



Students' Senate
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Ankit Bhutani | Convener



Minutes: 9th Meeting of the Students' Senate, 30th December, 2012

The 9th Meeting of the Students' Senate (2012 – 2013) was held on 30th December in the Senate Hall, New SAC. It was called to order by the Convener, Students' Senate at 2:30 PM.

The attendance record of the senators is:

- Total: 57
- Present: 42
- Absent: 17
- Absent with permission: 8

The Agenda items were taken up for consideration.

Item No. 1	To ratify the Minutes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none">i. 8th Meeting, held on 04.11.12ii. 3rd Special Meeting, held on 08.11.12
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The draft Minutes were presented by the Convener. It was noted that in the Minutes of the 3rd Special Meeting, the phrase “would be possible” in agenda Item 4 was actually “would not be possible”.

The Minutes of the Meetings, with the above-mentioned change, was ratified by the Senate.

Item No. 2	Announcements and Remarks, if any.
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1. The President informed that for the first time in inter-IIT history, IIT Kanpur had won the overall athletics championship. Moreover, IIT Kanpur secured 4th position overall at the 48th Inter IIT Sports Meet.
2. The President informed that Tender for the existing foods stalls are up for renewal in a few days. At the same time, tenders for the remaining stalls shall also be floated soon.
3. The Convener informed that during the presentation of the Terminal Report of SSAC (Senate Students' Affairs Committee) in the 4th meeting of the Academic Senate, many faculty members expressed their concerns over the lenient punishments being given by SSAC. It was also recommended that guidelines for stricter punishments must be laid down and communicated to students. The Convener also informed that there might be stricter punishments in the future from SSAC, especially in cases of academic dishonesty. He also informed that a committee is expected to be constituted by DOSA to look into the



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increasing number of cases related to cheating and to suggest remedial measures for the same.

4. The Convener also informed that he had voiced a concern in the previous academic Senate regarding the slow implementation of the ARC changes. Owing to the repeated concerns raised in previous academic Senate meetings, the new draft UG Manual had been prepared and sent to Students' Senate and all departments for feedback. However, there is still no clarity regarding Minors, Double Major, Engineering Science and Dual degree. It was decided that the President shall send a letter expressing these concerns to the concerned authorities. He was requested to circulate the draft of the letter on the Senate list before sending it to the administration.
5. The Convener also informed that a committee had been formed by the Director with the President and Convener along with a few faculty members in it to modify the branch change rules. The report of the committee had been itemized as an annexure of the UG Manual for the opinion of the Senate.

Item No. 3	To report on action taken on the decisions of: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. 2012-13/8th Meetingii. 2012-13/3rd (Special) Meetingiii. Earlier Meetings of the Senate.
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The Action Taken Report was presented by the Convener, Students' Senate for the consideration of the Senate.

During the course of the presentation, the Convener informed the Senate that the Senate Library Committee of the (academic) Senate had submitted a Library vision document which contained a large part of the student requirements. Taking cognizance of this, the Senate decided to dissolve the committee constituted in the 2012-13/8th Meeting to draft the report for student requirements in the Library.

Further, the Convener announced that the (academic) Senate mailing list is open, and hence, at his discretion, he had opened the Students' Senate mailing list as well.

Senator, UG Y9, Pratik Moona enquired about the status of the report to be sent by the President regarding the Health Centre, and requested that it be included in the ATR. The President replied that the report would be prepared and presented to the Senate in the next meeting.

The ATR was accepted by the Senate.



