

Indian Institute of Information Technology, Design and Manufacturing, Kancheepuram

**Minutes of the 47th Meeting of the Board of Governors held at 11.30 A.M. on
Saturday, 10th October 2020, through Google meet, IITDM Kancheepuram.**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. Prof.S.Sadagopan	--	Chairman
2. Prof. Banshidhar Majhi	--	Member
3. Shri. B.S. Raghavan	--	Member
4. Prof. David Kovil Pillai	--	Member
5. Prof. S. Narayanan	--	Member
6. Sh. B.Santhanam	--	Member
7. Shri.A.Chidambaram	--	Secretary
8. Prof. G.Venkatesh	--	Invitee
9. Dr.Sudhir Varadarajan	--	Invitee

LEAVE OF ABSENCE WAS GRANTED:

1. Shri. Jaideep Mishra
2. Prof. Baskar Ramamurthy
3. Shri. Krishna.V.Giri

GENERAL DISCUSSION:

The Chairman welcomed the members to the meeting. The Director explained the initiatives taken by the Institute during the pandemic period and commencement of classes for the July-November session through online mode. The Chairman wanted to know the feedback of the students for the online classes and the director explained about his personal interaction with students for the difficulties if any and the online classes are welcomed by all.

The Board discussed about the student faculty ratio and the need for increase in the faculty strength. The Director explained about the recruitment of faculty carried out during the past two years and the current recruitment process for the faculty through online mode which is likely to be completed soon.

The Board advised the Institute for enhanced focus on the sponsored projects for visibility of the Institute and for better industrial connection. This shall also increase the prospects of placement of students in the future.

The Board advised that CEOs of the companies and NASCOMM/FICCI representatives may be invited to the Institute for special lectures for more exposure to students and faculty. This will enable product development in tune with tomorrow's needs of the country. The Board advised the Institute to visit the National Innovation foundation and National Innovation council for funding of Institute ideas and proposals.

BOG 47(2020)-01	Confirmation of the minutes of the 46th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 03rd July 2020.	
	<p>The minutes of the 46th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 03rd July 2020 was circulated to all members of the Board and no comments were received.</p> <p>The Board of Governors confirmed the minutes of 46th meeting of the Board placed as <i>Annexure "A"</i>.</p>	
BOG 47(2020)-02	Action taken report on the minutes of the 46th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 03rd July 2020	
	Subject	Action taken
BOG 46(2020)-05	Discontinuation of Direct admission in Dual Degree Program and grant of option to B. Tech students to upgrade to M. Tech as Dual Degree Programme.	The Institute has notified the seat matrix plan to JoSAA for B.Tech. Programmes only for the Academic year 2020-21 and direct admission for Dual Degree programme is discontinued.
BOG 46(2020)-06	Reduction of students strength	The Institute with consultation with MHRD has arrived a student intake of 360 (JoSAA) +15(DASA) = 375 (Total) for the B.Tech. course and the senate after discussion has approved the student intake and the same has been communicated to JoSAA.
BOG 46(2020)-07	To Discuss and approve creation of Design Department	It is proposed to create an inter-disciplinary school and separate proposal for the same is included in the agenda.

	BOG 46(2020)-10	Declaration of completion of probation for the Faculty	The probation completion orders were issued to the faculty.
The Board noted the action taken by the Institute.			
BOG 47(2020)-03	Commencement of academic activities of the Institute		
<p>The Institute has commenced the online classes for the July-November, 2020 (Odd) semester from 03rd August, 2020 and there are positive responses for these classes from all the students. The theory classes are of 50 minutes' duration conducted through Google Meet and Moodle and learning is primarily based on discussion and interaction. Lab courses are mostly simulation based and the MHRD prescribed virtual labs are used by faculty and technical staff. Attendance is monitored by sharing a Google form during class or using Meet-attendance in Google meet. The results of the previous semester have been published and the grade sheets have already been uploaded including final year pass out batch, except the current final year students who have started their 5-months internship from 10th May, 2020. On their request, their previous semester examination will be conducted in October 2020 after completion of their internship.</p> <p>For the ongoing semester, the assessment will be based on continuous assessments comprising of short quizzes, assignments, projects followed by an end-semester assessment. The faculty are permitted to adopt continuous assessments which they deem fit based on the subject. 30-50% weightage, as approved by the Senate is assigned to end term examination and balance is assigned to continuous assessments. The proportion of actual weightage will be decided by the faculty in consultation with class committee and will be communicated to students before commencement of the evaluation. The students facing poor internet connectivity or other technical difficulties will be supported by the teaching assistants for the courses. The Institute has also invited such students to come to the campus if they so desire with an undertaking from parents to avail the Institute amenities to attend the online classes.</p> <p>The Institute has recently inaugurated the state-of-the-art recording studio at Teaching Learning Centre (TLC) to facilitate the faculty to record their classes for further use of students. The studio meets the standards of</p>			

