

**MINUTES OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON  
9<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2012 AT 3:30 P.M. IN NIFT CAMPUS, NEW DELHI**

The following were present:

- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| 1. Ms. Monika S. Garg, DG – NIFT          | Chairperson      |
| 2. Sh. Sudhir Jain, Professor, IIT, Delhi | Member           |
| 3. Sh. Rajesh Pratap Singh, Designer      | Member           |
| 4. Sh. David Abraham, Designer            | Member           |
| 5. Sr. Prof. Banhi Jha, Dean (A), NIFT    | Member           |
| 6. Prof. Suhail Anwar, Head (AA), NIFT    | Member Secretary |

Also present:-

Ms. Rajni Chopra, Asst. Board Secy.

Sh. Dilip B. Jiwrajka, M.D, Alok, Industries Limited and Smt. Kavita Bhartia, M/s Ogaan were granted leave of absence.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0901**

**TO CONFIRM THE MINUTES OF THE 8<sup>th</sup> ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2012 AT 4:30 P.M. AT NIFT CAMPUS,  
HAUZ KHAS NEW DELHI**

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated to all the members of the Committee. No changes or modifications were proposed. The minutes were therefore confirmed.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0902**

**ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON MINUTES OF THE ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD ON 13<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2012**

The report on the action taken on the decisions of the previous meetings of the AAC was noted by the Committee. The AAC was informed that in the last AAC meeting held on 13.02.2012, the AAC approved the case of shortage of attendance of Minakshi Solanki, AD- III, New Delhi noting that she was falling short of the desired percentage in one subject only which was taught in a modular form. Accordingly, as per the approval of the AAC, Ms. Minakshi Solanki appeared in the Re-exam, however she has failed in the re-exam and now she will be required to repeat the semester.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0903**

**NIFT EXAMINATION & EVALUATION POLICY**

The Exam Policy as brought in the agenda notes was considered. It was pointed out that modifications have been made w.r.t. Jury composition, assignment submission & evaluation (giving an opportunity for improvement), evaluation of Mid-term Exam and pattern of question papers etc. The Exam Policy as placed at Annexure – I was approved by the AAC with the direction that this Policy will be applicable from the session 2012-13. Those who have undertaken end term final exam prior to this period will be governed by the Policy existing then.

The AAC further directed that list of Common Exam Board (CEB) and non CEB papers may be provided in the next meeting. It is desirable to include more subjects in CEB as this will ensure standardization and uniformity of curriculum delivery across Centres.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0904**

**NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES AT NIFT CENTRES**

The AAC was informed that the Senate and the Board in the last meeting has directed that for the purposes of financial viability and for optimum utilization of the infrastructure and other resources, NIFT should start more programmes in the new Centres. Accordingly, in consultation with Chairpersons of the departments new academic programmes have been proposed in the NIFT Bhubaneswar, Kannur and Jodhpur Centre.

The AAC considered and approved the following new academic programmes to be started in the new NIFT Centres

New programmes to be started w.e.f. July 2012

1. **NIFT Bhubaneswar:** Fashion Design, Accessory Design
2. **NIFT Kannur:** PGDS, FMS

New Degree programmes to be started w.e.f. July 2013

1. **NIFT Jodhpur:** Textile Design, Accessory Design

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0905**

**INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY (IP) MANAGEMENT POLICY OF NIFT**

The AAC considered and approved the Intellectual Property (IP) Management Policy of NIFT.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0906**

**TRADEMARKS MANAGEMENT POLICY OF NIFT**

The AAC considered and approved the Trademark Management Policy of NIFT.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0907**

**REVIEW OF PARTNERSHIPS WITH FOREIGN INSTITUTES WITH WHOM NIFT HAS AN MOU**

The AAC was informed that as per the directions of the BOG, all institutes with which NIFT has an MOU have been reviewed, in the light of the facilities available, established evaluation parameters, matching of courses and mapping of curriculum, activities and exchange in the past, as well as future prospects. The AAC was further informed that based on the above data, the SIAC-I&DL has given its recommendations, to continue or discontinue the MoUs. The AAC considered and approved the recommendations of the SIAC- I&DL with regard to continuation and discontinuation of the MoUs as follows:

**MoUs to be discontinued:**

1. Accademia Di Costume E Di Moda, Rome
2. Associazione Indo-Europea Per La Moda E Design (AIEMED)
3. Nottingham Trent University, UK
4. Northumbria University, UK
5. University of Trinidad and Tobago, Trinidad and Tobago

