

Students' Senate  
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur  
Ankit Bhutani | Convener

Minutes: 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Students' Senate 8th April 2012

**The first meeting of the Students' Senate (2012 – 2013) was held on 8th April 2012. It was called to order at 8:13 pm.**

The attendance record of the senators is:

- Total: 44
- Present: 34
- Absent: 10
- Absent with permission: 5

**1. Announcements and Remarks**

- There were no announcements and remarks

**2. Ratification of the minutes of the 9th Senate meeting, 2011-12**

- The Senate ratified the minutes with no changes.

**3. Ratification of the minutes of the Joint Senate Meeting, 2012**

- The Senate ratified the minutes after correcting the date of the meeting.  
The corrected date is 18th March, 2012

**4. Ratification of the minutes of the 1st Senate Meeting, 2012-13**

- The Senate ratified the minutes with no changes.

**5. Ratification of the minutes of the 1st Special Senate Meeting, 2012-13**

- The minutes were ratified with no changes.

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6. **Ratification of the panel recommendations for Core Team, Techkriti'13**
  - The Senate ratified the panel recommendations for the Core Team Techkriti'13.
7. **Ratification of the name of Mr. Abhijeet Das for coordinator of music club, Cultural Council**
  - The Senate ratified the name of the coordinator of the Music club.
8. **Ratification of the Core Team, Presidential council**
  - The names of coordinators were ratified.
9. **Discussion on the proposal for re-structuring of the FMC Council**
  - The Senate accepted the proposal to restructure the FMC Council with no changes in the made proposal.
10. **Ratification of the Core Team, FMC Council**
  - The FMC General Secretary brought to notice that meander was now Yearbook.
  - A Senator raised a concern regarding the appointment of First year students as the editor of Yearbook. He expressed that Yearbook being the annual magazine of IITK, should be edited by more experienced students. The General Secretary, FMC explained that the reason behind the appointment of first years was that they had been in the Yearbook team last year and had a clear idea and vision for the next year.
  - The name of the coordinators of the various clubs in the FMC Council was ratified by the Senate.

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11. **Gymkhana Budget, 2012-13**

- **Presidential Council**

- A concern was raised regarding the shoot up in the Budget of Vivekanand Samiti as compared to previous year. The President brought to the notice of the Senate that last year Vivekananda Samiti got Rs. 75000 from the Director and this year there are no such avenues which the Vivekananda Samiti can pursue which was a major reason why their budget was increased.
- The President Students' Gymkhana elaborated upon the money allotted to the Gymkhana History project whose first phase has been completed; the second phase of the project is about documenting the history which will require hardware to scan the documents and specific software to convert the jpgs to docs.

- **Games and Sports Council**

- Some senators inquired about the expenditure on the Taekwondo club and why the institute did not pay for the teacher. Mr. Yuvraj Dhillon the Sports General Secretary elucidated to the Senate that Taekwondo is an activity pursued by over 60 students in the campus and needs adequate funds. Unlike other sports activities, there are no equipment for this activity, it can be considered that the money is spent on the coach rather than on the equipment.
- Mr. Digraj Singh Chahal voiced his concern as to why the Sports Council was facing such a huge cut down on funds; the President

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clarified that it was the President's Council which was facing the maximum cut down and not the Sports Council.

- The general body members and many Senators inquired as to why the budget of Sports equipment had been reduced from 1.9 lakhs last year to 1.4 this year despite the fact that there is an acute shortage of equipment. The Finance Convener Mr. Karthik Balsundaram justified this move by stating that there were complaints that the normal junta did not get any of the equipment brought from this fund last year and all of it was given to the inter IIT players. He also stated that the aim of the Gymkhana budget is to provide the bare minimum to all the clubs because the budget has to cater to five Councils and the Finance Convener cannot give priority to one Council over the other; he also urged the various councils to try other avenues for funds like asking it from DRPG sir or DOSA sir.
- On the persistence of the a few Senators and the general body members, the Finance Convener agreed that if the funds are insufficient, the budget can be reallocated accordingly during the mid-term allocation.
- The Sports General Secretary was also asked to elaborate upon the need for medicine and a physiotherapist when the facilities were already provided by the HC. Money was required for medicine as First Aid kits were necessary in all grounds, also reimbursement was possible for this particular field in the budget.
- In the end the General Secretary stated that the Games and Sports Council will try to provide as many facilities to the junta as possible within its financial realm.

