# NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SILCHAR

# SIXTY NINTH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

# **MINUTES**

The 69<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors was held in NIT Transit House, New Delhi on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2019 at 1130 hours. The following members were present in the meeting:

- 1. Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director & Chairperson, BoG (Officiating)
- 2. Smt. Darshana M Dabral, JS & FA (IFD), Department of Higher Education, MHRD
- 3. Sri K. Rajan, Under Secretary, Department of Higher Education, MHRD
- 4. Prof. Abhijit Barooah, Cryogenics, Assam
- 5. Prof. F. A. Talukdar, NIT Silchar
- 6. Dr. M. K. Bera, NIT Silchar
- 7. Prof. A. K. Barbhuiya, Registrar & Secretary, BoG

As per Statute No. 17(15) of the first Statutes of NITs, Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay, Director, NIT, Silchar presided over the meeting of the Board of Governors as Chairperson in accordance with Section 16 of the NITSER Act.

Following Officials attended the meeting as Special Invitee.

- 1. Prof. A. I. Laskar, Dean (P & D), NIT Silchar
- 2. Dr. Sukumar Pati, Coordinator TEQIP III
- 3. Sri Manab Deka, Principal, GUIST

At the outset, Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay welcomed all the members of the Board of Governors.

The BoG then initiated the discussion on the Agenda Items one by one: -

# BoG-69/19/01: To confirm the minutes of 68th Meeting of Board of Governors

Sixty Eighth meeting of the Board of Governors was held on 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2019 at NIT Transit House, New Delhi. The copies of the Minutes of the 67<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governors (Annexure – I) was circulated to all the members of the Board. No comments has been received from any members.

The Board is request to confirm the minutes of 68th meeting of the BoG.

#### DECISION

The Board confirmed the minutes of 68th meeting of Board of Governors

# BoG-69/19/02: To

# To discuss on the Action Taken Report on decision of the $68^{\rm th}$ Meeting of Board of Governors

The action taken report on the minutes of 68<sup>th</sup> meeting of BOG is placed at Annexure – II. The Board is requested to take note of the same

#### **DECISION**

The Board noted the action taken on the minutes of 68th meeting of BoG

### BoG-69/19/03:

To consider the recommendation of the B&WC related to the PMU report and report of the committee constituted as per the decision of the 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BoG vide agenda item BoG- 65/18/06A held on 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2018.

The report of the committee constituted as per the decision of the 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BoG vide agenda item BoG- 65/18/06A held on 13.12.2018 was placed before the 68<sup>th</sup> meeting of BoG held on 01.07.2019 and the board resolve the following.

The Board decided to refer the issue to the BWC for recommendation based on the observation from (1) The Secretary, Department of Higher Education, MHRD, (2) PMU report & (3) Report of the Committee constituted as per the decision of the BoG in its 65<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 13.12.2018

Accordingly, the PMU Report and the report of the committee constituted as per the decision of the 65<sup>th</sup> meeting of the BoG vide agenda item BoG- 65/18/06A held on 13.12.2018 was placed before the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting of B&WC scheduled on 18.07.2019.

The recommendation of the B&WC is placed at Annexure - III.

The Board is requested to peruse the same and advice.

#### DECISION

The Board advised the institute to place the matter related to the construction of Sports Complex in details starting from:

- Selection of Architect
- 2. Mode of award of Work
- 3. Scope of Works
- 4. Works completed and work left

For other projects, Board noted the advice of the Committee and approved the recommendation of the B&WC.

## BoG-69/19/04:

# To discuss on the matter of alleged sexual harassment against one Faculty Member.

One of the Under Graduate student of this institute vide letter dated 10.10.2018 has lodge a complaint of sexual harassment against one of the Faculty Members. The matter was referred to the Internal Complaints Committee of the Institute and the Committee submitted its report on 29.05.2019. The same will be placed before the BoG in its 68<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 01.07.2019 and the Board opined the following:

While discussing the agenda, the institute informed the Board that the respondent Dr. D. K. Raju joined the institute on 20.06.2018 and his probation has not yet been confirmed. The Institute also informed the BoG that the ICC have given a copy to the complainant and respondent. The Board after threadbare discussion decided that the probation of Dr. D. K. Raju be extended for another 3 (three) months.

The board also directed the Institute to collect the report from the Head of the Department / Dean (Academic) / Dean (F.W) about the performance of Dr. Raju.

The quantum of punishment will be decided by the board in the next meeting. The performance reports of the alleged Faculty Member along with legal opinion of the institute retainer will be placed on the table.

Board is requested to peruse the same and decide the quantum of punishment

#### **DECISION**

The Board discussed the matter in details and opined that the recommendations of the ICC is not clear. Board advised the institute to ask ICC for submitting its clear recommendation.

# BoG-69/19/05:

To approve the proposal for signing MoU with the Royal University of Bhutan.

The Ambassador of India, India House, Thimpu (Bhutan) letter No. Thi/Edu/327/ 15/2019 dated 02.07.2019 (Annexure –  $V_1$ ) requested the institute to consider strengthening academic linkage with the Royal University of Bhutan through short and medium term faculty visits, exchange of pedagogic tools and software, customized training modules for Bhutanese lecturers, a few reserved seats at NIT Silchar for Bhutanese students, joint research initiatives etc.

NIT Silchar is interested for cooperation with the Royal University of Bhutan.

The copy of MoU to be signed by both the Institutes is placed at Annexure - V2.

Board is requested to approve the proposal for signing MoU with the Royal University of Bhutan

## DECISION

The Board approved the proposal for signing MoU with the Royal University of Bhutan without any financial obligation. Office Memorandum from Ministry of HRD (ICC Division) dated 17.12.2015 and  $1^{\rm st}$  August, 2016 with regard to entering the agreement with foreign agencies for cooperation in field of education may be followed while signing the MoU

# BoG-69/19/06:

To report Twinning Activities between NIT Silchar as mentor Institute and GUIST Guwahati as mentee Institute under TEQIP-III.

