

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY: TIRUCHIRAPPALLI – 620 015  
TAMILNADU**

*Minutes of the 21<sup>st</sup> Senate Meeting of the National Institute of Technology, Tiruchirappalli  
held on 29.12.2011.*

The following members were present:

1. Prof.Sundarrajan	Chairman, Senate
2. Dr.V.Jagadeeshkumar	Member
3. Dr.Ammasai Gounden,N	Member
4. Dr.Anantharaman,N	Member
5. Dr.Asokan,P	Member
6. Dr.Balasubramanian,T	Member
7. Dr. A. K. Bakthavatsalam	Member
8. Dr.Deivamoney Selvam,D	Member
9. Dr.Jayabalan,P	Member
10. Prof.Joseph Newman Fernando	Member
11. Dr.Kannabiran,G	Member
12. Dr.Kumanan,S	Member
13. Dr.P.A.Krishnan	Member
14. Dr.Meenakshisundaram,C	Member
15. Dr. Moses Santhakumar	Member
16. Dr.(Mrs.)Nagamani,C	Member
17. Dr.Parisutharaj,L	Member
18. Dr.Pandey K S	Member
19. Dr. T.K.Radhakrishnan	Member
20. Dr. Raghavan, S.	Member
21. Dr. B. Ramdoss	Member
22. Prof. Ramprasad, V.	Member
23. Dr. M. Rajendrakumar, M.	Member
24. Dr. Sankaranarayananasamy, K.	Member
25. Dr.Sarangan,J	Member
26. Dr. Sastikumar, D.	Member
27. Dr. Selvakumar , S	Member
28. Dr.Shanmugam,S	Member
29. Dr. Sivashanmugam, P.	Member
30. Dr.Srinivas Tadepalli	Member
31. Dr. Swaminathan, G.	Member
32. Dr.(Mrs.)G.Thamarai Selvi	Member
33. Dr.Venkataramani,B	Member
34. Prof. Somaskandan P,HOD/ECE	Member
35. Dr.Arul Daniel,S HOD/EEE	Member
36. Dr. Ramakalyan, A HOD/ICE	Member
37. Dr.Vinod, V.B HOD/Humanities	Member
38. Dr.Mala, C HOD/CSE	Member
39. Dr.Thamarai Selvan N	Member
40. Dr.A.K.Banerjee	Member Secretary

The following members could not attend the meeting:

1. Prof.S.Umapathy	Member
2. Dr.Malathy Duraisamy	Member
3. Dr.Gopalan,N.P	Member
4. Dr. (Mrs.) Hemalatha Thiagarajan	Member

5. Dr.Muthupandi,V	Member
6. Dr. R. Nallaswamy	Member
7. Dr.Narayanasamy,R	Member
8. Dr.Natarajan,C	Member
9. Dr. S. Natarajan	Member
10. Dr.Noorul Haq,A	Member
11. Dr.Ponalagusamy,R	Member
12. Dr.Selvaraj,T	Member
13. Dr.Punniamoorthy,M	Member
14. Dr.Sundareswaran,K	Member
15. Dr. Udayakumar, M.	Member
16. Dr.Umapathy,M	Member
17. Dr.Venkatasamy Reddy, A	Member
18. Dr.Viswanatha Iyer	Member
19. Mr.Thirumaran, HOD/Architecture	Member
20. Dr.Venkatesa Prabhu, G HOD/Chemistry	Member

### **Director's introductory Remarks**

The Director in his introductory remarks, highlights the positive traits of NIT, Trichy in the area of Teaching, Research , Consultancy, student activities and student life in the campus. He also emphasized the need to improve global linkages in terms of student activity and hence there is a need for proper internship options to students, industry oriented curriculum development of leadership and entrepreneurial qualities and transparency between faculty and students. He then elucidated the importance the role of senate in the transformation and growth of the institute. The need for image building exercise for the institute through networking and collaboration with other institutions development was also brought forward. He outlined the following initiatives planned for the institute.

#### **1. a) Academic curriculum**

- Reorienting the academic curriculum towards the changed scenario of technology and industry requirements.
- Offer of a number of global electives opening up all departments to the students to enable them to choose the core electives and global Electives.
- Restructuring board of studies involving more numbers from industry and R&D laboratories.
- Focussed attention on internship and arriving at the time and scope of Internship as part of curriculum.
- Organising lectures from BHEL and other industrial partners for the students, converting these lectures to credit courses.

#### **b) Academic Delivery**

While majority of faculty are good teachers, there exists a small section where teaching capability is lacking as revealed by the feedback received from students. These faculty members need mentoring by senior faculty and also need training for effective teaching. It was decided that the feedback remarks of the faculty are to be sent to the concerned HOD in addition to the individual to take corrective measures.

