



Proposal to Restructure FAC & GFAC for Academic Year - 2022-23

Need:

Multiple issues have been noticed in the past years related to the Gymkhana Festival, like protocols not being properly followed, a complex structure of financial approval, lack of student representation in the apex festival decision-making body, GFAC (Gymkhana Festival Advisory Committee), etc. New issues have also arisen, like modified guidelines for finances, new rules for audit, and direct involvement of the Store & Purchase Section in transactions. Many problems have also been reported by the Dean of Students' Affairs faced due to FAC having an advisory role.

To tackle them, some structural reforms are needed in FAC and GFAC and in their mandate. These changes will lead to the foundation of a more autonomous and well-managed festival.

Proposal:

There is a need to change the basic hierarchy and responsibility part of FAC and GFAC. We propose a structural and mandate-based revamp of both committees.

Festival Affairs Committee:

1. The Festival Advisory Committee shall now be the Festival Affairs Committee, having an executive role; hence it shall now be majorly responsible for conducting a festival.
2. The Festival Coordinators, in consultation with the President, Students' Gymkhana, will propose names for the Festival Chairman and two faculty members for the FAC to the Chief Counsellor, Students' Gymkhana.
3. Chairperson, Students' Senate shall be conveying the names to the Students' Senate.
4. Any contentions on the appointment of the faculty members by the Students' Senate will be addressed to the Chief Counsellor, Students' Gymkhana.
5. The FAC of a festival shall be constituted by the Patron, Students' Gymkhana, where names for faculty shall be forwarded by the Chief Counsellor, Students' Gymkhana.
6. The Festival Chairman of the festival shall be the Chairperson, FAC of the festival.
7. The FAC of a festival will supervise the festival team in its functioning and shall provide necessary guidelines regarding the scope and budget of the festival, and it shall consider the pre-conduction report of the festival presented to the Senate after it is accepted by the Senate.
8. All activities of the festival team shall be carried out only with the consent of the Festival Chairman.



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9. Role of the Festival Chairman shall be:
 - He/She will be responsible for ensuring that the security guidelines and financial rules are implemented by the festival team.
 - He/She will be responsible for ensuring that all the bills are submitted as per the time frame according to the financial guidelines.
 - He/She will be responsible for ensuring that all the protocols and procedures are followed by the festival team while inviting the guests as per the festival manual.
10. The Festival Affairs Committee shall comprise:
 - Festival Chairman (Chairperson)
 - Two Faculty Members appointed
 - Associate Dean, Students' Activities of the Institute
 - Respective General Secretary
 - President, Students' Gymkhana
 - Chairperson, Students' Senate
 - Festival Coordinator(s) (One of the Festival Coordinator(s) shall be designated as Member-Secretary).

Gymkhana Festival Advisory Committee:

1. FACs will not directly report to the Gymkhana Festival Advisory Committee (GFAC); they shall be monitored by GFAC for general festival rules which are not specific to a festival.
2. The Associate Dean of Students' Activities (ADSA) shall be the Chairperson, GFAC.
3. The Gymkhana Festival Advisory Committee (GFAC) will consist of:
 - Associate Dean, Students' Activities (Chairperson)
 - Associate Dean, Hall Affairs
 - Festival Chairman, Antaragni
 - Festival Chairman, Udghosh
 - Festival Chairman, Techkriti
 - Festival Coordinators, Antaragni
 - Festival Coordinators, Udghosh
 - Festival Coordinators, Techkriti
 - President, Students' Gymkhana
 - Chairperson, Students' Senate (Convener)
 - Assistance Registrar, Students' Affairs (Member-Secretary)
4. The GFAC shall provide the necessary guidelines about general festival affairs, and all policy changes regarding festivals at the Institute level must be done through the GFAC.
5. The GFAC shall send its recommendations to the Chief Counselor, Students' Gymkhana, to further forward it to the Patron, Students' Gymkhana, when necessary.



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Concerns and Expectations from DoSA Office:

Since we are moving towards a structure where GFAC, the apex festival legislative body, is now being chaired by ADSA, an additional approval layer of DoSA has been created, and we expect that this layer doesn't cause an additional delay in the implementation of decisions taken by the FAC and the GFAC.

We will need the DoSA Office to assist the FAC in two key things, MoU and Billings. The MoU will be following the newly implemented template, where ADSA is the main signee from the institute; with his/her sign on MoU, DoSA Office will be expected to process them.

ADSA is also part of FAC for assisting the Festival Chairman and bridging the DoSA Office and the FAC. Most of the festival bill approvals will be directly taken from Festival Chairman, so the DoSA Office will be required to process the bills approved by the Festival Chairman without seeking any additional approval from the DoSA or ADSA.

There have also been incidents of bill scrutiny by the DoSA Office, so from now any bill for a reason approved by the Festival Chairman which follows the proper financial guidelines shall be processed without seeking reasons or justification for why that purchase is being made.

Conclusion:

This is a pilot proposal for the rules surrounding the festivals, which shall be implemented for a year. Then, post-Techkriti'23, we shall relook at the proposal and work forward to create a better and more-refined structure for the future.