Department of Computer Science and Engineering

Minutes of DCC Meeting held on 26th August 2014 CSED Seminar Hall 2pm

1. DCC ratified the decisions of the email DCC listed below.

   The request from 2009 batch students for offering Computer Architecture course

   The request from Mr. Vivekanand H, S3 M.Tech to do M.Tech Thesis work in KLA-Tencor

2. DCC discussed the need for simplifying the procedure for honorarium for Ph.D Examiners. DCC decided to entrust the responsibility of preparing a proposal for the same.

3. DCC reconsidered the proposal for replacing the MCA programme with M.Tech (Applied Computing) as the MCA programme is becoming increasingly irrelevant. Dr. Murali Krishan presented the proposal for discontinuation of MCA programme, on the basis of the following reasons.

   1. The MCA programme was originally conceived (nearly two decades back) as a "bridge" program to attract science graduates into software development. This was done at a time when there was an acute shortage of B.Tech Computer Engineers. However, the scenario has changed today. A huge workforce of B.Tech degree holders in Computer Science and Engineering is available in the country now and the market value of the MCA degree has diminished substantially.

   2. The present MCA programme of NIT Calicut is surviving in the industry solely because of the name and fame it has acquired over the years. However, the employability situation is volatile and the future of MCA graduates in the coming years appears unpredictable. To make matters worse, Engineering colleges and universities in India are not allowing MCA graduates into the faculty of Engineering.

Many universities do not consider MCA as a valid degree for entry to a Ph.D programme in Computer Science. Thus chances for MCA graduates to enter academia are minuscule.
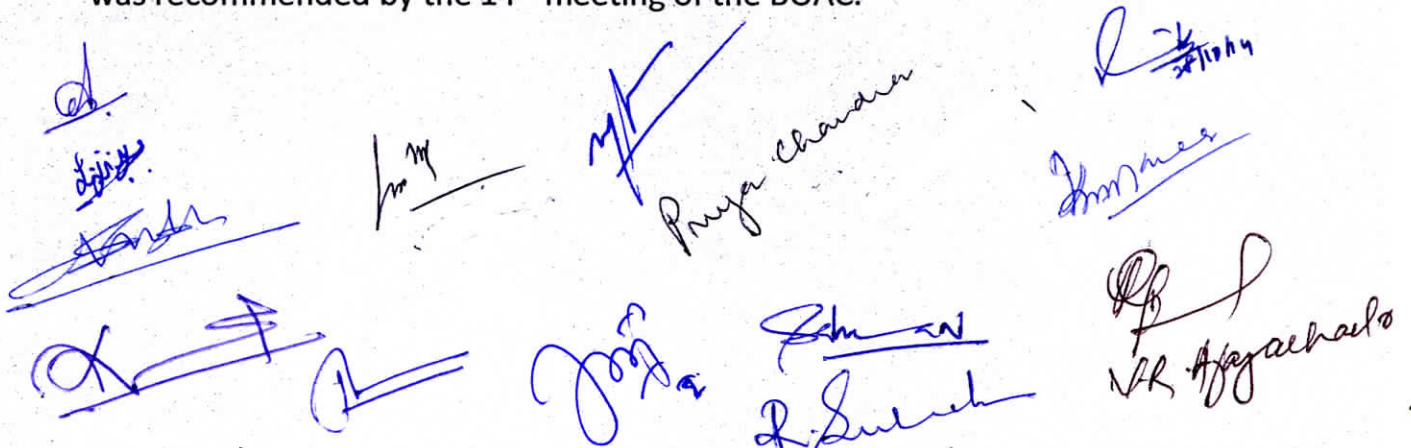
3. With ample opportunity for opting for B.Tech after the +2 level, the best among the remaining students who opt for science stream are those who wish to continue in science. They are not keen to join the MCA programme after their science graduation. This means, the programme is no longer able to attract even the best science graduates. This has resulted in drop of input quality and consequent output quality of the programme over the years.

4. Hence, it is in the long term interest of both the faculty and the students of our institute to upgrade the MCA programme into a more relevant postgraduate programme as soon as practicable. Replacing the MCA programme with an M.Tech programme in applied computing would be a relevant up-gradation.

5. Since the department is currently woefully short of faculty strength even to run its existing programmes, the department strongly feels that the institute may suspend admission to the MCA programme starting with the admission next year. Subsequently, when fresh recruitments are on and the faculty situation in the department improves, up-grading the MCA programme into an M.Tech programme may be taken up.

The proposal was unanimously passed by the DCC members.

4. DCC unanimously resolved to request the BOAC to reconsider the proposal for replacing the MCA programme with M.Tech(Applied Computing). This proposal was earlier approved by the DCC dated 11th February 2013 and was recommended by the 14th meeting of the BOAC.