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Item No. 4	To discuss the possible actions to be taken by the students of IIT Kanpur regarding the cause of Delhi student.
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During the discussion, the following major points were raised by the members present:

1. It was suggested that the celebration on New Year Eve may be called off in wake of the death of the Delhi gang-rape victim.
2. It was suggested that a protest march or a candle light march be carried out to express our mourning for the victim and to press forward the demand for stronger legislation against the accused in cases of sexual assault.
3. It was pointed by the President that Students' Gymkhana that we have a Students' Gymkhana and not a Students' Union, and it is not a political body. Further, he pointed out that Students' Gymkhana was instituted to take care of the concerns directly related to the Students of IIT Kanpur and to take forward their concerns to the administration.
4. It was suggested that a resolution bringing forward our concerns must be put forward and sent to the Justice Verma Committee as well as the concerned authorities in the Government.
5. It was informed by the COSHA Convener that Hall 2, Hall 5 and Hall 8 had indicated that they may go forward with the celebrations in individual halls if a central level celebration was cancelled by the Students' Senate. Further, it was pointed out that it was upon the request of the President and COSHA Convener that the halls had agreed to a central level celebration rather than different celebrations in individual halls. Cancelling the central level celebration in spite of the decent of the halls may lead to spoiling of relations between the gymkhana and the HECs.
6. It was pointed out by the Finance Convener that cancelling the celebrations shall also result in a financial loss of nearly Rs. 60,000 besides spoiling relations with various vendors involved in celebrations.

The decisions of the Senate in the matter were as follows:

1. Considering the fact that cancelling the central level celebration might result in financial loss, weakening of gymkhana-HEC Coordination and further it also may lead to individual celebrations at hall level defeating the whole purpose of cancelling the central celebrations; it was decided that the New Year celebrations shall go on as planned.
2. It was decided that though no protest shall be organized by Gymkhana but in case some students wish, they can approach the President who is empowered to provide logistical support, if he deems fit.
3. Further, it was decided that the Convener shall send a mail to the general body seeking their opinions. Such opinion may be compiled by a few volunteering Senators and presented as a draft resolution in a Special meeting to be called on January 1, 2013 in which the draft may be finalized and sent to the relevant authorities.



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Item No. 5	To formulate the student feedback on revised draft UG Manual for Y11 and subsequent batches for consideration of the UG Manual Committee
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The Convener informed the Senate that the UG Manual Committee, set up by the Director to revise the UG Manual for the batches Y11 and onward has been sent to the Students' Senate for feedback and recommendations. The revised draft of the UG Manual was subsequently taken up for discussion.

In the course of the discussion:

- It was noted by the Convener that the informal reference to auditing had been removed from the UG Manual. Taking this into account, the Senate felt that the audit grade proposal to be submitted by the committee set up in the 2012-13/2nd Special Meeting shall be forwarded to the administration along with the other recommendations.
- The UG Manual Committee had requested for recommendations in the context of make-up examinations for missed mid-semester examination. Currently, make-up is completely left to the discretion of the Instructor. The Committee had suggested either maintaining status quo, or centralizing the procedure for make-up for mid-semester examinations, similar to the end-semester examinations. The Senate strongly recommends that since there is now only one mid-semester examination, and correspondingly, it has much greater importance, the procedure should be centralized.
- It was noted by the Senate that the UG Manual Committee was recommending that a limit of 12 months be placed on the time before which a terminated student can appeal against his termination. In this context, the Senate felt that if such a rule is included, then it should also contain a clause for waiving this limit in special circumstances such as prolonged illness (physical or psychological), continued family problem etc.
- It was noted that the number of days for authorized leave for medical or other bonafide reasons had been reduced. The Senate suggested that this be relooked into.
- Further, the Senate noted that Clause 8.4 of the proposed Manual reads:
 1. If a student is absent without authorized leave of absence for a major part of the semester, his/her program may be terminated by Senate.
 2. If a student does not appear in the end-semester examination of all the courses in which s/he is registered, his/her program may be terminated by Senate.

The Senate felt that “major part of the semester” is ill-defined and can lead to ambiguity. It thus recommended that a precise amount be specified as to what constitutes “a major part of the semester”.



