

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

Date: May 1, 2020

Subject: Minutes of the MoU Committee Meeting Dated 30th April, 2020.

The MoU Committee comprising the undersigned members met on 30th April, 2020 in online mode. The minutes and resolutions of the meeting are as follows:

MoU Committee	
Prof. Sriman Kumar Bhattacharyya	Deputy Director and Chairman
Prof. Baidurya Bhattacharya	Dean, IR and Convenor
Prof. Prasanta Kumar Das	Dean, PGS&R
Prof. Suman Chakraborty	Dean, SRIC
Prof. Debasis Deb	Dean, UGS
Prof. Subrata Chattopadhyay	Dean AA
Dr. Anandaroop Bhattacharya	Associate Dean, IR

1. Reporting of signed MoUs(Jan 2019 – Mar 2020):

The list of MoUs, Joint Degree Programs and Student Exchange Agreements (SEA) were presented by Associate Dean (IR) to the MoU Committee. A total of 50 MoUs, 3 SEAs and 3 Joint Degree programs (list in Appendix – 1) were signed during the last Jan 2019 and March 2020.

Chairman, MoU Committee suggested that the individual coordinators be contacted and requested to drive joint activities proactively.

2. Updates on Expiring and Expired MoUs

During the meeting on March 3, 2020 a list of 10 MoUs were presented that have either recently expired or due to expire within the next 6 months. It was decided that the coordinators of the respective MoUs be asked to approach the partnering institution with proposal for renewal. The following are the updates:

- a. Curtin University: Process of renewal of Dual Doctoral Program Agreement is under process. Curtin is not keen on renewing the umbrella MoU (expired) since they do not see it as a requirement for any ongoing activities including Dual Doctoral Program and Student Exchange Program. However, they are willing to consider if IIT Kharagpur insists. IIT has already requested for renewal of the MoU and waiting to hear back. It was decided that the Institutional MoU with Curtin University be renewed despite it not being a priority with Curtin.
- b. Warwick Manufacturing Group: WMG is interested in renewing the MoU in light of many ongoing activities with IIT Kharagpur. Prof. S.K. Pal (Mechanical Engineering Dept.) is leading the discussions. WMG sent an updated document which had some unacceptable clauses

(including laws of UK). After preliminary screening by Associate Dean (IR), it was sent back with comments. Further response from WMG is awaited.

- c. University of Southampton: The activity report has been received from the coordinator but no further action has been initiated for renewal.
- d. R&D Center of Nippon, (RDCNK), Tsukuba, Japan: There has not been any activity. Coordinator has approached RDCNK for renewal and waiting for their reply.
- e. Univ. Cattolica Del SacroCuore (Italy): The activity report has been received from the coordinator but no further action has been initiated for renewal.
- f. National Tsing Hua Univ. (NTHU), Taiwan: There has not been any activity. No further action has been initiated for renewal by the coordinator.
- g. University of Queensland, Australia: There has not been much institutional activity. The discussions on Dual/Joint Doctoral Program is stuck at their end and has not progresses since 2018.
- h. University of Twente, Netherlands: No response received from coordinator
- i. University of Alabama, USA: No response received from coordinator
- j. Inst. of Engg, Tribhuvan University, Nepal: No response received from coordinator

The MoU Committee recommended that:

- In cases where the coordinator has not responded, the Office of International Relations may approach the partnering institution directly with a request for renewal keeping the coordinator in the loop.
- MoUs with GoI organizations, CSIR Labs, PSUs should be proactively renewed and the process started at least 3 months before expiry.

3. Student Scholarships and Chair Professorship MoUs/Agreements

At present, proposals for Student Scholarships and Chair Professorships (mostly originating from alumni donations) are reviewed by the MoU Committee. It was proposed that in order to enhance efficiency and reduce turn-around time, these may be taken out of the purview of MoU Committee. The committee discussed the matter and recommended the following:

- Any activity involving financial transactions be henceforth called an "Agreement" instead of "MoU"
- Standard agreement template for Student Scholarships be drafted jointly by the Office of Alumni Affairs and Academic Section. The agreement should be vetted by Dean UGS, Dean PGS&R, Registrar and Sr. Law Officer.
- For any subsequent scholarships, this standard template be followed and the Agreement be approved by an empowered committee of Dean AA, Dean UGS or PGS&R and DR/JR (Acad).
- When approved by the committee, the MoU/Agreement would be placed for the final approval from Deputy Director and Director.
- For Chair Professorships, the Institute policy is currently under revision. A similar process may be devised involving Dean, Faculty, once the policy revision process is completed.

