वीरमाता जिजाबाई तंत्रज्ञान संस्था, मुंबई

VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (VJTI)

MINUTES

Of

1st

ACADEMIC & RESEARCH COMMITTEE MEETING

DATE & TIME: 31ST AUGUST 2023 at 11:00AM.

VENUE: DIRECTORS OFFICE, VJTI MUMBAI

VEERMATA JIJABAI TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE (VJTI)

Minutes of 1st Academic & Research Committee meeting held on 31st August 2023 @ 11:00 am at Directors Office

ItemNo.	Item Description
1.00	**Matters Related to Academic Affairs**
1.01	Application for Technological University Status to State Government and other Statutory Organizations. It is proposed to apply for Technological University Status. Prof. Agashe, Vice Chancellor of CoEP Tech University was invited by the Institute for discussion on merits and challenges of Technological University. It is also proposed to constitute the advisory committee under chairmanship of Prof S. G. Dhande, former Director IIT Kanpur, Prof. Deepak B. Pathak, Professor, IIT Bombay, Prof. U. B. Desai, Former Director IIT Hyderabad, Dr. Sachin D. Kore, Director VJTI, Retired officials from legal department of Government of Maharashtra, Retired official from DTE Maharashtra, and faculty representatives from VJTI for this purpose. It is proposed to invite Prof. Yadav (Ex VC ICT), Prof Khole (Ex VC MU), Prof Misra (Director, J.J School of Architecture), Prof Sable (Ex Pro VC SU), Prof. S.V. Kulkarni Dean Admin. IITB, Prof. B. K. Mishra, Director IIT Goa, Prof. B. Subudhi, Director NIT Warangal, Dr. Archana Sharma, Group Director BTTG, BARC in the Institute to deliberate and discuss on option of Unitarity Status or Deemed Status and their merits and consequence in long run. These experts will discuss with a committee constituted by the Institute for this purpose. After deliberation and discussion with experts, Institute committee will prepare the detailed proposal to get the University Status for the Institute.
Decision	**Committee approved constitution of Advisory Committee and also advised to form Institute level committee**
1.02	To discuss the possibility of starting integrated programs. a) Diploma + B.Tech b) B.Tech+ M.Tech c) M.Tech+Ph.D
Decision	**Integrated M.Tech + Ph.D. Program can be initiated with necessary approvals from DTE and AICTE**
1.03	Fees Structure: Information on Fees for Academic Year 2023-24 and discussion on revision on fees from AY 2024-25. The Fee committee of the Institute has proposed the fees for AY 2023-24 which is the same as fees for AY 2022-23 and as there is no changes, Director of the VJTI has approved the same. However, fees structure of the Institute for all UG, PG and PhD Progammes is not revised from last five years therefore it is necessary to discuss and deliberate on whether to increase the fees from Academic Year 2024-25 and

	if required to constitute the committee to recommend the revised fee structure.
Decision	**Committee advised to form Fee Revision committee at Institute level.**
1.04	Modification in the rules for Deputation and Delegation of faculty members for Conference (National and International).
Decision	**Faculty members can avail financial support of Rs. 1.5 Lakh in two years for attending multiple/one National and International Conferences till the time funds are available. Financial support for attending conference can be accumulated and can be carried forward for next two years. Only one time carry forward will be possible.**
1.05	Reporting Item: Implementation of NEP 2020 and Curriculum Revision for UG and MCA Programmes in the Institute from AY 2023-24 As per the directive from the State Government of Maharashtra, all autonomous Institutes have to implement the NEP 2020 from Academic Year 2023-24. Accordingly, Institute has taken the following steps to implementation of NEP 2020 from Academic Year 2023-24 1. Formation of NEP Cell under the chairmanship of Director. 2. Talk by Dean Academic and Director on Implementation of NEP 2020 in VJTI. 3. Framing of Scheme for First Year as per the State Government GR. 4. Celebration of NEP week in the Institute from 24th July to 29th July 2023. Theme of the celebration is as follows. i) Collaborative MoU Signing, ii) Inspiring Competitions for Students and Faculty iii) NEP 2020 Exhibition iv) Media Engagement v) Social Media Campaign vi) Panel Discussion and webinars vii) Stakeholders consultation viii) Community Outreach programme 5. Preparation of Institute Development Plan (IDP) in line with NEP 2020 is in progress.
Decision	**Committee discussed and deliberated on proposed credit scheme in line with NEP 2020 and GR issued by State Government of Maharashtra. Following suggestions are given by the committee.** **1. Keep the flexibility in scheme and curriculum of multidisciplinary minor such that if any student feels that selected track is not suitable to him or her then he/she shall be able to change their multidisciplinary Minor track after completion of one course.** **2. Institute shall take the lead to establish the center for IKS and offer the courses through this center at Institute level.**
1.06	Reporting Item: Academic Audit of the Departments. Each department of the Institute has carried out the Academic Audit for the progarmmes runs by the respective departments in the month of the January /February 2023. Same will reported in the meeting.
Decision	**Committee suggested that an action taken report shall be submitted to the committee on the observations mentioned in the academic audit report and the same has to be communicated to experts participating for academic audit of the respective member.**
1.07	Reporting Item: Information on present status of Accreditation (NBA &NAAC),

