

**Minutes of 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of Board of Governors of Punjab Engineering College Society held on July 29, 2005 at 12.30 A.M. in the Conference Hall of Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh**

Present:

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| 1.  | Shri Chandra Mohan      | Chairman                        |
| 2.  | Shri Krishna Mohan, IAS |                                 |
| 3.  | Shri R. K. Saboo        |                                 |
| 4.  | Dr. T. N. Kapoor        |                                 |
| 5.  | Shri Prithipal Singh    |                                 |
| 6.  | Shri K. N. Pathak       |                                 |
| 7.  | Prof. Chandra Shakher   | Nominee of Director, IIT- Delhi |
| 8.  | Shri R. C. Sharma       |                                 |
| 9.  | Dr. R. N. Nauhria       |                                 |
| 10. | Dr. Shiv Narayan        |                                 |
| 11. | Prof. Vijay Gupta       | Director                        |
| 12. | Prof. S. K. Suman       | Registrar, Member-Secretary     |

Leave of absence was granted to:

1. Shri S. K. Sandhu, IAS
2. Shri Pawan Agarwal, IAS
3. Shri Krishan Goyal
4. Shri Ajay Shri Ram
5. Shri Ravi Mathur, IAS
6. Shri Vikram Dev Dutt
7. Shri R. K. Chauhan
8. Dr. Pawan Kapur

In attendance:

1. Prof. V. S. Kaushal, Deputy Director
2. Prof. Arun K. Lall, Dean Research, Planning & Development
3. Prof. K. K. Garg, Dean Students Welfare

Proceedings of the Board

At the outset, Chairman welcomed Dr. R. N. Nauhria and Dr. Shiv Narayan, nominees of Senate to the Board.

Chairman also introduced Prof. V. S. Kaushal who has been appointed as the Deputy Director of the Institute.

Director thereafter gave a quick resume of recent developments and activities which included:

- Recently concluded B.E. and M.E. admissions.
- Recruitment of temporary faculty.
- Newly introduced one-week Orientation Program for the recently admitted 1<sup>st</sup> year students.
- Completion of procurement of Laptops by the 1<sup>st</sup> year students.

| Item No. | Item   | Decision   |
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| 7.1      | To confirm minutes of 6 <sup>th</sup> Board meeting held on June 24, 2005. | Confirmed.<br>A suggestion was made that for easy understanding, unusual acronyms should be expanded.  |
| 7.2      | Follow up action on the decisions of the earlier Board meetings.           | While noting the follow-up action on the decisions of the earlier Board meetings, following suggestions were made:<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Exercise of preparing Service Rules, to be made applicable to the employees of Punjab Engineering College Society, should be completed within a period of 3 months.</li> <li>2. Case of adhoc teacher(s) not approved by the Board for regularization of service should be suitably disposed of after taking legal opinion.</li> <li>3. Alumni Affairs Advisory Committee should consider co-opting some PECOSIANS from abroad.</li> <li>4. There should be a state of the art Alumni Affairs office in the Institute. The Institute may consider this office being funded by the alumni. It may also include residential facility. Suggestion to actively involve Shri Jaspal Bhatti for promoting Institute alumni interaction was also made. The Board desired that the name and address of Prof. Gurnam Singh, who had been appointed Professor In-charge Alumni Affairs, should be circulated to the members of the Committee.</li> </ol> |
| 7.3      | Reporting the decisions of the 1 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the Senate       | Noted.   |
| 7.4      | To consider approval of the draft Ordinances as proposed by the Senate     | Post-facto approval to the Ordinances proposed by the Senate for one year was accorded.<br>Following Sub-Committee was constituted for suggesting any improvements during review after one year.<br><ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Prof. Chandra Shakher, Chairman</li> <li>2. Nominee of Prof. K. N. Pathak</li> <li>3. Prof. Shiv Narayan</li> </ol>  |