**Rest 29 MoUs to be continued:**

1. Queensland University of Technology, Australia
2. Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, Australia
3. ENSAIT, France
4. Mod' art International, France
5. ESMOD, Germany
6. GMIT, Ireland
7. Istituto Europeo di Design, Milan Italy
8. NABA, Italy
9. Politecnico di Milano, Italy
10. Swiss Textile College, Zurich, Switzerland
11. The Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT), USA
12. University of Philadelphia, USA
13. Academy of Arts, San Francisco, USA
14. Colorado State University, Colorado, USA
15. Amsterdam Fashion Institute, Amsterdam, The Netherlands
16. Royal Academy of Art, The Netherlands
17. Saxion University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands
18. Utrecht School of the Arts, The Netherlands
19. University of Arts, London (London College of Fashion), UK
20. University of Manchester (UoM), UK
21. University of Southampton (Winchester School of Art , Winchester), UK
22. School of Art and Design, University of Wolverhampton, UK
23. School of Design, University of Leeds, UK
24. University of Leeds, UK
25. Birmingham Institute of Arts & Design, Birmingham, UK
26. De MontFort University, UK
27. Glasgow School of Arts, UK
28. BGMEA Institute of Fashion and Technology (BIFT), Dhaka – Bangladesh
29. Ryerson University, Canada

Some of the institutes in Australia and Europe have not been visited by NIFT so far. It is desirable to send delegations to these institutions to have first hand feedback and evaluation.

The AAC further directed that the domestic linkages, especially with SOFT Pune and CCE Kerala should also be reviewed and report may be placed before the next meeting of the AAC/ BOG.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0908**

**GUIDELINES FOR FACULTY INTERACTION WITH DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN INSTITUTES**

The Comprehensive Guidelines for Faculty Interaction with Domestic and Foreign Institutes was considered and approved by the AAC.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0909**

**ISSUANCE OF DUPLICATE DEGREE / DIPLOMA**

The matter of issuance of Duplicate Diploma Certificates of NIFT issued prior to the commencement of NIFT Act, 2006 was considered by the AAC. After due consideration the AAC authorised Head (AA) to sign and issue the Duplicate Diploma Certificates to NIFT students of the pre-2007 period on the recommendation of the concerned Centre Director.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0910**

**EX-POST FACTO APPROVAL IN CASE OF MS. SHRISTI SHARMA REGARDING REAPPEAL FOR MEANS CUM MERIT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

The AAC was informed that as per the norms of the NIFT policy of Means cum Merit Financial Assistance Scheme, a minimum SGPA of 6 is required for eligibility. Ms. Shristi Sharma, student of FD-VI New Delhi Centre had applied for the financial assistance under the prevalent Means cum Merit Financial Assistance Scheme but her application was rejected because her average SGPA in 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Semester was 5.82 i.e. less than 6. She had requested to consider her case for the financial assistance, otherwise she would not be able to pay the fee and would be forced to leave the course in middle.

Keeping in view the fact that Ms. Shristi Sharma belongs to physically handicapped category and her family is not financially strong to meet the expenditure on her education and on the recommendations of the Academic Appeal Committee, the student was allowed by DG- NIFT to avail the financial assistance. The AAC sympathetically considered the matter and accorded its ex-post facto approval in the matter as a very special case deserving special dispensation due to special character of PHP category.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0911**

**RELAXATION IN CGPA FOR INTERNATIONAL SEMESTER EXCHANGE IN CASE OF MS. ANKITA SRIVASTAVA (REPEAT SEMESTER)**

The AAC was informed that Ms. Ankita Srivastava of Textile Design department had completed six semesters in NIFT, New Delhi. She had 74% attendance in 7<sup>th</sup> Semester at NIFT but could not appear for the end term exam because of 1% shortage in attendance (due to medical reasons). Due to this reason, she was required to repeat 7<sup>th</sup> semester. Her CGPA till semester six was 6.92. She had requested NIFT to consider her application for a paid seat at University of Leeds for student exchange during 7<sup>th</sup> Semester i.e. July –December 2012. The AAC was further informed that as per NIFT

Academic Manual, the minimum required CGPA for any student applying for International Exchange is 7.0. However, admission to University of Leeds is on the basis of the students' portfolio and is only on payment basis.

The AAC considered the matter and observed that the student was unable to complete her 7<sup>th</sup> semester due to shortage of 1% attendance, because of medical reasons. However, she has already received 74% of the inputs being provided by NIFT in 7<sup>th</sup> Semester. If her case is considered for exchange program, she will get an opportunity to repeat the 7<sup>th</sup> semester at a different institute, giving the student a different exposure and experience, especially in view of the fact that the selection by foreign Institute will be on the basis of her portfolio and on payment of full fees (i.e. it is not a free seat for NIFT students), and further that accepting her request does not hamper or adversely affect the interest of any other student or the Institute as the number of seats offered by Leeds is not limited / fixed.

