

Minutes of 5th Academic Council Meeting
Date: 20th June 2020, 2:30 pm onwards
Venue/Platform: Microsoft Teams (Online)

Agenda

Item. No.	Item
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the 4th Academic Council meeting held on 19th May 2020.
2	Presentation of Academic Calendar for the AY 2020-21 by Dean Academics to seek approval thereon.
3	Curriculum Revision: 2019-22: Second Year B.Tech/B.Planning/M.Tech Robotics and AI/MBA/PGDRMT, to be implemented w.e.f. AY 2020-21; Detailed Syllabi (Cursory) Presentations by the Heads of the Departments.
4	A Presentation on "Activity Event Grade Points Scheme" by Associate Dean-Student Affairs
5	Any other point with the permission of the Chair: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Renaming of Department of "Production Engineering and Industrial Management" to "Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management"• Seeking approval to postpone 'OOE' for final year UG/PG



The 5th Academic Council meeting commenced with the formal welcome of all the members of the Academic Council by Prof. Jibi Abraham, the Dean Academics. She informed everyone that in addition to the academic council members, six UG and two PG students have also joined the meeting and will be representing the students' community of their respective departments from this meeting onwards.

Item No.-01: Confirmation of the minutes of 4th Academic Council meeting dated 19th May 2020:

The minutes of the 4th meeting of the Academic Council held on 19th May 2020 were placed before the members for confirmation and approval. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved by all the members. Dean Academics informed everyone that the assessment of the students, for the even term of AY 2019-20, has been accomplished, in the novel mode, in this difficult times, as per the decisions made in the previous meeting except that of the final year students. The final year students were supposed to take their final examination in the month of June which has been postponed, owing to the decision announced by the Government of Maharashtra vide their GR dated 19th June 2020.

R-AC-5/1/2020: The members **RESOLVED** to **APPROVE** the **Minutes of the 4th meeting of the Academic Council of the Institute held on 19th May 2020.**

Item No. - 02: Presentation of the Academic Calendar for the AY 2020-21 by the Dean Academics:

Dean-Academics presented the proposed academic plan, which would take a shape of formal Academic Calendar, for the Academic year 2020-21. She informed everyone that the new semester of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th year B.Tech and 2nd year M.Tech students will commence from 20th July online. The proposed instruction plan is "Online Education" for ALL Theory courses, wherein, students will have video streaming as per time table and subsequently students can view the as recorded video sessions of 4 hours lectures for every theory course of 3 credits for the initial 8 weeks of the semester, the 4th hour every week being reserved for solving students' difficulties, and clarifying their doubts, based on the 3 hours sessions delivered in that week. The students will be given 8 assignments (one assignment per week) to be submitted by the students before succeeding Sundays, with a mandate of minimum 6 assignments, with, being assessed for gradation purposes. If the situation normalizes, the students are expected to report to the campus on 14th September 2020. The Dean further apprised everyone that the students will have tutorial based revision every week for the next three consecutive weeks, for Units 1, 2 and 3, after reporting to campus. The performance of the students in these tutorials will be assessed out of 10 marks as part of their internal Test 2. The students will have their first mid semester examination from Oct 12 to Oct 14 2020 as equivalent to Test 1 covering portions of Units 1, 2 and 3. The students will then have tutorial based revision of the units

4, 5 and 6 for the next three weeks. The performance of the students in these tutorials will be assessed out of 10 marks as part of their internal Test 2. The students will have their lab sessions simultaneously. The students will be graded out of 40 marks for their internal assessment based on their performance tutorials (20 marks) and mid-semester examination (20 marks).

The first year UG/PG students will be expected to join the campus on 14th September and they will receive around 12 weeks of academic inputs. The Dean informed everyone that all Saturdays would need to be made as instruction-days for the first year students to complete the syllabus. The Test 1 of the first year students will be conducted from 12th October to 14th October. They will have their Test 2 from 19th November to 21st November 2020.

All the students will have their practical/oral examinations before their theory examination in December. The re-examination for the odd semester of AY 2020-21 and the Improvement Examination for the even semester of AY 2019-20 will be conducted during December, 2020 - January 2021. The Mind Spark and Impression events will be scheduled by end of December if depending on the Pandemic situation and Government norms, she concluded.