	<p>SWAYAM requirements and hence, it is planned to develop MOOC courses so as to become national coordinator among IITs for SWAYAM programmes. This will enhance our outreach and become source of fund generation in long term.</p> <p>In the case of first year PG students, the CCMT special round results were announced on 7thSeptember and an orientation programme was held on 8th September 2020. Therefore, the classes for them (Odd Semester) has been commenced from Wednesday, 9thSeptember 2020. The dates for JoSAA admission is not yet notified and the first-year B. Tech classes will be based on the completion of admission process.</p> <p>The Institute is functional from 1st October 2020 and all Teaching, Non-teaching staff are attending the Institute regularly duly following the standard operating procedures (SoP) against Covid-19.</p> <p>The Board discussed the same and advised the Institute to take all precaution during this pandemic period. The Board appreciated the effort of the Institute in timely completion of the formalities of the passing out batch of students.</p>
<p>BOG 47(2020)-04</p>	<p>To discuss and approve the Design Spine Curriculum report</p>
	<p>IITDM Kancheepuram gives thrust in creating design centric engineers and offers 6 design courses to all branches of engineering. The BoG of the Institute has recently constituted a subcommittee under the leadership of Prof. G Venkatesh, Member-Senate and Mr. Krishna V Giri, Member, BoG to review and recommend suitable changes in the course curriculum. Prof. Sudhir Vardharajan, Dean, Innovation and Incubation has been appointed as the convener to the committee. At the outset, the committee identified three objectives which are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To clearly articulate demand from industry, products to be produced by IITDM and their positioning. 2) To review and strengthen the design centric engineering curriculum in terms of the overall structure, the content of the design spine and its integration with the rest of the courses. 3) To recommend an appropriate organization and budget to strengthen the design spine and the future programs to expand the foot print and impact of IITDM on the industry/society. <p>Keeping this objective in mind, the committee had due deliberation with various stakeholders and recommended to have 3 categories of offering by</p>

providing complete flexibility to the students to choose their electives/degrees.

- a) **Design-centric engineers:** All engineers entering IIITDM will have a certain level of exposure to product design and digital that will differentiate them against engineering students coming from other institutions in terms of their problem-solving capability. They will receive the regular B.Tech. Degree. They may pursue their career aspirations in engineering – technology jobs, Masters Programs in technology (India or abroad) or join PSUs. About 70-80% students may fall in this category.
- b) **Design-centric engineers++:** Those who have an inclination for a career as solution architects, product designers, entrepreneurs or product managers will be taken into a separate stream and given an additional six electives (from the advanced M.Des. courses) and supported through the internship. They will receive a B.Tech. in their program of study along with an Honors in Product Design. About 20-30% of students may fall in this category. A few from this group may opt for a 5-year Dual Degree program in B.Tech. + M.Des. The products in this category will be the brand ambassadors of IIITDM.
- c) **Product Designers:** These will be close to the type of products produced by the M.Des. Programs in NIDs and IDC/IITB. This product category does not exist in IIITDM portfolio today. About 20 students may be inducted in this program.

The curriculum has a foundation program in the first semester to help the students to unlearn and rediscover their creative selves. Another 5 subjects in subsequent semesters ensures that students gain hands on experience in the process of product design right from need identification to Proof of Concepts (PoC) and business case development.

The students will be given an option to pursue honors in Product Design at the end of 5th Semester and a Dual Degree program in M. Des at the end of their 6th semester. However, they will have to go through an internal selection process that will be based on the potential and performance of the student in design spine. The emphasis on providing 25% weightage for problem-based learning in 30% of the science-engineering courses (between 1-6 semesters) will help the students gain practical skills in engineering design and manufacturing at the component level. Another key aspect of the proposed design curriculum is that it does not require major changes to the overall curriculum structure. By creating the two categories and making electives open it has created space to meet the requirements of different

categories of students/products.

