

**MINUTES OF 12th BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING HELD
ON 07.03.2015 AT 11.00 AM
IN THE CONFERENCE HALL, GEC, THRISSUR**

Agenda

1. Confirm the Minutes of the 11th Meeting of the Board of Governors held on 29/11/2014.
2. Review the action taken on the decisions in the 11th Meeting of the Board of Governors.
3. Presentation of Activity Report on Academics
4. Presentation of Report on Procurement
5. Presentation of Activity report by Equity Assurance Committee
6. Presentation of Report on Training.
7. Presentation of Report on IIIC and Finishing school
8. Presentation of Report on Civil Works.
9. Presentation of Report on Finance
10. Any other item permitted by the chair

Members Present

1. Dr. M. Chidambaram, Professor, IIT, Madras (Chairman)
2. Dr. Satish Vasu Kailas, Professor, IIISc, Bangalore
3. Mr. M. Sheriff, Additional Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department
4. Mr. James Joseph, Additional Secretary to Government, Finance Department
5. Dr. K. Vijayakumar, Director of Technical Education(In charge)
6. Prof. T. Krishnakumar, Principal (In charge), GEC, Thrissur.
7. Prof. Mary. C. Kurian, Professor, Department of Production Engg.
8. Prof. K. Varughese Job, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engg.
9. Prof. M.K. Anandavally, Professor, Department of Civil Engg.
10. Dr. SukeshKumar, Mentor, GEC, Thrissur

Dr. Gopakumar V, Director, State Project Facilitation Unit, Thiruvananthapuram, Sri. Prasad K Panicker, Executive Director, BPCL, Kochi, Dr. K.R.S. Krishnan, Senior Vice President, HLL Life Care Ltd., Thiruvananthapuram have informed their inability to attend the meeting due to pre-occupations. Prof. M. Chidambaram, Chairman, BoG presided over the meeting.

Following decisions were taken at the meeting.

1. Confirm the Minutes of the 11th meeting of Board of Governors

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 29/11/2014 was confirmed.

2. Report on the action taken on the decisions in the 11th meeting of Board of Governors

Reviewed the actions taken on the decisions in the 11th meeting of the Board of Governors and the following suggestions are noted for further actions.

- Prof. Satish Vasu Kailas suggested that the visit to labs in IISc, Bangalore can be planned during May/June/July 2015.
- The Chairman, BoG suggested that, many renowned publishers (e.g., Elsevier) are offering training in manuscript writing for faculty and we should organize one such here.
- Regarding start-up ventures, the Chairman, BoG emphasized that the participation of students in incubation centres should start early, say, from their fourth semester onwards. Prof. Sathish Vasu Kailas added that setting up an in-campus Technopark can also be considered as a joint venture with the alumni in industry.
- The BoG suggested that a training program should be organized for the ministerial staff that could include sessions on stress management, yoga etc
- Regarding re-appropriation of funds allotted to various heads of accounts, Dr. Sukesh Kumar informed that this re-appropriation had already been permitted by SPFU.

3. Report on the activities of the Academic unit

Dr. Sheeba V.S. Nodal Officer presented the report on Academics.

Placements of PG students: The BoG emphasized the need for improving placement prospects of PG students and came up with the following suggestions: (1) Including industry sponsored projects in M. Tech (2) A recruitment drives specially planned for M. Tech with the help of alumni in industry (3) Request M. Tech students to appear for Gate every year since many companies now insist upon valid GATE scores (4) Invite self financing colleges to recruit from campus. Dr. Sukesh Kumar, mentor TEQIP added that, in one of his interactions with students, the B.Tech students in Chemical Engineering have requested for core chemical companies to be brought in for campus placements.

Transition rates: While discussing transition rates of the students, the Principal of the college, requested the BoG member Shri. Sheriff to initiate steps so that the college gets examination results from university directly, every six months.

Ranks in University: The BoG congratulated the departments of CE,ECE,ME,EEE and CHE for their university ranks and recommended letters of appreciation to these departments. The BOG also expressed their concerns in CSE and PE departments not bagging ranks. The Chairman insisted that this matter should be taken up seriously by the HoDs of the respective departments and their faculty team.

Professional body activities: The BoG suggested that the number of students participating in the activities under professional societies should be included.

International travel grants under TEQIP: The BOG approved the proposals received for international travel under International Travel Support Scheme (ITSS) from the following faculty members.

