



**Students' Senate (2018-19)**  
**Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur**  
**Ayushya Agarwal | Chairperson**



**5<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Students' Senate (2018-19): Minutes**

**The 2018-19/5<sup>th</sup> Special Meeting of the Students' Senate was held on Saturday, 10th November 2018 in the Senate Hall, SAC. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Students' Senate at 8:30 PM.**

<b>S. no.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Post</b>	<b>Status</b>
1.	Ayushya Agarwal	Chairperson, Students' Senate	Present
2.	Pratyush Rai	President, Students' Gymkhana	Present
3.	Anshumali Prakash	General Secretary, Media and Cultural	Present
4.	Rahul Shekhar	General Secretary, Games and Sports	Present
5.	Akash Jain	General Secretary, Science and Technology	Present
6.	Ahir Sudhendu Prashant	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Absent
7.	Prakhar Ji Gupta	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
8.	Shrey Agarwal	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
9.	Sohail Saifi	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Absent
10.	Sirsendu Sarkar	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Present
11.	Mayank Chauhan	Senator, BT/BS Y15	Absent
12.	Aayushi Bansal	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
13.	Anant Chopra	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
14.	Anmol Chaman	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
15.	Navanya Sharma	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
16.	Rahul Sethi	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
17.	Siddhartha Srivastava	Senator, BT/BS Y16	Present
18.	Aditya Mishra	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
19.	Faizan Siddiqui	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present



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20.	Mataria Pence Jagatkumar	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
21.	Nikunj Kothari	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
22.	Rishab Agarwal	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
23.	Yash Maheshwari	Senator, BT/BS Y17	Present
24.	Ankur Banga	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Absent
25.	Ashutosh Bajpai	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
26.	Chinmay Goyal	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
27.	Deepankur Kansal	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
28.	Prince Pratap Singh	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Absent
29.	Shivam Rajoriya	Senator, BT/BS Y18	Present
30.	Abhishek Verma	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent
31.	Akshay Bajaj	Senator, MTech Y18	Present
32.	Somya Sharma	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent
33.	Yogendra Vyas	Senator, MTech Y18	Absent
34.	Deepak Singh Attri	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
35.	Hemant Kumar Singh	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
36.	Jitendra Kumar	Senator, MTech Y17	Present
37.	Narayan Mishra	Senator, MTech Y17	Absent
38.	Danish Abbas	Senator, MTech Y16	Present
39.	Karanvir Singh Bhatia	Senator, MTech Y16	Present
40.	Viswadeep Ojha	Senator, MBA, MDes and other 2-year programmes Y17	Present
41.	Mallidi Lakshmana Sudheer Reddy	Senator, MBA, MDes and other 2-year programmes Y18	Present
42.	Ajay Vallabh	Senator, MSR	Present
43.	Suraj	Senator, MSR	Present
44.	Panchajanya Sanyal	Senator, PhD Y16	Present

\* - Present with Nominee



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# - Absent with Permission

The meeting was commenced at 8:53 pm.

The following agenda items were taken up for consideration:

<b>Item No. 1</b>	To confirm the Minutes of the following meetings and to ratify the decisions taken in the 1st Emergency meeting:  i) 2018/19 – 4th (Special) Meeting  ii) 2018/19 – 1st Emergency Meeting
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The minutes of those meetings were presented by the Chairperson Students' Senate 2018-19 and were confirmed.

<b>Item No. 2</b>	Announcements and Remarks, if any
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The following announcements were made on the floor of the Senate -

- The President Students' Gymkhana 2018-19 proposed to reconstitute the committee to look upon the finance related issues of Antaragni and extended its mandate to review the Ramjas incident, that took place during Antaragni, as well. It was advised to discuss the matter with the ICC which had already taken up the issue and present a report regarding the same. The following senate members were nominated for the committee :
  - Rahul Shekhar (Convener)
  - Navanya Sharma, Senator, BT/BS Y16
  - Akshay Bajaj, Senator, M.T. Y18
  - Richeek Avasthi, General Body Member
- The President Students' Gymkhana 2018-19 informed the Senate that the SSAC manual had been revised and the changes were accepted by the Academic Senate in Jan 2018 while the Senate was not made aware of the same. Hence, The President Students' Gymkhana 2018-19 proposed to reconstitute the SSAC committee with the mandate to review the changes inculcated in the SSAC manual and provide feedback for the same. The constitution of the committee was as follows :