In view of the above, the AAC considered and approved the matter as a special case on sympathetic grounds, especially when no other similar request is pending / has been rejected by NIFT, with the direction that it should not be quoted as precedence.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0912**

**EX-POST FACTO APPROVAL REGARDING RECONSIDERATION OF SEMESTER-V  
RESULT OF MS. RINKY ROY A STUDENT OF NIFT CHENNAI AND PROMOTING  
HER TO SEMESTER-VI**

The case of Ms. Rinky Roy of AD-V was discussed in detail. The AAC was informed that Ms. Rinky Roy of AD-V could not present one of her Assignment & Presentation-I and appear for the Mid Term Examination (CEB) for the subject Fashion Marketing-II as per the stipulated schedule during the 5th semester July-December 2011 due to her ill health. However, she appeared for Assignment & Presentation-II and the End Term Examination for the subject Fashion Marketing-II. She could not clear the subject Fashion Marketing-II as she was marked out of 50 marks only and was given the opportunity for appearing in re-examination on 14th January, 2012 for the End Term Examination only and declared fail.

Subsequently Ms. Rinky Roy had given the representation for reconsideration of her 5th semester result. Keeping in view the fact that due procedure and rules were not followed by the concerned faculty while evaluating her assignment / presentation and opportunity as per rules was not given to her, the AAC observed that student should not be made to suffer due to lapse on the part the faculty. Further, F&LA (AD) programme in NIFT Chennai is phasing out in the year 2013 and there will be no subsequent batch for Ms. Rinky Roy to repeat the semester in the next academic session i.e. July-December 2012 in Chennai Centre, the AAC granted its ex-post facto approval regarding re-consideration of Semester-V result of Ms. Rinky Roy and promoting her to Semester VI.

The AAC directed that responsibility for the lapse in this case be fixed and informed.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0913**

**CASES OF Ph.D. ADMISSION (BATCHES FROM 2009 TILL 2011) IN THE LIGHT OF  
THE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA THEN**

Sh. Suhail Anwar excused himself from discussion on agenda item no. 0913 – 0915 as he is a Ph.D. candidate.

The cases of Ph.D. Admission (Batches from 2009 till 2011) in the light of the eligibility criteria then were considered by the AAC.

The AAC observed that other Universities allow/ consider distance learning education. It was therefore decided that NIFT should also allow distance learning education in the eligibility of the candidates accordingly.

Dean (A) pointed out that the Delhi University allows P.G in any area as eligibility for enrolling in Ph.D. (without regard to Ph.D. subject). However, this had not been examined by NIFT in its entirety. DG pointed out that keeping in mind the specialized nature of academic activities at NIFT, especially in process-based / skill based topics and since NIFT is a professional institute unlike DU, this needs to be examined with caution.

The AAC recommended that the NIFT may consider allowing liberal eligibility criteria. It suggested that the eligibility criteria may be relaxed to include candidates having P.G Degree in some other area / subject but having 10 years experience in the area relevant to Ph.D. topic. However, the minimum P.G CGPA / marks could be 6.5 / 60% in that case. The criteria of 7 years after Higher Secondary may also be considered to be relaxed.

It was advised that Dean (A) NIFT may examine/study the eligibility criteria and practices prevalent in other Institutes like National Institute of Bank Management, National Institute of Training in Industrial Engineering, Institute for Fiscal Management, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT), Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi and National University of Educational Planning and Administration (NUEPA) etc. which are similar to NIFT, being professional institutes and then may put up a proposal for consideration of SIAC-Research for arriving at a considered view. The eligibility criteria of NIFT may then be re-evaluated and a concrete proposal for the eligibility criteria may be put up before the next meeting of the AAC for deliberations. The recommendations of the AAC may be placed before the Senate / BOG for approval after that.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 0914**

##### **APPROVAL OF THE Ph.D. COURSE CURRICULUM AFTER THE CURRICULUM REVIEW MEETING**

The AAC was informed that the Ordinance and Regulation for the degree of Doctoral of Philosophy 2010 has been approved by 13<sup>th</sup> Senate held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2010 and the Ordinance has been published in the Extra- ordinary non official Gazette. Subsequently, the Course Curriculum for Ph.D. was reviewed by the Committee constituted for this purpose. The recommendations of the Course Curriculum review meeting have been incorporated in the Course Curriculum.