1. Bobby K George, Asst. Prof. in PE Dept. for presenting a paper titled “Productivity enhancement in flexible manufacturing system by the application of the theory of constraints” in the ‘American Canadian Conference for Academic Disciplines-2015’ held in Ryerson University Toronto, Ontario, North America from 18/05/2015 to 21/05/2015.
2. Dr. E. A. Jasmine, Asst. Prof. in EEE Dept. for presenting the papers titled “ An Efficient power flow algorithm for distribution network with photovoltaic generation”, “Lagrange relaxation based reinforcement learning algorithm for unit commitment in distributed generation system” in the international conference on ‘Electric power & Energy conversion systems’ during 24th -26th November, 2015 at Sharjah, UAE.
3. Ramesh Kumar P, Asst. Prof. in EEE department, for presenting the papers titled “Position control of Stewart Platforms using continuous higher order sliding mode control” in Asian Control Conference 2015(ASCC-2015) at Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia during 31st May – 3rd June 2015.
4. Lisy E R, PhD Scholar(QIP) in EEE department, for presenting the papers titled “Design of Optimal surface for 2DOF Twin Rotor MIMO system” in Asian Control Conference 2015(ASCC-2015) at Kota Kinabalu, Malaysia during 31st May – 3rd June 2015.
5. Dr. Rajesh Vanchipura, Asst. Professor in Mechanical Engineering department, to present his paper titled “Hybrid meta-heuristics for scheduling a flow-shop with sequence-dependent setup time” in the 22nd EurOMA Conference on OPERATIONS MANAGEMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE COMPETITIVENESS from 26th June to 1st July 2015, at University of Neuchatel, Neuchatel, Switzerland for approval.

International conference: Regarding the International Conferences (organized by the departments of CE, ECE, EEE, CSE, ChE and PE) to be held in December 2015, the BoG suggested that the conference should come out as a brand of GEC Thrissur. The Chairman added that the conference would be an excellent time to invite companies for sponsorship and to organize Professional Meets with alumni. The BoG also suggested that Physics, Mathematics and Chemistry streams should also be included in the conference. The Chairman insisted that international experts are to be brought in as key speakers. He also offered help in contacting experts from NUS and NTU Singapore. The Chairman suggested that the coordinators can write to funding agencies, say DST or KGSTE. He added that this conference, being an avenue for marketing our students, the conference brochure should touch upon/highlight the aspects such as the entrance ranks of our students, placements, university

ranks, the facility of TEQIP funding and so on. The BoG sanctioned to allocate Rs. 25lakhs for the conference.

Research and Development: Prof. Satish Vasu Kailas suggested that the faculty who had been given seed money should get proposals from other funding agencies amounting at least upto Rs. 25 lakhs. He added that the faculty have to prepare these proposals by the next BoG meeting.

Academic autonomy: Regarding academic autonomy, the Principal informed the BoG, that the University of Calicut had communicated that they cannot grant permanent affiliation.

4. Report on the activities of the Procurement unit

Prof. K.V. Manojkumar, Nodal Officer presented the report on procurement.

He presented the current status of the items purchased under TEQIP. Also briefed about the packages completed in PMSS and the packages which are not completed in PMSS. He also submitted the AMC Proposals received from the departments for the following packages for approval from BoG. BoG gave permission to take the AMC after negotiating with the concerned firms. Generally 10% of the total cost of the equipment/item purchased under TEQIP can be availed for AMC. In case if the estimated amount is higher than 10% of the total cost of the equipment, it should be justified by specifying the cost of spare parts used in that equipment & service charge applicable.

SI No	Equipment	Amount
1	Load Frame	20225
2	Consolidation Testing Apparatus	14158
3	Triaxial Testing Apparatus	50562
4	Pressure Volume Contoller	18203
5	DSO	21460
6	Video Conferencing System	59540
7	LAN Trainer Kit	15000
	Total	199148

5. Report on activities of Equity Assurance Programme Unit

Prof. K.R.Saseendran, Nodal Officer presented the report on Equity Assurance Programme activities and the details of students identified and attended remedial classes during last academic year.

Remedial Classes: The Chairman, BoG suggested that senior student preparing for GATE examinations could also be a part of remedial classes and certificates may be issued to the showing their participation in the activity. The Bog also suggested that remedial plans

presented may be revised by calling for fresh remedial plans from the departments by allotting more remedial class sessions for harder subjects. Prof. Satish Vasu Kailas shared a new practice he had adopted during the last fifteen minutes of his class lectures at IISc, Bangalore, where he would ask the students to write up the topic he had discussed in the class that day and hand it over to him. He found the practice fruitful as it showed an improvement in the attentiveness and observation of students. He added that such a practice could be adopted here as well.

