Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Minutes of the IAC meeting held on 30th November, 2010
Time & Venue: 04.00 PM; FB-212

Following members were present:

Prof. S G Dhande, Prof. Brahma Deo, Prof. Sanjay Mittal, Prof. Partha Chakraborty, Prof. S. K. Agarwal, Prof. Sudhir Kamle, Prof. R Sankaramakrishnan, Prof. R N Mukherjee, Prof. Mukesh Sharma, Prof. M Agarwal, Prof. Ajit K Chaturvedi, Prof. L Krishnana, Prof. Dipak Mazumdar, Prof. B V Phani, Prof. P K Panigrahi, Prof. Neeraj Misra, Prof. K Shahi, Prof. Pankaj Jain, Prof. H Karnick, Mr. Vivek Agarwal, Dr. V D Shrivastava, Dr. B Eshpuniyani, Prof. A K Ghosh

At the outset, The Chairman IAC welcomed the members. As the first agenda, the minutes of the previous meeting held on 31st Oct. 2010 were approved by the members.

The IAC members were thanked for attending the Kakodkar Committee meeting. Director updated the members about various points Kakodkar Committee is looking into including non-plan expenditure, financial autonomy of IITs and constitution of Board. The members were informed that the Faculty Forum will hold discussions on Kakodkar Committee's recommendations.

DOAA updated the Ph. D. admission process for the December session. He mentioned that the admission process should be over by December 10th 2010. DOAA also informed that the grades will be released on Dec. 3rd. Details of students who have received 'F' grade will be sent to HoDs and the functionaries are expected to talk to the students and counsel them.

Members were informed that the placement session will start on Dec. 2nd and the first wave of placement will be over by Dec. 18th. HoDs have been asked to be helpful in placement activities.

A proposal to make the academic area free of the motorized vehicles was circulated. As per this proposal, unlocked green color bicycles will be available within the academic area and security will make sure that they stay within the academic area. Every parking space will have reasonable number of bicycles in each morning. It was also mentioned that most of the places in the academic area can be connected by bicycle paths. Questions were raised about the purpose of such initiative and the ultimate goal of this proposal. It was decided that this can be tried on an experimental basis and the cost is expected to be ~Rs. 1 lakh per year.

There was a discussion about setting up a Departmental Advisory Committee for each department. Since currently there is no mechanism of review or consultation, the importance of such Advisory committee was emphasized. Each HoD gave feedback of their respective departments. Although generally it was welcomed, the purpose of such committee was not clear. Some members voiced concern that this committee should not interfere and should not exercise its influence in the Department's activities. Members were assured that the role of this committee is purely advisory. It was also left to the department to decide the composition of the Department Advisory Committee. The Departments were asked to send the names of committee members by Jan 1st 2011 for approval. At least one meeting should be held by June 2011. It was also suggested that it should be an "All Day meeting".

There was also a discussion regarding the Ph. D. students seeking Academic registration. In this regard, a letter dated Sep. 17th 2010 was sent to all HoDs seeking the department's input why large number of students requires more than six years to complete their programs. Ph. D. students seeking academic extension will meet the Director along with HoD, Chairman SPGC and DOAA. HoDs were also asked to find out the status of those students who sought academic extension last semester. Here are many cases where the thesis reports are extremely critical of the quality of the work and serious concern was expressed. Issues related to plagiarism and relationship between the students and advisers were also discussed. The possibility of using a software to check the plagiarism was discussed. Institute will make such software available and service will be provided through Computer Center. DOAA, Head CC, Chairman SPGC and Chairman SUGC will decide how to implement it. There is also a positive response from the students. The possibility of holding seminars on plagiarism and art of writing was also discussed. In this regard, it was also suggested that a half-a-day workshop on do's and don'ts should be conducted during second month (September and February) of every semester.

Election to nominate an IAC member for the Stage II committee for selection of DOFA, DORD and DRPG was held. The following IAC members received maximum votes and they will represent IAC in the Stage II committee for the selection of Deans.

DOFA: Prof. Neeraj Misra
DORD: Prof. Ajit Chaturvedi
DRPG: Prof. Ajit Chaturvedi

(Prof. R. Sankararamakrishnan)
Convener, IAC

21-12-10
(Prof. S. G. Dhande)
Chairman, IAC