



Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
Students' Gymkhana
President | Vedaant Sikka



April 16, 2022

End-Term Report

Presented by:
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Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur



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Outline for the tenure of Students' Gymkhana 2021-22

The 2021-22 tenure of the Students' Gymkhana was filled with various challenges. We faced many ups and downs throughout the year. When we started, the institute had been operating online for majority of the students. One of our major aims was to transition back towards normal pre-pandemic campus life.

Our initiatives broadly aimed towards the following.

- To push for campus reopening for all the students & retaining the IITK culture in the best possible way during the online semesters.
- To smoothly transition from the online to offline mode while students were being called back in a phased manner. At the same time, managing the COVID pandemic on campus.
- To strongly move towards a normal, vibrant campus life.

In accordance with the above, robust results will be visible in this report and various other reports of the Students' Gymkhana (2021-22)..

With the return of students across batches on campus, successful management of the COVID third wave on campus and conduction of several events (including all three fests) offline, the major goals envisioned have been achieved.

Our campus life in all aspects has improved drastically and is still on an upward trajectory. I would like to congratulate all the students, faculty and staff who have worked in/with the Students' Gymkhana to make this happen.

There were various other significant events that mark a successful tenure starting from the Academic relief measures; 20% reduction in Health Policy Premium; various events and initiatives with Alumni and IIT K AA; conduction of Inter-Hall Cells' Competition (Riwayat); Diwali Celebrations (for the first time) by Gymkhana for students and as a show of gratitude to faculty, security, health centre staff, hall staff and various other community members of IITK; certification of IITK as "Eat Right Campus" (by FSSAI) with 5 star rating; Inclusion of PSG in the Sanitation & Horticulture Technical Bids committee for the first time and offline conduction of 54th Convocation.

I am confident that the incoming team would take IIT Kanpur and our campus culture to even greater heights.

Concluding this outline, I will begin with the detailed End-Term Report.



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Institute Standing Committees

1. Institute Advisory Committee

1 IAC meeting was held on February 26, 2022. The following items were discussed in the same:

- a. Funding plans for various projects like SMRT
- b. Construction of Hall 14 should be completed by January 2023
- c. The funding received by the institute in 2021-22 was significantly higher than in the other years. It was also noted that the government budget received has decreased significantly and thus increasing funding from other sources is extremely important.
- d. It was decided that End Semester Exams for 2021-22/2 will be conducted offline for all batched except BT/BS Y21.
- e. All departments were told to promote offline classes/discussion hours for students on campus amongst instructors.

2. Heads' Group

The committee met on March 11, 2022, to finalize the return of UG Y21 students & moving towards normalcy in all aspects including the academic domains. It was decided that the UG Y21 students shall be called back from April 2-10, 2022 and that the offline semester will begin from April 1, 2022.

There were several other meetings but the above-stated meeting had the PSG as a special invitee. It should be ensured by the incoming team that in all matters related to the student body, PSG should be invited to the meeting. Additionally, we should push for permanent membership in the committee (analogous to the IAC).

3. Commercial Establishment Management and Monitoring Committee:

- a. Tender for a General Store shop in Shop # 7A, a Photocopy Shop in Shop # B-03 and a Barber Shop in Shop # S-03 at Main Shopping Center finalized.
- b. Tender to run the vegetable and fruits shop in Shop # 06 at New Shopping Center finalized.
- c. Tender to run a Barber Shop in Shop # D-10, Readymade Garment & Footwear Shop in Shop # D-12 and a Tea & Snacks Shop in Shop # D-01 at MT Section finalized.
- d. Tender for the North Indian Cuisine outlet in shop No.03 at New SAC finalized.



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- e. Tender for empanelment of Taxi/Car service operator and cycle stand at Main Gate was finalized.
- f. A Food Stall of "Baked N Ice" opened for a day on Diwali at New SAC.
- g. Canteen of all Halls of Residence(except Hall-3) reopened, General Stores and other shops of Halls also approved for reopening.
- h. The Chocolate Room reopened, and canteens of Academic Area, DoAA and Southern Labs.
- i. Tenders for Hall-3 and CC canteen have been received and soon will be finalized.
- j. IIT Kanpur certified as "Eat Right Campus" with a **five-star** rating.
 - i. "Eat Right Campus" is an initiative led by FSSAI which aims to promote safe, healthy and sustainable food on campus.
 - ii. Rounds of self-assessments and audits by an FSSAI empaneled agency were conducted in all the food establishments of campus to identify gaps and areas of improvement.
 - iii. Training Session organized for Food Safety Supervisors and food handlers in the campus through FSSAI's FoSTaC Programme.
 - iv. After all the gaps and areas of development were improved, a final check was conducted by FSSAI, where we scored five-on-five.
- k. Tenders for multiple shops in MT Section finalized including those of D-2, D-3, D-7, D-11 & D-13. These were a General Store, 2 Cycle Repair Shops, a Fruit & Juice Shop and a Tea & Snacks Shop.
- l. Barber Shop in Shop#07 Type-II Shopping Centre and Cycle Repair Shop in Shop#10, NSC finalized.
- m. Technical Round for CSE Canteen done, and soon financial bids will be opened.
- n. Shop to run photocopy store in PKK Library finalized with additional permission given to include Coffee, etc machines.
- o. One CEMMC meeting was also convened on 14.03.2022, where multiple agendas were discussed, minutes are yet to be finalized, details will be shared by in the coming tenure.

4. Health Center User's Committee:

- a. Health Insurance policy Renewal
 - i. The Health Insurance policy for the institute was renewed for the term 2021-22 in July.
 - ii. The student nominees compiled a report consisting of past issues faced by the students, and our recommendations for



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Improving the policy for students.

- b. A google form was floated to understand how many students have discrepancy issues with their vaccine certificates. This data was given to the Health Center for redressal and proper action.
- c. Guidelines regarding Dental OPD and reimbursements were released via an Office Order.
- d. Rates for OPD consultation in the city with empaneled consultants were revised.
- e. Vaccination Centre under National Immunization Program (NIP) at Health Centre initiated through District Authorities, Kanpur.

5. Hall Allocation & Advisory Committee:

Hall Allocation Policy (HAP) 21-22 was presented in the meeting of HAAC and the Policy was passed through the committee after relevant changes.

6. Waste Management Committee:

Various meetings were held by the committee to discuss the ongoing composting process and other initiatives. Details for the same will be provided in the End-Term Report.

7. Students' Placement Committee:

- a. 3 meetings were held on July 10, 2021, October 21, 2021 & January 17, 2022 respectively.
- b. In the meeting on July 10, the internship policy was finalised, a proposal for improving the soft skills of students was discussed & new placement portal was introduced. Along with this, work on the PhD portal to be developed by the SPO began.
- c. In the meeting on October 21, the following were discussed: PhD placement plans, proposal on starting Office of Placement Advice and Preparation & Toastmasters Clubs initiative.
- d. In the meeting on January 17, the following were discussed:
 - i. Updates on Phase 1 of the Placement Drive. It was noted that there was a considerable increase in non-core opportunities like consulting & product management.
 - ii. Plans for Phase 2 of the Placement Drive
 - iii. Updates on the internship Drive
 - iv. OPC 2022-23 selection committee was finalised.



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- v. Updates regarding the toastmasters club were discussed. It was informed that Mr. Suresh Bazaj (IIT K Alumnus) has kindly donated towards the initiation of the same. The club will be initiated in March 2022 and a dedicated manager will be hired for the same.
- vi. It was noted that the SPO is trying to recruit more PG & Ph.D. students in its team for improved functioning.

8. Minimum Wage Monitoring Committee:

- a. The committee modified the Mess Establishment Charges as per the latest minimum wage.

9. Senate Appeals Committee:

- a. The committee considered the appeals of 3 students. 2 were reinstated and 1 was not reinstated.

10. Security Advisory and Executive Committee:

Many meetings were conducted with agendas majorly involving security concerns in residential area of campus. Few salient points are listed below,

- a. Initiatives for Biometric based entry system was pushed and accepted at committee level.
- b. Functionality of Shivli Gate was increased, and selected vendors were permitted to enter with that gate.
- c. Installation of Cameras on perimeter of institute approved by committee.