Prof. Salil Kulkarni asked if the college has thought about an alternative plan in case the students are not able to report to the college at all. Prof. Sanjay Dhande advised the institute to be ready with two versions of the academic calendar, one with students on the campus and the other with students off the campus, the whole semester. Prof. Suhas Joshi suggested that there should be a proper plan for online teaching of practical/lab courses in such a unprecedented scenario. The videos of practical/lab sessions can be recorded, on the lines of theory courses and shared with the students in case the students are not able to come to college at all during the odd semester. Prof. Salil Kulkarni advised shifting all the theory courses of even semester of AY 2020-21 also to the odd semester and all practical courses of both semesters in the second semester to address this issue, as another logical alternative.

Prof. Suhas Joshi raised a very important concern regarding the plan of conduction of the examinations in the semester. The examinations have to be planned very carefully and innovatively if the mode is online, he said. One of the experts suggested that there is a possibility that some students do not have access to laptops and internet due to the socio-economic conditions they live in. Dean Academics informed everyone that more than 85% students have all the facilities available to them as per the survey conducted, by the Institute, during April 2020. Furthermore, all the lectures will be recorded on a LMS system and shared with the students so that they can listen to them whenever they have internet connectivity. During the online assessments of even semester of AY 2019-20, it is



realized that around 2-3% students only have problem of connectivity. Such students are very less in number and they can be called to stay in the hostel and study the lessons online from the hostel lab. The experts suggested the institute to plan the entire semester online.

The Dean, thereafter, presented the proposed the Academic Calendar for the even semester for the academic year 2020-21. She informed everyone that there will be changes as per the situation then. She said that the institute will have to be ready with three different Academic Calendars. Dr. Vishwas Udpikar suggested having different plans for UG and PG students as PG students are more mature in handling the technology. The Director of the institute, Prof. Ahuja agreed to what Dr. Udpikar advised, and suggested to have different plans for FY B.Tech and FY M.Tech students. The Director further reiterated that less than 5% students face problems with internet connectivity and they can be called on the campus and live in the hostel following the rules of social distancing. They are very less in number, i.e., around 200 students. These students can learn online from the hostel lab, he endorsed.

Dr. Sanjay Dambhare suggested that the FY B.Tech and FY M.Tech courses will start on 14th September and they can be conducted completely online as rightly suggested by the experts. One of the experts suggested that online lectures are concentrated in nature, and may prove to be a heavy capsule of information/knowledge for the learners and 4 lectures in a week will be thus heavier for the students. It was further suggested to conduct lesser number of lectures and one of the lectures can focus on discussions/Doubts clearing/Tutorial. The faculty members should follow a step by step approach in delivering the contents. The Dean informed that the tutorials are scheduled after 14th September where the students can get their doubts solved from their teachers. The experts agreed to this and said that the situation is new to all of us and we should try everything possible.

Prof. Dhande also suggested that there should be training given to the faculty members to be able to conduct online teaching more effectively. It was informed to the experts that the faculty members have used the last few months in learning and practicing the online tools/platforms while delivering regular lecture sessions, webinars and FDP sessions. The Dean further informed him the institute has been practicing recorded video lecturing through the installed "Impartus" recording facility, since last two years, and many faculty members are well-versed with the recording techniques.

Dr. Amol Patil suggested conducting an ICT infrastructure review, whereas, Prof. Dhande suggested undertaking it again at the time of registration. The Director informed everyone that the institute is working on the procurement of or subscription to possible proprietary online platforms that can be used for Online teaching-learning.



Prof. Dhande raised a very important issue of the loss of interaction/bondage between teachers and students, when Online mode of Teaching-Learning is being practiced. He appealed everyone to discover ways of improving this interaction in future. The Director suggested making the teaching more interactive by asking questions, posing surprise quizzes, etc., during the online sessions, which students can answer them online. This helps in building the rapport between the teacher and students, he said..

Prof. Dhande strongly suggested that the training of the teachers and orientation of the students are very important for this new normal in Education. He said that every teacher must undergo some enhancing course on 'Online education'. When the paradigm of education is changing, the teachers need to change our pedagogy accordingly, he added.

The experts advised the institute to plan the odd semester based on the suggestions given in the meeting and the even semester academic calendar will be discussed in the next meeting.

R-AC-5/2/2020(a): The members RESOLVED to APPROVE that the institute should have multiple versions of the academic calendar ready and primarily focus on having the entire odd semester online and plan accordingly. It was further RESOLVED to undertake the ICT infrastructure review (for the online enablement of the teachers and students) before the onset of the registration process.