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- **Films and Media council**

- No major concerns were raised.

- **Cultural Council**

- Upon some concerns raised by a few General Body Members, the President Students' Gymkhana stated that the budget of the Gymkhana is very constrained; and only the bare essentials are provided to the club along with the additional flexibility of the SSF. Also other avenues like asking for funds from the DRPG and DOSA are open to the myriad clubs.
  - The reason for having a workshops head in the budget was asked upon by the Senators despite the fact that workshops are done through the money channeled from SSF. The Cultural General Secretary Ms. Sonal Dhaluka justified this head by stating that Rs.40,000 is a fail-safe amount for workshops in case they go into deficit. ( She also stated that the actual amount needed by the workshops was in the tune of 3 lakhs).
  - The Coordinators of the English Literary society expressed their displeasure over the fact that the budget meeting called upon by the general Secretary was informed via an informal medium such as Facebook; and owing to this, they were unable to make it to the meeting and thereby were allotted an amount which was very much insufficient. Ms. Sonal Kumari apologized for using such an informal medium; but she also pointed out to the Senate that out of the 5

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coordinators of the Literary Society of which the ELS is a part, 2 coordinators were present.

- On this point Mr. Siddharth said that ideologically both the HSS and ELS are different entities and thereby should be separated; this claim was backed up by a few Senators. The Convener informed that if the literary society desired, it could bring a proposal for consideration of the Senate.
- The ELS issue was closed with the President promising the ELS money from the GLDC to call upon Ruskin Bond for the Gymkhana Golden Jubilee.
- The general body members raised concerns over the budget allocated to Impressions which is the first and most important PG event. Many even expressed their discontent over the nominal money allotted to this event. Ms. Sonal justified this allotment by stating that Impressions has the ability to generate funds from shirt sales – and since the budget is made taking into account the budget of the previous years – and can generate its own revenue while the Freshers Nite cannot generate funds.
- The general body members retorted that Impressions sold shirts due to the deficit of funds and not the other way around, they were even enraged over the fact that Impressions was allotted a budget meeting only 10% of its requirement and Fresher's Night was allotted much more money despite its lower budget. This allocation was justified by stating that Frresher's Night happens very early in the

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semester and it is not possible to generate additional funds from sources like T-shirt sale at that early stage.

- Ms. Sonal Kumari also stated that the PG senators could also contribute to the event and give in additional funds but the general body members retorted that the PG senators may not give funding. The President interjected stating that the ideology behind the SSF was to echo the backing of the junta towards an event. If the PG senators felt that the junta did not need such an event then in that case the event should not take place.
- The general body members turned unruly while defending the need of Impressions and some of the members were given a warning that they may be requested to leave the Senate floor if they continued such behaviour.
- The general body members also inquired about the newly introduced event carnival week and its allotted budget of 30,000. Ms. Sonal Kumari went to explain how the Carnival week will be a week long event which will combine the elements of DPC and Litfest; it was aimed at providing a platform for the normal junta to showcase their talent. Owing to the newness of the event it was allotted a budget of 30000. Comparing to Impressions, she said that since it was a non glamorous event and is a trial event, a small budget would not do justice to the event.
- Upon repeated requests, Ms. Sonal Kumari reallocated the budget between Fresher's Night and Impressions and gave them an equal amount of money.

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- Not convinced, the general body member asked for a breakup for the complete budget. Since the situation was becoming unpleasant due to the unparliamentary behavior of some general body members and a vote was required, the Convener requested the general body members to leave the senate floor.
- In the absence of the general body members, the senate decided that they had faith in the Finance committee and no breakup was required immediately. Though it was decided that a breakup will be published in the minutes of the meeting.
- The quiz club coordinator Parth expressed his concerns regarding the budget allocated to his club. To this the Cultural Secretary retorted that all the funds asked by the Quiz club were under the head of prize money and their philosophy of incentive was not in the best interests of junta. Sonal urged the quiz club to improve upon their philosophy of working and lessen their dependence on money as an incentive. She also added that SSF could not be used as prize money but could be used to bear the expenses of bringing in professionals.
- Mr. Karthik Balsundaram proposed a minor change in the SSF of the graduating senators. It was proposed that they will receive an equal amount of SSF like all senators which they can donate till their No Dues. After which their remaining amount will be reallocated.
- Mr. Karthik Balsundaram proposed a reform in the way the Sports Council handles purchases. He proposed that a mail regarding all the new purchases should be forwarded to the students list. After discussion it was agreed that the President, Convener and the General Secretary, Games and



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Sports Council should pursue the matter with the administration and try to get more funds for equipments required for inter-IIT preparation.