- Funding for specific/targeted Institutional Programs (ex: SGR International Program, ADS International Program, GKF scheme for ACFA, GKF International Scholarships, etc.) will continue to be reviewed by MoU Committee. However, such Agreements should be vetted by Registrar and Institute Legal Cell.

4. Review of MoUs

a. **University of Melbourne, Australia - Dual Doctoral Program (renewal):** Dean, IR

Reporting: The Dual Doctoral Program Renewal Agreement has been signed electronically by both sides (completed on 29-Apr-2020) with Dean, PGS & R as the signatory from IIT Kharagpur. The hard copy signature process will be initiated once the lockdown is lifted.

b. **CDAC, HPC Nodal Centre:** Prof. Sanjoy Bandopadhyay (Chemistry)

Reporting: The MoU was approved through email circulation (Jan 14-16, 2020) and approved by Chairman, MoU Committee on Jan 27, 2020 suggesting Registrar as signatory. The approval note has been placed to Dy. Director's office.

c. **University of Dhaka:** Prof. Soumya Dey (Bioscience)

Reporting: The MoU was approved through email circulation (Jan 14-16, 2020) and approved by Chairman, MoU Committee on Jan 27, 2020 suggesting Registrar as signatory. The approval note has been placed to Dy. Director's office.

d. **University of Malaysia Sabah:** Prof. Adrijit Goswami (Mathematics) and Mr. S.S. Das (CET)

Reporting: The MoU was approved by MoU Committee through email circulation (Feb 3-7) and by Chairman, MoU Committee on Feb 20. The approval note was placed for signature on Mar 6, 2020.

e. **IIT Bangalore:** Prof. Sudeshna Sarkar (CSE)

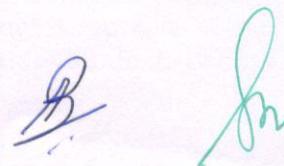
Reporting: The MoU has been approved by the MoU Committee and is currently being reviewed by the Director.

f. **Datta Meghe Institute for Medical Science:** Prof. Santanu Dhara (SMST)

Resolution: The document was approved by MoU Committee through email circulation (Feb 03-06, 2020) with suggestion to include a description of DMIMS. The revised version received from Prof. Dhara on Feb 24, 2020. **The MoU is approved** with Dean (IR) as the proposed signatory.

g. **Accelerator Laboratory, High Energy Accelerator Research Organization (KEK), Japan:** Prof. T.S. Datta (Cryogenics)

Resolution: The MoU is with Cryogenic Engineering Center. It was reviewed through email circulation (Jan 16-19, 2020) and some modifications were suggested by Chairman, MoU Committee on Jan 27, 2020. The changes were shared with KEK Japan. While, they accepted the suggested changes, the revised draft came back with some additional clauses/sub-clauses and edits.




The MoU committee approved all the modifications *except the Clause of Liability* (Article 9). It was suggested that KEK be asked if the Liability clause (legal) can be dropped. In parallel, the clause may be reviewed by Institute Legal Cell or SRIC legal officer.

- h. **James Cook University, Australia - Dual Doctoral Program:** Prof. B.B. Mandal (Mining Engineering)

Resolution: The Dual Doctoral Agreement was approved by MoU Committee during its meeting held on 24-Apr-2019. Subsequently, an incoming student has been identified and admitted to JCU. The Agreement is now ready for signing. JCU requested the addition of a sample "Intellectual Property Assignment Deed" as annexure, to be signed by the student on admission to the Dual Doctoral Program.

The MoU Committee reviewed and approved the Annexure. **The Dual Doctoral Agreement is approved** with Director as the proposed signatory.