In case of Master of Design program, it is proposed to adopt elements from TU Delft's Integrated Product Design and IDC (IITB) industrial design. The students will start working on an industry provided or self-identified problem in their first semester. Each of the courses will facilitate students work on the same problem but from the perspective of the course so that a holistic appreciation of the concept and embodiment is achieved. The electives and detailed syllabus are under preparation and will be placed in next senate. It is also proposed to commence inter disciplinary design doctoral program and this will be open to educators/ professional to reinvent their own practice or knowledge base. It is proposed to implement Design Spine curriculum & syllabus for the UG program (Design-Engineering with Honors in Product Design) starting with 2020 batch. M.Des Program in Integrated Product Design will be offered from July, 2021 after finalization electives and its syllabus and Ph. D. Program in Interdisciplinary design and innovation may be offered from Dec 2020.

Dr. Sudhir Varadarajan made a brief presentation to the Board on the proposal for the School of Interdisciplinary Design and Innovation. He explained about the key drivers (Vision 2025, ARIIA Ranking 2020, NEP 2020, global initiatives and models in engineering education such as MIT-NEET, TU Delft, SUTD) and consultations with design experts from industry, academia, alumni and faculty. He also elaborated the key objectives of SIDI: (a) Advancing the vision of IIITDM & NEP 2020; (b) creating a new culture of learning centered around studio/practice; (c) specialization and adaption in relation to local industry needs; and (d) creating a strong pipeline for the incubator (MaDeIT).

In order to realize the above objectives, SIDI will adopt the following organizational principles: (a) creation of a Design Advisory Council comprising design experts from industry and academia; (b) a mix of visiting to regular faculty in the ratio of 1:1, and actively search and induct exceptional talent as regular faculty; (c) adopt a network structure by co-opting department faculty; reconfiguration of Class and Project Review Committees, and encourage new faculty recruits to contribute 30% of their probation period towards the objectives of SIDI; (d) engage external design experts for orientation programs and design reviews. Prof. G Venkatesh also clarified that consultations with the industry and alumni clearly brought out two things: (a) the need for design-centric engineers and (b) the superior ability of IIITDM students in dealing with uncertain/ambiguous problem situations.

	<p><i>The estimated number of faculty for SIDI will be 15 by Jul 2021 and 25 by Jul 2024. The five-year consolidated budget estimate required to support SIDI includes capital expenditure of Rs. 500.00 lakhs and operating expenditure of Rs 4095.00 lakhs including salary component. The estimated five-year revenue is Rs. 1305.00 lakhs and sponsored research grants to the tune of Rs. 404.00 lakhs.</i></p> <p><i>The Board expressed its appreciation for the effort made by the institute. The Board advised the institute that the design advisory council should have an external expert and engaging international faculty specialized in Design as visiting faculty. Further, new faculty across the department may be requested to contribute 30% of their time in the SIDI for holistic development of the design spectrum of the institute.</i></p> <p><i>The Board advised the institute to popularize the design curriculum by explaining the benefit accrue to the industries and to the prospective students. The Board also took note of the recommendation of the Senate in introduction of the design spin for B.Tech from 2020 batch and M.Des. from July 2021 batch. The Ph. D. Programme may be deferred till the strengthening of the design school.</i></p> <p>The Board with the above comments approved the Design Spin proposal and the curriculum & syllabus etc. may be formulated with the due approval of the Senate.</p>
BOG 47(2020)-05	To discuss and approve the Annual Report of the Institute for the year 2019-2020
	<p>The Annual Report of the Institute elaborating the activities, achievements and other milestones of the Institute needs to be prepared every year and to be submitted to Ministry of Education (MoE), for laying in the Parliament. Accordingly, the Annual Report of the Institute for the year 2019-20 is prepared and enclosed as an <i>Annexure “B”</i></p> <p>The Board discussed the annual report and appreciated the Institute for the content and the details. The Board approved the Annual report for forwarding to MHRD for laying in the parliament.</p>
BOG 47(2020)-06	Proposed 8th Convocation of the Institute on 31st October 2020
	<p>IIITDM will convene its 8th Convocation to award Degrees and Medals to the graduating students of 2020 batch on 31st October, 2020 (Saturday) at 10:30 AM – 1:00 PM in online mode. Padma Vibhushan Dr. K. Kasturirangan, Former Chairman ISRO and Chairman, NEP-2020 has</p>