### **c) Academic Evaluation**

Evaluation to bring out clearly the understanding of the students through assignments along with simple at the same time exploring questions are to be carried out. A specialist committee will be constituted to evaluate the current status and future requirements.

### **2. Research**

Doctoral research areas and candidates have to be increased since the evaluation of the institute is by the number of publications, Patents and doctoral degrees awarded. The present system is attracting limited number of students with a large number of available guides. This mismatch is causing friction in the department. With Prof. Sarangi committee requirements for research for all faculty, there is a need for the institute to market the capability and attract best students. In addition alternative avenues of attracting scientists through external registration schemes are also to be attempted. The course requirements can be simplified by incorporating assignments, video lectures and fully dedicated lectures during week etc. Qualified and motivated faculty from other colleges and industries may be attracted and subjected to a thorough selection procedure about their potential to complete PhD by relaxing senate norms.

Institute was complimented for bagging maximum number of UKIERI projects when compared to other NITs and IITs. This is a very good trend. The activities have to be channelised by directed research programme.

MOUs with CECRI, Karaikudi and SUNY, Binghampton will put the institute in the right path. The week long learning programme offered by Georgia Tech and SUNY is a good example.

Some of the students are finding the PhD programmes complicated with delays. The gaps are to be filled up by reforming the rules as special cases.

### **3. New courses and departments**

A new department for Energy, Environment, Safety and Health will be formed during the next academic year by pooling resources from all Departments. This department will offer post graduate and doctoral courses.

New PG programmes are also planned for introduction during the next Academic year in the areas of system integration (electronic packaging).

All these initiatives require team efforts, total involvements and cooperation from all faculty. With this NIT will be able to emerge as an academic leader.

The senate registered its appreciation for the service rendered by former senate members, Dr.M.Chidambaram, Dr.N.Sulochana, Dr.K.A.Kuppusamy, Dr.V.Sivan, Dr.K.Palnichamy and Dr.H.J.Prabhu who have retired within last 3 years

## Minutes of the Meeting:

### 1. To confirm the Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Senate Meeting held on 29.9.2011.

It was pointed out in the previous senate minutes, the word "non stipendiary" was missing in Item 10. The correction suggested was accepted.

### 2. Results of ODD Semester examination 2011-12 for UG & PG.

The results of the Odd semester examination held in November/December 2011 for both UG & PG were approved.

Considering the more failures in Mathematics course, it was suggested that special classes can be arranged for failed candidates by top ranking students volunteers as done in IITM.

In future PAC is empowered to declare the results. However if there is any discrepancy, it may be brought to Senate sub Committee/senate for giving guidance in such cases only.

### 3. To consider and recommend the award of Provisional Degree to Ph.D & M.S. candidates who have successfully completed the requirements of the Provisional degree.

Recommended and Approved.

In addition to the above, the guidelines for the admission to the Ph.D. Programme is also discussed as follows:

Admission policies for Ph.D was discussed in length and suitable process will be evolved for the admission of Non-Gate scholars also. Similarly admission modalities for admitting part time scholars for M.S and Ph.D. programmes will be evolved by a committee and presented to senate for its approval.

The need for a proper system of assessing the suitability of candidates for Ph.D & M.S programmes was emphasized. The IIT model for the part time sponsored programme could be used as a starting point to work on the new guidelines to be brought out. The admission of Non-Gate scholars will be evolved through this process from ensuing academic year after approval by senate

To increase the number of Ph.Ds scholars, it was also decided to permit eligible external members from R&D organization/ Institutions to register as guide for candidates from such organizations with a local guide at NITT. Name of such external guides will be recommended by the department and subsequently approved by the senate.

It was also recommended that an agreement be signed by the Ph.D scholars to handle classes and other academic assignments as soon as they join the institute. All those who are employed through projects need not execute such agreement. However, all those who are working on fellowship extended by various organizations and Institute fellowship should sign the agreement.

**4. Ph.D Admission under TEQIP .**

The Ph.D. admission for TEQIP sponsored seats was also approved.

**5. Approval of the panel of the experts for CAS for faculty.**

The list was approved. In addition the Director has requested HODs / Faculty to provide some more experts for CAS in some of the Departments.

**6. Nomination of external members of the senate.**

Term of some of the existing external members is ending shortly. It was decided that the Chairman Senate will suggest to Chairman, Board of Governors for nominating of external members to the senate as per statues.

**7. Revised syllabus of ECE department:**

Recommended and approved.

**8. Request of Students for Senate's Consideration.**

It will be discussed in the next senate meeting

**6. Any other item with the permission of Chair.**

The meeting concluded with Thanks to Chair.



**Dr. A.K. Banerjee**  
Secretary ,  
Senate



**Dr. S. Sundarajan**  
Chairman  
Senate