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VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (VJTI) MATUNGA, MUMBAI 400 019



Minutes

26th Meeting of Board of Governors On

December 15, 2011 at 5.00 PM

at

Board Room, V.J.T.I., Matunga, Mumbai 400019



Minutes

of the

THE TWENTYSIXTH (26TH) MEETING

of the

Board of Governors

held on

Thursday, 15th December 2011.

The twenty-sixth meeting of Board of Governors of Veermata Jijabai Technological Institute, Mumbai was held on 15th December 2011 at 5.00 PM in the Board Room VJTI. The following were present:

Shri Nusli Wadia

Chairman

Dr. Anil Kakodkar

Dr. Devang Khakhar

Dr. Hasit Joshipura

Dr. V. N. Magare

Dr. (Mrs) M. A. Dharap

Dr. (Mrs.) S. S. Sane

Dr. M. C. Deo

Member Secretary

Dr. J. J. Irani

Dr. Ashok Joshi

Shri Sanjay Kumar, Dr. S. K. Mahajan, Dr. Abhay Wagh, Sir D. M. Petit could not attend due to pre-occupation

Confirmation of minutes of the 25th BoG meeting held on July 11, 2011

Minutes of the 25th meeting held on July 11, 2011 were confirmed.

2 Action taken by Director on minutes of the 25th BoG meeting held on July 11, 2011

BoG noted the action taken on minutes of 25th meeting held on July 11, 2011

3 For information

i) Director's remarks

Prof. M C Deo mentioned that after taking the charge as Director, VJTI he held meetings with all faculty, Heads and Deans to reconfirm the vision of the Institute to become a world class research and postgraduate institute. A systematic decision making and governance system was put in place by appointing seven Deans and clearly defining their roles. A visit was made to each Department and a 'do list' was given to each faculty indicating what is ideally expected from him/her toward teaching, research and professional interaction with the outside world. Meetings with all Ph D and M Tech students were held to show full support to their research and inspire them. A film showcasing the current research has been prepared.

Director mentioned that based on his experience with the Institute so far he found that while financial support for research could be solicited from various central/state government agencies, PSU's, central labs, alumni and private enterprises, the funds for development of infrastructure such as hostels, faculty housing, strengthening and renovation of existing buildings have to be obtained primarily from the Maharashtra Government. He also indicated certain challenges faced by the Institute toward present infrastructure, as well as the quality and quantity of human resources currently available.

In this connection it was decided to come up with a paper specifying the requirements of resources in near future, say five years, vis-à-vis Institute's goals and present the same at the highest level in the Govt. Institute's plans to celebrate 125 years of existence may also be made a part of such document.

ii) Foreign collaboration

Director informed the Board that general MoU's had been signed with following Universities/organizations toward student and faculty exchange, joint research investigations, participation in academic research, conduct of joint short term programs and consultancy.

Polytecnico di Milano

Unitec Srl Ferrara

Sejong University, Seoul, Korea

University of Liberia, Czecslovakia

A few more are additionally on the anvil.

4 Administrative matters (faculty)

i) Cancellation of appointments of co-opted members of BoG

The Board regretted the GR of Govt. of Maharashtra cancelling the appointment of four co-opted members on the Board. It was expressed that such an action would significantly scale down the much needed involvement of highly revered and experienced personalities in the Institute's functioning. The Chairman indicated that he would take up this matter at the highest level and seek the redress.

ii) Rules regarding Duty / Special / Study Leave

The proposal of rules for duty/special/study leaves was approved. The Board suggested limiting the number of faculty on study leaves to a fixed percentage of the total number of available faculty.

iii) Applications regarding study leave

- 1. Ms. Sushma Wagh
- 2. Shri Sanjay M. G.
- 3. Ms. Dipa Raisingani
- 4. Ms. Suranjana Gangopadhyay

- 1) The study leave of Prof. Sushma Wagh was extended without (without) pay up to March 31, 2012.
- 2) The study leave of Prof. Sanjay M G was extended with (with) pay up to January 31, 2013.
- 3) The study leave availed by Prof. Deepa Raisinghani, would be treated as the study leave with (with) pay after adjusting the stipend received by her from AICTE.
- 4) Prof. S Gangopadhyay was granted 'study leave with half pay' till she completes five years of her service in the Institute. Thereafter she would be given study leave with full pay for the rest of the approved study leave period.
- iv) (a) Leave application by Ms. U. R. Sharma
 - (b) Sabbatical leave to Dr. D. S. Wavhal
 - (c) Lien application by Prof. P. W. Kubde
 - (d) Study Leave to Prof. V. N. Palaskar to persue Ph. D.
 - (e) Approval for applications from the faculty members to pursue Ph. D. programmes
 - i) Prof. P. A. Wankhede
 - ii) Prof. S. M. Gunadal
 - (f) Prof. V. B. Suryavanshi

The leave without (without) pay of Prof. U R Sharma for the balance period was approved.