	<p>given his kind consent to grace the occasion as the Chief Guest and Mr. Arun Jain, Chairman and Managing Director - Intellect Design Arena, Chennai has agreed to become the Guest of Honour. The guest of Honour provision has been introduced for the first time in the convocation and the institute plans to continue the practice to invite an industrialist every year to improve the industry connect with the institute.</p> <p>The resume of Dr. K. Kasturirangan and Mr. Arun Jain has been attached in <i>Annexure – “C”</i></p> <p>A total of 303 students will be awarded degrees in the convocation. Further, A total of 16 students will be awarded Medals for excellence in various academic and co-curricular activities.</p> <p>The Board agreed with the proposal of the Chief guest and the Guest of honour and agreed to the suggestion of the Director to invite an industrialist as guest of honour in every convocation. The Board approved the proposal to conduct the 8th convocation of the Institute online in view of the pandemic.</p>
<p>BOG 47(2020)-07</p>	<p>To report about securing of Atal Innovation 2020 (ARIIA) ranking by the Institute</p>
	<p>The Ministry of Education, Govt. of India has initiated ‘Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA)’ to systematically rank education institutions and universities primarily on innovation related indicators. ARIIA considers all major indicators which are commonly used globally to rank most innovative education institutions/ universities in the world.</p> <p>ARIIA ranking is now getting a wide acceptance among India HEIs and it will certainly inspire Indian institutions to reorient their mind-set and build ecosystems to encourage high quality research, innovation and entrepreneurship. Moreover, ARIIA aims at setting direction for institutions for future development for making them globally competitive and in forefront of innovation.</p> <p>It is proudly informed that our Institute is ranked in Band – A (Between 11-25) in category of “Institute of National Importance, Central Universities & CFTIs and the certificate received from Ministry of Education is enclosed as <i>Annexure” D”</i></p> <p>The Board appreciated the Director and the Institute for their efforts in securing Band A rank and exhorted the Institute to strive more.</p>

BOG 47(2020)-08	To discuss and approve the minutes of the 43rd Senate meeting held on 19th September, 2020
	<p>It is submitted that the Senate meeting of the Institute was held on 19th September 2020 through Google meet. The minutes of the same is enclosed as <i>Annexure "E"</i></p> <p>The Board after discussion approved the minutes of the 43rd Senate meeting held on 19th September, 2020.</p>
BOG 47(2020)-09	To discuss and approve the Annual Accounts 2019-20 of the Institute
	<p>The Annual accounts of IITDM Kancheepuram for the year 2019-20 was prepared in the prescribed format and was discussed and approved in the Finance committee meeting held on 10th October 2020.</p> <p>The Board noted the recommendation of the Finance committee for the annual accounts 2019-20 and approved the Annual accounts 2019-20 of the Institute.</p>
BOG 47(2020)-10	To ratify the reduction of fees due to pandemic for the July-Nov 2020 semester.
	<p>The Institute has received several representations from students and parents to reduce the fee along with a request to pay the fees in instalments. In order to address the representations, a Google Meet was conducted on 19.07.2020 with student representatives.</p> <p>Taking into account the request of the student / parents and also pandemic situations, it was decided to waive off the sports and medical fee totaling Rs. 2,000/- completely for the July-Nov 2020 semester as there is less likelihood of utilization of these facilities by the students and incurring expenditure on this account.</p> <p>In case of hostel fee, it was decided to reduce the hostel seat rent from Rs. 3,500/- to Rs. 2,000/- and maintenance charges from Rs. 9,000/- to Rs. 5,000/-. As per our estimate, maintenance charge of Rs. 5,000/- per student for the semester would be sufficient to maintain facilities like water treatment plant, STP, Lifts, Housekeeping, security apart from sanitization of hostel and mess building at regular interval.</p> <p>In addition, the advance dining charges amounting to Rs. 14,000/- was not collected and any amount on this account will be collected proportionately at the time of opening of the Institute. In addition, establishment charges of</p>

Rs. 1,000/- which is in the form of student fund to meet expenditure of cultural events was not collected to avoid celebration of any group event at this juncture.

In view of above action of the Institute, students and parents are not burdened with immediate payment of Rs. 22,500/- during this semester. As some of the parents have expressed their inability to pay the fees at one go, the Institute has permitted the students to remit the fees in 3 instalments.

