



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



Minutes: 4th Meeting of the Students' Senate 19th August, 2012

The 4th meeting of the Students' Senate (2012 – 2013) was held on 19th August, 2012. It was called to order by the Convener, Students' Senate at 4:45 PM.

The attendance record of the senators is:

- Total: 39
- Present: 34
- Absent: 5
- Absent with permission: 3

The Agenda items were taken up for consideration.

Item No. 1	Announcements and Remarks, if any.
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No announcements or remarks were made.

Item No. 2	Ratification of the Minutes of the <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. 2012-13/1st (Emergency) meeting of the Students' Senate held on 19.04.2012.ii. 2012-13/3rd meeting of the Students' Senate held on 03.08.2012.
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The minutes of these meetings had been circulated by the Convener on 18.08.2012 as part of the Agenda. The minutes were ratified by the Senate without any change.

The Head, Finance, Techkriti'12 requested that Agenda item no. 8 be taken up first since he had a meeting at 5 pm. The request was granted by the Senate.

Item No. 8	Presentation of the final Finance Report of Techkriti'12
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The Finance Report of Techkriti'12 was presented on the floor of the Senate by the Head, Finance. Some questions were raised by Senators about the Finance Report which were satisfactorily answered by the Head, Finance. The Head, Finance announced that barring two expenditures which would be completed within a week, the finances of Techkriti'12 were complete. The report was subsequently accepted by the Senate.

The Senate then returned to its normal order of proceedings.



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Item No. 3	Ratification of the Student Representatives to the Standing Committees of the Senate for the term 2012-13.
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The Student Representatives to the Standing Committees of the Senate for the session 2012-13 were accepted without any change.

Item No. 4	Ratification of the Head, Placement Preparation
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The names proposed for Head, Placement Preparation were:

- Shivani Agarwal (Y9554)
- Sanjana Bhargav (Y9513)

The names were accepted without any change.

Item No. 5	Ratification of the Webmaster and the Secretary, Students' Senate, 2012-13.
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The names proposed for Webmaster and Secretary were:

- Harsh Gupta (11295) for Webmaster, Students' Senate
- Anurag Sahay (11141) for Secretary, Students' Senate

The names were accepted without any change.

Item No. 6	Ratification of the panel recommendations for the Core Team, Techkriti'13
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The panel recommended the following names for the respective posts:

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|----------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| • Head, Marketing | Nitin Agarwal | Y9387 |
| • Head, Finance | Ankit Bindal | Y9095 |
| • Head, Events (Show Management) | Ayush Goel | Y9164 |

The names were accepted without any change.

Item No. 7	Ratification of the dates of Techkriti'13.
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The Core Team, Techkriti'13 had proposed the dates of 14th to 17th March, 2013 for the conduction of the festival, and the same was presented before the Senate. The Core Team explained in detail the reasons why these dates were the only ones they could use.

The General Secretary, Cultural Council raised the concern that having these dates for Techkriti'13 would result in a lack of appropriate place in the next semester calendar for Galaxy'13, which is normally held in March end. The President, Students' Gymkhana further clarified that the major problems with organizing Techkriti and Galaxy would disappear if the Academic Calendar could be



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amended so that either the Mid-semester examination or the Mid-semester recess were rescheduled by some amount. He informed the Senate that he was going to meet the Dean of Academic Affairs on Tuesday, August 21, 2012, after which a solution to the problem could be obtained. He requested that the Agenda item be deferred to after the meeting.

The Techkriti Core Team however requested that the dates for Techkriti'13 be ratified since the activities of the festival were beginning to get impeded by the lack of clarity over the dates for the festival. They proposed the alternative dates of the first week of February for the organization of Galaxy'13. After a great deal of deliberations on the drawbacks of organizing Techkriti and Galaxy earlier than March, including, respectively, problems related to Marketing, participation and VH bookings for Techkriti and the problems with practice in the winter period for Galaxy, it was agreed that Techkriti being a national festival had a higher priority. The dates of Techkriti'13 as proposed were ratified, with the addendum that if the President's meeting with the Dean resulted in any change of dates, the whole situation would be re-evaluated and a more suitable solution would be adopted, by an Emergency Senate meeting, if necessary.

The General Secretary, Science and Technology Council requested that Agenda item no. 15 be taken up first as the Takneek coordinators needed to leave early in order to be able to conduct SnT Treasure Hunt. The request was granted by the Senate.