6. Report on activities of Training unit

Prof. M.T. Rajappan Pillai, Nodal Officer presented the report on training activities.

He presented the details of training undergone and in house training programmes conducted after the last BOG meeting. He also presented the training plan for the next 3 months for a period from April to June 2015 and it was approved by the BOG. The BoG enquired the reasons for the absence of training plans from the department of Production Engineering. Dr. Sukesh Kumar suggested that an in-house training program be arranged for the ministerial staff and thereby ensure 100% training as envisioned by TEQIP.

7. Report on activities of III Cell and Finishing school

Prof. Pradeep. Kamath, IIICell co-ordinator, presented the report on activities of IIICell.

The BoG approved the joint certificate programme with SIFL Shornur unit on 'Advance training in CAD/CAM' planned during the month of May 2015. Dr. Sukesh Kumar suggested that this should be highlighted as an activity in the interaction with the outside world for purpose of accreditation.

BoG approved the III Cell activities planned till June 2015

Prof. Vinod P Rapheal, Finishing School coordinator, presented the report Finishing school activities

The BoG emphasized the importance of soft skills, right from the beginning of the course. The meeting discussed the possibility of enlisting the services of an English teacher in the campus. BoG approved the III Cell activities planned till March 2015.

8. Report on activities of Civil Works unit

Prof. M.K. Anandavally, Nodal Officer presented the report on Civil Works. The BoG approved the revised estimates from the 7 departments for a total estimated amount of Rs. 13.67 lakhs.

9. Report on Finance

Dr. P. Reji, Nodal Officer presented the report on finance with the statements showing the current position of funds utilized against the allotted funds. Also presented the position of four funds established.

BoG enquired whether the funding for academic support for weak students to be spent on planning programs for development of soft skills/communication skills.

10. Any other item permitted by the chair

1. **Refund of registration fee :** The BoG granted permission to refund the registration fee to Ms. Shibily Joseph, PhD Scholar(QIP), EEE Dept. and also recommended the Principal to write a letter to the Government on behalf of BoG to kindly take steps to speed up the process for issuing NOC in case of international travel for academic purposes.
2. **Enhancement of Assistantship to PhD Students** under TEQIP-II: The BoG suggested that a letter in this regard be sent to SSC/SPFU. BoG permitted to sanction an amount of Rs.10000/- per year as contingency grant to the Phd Students.
3. BoG ratified the decision made by the procurement committee to release of partial payment (Rs. 289592/-) for the package Library Books lot 1 with Package No:167, in which the books were supplied partially, due to non availability of books in the current market.
4. BoG ratified the decision made by the procurement committee to cancel the purchase of Interactive Tools for ICT Classroom (Package No.175) & Mobile Apps Development Kit (Package no.183)
5. BoG decided to waive the liquidated damages to be effected from the suppliers due to delay in the supply of the 2 NCB Items 1) Energy Meter Test Station, Package No.55 2) Gas Chromatograph, Package No. 58
6. **Conversion of Staff appointed in TEQIP Office :** BoG gave permission to covert the staff appointed in the TEQIP Office from daily wages basis to contract basis if their qualifications are equivalent to those prescribed in the Minutes of 7th SSC Meeting held on 29/01/2014. Also BoG decided to release the arrear amount that can be availed by the staff with effect from 01/02/2014.
7. **Case by Prof. Viswanath C Narayanan:** BoG discussed the situation arising out of the writ petition filed by Dr. Viswanath C Narayanan against chairman and Governing body members in the Administrative Tribunal against denial of financial aid for foreign

travel under TEQIP. The Board expressed serious concern in filing a case naming the BoG chairman, (an honorary post) as the first respondent in the case and directed the principal to inform the Govt to take necessary steps to avoid such issues in future.

8. Prof. T. Krishnakumar, Principal in charge presented the Governance Development Plan of Govt. Engineering College Thrissur and it was approved by the BoG followed by the self review.

The BoG appreciated the services rendered by BoG Members/Nodal Officers, Prof. P. Varghese Job, Prof. M.K. Anandavally. and Prof. T. Rajappan Pillai retiring this academic year.

Meeting came to an end at 2.00 PM