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|     |   | <p>4. Director, Convener</p> <p>The Board desired that the Committee's suggestions should be brought to the Board by November 2005. Institute Counsel may be consulted, if required.</p>   |
| 7.5 | Comprehensive Consultancy Note                  | <p>The Board as a concept approved the note (<b>Annexure-A</b>) with the suggestion that it should be titled as, '<b>Bridging the gap between the College and Industry</b>'.</p> <p>The Board suggested that based on the guidelines indicated in the note, the Institute should make a beginning in this direction. Approach should be reviewed after one year of experience.</p> <p>Director was requested to prepare a detailed plan of action.</p> |
| 7.6 | Vision Document                                 | <p>In order to prepare a comprehensive vision and mission document, including short term and long term strategies, the Board authorized the Chairmen to appoint a 5-member Committee based on recommendations by Board members.</p> <p>Board desired that it should be the endeavour to see that the first draft was ready for discussion in the Board within 6 months.</p>  |
| 7.7 | Any other item with the permission of the Chair | Meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.  |

## Annexure-A

### Bridging the gap between the College and Industry

#### 1. Introduction

It is well known that our technical education has not kept pace with the revolutionary pace of technological change in the world and gulf between technical education and industry has multiplied no end. Large varieties of initiatives tried in the last two decades have also not yielded desired result. PEC has been no exception.

In this backdrop, Board had desired that a comprehensive strategy must be developed to build a proactive bridge and continuously evolving partnership with Industry and make PEC the Center of their Research for global competitiveness. This must be a priority for PEC and its faculty.

#### 2. Why the weakness?

Reasons for the weak, if not non-existent, link between Academia & Industry can be traced to:

- Engineering faculty in general (barring, of course, some laudable exceptions) has no first-hand knowledge of the engineering application and practice. They have little inclination or incentive to educate themselves on this aspect.
- Consequently, their understanding of the job requirements of students and the environment in which their students have to work in their career is minimal.
- Since minimum entry qualifications for engineering faculty stipulates a Ph.D. Degree with its emphasis on theory and analysis, Faculty naturally prefers to teach what it knows and what interests it, rather than what is important to future career in industry and business.
- This tendency of Faculty *to turn out the students in its own image* is at the root of many of the ills of our technical education.

#### 3. Where to begin?

The above makes it clear the road to increased interaction of our educators with industry must start with Faculty and new ways must be found to foster Faculty-Industry interaction. We must start with training our faculty in current technology and involving them with the industry.

- 3.1 In the backdrop of Chairman BOG's direct and indirect involvement with Industry and R&D initiatives of last 50 years, this issue was discussed with him at length. Issue was also discussed with some other CEO's and Senior Managers from industry.
- 3.2 Discussions also made it clear that to be effective, initiatives for breaking thick-frozen ice must be tried in small Groups, selected and facilitated with great care. Every effort must be made to see that they are successful. Success is imperative for snowball of initiatives.

#### **4. Doable Pilot Experiments:**

##### **4.1 Workshops by selected CEO's / Top-calibre Techno-managers**

Running special training workshops for our faculty in some key technology areas which are in high demand and are at the core of what industrial consultancy would require. Some such areas may include: reverse engineering, rapid prototyping, virtual instrumentation, design tools such as Catia, internet

security, etc. Some leaders in these areas have been sounded and are quite willing to help out.

Objective : Exposure of faculty to latest technology in respective industries, nuances, future direction, problem areas etc.

Group : Max 20 faculties in each workshop. Mixed disciplines.

Industry : Proactive to initiative

Possibility : Identification of some projects of mutual interest.

##### **4.2 Deputing our faculty members to attend some current technology workshops conducted by reputed organizations**

Objective : To impart training in areas where it is not cost effective to have a dedicated workshop for PEC faculty,

How : Many organizations run courses specially tailored for industry. Such courses could benefit our faculty members.

##### **4.3 Involving faculty members in developing tools and technology for use within PEC**

There are a many areas in where the College need professional inputs for running its activities more efficiently. These include development of tools for development and management of its academic server, software for students' record management, Management of Alumni database, development of accounting system for the College.

Objective : To develop confidence in the faculty in their ability for professional quality work.

Group : About three faculty members in each group supported by a few students.

Industry : Our own Centre for Computational Engineering and the units in the Incubator Park on Campus.

5. It must be emphasised that negative mindset on both sides is so deep that approaches tried out in pilot experiments are to be taken-up with proper planning, team selection, guidance, effective monitoring and facilitation. Success of these Pilots is critical for the future.

The above list is just for starters. It will be amplified and added to as we move ahead.

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