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- Anant Chopra (Convener)
  - Abhishek Singh, General Body Member
  - Richeek Avasthi, General Body Member
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- The General Secretary, Science and Technology Council was asked to present the post conduction report for Takneek'18. The Senate was told that the report will be presented in the next Senate meeting.
  - The President Students' Gymkhana 2018-19 was asked by the Senate to inform the members about the account details for the Students' Activity Fund. The President Students' Gymkhana professed ignorance about the same and shall provide the details in the subsequent meeting..
  - The Senate was informed that the Techkriti'19 team has 4 female members due to which they were not able to schedule any meetings after 12pm in their respective hostels. The President Students' Gymkhana 2018-19 was directed to raise this issue with the Women's Cell and Hall Wardens to grant the permission to extend the stay of the female members associated with Clubs , Hobby groups and Festival core teams, after 12pm.
  - The Senate asked for reasons of non-submission of the Finance Report, since it was the last meeting before the end of the semester and it was informed that the Finance Convener was unable to submit the report due to his academic commitments.
  - COSHA informed the Senate that the revised COSHA constitution has a provision for student nominees from the halls that are appointed through the Students' Gymkhana. However, the nominations for the same had not been called and the posts were vacant. The Convener, COSHA was directed to ensure that the vacancies were filled in a timely manner. Also, The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the RPC to take account for any errors in the revised COSHA constitution.
  - The Senate was informed the Council of Wardens had not been formed and no meeting was called for the past 3 years till then. The decisions to be taken up by the Council of Wardens were being taken by the Hall management committee. In this regard, The President Students' Gymkhana was asked to take up the nominations for the Council of Wardens and appoint its Chairperson or on the other hand, if it seemed redundant, to request for its dissolution..
  - Questions were raised as to why HSS DUGC nominees had not been appointed yet. The Chairperson Students' Senate assured the Senate that the matter would be looked into.

**Item No. 3**

To consider the interim report of the Gymkhana Review Committee (GRC)



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The interim report of the Gymkhana Review Committee (GRC) was presented on the floor on Senate. There were 4 sections of the report:

#### 1. ACC proposal -

- The GRC proposed the establishment of the Academics and Career Council and following are the main highlights of the report presented :
  - The Senate was informed that most of the older IITs including IIT Bombay, Madras and Roorkee have separate bodies in their Student Gymkhana structure dedicated for Academics, Research and/or Career Development.
  - The Presenter mentioned ARC has been able to realize its potential due to various factors like its low popularity, reach and ambiguity in its Status of Power. There were questions on the answerability, structural continuity of the ARC and the extent of its representation of the PG community.
  - It was further stated that CDC has largely been dormant. The formation of various Consultancy and Finance hobby groups represent the needful efforts required to bring all such activities under a single umbrella. With these motivations, the Presenter emphasized the need of formation of ACC.
- The Senate questioned the move to be just a symbolic change without a ground level change in the functioning of the entity. The Convener, GRC's nominee responded stating that since the members of the council will be elected by the General body members, the council will gain the popularity, authority and status that is lacking in the current structure of the ARC. It will empower the body to function together with the student nominees to the Academic Senate subcommittees and coordinate their work. Such a dedicated body with a centralized structure will be able to address the academic issues more effectively.
- Further representational and structural issues were pointed out in the proposal as follows :
  - There were opinions that a single council will not be able to cater to academic issues of both UG and PG which vary greatly. The roles of the different General Secretaries for UG and PG differently needed to be defined clearly and their duties delimited.
  - There could be certain clubs and hobby groups can be both a part of ACC and any other council and the only demarcation lies in the vision of the groups, to be either career oriented or hobby oriented.



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- After extensive discussions on the same, the Senate agreed upon the fact that the Council was needed and accepted the vision of the council as laid out in the proposal. However, the concerns related to the implementational aspects required greater thought and the Senate directed the RPC to do the needful and present a report regarding the same.

## 2. Senate Review Committee – Interim Report -

The SRC report was presented on the floor of senate and discussions were held over its following 4 major points -

- The SRC recommended that any General Body Member be allowed to contest for Convener, provided that an option for NOTA is provided. Questions were raised pertaining to the accountability of a General Body Members as Conveners of the committee. Further it was stated that the Convener of any committee must have the basic understanding of the constitution and the financial manual.  
These points were countered by the fact that not allowing such flexibility in our system was constraining capable individuals from serving the General Body. Further, since the means of electing conveners of sub-committees is through elections in the Senate, the wisdom of the senators could be trusted in for not appointing incapable conveners.  
A decision could not be reached through consensus after extensive discussions, thus, the Chairperson Students' Senate requested the members for a show of hands in support of the motion. The majority vote was against the motion and the proposal was declined.
- The SRC recommended that membership for the Standing Committees of the Senate shall be open to everyone, unless explicitly specified by the constitution. The discussion proceeded on similar lines as the above point and a vote was called for with the majority vote being cast in support of the motion and the proposal was accepted.
- The SRC also opined that the election procedure for Senator should also allow a provision for NOTA. This proposal was questioned on the fact that more than 50% vote to NOTA would imply no representation from the batch and that some representation is better than no representation at all. Further, there were concerns that the rule would deny a deserving representative if the other candidates contesting the elections are not appreciated by the electorate. The Senate was of the opinion that the proposal should be implemented only once the issues are addressed and it was forwarded to the RPC for it to work out the details for the same.
- The SRC recommended that every batch has should have at least one male Senator and at least one female Senator if that batch has at least 4 representatives unless there is a scenario that no nominations from a particular gender in a batch are received. The Senate