R-AC-5/2/2020(b): The members further RESOLVED to APPROVE the Online teaching pedagogy trainings for all teachers.

ItemNo.03: Curriculum Revision: 2019-22: Second Year B.Tech/B.Planning/M.Tech AI and Robotics/MBA/PGDRMT, to be implemented w.e.f. AY 2020-21; Detailed Syllabi (Cursory) Presentations by the Heads of the Departments.

Dean Academics informed the members about the major reforms in the curriculum as a part of the 5th iteration of its revision. The FY B.Tech students were introduced to the new courses such as 'Design Thinking' and 'Introduction to the Scientific Computing tools' in the Academic Year 2019-20. To encourage the interdisciplinary learning aspects, the Institute has introduced Interdisciplinary Foundation Courses (IFC) and Interdisciplinary Open Courses (IOC) from the 3rd semester onwards. She further informed that the B.Tech students will start studying three IFC Courses from 3rd semester where they will register for a course offered by another department. In case of Interdisciplinary Open Courses, a student shall give his/her preferences to opt for a course and institute will allocate the course based on their current CGPA. There will be an IOC in 6th semester on Engineering/Science disciplines and another in 7th semester on

Management. Also the Humanities Open Elective courses of third year are revised to follow two categories such as languages based and other humanities areas. The final year course on Project work is reformed to include two schemes: Scheme A and Scheme B.

In the third semester, the E group students will be introduced to the courses in 'Professional Law, Ethics, Values and Harmony' and 'Interdisciplinary Foundation Course' along with the other regular courses. The M group students will be facilitated with an IFC along with the other regular courses. This structure will be swapped in the fourth semester. In addition to this, in the fourth semester, a new course in 'Rapid Prototyping Practice' (an "I-D-P: Ideate-Develop- Prototype" team Micro-project) is being introduced. The Dean further presented a list of the IFCs decided to be offered by different departments. She further informed everyone regarding the additional courses to be undertaken by the lateral entry students (Diploma Students) in the third and fourth semesters.

The Heads of all the departments presented the detailed syllabi of their respective Second Year B.Tech Engineering, to be implemented w.e.f. AY 2020-21. Prof. Ranadive presented the detailed syllabus of Civil Engineering. The syllabus indicated that the interdisciplinary foundation course will have two lectures. The Director informed him that all the IFCs have two credits and should consist of 1 lecture and 2 lab sessions.

Prof. Salil Kulkarni raised a concern that it might be very early for the students to learn interdisciplinary courses in the third semester itself. Dr. Sonawane, HoD-Instrumentation, informed Dr. Kulkarni that the IFCs have been made lighter so that the students of other departments can follow them easily.

One of the experts asked whether the syllabus for the course 'Biology for Engineers' is the same for all the departments. He wished to know if there is any change in the syllabus depending on the requirements of the respective department. Mrs. Nandini Iyer, the Head of the Applied Sciences, informed everyone that out of the 6 units of the course, the first four units are same for all the departments. However, the last two units are tailor-made according to the requirements of the respective departments.

Dr. Vahida Attar presented the detailed syllabus of second year B.Tech Computer engineering. Dr. Sachin Lodha opined that the syllabus of the Data Structures and Algorithms course will be quite heavy for the students. He further suggested that this paper can be divided into two parts and taught in two semesters rather than one semester.

Dr. Sanjay Dambhare presented the detailed syllabus of second year B.Tech Electrical engineering. Dr. Mahajan presented the detailed

syllabus of second year B.Tech Electronics and Tele Communication. Dr. Sonawane presented the detailed syllabus of second year B.Tech Instrumentation. Dr. Nandagaonkar presented the detailed syllabus of second year B.Tech Mechanical Engineering. Prof. Butee presented the detailed syllabus of second year B.Tech Metallurgy.

Mrs. Nandini Iyer presented the detailed syllabus of the newly introduced Master of Business Administration (MBA) Programme. Prof. Pantawane presented the detailed syllabus of the FY M.Tech course in Artificial Intelligence and Robotics. Dr. Amol Patil suggested that the first year curriculum of this programme should consist of a laboratory course related to Artificial Intelligence.

Prof. Ranadive presented the detailed syllabus of the Post-Graduate Diploma in Rail and Metro Technology (PGDRMT). He proposed that the first semester will focus on Rail technology and the second semester will focus on Metro technology. The Director suggested that the programme should consist of some basket of electives. He also opined that there should be some modules of basic courses in the syllabus. Prof. Ranadive agreed with the Director for the same and said that the department will try to incorporate some IFC courses in the course structure.