11. Institute Student Affairs Committee (ISAC):

This was a landmark committee formed by the director on the recommendation of the DoSA. The ISAC has one representative from each department, the President, Students' Gymkhana, and the DoSA. Each department has a corresponding DSAC with student and faculty members.

It was formed with the vision of creating an efficient structure to tackle non-academic student affairs. The need for this was felt during the pandemic since a lot of student issues came up which were not academic.

The committee met on various occasions and discussed several important issues (in meetings and also over emails) which are listed below.



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- a. Plans for batches A0 to A10 were discussed at length in the committee. Finally the decision to open a continuous window for students to arrive was taken.
- b. Undertakings related to the pandemic & accommodation were discussed.
- c. A subcommittee was made to formulate the entry/exit rules for the students. It was decided that these would be revised periodically depending on the ongoing situation.
- d. PSG gave a presentation regarding the plans to call back Resource Constrained students at the earliest.
- e. A sub committee was formed to discuss COVID appropriate behaviour in the academic area.
- f. The committee on August 26, 2021 to discuss the following:
 - i. Policy for movement of students outside of the campus on the basis of non-medical grounds.
 - ii. To consider the return of MSc Y20 students.
 - iii. Subcommittee report on COVID appropriate behaviour in the academic area.
- g. The entry/exit rules were relaxed and tightened periodically based on the prevailing situation.
- h. The restrictions on interhall movement were relaxed by the committee.
- i. The policy of the return of the students was discussed.
- j. The committee met on December 13, 2021 to discuss the following:
 - i. Accommodation plans for all students (except BT/BS Y21) since all were permitted to return from December 28, 2021. It was noted that there is going to be significant crunch across various programs and batches.
 - ii. To discuss the management plans for a possible pandemic on campus. The PSG presented a report to the committee outlining the plans for the same.

Overall, the committee has proved to be very effective in formulating various guidelines and addressing various student issues. As a recommendation, DSAC UG & PG student nominees should always be selected and sent by the Students' Senate as is the practice in all other domains.

Institute Cells:

1. Women's Cell:



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- a. Orientation Presentation
 - i. The Women's Cell conducted an orientation session for the incoming Y21 branch which aimed to spread awareness in the new batch over the paramount importance of gender sensitisation, the dangers of sexual harassment or even harassment for that matter, various scenarios and myths as well as the laws and rules governing sexual harassment as a criminal offence along with the role of Women's Cell and ICC in IITK, and QnA.
- b. Proposals
 - i. Inclusion of student nominees in the Internal Complaints Committee.
 1. The proposal was first introduced in the Women's Cell and following suggestions, it was introduced in the Students' Senate where it was passed. The Proposal will later be sent to the Chairperson, ICC for prospective implementation
 - ii. Sanitary Napkin Dispensers in the IIT Kanpur campus.
 1. The proposal was introduced in the Women's Cell and accepted by the members. A survey will be released to the campus community to find the best points of installation of dispensers and will be implemented with the help of the DoIP office.
 - iii. Movement of female students outside the campus after midnight and addressing inter-hall movement.
 1. The proposal was introduced in the Women's Cell to allow female students to travel outside the campus within midnight and 6am. The second proposal was to provide infrastructure for club and societies operation in gender-neutral locations and increase time for inter-hall movement to 2am. The same will be forwarded to the DOSA but has been put on hold in the light of Covid restrictions.
 - iv. Rename the Women's Cell.
 1. The proposal to rename the Women's Cell to the Gender Cell was introduced in the Women's Cell and accepted after scrutiny. The same will be discussed by the Director.
- c. Logo Designing Competition
 - i. The competition was held to find a new logo for the Women's Cell and invited healthy competition. The winner was awarded Rs. 1000 and the logo was adopted as the official logo of the Women's Cell.



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- d. Awareness Sessions
 - i. Sensitization sessions pertaining to Sexual Harrasment.
 - 1. Sessions were held for the staff, faculty, and students department wise and the same will be continued until all departments are covered.
 - ii. Awareness sessions pertaining to the Relationship Policy
 - 1. The session was prepared and will first be held for the members of the Students' Senate and gradually for the entire campus community.
 - iii. Training Sessions
 - 1. The Women's Cell had collaborated with an external organization, Posh@Work, to conduct sexual harassment training sessions. It is yet to be followed up on.
- e. Social Media
 - i. Facebook Page
 - 1. An attempt was made to revive the Facebook page with visuals and regular posts as well as increase the number of followers.
 - ii. Linktr.ee
 - 1. A linktr.ee was setup at linktr.ee/wciitkanpur which contains all links relevant to the working of the Women's Cell, IIT Kanpur
- f. Offline events
 - i. Movie Screening and Panel Discussion
 - 1. A Movie Screening of 'Turup' and 'Hidden Figures' along with a Panel Discussion (professors, students, staff) was conducted in L20 on 8th March, 2022 to celebrate International Women's Day. The attendance for the first movie and Panel discussion was around 150-200, and the attendance for the second movie was around 400-500.
 - ii. 5km Run and Walk for a Reason
 - 1. The annual 5km Run and Walk for a reason was organised on 9th April, 2022 on the theme, "Don't be a Bystander: Stand Up Against Sexual Harassment". This was to raise awareness and encourage people to stand up against Sexual Harassment. It was open to the IITK Campus Community and saw participation of Students, Staff, Faculty,



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and their families as well. There were 650 registrations for the event.

- g. Planned initiatives
 - i. Sensitization sessions targeting specific issues and specific demographics
 - ii. Increased frequency of social media posts and information circulated to the campus community
 - iii. Session on Relationship Policy
 - iv. Survey
 1. A comprehensive survey will be conducted to understand and put light on the issues being faced in the campus community and appropriate steps will be taken to ensure they are solved.
 - v. Webinars/Seminars
 1. Webinars/Seminars will be conducted on a plethora of topics, inviting eminent speakers, increasing awareness, sensitivity, and promoting equality in all respects.
 - vi. Website
 1. There are plans to update the website with a grievance portal, annual report of complaints and action taken (while maintaining confidentiality), and the design. An official email ID for the Women's Cell will also be sought.
2. **Academics & Ethics Cell:** Multiple cases were investigated and reported during the tenure. For each case, a proper discussion took place in multiple meetings. Appropriate actions were taken to salvage the situation.
3. **Animal Welfare Cell**

The committee held various meetings and took up multiple cases of injured animals while working towards animal welfare. Some salient points are listed below.

 - a. Sterilization/Neutering Drive conducted for Dogs/Bitches on campus.
 - b. Installation of new fences was worked upon and old ones were repaired for animal safety.

Academic Senate:



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6 E-Senate meetings were conducted on the E-senate portal. The following were the salient agendas taken up in the meetings:

- a. 540: The proposals for BS & BS-MS program in Statistics & Data Science and 4 e-Masters' Programs were approved by the senate. Due to the pandemic, the lab and other credit waivers were also approved for the graduating batch. The senate also permitted students to pursue internships while one is enrolled for the summer term. The proposal for altering the grading policy (to not award E/F grade in 2020-21/2) and a makeup Mid-Sem for Y20 was considered and referred to SUGC/SPGC. It was decided that no UG student would be terminated in 2020-21/2.
- b. 541: The proposal to award only A*/A/B/C/D was approved based on the recommendations of SUGC/SPGC. Additionally, it was decided that only 'S' grades would be given for thesis credits.
- c. 542: The Students' Entrepreneurship Policy was passed by the senate. The modified grading policy was extended to the summer term of 2020-21. The mode of instruction and academic calendar for 2021-22/1 was passed.
- d. 543: The UGARC '21 was presented and was accepted by the senate.
- e. 544: The schedule of the 54th convocation was noted. The APEC report was considered and the branch change of UG Y20 was noted.
- f. 545: The recommendations of the Committee for the Modes of Instructions & Assessments, and Conduct of Labs for the 2021-22-II Semester were discussed and accepted by the senate.
- g. 546: It was noted that the 55th convocation would be held in the offline mode on June 28/29, 2022. The proposal for conducting offline classes/labs/assessments for the 2021-22/2 Semester starting April 1, 2022 was approved. It was also noted that the summer term for 2022 would be offline. The recommendations of PGARC on Letter Grading were approved for implementation.

