



Students' Senate (2015-16)
Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Vedant Goenka | Chairperson



Minutes: 4th Meeting of the Students' Senate, 28th August, 2016

The 2016-17/1st Meeting of the Students' Senate was held on Sunday, 28th August, 2016 in the Senate Hall, SAC. The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson, Students' Senate at 4:00 PM.

The following agenda items were taken up for consideration.

Item No. 1	To confirm the Minutes of the following meetings: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Joint Meeting 2016ii. 2016-17/1st Meetingiii. 2016-17/1st Special Meetingiv. 2016-17/2nd Special Meetingv. 2016-17/2nd Meetingvi. 2016-17/1st Emergency Meeting
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The Chairperson, Students' Senate presented the minutes of the Joint Meeting, 1th Meeting for confirmation. Few comments were addressed on the mailing list. The minutes were confirmed by the Senate with no changes.

The minutes of other meetings could not be presented as they were not prepared.

Item No. 2	Announcements and Remarks, if any
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The General Secretary Science and Technology Council announced that Takneek had started. Two events - Crypto and SnT code were done and the rest will be conducted later.

The President Students' Gymkhana informed the Senate that the first phase of cycle auctioning was already done and the second phase was to be done later. The Senate was also informed that the Student lounge would be started before End Sems. The E-Summit was also started by the E-cell.

Item No. 3	To consider the reply of the Senators, to the show cause notice issued to them for not complying to the following attendance rule: <ol style="list-style-type: none">i. Missing 2 meetings without notificationii. Missing 3 meetings without notification
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Garima Bawa notified the Senate about the mail she sent for her absence. The Senate accepted her reply.

The other two respondents ceased to be Senators owing to unsatisfactory reasons for leaving the meetings.

Item No. 4	To note the results of the Mid-Term Elections (2016-17)
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The Senate welcomed the new Senators and the General Secretary Cultural Council and embraced them.

The document of the results have been uploaded on the website.

Item No. 5	To note the decisions taken by the Senate over the mailing list
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The Chairperson updated the Senate about the various decisions taken over mailing list. The document for decisions taken has been uploaded on the senate website.

Item No. 6	To report the actions taken on the decisions of the Senate
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 7	To consider the reply of Mr. Aditya Kumar, to the show-cause notice issued to him regarding his de-ratification from posts in the Cultural and Films and Media Councils.
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The Senate decided to go ahead with the deratification of Mr. Aditya Kumar owing to unsatisfactory response of the show cause notice.

Item No. 8	To consider for ratification, the list of names of Overall managers of Takneek '16
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The Senate ratified the names as presented. The list of ratifications has been uploaded on the Senate website.

Item No. 9	To consider for ratification, the list of names of students for Core team of Science and Technology Council
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The Senate ratified the names as presented. The list of ratifications has been uploaded on the Senate website.

Item No. 10	To consider for ratification, an additional list of names of students for Core Team of Techkriti '17
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The Senate ratified the names as presented. The list of ratifications has been uploaded on the Senate website.

Item No. 11	To consider for ratification, the list of names of students for Techkriti '17
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This item was withdrawn due to not following the specified format for the names of the students.

Item No. 12	To consider for ratification, the list of names of students for the post of Head, Vivekananda Samiti
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The Senate ratified the names as presented. The list of ratifications has been uploaded on the Senate website.

Item No. 13	To consider the proposed names for the Faculty Counsellors for the year 2016-17
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The Senate accepted the proposed names for the Faculty Counsellors as presented.

The Senate decided on Prof. K. Vasudevan as the faculty counsellor for the Games and Sports Council and Prof. Abhishek as the faculty counsellor for the Science and Technology Council.

The Senate decided that no Faculty Counsellor was required for the General Affairs Council. The permission for which is to be taken from DoSA sir.

Item No. 14	To consider the post-conduction report of Techkriti '16
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 15	To consider a proposal regarding cycle pool
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Mr. Pranshu Garg presented the proposal for the consideration of the Senate.

The Senate agreed to the proposal in principle and felt the need to have such a system present in the institute. However, the Senate also identified various issues with the implementation like the absence of a proper supervision for the same.

The Senate made a subcommittee for the same. The members are:

Pranshu Garg (150512) (Convener)

Aditya Desai (14101264)

Himanshu Negi (15125016)

Ankit Agrawal (13114)

Amulya Ambare (160102)

The idea of coming up with a compressor in the campus was assigned to Amit Ranjan.

Item No. 16	To consider the report of the Gopal Das Bhandari Award, 2016 Committee
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The Chairperson notified the Senate about the process that happened in summer 2016.



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In the discussion that followed, it was discussed upon that voting be the preliminary round. The shortlisted professors will then be taken into consideration and the decision of the committee will be final on this.

It was decided that no guidelines for the committee will be laid earlier.

It was also decided that nominations to be done till April.

Item No. 17	To consider the pre-conduction report of Takneek 2016
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The General Secretary Science and Technology presented the report for the consideration of the Senate.

The Senate accepted the report as presented.

Item No. 18	To consider the post-conduction report of Freshers' Inferno 2016
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The General Secretary Games and Sports presented the report for the consideration of the Senate.

It was noted that the points of Chess were misstated. It was also decided that proper workshop be held for sports like Hockey prior to further Inferno events. The following recommendation was accepted:

- Events for girls should be promoted. All events organized this year should be continued, and the Sports Secretary should be advised on ensuring participation, as this year there was a terrible response from the girl pool.

The Senate accepted the report with the following changes.

Item No. 19	To consider the post-conduction report of Mid-Term Elections 2016-17
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 20	To consider report of COFA[T] held on 24th August
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The General Secretary Science and Technology presented the report for the consideration of the Senate. It was decided that any amount greater than what is mentioned in the pre conduction report should be presented in the COFA on an ad hoc basis.