Sec. 3.

As a special case Prof. D S Wavhal was permitted to go on a sabbatical leave of six months and a study leave of 1.5 years duration.

Prof. P W Kubde was permitted to retain lien on the Diploma side for the two years.

Prof. V N Palaskar was approved full pay leave for a period of two years extendible by one more year based on the progress made and as per the rules.

Prof. P A Wankhede, Prof. S M Gundal and Prof. V B Suryavanshi were permitted to join the Ph D programs as per the rules.

v) Letter from Directorate of Technical Education (DTE) regarding appointment of Prof. Wankhede

It was noted that Prof. P A Wankhede's appointment as Assistant Professor from Jan. 7, 2008 till May 31, 2011 was declared as illegal by the DTE. It was agreed to seek legal opinion in this case and take further necessary action.

vi) Representation by Prof. Bambole, Structural Engineering Departmet regarding seniority and Head of Department

The Board noted the demands put up by Prof. A M Bambole regarding seniority and headship. It was also noted that ever since he joined he has been pushing for these by writing several letters to various authorities within and outside the Institute in a continuous manner and that for a certain period of time he refused to sign the attendance muster and forward his papers by by-passing the HoD. Despite such unacceptable behavior, Director's efforts to show sympathy and good-will like paying his salary despite not signing the muster, condoning direct submission of papers without HoD's recommendation, appreciating publicly positive actions by him whenever the same were made as well as approving a grant of Rs 75,000/- for attendance of an international conference despite being on probation and having joined just a few months ago were also noted by the Board. The Board unanimously expressed strong disapproval of the behavior of the faculty and suggested Director to no longer hold conciliatory talks with him and instead take a strong disciplinary action if he continues with the same behavior in future. Meanwhile in the light of the demand made by him a fresh legal opinion from a lawyer may be obtained and placed before the Board. The Board also strongly warned that even if the legal opinion goes in favor of the faculty member his unacceptable behavior in the past cannot be condoned and cannot be justified. As regards the appointment of Head of the Dept. the Board clarified that the same is a matter of administrative convenience and no one can claim his right on it. The appropriate authority has full freedom to satisfy itself about the capability of the faculty in terms of maturity of thinking and behavior, capacity to lead the Department and appoint a faculty member as Head accordingly.

Administrative matters (Finance)

i) a) Financial powers to Institute Functionaries

b) Signing authority

The proposals to assign financial powers to Institute functionaries and signing authorities were approved. It was suggested that in order to plan and carry out the financial transactions it is necessary to appoint an appropriate finance officer/controller as soon as possible.

ii) Provisions in Budget of 2011 – 12

The suggested revised budgetary provisions for the year: 2011-12 were approved.

iii) Purchase of Computers

The proposals to purchase computers and corresponding budgetary provision were approved.

iv) Allowance to faculty and staff

It was suggested that an internal committee might be set up to review the allowances to faculty and staff.

v) Immediate financial help to the family of diseased employee

The proposal to provide an immediate financial help of Rs 20,000/- to the family of the deceased employee was approved.

vi) Payment of VI pay commission arrears to faculty

The proposal to release the stated arrears to faculty was not approved and it was advised that instead the grants for this purpose should be obtained from the Govt. by putting up corresponding demand repeatedly and pursuing the matter at the Govt. level.

6 Academic matters

i) Senate composition

The suggested Senate composition and nomination procedure was approved.

iii) Budget provisions of UG programme in Electronics and Telecommunication

It was noted that although the B Tech program in Electronics and Telecom was introduced in the year: 2010-11 the grants for running the same had so far not been provided by the Govt. which makes the conduct of the program very difficult and also puts severe strain on running the other programs by the Department. It was resolved that the program might be suspended till such grants are received.

7 To take on record

i) Minutes of Senate meeting(s)

BoG took on record minutes of 19th & 20th meeting of Senate held on 9th May 2011 and 10th August 2011.

ii) Minutes of Finance Committee meeting held on 23rd August 2011

BoG took on record minutes of 17th meeting of Finance Committee held on 23rd August 2011.

iii) Minutes of meeting of Building and Works Committee

BoG took on record minutes of meeting of Building and Works Committee held on September 11, 2011.

Any other matter with permission of the Chair

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In consonance with the democratic norms in academics the Board resolved that henceforth the confidential reports of all full Professors in a given Department would be written by Director and not by the Head of the Department.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair

Chairman.