Institute Ad-Hoc & Other Committees

1. Committee to draft the proposal for Institute of Eminence

4 out of the 5 old IITs have received the IoE status and it is high time that IIT K strongly pushes for the same. If awarded, it shall have significant positive financial & perception implications for the institute. A committee was recently formulated to prepare a proposal for the institute of eminence to be presented to



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the government. The committee met once on April 11, 2022, to decide the themes and their working groups for the proposal.

The PSG is part of various important themes and working groups. I would strongly recommend the incoming team to take this forward with sincerity and enthusiasm. This is of utmost importance for the institute and the right contributions will go a long way in making this a reality.

2. COVID Relief Fund committee:

This fund was created to provide urgent financial assistance to the entire IIT K community (students, faculty, staff) during the peak of the second wave in 2021. Frequent meetings were held as and when requests were received from the community. A lot of members benefited from the same and we were able to provide critical help to many people and their families. We also received generous donations from the alumni and are grateful for the same.

As a recommendation, this fund should be converted to a general-purpose fund to provide monetary help to needy students, staff, faculty, and workers. Some work on the same has been done but the timeline for the conversion is long and it should be followed up properly. This will ensure that we have a large corpus to provide critical help and do not have to turn to emergency fundraisers.

3. Security committee:

There were some security issues that recently came up. A committee to appropriately find the facts and suggest measures to resolve the situation was set up. It met thrice and ensured that a resolution was reached.

4. Mode of instruction 2021-22/2:

A committee was constituted for exploring the modes of instruction (offline/hybrid/other), modes of assessment, and conduct of Labs for 2021-22-II Semester. It had the President, Students' Gymkhana as a member and the Chairperson, Students' Senate as a special invitee. The committee met on several occasions, took feedback from students, explored technical options, and analyzed the allocation of classrooms based on pre-registration data.

From the student feedback data (Appendix A) about 85% of the respondents (2798) have indicated their willingness to come back to the campus for attending the 2021-22-II Semester, and many students would be interested to attend the classes in-person. Student members in the committee felt that preference should be given to the offline classes in the 2021-22-II Semester.



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The committee recommends three modes of conduction of classes namely “Fully Offline Mode”, “Hybrid Mode”, and “Fully Online Mode”. The instructor can decide on the mode of lecture delivery after taking into consideration:

- a) number of students who are willing to attend the class in person,
- b) COVID-19 protocols of the institute at any time during the semester, and
- c) own constraints.

5. Shivani Center Committee:

It has been acknowledged that Indian languages are important for educational and cultural development as they strengthen equity in education. Students with Indian languages background face challenges in navigating the English language-based course content and often face academic and social exclusion as a result. The Shivani Centre is expected to bring about a paradigm shift in the educational practices on the campus of IIT Kanpur. It will ensure seamless integration of students of Hindi and OILs background at the institute and will fulfill the objectives laid out in National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. A committee was created for the same with student representatives nominated by the PSG. The first meeting of the committee will be held soon and the details will be made available in the End-Term Report.

6. Dean/Associate Dean Selection Process

- a. DOAA: Prof Shalabh was appointed as the Dean, Academic Affairs.
- b. DORA: Prof Kantesh Balani was appointed as the Dean, Resources & Alumni
- c. ADSA: Selection committee meetings were held and the results shall be announced soon.
- d. ADHA: Selection committee meetings were held and the results shall be announced soon.
- e. ADIP I: Selection committee meetings were held and the results shall be announced soon.
- f. ADIP II: Selection committee meetings were held and the results shall be announced soon.
- g. DOIR: Selection committee meetings were held and the results shall be announced soon.

7. Chief Guest for 54th Convocation 2021:

A committee was constituted in February 2022 to suggest a Chief Guest for



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the 55th Convocation, which is proposed to be organized on June 28/29, 2022. The committee met on March 15, 2022, and suggested a list of names.

8. Day Scholar Committee:

Various meetings for the approval of Day Scholar requests were held in the tenure. Almost all requests were approved by the committee.

9. DCF Allocation Committee:

The meeting for the allocation of DCF amongst the 14 halls and SBRA was held on December 7, 2021. All halls & SBRA were requested to submit their list of requirements with the expected expenditure. Discussions were held and the allocation was finalized.

10. Committee for Evaluating Technical & Financial Bids for Institute Sanitation Service Contract

The bids for the Institute sanitation service were called recently and the committee met on April 2, 2022, for inspecting the technical bids. This time, the PSG was invited as a special invitee. This was a landmark achievement as this means that we will be able to take care of the sanitation workers' welfare in a much better way.

The recommendation for the incoming team is to ensure that PSG becomes a full-time member of the committee (analogous to the mess empanelment committee). This will ensure that the Students' Gymkhana has concrete power to work toward the welfare of Sanitation workers.

11. Committee for Evaluating Technical & Financial Bids for Institute Horticulture Service Contract

The bids for the Institute horticulture service were called recently and the committee met on April 4, 2022, for inspecting the technical bids. This time, the PSG was invited as a special invitee. This was a landmark achievement as this means that we will be able to take care of the horticulture workers' welfare in a much better way.

The recommendation for the incoming team is to ensure that PSG becomes a full-time member of the committee (analogous to the mess empanelment committee). This will ensure that the Students' Gymkhana has concrete power to work toward the welfare of horticulture workers.

12. Committee for Empanelment of Mess Service Providing Agencies in Halls



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The committee approved the legally vetted bid documents for the empanelment over email on December 1, 2021.

The committee then met on February 28, 2022, for a pre-bid meeting with various vendors wishing to file the tender.

A meeting was held on March 5, 2022, to inspect the technical bids of multiple vendors across India who were willing to be empaneled for the messes of IIT Kanpur. A list was shortlisted for the further technical bids.

The meeting for the financial bids will be held on April 13, 2022, and the committee will decide the final list of empaneled mess vendors who would be eligible to bid for the individual mess contracts in the halls of residence of IIT Kanpur.

13. Online Academic Survey Committee

The following committee was constituted for a review of the conduct of courses in the remote mode at the Institute during the COVID 19 pandemic. The committee took into consideration inputs from all the sections of the academic community, namely, students, faculty, and the support staff on the preparation and execution of course content including the lab courses, assessments, platforms for course delivery, and administrative aspects of remote teaching.

The committee met 4 times and conducted various surveys amongst the above-stated communities while preparing the report. The report with detailed results was submitted recently. The salient points are as follows:

- a. A majority of students were satisfied with the overall general conduct of the online academic aspect of the semester.
- b. Both students & faculty were observed to want to explore the flipped model of teaching in a regular offline semester as well.
- c. There exists a general feeling amongst students and faculty to continue Mookit (HelloIITK) as a full-blown LMS (Learning Management Software) after reverting to normalcy.

14. Committee for procuring Furniture(Tables, Chairs, Cots) for Halls of Residence

A meeting was held on March 14, 2022 to inspect the technical bids of multiple vendors across India. The furniture (cots, beds, tables) were physically inspected by the committee. A list was shortlisted for the further financial bid.

The comparatives and financial bids were also discussed soon after and the vendors for the various furniture items was decided based on L1 quotation.



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15. UGARC Implementation Committee/Group

This committee was formed on October 21, 2021 to work towards the implementation of the UGARC 2020-21. It has met various times and has also formed various sub-committees for implementation. Some of them are listed below.

Sub-committees:

a. English Diagnostic Test & Introductory Level English Course Committee

The sub-committee was constituted to review the EDT and introductory level English Course requirements. It should also evolve the syllabus of ELC101 and suggest modalities of offering this course. The committee has met a few times but will conclude in sometime.

b. Ethics Course Committee

The sub-committee was constituted to propose an Ethics Course (Credits: 3). It has met a few times but will conclude in sometime.

