

Draft Minutes of the 16th meeting of the Board of Governors of Punjab Engineering College Society held on 27th April, 2007 at 12.30 P.M. in the Conference Hall of Punjab Engineering College, Chandigarh

Present:

- | | | |
|-----|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Shri Chandra Mohan | Chairman |
| 2. | Shri S. K. Sandhu, IAS | |
| 3. | Sh. S. K. Setia | |
| 4. | Shri R.C. Sobti | |
| 5. | Shri Prithipal Singh | |
| 6. | Prof. Chandra Shakher | Nominee of Director, IIT- Delhi |
| 7. | Dr. Pawan Kapur | |
| 8. | Dr. T. N. Kapoor | |
| 9. | Dr. R. N. Nauhria | |
| 10. | Dr. Shiv Narayan | |
| 11. | Prof. Vijay Gupta | Director |
| 12. | Dr. Kanchan Monga | Registrar, Member-Secretary |

Leave of absence was granted to:

1. Sh. Krishna Mohan, IAS.
2. Sh. R. K. Saboo
3. Sh. Deep Kapuria
4. Sh. Vikram Dev Dutt
5. Sh. R. K. Chauhan
6. Sh. Pawan Agarwal, IAS
7. Sh. Ravi Mathur
8. Sh. Krishan Goyal

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

1. At the very outset, a Member sought clarifications on the spate of recent press reports vis-à-vis strictures passed by a Special Inquiry Committee of UGC on arbitrariness and irregularities in faculty selections last year.

Responding to the question, Chairman mentioned that Report of a Special Inquiry Committee set-up by Chairman UGC on Selections forwarded by Admn to the Director for comments, had been brought by the Director to him in early January. Quick reading of the Report revealed highly non-professional and casual handling by the Special Inquiry Committee of a very onerous responsibility reposed by a person of the stature of Chairman UGC and,

- Lack of effort to go into depth, investigate facts or understand extant laws whose protection it had been entrusted with.
- Willful distortion of facts to justify pre-meditated conclusions.

Seeing the damaging inferences drawn by the enquiry committee on arbitrary functioning of the institute and the process adopted for promotions as approved by the BOG at every step, a decision was taken by him to handle the reply at his level. Full-blown comprehensive reply was sent to the Governor & Administrator about two months ago. Since such wrong inferences would seriously hurt BOG effort for fast-track modernization of PEC, His Excellency was also requested to take-up the issue with MHRD strongly. Nothing further had been heard.

2. Director's review of recent developments of significance

1. Laurels brought to the College by the winning by Manu Sharma, a PEC student, of the Social Entrepreneurship International Award of a global contest organized by Said Business School, Oxford, London. 59 countries participated in the. Global contest.

Board members applauded the achievement and requested the Director to write a special letter of commendation to Manu on their behalf. To encourage such outstanding achievements, Members advised the Director that such students should also be presented to the BOG to symbolize its recognition.

2. Proposals forwarded for special funding of 5 Advanced Performance & Reliability Labs to MHRD and Combustion Research Lab to DST for undertaking research for industry.
3. Proposal for setting-up Academic Advisory Committees in each discipline to enhance & facilitate contact with local industry (upto Delhi). Pro-active academic-minded CEO's or their Top manager nominees will be Members; willingness to spare time for interaction a major consideration. Initial list has been picked up the Chairman from his own contacts. Many are alumni. More will be added as we move ahead; suggestions welcome.

Members were of the view that objectives of these Committees, as well as procedures, should be elaborated.

Agenda items

Item No.	Item	Decisions
16.1	To confirm the minutes of 15 th meeting of the Board of Governors held on 2nd February, 2007	Confirmed
16.2	Follow up action on the previous Board meetings	

	<p><u>Item 16.2.1</u></p> <p>To consider creation/redistribution of faculty positions in the Institute</p> <p>The Board noted the shortage of faculty positions and its serious impact on the quality of teaching programmes.</p> <p>Increase in the approved faculty positions from current 162 to 182 as proposed and shown in Annexure-A was approved in principle.</p> <p>Director was authorized to write to the Chandigarh Administration for necessary approval with proper justification.</p> <p><u>Item 16.2.4/15.8</u></p> <p>Implementation of Pension Scheme for PEC employees.</p>	<p>The members expressed concern on the protracted delay in clearance of additional faculty positions pending with UT Admn. for two years.</p> <p>To smoothen functioning, it was unanimously agreed that time had come for a comprehensive review of the MOA in the backdrop of the operating experience of last three years.</p> <p>Director was requested to come up with a comprehensive proposal.</p> <p>Recommendations approved.</p> <p>Prof. Shiv Narayan who sought certain clarifications on the recommendations in respect of employees who joined PEC after 01.01.04 but before 07.07.05 was requested to discuss the issues with Sh. S.K. Setia, Joint Secretary, Technical Education. Modifications emerging out of these discussions would stand incorporated in the Recommendations.</p>
16.3	Appointment of Sh. Rahul Om Parkash Vaishya to the post of Lecturer	Approved.
16.4	Screening Committee for Assured Career Progression Scheme	Approved as proposed.
16.5	New nomenclature for PEC (Deemed University).	Members felt that because of the brand-value of 'PEC', its global recognition and the need for direct use of 'University' in the name for reasons explained by the Director, involvement of PEC's distinguished alumni across the globe

