

Office of the Dean, International Relations  
Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur



Date: 24.8.2021

**Subject: Minutes of the MoU Committee Meeting Dated 12<sup>th</sup> August, 2021.**

The MoU Committee comprising the undersigned members met on August 12, 2021 through Online Mode. The minutes and resolutions of the meeting are as under.

Prof. Amit Patra	Chairman, MoU Committee
Prof. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay	Dean OR
Prof. V.R. Desai	Dean, FoEA
Prof. G.P. Raja Sekhar	Dean, FoS ( <i>represented by Prof. J.K. Dey, Associate Dean, FoS</i> )
Prof. Saswat Chakraborty	Dean, FoBTBS
Prof. Suman Chakraborty	Dean, SRIC (ABSENT)
Prof. Surjya Kanta Pal	Associate Dean, AA& Branding (ABSENT)
Dr. Anandaroop Bhattacharya	Associate Dean, IR& Ranking (Secretary & Convener)

The Meeting's agenda included the following:

**i. Reporting items (since last meeting)**

The following documents were signed since the last MoU meeting.

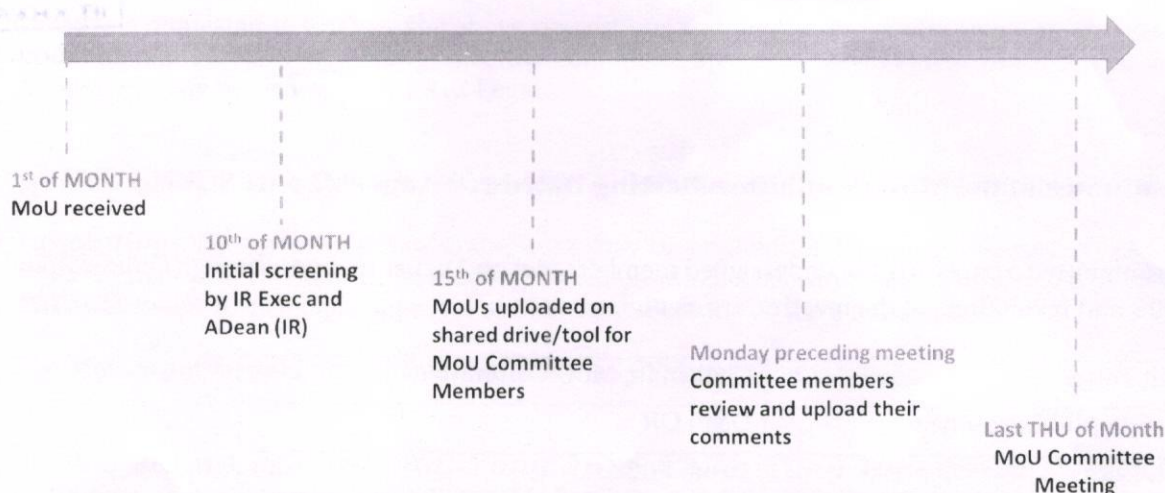
- JDP with Curtin University (renewal) – coordinated by Dean OR and Associate Dean, IR&R
- MoU with Power Grid Corporation India Ltd. – coordinated by Prof. S. Mukhopadhyay, Head EE Dept.

**ii. Rhythm of MoU Committee meeting - proposal for review**

In order to streamline the process of review of MoU/SEA/JDP and facilitate timely deliberations, Associate Dean IR & Ranking proposed a monthly rhythm of MoU Committee meetings whereby committee will meet on last Thursday of every month. MoUs received from coordinators by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month will be taken up for review in that month's meeting. Further, the MoUs will be uploaded in a shared drive by 15<sup>th</sup> of the month so that the committee members can review them and come prepared with their views and comments.

No requests for out of cycle processing will be entertained unless they are of critical nature and comes from Director of Dy. Director.





The MoU committee approved the plan. Accordingly, the next MoU Committee meeting will be held on 30-Sep-2021.

### iii. University selection of JDP/SEA

Following up on the discussion from the MoU Committee meeting held in July 2021, Associate Dean IR & Ranking presented an objective framework for evaluation of new partner universities for SEA and Joint Degree Programmes based on the following 3 major parameters and sub-parameters within.

- University Reputation – QS WUR and subject ranking
- Track record of prior collaboration with IITKGP – Joint projects (including SPARC), Jointly offered courses/workshop/symposia, Visits of faculty and students, GIAN courses, etc.
- Financial support offered to visiting students (SEA and JDP)

The committee proposed to include joint publications under (b) above. As a trial, it was proposed to evaluate the existing Joint Degree partner universities to see how they score in this framework.

### Action Items:

- MoU and SEA with **Univ. of Torino, Italy**: Prof. Manish Mamtani, GG

**Resolution:** The committee recommended that the MoU may be signed in the field of Applied Geology. The MoU cover form with the history of collaboration between the proposed partners along with the list of planned activities in the next 3-5 years may be provided for records and for future review and renewal of the MoU. The MoU is approved in principle.

