

GOVERNMENT ENGINEERING COLLEGE PALAKKAD, SREEKRISHNAPURAM

Minutes of 17th meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) held on 24/12/2018 at Government Engineering College Palakkad at 10:00 AM

Dr. A K Nandakumaran, Professor, Dept. of Mathematics, IISc Bangalore and Chairman, Board of Governors, Government Engineering College Palakkad, Sreekrishnapuram, presided over the meeting in the presence of following members and special invitees.

Members Present:

1. Dr. A K Nandakumaran, Professor, IISc Bangalore(Chairman)
2. Dr. T Asokan, Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, IIT, Madras
3. Dr. P.C. Reghu Raj, Principal, Govt. Engg. College, Palakkad (Ex-officio),
4. Dr. K R Jayadevan, Professor and Head, ME Dept., Govt. Engg. College, Palakkad.
5. Dr. P C Rafeeqe, Professor and Head, CSE Dept., Govt. Engg. College, Palakkad.

The following members were absent:

1. Dr. K P Indiradevi, Director of Technical Education Kerala
2. Dr. S. Jayakumar, Director, SPFU, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
3. Dr. B S Manoj, Professor, IIST, Thiruvananthapuram
4. Sri. James Raj.A, Additional Secretary Higher Education Dept, Govt. Secretariat,Trivandrum
5. Dr.S.Shabu, Controller of Examinations, KTU, Trivandrum
6. Dr. Ramesh Unnikrishnan, Regional Officer & Director, AICTE (SWRO)
7. Sri. S. D.Ferold Xavier, Additional Secretary, Finance dept, Govt Secretariat, Trivandrum.

The following Special Invitees were present:

1. Dr. A. Selvakumar TEQIP Coordinator
2. Dr. Vincent G, Nodal Officer-IIIC Committee
3. Dr. A R Jayan , Coordinator, R & D Committee
4. Smt Rani L, Nodal Officer-Finance Committee
5. Sri Anwar Hussain, Nodal Officer-Academic Committee
6. Sri Nithianandan.M, Administrative Assistant

Agenda: Discussions and Decisions on 15th BoG agenda and notes presented by The Principal, Government Engineering College, Palakkad.

The meeting started at 10:00 AM with the welcome address by the Chairman. The Chairman also welcomed the new BoG members. He requested all the members to give their constructive suggestions required for the development of the institution. The Chairman accepted the leave request made by the members (1) Dr K P Indiradevi (2) Dr S Jayakumar (3) Dr B S Manoj (4) Sri James Raj.A (5) Dr. Ramesh Unnikrishnan (6) Dr S Shabu and (7) Sri. S. D.Ferold Xavier over phone/E-mail, expressing their inconvenience in attending the meeting due to urgent matters in their work place.

The Principal made a presentation highlighting the major developments in the college since the 16th BoG meeting. He projected the development in the campus infrastructure like the status of the Boys hostel which will be ready to accommodate students from next semester. He informed that the procurement of furniture required for the hostel is under process and the sanction for purchase from higher authorities is expected within 2 months. The hostel has 40 rooms and is planned to accommodate 120 students.

The Principal informed the BoG about the creation of 20 new faculty posts across the departments. The BoG appreciated the action taken by the DTE and Higher authorities in the creation of the posts. HoD ME pointed out that, the number of posts created are not sufficient for departments like Mechanical Engineering. The BoG directed the Principal to report the same to higher authorities and also to request them the fill the vacancies in various departments considering the accreditation activities taken up by the institution.

The Principal also outlined the academic developments in the institution, such as the pass percentage in the examinations. The BoG noticed that the results are just above average and the pass percentages in some branches are less than 50%. The members expressed their concern over it. HoD ME informed that the mass failure in one or two subjects caused the results to go down. **RESOLVED THAT** the department HoDs must identify the needy students and give remedial classes to improve the results. Also it is recommended that weak students must be identified at an early stage and the remedial classes must be given to reduce the mass failures.