		<p>must be sought in any change of name and their suggestions invited explaining the reasons guiding the change</p> <p>Final proposals should be brought up at the next BOG meeting.</p>
16.6	Enhancement of Fee for the students to be admitted from the session 2007-08	<p>Enhancement of Annual Tuition Fee for new students to Rs.35, 000 was approved.</p> <p>Approval was also accorded to the enhancement of Hostel fee to Rs.9,000/- and Hostel and Mess establishment charges to Rs.7,000/- annually for both old and new students.</p>
16.7	Part-time ME courses for working Professionals	Proposal was deferred for review for admissions in the next academic year.
16.8	Enhancement in the age of superannuation from 62 to 65 years for teaching positions in centrally funded institutions in higher and technical education.	MHRD decision was adopted.*
16.9	Appointment of Visiting Faculty	<p>Elaborating the proposal, Director explained that every initiative of the last two years has been guided by :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the exposure of faculty & students to latest technological developments in their fields. • Encouraging interaction with industry and sponsored research and development from industry. • Fostering involvement of alumni in taking PEC forward. <p>Funding proposals for Advanced Labs to MHRD & DST mentioned in introductory remarks focused on the same objectives.</p> <p>Knowledge & Expertise to get us going on the right lines is the second critical component of these initiatives. It must also be understood that availability of Expertise of this caliber is the country is not plentiful. Willingness to come and help PEC is the second hurdle.</p>

		<p>It was in this context that this broad proposal for availing support of Visiting Experts from Industry, R&D Labs & Academia, both working and retired and, from within the country or abroad, had been mooted</p> <p>Duration of their involvement would depend upon:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The value they will add to PEC • Their knowledge, capability, professional standing & stature • Time they can spare for helping PEC <p>Depending upon need and mutual convenience, engagement could stretch from one day or a week up to 24 months. It could be full or part-time. Director added that it would be one of the first broad-based experiments of its type in the country.</p> <p>Detailed discussion followed. Members were of the unanimous opinion that it was the right step to accelerate PEC's forward march and endorsed the need for flexibility and consolidated remuneration.</p> <p>Endorsing the proposal, following proposal and procedure for implementation was approved :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consolidated remuneration with a ceiling of Rs. 40,000 per month. (Excluding expenses on travel & local transport at actuals). • Clearance of proposal by a Standing Committee consisting of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Director (Chairman), - Dy. Director - Concerned HOD and - One Expert from list of experts for Deptt. concerend • Approval by Chairman BOG • Consolidated report for information at next BOG • Comprehensive review of experience before BOG after 2 years.
--	--	--

16.10	Recommendations of 5th Finance Committee Meeting.	Approved. (Annexure I)
16.11	<p>Any other Item with permission of the Chair</p> <p><u>16.11.1</u></p> <p>Sitting Fee/Honorarium for attending various meetings.</p> <p><u>16.11.2</u></p> <p>BE Admissions for the year 2007-08.</p> <p><u>16.11.3</u></p> <p>Leave for Foreign travel/Foreign Tour to employees .</p>	<p>Approved as proposed. (Annexure II)</p> <p>It was decided to provide for reservation as per UT administration orders.</p> <p>The attrition seats for various categories of candidates as proposed were approved.</p> <p>Any change required in view of reservation for OBC's should be taken care of as required by MHRD by the Director.(Annexure III)</p> <p>Noted.(Annexure IV)</p>

While confirming the minutes, following issues were raised vis-à-vis the decision on Item 16.8:

- UGC decisions were not mandatory on the Govt.
- Because of its wider impact on other Institutions under UT Admn., the issue should be referred to the UT Admn.
Internal notification of PEC issued in this regard should be held in abeyance till the decision of UT Administration.