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Item No. 6	To discuss the impact of new academic system on students.
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The impact of the new academic system on students was discussed by the Senate. It was decided that a committee would be constituted to look into the impact and present a detailed report to the Senate. The committee was constituted with the following members:

- Mr. Ashish Dabas Senator, UG Y11
- Mr. Sarthak Chandra (Chair) General Body Member
- Mr. Ankur Pandey Students' Senate Nominee, SUGC
- Mr. Srijan Shetty Senator, UG Y11
- Mr. Shouvik Sachdeva Senator, UG Y11

The committee was directed to submit its report as soon as possible.

Item No. 7	To consider the mid-term report of the Presidential Council and the President's Office.
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The President presented the report of the Presidential Council and the President's Office. The report was accepted by the Senate.

Item No. 8	To consider the post-conduction report of Inferno'12.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next meeting.

Item No. 9	To frame the list of inter-collegiate festivals to which the Students' Gymkhana sends a contingent every year and formulate a procedure for obtaining leave for such fests.
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The item was discussed by the Senate. The Senate opined that as it was more of an implementation issue rather than a policy matter, the General Secretaries, the President and the Convener should discuss the agenda among themselves and inform the SUGC suitably.

Item No. 10	To consider the request from Techkriti'13 team to allow them to use the interest generated from savings in Techkriti 2005 account.
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The request of the Techkriti'13 team to use the interest generated from the savings in Techkriti 2005 account, forwarded by the Finance Committee was discussed by the Senate. Several Senators felt that this money should be allowed to build in order to create a monetary reserve for cases of extreme need, such as festival team defaulting on finances. Further some Senators proposed that the money should be used for supporting any organ of the Gymkhana, not necessarily just the festivals



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that generate it. It was thus decided that the request would once again be discussed in the Finance Committee before being discussed in the Senate.

Item No. 11	To consider the modified budget for Golden Jubilee Celebrations of Students' Gymkhana.
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The modified budget for the Golden Jubilee Celebrations was presented by the Finance Convener, Karthik Balasundaram. The following changes were made by the Senate in the recommended budget:

- The money allotted in the head for Closing Ceremony was increased from 8.8 lakh to 10.50 lakh.
- Based on the recommendation of the Finance Committee, it was decided that a call for proposals shall be sent for the surplus amount of money that was nearly Rs. 20 lakh.

The budget allocation with the above changes and recommendations was accepted by the Senate.

Item No. 12	To consider the report of the committee to look into the travel grant for attending international conferences.
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The report of the committee to look into travel grants was presented by the Chairman of the committee, S. Srinivasan. The report was accepted by the Senate, and it was decided that it would be forwarded to the administration by the Convener.

Item No. 13	To consider the following proposals: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Replacement of the word "ratification" by the word "confirmation" in the context of Minutes to better reflect the act done by the Senate.Renaming of the post of "Convener, Students' Senate" as "Chairperson, Students' Senate" to better reflect the responsibilities of the post.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting

Item No. 14	To consider the proposal for refurbishing the IIT K website and empowering the student mass of IIT Kanpur for better placements and educational developments.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting.

Item No. 15	To note the updated constitution of the Students' Gymkhana.
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The updated constitution was presented by the Convener, and noted by the Senate.

Item No. 16	To elect the members of the Gymkhana Review Committee.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting.

Item No. 17	To consider the proposal for a bus transport system inside the IIT Kanpur campus.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting.

Item No. 18	To consider the proposal regarding dustbins on road sideways.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting.

Item No. 19	Discussion on the proposal for a Gymkhana Review Committee.
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This item was deferred for consideration in the next Meeting.

Item No. 20	To consider the proposal for CPA for 1 st Year PG students.
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Due to lack of time, this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

Item No. 21	To consider the proposal to keep all committee meetings open-door.
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Due to lack of time, this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

Item No. 22	To consider the proposal for introduction of compulsory mentor for each PG student from senior batch.
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Due to lack of time, this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

Item No. 23	Questions and Remarks, if any
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Due to lack of time, this item was deferred to the next Meeting.