16. Anti-Ragging Committee

The UG Y21 recently came to campus (April 2-10, 2022) and the institute level anti-ragging was formulated sometime before that. It met on March 28, 2022 and discussed various aspects related to preventing ragging on campus. The salient points are listed below:

- a. Anti-ragging squads shall be formed in each hostel.
- b. Posters will be put on campus to share the numbers to be dialled in case of ragging.
- c. Movement of UG Y21 shall be restricted till they are properly oriented.

17. Committee for allocation of CPWD quarters

The committee had to look into the allocation of available CPWD quarters. It met various times during the year and suggested appropriate allocations based on the requests it received.

18. Awards

a. Distinguished Teacher Award

2 meetings of the selection committee of the Distinguished Teacher Award were held to decide the recommendations for the award. The award was conferred to Prof. Parasar Mohanty and Prof. Y.N. Mohapatra.

b. Excellence in Teaching Award



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Selection committee recommended 19 professors from various departments for the award. The list can be accessed on the DoFA website.

c. **S.K. Dubey Memorial Award**

The prestigious S.K. Dubey Memorial Award was given to the Mr. Karnal Singh by Satyendra K. Dubey memorial award committee.

19. IIT K Carbon Neutrality Committee:

IIT Kanpur is endeavoring to become a Carbon neutral campus over the next few years. This effort will be spearheaded by recently started Chandrakanta Kesavan Center for Energy Policy and Climate Solutions (www.iitk.ac.in/see/ckcepcs) at IIT Kanpur. To undertake this task, a committee has been constituted. The scope of the committee will be to conduct a survey, prepare an interim report, make recommendations on the possible solutions and oversee the implementations of the solutions in a phased manner. The first meeting of the committee happened recently and details for the same will be shared in the End-Term Report.

Hall Affairs:

1. The CoSHA helped PG Halls for reopening of canteen in march 2021
2. The proposal of Hall Covid Guidelines was discussed and accepted in CoSHA which was accepted in 1st Council of wardens meeting (CoW) and currently Hall level covid task force (HTF) is active in Halls amid Covid 3rd wave.
3. The student representatives were in direct contact with Mess Workers & Wardens of various halls to ensure that the people who required work the most would be prioritised.
4. The CoSHA in coordination with Hall management office played an important role in calling back students in Batches (A1-A10)
5. The Request for opening (September 2022) of Hall canteens with proper covid guidelines was accepted in 2nd Council of wardens (CoW) meeting.
6. The Hall Allocation Policy (HAP) 2021-22 was presented in CoSHA and Students' Senate, HAP 21-22 was presented in 2 parts.
7. The CoSHA played an important role in handling logistics for more than 2500 students returning to campus after 28th December.
8. Inter-Hall Shifting during the semester 2021-22/2: When the UG Y19 & Y20 students were called back in December last week/ January first week, UG Y19 was staying in Hall 13 and initially UG Y20 was allotted Hall 2,3 & 12. The plan was to shift UG Y19 to their parent halls in the first/second week of January 2022



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and UG Y20 to Hall 13. Unfortunately, COVID 3rd wave struck and all shifting was halted. Thus, this shifting began during mid-sem recess (around March 15, 2022) and was concluded by the second week of April 2022. Hall 13 was entirely vacated by April 1, 2022 (to facilitate the proper return of UG Y21).

- a. First, UG Y19 of parent Hall 3 & 5 were shifted from Hall 13 to their respective parent halls.
- b. Second, UG Y20 of parent hall 3 & 5 were shifted from Hall 2,3,12 to their respective parent halls.
- c. Third, UG Y19 of parent hall 2 & 12 were shifted from Hall 13 to their respective parent halls.
- d. Fourth, UG Y20 of parent hall 2 & 12 were shifted from Hall 2,3,12 to their respective parent halls.

This concluded the inter-hall shifting of around 1500 UG Y19/Y20 shifting during the 2021-22/2 semester.

9. The update was taken on Centralized RO installation from all halls was taken.
10. The proposal of central mess empanelment was partially accepted in CoSHA. The halls agreed upon providing a list of vendors (Dairy, Chicken, Vegetables, other grocery) to other hostels as well.
11. Major problems were faced during January'22 when students were called back to campus as there was shortage of cots and students were coming 24*7. With the help of DoSA office Hall managers were guided to open the Hall offices 24*7 and cots were arranged from PG hostels and Hall 13 mainly.
12. Hall 4 is the new PG-girls hostel and necessary construction is currently ongoing, Requests were sent to administration to complete the construction at the earliest.
13. Elections were conducted in SBRA & Hall 11 with the help of Election commission in 2021, Currently Hall 3, Hall 6, GH-1, Hall 8 are undergoing elections. Hall 2 is going with the concept of Hall representatives without undergoing elections. Hall 4, Hall 5, Hall 7, Hall 9 have the new HECs.
14. During the calling back of various UG and PG batches, the entire hall affairs processes were handled efficiently in collaboration with the DOSA office.
15. During September, The proposal for opening up hall canteens inside all working halls in order to help students get access to reasonably priced food at odd times & to reduce crowding at other food joints was sent to the administration. The proposal was discussed with the wardens and was agreed upon by all the members with initial timing being 2:00 to 10:30 and no dining. These restrictions were released later as the situation was under control.
16. During September, The proposal for opening up Shops in halls was sent to the administration and after acceptance it was forwarded to CEMMC office and halls.



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17. The workers rotation system started in last tenure was continued with the batch duration increasing from 7 to 14 to 21 (in general) days and then with the calling back of UG Y21 the workers are getting full work.

Gymkhana Initiatives & Operations:

1. Academic relief measures during the second wave peak

The IITK community was severely affected during the second wave in April 2021 and the following measures were proposed by the Gymkhana and implemented:

- a. No termination for UG students in 2020-21/2
- b. No student will be awarded a fail grade (E/F)
- c. Mandatory make-up of midsems for UG Y20 to be conducted
- d. No 'X' grade to be awarded for thesis credits

These were approved by the senate and implemented which resulted in academic relief for students. Additionally, a mail was sent to all faculty members with a genuine request from the students to make the end semester exams optional or cancel them. This measure persuaded a lot of instructors to either cancel the exam or make it optional.

2. Summer Term of 2020-21

The summer term of 2019-20 was not conducted due to the pandemic. This caused a lot of problems for students who were depending on the summer term to complete their degree on time. The Gymkhana strongly pushed for a summer term and also conducted various surveys for the same. It was decided that the summer term would be conducted. All students with backlogs were permitted to cover up in the summer term. Additionally, students pursuing internships were also allowed to attend the summer term.

3. Committee creation for exceptional cases in April 2021

In April 2021, the 2nd wave was raging and the situation on campus was terrible. Emergency meetings with the administration were called to discuss this and the it was first decided that UG Y17 students would be sent back. An Emergency GBM for PG Students on campus was called on the same day to make them aware of the situations. The decision to send back all PG students was taken soon by the administration. This was strongly opposed by the Gymkhana. Eventually, a committee was created for exceptional cases which could absolutely not afford to go back home.



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4. Logistics handled during the second wave peak

In April 2021, an extremely unfortunate situation was witnessed wherein all students had to leave campus during the peak of second wave. Gymkhana handled a lot of the logistics to try to ease the movement and some of them are listed below:

- a. Coordination for RTPCR reports with students and the labs
- b. Buses were arranged from the campus to the railway/bus stations
- c. Medicine packets were arranged for all students
- d. Masks and face shields were also provided on an immediate basis
- e. There were a lot of restrictions to travel in various states. A compiled document was created and circulated to all students.
- f. Additionally, information to many state transport services were provided that our students are travelling to their homes. This was done to ease the travel of all since difficulties may arise due to the lockdown restrictions.

5. Verification of resume points for IIT K Alumni

There were numerous alumni who were applying to B-Schools and wanted to get their resume points approved by the institute. The Gymkhana facilitated the same for everyone and ensured that all received timely approvals from the relevant bodies.

A lot of students did not know who to approach for the verification which created confusion. As a recommendation, this process should be streamlined with a clear protocol to follow so that it takes less time and follows proper procedure. This procedure should be documented and floated to all alumni groups for reference.

