

**THE XXIInd MEETING
OF
SENATE**

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MEGHALAYA**

MINUTES

Day : Thursday

Date: 10.09.2020

Time: 10:30 am

Mode: Video Conference

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY MEGHALAYA**Minutes of the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Senate held on 10.09.2020**

The XXIInd Meeting of the Senate of NIT Meghalaya was held on 10th Sept.2020 at 10:30 am through Video Conference and the following members attended the Meeting:

1. Professor B.B. Biswal, Director, NIT Meghalaya	-Chairman
2. Prof. N.C. Shivaprakash, IISC Bangalore	-Member
3. Prof. R. K. Sahoo, NIT Rourkela	-Member
4. Prof. M.K Paswan, NIT Jamshedpur	-Member
5. Prof. (Mrs.) N. Tripathy, IIM Shillong	- Member
6. Prof. G. Panda, Professor, NIT Meghalaya	- Member
7. Prof. H. C. Das, Professor, NIT Meghalaya	-Member
8. Prof. A. Bhattacharjee, Professor, NIT Meghalaya	-Member
9. Dr. A. Banerjee, Dean(Students' Welfare)	- Spl. Invitee
10. Dr. C. Marthong, Dean (Planning & Development)	- Spl. Invitee
11. Dr. G. Dutta, Dean (Research & Consultancy)	- Spl. Invitee
12. Dr. R. N. Mahapatra, HoD, ME, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
13. Dr. P.S. Mangang, HoD, HS, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
14. Dr. M. L. Patton, HoD, CE, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
15. Dr. S. Debbarma, HoD, EE, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
16. Dr. Yogita, CS, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
17. Dr. P. Rangababu, HoD, EC, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
18. Dr. A. Nath, HoD, PH, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
19. Dr. A. S. Roy, HoD, CY, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
20. Dr. B. Kumbhakar, HoD, MA, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
21. Dr. R. S. Das, Head of CCD, NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
22. Dr. V. Pal, PIC (UG), NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
23. Mrs. Ambika Rai, Asst. Registrar (AA), NIT Meghalaya	- Spl. Invitee
24. Mr. B. N. Choudhury, Registrar, NIT Meghalaya	-Secretary

At the outset, the Chairman welcomed the members and the special invitees to the Twenty-Second Meeting of the Senate. Thereafter, the agenda items were taken up.

Item No.1: Confirmation of Minutes of the XXIst Meeting of the Senate of NIT Meghalaya held on 20.03.2020

The Twenty-First meeting of the Senate of the Institute was held on 20.03.2020 in the Conference Room. The minutes of the meeting were circulated amongst the members of the Committee for their comments/ observations. Since no comments were received from any of the members, the Senate confirmed the minutes.

R1/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved** to **Confirm** the minutes of the XXIst Meeting of the Senate as circulated.*

Item No.2: Action Taken Report on the decisions of the XXIth Meeting of the Senate:

Actions taken on the decision of the Twenty First Meeting of the Senate were circulated amongst the members and also presented before the Senate. The Senate agreed and noted the actions taken by the Institute.

R2/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Noted and Confirmed** the actions taken on the resolutions of the XXIst Meeting held on 20th March 2020.*

Items for Approval**Item No.3: Amendments in the Academic Calendar of Autumn 2020**

The amended Academic Calendar of Autumn 2020, considering the PG admissions 2020, was discussed at length by the Senate Members, keeping in view the new PG & UG students for whom the Autumn Semester will commence on different dates. After going through the proposed amendment, the Senate suggested that the HoDs should be consulted in this matter and three separate Academic Calendars should be prepared for the existing students and for the new PG & UG students. The Senate further authorized the Chairman, Senate for appropriate decision/approval to the revised Academic Calendars.