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felt that this will be equivalent to Reservation for either gender and would be against the meritocratic essence of the elections, following which alternate supportive suggestions were made to be inculcated in the proposal :

- To create a extra seat in case there is no representation from either gender. The Senate declined this suggestion on the lines that this will create disproportional representation within various batches.
- To have permanent special invitees from the minority gender.

The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the GRC to deliberate on the issues further and look at the suggestions made by the Senate.

- The SRC recommended that Eligibility Criteria should be reduced to having a CPI of 6.0 at time of nomination, with the caveat that no students shall receive a certificate of appreciation from the Gymkhana if they do not satisfy the eligibility criteria as the certificate may act as a motivation for the post.
  - The President Students' Gymkhana stated that the appreciation award vaguely mentions the contribution of the student and does not ratify the same. It was his opinion that such certificates do not contribute greatly to incentivise students to take up Gymkhana work despite not being given recognition for the same. The Senate was of the opinion that the appreciation certificates act as a major encouragement to participation and students participate irrespective of the fact whether the student is in AP/ warning or not. Further, such certificates go against the spirit of the Student Governance Report accepted by the Institute authorities. After much discussion on the issue, the Chairperson Student' Senate requested for a show of hand supporting the action of distribution of certificates to students as a token of appreciation. The majority voted against it and the proposal to not issue any such certificate by the Gymkhana were accepted. The President Students' Gymkhana recorded his dissent regarding the same.
  - Regarding the proposal of reducing the minimum CPI criteria for nominations, the Senate felt that this decrease in CPI criteria will allow the Students' Senate to enforce the eligibility criterion strictly (considering the fact that 6.0 is the minimum CPI limit has been mentioned in the Student Governance Report report and the limit imposed by the Senate till now has been 6.5). However, concerns were raised citing a case that occurred in 2003, in which an office bearer had to leave office mid-term due to violation of the eligibility criterion as mentioned in the SGR. Allowing students with CPI close to the boundary to take up positions may lead to more such cases. The Senate suggested that different CPI limits could



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be looked at for different positions to tackle the issue and. The Chairperson Students' Senate directed the RPC to further look into the matter.

- The Presenter of the report informed the senate that there is a need for a formal procedure for recommending the names for Wardens, which ensures proper representation of Students' opinion and that the committee structure should also facilitate the smooth appointment and functioning of the 43 positions for wardens who are to be appointed every three years. There were two proposals (namely A and B) for the constitution of the Warden Search and Selection Committee. The following points discussed in the Students' Senate lead to acceptance of Proposal A :
  - Proposal A included the Ex-officio Chairperson, HMC (DoSA) or his/her nominee, the Outgoing Warden, President, Students' Gymkhana, Respective Hall President, and a Student Member nominated by the Students' Senate.
  - The committee as per Proposal A had a different constitution for each warden selection process, while the committee as per Proposal B had a fix constitution.
  - Since Proposal A had a composition for the selection committee that would take care of the individuality of each hall, thus making the process more effective, Proposal A was accepted by the Senate.
- The Senate was made aware of the need of a model constitution for all Halls of residence to lay out proper functioning guidelines and clear out various conflicts with the structure, nomenclature, and powers of the HEC as defined in existing guidelines. Following this, Constitution of a 5-membered subcommittee was proposed with the mandate to draft the document in consultation with various stakeholders and present it to the Senate through the CoSHA. It was recommended that the committee shall be composed of members with prior experience with Hall administration. The proposal was accepted and the following was the constitution of the concerned committee formed -  
Navanya Sharma (Convener)  
Sourav Bhattacharjee, General Body member  
Anshumali Prakash, General Secretary, Media and Culture  
Siddhant Naik, General Body Member  
Prakhar Ji Gupta, Senator BT/BS Y15

#### 4. Council RC Interim Report -

The report was incomplete and was deferred for consideration in the next meeting.

Item No. 4	To consider the proposal for a mechanism for lab staff feedback
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The proposal was accepted and the President Students' Gymkhana was directed to take up the matter.

<b>Item No. 5</b>	To consider for voting Appendix B of the Constitution
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 6</b>	To consider the End-Term reports of Academic sub-committees
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No.7</b>	To consider a proposal for a cooking hobby group
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 8</b>	To consider a proposal for an Archery Hobby Group
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The General Secretary, Games and Sports Council informed the Senate that two Archery workshops conducted in the previous 6 months had brought in enthusiastic participation from the students. Thus the proposal for the creation of an Archery Hobby group was presented. The respective proposal was accepted by the Senate.