Item No. 15	Presentation of the pre-conduction report of Takneek'12.
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Nikhil Bugalia, one of the 3 Overall coordinators of Takneek'12, presented the pre-conduction report of Takneek'12 in detail. A question was raised regarding the conduction of the event StockSim, and was satisfactorily answered by the General Secretary.

Senator, UG 11, Srijan Shetty raised the concern that the pre-conduction report had not been circulated in time with the rest of agenda on web. The Senate at this point asked the General Secretary to be more punctual in submitting the documents from next time onwards. However, the Senate accepted the report without any changes.

The Senate then returned to its normal order of proceedings.

Item No. 9	Gymkhana Festival Budget Allocation
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The recommendations of the Finance Committee for the distribution of the Rs. 7.5 Lakh Gymkhana Grant for Festivals were presented by the Finance Convener. The recommendations were:

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|----------------|--------------|
| • Udghosh'12 | Rs. 3.5 Lakh |
| • Antaragni'12 | Rs. 2 Lakh |
| • Techkriti'13 | Rs. 2 Lakh |



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A question was raised asking why there was an inequity in the distribution of the grant among different festivals. The Finance Convener replied that the Marketing cell of Udghosh has only been operational for two years, which is far lesser than that of the other two festivals, and said that it thus required more assistance from the Gymkhana directly than Antaragni and Techkriti.

The allocation was accepted without any change.

Item No. 10	Discussion on the request from Udghosh'12 to have an additional post of Head, Events (Media and Publicity) for the Core Team of Udghosh'12.
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The Convener presented the request of the Core Team, Udghosh'12 in detail. The request was granted, and the position of Head, Events (Media and Publicity) was created.

The Convener adjourned at 6:20 PM for a refreshment break.

The meeting was reconvened at 6:40 PM, and was called to order by the Convener.

The Senate then returned to its normal proceedings.

Item No. 11	Ratification of the schedule for the By-elections, Students' Gymkhana
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The proposed schedule was presented by the Chief Election Officer. He noted there were two errors in the circulated schedule:

1. The fourth table in the schedule was labeled “**Saturday 8th August 2012**”. This was changed to “**Saturday 8th September 2012**”.
2. The last table in the schedule was labeled “**Sunday 9th August 2011**”. This was changed to “**Sunday 9th August 2012**”.

The schedule, with the above mentioned changes was accepted by the Senate.

Item No. 12	Ratification of the Election related documents.
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The following documents relating to Elections were presented in detailed by the Chief Election Officer:

- Call for Nominations
- Rules and Regulations
- Nomination form
- Rules and Regulations governing the procedures related to the Grievance Redressal Committee
- Payment Receipt



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The documents were accepted by the Senate without any change.

Item No. 13	Presentation of the proposal for General Championship, 2012-13
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The proposal for the General Championship, 2012-13 was presented by the Convener, Students' Senate.

The Convener noted that there was an error in the circulated proposal. The proposed dates for Takneek and Inferno had been interchanged. Thus the lines:

- The proposed dates for Takneek are 20th August-26th August.
- The proposed dates for Inferno are 30th August-2nd September.

was changed to:

- The proposed dates for Takneek are 30th August-2nd September.
- The proposed dates for Inferno are 20th August-26th August.

The Convener briefed the Senate that for the last 2 years, the general Championship has had a distribution of 10% to Energy Championship and 22.5 % to each of the other 4 competitions (Takneek, Spectrum, Inferno and Galaxy). For this year, the Convener had proposed an increased weightage of 16% to the Energy Championship and 21% for the rest of the Competitions in the circulated agenda. But as the President had informed him, the results of the Energy Championship were not very reliable and the methods used to evaluate the performance were not fool-proof, the Convener requested the Senate to revert back to the distribution followed last year.

At this juncture, Senator, UG Y9, Pratik Moona suggested that though an increased weightage to Energy Championship opened up the possibility of the results being affected unreliably, yet it would steer the halls in the right direction of saving food, energy and making the halls more environment friendly. This was discussed in detail, and it was decided that the weightage for the Energy Championship would be changed to 12% and the weightage for Galaxy, Spectrum, Takneek and Inferno be changed to 22%.

The proposal, with the above-mentioned changes, was accepted by the Senate.

Item No. 14	Presentation of the pre-conduction report of Inferno'12
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The General Secretary, Games and Sports Council presented the pre-conduction report in detail. He noted the error that under the section "**Grievance Redressal Committee**" the following line:

iii. Counselor Cultural Council



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was actually:

iii. Counselor Games and Sports Council

Further, he noted that name of one of the overall coordinators, was spelled as “Gaurav Kuwar” instead of “Gaurav Kunwar”.