6. OYO Tie-up & Hall 14 construction

Since the incoming students were considerably more than the residential capacity of the campus, various plans with OYO were explored and chalked out. This was done to reduce the crunch till new halls are constructed.

Simultaneously strong official requests from the Gymkhana were sent for the quick construction of new halls. Due to the sudden onset of the pandemic, the OYO deal could not be moved further. Although, the current timeline of Hall 14 is that it should be entirely ready by December 2022. A few blocks may be ready before that so that urgent crunch can be released.

7. Resolution to begin the callback of UG students

In July 2021, the callback of PG students was started but there was no sign of the callback of UG students. This was taking a huge toll on the UG community



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since there was no direct and clear communication by the institute on this issue. In lieu of this, the Gymkhana sent a resolution to the administration demanding the immediate callback of resource constrained students and then the other UG students. Several meetings were held in this regard with the administration and

8. Callback of Resource Constraint Students

A large scale initiative to call back UG Y18/Y19/Y20 RC students was executed successfully. The approval to call back 365 students was received. Google forms were floated twice to collect entries from all eligible students. DSAC nominees were appointed to do verification and shortlisting along with approval from DSAC conveners. The final list was vetted at the central level by the Gymkhana. Eventually, almost double the number of sanctioned students were allowed to come back. The entire drive was successful and helped the most vulnerable section of the students in the online semester.

9. Basic Kit for UG Y20 RC students

Since the UG Y20 RC students were coming to campus for the first time in October 2021, the Gymkhana tied up with vendors to create an online portal for the basic items (mattress, bucket, mug etc) which are needed for a fresher. They could order online and the items would be delivered to their rooms/halls. This was very helpful and ensured two important things:

- a. The students received all items at discounted rates since bulk orders were promised.
- b. Social distancing was properly maintained since online ordering and delivery was provided.

10. Y18 callback

As per the resolution, post the callback of RC students was completed, the callback of Y18 students should have been started. The Gymkhana held a series of meetings with the administration to strongly push for the same. The expected timeline for the callback was October 2021 End but we achieved it well before that. The callback was finally scheduled for Mid-October which was a significant achievement for the Gymkhana.

11. Logistics for Y18 and RC callback

The DoSA office was handling the procedures & logistics for the callback of students initially. It was then taken over by the Gymkhana for the callback of RC students and UG Y18 students. It was ensured that the waiting times are



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significantly reduced for students by digitising the bulk of the process. Other measures were also taken to ease the logistical process for the incoming students. Student volunteers were present at each checkpoint for facilitating the same.

12. COVID Relief Fund & backend Team

The Gymkhana was involved in the creation of the COVID Relief Fund. COVID related health emergencies required a large monetary sum at a very short notice that might be difficult for many households to arrange. The purpose of this fund was to cover unexpected circumstances needing immediate assistance, such as food, medication, other personal health, and safety needs for the IITK community including students and their immediate family members. This fund helped a lot of members of the IITK community with immediate financial aid.

A student backend team was also created for the proper coordination with students who filed for help with the fund. This was very helpful for both the students and the administration.

13. 54th Offline Convocation:

The Students' Gymkhana strongly pushed for an offline convocation and helped in various areas of the organisation. Various accommodation plans were researched to present a reasonable case for the offline convocation. The convocation was successfully conducted offline and all COVID protocols were followed properly.

Additionally, a team of 80 student volunteers (PG & UG) were provided to the DoAA office for supporting various tasks and responsibilities in the convocation.

14. Winter Stay for UG Students

There were a lot of UG students who wanted to stay back in December 2021 due to various reasons. A lot of them were resource-constrained and there were different requests too. A survey was floated for the same by the Gymkhana and all of the requests were approved. This was ensured after a series of discussions with the administration.

15. Alumni Events/Plans in collaboration with IIT K Alumni Association

- a. Antaragni '21 was streamed to the IIT K Alumni with support from IIT K Alumni Association. The event was a huge success and saw a lot of participation from IIT K Alumni.



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- b. The first-ever mega initiative, in association with the IITK Alumni Association, of conducting an online musical reunion event for our IITK Alumni was taken up. It was successfully conducted on June 20, 2021 and saw huge participation from students, faculty and alumni.
- c. An event for the introduction of the new board of the IIT K AA to the students & alumni was organised. This was aimed towards establishing a connect between IIT K AA and the students & faculty. This was moderated by IIT K alumna Mr. Samarth Bansal and was successfully conducted.
- d. A connection between the Students' Placement office & the IIT K AA was setup to increase the intern and job opportunities from our alumni base. A deck was created by the OPCs and was shared with the alumni by IIT K AA.
- e. An Alumni Mentorship Plan was discussed and ideated with IIT K AA members. The vision is to help the 3rd year UG students with proper mentorship from senior alumni. Furthermore it will be expanded to other student sections depending on the response.
- f. During the peak of second wave, a COVID support group was created to help the alumni in need and to connect to those with available resources.
- g. Multiple AA board meetings were conducted in the tenure for various agenda items.

16. Protest on campus & further developments

Due to the various restrictions on campus not being lifted even after the pandemic situation eased up in October 2021, there was huge unrest amongst the student body. There was an HMC report which was forwarded to the senate without due consultation from the student body. It had various unjustified agenda points which were not acceptable to the students. A protest was staged in the main stadium by more than 700 students on October 23 at 2:30 PM. This showed the solidarity amongst the students and it went on for almost 1.5 days (many students stayed back at the main stadium overnight). Various institute administrators came to the stadium to address the students. The demands were kept forward amongst which the most major ones were the scrapping of the HMC report and the easing of restrictions on campus. Various demands were met and some of them are as follows:

- a. Entry/Exit from the campus would be relaxed as per state guidelines
- b. Interhall Movement would be restarted
- c. Halls can organize events like Diwali at their own level
- d. Time of eateries would be increased as per state guidelines



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The protest was called off officially after the institute officially sent the communication that the report would be sent for consultation amongst the student body if all student representatives in the academic senate would take a uniform stand against it.

The Gymkhana sent an official mail to call off the protest to all the students with the exact proceedings. In the upcoming meeting of the academic senate, the student representatives and a lot of faculty meetings spoke against the report and it was sent back for consultation amongst the student bodies and others. This was informed to the students by a follow-up mail by the Gymkhana. Overall the protest led to a lot of positive changes on campus for the students and was successful in bringing back normalcy to a great extent.

17. Diwali Celebrations

This year's Diwali was the first major event after the campus partially reopened post the second wave closure in April 2021. There were a lot of things that were planned and executed during the same. The major highlight was in recognizing the tireless efforts of the security, health center, and various other staff members on campus. Some of them are listed below:

- a. Sweets were distributed to various professors and their families on campus.
- b. Sweets were distributed to all security guards on campus.
- c. Sweets were distributed to the health center staff members.
- d. Sweets were distributed to various administrative staff member and offices on campus.
- e. A small Diwali Puja was conducted at the New SAC with the DoSA as the chief guest.
- f. Lights and a food stall (Baked n Ice) were put up at the OAT.
- g. All halls celebrated Diwali at their level.

Overall, the festival of Diwali was successfully celebrated and marked the first major offline campus event post the closure.

18. Raymond's Service

The suits and clothing material was provided by the vendor on a remote basis to all our students at reasonable rates. This was facilitated by the Gymkhana and was beneficial to many students.

19. Yearbook



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As per the setup of last year, the Gymkhana did not outsource the Yearbook creation this year too. The responses were collected by our own portal and the yearbook will be released soon to all students.

20. IT Support Drive for UG Y20 & MSc students

Funds from last year were remaining and keeping this in mind, the resource constraint students were identified among UG Y20 and MSc students. Funds for tablets and laptops were provided to students who were finally approved.

21. Open House & Departmental Meets

One open house was conducted for the PG students with the Director, Deputy Director, Dean, Students' Affairs, Dean, Academic Affairs & Associate Dean, Hall Affairs. The primary agenda items discussed in the PhD Open House were:

- i. COVID-19 response of the Institute.
- ii. General concerns of the PhD students.
- iii. The modifications in their program due to the pandemic.

