

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COUNCIL

3 June 2009

(week 23)

(Confirmed)

Present:

Said Irandoust

Izel Ann Dante

Barbara Igel

Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai

Sivanappan Kumar

Sudip Rakshit

Jonathan Shaw

Ram Shrestha

Mr. Shankar Tagad

Secretariat:

Karma Rana

Namita Sravat

Apologies:

Peter Haddawy

Jayant Routray

Khin Ni Ni Thein

Vilas Wuwongse

PAC 09.06.01 Welcome and Apologies

The President welcomed all present to the PAC meeting, especially the new Student Union President Mr. Shankar Tagad, who is a masters student in ASE/SERD. The apologies were noted.

PAC 09.06.02 Approval and Review of the Minutes of the PAC meeting - 22 April 2009

The minutes of the PAC meeting held on 22 April 2009 were **approved**.

Follow up Issues:

1] Updates on Dean-SET and Dean SERD Position: It was reported that the first open hearing for the Dean/SET position was held on 2 June 2009 with four short-listed candidates namely, Dr. Nitin Afzulpurkar, Professor Dennes T. Bergado, Professor Joydeep Dutta and Professor Ioan Marinescu who gave their presentations. The open hearing for the Dean/SERD position will be held on 5 June 2009 with four short-listed candidates namely Professor Ajit Annachhatre, Professor William Hogland (teleconference), Dr. Mousa Nazhad and Dr. Weerakorn Ongsakul giving their presentations. The separate Search Panels for the Dean-SET and Dean-SERD positions constituted will summarize the feedback received during open hearings or later through email and will provide recommendations to the President. The President will then interview one or two top ranked candidates and will then announce the decision most likely by first week of July 2009.

2] Engagement of Faculty Beyond Age of 60 - The "P&P on Faculty/Staff Engagement Beyond Age of 60" revised as per the 25 March 2009 Executive Committee and 22 April 2009 PAC meeting feedback was circulated for members review and approval. Some further corrections/suggestions (as highlighted in the attached Annex-1, *Note: the text highlighted in green color is as per feedback received after the meeting*) were made during the meeting and it was **agreed** that the Head-Administration, Ms. Izel will circulate the finalized version to the PAC members for their further comments within one week after which it will be approved by the President and uploaded on the website by Ms. Izel.

3] P&P on Direct and Indirect Incentives - It was informed that the "P&P on Direct and Indirect Incentives" was circulated to the faculty members for feedback/inputs as agreed during previous PAC meeting. The P&P was approved with minor amendments (as highlighted in the attached Annex-3, *Note: the text highlighted in green color is as per feedback received after the meeting*).

4] Eligibility Criteria for Sabbatical Leave - The revised section regarding the Eligibility Criteria for Sabbatical Leave of the "P&P on Employment of Faculty- General Work Conditions" revised as per 22 April 2009 PAC meeting feedback was circulated for members review and approval. Some further corrections/suggestions (as highlighted in the attached Annex-2) were made during the meeting and it was agreed that the Head-Administration, Ms. Izel will circulate the finalized version to the PAC

members for their further comments within one week after which it will be approved by the President and uploaded on the website by Ms. Izel.

5] Academic Degree Title - The President mentioned that he has requested the VPAA, Prof. Peter Haddawy to also interview some Human Resource Officers about importance of academic degree title in the region. Members were requested to provide any additional inputs with respect to this issue to the VPAA who is preparing report for Board of Trustees (BoT) and Executive Committee of BoT on the issues regarding AIT Degree Titles raised at the previous BoT meeting.

PAC 09.06.03 Issues from the President

1] Public-Private Partnership model - The President informed that he would be meeting the Chairman of Laureate Education Inc. which has expressed interest in the PPP concept being explored by the AIT. He would also be visiting one of their universities in Madrid which is Laureate's first university.

Later sometime the President along with Chairman of the Board of Trustees, President of the Alumni Mother Chapter and one senior faculty member (to be decided after discussion with AS Chair) will be visiting various Laureate's Universities.

The President further informed that the feedback received from the Partners and Friends of AIT whom the PPP Concept and background was sent, is very positive. At least 3-4 parties have shown keen interest in partnering AIT under the PPP model. The MoFA, Thailand will be soon requested to arrange an inter-governmental meeting to discuss this issue, and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees with whom the PPP model has been discussed has already given the green signal.

The Dean/SOM, Dr. Barbara Igel would get information on different universities experiences in Europe who have adopted the PPP model. The Director/AIT Extension, Dr. Jonathan Shaw informed that one of the AIT Extension Board members is involved in the Laureate Education Inc. and he will also seek information from him.

The President also informed that the Laureate Education Inc. has also been requested to look into the AIT land lease agreement and other legal issues while preparing the proposal.

2] Salary Rationalization - The President briefed members on the discussions held regarding the Salary Rationalizations during the Special Meeting of the Executive Committee held on 21 May 2009. The revisions were done accordingly and Salary Rationalization report was sent for approval of the Executive Committee through postal ballot. Upon approval the minutes of the meeting will be forwarded to the members of the community for their information. It was noted that the HR will be responsible for the implementation of the Salary Rationalization upon approval and the President will be informed regarding the special cases. The HR should be requested to prepare the implementation plan especially with regards to the handling of permanent staff.

PAC 09.06.04 Updates on Student Enrollment for August 2009

Members reviewed the updated information on the student enrollment for August 2009 and each School Deans presented their efforts in this regard. The President strongly urged the faculty members to speed up their efforts towards ensuring that the targets in terms of student enrolment for August 2009 are met.

Ms. Izel was requested to remind the Head-ERCO, Dr. Pritam Shrestha to publicize the results of the Alumni Survey categorizing it according to countries and companies. Also the Head-Students, Ms. Ann Lopez be requested to present the concept for a unit to work on internships.

Pac 09.06.05 Academic Programs in AIT Campuses

It was brought to the notice that the tuition fees for the programs run in the AIT campuses other than mother campus are different. The President stated that market rates can be applied if the costs of running

program in particular country is lower, but there needs to be a procedure of approval established. It was agreed that the procedures for determining fees and other related issues like conducting market survey etc. could further discussed in the next PAC meeting. Currently it should be ensured that the minimum degree surcharge is implemented.

PAC 09.06.06 Other Business

Due to the time constraints it was agreed to defer rest of the agenda items for the next PAC meeting that will be held in July 2009 (to be announced later).

Vote of Thanks - Since Prof. Sivanappan Kumar and Prof. Worsak Kanok-Nukulchai were attending the PAC meeting for the last time in their capacities as Dean SERD and Dean SET respectively, the President and members applauded them for their valuable contributions made in the PAC deliberations over past four years. A separate event will be organized to express thanks and appreciation to them on the successful completion of their Deanships.

/ns 22 June 2009