The pre-conduction report, with the above-mentioned changes, was accepted by the Senate.

Item No. 16	Discussion on the proposal to have an Ayurvedic consultant at the Health Center.
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The Convener and the proposer (Senator, PhD, Kumar Gaurav) presented the item in detail, noting that the Health Center already had an Ayurvedic consultant who visited weekly, however the proposal requested that a permanent consultant be appointed by the Health Center. It was further noted that the survey of students which was circulated on 12.08.2012 had 344 responses replying “yes” to the question of a permanent consultant, while 20 responses replying “no” were received.

The student nominee to the Health Center Users Committee, Pratik Moona noted that a similar initiative for a homeopathic consultant had had a good response and said that the response to an Ayurvedic consultant is likely to be similarly positive.

It was decided that the HCUC nominee, Pratik Moona would pursue the proposal with the HCUC and the Chief Medical Officer.

Item No. 17	Discussion on the proposal for Deferred Placement Program
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The item was presented in detail. Shashwat Chandra, nominee of Digraj Singh Chahal (Senator, UG Y9) raised a question about the limit of 10 students being allowed to participate in the program. He proposed several changes to the program, including removing the limit of 10, as well as a change in the time and manner in which the applicants would be selected. After a detailed discussion, it was decided that an ad-hoc subcommittee would be formed to look into the program and come up with a detailed proposal for the same for presenting before the Senate. The Convener constituted the committee with the following members:

• Himanshu Pandey	Senator, UG Y10	Member
• Pratik Moona	Senator, UG Y9	Member
• Samarth Bansal	Senator, UG Y11	Member
• Siddharth Sikka (Y8127498)	Overall Placement Coordinator	Member
• Shashwat Chandra	General Body Member	Member
• Prashant Gupta	Coordinator, E-Cell	Chair



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The committee was directed to submit its report by the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 18	Discussion on the proposal for a change in the norms for the allotment of funds for attending conferences.
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This agenda item was proposed by Arjun Ravichandran, Senator M tech Y11.

Senator, PhD, Karthik Balasundaram informed the Senate that he was working on a similar proposal as requested by some PhD students. He therefore requested the Senate that the Agenda item no. 18 be deferred to the next meeting so that a more concrete proposal could be made in consultation with both the PhD and the M Tech students. The request was granted by the Senate and thus, this agenda item was deferred to the next meeting.

Item No. 19	Discussion on the issue regarding cleanliness of the area in front of Hall 3.
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The Convener informed the Senate that he had been requested to add this Agenda item by a PhD Y12 Student. As a consequence, he asked the Senate whether they wanted to discuss this Agenda item to which the Senate agreed.

Senator, UG Y9, Pratik Moona noted that a similar proposal had been raised in the Senate in some previous year. He requested that the Convener look into this and find out why the proposal was rejected previously.

After an involved discussion on the proposal, the President, Students' Gymkhana requested the Convener, Students' Senate to write a letter to the CEMMC regarding this issue. The Convener accepted the request, and agreed to send this letter before the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 20	Questions and Remarks, if any.
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- Senator, UG Y9, Aman Haji raised a question about the usage of plastic bags on by street vendors on campus and the shopkeepers in the Shopping Center. He specifically noted that the vendors in front of Hall 3 and the shopkeeper of "Hot 'n' Cool" use thin plastic bags. The President agreed to look into the matter.
- Senator, UG Y9, Pratik Moona raised a question about cleanliness in the New SAC Food Court, by describing several incidents with one particular vendor. The President requested that he write a letter addressed to the President regarding the same.
- Aman Haji and Pratik Moona also raised the issue of hygiene in many washrooms on campus, due to lack of soap, specifically mentioning the washrooms in the Lecture Halls,



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Hall of Residence common washrooms, and the washrooms in the Health Center. It was decided that a letter regarding the same shall be sent to all Halls of Residence by the President, Students' Gymkhana through the Dean, Students' Affairs informing them that it is compulsory to provide soap in the common hall washrooms. It was also decided that the Convener, Students' Senate will send a letter to the IWD for cleanliness in the washrooms maintained by them. Finally, it was also decided that the HCUC nominee will take up the issue of soap in the next HCUC meeting.