The M.Tech. & Ph.D. students are availing fellowship and, they have been advised to pay as per existing structure but without including advance dining and establishment charge amounting to Rs. 15,000/-. However, they have been granted the benefit of fee payment on instalment basis.

It is submitted that the fee reduction benefit is passed on only to B.Tech students as on roll in the Institute (1077 students). The total financial burden to the Institute/hostel will be as under (excluding the Advance dining charges/establishment charges which is collected as advance and paid as per actual and thereby having no impact on the revenue.)

Description	Reduction of amount per student (in Rs.)	Total financial burden for the July-Nov 2020 (in Rs)
INSTITUTE		
Sports & Medical fee	2000.00	21,54,000.00
HOSTEL		
Seat Rent	1500.00	16,15,000.00
Maintenance charges	4000.00	43,08,000.00
	Total	59,23,000.00

The Board discussed and ratified the action taken by the Director and noted that this fee reduction is applicable for the July-November 2020 semester only.

**BOG
47(2020)-11**

To report about the arbitration proceedings in the construction work of Laboratory South & North block.

After due approval of the BOG, the AA&ES for the work of construction of laboratory South block and North block for IIITDM Kancheepuram was issued during August, 2011 and March, 2012 respectively for an value of Rs.69,93,34,000/- & Rs. 58,43,91,000/-.

The work was taken up by CPWD simultaneously under two separate agreements and the same were awarded to the agency M/s URC constructions Pvt. Ltd during 2013. Due to non-receipt of funds, the Institute advised the CPWD to foreclose the work. The external work up to G+6 floors and internal work up to G+2 floors had been completed at the time of foreclosure of work and the building has been put in to use.

Due to non-availability of funds, the work was foreclosed during May 2017 by CPWD. The agency M/s. URC constructions Pvt. Ltd., had raised dispute in payments of certain items and referred the matter to the Chief Engineer, CPWD.

The CE, CPWD, has awarded Pre-Dispute Resolution Committee (DRC) award of **Rs.2,20,12,764/-** for Laboratory -South block and **Rs.2,16,51,310/-** for Laboratory - North block and the payment for a total amount of **Rs.4, 36, 64,074/-** has been made by CPWD to the claimant contractor.

Now after receiving the payment as Pre-DRC award made by the CE, CPWD, the agency M/s. URC constructions Pvt. Ltd. has knocked the door of Arbitration and sought to refer their disputes to Arbitration.

Accordingly, the Chief Engineer, in exercise of his power under the agreement, has appointed a sole Arbitrator to determine the disputes. The details of claim referred to the Arbitrator by the Claimant contractor is as below:

Claim no.	Description of claim	Amount in Rs.	
		Lab - south	Lab - north
1.	Compensation for Cost overrun due to prolongation of contract	Rs.4,80,32,874/-	Rs.3,68,58,093/-
2.	Compensation for reduction in scope of work	Rs.1,02,71,981/-	Rs.78,90,117/-
3.	Compensation for other materials escalations	Rs. 28,82,745/-	Rs.28,82,745/-
SUB TOTAL		Rs.6,11,87,600/-	Rs.4,76,30,955/-
GRAND TOTAL		Rs. 10,88,18,555/-	

The arbitration proceedings have commenced and the CPWD has submitted the counter affidavit for rejection of the claim made by the contractor. The hearing is under progress and the developments will be put up to the Board for direction.

The Board discussed the same and advised the Institute to defend the proceeding in consultation with CPWD. Further, the Board advised the Institute to communicate to MoE about the arbitration proceedings and

	the contingent financial liability arising out of the same for funding and inclusion in the Budget estimate by MoE for future payment if any.
BOG 47(2020)-12	To discuss and approve the minutes of the 29th Finance Committee meeting held on 10th October 2020
	It is submitted that the 29th Finance committee meeting of the Institute was held on 10th October 2020 through Google meet. The minutes of the same is enclosed as <i>Annexure "F"</i> The Board after discussion approved the minutes of the 29th Finance committee meeting held on 10th October, 2020.

The meeting concluded with thanks to the Chair.

Sd/-
(A. Chidambaram)
Registrar & Secretary

Sd/-
(Prof. Banshidhar Majhi)
Director

Sd/-
(Prof. S. Sadagopan)
Chairman,
Board of Governors