**The Senate meeting was adjourned at 23:14 hours.**

**The Senate meeting reconvened at 23:38 hours.**

**12. Discussion on the resignation submitted by Mr. Saurabh Dixit (COSHA nominee) and consequent action to be taken**

- The Senate accepted the resignation of Mr. Saurabh Dixit as the COSHA nominee.
- As a subsequent action to the resignation of Mr. Saurabh Dixit, the Senate elected Mr. Ashish Dabas as the new COSHA nominee.

**13. Discussion on the proposal regarding expansion of the steering committee**

- The Senate in principle agreed to the proposal. Further, the Rules and Procedure Committee was then asked to draft the proposal for the Constitutional Amendment and present it in the next Senate meeting.

**14. Discussion on the proposal for introducing a new sports competition Inferno instead of Varchasva**

- The General Secretary, Games and Sports Council proposed that in stead of Varchasva which was an inter-pool sports event, a new competition Inferno should be introduced which would be an inter-hall sports competition.
- He also expressed that that Varchasva had not been very successful in fulfilling the motto for which it was established which was to give an opportunity to the normal junta to come up. As only a select few could

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represent a pool, a majority chunk did not get an opportunity. Having a hall wise competition would provide more opportunities and would increase the overall participation.

- The Budget of the event would be routed from the budget of Varchasva.
- Upon inquiry regarding the possibility of participation of girls in Inferno, the general secretary suggested that there could be a possible competition between the various blocks in GH giving them an opportunity to participate in a sporting event which they are deprived of.
- Questions were raised as to how the halls will be divided into pools. The Sports General Secretary suggested that a system could be devised where in normalization would happen.
- Several Senators raised the concern that keeping the UG and PG against each other could increase the UG-PG divide.
- Concerns were raised about the feasibility of such an event and the reaction of individual halls regarding this proposal. The General Secretary assured that the HEC of different halls had given a very positive response to such an event.
- A few Senators inquired about how the event would be conducted as in League or elimination. Further, concerns were raised by a couple of other Senators regarding the implementation details of the event.
- Considering the various concerns about the minor details, the President advised that the Sports General Secretary should make a complete Proposal and circulate it on the senate list where other concerns could be discussed.
- Further, it was suggested by some Senators that the Senate should not proceed with the proposal until the General Secretary provides complete details regarding the proposal.

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- In the end the Senate requested the General Secretary to present a detailed proposal including rules, regulations and other such details in the next Senate meeting. The Senate also ruled that the funds and organizing team structure of Varchasva would be continued in Inferno.
15. **Presentation of the post conduction report of Galaxy, 2012**
- The post conduction was presented on the floor of the Senate. The outgoing General Secretary of the Cultural Council- Mr. Shantanu Singh suggested a few possible improvements for the next year:
    - The coordinators of the various clubs should also be included in the core team.
    - Judges should be selected after consultation with the ex-coordinators.
  - Several Senators suggested that judging should be carried out solely by external judges and no faculty member should be invited to judge the events. Shantanu Singh justified the inclusion of faculty members as judges by stating that they are there to ensure that steps/moves/ plots were not copied from previous years and to help the judges better understand the culture of IITK which has a considerable influence on the performances.
  - The post conduction report was accepted by the Senate.
16. **Presentation of the results of Varchasva, 2011-12**
- The results were ratified by the Senate.
17. **Presentation of interim report of committee to look into the issue of interaction of new students with the rest of campus community**

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DEFERRED.

18. **Presentation of the report of the committee to look into the infrastructure requirements for girls**

DEFERRED.

19. **Discussion on the [Hall Allocation Policy, 2012-13](#)**

- The President Students' Gymkhana presented the Hall Allocation Policy. To begin, he explained the premises which are taken care of while allocating the hall and further explained the proposed policy. Following this, The Convener, Students' Senate opened the Senate floor for discussion.
- The COSHA convener Himashu Pandey, read out certain excerpts from the minutes of the COSHA meeting to give insight into the proceedings that had happened so far on the matter. He further informed the Senate that the HEC members of Hall 10, 7 and 8 had walked off bringing the COSHA meeting to a standstill.
- In view of the question raised by Hall 10 members who openly showed their discontent with the policy, the President clarified that Hall 2 and Hall 3 did not have adequate infrastructure to support more than the allotted number of students. He also stated the reason for shifting all PG members of Hall 10 to Hall 9 was that the PG and UG lifestyle was different and an intermixing of these two communities would lead to a rift between them.
- Some senators voiced concerns over the tripling of Y12 girls; and suggested that some of the Y12 could be sent to Type 5. The President in response stated that sending the Y12 girls to Type 5 would ostracize them from campus activities.

