

# Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur Students' Gymkhana

Date: September 20th, 2005

Draft Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Students' Senate held on **September 20th, 2005** in SAC conference room at 9:00 pm.

**The Meeting was called to order at 8:45 pm.**

Attendance Record:

Present: 33

Absent: 06

Designation	Name	Present/Absent – Signature
The President	Neeraj Kumar	Present
The General Secretary – Cultural	Vipin Kumar Pathak	Present
The General Secretary - Films	Abhinav Biyani	Present
The General Secretary - Science and Technology	Varun Garg	Present
The General Secretary – Games	Harendra Verma	Present
Senator PG 5th Year, students in 5 year program	Saksham Agarwal	Present
Senator UG 4th Year (Y2 Batch)	Harish Awasthi	Present
	Pranay Das	Present
	Saurabh Awasthi	Present
	Vaibhav Tripathi	Present
Senator UG 3rd Year (Y3 Batch)	Abhishek Gupta	Absent With Permission
	Arpit Srivastava	Present
	Jatinder Singh Randhawa	Present
	Vaibhav Ketewa	Present
Senator UG 2nd Year (Y4 Batch)	Ankit Raj	Present
	Nikhil Suri	Present
	Pawan Kadyan	Absent With Permission
	Saurab Gupta	Present
	Siddharth Sodhani	Present

Senator UG 1st Year (Y5 Batch)	Anuj Gupta	Absent Without Permission
	Aviral Chopra	Present
	Shashank Yalakala Rao	Present
	Taha Sadiq Hissain Malik	Present
	Vikas Pandey	Present
Senator MBA+M.Des+others (Final Year)	Yashodhan Shevade	Present
Senator MBA+M.Des+Others	Jasminder Singh	Present
Senator PhD	Arjun Singh Yadav	Present
	Jaydev	Present
	Tony Jacob	Present
	Vikas Gupta	Present
	Ankur Purwar	Present
	Shyam Kumar Chaudhary	Present
Senator MTech – Final Year.	Kulkarni Rushikesh Dileep	Present
	Pankaj Kumar	Present
	Pawan Bir Singh	Absent Without Permission
	Lava Kumar P	Present
Senator MTech – Final Year.	Bipin Ramesh Inamdar	Absent Without Permission
	G P Madhav Varma	Absent With Permission
Girls' Representative	Shubham Nath	Present

Some General Body Members were also present.

The meeting began with an address by Dr. Prawal Sinha, the new Dean of Students Affairs who was present as a special invitee.

#### **Item No. 1 Ratification of the Draft Minutes of the Fourth Meeting and Emergency meeting**

The draft minutes of the Fourth meeting were ratified with the following change.

Item No. 13.a) Ratification of the core team, marketing team and event coordinators for Antaragni 2005 was done. The list is attached in AT6.

Item No. 13.c) A comment was made regarding the need to have a Flag Hoisting Ceremony held by the Students' Gymkhana at the SAC. The President was asked to make arrangements for flag hoisting at SAC for the Republic Day and the Cult Secretary was requested to make a note of it.

The draft minutes of the Emergency meeting were ratified with the following change:

1. The Sports secretary informed the senate that the weekend's events had been swapped in the planned Sports Festival. This was taken into account by the steering committee.

#### **Item No. 2 Announcement and Remarks**

No announcements or remarks were made.

#### **Item No. 3 By-Election Conduction Report & Ratification of the new members of the Students' Senate: CEO Uttam Kumar Tripathi**

The report was presented in the senate along with recommendations for future elections. The report is attached as AT1. A special mention was made of the computerized voting system tried out for the first time in gymkhana elections. The new senators' names were ratified in the Senate, followed by the senators introducing themselves.

#### **Item No. 4 Submission of Action Taken Reports**

1. Request to members of all the standing committees under the academic senate to keep the students' Senate informed about the happenings in their respective committees: No report was tabled.
2. Gymkhana notice board in the SAC and the LHC & Mailboxes for all councils: UG Senator Vaibhav Katewa informed the senate about the alternate location, below the LHC building, suggested by the LHC Office. The new location was approved by the Senate. **ACTION PENDING.**
3. The purchase of a new projector needed by the Students' Gymkhana: President Neeraj Kumar informed the Senate that the Projector had been purchased and was kept in the DOSA Office. **ACTION COMPLETED.**
4. Collection of information from the administration with regards to the modalities to increase the Insurance Coverage: Convener Yashodhan Shevade said that work on this front was being carried out and proposed that the item be taken off the agenda for the time being and be reintroduced since it would be appropriate for the Senate to take it up only when its time for us to pay our next insurance premiums. **DROPPED to be taken up later.**
5. Conformation about whether Alumni Association has been requested to take over and maintain the service PeRM Permanent Email Registration Module: President Neeraj Kumar informed the Senate that it was in the process of doing so, and that the item be discussed in the next meeting. **ACTION PENDING**
6. Counseling Session to be held for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year students by the final year students: SnT Secretary Varun Garg informed the Senate that not much progress had been achieved on the issue, and requested UG Y4 senators to forward the issues which their batch would like to be discussed in the session. **ACTION PENDING**
7. Creation of the newsgroup "Lost& Found": Convener Yashodhan Shevade informed the Senate about the impending meeting with Dr. Dheeraj Sanghi on the issue and assured that it would be done within the next 3-4 days. **ACTION PENDING**
8. Refund of the Security Deposit Money: By-Election CEO Uttam Kumar Tripathi informed the Senate that most of the money had been refunded and that the rest would also be refunded soon. He requested the contestants to collect the money a.s.a.p. **ACTION COMPLETED**
9. Status of the interface to be created by the Institute between students who wish to buy PCs and the PC vendors: Convener Yashodhan Shevade informed the Senate that he would be discussing the matter with Dr. Dheeraj Sanghi soon, and some meetings had also been planned with the computer vendors. **ACTION PENDING**
10. Creating a proposal for requesting Dr. Sanghi to issue a laptop for Gymkhana activities as and when required, and also to get 8 PCs assigned for Gymkhana activities: President Neeraj Kumar informed the Senate that the 8 PC's had been obtained. He was also requested to take over the matter of the laptop, from Senator Ankit. **ACTION PENDING**