The minutes of the open house were circulated to all PG students for reference. Additionally, various departmental meets were conducted with students during the online semesters. This was done to ensure a connect between the institute and the students.

22. Student Entrepreneurship Policy

The committee report was discussed in SPGC/SUGC and all departments. The feedback was incorporated by the committee and the report was submitted to the director. It was presented in the senate and was approved.

23. Gymkhana Orientation

The orientation for new students was conducted successfully. The councils, festivals, and cells addressed the students to tell them about their functioning and events.

24. Senior Class Gift Program

This proposal was passed last year and the process of implementation is almost complete for the class of 2021. We saw enthusiastic participation from the outgoing batch and were able to raise sufficient funds. The process of procuring brand new chairs for the library with these funds is underway. A survey was also floated to the general body to choose the chair they like the best.



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25. MBB Hiring

All 3 firms from the big 3 consulting groups came to campus via the President's Office. A total of 17 students were hired in total. This is the highest ever hiring done at IIT Kanpur and marks a record year for the same. This should improve the culture of consulting on campus since we have significantly more students going to the top 3 firms.

26. Callback of all students except UG Y21 and PG winter batch

After lot of discussions and the strong push of Gymkhana, the administration finally announced the callback of all students (except UG Y21 and PG winter batch) starting end of December 2021. This was a significant achievement for Gymkhana as more than 85% of students were allowed to come back to campus. The logistics for the same were supported by the Gymkhana and the return of all was a smooth and successful process.

27. Miscellaneous

- a. Various events were organized on different occasions as per the direction of the Ministry of Education.
- b. A tie-up between the Science & Technology Council and JK LakshmiPat Group was undertaken.
- c. The data of all the activities conducted by the Students' Gymkhana was collated and sent to the institute which shall be further used for the institute's ranking purposes.
- d. Various online events were organized by the councils and cells specifically for UG Y20 to keep them involved during the online semester.
- e. To increase the senior-junior interaction amongst the UG batches, a treasure hunt was organised by the MnC council and it was a resounding success. It helped a lot of juniors get in touch with their seniors which is very beneficial for the culture.
- f. Recently, a form was prepared & floated for the 1st & 4th year UG students to the relevant students. It was a questionnaire on the role & need of Hindi language and the survey results were collated and sent to the recently established Shivani Center.

28. Faculty Advisor Program

- I. A new and improved Faculty Advisor Program was devised.
- II. The proposal is to connect a group of 20-25 undergraduate fresher students to a professor of their department, who as their faculty advisor



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will guide them on different matters pertaining to academics, campus life, career, and other decisions using their vast experience.

- III. Comprehensive research was conducted to know why this program was discontinued in 2015 and issues were organized.
- IV. The proposal was drafted in a format that all the issues of the previous program were addressed, like lack of communication, low professor to student ratio in a few departments, lack of agendas to discuss, etc.
- V. The proposal has been agreed upon by the Dean of Students' Affairs and in principle by the Dean of Academic Affairs.
- VI. The proposal wasn't implemented for the Y21 batch due to a highly delayed time of arrival and ad-hoc issues of student callback going on at that time, but will be implemented from next year onwards.

29. Blood donation awareness

The President's Office, Students' Gymkhana, IIT Kanpur, and Raktarpan in collaboration with BloodConnect foundation, an initiative by IIT Delhi students which is India's largest youth-run initiatives working in voluntary blood donation, which works to tackle blood shortage in India, conducted a session on Blood Donation Awareness to promote the ABCD Campaign: The Anybody Can Donate Blood Campaign, on the occasion of World Blood Donor Day celebrated on 14th June, 2021. Moreover, a meme/ reel making competition was organized which revolved around blood donation and the challenges being faced due to shortage of the same. Through this campaign, we raised awareness among the campus community about the need for safe blood in India compounded owing to COVID-19, how everyone can help, busting myths related to blood donation, and encouraging people to donate blood voluntarily without compensation.

30. Pen-pal initiative for UG Y20 students

Since UG Y20s students began their journey at IITK online, they had a tough time interacting with their peers. Most of the interactions were possible only through clubs and societies, which not everyone could join. Therefore, to incentivize engagement amongst the students, not just for their own benefit in terms of their academics and overall college experience, but also to guide the UG Y21s who would look up to their immediately senior batch for guidance, a Pen-pal initiative was proposed by one of the UG Y20 batch senators, Ms. Shreya Agarwal.



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The pen-pal initiative was introduced under the gymkhana mandate, exclusively for UG Y20s. Registered participants were randomly sorted into pairs and everyone was informed about their Pen Pal through IITK webmail. After the mutual consent of both the Pen-pals, they shared their basic details via webmail and then shifted to other social media platforms.

A set of generic questions was rolled out which had to be answered by each student about their pen-pal, and the person with the highest correct answers appeared on the leaderboard.

Timeline:

17th June'21: Floating of forms for registration

21st June'21: Creating the pairs and sending mails

27th June'21: Question set 1 released

27th June'21: Fill in Your own response to Question set 1

13th July'21: Answer some questions related to your PenPal

Refer to the website for further details. <https://home.iitk.ac.in/~harshitr20/penpal>

To prevent any mishaps in the form of cyber bullying or online impersonation, a dedicated complaints committee comprising Y18 students. Students could freely lodge complaints in the 'complaints' tab by filling out a simple google form or mailing any of the complaints committee's members.

31. Riwayat

To increase the interaction of students and students and most importantly, to have fun, the Public Policy and Opinion Cell, Vox Populi, Community Welfare Cell, and Entrepreneurship Cell all joined hands to conduct the first-ever inter-pool cells' tournament "RIWAYAT" to re-energize the Summer of 2021 for all of the Y20 batch, UGs and PGs alike. The tournament went on from June to the end of August.

The tournament was specifically for Y20 students and consisted of competitions between 6 pools, namely UG Y20 students of Hall 2, Hall 3, Hall 5, Hall 6, Hall 12, and PG Y20. All the teams represented their respective pools, and the cumulative score of the pools across all the events decided the ultimate winner.

32. DS algo webinar

Students' Gymkhana in collaboration with PrepBytes conducted two different webinars in light of the internships and placements of students.



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Webinar 1: was conducted on 4th July 2021 on the topic How to master Data Structures and Algorithms. This session was planned by keeping in mind the internship and placement season and off-campus opportunities. Around 350+ students participated in this.

Webinar 2: It was conducted on 21st August, 2021 on the topic How to get placed in product-based companies. The webinar was relevant to both beginners as well as proficients. Around 250+ students participated in this.

33. Annual report of Students' Gymkhana Activities

The annual report of the Gymkhana Activities for the session 2020-21 was prepared by the office and sent to the Director's office (Ranking Cell). This report had details about all councils, cells and other activities conducted by the Gymkhana.

34. New SAC/OAT:

- a. RO plant was installed near the first floor drinking water area.
- b. Insect Killers were repaired and put to use.
- c. Photo frames were marked and collated for redesign purposes.
- d. Dustbin stands were installed to prevent spillage.
- e. Chocolate Room & Wazwan were opened for the public.
- f. New lights were installed at the OAT stairs.
- g. The sound room underwent a fire accident and was repaired. Some of the items are pending for procurement.
- h. Printer, shredders and various other electrical items were repaired.
- i. Scrap was sold and removed to vacate areas at the SAC.
- j. The inspection work to repair the senate hall has begun and repairing shall be initiated soon.
- k. Saturday duty has begun for the sanitation staff upon request to the relevant authorities.
- l. An agreement has been reached to increase the manpower by 2 personnel with the DoIP.

35. OpenHouse to attract New UG Y21 students to join IIT Kanpur

An OpenHouse was conducted on October 17, 2021 after JEE Advanced 2021 for new students who have qualified. This was done to improve the connect of the institute with new students and attract them to our campus. The Students' Gymkhana made a short presentation and a video about the campus life and



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what a student can expect if they choose IIT Kanpur. It was a successful event and many students joined the meeting.