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- The Policy was provisionally ratified; it was also noted that the calculations of Hall 2 might have further changes after rectifying a possible mistake in the data of Hall 2.
  - Senators Arjun Ravichandran, Abhimanyu M A and Kumar Gaurav expressed their discontent over the Policy which was recorded.
20. **Presentation of updates regarding the Finances of Antaragni'11**
- Mr. Rishabh Raj presented the state of the finances of Antaragni'11. According to the latest update, Antaragni'11 was short of 1.5 lakh rupees due to the bail out of a sponsor.
  - To meet the deficit, the team had proposed the following plan.
    - Asking a waiver of 90k in the Audi charges.
    - Using 60k from the funds of the previous Antaragnis.
  - The Senate accepted the proposal but cautioned the Antaragni team to make sure that the option of asking waivers is not considered from here forth. The President and Convener were asked to pursue the matter from here on.
21. **Discussion on the proposal for Virtual Classrooms**  
DEFERRED
22. **Question and Remarks**
- No question or remarks.
23. **Any other items with the permission of the chair**
- No other items had been submitted to the chair.

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**The meeting was adjourned at 01:14 am.**

**Attendance Record**

Sl.No.	Senators	Name of the Post	Attendance
1	Abhay Jain	President, Students' Gymkhana	Present
2	Sonal Kumari	General Secretary, Cultural Council	Present
3	Subhojit Ghosh	General Secretary, Science and Technology Council	Present
4	Yuvraj Dhillon	General Secretary, Games and Sports Council	Present
5	Yashovardhan Bhagat	General Secretary, Films and Media Council	Present
6	Ankit Bhutani	Convener, Students' Senate	Present
7	Ashutosh Sharma	Senator, Y7 (5 Year)	Absent
8	Md. Maaz	Senator UG Y8 (4 Year)	Absent
9	Devesh Kumar Gupta	Senator UG Y8 (4 Year)	Absent
10	Amritanshu Singh	Senator UG Y8 (4 Year)	Absent
11	Sumit Bhagwani	Senator, UG Y8 (5 Year )	Present
12	Akella Ravi Nagarjun	Senator, UG Y8 (5 Year )	Present
13	Kanish Manuja	Senator UG Y9	Present
14	Jyoti Gupta	Senator UG Y9	Absent*
15	Pratik Moona	Senator UG Y9	Present
16	Aman Haji	Senator UG Y9	Present
17	Digraj Singh Chahal	Senator UG Y9	Present

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18	Anurag Dash	Senator UG Y9	Absent*
19	Himanshu Pandey	Senator UG Y10	Present
20	Abhiroop Bhatnagar	Senator UG Y10	Present
21	Rahul Arora	Senator UG Y10	Present
22	Saurabh Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
23	Amritanshu Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
24	Saurabh Dixit	Senator UG Y10	Present
25	Sanchit Khattar	Senator UG Y10	Present
26	Shivam Trivedi	Senator UG Y10	Present
27	Ankur Atul Agarwal	Senator UG Y11	Present
28	Amrit Rijhwani	Senator UG Y11	Present
29	Samarth Bansal	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
30	Srijan R Shetty	Senator UG Y11	Present
31	Shouvik Sachdeva	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
32	Ashish Dabas	Senator UG Y11	Present
33	Pranjal Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
34	Diksha Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Present
35	Arjun Ravichandran	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
36	Adwait Parulekar	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
37	Abhimanyu M A	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
38	Srinivas Chitturi	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
39	Nishant Maheshwari	Senator, MBA + M.Des. + other equivalent Masters Programmes Y11	Present

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40	Karthik Balasundaram	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
41	Vikas Nandal	Senator, Ph.D.	Absent
42	Kumar Gaurav	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
43	Payel Pal	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
44	Rekha Raja	Senator, Ph.D.	Present

Absent\* - Absent with permission