**SEA:** The committee agreed that in the light of the pandemic situation, where international travel is restricted and IITKGP's new academic curriculum, the draft SEA may be put on hold until the time there is a genuine interest from a student to engage in the student exchange program. When such an interest is observed, the SEA may be enabled to allow for exchange visits to take place.

- MoU Renewal with **Indian Council of Medical Research ICMR**: Dr. Debdoot Sheet, EE

**Resolution:** The committee recommended the renewal of the MoU with necessary modifications. The scope of the MoU may be modified to include proposed activities between IITKGP and ICMR over the next 5 years.

*[Handwritten signatures]*



The committee also recommended that Prof. Sheet provide

- a. documentary evidence that ICMR is interested in renewing the MoU.
- b. MoU cover form with the history of collaboration between the proposed partners along with the list of planned activities in the next 3-5 years

The MoU is approved for renewal.

3. JDP Renewal with **University of Wollongong**: Prof. Jayanta Mukhopadhyay/Dr. Anandaroop Bhattacharya, Dean OR/ADean IR&R

**Resolution:** The document was approved in principle by the committee in Oct 2020 subject to a final review by Dean IR, Dean PGS&R and ADean IR, which was subsequently done in 2020. With the new administrative structure in place, the committee requested that Associate Dean IR & Ranking and Prof. M. Ramgopal, Associate Dean FoE&A review the draft and place it for preliminary approval from Chairman, Senate.

The new evaluation framework may be applied as a pilot study and results/scores reported in next MoU Committee meeting.

4. MoU Renewal with **University of Lille, Polytech Lille**: Prof. A.K Samantaray, ME

**Resolution:** The committee recommended that the MoU cover form with the history of collaboration between the proposed partners along with the list of planned activities in the next 3-5 years may be provided for records and for future review and renewal of the MoU.

The MoU is approved in principle.

**SEA:** The committee agreed that in the light of the pandemic situation, where international travel is restricted and IITKGP's new academic curriculum, the draft SEA may be put on hold until the time there is a genuine interest from a student to engage in the student exchange program. When such an interest is observed, the SEA may be enabled to allow for exchange visits to take place.

5. New MoU with **IPV Angle Network**: Dr. Mrigank Sharad, RMSoEE

**Resolution:** The proposed draft was deliberated in detail especially on the benefits to IIT Kharagpur and whether an MoU is required to be signed for the proposed activities.

Dr. Mrigank Sharad was advised to re-draft the MoU clearly stating the benefits to IIT Kharagpur and get it reviewed in RMSoEE first. Further, the term "partnership" should not be used. A modified version needs to be presented to the Committee for further review.

6. New MoU with **NVIDIA, Corp.**: Dr. Somnath Roy, ME

**Resolution:** The committee deliberated over the draft and recognized the utility of entering into this MoU with NVIDIA. However, the following modifications were suggested on the MoU

- a. The language of the MoU be modified to suit the perspective of an academic institution
- b. The benefits to IITKGP should be clearly spelt out.
- c. The use of the term "Centre" should be avoided since it has a different connotation in IITKGP.



Dr. Roy is requested to work on the above suggestions and present the committee with a modified version in due course for further review. Once the committee approves the modified draft, the Non-Disclosure Agreement may be reviewed by SRIC Legal.

7. MoU and JDP with **Deakin University, Australia**: Dr. Sourangshu Bhattacharya, CSE

**Resolution:** The new evaluation framework may be applied for Deakin University and results/scores reported in next MoU Committee meeting, based on which a decision may be taken on whether to go for a JDP with them. In-principle approval of Chairman, Senate will have to be taken.

The MoU is put on hold until the decision on the JDP Agreement is taken.

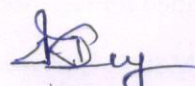
8. MoU Renewal with **National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University ("NYCU")**, earlier known as **National Chiao Tung University, Taiwan**: Dr. S.M. Dash, Aerospace Engineering Dept.

**Resolution:** The MoU is approved in principle. The modifications may be forwarded to NYCU for concurrence upon which, the MoU may be placed for signatures.



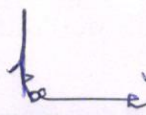
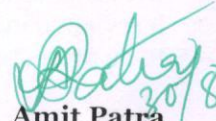
**Anandaroop Bhattacharya**  
Associate Dean, IR (Secretary &  
Convener)

ABSENT  
**Surjya Kanta Pal**  
Associate Dean, AA

  
J.K. Dey  
**G.P. Raja Sekhar**  
Asst. Dean, FoS

**Jayanta Mukhopadhyay**  
Dean OR

ABSENT  
**Suman Chakraborty**  
Dean, SRIC

  
**V.R. Desai**  
Dean, FoEA  
**Amit Patra**  
Dy. Director  
Chairman, MoU Committee