

## Office of the Dean Academics

### Minutes of the twenty first meeting of Undergraduate Curriculum Implementation Committee

November 19, 2014

The twenty first meeting of the Undergraduate Curriculum Implementation Committee (UCIC) was held in the Senate Room at 1500 hrs on November 19, 2014. The following members were present:

(Italics indicate inability to attend).

Prof. Anurag Sharma, *Prof. Santanu Chaudhury*, *Prof. S. R. Kale*, Prof. Sanjeev Sanghi, *Dr. Atul Narang*, *Prof. Shantanu Roy*, *Dr. N. D. Kurur*, Prof. B. Bhattacharjee, Prof. Anshul Kumar, Prof. S. D. Joshi, *Prof. Ambuj Sagar*, Dr. Seema Sharma, Prof. S. Dharmaraja, *Prof. T.R. Sreekrishnan*, Prof. R. Chattopadhyay, Prof. D. Ravi Kumar, Prof. Joby Joseph, *Dr. D. Sundar*, Prof. A. S. Rathore, *Dr. B.R. Chahar*, *Dr. Subodh Kumar*, Prof. G. S. Visweswaran, Prof. Niladri Chatterjee, Prof. Sangeeta Kohli, Prof. P. Srivastava, Prof. Manjeet Jassal, *Prof. James Gomes*, Prof. T.C. Kandpal, Prof. M.R. Ravi.

The meeting started with a welcome to all members.

1. **Confirmation of minutes of meeting 20 dated October 9, 2014:** No comments had been received, and the minutes were confirmed as circulated.
2. **Discussion on Templates of Department Electives:** Templates of Department Electives had been distributed amongst members of the UCIC, as well as circulated to Academic Units for scrutiny and feedback. Feedback received on various courses was discussed and members from respective Departments were requested to ensure that the modifications in the templates in view of these comments be made and the templates returned to the Dean Academics office in a couple of days, so that they can be tabled for approval by the Senate on 26.11.14.
3. **Discussion on Minor Areas, Departmental and Interdisciplinary Specializations:** The proposals received for Minor Areas, Departmental and Interdisciplinary Specializations that were received till date were discussed. The following were decided:
  - a) It was decided that those specializations / minor areas which had been circulated to faculty through the UCIC website could be tabled in the Senate on 26.11.14.
  - b) Some of the specializations that require further discussion such as Interdisciplinary specialization in Biodesign were deferred for a subsequent UCIC meeting.
  - c) Minor comments on the ones to be tabled in the senate were communicated to the respective academic units through the members. Departmental Specialization in Automotive Design proposed by ME Department had specified a minimum student strength of 20. The UCIC felt that this would make it difficult for the specialization to run. Instead, it was decided to suggest to ME Department to make the running of courses contingent on minimum strengths stipulated by the Institute, and ensure that the chances of these courses running is high by making these courses part of Departmental / Programme electives for existing B.Tech / M.Tech. programmes.
  - d) Whenever a Minor / Departmental / Interdisciplinary specialization contains courses that could be part of the core courses of some disciplines, the UCIC decided that for those disciplines, the core course could not be counted towards the specialization / minor area. Similarly, for a given student, a course could be counted either under Departmental Elective requirement or under the Specialization / Minor area requirement, but not under both.
4. **Minimum Earned Credit Limits under the new curriculum:** Under the existing curriculum, minimum earned credit limits for various activities and courses had been prescribed. In view of the reduced number of credits in the revised curriculum, these limits need to be modified. It was decided that since the reduction is from 180 to an average of 150 credits, the same ratio of 5/6 be also used as a ball park measure of all such revisions in minimum earned credit limits in the revised curriculum. The following were explicitly discussed and decided, and for the others that may not be in this list, the UCIC authorized the Dean Academics to use the above methodology and get approvals from the Senate or Chairman Senate as required.

| S. No | Description                                                                                                                                               | Minimum Earned Credits Requirement |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1     | Activities that required 60 earned credits (300 level courses, etc.)                                                                                      | 50                                 |
| 2     | Activities that required 80 earned credits (Independent study, Mini Project, etc.)                                                                        | 65                                 |
| 3     | Activities that required 90 earned credits (summer / semester internships, 400 / 700 level courses, etc.)                                                 | 75                                 |
| 4     | Activities that required 100 earned credits (Auditing a course etc.)                                                                                      | 85                                 |
| 5     | Activities that required 120 earned credits (800 level courses, applying for undergraduate diploma, B.Tech. project, Minor Project for Dual Degree, etc.) | 100                                |
| 6     | Activities that required 165 earned credits (Major Project for Dual Degree students)                                                                      | 135                                |

5. **Any other item with permission of the chair:** Members pointed out that there are inconsistencies in the Concept Paper with reference to the number of hours that count for one non-graded unit under different categories: In section 2.2.4 on page 17 it says that the student effort for 1 non-graded unit is not more than 2 hrs per week. Under NCC/NSO/NSS in page 19 it mentions 14x4x2 hours for 2 units (~100 hours), which appears to imply a student effort of 4 hours per week per unit over two semesters. On the same page (19), under Professional Ethics and Social Responsibility, it mentions a notional 2 units implying a total involvement of about 100 hours. Under Design Experience (page 20) it mentions that a 40-days summer internship will help a student earn 2 units, and 120 days internship will amount to 5 units, which amount to a much larger number of hours of student effort per unit. It was decided to re-examine the issue, and the Dean Academics was authorized to constitute a committee to study these issues and arrive at recommendations for their consistent implementation.

The meeting ended with thanks to the chair.

Comments, if any, may kindly be sent to the undersigned by 24.11.2014.

M.R. Ravi  
Associate Dean Academic (Curriculum)  
and Convener, UCIC