#### **Item No. 5 Discussion on and subsequent Ratification of the Journalism Club**

UG Senator Vaibhav Tripathi read out the proposal for the club and answered various queries of the senators regarding the club, especially those related to the club's differentiation from Meander. The club was ratified with a comment to look into whether the activities of both Meander and the Newsletter Vox Populi can be clubbed under the club as its prime activities.

#### **Item No. 6 Ratification of the dates of Techkriti 2006: Feb 23rd to Feb 26th 2006**

The SnT Secretary informed the Senate that the above dates had been decided keeping Josh and Hall Festival's into account. Seminars by faculty had also been taken into account. The dates were ratified.

#### **Item No. 7 Ratification of the Finance Coordinator for Techkriti 2006**

The SnT Secretary informed the senate that the interviews for the finance coordinators were taken by a committee consisting of a few active core team members of Techkriti 2005 and himself; in the presence of the President and proposed the name of Shalabh Agarwal for the post. Subsequently the Senate ratified Salabh Agarwal as the finance coordinator for Techkriti 2006.

#### **Item No. 08 Ratification of the Core Team for Techkriti 2006**

SnT Secretary Varun Garg read out the names of the core team, and informed the Senate that there was one person in the list with a CPI less than 6.00 and that he would be consulting the Dean on the issue. The core team was ratified and is attached as AT2.

#### **Item No. 09 Ratification of the SnT Council Members**

General Body Member/Ex Cultural Secretary Mr. Mukul Tuli pointed out that the position under question doesn't exist under the current Constitutional organization of the Gymkhana. The names were hence not ratified and SnT Secretary Varun Garg was asked to get the post's formation ratified first.

#### **Item No. 10 Discussion on Stratagem: SnT Secretary Varun Garg**

The Senate had a long discussion about the proposal to hold Stratagem: A gaming competition. There was a concern that Stratagem may lead to an increase in the gaming activity in the campus which would in turn be detrimental to the academic performance by the students. The Senate decided to not support Stratagem in its existing form and requested the SnT secretary to modify the way Stratagem is held and table the new proposal in the next senate meeting for further discussion.

#### **Item No. 11 Briefing about Antaragni'05:**

Cultural Secretary Vipin Pathak briefed the Senate about the preparations underway for Antaragni'05.

#### **Item No. 12 Ratification of Antragni'05 Event Coordinators**

The names of the various proposed Event Coordinators were read out and the same were ratified by the Senate. The list is attached as AT3.

**Item No. 13: Discussion on: “Contingency fund for MTechs”**

PG Senator Lava Kumar initiated the discussion on the issue. The Senate came to the opinion that it was not the correct forum for discussing the issue and that it would be better if it was first considered at the PGSAC.

**Item No. 14: Discussion on: “Exploring the possibility of running a shuttle service in the campus from the two farthest ends of the campus”: General Body Member Charudatta**

Since Charudatta was absent with the permission of the chair, the Convener initiated the discussion. It was decided that the Convener would take up the issue with the Transport Committee and write a letter to the committee chairman about the same.

**Item No. 15 Ratification of the change in the name of UDGHOSH to DHWAND for year 2005**

The Senate was briefed about the discussion on the issue with the Director, in which the Director had requested that we hold the annual Sports Festival to be called “IIT Kanpur Sports Festival”. The Senate after deliberating on the logic behind the request decided that it would heed to the Directors’ request, but decided to not name the festival for this year only. **It felt that the next year’s Senate should pursue the administration to change back the name to ‘Udghosh’.**

**Item No. 16: Discussion on: “The need to have a re-look into the term of the academic senate student nominees”**

Convener Yashodhan Shevade informed the Senate of the recurring problem of there being no student nominees in the academic senate, especially during the summers. It was decided to send a proposal to the Academic Senate to consider the proposal to change the term of the academic senate nominees from the present term which begins on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Oct to 1<sup>st</sup> April every year.