36. Gymkhana Certificates & Awards

The details of the pending certificates & awards for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 were collated and prepared. They have been delivered to the SAC and are in the process of signing from various relevant bodies (patron, chief counsellor etc.) and will be given to the students soon.

37. Bain & Co. Visit to Campus

Alumni from Bain & Co. visited the campus for an informal hangout session on March 5, 2022 with the UG Y19 & UG Y20 students. They talked to the students about management consulting as a profession and what can they expect if they join. It was organised at the OAT staircase and was a successful event with a participation of around 150-200 students. The recommendation to the incoming team is to organise more of such sessions where alumni working in various top companies come to talk informally to the students. This will improve our alumni & industry connect and also ensure that students are more aware about the professional world.

38. Passport Session

The Regional Passport Office, Lucknow, hosted a session over zoom on March 3rd, 2022, to raise awareness about India's foreign policy and to inform the student community about passport-related services, under the 'SAMEEP' (Students and Ministry of External Affairs Engagement Program) umbrella.

The keynote speaker, Mr. Kanishk Singh, an IFS of batch 2013, discussed his experiences as an IFS officer and the Ministry of External Affairs' contributions in securing the Government's developmental objectives while highlighting its key interface with citizens, in the form of passport related services.

This event was beneficial for students going for a career in diplomacy or students who plan to avail passport-related services on account of plans to travel abroad for foreign exchange programs, further studies, or work opportunities.

39. COVID 3rd wave handling & the Gymkhana Structures involved

All students (except UG Y21) were permitted to come to campus starting December 29, 2021. This was a groundbreaking achievement for all but as and



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when students started to arrive, the 3rd wave of the pandemic simultaneously began.

There were emergency measures were taken to contain the situation and the main aim was to ensure the health of students and also that they are not sent back. Some of the salient measures and discussions were:

- a. Emergency institute meetings to formulate plans.
- b. Emergency student-level meetings were called to initiate the student level structures detailed below.
- c. The callback of students was stopped from January 9, 2022 for sometime since it was observed that most infections were coming in from outside the campus.
- d. Student structures at the central level, Hall level were deployed to contain the spread.
- e. A central Primary contact tracing was set up by the students along with an isolation center back end team.
- f. 2 blocks of Hall 1 were vacated and used for quarantine purposes to contain the spread by quarantining suspected cases.

The Students' Gymkhana along with various student volunteers played a significant role to handle the situation. There were various teams and ideas which were implemented. The details are listed below:

- a. Hall Task Forces (HTF) in each hall having points of contact in each wing/block according to the need of the hall.
- b. The number of students in the HTF varied from hall to hall depending on the occupancy and need. The smallest team was 5 and the largest was of 40.
- c. Active quarantine of students with flu-like symptoms by the HTF.
- d. Live updates were given to the general body of the hall regarding the cases inside the hall.
- e. Arrangement of separate guest rooms in halls to quarantine suspect cases (if needed).
- f. Proper spacing of tables ensured in messes and delivery systems implemented for those who are willing.
- g. Central Team overlooking the functioning of HTFs which also constantly pushing new guidelines for implementation.
- h. Primary Contact Tracing team (with 1 PoC from each hall) working with the HC to actively search and quarantine primary contacts in halls.



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- i. Isolation Center Team working to ensure that students in isolation centers do not face problems. This team was in direct touch with the students in isolation.

Overall, it was a concerted effort by various bodies in the institute. With proper collaboration and support, we were able to successfully contain the spread and the daily active cases started declining sharply by January 3rd week. By February 1st/2nd week, we were in a comfortable situation and soon the students were permitted to again return to campus from their homes. A very important takeaway was that most of the measures were suggested & implemented in a decentralized fashion based on where the need exists. This is effective since it ensures higher cooperation from the general body (as decentralised) and tackles the problem more efficiently since the solution is tailor made.

This marked a significant effort and achievement for the student volunteers who helped in handling the pandemic situation. I would like to show my sincere gratitude to all such students, faculty & staff who indirectly or directly worked towards handling the situation. I would also like to thank the institute administration (especially the Director, Prof Abhay Karandikar) for taking a hard stand to not send back the students and working to handle the situation on campus.

40. Call of the BT/BS Y21 Students to campus

The proposal to bring the BT/BS students back to campus was presented to the institute authorities by the Students' Gymkhana. The detailed implementation plans to overcome the major challenge of vacating Hall 13 and creating vacancies in Hall 6 for BT/BS Y21 during the academic semester were also presented.

The proposed dates were April 2-10, 2022 and were accepted by the institute. This was a landmark achievement for the Gymkhana as this meant that all students are permitted to come back to campus which bolstered the vision to strongly push towards normalcy.

41. Health Insurance Policy Renewal

- a. The Health Insurance policy for the institute was renewed for the term 2021-22 in July.
- b. Many companies who work in the domain of floating tender



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for Health Insurance Policies were contacted to get a better policy for the students.

- c. The Policy was renewed with a decrement of Rs.269.00 on the previous premium amount. This was a significant achievement by the Gymkhana as it led to almost a 20% decrease in premium for 8500 students (savings of around Rs. 25 Lakhs in total)
- d. New premium amount is Rs. 944/- plus applicable GST per member for sum insured of Rs.100000/.
- e. OPD cover has increased for 200 cases with a reduced amount of Rs.5000.

Festivals:

- a. A common MoU was drafted and approved for all the 3 festivals. This template will be used for uniformity and to prevent any legal problems.
- b. An LPC committee was formulated for the purchases by festivals between Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 2.5 Lakh.
- c. The dates of all 3 festivals were finalized and approved. Currently, they are approved in online mode. The dates were as follows:
 - i. Techkriti: March 24-27, 2022
 - ii. Udghosh: April 1-3, 2022
 - iii. Antaragni: April 8-10, 2022
- d. It was decided that Students' Gymkhana will push for all festivals to be held in hybrid/offline mode seeing that the pandemic situation has improved significantly.
- e. A detailed proposal was submitted to the institute administration along with annexures (individual details of offline events of the 3 festivals). It stated the strong intent to conduct various events (pronites, band performances, comedy shows, etc) offline for the campus junta.
- f. After many rounds of negotiations with the institute administration, security, and other relevant authorities, the proposal was approved on March 12, 2022.
- g. The financial grant discussions took place and the respective grants were approved on March 15, 2022.
- h. Rang Barse was held on March 12, 2022 as a pre-festival Holi event by the Teckriti Team.
- i. All three festivals were held in hybrid mode with various events (pronites, band performances, comedy shows, etc) conducted offline for the campus junta (students, faculty & staff). Udghosh invited participants from other institutions but no accommodation was provided. All 3 festivals were a resounding success.



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President | Vedaant Sikka



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Recommendations

1. Currently, PSG is a member of various Dean/Associate Dean selection committees. We should push to be included in all dean selection committees since students are impacted by almost all dean offices now. In particular, we should request to be made part of the selection committee for Dean, Administration. This has been discussed with the Director already and should be formalised on paper soon.
2. The Hall Management Council has become too big a committee for proper discussion. It needs to be trimmed down and restructured. A possible structure would be as follows:
 - a. DOSA (Chair)
 - b. ADHA
 - c. President, Students' Gymkhana
 - d. Convener, CoSHA
 - e. Warden-in Charge of all halls (i.e. 1 warden per hall)
 - f. Hall President of all halls
3. In general, with the increase of the size of the institute in terms of students, faculty, departments and various other aspects, there is a strong need to relook at old institute committee structures. A lot of them can be trimmed down to reduce the number and increase efficiency & output. Additionally, reducing the size of the committee will mostly mean that student representation is increased proportionally which will be beneficial. A committee in the PSG office or the Students' Senate can be formed to look into this & such proposals can be taken forward to the relevant institute authorities.
4. The Sanitation & Horticulture department are ones where PSG is not included as a member in committees where tender bids are discussed. This should be changed from the coming year as this will give us real power to change and impact decisions which affect workers' welfare. SG has a history of supporting workers' welfare since we consider them an integral part of our family. This year, we were invited as a special invitee to the technical bids and we should push for permanent membership in the coming year.
5. The COVID Relief Fund has ample amount of funds remaining and it should be converted to a general purpose benevolent fund. Discussions for the same have already been started. There are some legal issues which will have to be cleared for the same.
6. There was a gap in the research work of PhDs due to the pandemic. This has now led to a problem wherein a lot of degrees will go over 5 years due to the breakage in between. The stipend will reduce post that and will eventually stop.