The following recommendations were accepted.



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- Since Techkriti'16 team never took permission for such an activity from their Festival Chairman. The Head, Finance has accepted the mistake. The team is directed to write an apology letter addressed to the Festival Chairman.
- Also, it is recommended that a monitory fine of Rs. 2000/- should be imposed on the team. The amount should be distributed among all the members currently in the campus.
- Team Techkriti has taken an initiative to fund Antaragni'15. The team will give a share of 40% of the surplus not exceeding 2 lakhs. This amount will be used to clear the deficits.

The Senate accepted the report.

Item No. 21	To consider the update and subsequent work required on Gymkhana Sponsorship proposal
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 22	To consider a proposal of open-fest model for Antaragni '16.
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 23	To ratify the dates for IITK-MUN organized by Antaragni '16.
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 24	To consider a proposal for naming the Students' Lounge after Dr. Kalam
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 25	To consider the proposal for Semester Leave for research/internships/entrepreneurship activities
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 26	To note the discussion that took place in the 1st General Body Meeting and to consider the actions to be taken thereof
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The Chairperson presented the minutes of the meeting of the first General Body Meeting. The Senate took note of the same.



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Item No. 27	To consider a plan of action for conducting the proposed Health Centre Review
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The senate deliberated upon the item and felt that it is a much wider issue and needed a resolution made on behalf of the Senate. The Senate appointed the President, Students' Gymkhana to draft the resolution and present it to the senate.

Item No. 28	To consider a proposal to restructure the SSAC
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 29	To consider a proposal to increase Convocation prizes and representation in the SUGC
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The item was deferred for consideration till the next Senate meeting.

Item No. 30	Questions and Remarks, if any
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The meeting was adjourned at 10:30pm by the Chairperson, Students' Senate.

The meeting was reconvened by the Chairperson, Students' Senate at 8:30 pm the next day (Monday).

Item No. 31	To discuss the Senate Resolution regarding the proceedings following the sad demise of Late Mr. Alok Kumar Pandey.
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In extrapolation to the Item No. 27, the Senate decided to pass a resolution in regard to the proceedings following the sad demise of Late Mr. Alok Kumar Pandey. The President Student's Gymkhana presented the draft resolution to the student's senate.

Following amendments were made:

- Amendment 1: The senate deliberated if the original resolution sounded authoritative or impolite and deliberated if there was a need to mention the word 'condemn' in the resolution in regard to certain events that occurred during the event. After proper deliberations, the senate felt the need for voting to decide whether to include it in the document or not. The senate decided to not mention the word 'condemn' in the document based on the results of the voting session.
- Amendment 2: The senate deliberated upon the idea that the students' senate on behalf of the student's community should accept the responsibility of the event and it was discussed whether there was a need to include this statement and whether it was



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actually justified to hold the senate responsible for the events that followed. The senate agreed to include this amendment in the resolution.

- Amendment 3: The senate debated whether the phrase 'tried to', mentioned in the third paragraph, should or should not be present in the resolution. The senate after discussions concluded that its inclusion made the letter sound polite and omitting it could make the resolution more strong. After further deliberations, the senate decided to remove the phrase 'most part' as the phrase 'tried to' was already included.
- Amendment 4: The senate deliberated on the possibility of including the support of few members of faculty community.

After including the amendments decided by the student's senate, the senate adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION NO. 2016-17/2

"The Students' Senate expresses its discontentment on the proceedings following the sad demise of Late Mr. Alok Kumar Pandey. On behalf of the student community, it takes complete responsibility of the protest that followed. Students were a part of the community protest which was sparked by issues with the Health Centre that have plagued the campus community for a long time. The protest took its known form primarily due to lack of proper communication between the students and the authorities. The Students' Senate believes that the authorities should have been more proactive during the first two days of the protest and that they failed in assuring the students that necessary steps would be taken in regard to the tragic demise. Some instances when the student representatives conveyed the gravity of the situation to the authorities did not receive any positive response. The Students' Senate is particularly disappointed by the role played by the Dean, Students' Affairs, who did not engage with the students anywhere throughout the entire protest. These led to huge mistrust within the student community which escalated through the three days.

The Students' Senate believes that students tried to show great restraint during the protest. However, there were instances of inappropriate behaviour from students which caused discomfort to the campus community. The Students' Senate, on behalf of the entire student community, would like to apologize for the inappropriate exchange with the Institute authorities, the electrical shutdown, forced disruption of academic activities on the third day and the intermittent locking down of some of the academic gates. The Students' Senate feels that such incidents could have been avoided.

The protest was called off upon various assurances from the Institute, one of which was the formation of a fact finding committee. The Fact Finding Committee (formed vide DIR/IITK/OO/25) presented a report, inconsistencies in which were documented in the 1st Emergency Meeting of the Students' Senate. Furthermore, a lot of cases reporting extreme pressure from PhD supervisors and instances of individuals being targeted by some faculty



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members have been received. The Students' Senate is aggrieved by such undemocratic acts and requests the Senate to take necessary actions in this regard.

The protest has left the entire campus community in need of self-introspection. The Students' Senate has looked into various issues to find out shortcomings in its own functioning which could have possibly avoided this incident. A number of proposals have also been forwarded to the HCUC for necessary action. The Students' Senate appeals to the Institute administration to re-examine its methodology and due process in conjunction with the campus community to prevent wide-spread unrest in the future. The Students' Senate further pledges its absolute commitment to the swift and successful resolution of the issue at hand.”

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30 AM of the next day by the Chairperson, Student's Senate.