R3/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Recommended** to prepare three separate Academic Calendars for the existing students, the new PG and the UG students as their semesters are starting on different dates and authorized the Chairman, Senate for appropriate decision/approval to the revised Academic Calendars. It was also suggested to carry out the Induction Programme for the new students in a capsule way through webinars either in the evenings or during the weekends.*

Item No.4: Proposal for Amendments in Ordinances**1) Amendment in the Ordinance on Academic Programmes****(a) Amendment on Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC)**

The amendment on Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC) was presented before the Senate where it was proposed to change Departmental Advisory Committee (DAC) to Departmental **Academic** Committee (DAC). The Senate discussed on the proposal and found it suitable. It was further recommended that the external member in the DAC should be chosen by the Senate Chairman for a period of two years.

R4(1a)/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Approved** to amend the DAC to Departmental Academic Committee (DAC) in the Ordinance on Academic Programmes. It was further suggested that the external member in the DAC should be chosen by the Senate Chairman for a period of two years.*

(b) Amendment on norms associated with I grade

The Senate after deliberating and going through the proposed amendment on norms associated with I grade suggested that the students awarded I grade should register for the same courses in the subsequent semester and if the same are not offered, the student can opt for equivalent courses upon recommendation from the Departmental Academic Committee (DAC) and subsequent approval of Chairman, Senate.

R4(1b)/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Recommended** that the students awarded I grade should register for the same courses in the corresponding **odd/even** semester and if the same is not offered, the student can opt for equivalent courses upon recommendation from the Departmental Academic Committee (DAC) and subsequent approval of Chairman, Senate.*

2) Amendments in the Ph. D Regulations**a) Provision of registering a new course in replacement to the last semester registered course**

The matter related to a scholar who is unable to appear the end term examination of a

registered course and is awarded an I grade was presented to the Senate. Ideally, the scholar registers for the same courses in the subsequent semesters to complete the remaining evaluation components but this extends the period of the course work by even a year. It was proposed to allow the scholar to register for the same courses in the subsequent semester(s) or opt for a new (replacement) course floated in the subsequent semester, recommended by the respective DRC and further approved by the Senate Chairman.

R4(2a)/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Approve** the amendment in the Ph. D Regulations as proposed.*

b) Allotment of Sole Supervisor for Sponsored (Part Time) Ph. D Scholars.

The Senate was briefed about few situations where the Sponsored (Part Time) Ph. D Scholars or the Supervisors were unable to recommend a suitable Co-Supervisor of a particular research domain from the scholar's parent organization or from any reputed Institutes nearer to his/her working place. Under such circumstances, it was proposed to allow sole supervision by allotting the Supervisor from NIT Meghalaya only. The Senate deliberated on the subject and concluded that the existing Sponsored (Part Time) Ph. D Scholars can carry out their research work under sole supervision provided they are unable to recommend a Co-Supervisor as per norms and the Institute attendance requirement of such scholars may be increased by 50%. However, from Spring 2021 admission onwards, the shortlisted candidates for Sponsored (Part Time) Programme should mandatorily propose a Co-Supervisor from the parent organization or from any reputed Institutes closer to the work place of the candidate before the selection process.

R4(2b)/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Recommended** that the existing Sponsored (Part Time) Ph. D Scholars can carry out their research work under sole supervision provided they are unable to find a Co-Supervisor as per norms and the Institute attendance requirement of such scholars may be increased by 50%. However, from Spring 2021 admission onwards, the shortlisted candidates for Sponsored (Part Time) Programme should mandatorily propose a Co-Supervisor, along with his/her brief bio-data and consent, from the parent organization or from any reputed Institutes closer to the work place of the candidate before the selection process.*

Item No. 5: B. Tech Students Completing Maximum Duration in the Programme

As per the Ordinance of the Institute on Academic Programmes, a student has to leave the B. Tech Programme if he/she fails to complete the Programme within the maximum prescribed duration i.e 6 years. The matter related to 3 B. Tech students who have not completed the Programme even after 6 years were discussed by the Senate. The Senate advised that the respective Departments should have conducted counseling of such weak students from the beginning itself. The Senate further recommended that the respective DACs should analyze the academic records these 3 students and recommend the possibility of completing B. Tech Degree by the students within a year to the Chairman Senate.