R-AC-5/3/2020: The members RESOLVED to APPROVE the curriculum revision and the SY detailed syllabi presented to be implemented w.e.f. AY 2020-21 with the changes decided in the meeting. It was further decided that the Interdisciplinary Foundation Course will have one lecture and two practical sessions, depending on the nature of IFC being offered.

Item No. - 04: Activity Event Grade Points Scheme by Dean Student Affairs:

Dr. Dhamangaonkar, the Associate Dean Student Affairs, presented the proposed 'Activity Event Grade Point Scheme.' He proposed that every student should participate at least in one co-curricular or extra-curricular activity in one semester. The students will get points and marks for the same. Prof. Salil Kulkarni strongly suggested that it would add to the stress levels of the students if we make these activities mandatory for them. The Director agreed with Dr. Kulkarni and said that we need to remodel this scheme in such a way that the students will be pleased to engage in these activities. Prof. Anil Kulkarni suggested that it is a good idea to encourage students in participate such activities, but they shouldn't be given marks for the same. Prof. Suhas Joshi suggested giving some qualitative remarks instead of marks or grades on the certificates of the students.

R-AC-5/4/2020: It was decided that this scheme will be revised/remodeled and sent to Prof. Salil Kulkarni and Prof. Anil Kulkarni for further approval.



Item No. - 05: Any other point with the permission of the Chair:

1: Renaming of Department of “Production Engineering and Industrial Management’ to “Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management”:

Dean Academics, presented the proposal to rename the department of “Production Engineering and Industrial Management’ as “Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management”. The department of “Production Engineering and Industrial Management’ currently has the following UG/PG programs

- B.Tech Manufacturing Science and Engineering
- M.Tech Manufacturing Engineering and Automation
- M.Tech Mechatronics
- M.Tech Project Management
- M.Tech Robotics and Artificial Intelligence

Since the department majorly offers the programs related to the domain of Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management, Dean-Academics proposed that the department of “Production Engineering and Industrial Management’ to be renamed as “Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management.”

R-AC-5/5-1/2020:The members RESOLVED to APPROVE the change in the name of the Production Engineering and Industrial Management department to “Manufacturing Engineering and Industrial Management.”

2: Seeking approval to postpone the “OOE” for final year UG/PG

Dean-Academics further informed everyone that the End Semester Examination of the final year UG and PG students that was to be scheduled to commence from 22nd June 2020, need to be postponed as per the latest GR issued by the Government of Maharashtra on 19th June 2020 towards Planning of Examinations for Final Year UG and PG. The GR instructs to CANCEL the Final Year Examinations for Students of Traditional Programs (Arts/Science/Commerce), subject to a Voluntary Option from the STUDENT, as follows:

- If a student decides to pass out the Final semester WITHOUT taking examination, he/she is required to give a relevant CONSENT in writing and needs to accept the norms declared by the University/Institute, on declaration of Grades and Results.
- If a student OPTS to appear for the Final semester examination, he/she is required to INFORM in writing, to the Institute and accept the SCHEDULE of Exams, announced by the Local Authorities, University and the Institute.
- Decision about examinations of backlog courses will be announced by the Government.
- For Professional Programs, the above-mentioned decisions have been communicated by the Government to the National Apex authority

Body (i.e. AICTE in our case), for further APPROVAL on the Decisions.

Hence the Dean Academics requested the Academic Council to approve the following decision:

“The ESE Examinations for Final Semesters of B.Tech and M.Tech, decided to be conducted in ‘Online-Off-campus-Mode (OOE), and scheduled to commence from 22nd June 2020 will be POSTPONED until further notice, in this regard, and after receiving relevant clarification from Apex Body-AICTE, SPPU and Govt. of Maharashtra.

R-AC-5/5-2/2020: The members RESOLVED to APPROVE the above-mentioned decision towards postponement of the End Semester Examination for the final year UG/PG, planned to be conducted in novel “Online-Off-campus-Mode (OOE)” and scheduled to commence from 22nd June 2020.

The Dean Academics thanked all the members for attending the meeting and declared the meeting concluded. She further informed everyone that the next Academic Council meeting will be held on 1st August 2020. The meeting ended with the vote of thanks to the Chair.


Prof. Jibi Abraham
Member Secretary