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Some data of such PhD students has been collected and the initiative to start a drive amongst alumni to collect funds which can support needy students would be helpful.

7. With the formation of functioning of ISAC, it is important that we ensure that recommendations for all DSAC UG/PG nominees are sent through the senate. This is an important committee and we should ensure that there is proper and ample student representation in the committee.
8. IIT Kanpur is one of the few institutions which has a proper SEP, DPP and an incubator (SIIC) which can support homegrown startups. This ecosystem is conducive for budding entrepreneurs. There should be proper targeted sensitisation regarding the same to motivate students to take up entrepreneurship. A series of alumni talks who have benefited from this ecosystem can be arranged for starters.
9. Many of the institute events have been conducted for UG Y20 and some for UG Y21, but they have not been exposed to the General Championship properly. This should be taken up soon to preserve & foster our culture.
10. Various HECs were dysfunctional during the pandemic due to campus closure. We should strive to retain the old culture which was very powerful. Specially in terms of UG HECs, we should try to revert to the times when in Halls 3,5,12,6, HECs were 2nd year students. We should try to implement this in Hall 2 also. This can be easily achieved if the HEC term of UG Y20 & UG Y21 is slightly reduced by a few months. We should also strive to have elections in UG Halls at one time in a year and in PG Halls at one time in a year.
11. It should be noted that the mess structure (MEC and Monthly Hall Bill (BDMR etc)) is one of the best in the nation. It ensures that the power to control the mess food quality, costs etc is in the hand of the student body (HEC) and that the workers are not exploited (paid central government minimum wages (since MEC taken separately)). If we make the mistake of going for PSPP model (completely giving the contract to a private entity), we will eventually lose all power in the functioning of the mess and also risk exploitation of the mess workers. The recommendation is to continue with the current mess system (MEC and Monthly Bill (BDMR) etc).
12. It has been announced that Hall 14 would be ready in January 23 in the recently held IAC meeting. It has been a long pending demand of the students and rightly so. Proper living conditions are the basic necessity which the institute should provide to all of its students. In case it is not completed in January, the Students' Gymkhana should take strong measures to show formal discontent.



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13. Entire New SAC/OAT are should be made differently abled friendly. This is a big problem for many of our students.
14. The tender for New SAC and OAT sanitation staff is due in around 3 months. There are 2 types of staff, i.e. one which caters to the sports' facilities and one which caters to all other areas (OAT, food court, club rooms, all other SAC rooms). The contract for both is currently common. We should ensure that there is ample staff allocated to the second category. Currently there was a shortage of 2-3 workers but 2 temporary workers were appointed on special request. We should also try to separate the tender for sports' facilities and other areas so that we have a fixed number of staff for the entire year which cannot be transferred.
15. The Gymkhana account corpus can be possibly utilised by creating projects. The incoming team should work towards creating plans which can be funded from the same. The exact legal financial procedure needs to be understood but the fund can certainly be used via projects.
16. The incoming team should contact alumni from various top companies for informal hangout sessions on campus with students. This will help build better alumni relations and get more intern/job opportunities for the campus. Additionally, it will help make the students aware about the corporate ecosystem and the various options available.



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Note of Thanks

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all those who have helped me in making my tenure as President, Students' Gymkhana an enriching and memorable experience.

- The General Body of IIT Kanpur
- Members of the Students' Senate
- Entire Security Team of IIT Kanpur with a special mention to Prof J Ramkumar (Chair, SAEC) & Mr. Ashutosh Kumar Sharma (Security Officer)
- Health Center Team with a special mention to Dr. Mamta Vyas (Chief Medical Office).
- DoSA Office & Hall Affairs Office Staff along with all Hall Offices' Staff members.
- All staff members in various offices of IIT Kanpur with special mention to Director's & Deputy Director's Office, DoAA office, DoRA office, Estate Office.
- New SAC staff (Mr. Gopal Singh Parihar & Mr. Ashish Srivastava) & all other workers.
- To all the Mess workers, Sanitation workers, Horticulture workers and all other workers who showed trust in me and supported me in various operations related to workers' welfare.
- Mr. Kartikeya Dhakad (Chairperson, Students' Senate (2021-22))
- Ms. Anshika Chaudhary, Mr. Anshul Singh, Ms. Shloka Patil, Mr. Utkarsh Gupta, Ms. Ramyata Pate, Ms. Khushbu Kishnani, Ms. Muskan Jaiswal, Mr. Prakansh Mishra, Mr. Sanchit Goyal, Mr. Varun Chothani
- Festival Coordinators of Techkriti, Udghosh & Antaragni.
- Ms. Rishika Saraswat, Mr. Sanidhya Rathore, Mr. Rohit Kejriwal, Mr. Nirmal Agarwal, Mr. Ghulam Farooqui, Ms. Maryam Khan, Mr. Akshat Goyal.
- All other position Holders in the Students' Gymkhana.
- All Halls' Wardens & HEC Members.
- Counselling Service UG Coordinators and the entire UG Y19 Core Team, CS of 2021-22.
- Mr. Pratyush Rai, Mr. Nikunj Kothari, Mr. Yash Maheshwari, Mr. Manish Chandra Yadav, Mr. Snehil Saluja, Mr. Suryansh Agarwal, Mr. Ashutosh Ranka, Mr. Gautam Pratap Singh, Mr. Rutuj Jugade, Mr. Rythm Pathak, Ms. Aayushi Bansal.
- Ms. Mrigya Gupta, Mr. Hridai Shivany, Mr. Vikrant Yadav, Mr. Somu Prajapati, Mr. Dev Chauhan, Mr. Yash Varun, Mr. Nabh Garg, Mr. Dipesh Khandelwal, Mr. Abhishek Jain, Mr. Utkarsh Mittal, Mr. Vivek, Mr. Mridul Jain, Mr. Ankit, Mr. Sanchit Goyal, Mr. Devansh Dutt, Mr. Sanjeet Arya, Mr. Ankit Gond, Mr. Danyal



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Waseem, Mr. Mudamala Reddy, Mr Suraj S., Mr. Arpit Agarwal, Mr. Rohan Mahnot, Ms. Priya Tholia, Ms. Amisha Shahdeo, Mr. Harshit Sinha.

- I would also like to show my sincere gratitude to the following faculty members for their support & guidance throughout the tenure: Prof Abhay Karandikar, Prof S Ganesh, Prof. Siddhartha Panda, Prof Achla Raina, Prof Shalabh, Prof Kumar Vaibhav Srivastava, Prof. Nishant Nair, Prof Jayant Kumar Singh, Prof Kantesh Balani, Prof Onkar Dikshit, Prof Kumar Ravi Priya, Prof A.R. Harish, Prof Samit Ray Chaudhuri
- Prof Manindra Agarwal, Prof Amitabha Bandhopadhaya, Prof Deepu Philip, Prof Raju Kumar Gupta, Prof Nandini Gupta, Prof Neeraj Misra, Prof Nitin Kaistha, Prof Debasis Kundu, Prof Aditya H. Kelkar, Prof Ark Verma, Prof Dharendra Katti, Prof Manas K. Ghorai, Prof Sudeep Bhattacharjee, Prof Sri Sivakumar, Prof G Santhanam, Prof Santanu Mishra, Prof Wasim Ahmad, Prof Sudhanshu Shekhar Singh, Prof Rama Rawat, Prof Pradip Swarnakar, Prof Syam Nair, Prof Vimal Kumar, Prof Goutam Deo.
- And all other faculty members in the institute administration.

It has been an absolute pleasure to serve the general body of IIT Kanpur. It was an extremely enriching and memorable experience. I am thankful to the entire IITK Junta for giving me this opportunity and wish all the best to the incoming team of Students' Gymkhana.

"Life can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards."

-Soren Kierkegaard