- Aman Haji raised a question about the situation regarding funds for sports equipment discussed in the 2nd meeting of the Students' Senate. He was informed by the General Secretary, Games and Sports Council that committee had been constituted by the SPEC to look into the sports purchases of the institute and that the issue will be pursued in the meetings of this committee. He further announced that there currently exists no bifurcation in the head allotted for sports equipment into equipment for General Body Members and Inter IIT players respectively. The Convener informed the Senate that a committee had been formed to look into the matter by the Dean, Students' Affairs with Chairman, SUGC; Chairman, SPEC; DOSA; and Convener, Students' Senate as its members which had its 1st meeting on 22nd August. It was requested by Aman that the Convener should provide updates about the decisions taken in the committee meeting in the next Senate meeting.
- Aman Haji also questioned the Convener as to why the Action Taken Report had not been included in the agenda. The Convener informed the Senate that a Secretary, Students' Senate had been appointed to carry out all such activities and he assured the Senate that the ATR would be included as a regular agenda item from next meeting onwards.
- Pratik Moona raised a question about the situation of the Inter IIT banning issue. In response, the General Secretary, Games and Sports Council informed that in the recent Inter IIT Board Meet that he attended, the ban on the IIT Kanpur's cricket and football teams were upheld. He attributed this by saying that the proceedings of the meet were deliberately biased against IIT Kanpur. He further stated that an internal inquiry is taking place to look into the issue, and said that the Director has been requested to take the issue to the Group of Directors, Board of Governors and the IIT Council.
- The Convener, COSHA, Himanshu Pandey informed the Senate that the committee to draft the constitution for the COSHA has decided that such a constitution would be unworkable and would undercut the sanctity of the constitution of the Students' Gymkhana. Hence, the committee decided that instead of drafting a new constitution, the purview of the committee should change to draft additions to the existing constitution of the Students' Gymkhana to make the rules and procedures related to COSHA clearer. Further, he requested that Pratik Moona be added to the committee as a member. Several other Senators requested that they be allowed to attend the meetings of the committee to provide their inputs. He was thus requested to send the relevant mails about the committee meetings on the Students' Senate



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mailing list. The newly reconstituted committee now comprises of the following members:

○ Amrit Rijhwani	Senator, UG 11	Member
○ Ashish Dabas	Senator, UG 11	Member
○ Himanshu Pandey	Convener, COSHA	Chair
○ Jyoti Gupta	Parliamentarian	Member
○ Pratik Moona	Senator, UG Y9	Member
○ Samarth Bansal	Senator, UG 11	Member
○ Shouvik Sachdeva	Senator, UG 11	Member

- Several issues relating to the Senator Seed Fund were raised, including the lack of the use of the SSF for new activities, a large amount of money being promised but their corresponding forms remaining not submitted, Senators signing forms which don't have the signatures of their corresponding General Secretaries. After a short discussion, it was decided that a one-week notice would be given to every club coordinator to submit the SSF forms to the Finance Convener, barring which the forms will not be accepted. Furthermore, it was decided that a column for "date" would be added to the SG-9 form so that a track could be kept of when the money was committed, and the form would not be accepted if it was submitted more than 2 weeks after taking the signatures.
- Senator, UG 11, Srijan Shetty raised a question about spamming of the Students mailing list. After a discussion, it was concluded that nothing could be done about the mails sent from the General Secretaries to the mailing list. Further, it was noted that with the selection of a new Webmaster, a lost and found online database will soon be functional, allowing for less spamming for lost and found on the Students list.
- The President, Students' Gymkhana announced that the interaction between students with the freshman batch has been good, and that an award of Rs. 20,000 has been given to the Hall Executive Committees of the Halls with exceptionally good interaction, as well as a commendation awarded to 5 freshmen for healthy interaction. He, however, went on to question the current model of interaction and requested the Senate to consider whether they truly wished interaction to continue the way it has.
- General Body Member, Sarthak Chandra inquired about the source of the money awarded to the HECs, as announced by the President. The President clarified that the money has been received directly from the Director, although it has been disbursed by the Gymkhana.
- The President announced that the Café Coffee Day vendor in front of the Library had been selling goods at merely a 25% subsidy, as opposed to the contractually obligated 50-60% subsidy. As a consequence, a legal notice, effective from the 18th of August, was sent to the contractor advising him to change the prices.