NIT Silchar and GUIST, Guwahati has a Twinning Agreement and planned various activities with long term and short term focus The action plan is being implemented at various levels. Activities that already have been undertaken and are in the pipeline to be implemented are as follows:

#### A. Activities undertaken:

 Six FDPs/STTPs/Workshops/Conferences (Annexure – VI<sub>1</sub>) have been jointly organized at NIT Silchar where faculties/students from mentee institute participated. Moreover one Workshop has been jointly organized at the mentee Institute.

- II. With regard to NBA accreditation, two Workshops (Annexure − VI₂) on Outcome Based Education (NBA) have been conducted at NIT Silchar; one jointly with GUIST Guwahati and in the other, four faculties from GUIST participated. GUIST organized one such workshop where one faculty member from NIT Silchar participated.
  - III. Two UG students from GUIST, Guwahati have already completed their UG projects jointly supervised by the faculty members of NIT Silchar and GUIST during the academic session 2018-19. From the work of UG project, one paper has already been communicated to an international conference.
  - IV. Two UG students from GUIST had undertaken Summer Internship of 4 weeks (June 2018) in the Department of ECE, NIT Silchar as part of the Twinning Arrangement
  - V. Industry conclave was organized at GUIST in the month of February 2019. Faculty-in-charge, T& P, NIT Silchar and 05 students from NIT Silchar attended the conclave.
  - VI. Five T& P student coordinators of NIT Silchar visited GUIST during 22<sup>nd</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2018 and have interaction with FIC, T& P Cell of GUIST and their student coordinators at GUIST. Joint placement activities have been organized by T&P Cell, NIT Silchar in the last academic session. Thirty seven students from GUIST took part in two recruitment process at NIT Silchar. FIC, T&P Cell, NIT Silchar already visited GUIST, Guwahati to conduct meeting with the officials of the mentee institute regarding plans for joint placement drives for the ongoing academic session.
  - VII. NBA accreditation of various programs of GUIST is one of the key long term plans that NIT Silchar is looking forward and conducted number of interactions in the past. NBA Coordinator of NIT Silchar already conducted one sensitization workshop
  - VIII. A group of students from GUIST participated in hackathon competition organized by NIT Silchar during October 26-28, 2018. Five students from NIT Silchar participated in hackathon competition organized by GUIST in the month of November 2018.

#### B. Activities under pipeline

- Joint PhD supervision with the mentee institute faculty members are being mulled by our faculty members. We intend to have joint supervision for the betterment of our PhD students. Efforts will be made for policy framing at both the Institutes for convenient official procedures regarding joint PhD supervision.
- II. Research collaboration with the mentee institute will be a direct consequence of joint PhD supervision. Also efforts will be made to motivate faculty members of both the institutes to write collaborative projects for research grants.
- III. Efforts will be made to induct faculty members of GUIST on various bodies (BoS, Senate etc.) of NIT Silchar for learning on good governance practices.

- IV. Department of Biotechnology, GUIST will apply for NBA shortly NBA Coordinator, NIT Silchar has a plan to visit GUIST on the first week of August 2019 to provide assistance in filling-up SAR.
- V. Initiatives have taken to organize FDPs/STTPs/Workshops/Conferences jointly in the coming days. One such Workshop will be held during 29<sup>th</sup> July 02<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 at NIT Silchar.

Board is requested to note the same

#### DECISION

TEQIP Coordinator of NIT Silchar and GUSIT presented the Twining Activities between NIT Silchar and GUIST Guwahati under TEQIP — III. The Board noted the Twinning Activities between NIT Silchar as mentor Institute and GUIST Guwahati as mentee Institute under TEQIP-III and expressed satisfaction on the activities performed.

# BoG-69/19/07:

## To consider extension of tenure of Institute Retainer.

The Board in its 30th meeting vide agenda item no. BoG-30/12/11 authorised the Director to appoint Retainer both at High Court and District Court. The Institute Retainer for Gauhati High Court Sri S Paul Choudhury was engaged in May 2013 and subsequently vide OM dated 28 June 2016 his tenure was extended for a period of three years. Retainer for District Court Sri. D.K. Deb was engaged in July 2012.

Considering their satisfactory performance, it is decided to further extend the tenure of Sri S Paul Choudhury, Retainer at Gauhati High Court till 30.06.2021 and Sri D.K. Deb will continue as Retainer at District Court till 30.06.2021.

Board is requested to note the same.

#### **DECISION**

The Board noted the same and advised the institute the make payment as per the guidelines of Ministry of Law and Justice

#### BoG-69/19/08:

Implementation of Recruitment Rules for Faculty of NITs and IIEST - issue of clarifications as per recommendations of the Oversight Committee - regarding.

MHRD vide letter F. No. 10-5/2019-TS.III dated 16.04.2019 circulated the recommendation of the oversight committee on the Faculty Recruitment Rule (Annexure VIII).

In the said letter it was advised to place it before the BoG for adoption.

Board is requested to adopt the same.

#### **DECISION**

The Board adopted the same

# BoG-69/19/09: To note the recommendations of the 57th and 58th B&WC meetings.

The recommendations of 57<sup>th</sup> meeting of Building & Works Committee held on 01.07.2019 and 58<sup>th</sup> meeting of Building & Works Committee held on 18.07.2019 will be placed on the table for noting.

## **DECISION**

The Board directed the institute to place the matter in the next meeting of Board

(Prof. A. K. Barbhuiya) Registrar & Secretary Prof. Sivaji Bandyopadhyay) Chairperson, BoG (Acting)