

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

Date: August 03, 2020

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

The MoU Committee comprising the undersigned members met on 30th July, 2020 **through Online Mode**. The minutes and resolutions of the meeting are as under.

Prof. Sriman Kumar Bhattacharyya

Chairman, MoU Committee

Prof. Anandaroop Bhattacharya

Associate Dean, IR

Prof. Prasanta Kumar Das

Dean, PGS&R

Prof. Suman Chakraborty

Dean, SRIC

Prof. Debasis Deb

Dean, UGS

Prof. Baidurya Bhattacharya

Dean, IR (Secretary cum Convenor)

Prof. Subrata Chattopadhyay

Dean AA

- I. The Meeting began with Chairman MoU committee stating that the Semester Away Program has to be given a greater thrust on an institutional level rather than on an individual departmental level. ADean IR mentioned about the challenges faced in terms of mismatch in semester timings and problems with course mapping. Prof. Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay (former Dean AA&IR) volunteered to work with OIR to look at these issues.
- II. Status updates of MoUs that were to be discussed in the day's meeting along with those MoUs to be terminated were shared by the committee.
 - Univ. of Southampton – No response received
 - Univ. of Twente – Both universities agreed to have concrete plans for joint activities before signing the MoU. Prof. Kinsuk Naskar (RTC) is coordinating the efforts from IIT Kharagpur
 - Univ. Cattolica Del Sacro Cuore – MoU draft undergoing iterations
 - Univ. of Queensland – No response received from UQ
 - Tribhuvan Univ., Nepal – No response received from either side
 - MoUs with SKA India Consortium, Edward Food Research & Analysis Centre, RAJUVAS Bikaner, IEST Shibpur, ICRISAT Patancheru, BEML Bangalore and Tamilnadu Fisheries were proposed to be terminated due to lack of interest from IITKGP coordinators.

Prof. Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay presented his argument against terminating some of the MoUs like BEML, Tribhuvan University and University of Queensland and volunteered to speak to the MD of BEML and Prof. Tapan Saha of UQ to re-vitalize the partnerships.

- III. **James Cook University Joint Doctoral Program Agreement:** After agreeing to the earlier agreement in 2019 followed by final approval and signature from Director, IITKGP, JCU sent a completely different draft in July 2020 along with some additional conditions

including simultaneously signing the individual student agreement of their first identified student without undergoing through the formal application and selection process. The committee discussed and decided to withdraw from the program.

- IV. Chairman MoU Committee suggested that all MoU coordinators arrange a webinar event with their respective partner universities in the next 05 months. The faculty coordinators and their partners may offer micro-credit programs, short lectures, or jointly offer programs.

V. **Other reporting items:**

- MoU with Dhaka University was not approved by Director.
- RIKEN Brain Science Institute has decided not to renew the MoU owing to lack of activities in the past 5 years.
- No response has been received from Universities of Southampton and Haifa.

Action Items:

1. MoU with **Ben-Gurion University**: Dipanwita Roy Chowdhury, HoD CSE

Resolution: It was suggested that certain important clauses from our standard Institute MoU template be included in the draft shared by Ben Gurion. It was further discussed that Prof. Roy Chowdhury communicate with BGU regarding collaborative activities (as discussed in point IV above) not just in areas of CSE but for activities with the entire Institute. A plan for such activities may be formulated before signing the MoU.

2. MoU with **National Tsing Hua University**: Dipanwita Roy Chowdhury, HoD CSE

Resolution: The template shared by NTHU is too elementary. It was decided to wait for NTHU to revert on our standard template. It was further discussed that Prof. Roy Chowdhury communicate with NTHU regarding collaborative activities (as discussed in point IV above) not just in areas of CSE but for activities with the entire Institute. A plan for such activities may be formulated before signing the MoU.

3. MoU with **Curtin University**: Bhargab Maitra, Civil

Resolution: Owing to the absence of Prof. Bhargab Maitra and in view of the urgency of renewing the MoU, it was decided that the renewal draft would be circulated via email to the committee members for the necessary approval.

It was also advised that the standard IITKGP DDP template be shared with Curtin for their comments and for processing the renewal of the DDP, which has expired in May of 2020.

4. MoU with **Princess Sumaya University of Technology**: Siddhartha Mukhopadhyay, EE/Rajat Subhra Chakraborty, CSE

Resolution: Prof. Rajat Subhra Chakraborty was requested to communicate with PSUT regarding their interest in engendering further collaboration with IITKGP and come up with a concrete plan for activities, based on which the MoU may be renewed.