The AAC considered and approved the Ph.D. Course curriculum as brought out in the agenda notes.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 0915**

##### **STREAMLINING OF EVALUATION PROCESS FOR Ph.D. SELECTED AND THE COMPULSORY COURSE WORK**

The AAC was informed that there is no suitable provision for Process and Procedure of Evaluation and Conduct of Examination for the Ph.D Programme. The AAC was further informed that issue was deliberated by the SIAC-R w.r.t. other educational Institutions of repute, such as IIT-Delhi, Osmania University- Hyderabad, Anna University- Chennai, etc.

The Recommendations of SIAC-R on Streamlining of evaluation process for Ph.D. Selected and the Compulsory course work as brought out in the agenda notes were considered and approved by the AAC.

The AAC recommended that the student of PhD should not, in any case, be mentored by a Junior faculty; the mentor should be at least of the same rank, preferably from another institute including Foreign Universities.

The AAC recommended that Diploma holders of NID should also be eligible for NIFT Ph.D.

Further, the AAC observed that matters for amendment in PhD Policy are being put up before the AAC and Senate in piecemeal from time to time. It is therefore directed that a comprehensive PhD Policy may be formulated and put up before the AAC for consideration. SIAC-R may associate faculty from FMS, ITI, IIFT, NUEPA and other similar institutes for formulating the policy.

The AAC further directed that the draft comprehensive Ph.D. Policy may be circulated to all AAC members one month before the AAC meeting. Afterwards, the comprehensive Ph.D. Policy along with the recommendations of AAC be put up before the Senate and BOG for approval.

The AAC recommended that NIFT may introduce an M.Phil programme. The Committee constituted for formulating Ph.D. Policy may also look into the possibility and viability of an M.Phil Programme.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 0916**

##### **DRAFT STUDENT RULE BOOK 2012- 13**

Draft Student Rule Book 2012-13 as compiled by Head (AA) was considered and approved by the AAC with the directions that relevant portions of Exam Policy be also incorporated in the student Rule Book.

#### **AGENDA ITEM NO. 0917**

##### **REVISION OF MEANS-CUM-MERIT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE SCHEME SCHEDULE**

Revision in Means-cum-Merit Financial Assistance Scheme Schedule was considered and approved by the AAC.

#### **TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. 0918**

##### **PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME POLICY**

The AAC was informed that to address the problem of shortage of faculty at NIFT, the BOG of NIFT has advised that talented NIFT graduates should be initiated into teaching.

The Programme conducted under the current FDP Policy did not attract sufficient number of applicants. Therefore the current FDP Policy has been modified suitably as brought out in the agenda notes. DG-NIFT suggested that the modified Special Faculty Development Programme will be initially conducted for two years and then it will be reviewed.

The AAC considered and approved the modified Special Faculty Development Programme and the following corresponding provisions in the Recruitment Rules for the post of Faculty Associate/ Assistant Professor and recommended that the same may be placed before the BOG:

- (a) Faculty Associate: Direct Recruitment/Successful Candidates from the special FDP.
- (b) Assistant Professor: Promotion from level of Faculty Associate with 5 years of service.

Recruitment Rules (RRs) as being amended will be a part of overall restructuring process of NIFT and the corresponding revision of RRs of various posts in NIFT.

The AAC further recommended that this special drive could include the fresh pass outs from NID and IIT also so that they can also be inducted as NIFT Faculty Associates as per rules.

**TABLED AGENDA ITEM NO. 0919**

**ATTENDANCE OF MR. NITIN RANA A STUDENT OF F&LA, SEMESTER-IV AND MR. JAIRAJ THINGERA STUDENT OF PGDS-II OF NIFT NEW DELHI**

The AAC was informed that Mr. Nitin Rana, student of F&LA, Semester-IV and Mr. Jairaj Thingera student of PGDS-II of NIFT New Delhi fulfill the overall attendance criteria of 75%, however due to extreme extenuating grounds they could not attend one subject which was taught in a module and they have shortage of attendance in that particular subject. The AAC suggested that such cases from all Centres be collected and then decided for Re-Exam.

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 0920**

**ANY OTHER ITEM WITH THE PERMISSION OF CHAIR**

Sh. David Abraham strongly recommended and the AAC accepted that in order to facilitate the brand building of the "Textile Sector of India", a 2-4 weeks module with Weavers' Service Centre must be made compulsory in the Summer break between 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> year. All CPs of the departments may recommend the nature of the module they would like to introduce. Further, NIFT may write to DC (Handlooms) and MoT to extend this facility to NIFT students.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks to the Chair.