



Minutes of the IIITDMJ Alumni Meet December 25–26, 2015

DAY 1: December 25, 2015

Opening Ceremony

1. The event was formally started with a formal introduction and welcome note from Ms. Arushi Dev (BTech/2012-16).
2. Prof. Puneet Tandon, faculty in-charge of Alumni Affairs, was called upon to deliver his introductory remarks. Prof. Tandon conveyed his immense pleasure for having been able to physically realize the event and at the same time conveyed regards on behalf of the new Director, Prof. P. K. Jain, who could not be present due to certain official obligations.
3. Mr. Somesh Singh, Secretary of the Alumni Association, was called upon subsequently for his remarks. He too expressed his pleasure with the inception of this event and calls upon all alumni and students to work towards making this a regular event.
4. A formal introduction was delivered by all the alumni present.
5. Mr. Parantap Chakrabarti was called upon for giving the Vote of Thanks.

Discussion on the Constitution and General Body of the Alumni Association

6. Prof. Puneet Tandon began the discussion with the nominations/selections of positions of the Executive Body of IIITDMJ Alumni Association (IIITDMJAA). The selections/nominations were made towards the following positions – President, Vice President, Treasurer-cum-Joint Secretary, Secretary, and Executive Members.
7. Mr. Sameer Saurabh (BTech/2005-09) was nominated as the President (interim) of IIITDMJAA. The finalization of the position would be done during the General Body Meeting.
8. The selection was followed by a short discussion on the tenure of the President.
9. The initial proposal of the tenure of the President by Mr. Sameer Sourabh was a 1-year subject to extension following amendments.
10. Prof. Puneet Tandon suggested a 2-year tenure which attracted a consensus among the majority. The discussion concluded while other issues were left for the general body meeting.
11. Mr. Apurv Vasal (BTech/2006-10) was nominated to the position of Vice-President of IIITDMJAA.



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12. Mr. Somesh Kumar Singh (BTech/2008-12) was nominated for the position of Secretary of IITDMJAA.
13. Mr. Suteerth Tripathi (BTech/2007-11) was nominated for the position of Treasurer-cum-Joint Secretary of IITDMJAA.
14. The following nominations were made to the position of the Executive Members – Dr. Rajlaxmi Chouhan (MTech/2012), Dr. Mohammed Rajik Khan (PhD/2012), and Mr. Ankit Shukla (BTech/2006-10).
15. This concluded the discussion of the Constitution and General Body of the IIITDMJAA.
16. A short visit to the Ideation Studio was made. The alumni were treated with a plethora of designs as well as technical exhibits of BTech, BDes, and MDes projects.
17. The final event before lunch break was a Tree Plantation Drive.
18. The tree plantation was followed by lunch at the Central Mess. This duration also served for faculty–alumni discussions.

Cultural Night

19. The cultural program opened on a high note with a special performance incorporating music and dance by the children of the *Jaagrati* club, a social initiative by students of IIITDMJ to help the children of the nearby villages.
20. Mementos were presented to Prof. Aparajita Ojha, Prof. Puneet Tandon and Prof. Pritee Khanna by the alumni.
21. A beautiful dance performance was delivered by Ms. Ankita Makker (BTech/2015-19), a member of *Aavartan* – the Gymkhana Dance Club.
22. This followed by an emotional drama by Mr. Kartikeya Mishra (BTech/2012-16), Mr. Akash Singh Tomar (BTech/2014-18), Mr. Vidit Goel (BTech/2014-18), Ms. Priya Karn (BTech/2013-17), and Mr. Abhay Singh Thakur (BTech/2014-18), members of *Jazbaat* – the Gymkhana Dramatics Club.
23. The final event of the night was a medley of songs expressing various emotions of college life by Mr. Kaustav Dutta (BTech/2013-17), Mr. Srirang Aronkar (BTech/2013-17), Mr. Ruchir Sinha (BTech/2012-16), members of *Saaz* – the Gymkhana Music Club.
24. The night was concluded in a spirited fashion with much noise and light. A wonderful Christmas cake was arranged for and the function was enjoyed by everyone under the night sky filled with fireworks.
25. Dinner was held at the Central Mess.
26. DJ Night at Hall 4 kick started an energy-filled night of music and drama which culminated into the end of the first day of the IIITDMJ Alumni Meet.