5. MoU with **University of Alabama**: Debasish Deb, Dean UG

Resolution: There is interest from Univ. of Alabama to renew the MoU. Prof. Debashis Deb, alumnus of U of Alabama, was nominated as the new coordinator for the MoU. It was suggested that all details of correspondence with University of Alabama be shared with Prof. Deb for further correspondence. It was suggested to line up some joint activities and come up with plans of future activities before renewing the MoU.

6. MoU with **Research and Development Center of Nippon Koei Co. Ltd. Tsukuba, Japan:** Dilip Kr. Swain, AgFE

Resolution: The clauses on Non-Discrimination and Code of Conduct were recommended to be added along with some minor changes. It was advised that the modified draft be shared with Nippon Koei for renewal and their concurrence. This MoU is approved in principle subject to Director's final approval.

7. MoU with **Taipei Medical University:** Ram Babu Roy, SEE

Resolution: TMU has suggested some changes in IITKGP's draft MoU especially with reorganizing the sections. The changes were accepted by the MoU Committee. It was advised that the modified draft be shared with TMU for renewal and their concurrence. This MoU is approved in principle subject to Director's final approval.

8. MoU with **National Institute of Urban Affairs:** Haimanti Banerji, ARP

Resolution: Dr. Banerji is requested to seek clarification on the term 'Partner Institutes'. The MoU is otherwise approved. It was proposed that Dean SRIC be the signatory of the MoU.

9. MoU with **University of Leeds:** Nilanjan Das Chakladar, ME

Resolution: Leeds University is very keen to initiate partnerships with IITKGP starting with research collaborations and joint supervision of Ph.D. students in ME and CE departments. Leeds is a SPARC partner of IITKGP and also a partner in the upcoming e-symposia series on Gandhian Thoughts and Philosophy.

Leeds requires an Institute level agreement for joint supervision of Ph.D. students. It was decided that the agreement be reviewed and approved by Dean, PGS &R. Only if there are some unresolved issues, the agreement be brought for review by MoU Committee.

The changes suggested by Leeds on our draft MoU were found to be acceptable. The MoU is approved in principle subject to Director's final approval.

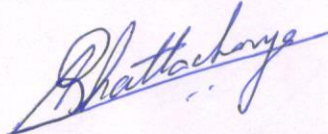
10. SEA with **University of Wollongong:** Baidurya Bhattacharya, Dean IR

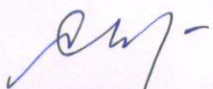
Resolution: This MoU is approved in principle subject to Director's final approval.

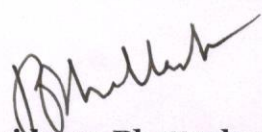
11. MoU with **Geological Survey of India:** Saibal Gupta, GG

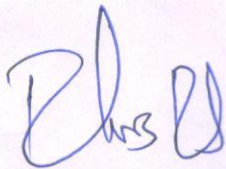
Resolution: Minor changes to the MoU draft shared by GSI were suggested. Prof. Gupta is requested to seek further clarification on 'Coordinated Degree Programs'. It was suggested that 'Coordinated Joint Programs' may be used instead. It was decided that ADeanIR would re-word the draft and share it with Prof. Gupta for further communication with GSI.

This MoU is approved in principle subject to Director's final approval.

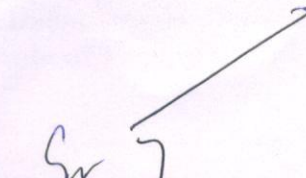

Anandaroop Bhattacharya
Associate Dean, IR


Subrata Chattopadhyay
Dean, AA



Baidurya Bhattacharya
Dean, IR
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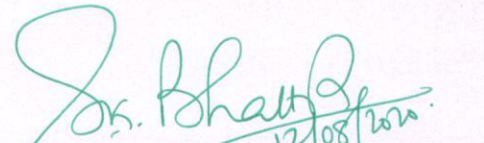
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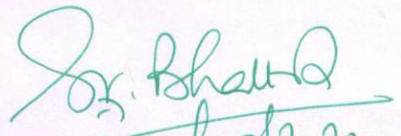


Prasanta Kumar Das
Dean, PGS&R




Sriman Kumar Bhattacharyya
Chairman, MoU Committee

The Minutes of the MoU Committee meeting held on 30th July'20 may pl. be approved for further processing.



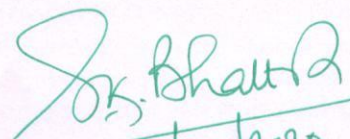
17/08/2020

Director.



02/09/2020

Discussed with the Director. Director desires that Tribhuban University be contacted by Head, AS & PE for taking up Collaborative activities.



03/09/2020

Asso. Dean (IR)

Will be done as suggested by Director



20/09/2020