The BoG noted the present status of placements and the number of students opted for higher studies. The BoG recommended the Principal to take steps to improve the campus placements from core industries. It was suggested that the institution shall contact the nearby industries and tie up with them for student internship, which may help the industries to select the institution for campus placements. The performance of students in GATE is a measure of the academic level of the college. BoG observed that considerable efforts are needed to increase the number of students qualifying GATE examination.

The BoG appreciated the number of publications made by the faculty and students from various departments in international conferences, and recommended to take steps to motivate students and faculty to publish papers in standard journals. The BoG also lauded the achievements of the alumni in the form of securing patents and admission to foreign universities for higher studies.

The Principal highlighted the unfortunate situations of discontinuing the development of good student projects into marketable products or prototypes ready for technology transfer because of the lack of interest on the students' side once they complete their course. Dr T Asokan said that the industries will have to contact if the products out of the student projects are of that calibre, and in such cases patent applications are to be filed before applying for technology transfer. Modalities can be formulated for the technology transfer if market ready products/technologies have been developed.

Regarding the Accreditation status, the Principal stated that the NBA had accepted the pre-qualifier submitted by **CSE, ECE AND ME** departments, whereas the pre-qualifier for IT department was rejected for want of PhD holders in the department during the assessment period. Again, the Principal expressed his concern that, the number of faculty and staff in some departments like ME and EEE are still not sufficient, which may have a problem at a later stage of accreditation. The BoG, while appreciating the efforts taken by the institution to submit the pre-qualifiers, **RESOLVED THAT** the Principal shall **REQUEST THE HIGHER AUTHORITIES TO TAKE NECESSARY STEPS FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF FACULTY AND TECHNICAL STAFF FOR MECHANICAL ENGINEERING AND ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTS WHICH IS MANDATORY FOR ACCREDITATION.**

The Chairman reminded that the teamwork should continue in moulding the institution as a Centre of Excellence that occupies a premier position among other institutions in the state under KTU. The BoG pointed out that getting accreditation for the institution is mandatory for its recognition and approval from AICTE. Hence all the effort must be taken by the faculty and staff in the institution to obtain the accreditation. Principal had informed the non-availability of funds earmarked for accreditation from higher authorities. The lack of funding affect the activities such as preparation of display boards, maintenance of campus and workshops, which is required for improving the ambience of the institution and labs. **RESOLVED THAT** the Principal shall take permission from SPFU to use an amount of 7 Lakhs from the TEQIP-II four funds (maintenance fund) considering the accreditation activities.

RESOLVED THAT 50% of the fee for taking membership by faculties in reputed professional bodies will be reimbursed from the four funds.

With this, the Principal, Government Engineering College, Palakkad submitted the 17th BoG Agenda notes for discussion.

The BoG expressed its satisfaction over the completion of activities planned using four funds in the institution. The BoG appreciated the team work of nodal officers and the coordinators in the implementation of activities in the institution. The BoG urged the Principal to take necessary steps to retain the momentum obtained by the faculty and staff in using four funds by conducting programmes useful to students, faculty, staff and society.