R5/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Recommended** that the respective DACs should analyze the academic records of these students and recommend the possibility of completing the B. Tech Degree within a year. On the basis of the recommendations, the students shall be allowed initially an extension of one year upon approval of Chairman, Senate.*

Item No.6: Proposal for Outstanding Research Fellowship Scheme

A proposal on the Outstanding Research Fellowship Scheme targeted to encourage the Institute Ph. D scholars to set outstanding research records was presented in the Senate Meeting. The Senate was appraised about the eligibility criteria, the fellowship amount, selection procedure and the like. After an elaborated discussion, the Senate advised that the modalities for the scholarship should be relooked and presented in the next Senate Meeting. The Senate recommended constituting a Committee, with the following members for framing the modalities:

- 1) Dean (AA): Chairman
- 2) Prof. H.C. Das, ME Dept: Member
- 3) Prof. A. Bhattacharjee, PH Dept: Member.

R6/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Recommended** that a Committee should be constituted to reframe the modalities of Outstanding Research Fellowship Scheme. The revised modality may be presented to Chairman, Senate for appropriate guidance/decision and the report may be placed in the next Senate Meeting.*

Items for Ratification:

Item No.7: Spring Semester Exam2020

The classes of Spring Semester 2020 were suspended on 16th of March 2020 due to the outbreak and spread of the Covid-19, pandemic. Since then, the teaching-learning process for the remaining Semester period was continued through online mode education via Google Classroom from 19th of March 2020 onwards. The Spring Semester Exam 2020 was also conducted through online modes. The Senate was appraised on the various methods adopted to evaluate the final year students and also on the open book online examinations conducted for the existing students of the Institute during 29th June to 6th July 2020. The Senate was also informed that the Autumn Semester, for the continuing students have also started from 27th July 2020 as scheduled in the Academic Calendar.

R7/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Spring Semester Exam 2020 as presented. The Senate also expressed its **Appreciation** on the Institute's ability to function in a systematic manner even during the COVID-19, pandemic situation and for commencing the Autumn 2020 classes for continuing students, as per schedule without any changes in the Academic Calendar for Autumn 2020.*

Item No.8: Result Declaration, Spring 2020

The results of the final year UG students were declared on the 25th of June 2020, while that of the final year PG students were declared on 29th of July 2020. The results of all the continuing students were also declared on the 20th of July, 2020. In this context, the Result Analysis Reports as approved by the Chairman, Senate were presented before the Senate.

R8/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the declaration of Results for Spring 2020 as presented and to confer the final year students for award of degree in the upcoming Convocation.*

Item No.9: B. Tech Curriculum Structure for 2019 Batch

In a meeting of the Competent Authority held with the Deans and the Chairman, IQAC on 15th June 2020, all the departments were advised to revise and the Course Structure for the B. Tech 2019 Batch along with the course developer's list. The same was forwarded by all the Departments and upon incorporation of recommendations from the IQAC, Chairman,

the final course structure was approved by the Chairman, Senate. The approved course structure for B. Tech 2019 batch was presented before the Senate.

R9/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the B. Tech Curriculum Structure for 2019 Batch as presented.*

Item No.10: Research Groups Constituted for Syllabus Development, Consultancy Generation, Ph. D Work Related, etc

In a meeting of the Competent Authority held with the Deans and the Chairman, IQAC on 15th June 2020, all the departments were advised to constitute research groups in the respective departments for Syllabus Development, Consultancy Generation, Ph. D Work Related, etc. Various Research Groups were nominated by the Departments and the same were approved by the Competent Authority. The Research Groups constituted were presented before the Senate.