**Item No. 16: Discussion on: Keeping the COMPUTER CENTRE open 24 hrs and about the working conditions of the PCs**

UG Senator Taha Sadiq Hussain Malik informed the Senate that the UG Y5 batch was facing difficulties because of the closure of the Computer Centre at night, and that it would be appreciated that the facility of 24 hours operation be restored at the earliest. It was decided that the President and the Convener would take up the following matter with Dr. Dheeraj Sanghi.

**Item No. 16: Discussion on: Extending LIBRARY timings till 2 AM on weekdays and making it 24 hrs open on weekends**

UG Senator Shashank Yalakala Rao informed the Senate that the UG Y5 batch students because of the CPA course were remaining busy till late in the evenings and were not finding the library hours sufficient. After the discussion it was felt that we could initiate a meeting with the authorities to at least keep the reading room open for 24 hrs. The Convener requested the matter to be taken up in the Library Committee meetings and assured the senate that he would look into the matter.

**Item No. 16: Discussion on: “Extending Financial Support to the participants by the Students’ Gymkhana in the various technical competitions like ACM”**

PG Senator Tony Jacob initiated the discussion on the topic. The Senate came to the opinion that it could not take the financial burden, and that other formal channels exist for the same. However it was realized that the issue could be taken up on a case-by-case basis by it if students found it difficult to obtain the funding from other channels.

**Item No. 16: Discussion on: “The condition of the Old Tutorial Complex and possible renovation that can be undertaken to make it better”**

UG Senator Shashank Yalakala Rao initiated the discussion on the topic. The Senate requested him to follow up on it.

**Item No. 12: Questions & Remarks**

1. Yash Mahendra, Ex-Editor Meander, brought it to the attention of the Senate that the President had called for nomination for the post of the coordinator, Meander when Atul Jain the present coordinator had neither resigned nor been removed by the Senate. The President clarified that since Atul Jain was under academic warning, he was following the recommendations of the governance report. Most of the Senate members felt that since Atul had done a good job till now and since the meander team would like to continue to work under his coordinator ship, he should be given a chance to write a letter to the DOSA and if permitted by the DOSA, he should be allowed to continue as the head of meander. The President requested Atul Jain to complete the formality by the month end so that it would be easy for him to complete the procedural requirements under the students' constitution.
2. SnT Secretary Varun Garg informed the Senate about the excellent response of the students to 'Takneek', the weekend intra-IIT science competitions.
3. Vipin Pathak informed the convener of DOSA's request for a complete list of names of people involved in Antaragni and Techkriti.
4. SnT Secretary Varun Garg requested the Senate that since Hall Days make it difficult to schedule and prepare for Techkriti, the Senate request the HECs to keep all Hall Days before the 16<sup>th</sup> of February or in March. It was decided that the Senate representatives in COSHA take up the matter in COSHA meeting.
5. The Cultural Secretary Vipin Pathak requested the President to get SAC whitewashed.
6. The President, Neeraj Kumar, was asked to get the duplicate links to gymkhana webpage corrected on the institute website.
7. Senator Taha Sadiq Hussain Malik was asked to look into the issue of dysfunction desert-coolers of the Conference Room and get them repaired.
8. SnT Secretary Varun Garg requested the Senate that the Newsgroup Vigilance Committee have more members, and have set written rules and norms.

**Item No. 13 Any other item with the permission of the chair**

**1. Proposal to consider giving the Institute Blues mid-way into the tenure.**

SnT Secretary Varun Garg pointed out to the Senate that the Blazers given to General Secretaries on Gymkhana day to felicitate them would be of less use after retiring from the posts. He hence requested the Senate to consider giving the institute Blues mid-way into the tenure so that the General Secretaries could use the Blazers during any official function or festival.

Most of the Senators felt that this is a genuine need and it would look professional if the Secretaries came in their blazers in official meetings or events. It was also pointed out that the same was proposed by the last senate too.

A few of the senators felt that we would by allowing the Secretaries to have the blazers at the start of the senate year, encourage them to make unethical demands. It was felt that such a situation would not arise as the Secretaries who are elected by the Student Community do know their responsibilities, and in case they do falter, the senate has the whole and sole power to put down their demand.

It was felt that we should discuss this matter with an open mind and that if something can be bettered, which breaks certain traditions of the past, we should attempt to better it.

This was opposed by the Convener on moral grounds as he was among the recipients of the Blazer and was in no position to take a decision to felicitate himself. He pointed out that it was rather a good suggestion and needs to be considered in all its good intentions, but should be implemented from the next years' Gymkhana day where the incoming secretaries could be given the blazer at the handover ceremony. A general consensus was reached that the senate can give the institute blues half way into their respective terms and requested the President to initiate the process. The suggestion was approved with a note of dissent from PG Senator Tony Jacob.

At this point the meeting was adjourned.

**The meeting concluded at 2.00 a.m.**

Yashodhan Shevade  
Convener, Students' Senate.

CC: Director  
All Faculty Counselors  
All Executives  
All Senators  
All Hall Presidents  
All Gymkhana Notice Boards