Actions suggested for items in 15th BoG agenda notes		
Sl. No	Item	Decision & Discussion
1	A 17.1: Confirming the Minutes of the 16 th BoG meeting held at Mascot Hotel Trivandrum on 25/5/18.	RESOLVED, that the Board of Governors accept and approve the 16 th BoG minutes substantially in the form submitted.
2	A 17.2: Report on the action taken / action pending on the pertinent decisions in the Minutes of the 16 th meeting of the BoG held at Mascot Hotel Trivandrum on 25/5/18.	RESOLVED that the BoG noted the actions taken by the Principal and accepted it. AGAIN IT IS RESOLVED THAT steps must be taken to avoid cancellation of programs undertaken by various departments.
3	B 17.1 Ratification of the External Faculty Development Programs utilizing Four Funds	RESOLVED, THAT THE BoG RATIFY the programs attended by the faculty and staff from ECE, EEE and MATHS departments.
4	B 17.2 Approval of Action plan for the Conduct of in house Faculty and Staff Development Programs utilizing the Four Funds	RESOLVED, THAT THE BoG ACCEPT AND APPROVE the action plan for the conduct of all in house programs submitted by various departments.
5	B 17.3 Ratification of rescheduled and completed internal FSD programs	RESOLVED, THAT THE BoG RATIFY the action taken by the Principal in conducting the programs considering the benefit of the faculty and institution.
6	B 17.4: Ratification of the Student Support Programs	RESOLVED, that the BoG RATIFY all the student support programs which were conducted in the campus/ conferences attended by the students.
7	B 17.5: Status of Student Support Programs	The BoG expressed its concern over the cancellation of the programs planned. However, the BoG noted that the cancellation is mainly due to the inconvenience of the resource person in the planned period and also in some cases the programs were conducted in different heads such as VFS, counseling programs etc. HENCE IT IS RESOLVED, THAT THE BoG ACCEPT THE CURRENT STATUS OF THE PROGRAMMES PLANNED DURING 16 th BoG. HOWEVER, IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT NO PROGRAMMES PLANNED AND APPROVED SHOULD BE CANCELLED IN FUTURE.
8	B 17.6: Approval of action plan for Student Support Programs:	RESOLVED THAT the BoG accept and approve the action plan for the conduct of student support program submitted by various departments. The student improvement must be measured and reported by each department in the subsequent BoG.

9	B 17.7: Ratification of advance payment for NBA Accreditation	RESOLVED THAT THE BoG RATIFY THE ACTION TAKEN BY THE PRINCIPAL TO ADVANCE THE TEQIP-II FOUR FUND FOR PAYING THE ACCREDITATION FEE. FURTHER IT IS RESOLVED THAT THE AMOUNT ADVANCED SHOULD BE RECOUPED AS AND WHEN IT IS ALLOTTED FROM THE PLAN FUND.
10	B 17.8: Ratification of Corpus Fund Expenditure for utilising different purpose	The BoG noticed that, the corpus fund is utilized for maintenance work/salary payment for office staff/TADA payment of officers attending meeting were done considering the interests of the institution Hence it is RESOLVED THAT THE BoG RATIFY THE expenditure made from corpus fund.
11	B 17.9: Revision in the TEQIP-II four fund usage norms	The BoG noted that the change requested in usage of fund for attending programs by faculty and staff. The change does not affect the cap ceiling planned, but only in the usage of fund available in a single trip instead of two. The BoG observed that it is a useful suggestion for faculty and staff attending programs in premiere institutions. HENCE IT IS RESOLVED THAT THE BOG ACCEPT AND APPROVE THE REVISED NORMS SUGGESTED BY THE ACADEMIC/FINANCE AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE INSTITUTION.
8	B 17.10: Any other item with the permission of chairman	
		The BoG appreciates the effort taken by the students Vishnu Murukan, S8ME student for filing a patent and Rosni K V of CSE 2015 batch, and Anagha M, 2016 Mtech CL for obtaining patents. The committee noted that this kind of activities from students will improve the research ambiance in the institution. The BoG also appreciated the achievements of Achu Wilson (2012 ECE) and Roshkumar (2017 ME) in getting admissions to prestigious Universities abroad (MIT and Concordia respectively)
9	C17.1: Expenditure status and fund position as on 21/12/2018	RESOLVED THAT The BoG RATIFY the fund positions as given in Table C 17.1.
10	C17.2: Status of faculty position as on 21/12/2018	The BoG expressed its happiness on the creation of 20 posts for various departments in the institution. Again it is noted that the posts created are still vacant, which may affect the accreditation of some of the departments. RESOLVED that the Principal and Chairman shall bring the urgent attention of higher authorities to create the necessary additional posts for ME department and filling of existing vacancies in various departments.
11	C 17.3: Next BoG meeting on	May/June 2019