.

(b) The amendment may read as: Students who are specifically debarred by the AC, on the recommendation of AC SAC, from contesting Gymkhana Election, among other penalties, for whatever misconduct during their stay in the Institute.

3.12 The proposal was dropped.

3.17 The Academic Council did not allow any change. However, it clarified that old and new students' senate should be inter-acting with each other and the charge will be formally handed over w. e. f. first August every year, and till then the old senate will function as usual.

5.5 The council allowed the amendment with the provision that s/he appearing in the text be replaced with his/her.

6.7 The Council allowed the amendment with the provision that *may* appearing in text be replaced with *shall*.

Agenda Item No. 5: To consider approval of introducing a course on NSS/Physical Training (PT) for first year students.

The Academic Council noted that it would be desirable to introduce the course of NSS/Physical Training. However, the structure of such course needs to be worked out. Further, the Academic Council ruled that in each of the two semesters, in first year, each student will be required to spend at least 40 hours in the chosen activity.

The Academic Council ruled that a committee may be constituted to look into the detailed implementation plan

Agenda Item No. 6: To consider the issue of registration of some students who are spending a semester as an intern.

The Academic Council expressed concern on the matter and observed that no regular policy has been adopted in allowing semester leave to the students to spend semester(s) outside and the entire process has been the result of arbitrariness, which is not good for the Institute:

The Academic Council ruled that the decision of the Council be implemented scrupulously from the next semester. Further, taking a serious view on the matter, the Academic Council observed that many of its decisions are not implemented as per rules and guidelines and ruled that the process of granting semester leave be routed through the Chairman and the Registrar is authorized to issue authenticated official communication on semester leave, as a valid document.

The council requested the Registrar to prepare a case on the above, which may be discussed in the next meeting.

Agenda Item No. 7: To consider deteriorating academic performance of students.

The Academic Council was apprised that the Governing Council in its 27th meeting held on February 20, 2012 had taken a dim view of deteriorating academic performance of students.

It was brought out that situation has got alarming, as we did not make timely assessment of the academic performance audit of the students for last 3 years, since the year 2009, and failed to take action to arrest the decline.

The discussion veered around the following:

- In case a student fails in three or more courses, he/she has to repeat the semester.
- In case a weaker (academically deficient) student continues to perform poorly, he/she may be weeded out at appropriate semester end.
- Weak students may not have choice and they must clear their backlogs first. Registration advisors, to be identified for monitoring the progress of such students and subsequent registration.
- Eventhough we have followed good practices, as obtained in other good institutions, we have not followed the rules. Rules that are approved be followed in letter and spirit.
- Class attendance of students may be monitored and use of smart card, in this respect, could be explored.
- There should be a fixed cut -off for AIEEE Rank, below which admissions may not be offered.
- Weak students may be dealt with through different channel, under which there may be quits.
- Motivational levels of student are low.
- Timely availability of grades (2-3 week in advance of registration date).
- Get some kind of statistics in AIEEE Rank vs. performance at LNM IIT. This may yield useful information.
- Consider change in grading system.
- Need to improve the self-discipline of students
- Resource crunch, affecting joining/retention of quality faculty.

Having noted the above suggestions, the Academic Council desired that a committee/body, having students' participation in it, should go into details and come-up with a plan of action. Meanwhile, the council requested the Dean, Academic to re-visit the grading system (old and new) and come-up with suggestions.

Agenda Item No. 8: To formulate a structured approach for faculty training and to argument significantly improved proficiency in English language needs of the students.

The Academic Council observed that there are a number of potential good teachers but with inadequate teaching experience, who may be more effective, if trained. Further, a committee may be constituted to detail-out the issues.

Agenda Item No. 9: To consider appropriate changes in the Academic Calendar, so as to mitigate the hardships faced by students in appearing in more than two examination papers in a day, as also to impart flexibility in the examination time schedule.

The Academic Council noted that the revised end-term examination schedule was got prepared by the Dean, Academic, after in-depth analysis and consultation and the revised schedule envisages three days of extension over and above the schedule prescribed in the Academic Calendar .On being suggested that the item should have been brought as a ratification item, as the notice as per proposed end semester examination schedule appeared on the Notice Board after due approval from the Chairman, Academic Council agreed to the suggestion and ratified the item, as such. Further, the council observed that right at the time of registration, class schedule and examination schedule should be made known to all concerned. The schedule, once drawn, be frozen and no change thereafter be allowed. This provision when implemented will not create problem. Also, the examination time table may be made for 6 days only and the onus for avoiding clashes in examination schedule will lie with the students, who should be properly advised.

Agenda Item No. 10: To notify the plan for Summer Term-2012.

The Academic Council noted that the proposal on Summer Term was approved by it in its 10th / 11th meeting, already.

The Dean, Academic appraised the council about the commitments made earlier to the students as also the reasons for the same.


To the suggestion made in the meeting that only restricted number of courses have been offered for the next summer term, the Academic Council opined that, in future, Dean, Academic may deliberate and devise a clear policy on courses to be offered during summer term beforehand.

The Academic Council having looked at the response received from the students for the five courses offered, decided to drop IT Workshop course, due to poor response.


Agenda Item No. 11: Change of Academic Programme from MS (By Research) (ECE) to M. Tech (ECE) and vice-versa.

The Council desired to know how AC PGC contemplated the proposed change in the first instance, even as no such provision for change of programme is contained in PG Manual approved by it. As no document in support of the proposed change was produced before it, the Council was not inclined to approve the item.

There being no other item on the agenda, the meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the chair.


Bijoy Jha 26/4/12
(Registrar)

Approved


(Chairman, Academic Council)