R10/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the constitution of the Departmental Research Groups as presented.*

Item No.11: Syllabi for 5th & 6th Semester B. Tech Programme (2019 Batch)

As recommended in the XXIst Senate Meeting, the updated B. Tech 5th and 6th semester syllabi of all the departments were presented before the IQAC for recommendations. Upon receiving recommendations of IQAC Chairman, the syllabi in respect of the Departments were revised and presented before Chairman, Senate for consideration and approval. The same were approved by the Chairman, Senate.

R11/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Syllabi for 5th & 6th Semester B. Tech Programme (2019 Batch) as presented.*

Item No.12: Course Modification of EC 205 & EC255

The EC Department placed a request to modify two existing courses i.e. EC 205 (Network Analysis) & EC 255 (Network Analysis Lab), offered to B. Tech 3rd Semester students of EC Department and proposed to offer it as EC 205: (Network Analysis & synthesis) and EC 205: (Network Analysis & Synthesis Lab). The modified syllabi were reviewed by the IQAC Chairman and were approved by the Chairman, Senate. The Senate was appraised about the courses being currently offered to the students in Autumn Semester 2020.

R12/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Course Modification of EC 205 & EC 255 as presented.*

Item No.13: Branch Change 2020

As per the Institute's norms, 10 eligible students from B. Tech 2019 batch were selected for Branch Change into different Departments during Autumn 2020. The list was presented to the Senate.

R13/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Branch Change List for the Academic Year 2020-21 as presented.*

Item No.14: Reduced Fee Structure for Existing Students during Autumn 2020

Considering the ongoing COVID-19, pandemic situation and also upon the requests received from students of the Institute, few components of fee structure were reduced for the continuing students during Autumn Semester 2020 registration, upon approval from Chairman, Senate.

R14/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Reduced Fee Structure for existing students during Autumn 2020 as presented and also appreciated this decision taken by the Chairman, Senate. The Senate further recommended placing the matter before the BoG for ratification.*

Item No.15: Grade Change Appeals, Spring2020

After the Spring Semester results were declared, three grade change appeals were received from 2 M. Tech students and one B. Tech student. Both the cases were forwarded to the Departments for their recommendation and after thorough analysis, the Departments recommended not to alter the marks/grades as requested. The PEC found the recommendations of the department genuine and the Competent Authority also approved the decisions of the PEC.

R15/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Resolved to Ratify** the Grade Change Appeals from Spring 2020 as presented.*

Reporting Items**Item No.16: Temporary Guidelines for Ph. D Programme**

Due to the ongoing pandemic situation, a temporary guideline for Ph. D scholars was notified and the same was presented before the Senate. The Senate noted the guidelines and advised that that the heading of the guidelines should be changed to “Temporary (during Pandemic period) Guidelines for Ph. D Programme”, as the guidelines are prevalent only during the pandemic period and until classes start functioning normally.

R16/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Noted** the guidelines and **Suggested** to change the heading of the guidelines to Temporary (during Pandemic period) Guidelines for Ph. D Programme.*

Item No. 17: Constitution of Committee for implementation of New Education Policy 2020

All the 31 National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology (IIST), Shibpur (W.B.) were requested by MHRD to identify long-term and short-term actionable points, mode / manner of implementing them, time frame to implement the same. The Senate was intimated about the constitution of a Committee for implementation for New Education Policy 2020. The Senate noted the constitution of the Committee and further suggested that an external member may also be included in the Committee.

R17/SENATE-XXII/20: *The Senate **Noted** the Constitution of the Committee for implementation of New Education Policy 2020 and also **Suggested** to include External Member(s) in the Committee.*

Item No. 18: Any other Items with the Permission of the Chair

NIRF Ranking 2020

The Senate was appraised about NIT Meghalaya being placed at 61st rank (among all Engineering Institutes in India) under the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) instituted by MHRD during 2020. The Institute secured 14th rank amongst all other NITs featuring in NIRF 2020 and also held the top position amongst the 11 new NITs. The Institute was ranked in 67th position in NIRF 2019.

As there were no other items to discuss, the meeting concluded with thanks to and from the Chair.