<b>Item No. 9</b>	To consider the minutes of meeting of Rules and Procedures Committee (RPC)
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The minutes of the RPC were presented by the Parliamentarian, Students' Senate and were accepted by the Students' Senate. With regard to the representation of Students' Senate in the Academic Senate, it was proposed that the Academic Senate will point out a contestant, if they have in mind, else the Students' Senate need to appoint its representatives to the Academic Senate. Since there were no clear conclusions after discussions regarding the selection procedure of the representatives i.e. whether the representative be elected or nominated, The Chairperson Students' Senate requested the Senate members for their vote and the majority supported the fact



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that the representative better be nominated. The Chairperson Students' Senate, thus, assured the Senate that nominations for the concerned post will be released soon.

<b>Item No. 10</b>	To consider the minutes of the meeting of COFA(U)
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 11</b>	To consider the minutes of the Joint COFA
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 12.</b>	To consider the minutes of the meeting of COFA(T)
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No.13.</b>	To consider the representation of the HEC members of Hall 13 in the CoSHA
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This item was deferred for the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 14.</b>	To consider the proposal for conduction of Basic Life Support session in all halls.
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 15.</b>	To consider the proposal for conduction of awareness and feedback session regarding the Health Insurance Policy in all halls.
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 16.</b>	To consider a proposal to increase the number of street lights on the campus
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 17.</b>	To consider a proposal to mandate DUGC nominees to present monthly status reports to the ARC
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The proposal was accepted by the Senate. The Academic and Research cell was provided with the authority to demand and present the monthly reports of the Students' Senate DUGC nominees.

<b>Item No. 18.</b>	To consider the updated policy of the Startup Internship Program (SIP)
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The updated policy of the SIP was presented on the floor of Senate by Head, SIP. Two Defaulter policies were proposed. The first policy had less monetary involvement while the second policy included certain amount of monetary fines against the SIP defaulters, depending upon the severity of the case. The Senate agreed upon accepting the second policy and it was decided that in case of any disciplinary charges to be taken as the student, the matter can be considered by the SPC. The fine imposing committee was decided upon and includes the following:

- SPC members
- SIP faculty
- Dean of Student Affairs, DoSA
- Students' Senate nominee

It was proposed to receive proper feedback before imposing fines and establishment of dissent forms too. The Senate was also informed that the imposed fines will add to the Institute dues.

<b>Item No. 19.</b>	To consider the resignation of Mr. Rishab Agarwal, Senator, BT/BS Y17 from the Rules and Procedures Committee (RPC)
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The resignation was accepted and Mr. Prakhar Ji Gupta was nominated as the new RPC member in place of Mr. Rishab Agarwal.

<b>Item No. 20.</b>	To consider the proposal for the change in the source of Gymkhana Matching Grant
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 21.</b>	To consider a proposal regarding the internship of M.Des. students
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The proposal was accepted by the Senate and the student nominees to the SUGC were directed to take it up for further consideration.

<b>Item No. 22.</b>	<p>To consider the mid-term reports of the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. General Secretary, Media and Cultural Council</li><li>2. General Secretary, Science and Technology Council</li><li>3. General Secretary, Games and Sports Council</li><li>4. President, Students' Gymkhana</li><li>5. Chairperson, Students' Senate</li></ol>
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The item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting due to paucity of time.

<b>Item No. 23.</b>	To consider the issues raised against the CoSHA Convener on the mailing list
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The following allegations were made against the CoSHA Convener :

- The Senate was informed that only 2 meetings had been convened by the CoSHA Convener from march 2018 till then to which the CoSHA Convener stated that the meetings were scheduled but were called off due to certain circumstances.
- The Senate was informed that wing sessions were organised in Hall 13 in an HEC meeting with CoSHA Convener. The allegation was scrapped since no proof could be presented in its favour before the senate.
- The Senate was informed that the CoSHA Convener used the letterhead of President Students' Gymkhana without taking prior permission of the President Students' Gymkhana. It was also stated that the letterhead was handed over to the Hall 11 President during a meeting with them, signs were made on the letterhead and it was forwarded to the DoSA office, though later on called back, after discussions with the President Students' Gymkhana. The allegation was proved true and the Parliamentarian was asked to state the appropriate punishments for the same. The Parliamentarian Students' Senate



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requested the Chairperson Students' Senate to call for a closed ballot vote of the Senate to pass the censure motion against the CoSHA Convener. After the voting was done, The Parliamentarian informed the Senate that the censure motion had been passed. Thus, The CoSHA Convener was requested to state and apologize on the mailing list for the concerned allegations.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:34 am with a vote of thanks to all the members.