DAY 2 : December 26, 2016

Trip to *Bhedaghat*

General Body Meeting

27. Mr. Somesh Kumar Singh began the proceedings with a discussion of the Constitution of the Alumni Association as per the list of the agenda of the first general body meeting.
28. Prof. Tandon raised a query regarding the definition of an alumnus, and whether only graduates of the Institute should be considered as alumni. It was decided by consensus that the duration of a student's enrolment would be taken into account for considering him/her as an alumnus. The duration of the stay should be in months.
29. Regarding the head office of the Alumni Association, Prof. Tandon stated that the address of the Institute would serve as the Head Office of the IIITDMJ Alumni Association.
30. Prof. Tandon raised a point regarding scholarships. Any sort of financial assistance, if constituted in the form of a scholarship by the Alumni Association, must be made in consultation with the Institute.
31. A point was raised regarding financial assistance suggesting that the support should not be extended solely on the basis of financial background of a student.
32. There was a detailed discussion on the platform to be used for all communication. Consensus was that an official mailing list/group must be created for the Alumni Association.
33. Discussion on Article 8 of the Constitution regarding membership: Prof. Tandon suggested that the term 'fellow' with respect to honorary members should be struck off. Any individual who has spent more than 12 months should be eligible for membership.
34. Mr. Suteerth Tripathi raised the point on the eligibility of a member not known to the General Body. To this concern, Prof. Tandon emphasized that the profiles of any new member would be available and shared with the general body members. The executive body members have the right to nominate such profiles to receive consensus from the general body.
35. Mr. Ram Anand raises the point on Article 8-XIV that proxy voting shall be considered an offence and can lead to cessation of membership. The issue was whether it was justified to cease membership. To this Prof. Tandon said that proxy voting can be allowed under authorization from respective individual. Prof. Ojha added that the constitution should be treated as a high-level document acting as a guiding source. The general body is empowered to discuss and take decisions more flexibly with respect to day-to-day functioning.



36. Prof. Tandon made the recommendation that the term 'active' with regards to member/membership shall be dropped since no differentiation between member and active member.
37. With regards to Article 11, the gap between two meetings should not be more than 18 months and a meeting should occur at least once in a year (defined from January–December). To call for a meeting, at least 100 members of the general body of the Alumni Association should submit requests. However, for the meeting to take place (for its validity) a quorum of 30 members or 1/3rd of the general body is required to be present physically or virtually (whichever is the lower) .
38. In reference to Article 12, Mr. Suteerth Tripathi suggested that the treasurer need not be stationed at the Institute, which was accepted by the majority of the general body.
39. Dr. Rajlaxmi Chouhan raised a suggestion regarding the majority votes being decided by show of hands as stated in the constitution. It was decided that an online form of casting votes would be used since many meetings would be virtual.
40. In reference to Article 12, Prof. Tandon suggested that the tenure of the executive body members shall be 2 years. He also proposed that the President shall be elected and not nominated by executive committee.
41. Dr. Rajlaxmi Chouhan raised a point regarding an executive body member being stationed in the Institute as stated in Article 12. To this, the majority consensus was that this statement shall be dropped.
42. With regard to Article 12-II-P, the representatives of student members shall be nominated by Student Gymkhana in consultation with the faculty in-charge, as pointed out by Prof. Tandon. With regard to Article 12-II-Q the term 'Director' is to be removed, and the responsibility shall lie with the faculty in-charge. From II-R, the term 'active' shall be dropped. From IX, the term '3' shall be dropped and replaced by '2' with respect to the tenure. X and XI can be dropped all together. Student members can be present in the meetings but shall not have voting rights.
43. Prof. Tandon stated, with reference to the powers of the executive body members, that the President should have discretionary powers.
44. In reference to the initial definition of sub-chapters and local chapters, the sub-chapters shall have 5 –20 members, and local chapters shall have more than 20 members.
45. Prof. Tandon raised the point that Article 16 regarding the financial management of the funds should come under the purview of a CA.
46. In reference to Article 17, the financial powers shall be determined by the executive body members, as pointed out by Prof. Tandon.



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47. In reference to Article 18, it was pointed out that it must be with reference and in lieu to Article 8-X. The membership fee of the outgoing/passing out students should be integrated with the Institute's fee structure towards the end of the academic program. The overseas membership fee shall be in accordance with Article 16-I-B.
48. In reference to Article 19, all domestic and financial transfers shall be made to the IIITDMJ Alumni Association account.
49. It was pointed out that Article 23 has been misrepresented as 21 in the constitution draft, and needed to be corrected. In reference to Article 23 on scholarships, the details of the amount shall be dropped and relevant details as to eligibility and amount shall be decided later by the executive body.
50. This concluded discussion on the first point on the agenda – the Constitution.
51. Discussion on 2nd point of the agenda is regarding the election of the executive body which has been done with and the point is closed after further discussion.
52. Discussion on the next topic of agenda – alumni fund management. Presently, the signatories of the account are Prof. Tandon and Mr. R.P. Dwivedi. It was decided that the Savings Bank Account shall now be operated by the Joint Secretary-cum-Treasurer of the Executive Committee and the Faculty Advisor/Dean of Alumni Affairs from IIITDM Jabalpur.
53. A long discussion was on the placement scenario and the role that the alumni can play in order to help students with their internships and placement opportunities. Discussions led to certain points agreed unanimously by all: A detailed database of all the alumni needs to be made available to the student representatives of the placement committee. Interaction between students and the alumni needs to be improved. Mr. Raj Gaurav Mishra shared an important point that changes in the placement scenario cannot be implemented immediately. However, internship is one domain where the alumni shall put in concerted efforts towards improvement.
54. Mr. Somesh Singh and Mr. Sameer Saurabh raised some points regarding a change in the curriculum in order to accommodate the project-based internship in the eighth semester as companies may then be in a position to continue the internships of students beyond the eighth semester and offer PPOs.
55. This concluded the discussion of the general body, and was followed by the closing ceremony.