

Minutes of DP Faculty Meeting held on 15 February 2017

Time: of meeting 12:00 noon- 1:00 pm

Faculty Present:

JRK, Bishakh B, Braj B., VPN, NT, KPP, Head, Des.

Agenda discussed:

- **Research Scholar day of DP**
- **Layout Re-orientation of DP**
- **Discussion on Interdisciplinary Thesis award (for Head, Des to present in IAC)**

Item # 1:

A student meeting was held by DPGC convenor, DP on 10th February to discuss Research scholar day/ ADEX exhibition. The following came points emerged:

#It was discussed that RSD and ADEX will take place together, preferably with Techkriti in order to save costs, gather audience, and most importantly pull in guest speakers and industry from other events. Techkriti is going to be held between 23/03/2017-26/03/2017.

#Techkriti has agreed to host ADEX as per the student organizers and they can also assist with sponsorship.

Point of discussion: To make the research scholar day mandatory for all PhD Students for presenting their research work and all M. Des. students to participate. Participation maybe in terms of posters, exhibits etc.

DP faculty has opined the following:

- (a) All PhD students must present their research work during the research scholar day.
- (b) The ADEX, design exhibition may be conducted on 26/03/2017 (Laat day of Techkriti). Already DPGC convenor has arranged the ADEX to be held in Hall Of Fame, Outreach Auditorium followed by the RSD activity on 27/03/2017 at the outreach auditorium. It was discussed that there is also a possibility that a strategy be made with Techkriti by ADEX team, coordinated by DP, DPGC convenor to get an internationally renowned personality in the field of design for plenary talk during ADEX and if possible another session in RSD on the very next day .
- (c) All the MDes Students are encouraged to participate in both ADEX and RSD and must showcase their current research theme/ research plan through Posters during RSD.
- (d) Possible speakership suggested for RSD are Prof. G.K. Ananthasuresh and Prof. Amarish Chakraborty, IISC , Bangalore, Experts from IDC, IIT Mumbai and IIT Guwahati. There were also suggestions by DP faculty to bring in experts from Defence sector and CEOs of some incubated companies at IIT Kanpur which have brought laurels to the institute through their performance.

Item # 2: Planning few modifications in the existing layout of design program.

A group of students had proposed to Head, Design some minor changes to the existing layout in the Design program. An animation prepared by the student was shared by Head, DP in the meeting.

Link for animation:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0BweHMFL4UimiR3JZakZYSTNrZkk/view?usp=sharing>

Highlights of the re-orientation :

(a) Seamless seating space of PhD, M. Des. students and converting one portion to discussion space and knowledge center by setting up a small library of design books. (Already such a library exists in the design class-room.

(b) Reorienting the design terrace.

(c) Flexi-partitions in the main hall to display posters etc. and compartmentalize the machines for leather-crafts.

(d) Improving overall S-S of the workshops/ minor layout orientations.

(e) Re-locating office of Head, DP.

DP faculty has opined the following:

- a) Generally there is a strong endorsement of this proposal among DP faculty.
- b) Head, Design has been requested to make the space layout changes in terms of dimensions and specifics which will be done in 1-2 days and shared separately.
- c) CCTV cameras may be installed in all the public spaces in DP. KPP has suggested that already there exists a system for recording CCTV footage of museum space and the same may be used if possible for recording data from all CCTV units. This possibility will be explored with vendors by Head, DP.
- d) Braj B. proposed time bound access in a planned manner of parts of the Psychology Lab for user testing by DP students.
- e) The faculty has generally shown agreement to shifting of the head's office to new location as per animation and utilizing the space created by virtue of vacating existing premises for accommodating visiting faculty as needed or otherwise as a seating space for DP faculty on visits to DP or for short interactions of DP faculty with students.

Item # 3:

Agenda Item # 1 (IAC minutes) from the last IAC meeting has urged Head, Des. And Head, CELP and also Gymkhana President to outlay viewpoints related to the following:

Interdisciplinary project thesis award (DOAA) :

IAC strongly endorsed the proposal to institute Interdisciplinary project thesis award and advised that all departments should identify and notify interdisciplinary projects having 2 or more supervisors from different departments. The list of such projects should be displayed / circulated among the eligible students at the beginning of the semester. The parent department of the student will be his/ her department.

As design program is one such platform where there is a lot of interdisciplinary flair in the projects undertaken Head, Design requested DP faculty to opine on this issue.

The following were the opinions of DP faculty:

- a) The term, "interdisciplinary projects having 2 or more supervisors from different departments" is not a true definition of interdisciplinarity and as such may be coined in a different manner. The argument provided was that in many departments there may be work of similar nature carried under the supervision of two faculty members from different departments. It may not necessarily amount to promoting inter-disciplinarity.
- b) Selections of the Interdisciplinary thesis awards should be done by an institute level committee which may also look into the aspect of whether the work really qualifies to be inter-disciplinary in nature. In such a committee there may be an active role played by Heads of various IDPs.
- c) During the selection process there should be a strong consideration of the generated IP, Publications or technology associated with the thesis. As such the applicant should be advised to submit all this information along with the details of the work.
- d) The DP faculty members were of a strong opinion that M.Des. thesis work should be by and large treated to be interdisciplinary in nature even if there is involvement of one supervisor and all M. Des. Thesis should be eligible for this award.

End of Minutes