- i. **Yun Tech University, Taiwan:** Prof. KaushalBhagat (CET)

Resolution: Prof. Bhagat explained that Yun Tech has already established a relationship with IITKGP and hosted two students for paid internships in winter 2019. They had offered paid internships to 4 students for summer 2020. However due to the prevailing COVID19 situation, the internships have been converted to online mode. The two institutes are also working on joint research proposals.

In view of the existing relationship and the fact that Yun Tech has accepted our standard template, the **MoU is approved** with Director as the proposed signatory.

- j. **Vinod and Kiran Jain Scholarship:** Dean, AA

Resolution: The MoU has been modified in accordance with the modifications suggested earlier by Chairman, MoU Committee and **is approved** with Dean UGS as the proposed signatory.

This is the last scholarship proposal to be reviewed and approved by the MoU Committee. Henceforth all scholarship proposals will be handled as per the process outlined above in Item #3.

- k. **University of Strathclyde:** Dean, IR

Resolution: Strathclyde Business School and VGSoM are in discussion on coming up with jointly offered courses and other outreach activities. The MoU Committee expressed reservations on mentioning Certificate Courses in the MoU text since IITs are not authorized yet to offer Certificate Courses. It was proposed to club "Joint development and offering of certificate courses" (Item# vi) under "Joint Academic Activities and Events" (item# v) under Scope of Cooperation and remove the word Certificate Course.

It was further proposed the modalities of offering Certificate Courses with select international partners be explored by Dean IR, Dean CE and Dean PGS&R.

- l. **ITMO, Russia – Student Exchange Agreement:** Prof. Rajat S. Chakraborty (CSE)

Resolution: The MoU Committee reviewed the SEA and proposed the following changes:

- i. The agreement should be either only be in English or trilingual (English, Russian and Hindi). The proposed format of Russian and English is not acceptable.
- ii. English should be the only foreign language requirement for students of both sides.

- iii. The IP and Dispute Resolution clauses need modification. IITKGP may propose its standard clauses for these.
- iv. Keep provision for any additional financial aid that may be possible from Host Institution (other than tuition waiver), on a case by case basis.
- v. Check if the semester timings of the two institutions align with each other and if digital channels for attending courses may be considered, keeping in mind the global pandemic situation.

Prof. Chakraborty is requested to share the modified agreement with ITMO based on the committee's recommendations.

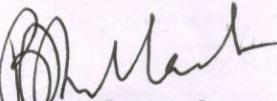
m. Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore – Joint Doctoral Supervision Agreement: Dean IR

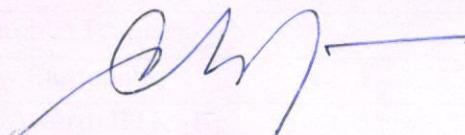
Resolution: The proposed agreement is for Joint Doctoral Supervision not leading to a joint degree. The enrolled students will be required to spend 1 to 2 years at the partner Institute with full tuition waiver. The final degree will be given by the Home Institution only. The committee discussed the pros and cons of such an agreement keeping in mind the global ranking of NTU (QS rank – 11) and recommended the following:

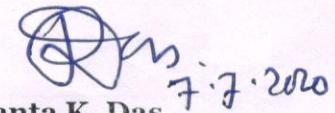
- i. Dean IR should check with NTU if a mention of the joint supervision program be mentioned in the Home Institution parchment on reciprocal basis.
- ii. The Committee members should read the document thoroughly as it is extremely well-written and detailed, and discuss their views in the next meeting.

n. Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand – Joint Doctoral Program: Dean, IR

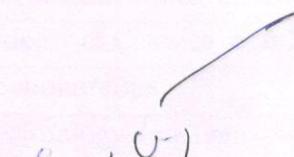
Resolution: The document has come to IIT Kharagpur from IIT Bombay and background/origin of the document is not clear. It was proposed that Office of International Relations (OIR) contacts AIT directly for entering into an MoU followed by Joint/Dual Doctoral Program.