	Any other item, with the permission of the Chair
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No other item was introduced.

The meeting was adjourned by the Convener, Students' Senate at 8:45 PM.



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Attendance Record

S. No.	Senators	Name of the Post	Record
1	Abhay Jain	President, Students' Gymkhana	Present
2	Sonal Kumari	General Secretary, Cultural Council	Present
3	Subhojit Ghosh	General Secretary, Science and Technology Council	Present
4	Yuvraj Dhillon	General Secretary, Games and Sports Council	Present
5	Yashovardhan Bhagat	General Secretary, Films and Media Council	Present
6	Ankit Bhutani	Convener, Students' Senate	Present
7	Karthik Balasundaram	Senator, Ph.D.	Present
8	Kumar Gaurav	Senator, Ph.D.	Absent*
9	Payel Pal	Senator, Ph.D.	Absent*
10	Rekha Raja	Senator, Ph. D	Absent*
11	Pavan Kumar Nagar	Senator, Ph. D	Present
12	Pankaj Chaturvedi	Senator, Ph. D	Absent
13	Rajat Dhingra	Senator, Ph. D	Absent
14	Arun Kumar	Senator, Ph. D	Absent*
15	V Srinivasan	Senator, Ph. D	Present
16	Shamik Ghosh	Senator, Ph. D	Present
17	Khushal Singh Chauhan	Senator, M. Tech Y12	Present
18	Gaurangi Gupta	Senator, M. Tech Y12	Present
19	Harshvardhan	Senator, M. Tech Y12	Present
20	Tushar Deshmukh	Senator, M. Tech Y12	Present
21	Arjun Ravichandran	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
22	Adwait Parulekar	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
23	Abhimanyu M A	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Absent
24	Srinivas Chitturi	Senator, M.Tech Y11	Present
25	Nishant Maheshwari	Senator, MBA + M.Des. + other equivalent Masters Programmes Y11	Present
26	Sumit Bhagwani	Senator, UG Y8	Present
27	Akella Ravi Nagarjun	Senator, UG Y8	Present
28	Kanish Manuja	Senator UG Y9	Absent*
29	Jyoti Gupta	Senator UG Y9	Present
30	Pratik Moona	Senator UG Y9	Present
31	Aman Haji	Senator UG Y9	Present
32	Digraj Singh Chahal	Senator UG Y9	Present
33	Anurag Dash	Senator UG Y9	Present
34	Himanshu Pandey	Senator UG Y10	Present
35	Abhiroop Bhatnagar	Senator UG Y10	Absent



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36	Rahul Arora	Senator UG Y10	Absent*
37	Saurabh Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
38	Amritanshu Mishra	Senator UG Y10	Present
39	Saurabh Dixit	Senator UG Y10	Present
40	Sanchit Khattar	Senator UG Y10	Present
41	Shivam Trivedi	Senator UG Y10	Present
42	Ankur Atul Agarwal	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
43	Amrit Rijhwani	Senator UG Y11	Absent
44	Samarth Bansal	Senator UG Y11	Absent*
45	Srijan R Shetty	Senator UG Y11	Present
46	Shouvik Sachdeva	Senator UG Y11	Present
47	Ashish Dabas	Senator UG Y11	Present
48	Pranjal Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Present
49	Diksha Gupta	Senator UG Y11	Present
50	Akshay Mahajan	Senator, UG Y12	Present
51	Balendu Shekhar	Senator, UG Y12	Absent
52	Prakhar Jain	Senator, UG Y12	Present
53	Chirag Gupta	Senator, UG Y12	Present
54	Praveen Honhar	Senator, UG Y12	Present
55	Utkarsh Agarwal	Senator, UG Y12	Absent
56	Shubham yadav	Senator, UG Y12	Present
57	Adhiraj Arora	Senator, UG Y12	Present

Absent* - Absent with permission