	Preparedness for further Accreditation and Discussions on steps/initiatives for increasing NIRF ranking
Decision	**Committee suggested that Institute shall take NAAC Accreditation on priority and monitor the preparedness on regular basis.**
2.00	**Matters Related to Research and Consultancy affairs**
2.01	Approval of Research & Development Cell as per UGC guidelines. UGC has recently mandated that HEIs should establish R&D Cell. The guidelines issued by UGC and proposed structure of R&D Cell for VJTI is attached for consideration.
Decision	**The committee deliberated on the UGC guidelines for establishment of R&D cell in HEIs. The committee approved establishment of R&D cell as per Annexure**
2.02	Fees for faculty members (Institute) for doing the Ph.D in the Institute The Academic Council in its 12th meetings recommended "fees of Internal Ph.D candidates shall be waived for a maximum period of four years". Minutes of the said meeting of the Academic Council was put up for approval in 56th Meeting of BoG. In this meeting BoG referred the matter to the Academic & Research Committee for further deliberations and asked the recommendation of the Academic & Research Committee for the same. As per BoG MoM, it is necessary to deliberate the issue and send to BoG with recommendation of ARC.
Decision	**The committee deliberated and approved fee waiver to internal PhD candidates for a maximum of four years. The recommendation shall be forwarded to the BoG.**
2.03	Discussions on establishment of IRCC on the lines of IIT Bombay for facilitating R&D activities. Currently there is no separate administrative entity for research, consultancy and testing activities. In 53rd meeting of Board of Governors (BoG) meeting held on 27th May, 2019, vide Agenda No 53.3, it was recommended to establish separate entity on the lines of IRCC of IIT Bombay.
Decision	**The committee agreed on creating enabling administrative structure to promote R&D activities and facilitate faculty members undertaking R&D projects. It was decided to study IRCC model of IIT Bombay and establish similar administrative structure in a phase-wise manner.**
2.03	Discussion on Teaching Assistant /Stipend to Ph.D students: To increase the enrolment of full time Ph.D students in the Institute and subsequently research outcomes it is necessary to offer some financial support to full time Ph.D students either in the form of stipend or giving remuneration for teaching assistance. It is proposed to pay Rs 35000/- per month as a stipend to TWO students in each programme with teaching load of subjects/laboratory only after successful completion of course work or first year whichever is maximum.
Decision	**The committee deliberated on the matter and recommended stipend of Rs 35000/- per month for 2 full-time PhD research scholars per program. However, it was decided that they should be involved in lab development activities and lab courses rather than teaching theory courses.**
2.04	Reporting Item: Proposal on Research projects and Centres of Excellence- CoE and Development/Upgradation/Augmentation of Academic, Testing/Consultancy Laboratory: Report One round of interaction of Prof Makarand Kulkarni (BoG Member) with all

	departments is now complete. This exercise has helped in identifying research focus and strengths of each department. In the next stage, it is required to fine tune these ideas and align them with national/state missions. Director VJTI has collected all the research and teaching goals from each department.
Decision	**The committee was informed about the activities initiated to create research ambience in VJTI by encouraging faculty to write proposals for establishment of Centres of Excellence in their domain areas. The institute has received 7 proposals till 31 August, 2023. The committee appreciated the efforts taken by all concerned faculty members. It was recommended to provide Rs 5 Lakh per CoE proposal as seed grant to encourage them. The amount can be used for appointing JRF, travel support for visiting/inviting experts from industry/institute of national eminence aligned with the thematic area of CoE.**
3.00	In order to strengthen Office of Director, Deans and Registrar Appointment of Assistant Registrar and Senior/Junior Superintendent may be approved. These staff members will provide administrative help for Deans, Registrar, Dy. Director and Director.
Decision	**Committee approved appointment of Assistant Registrar, and Senior / Junior Superintendent. The advertisement can be prepared and staff can be hired as per institute policy.**
4.00	**Any other matter with the permission of chair.**
4.01	Reporting of Rs 10 Cr Grant received under Technical Textile Mission and Rs 5 Cr Grant received for CoE AI from Government of Maharashtra
	Principal Investigator (PI) and research team of both the CoEs made a presentation to the committee. The committee appreciated their efforts and congratulated them for fetching research funding to the institute. The committee suggested various areas of research and development activities to make use of the funding for impactful research.

Prof. Makarand Kulkarni
Chairman, ARC

Prof. Sachin Kore
Director, VJTI