Baidurya Bhattacharya
Dean, IR

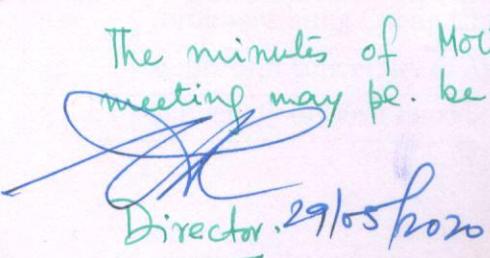

Subrata Chattopadhyay
Dean, AA

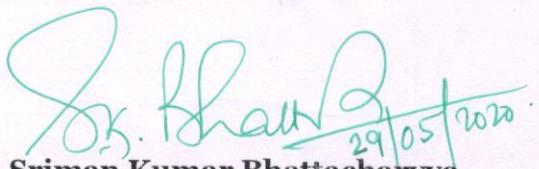

Prasanta K. Das
Dean, PGS & R


Debasish Deb
Dean, UGS


Suman Chakraborty
Dean, SRIC


Anandaroop Bhattacharya
Associate Dean, IR


The minutes of MoU Committee
meeting may be approved.


Sriman Kumar Bhattacharyya

Deputy Director and Chairman, MoU Committee

ANNEXURE – 1

List of MoUs, SEA and Joint Degree Program Agreements signed during Jan 2019 – Mar 2020

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)	
Sl. #	Name of Partner
1.	AOTS, Japan
2.	University of Alberta, Canada
3.	Rekhi Foundation, USA
4.	Pullela Gopichand Badminton Academy (PGBA)
5.	National Sun Yat Sen University, Taiwan
6.	ZHAW, Switzerland
7.	Capillary Technologies – CoE for AI
8.	University of Massachusetts, Dartmouth, USA
9.	Singapore Management University, Singapore
10.	University of Lorraine, France
11.	School of Environment, Enterprise and Development (SEED), University of Waterloo, Canada
12.	Graduate Institute of Science Education, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan
13.	Science Education Center, National Taiwan Normal University, Taiwan
14.	University of North Texas, USA
15.	National University of Science & Technology MISIS
16.	Chang Gung University (CGU), Taiwan
17.	St. Petersburg Polytechnic University, Russia
18.	InstitutPolytechnique De Grenoble, France
19.	Sh. Vijay Kiyawat (Arty Charity Campaign)
20.	Prakasham Gupta Best Thesis Award, IITKGP
21.	ICAR-National Rice Research Institute (NRRI),
22.	University of Delaware, USA
23.	Politehnica University, Timisoara, Romania
24.	CSIR- Advanced Materials and Processes Research Institute, (AMPRI), Bhopal
25.	Guru Kripa Foundation for Academy of Classical and Folk Arts
26.	Guru Kripa Foundation for IR Scholarships
27.	Development Center for Ship Technology and Transport Systems eV (DST), Duisburg, Germany
28.	JIS Institute of Advanced Studies and Research (JISIASR) Kolkata
29.	Dept. of Information Technology, Electronics and Communication (IT,E&C), Government of Telangana (GoTS)
30.	University of Waterloo, Canada
31.	National Chung Cheng University
32.	Heilbronn University of Applied Sciences, (HHN),
33.	University of West Florida

34.	University of Georgia, USA
35.	Sonargaon University, Bangladesh
36.	James Cook University, Australia
37.	The University of Sheffield, UK
38.	Nagaoka University of Technology (NUT), Japan
39.	Trinity College Dublin, Ireland
40.	Nagasaki University, Japan
41.	Northeastern Regional Load Despatch Centre (NERLDC), POSOCO
42.	International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI) Hyderabad
43.	National University of Science & Technology (MISIS)
44.	S.E. Railway Hospital, Kharagpur
45.	Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Tirupati
46.	Krishna Sarma Abburi Endowment Award
47.	Chakravarthi Karuturi Scholarship Award
48.	Shri Amitabh Agrawal Chair Professorship
49.	Lord Kumar Bhattacharya Chair Professorship of Manufacturing
50.	A.C. Pandya Centre with Vinod Gupta Charitable Foundation

Student Exchange Agreement (SEA)

1.	University of Grenoble, France
2.	National Sun Yat Sen University, Taiwan
3.	Nagasaki University, Japan

Joint Degree Program Agreement

1.	University of Alberta, Canada (Joint Doctoral Program)
2.	University of Auckland, New Zealand (Dual Doctoral Program)
3.	Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai (Executive M.Tech. Program)