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- The President also announced that the proposal for Hall of Residence XII has been approved. He intimated to the Senate that the proposal for the Hall was vast, with six stories and a lift, and that it would be located adjacent to Hall 5.
- The President also announced that the preparations for the Golden Jubilee of the Gymkhana are fully underway and that funds from the Director had been secured for the conduction of some activities. First among these, he announced that a mini-library will be opened up in GH-1, after which it would be opened up in other halls. Furthermore, he announced that the Opening Ceremony of the Golden Jubilee will take place in the near future, and that former President of India, APJ Abdul Kalam is likely to visit for the purpose of this event.
- The President also announced that a proposal for 2.18 Crore had been sent to the Director. However, a fund of Rs 1.5 Crore has been allocated by the Director for Gymkhana Golden Jubilee.
- The Finance Convener, Karthik Balasundaram raised a few questions about the finances of the Golden Jubilee, which were answered by the President. The President informed the Senate that the Dean, Students' Affairs has been nominated as PI and the President, Students' Gymkhana as co-PI for this fund which has been setup under the care of R&D office.
- Further, Karthik and Pratik Moona enquired about how regularly the President intends to update the Senate about the activities of the Golden Jubilee team. The President informed the Senate that providing regular updates or a pre-conduction report will not be feasible for him. He also requested the Senate to place trust in him and allow him to continue the usage of the funds as he deemed fit. However, several Senators objected to this request and insisted that as Students' Senate was the final deciding authority on all policy matters relating to the Students' Gymkhana, the usage of any funds allocated to Students' Gymkhana barring funds allocated to specific projects, must be approved by the Students' Senate. After a long discussion, it was decided that the President shall present a pre-conduction with all major distributions clearly specified before the conduction of the events. As the events shall continue throughout the year and the allocation might need to change from time to time, the President was advised to bring all such changes to the notice of the Senate before the respective events were conducted.
- The Convener, Students' Senate informed the Senate that owing to his academic and other commitments Aditya Gupta had expressed his unwillingness to be the Chair of the committee formed as part of Agenda item no. 12 in the 3rd Senate meeting to look into the proposal for a Standing Senate Subcommittee to monitor inter-collegiate Gymkhana festivals. He further requested to the Senate that he be added to the committee as a member, Karthik be made Chair, and that Ashish Dabas be made Convener. This request was accepted by the Senate. The composition of the committee now stands as:



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○ Aditya Gupta	Member
○ Ankit Bhutani	Member
○ Ashish Dabas	Convener
○ Karthik Balasundaram	Chair
○ Pratik Moona	Member
○ Sanchit Khattar	Member
○ Sumit Bhagwani	Member
○ Prashant Bafna	Member

	Any other item, with the permission of the Chair.
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No other items were introduced.

The meeting was adjourned by the Convener, Students' Senate at 8:50 PM.



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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	Sumit Bhagwani	Senator, UG Y8 (5 Year)	Absent*
8	Akella Ravi Nagarjun	Senator, UG Y8 (5 Year)	Present
9	Kanish Manuja	Senator UG Y9	Present
10	Jyoti Gupta	Senator UG Y9	Present
11	Pratik Moona	Senator UG Y9	Present
12	Aman Haji	Senator UG Y9	Present
13	Digraj Singh Chahal	Senator UG Y9	Present
14	Anurag Dash	Senator UG Y9	Present
15	Himanshu Pandey	Senator UG Y10	Present
16	Abhiroop Bhatnagar	Senator UG Y10	Present
17	Rahul Arora	Senator UG Y10	Present
18	Saurabh Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
19	Amritanshu Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
20	Saurabh Dixit	Senator UG Y10	Present
21	Sanchit Khattar	Senator UG Y10	Present



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22	Shivam Trivedi	Senator UG Y10	Present
23	Ankur Atul Agarwal	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
24	Amrit Rijhwani	Senator UG Y11	Present
25	Samarth Bansal	Senator UG Y11	Present
26	Srijan R Shetty	Senator UG Y11	Present
27	Shouvik Sachdeva	Senator UG Y11	Present
28	Ashish Dabas	Senator UG Y11	Present
29	Pranjal Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Present
30	Diksha Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Present
31	Arjun Ravichandran	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
32	Adwait Parulekar	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
33	Abhimanyu M A	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Absent*
34	Srinivas Chitturi	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
35	Nishant Maheshwari	Senator, MBA + M.Des. + other equivalent Masters Programmes Y11	Present
36	Karthik Balasundaram	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
37	Kumar Gaurav	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
38	Payel Pal	Senator, Ph.D.	Absent
39	Rekha Raja	Senator, Ph.D.	Absent

Absent* - Absent with permission