

C.R.E.C. Parent Teacher Association

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21-02-2018

Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on 10-02-2018

The meeting started at 2.30 PM in the Institute Auditorium with a silent prayer, followed by the welcome speech by Dr. A Shaija, Secretary CREC PTA. The Secretary cordially welcomed all the participants to the Annual General Body Meeting of the PTA.

The presidential address was delivered by Dr.Sathidevi P S, President CREC PTA. The details of the major developments in the academic activities and student activities were outlined by the President. She insisted that parents should have a clear picture about the academic background of their wards and asked them to regularly attend the department level meetings and to keep a regular contact with the faculty advisor. She outlined the role of parents to generate young professionals. She also mentioned about the drug related issues in the campus and the remedial actions to be taken by administration, faculty members and parents to cut the demand and supply of drugs in the campus. The President thanked all the members present in the AGM and conveyed that the suggestions from the parents are valued a lot by the Institute.

Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti, Director, in his felicitation address mentioned about the reasons for reduced ranking in the last NIRF ranking. He specified that the main reason for the same is due to the low performance in the research output. The Institute is trying to increase the research output by considering all aspects required to improve the ranking. He was hopeful for improved ranking in 2017, as the number of submitted sponsored research proposal is 49 and faculty publications in reputed journals and conferences had increased in 2017. He also insisted the relevance of publishing papers in the reputed journals by the research scholars in the Institute. He also mentioned that funding can be granted to improve the research activities in UG level itself. He informed that faculty recruitment will be completed in 45-60 days. He insisted that to solve the problems of drugs, faculty, parents and students must join their hands together to make the campus more vibrant. He welcomed the suggestions and comments of parents in the interaction session.

The Secretary presented the minutes of the last AGM held on 25/2/2017 and it was approved by the General Body. The activities report of the PTA during the last year was also presented by the Secretary.

Dr. Sudhish N George, Joint Secretary cum Treasurer, presented the audited financial report for the year 2016-17. This was approved by the General Body. The proposed budget for the financial year 2017-18 was also presented and was approved by the General Body.

The Dean (Students Welfare), Dr. G Unnikrishnan in his speech, emphasises that parents are a major stakeholder in the NITC system and their support is very much essential for the Institute. He pointed out that commitments taken in the last AGM were carried out and students have the opportunity to involve in a number of extra-curricular activities in the campus. He appreciated the students who undertook the beautification of the area near the NITC canteen. He pointed out that the institute is supporting the students financially. Students are performing well by and large and are getting good opportunities of campus placements and higher studies. He mentioned that as per the request from girl students, a temporary permission for two months has given them to spend more time in the academic area. The reporting time is now rescheduled as 9.00 PM and with the permission of faculty advisor it is 11 PM. He requested the comments of parents regarding the matter.

Mr. V Sasheendran, outgoing parent Executive Committee Member of PTA said that he had a good time as PTA executive member. He mentioned that as a parent, his is happy that his ward is graduating from this Institute as young adult with professional capabilities and good qualities. He expressed his thanks to the entire faculty fraternity and wished the PTA all the best.

In the open interaction, parents gave suggestions and sought certain clarifications, which are summarised below:

- Parent participation is less in the General Body Meeting. It needs to be increased.
- The issue of drug usage is alarming and it is required to take necessary steps to cut down the drug supply.
- Library must be open till midnight.
- Most of the subjects in Chemical Engineering Dept. are handled by Adhoc faculty and the quality of teaching is coming down. Moreover, it is noticed that the placement opportunities in Chemical Engg. Dept, is coming down. Director ensured that faculty recruitment will be completed soon.
- Clarifications were sought regarding the alleged “harassment of PG student by guides”. The Dean (Students Welfare) and HOD, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering Department clarified that the immediate steps have been taken to sort out the issue.

The Secretary elaborated on the matters discussed in the PTA executive meeting, which are as follows:

- Changing the name of CREC PTA to NITC PTA. The General Body approved this suggestion.
- Separate funding for PTA during admission time. It is decided to give a proposal for the same.

- Suggested to formulate one committee for Training & Placement (T&P) cell with Professor T& P as the convener and faculty representative from each department as members to improve the training and placement activities.
- Suggested to include parents in the Students Grievance Cell.
- One parent suggested that timing for girl students may be upto 9 PM.
- Another parent suggested for giving a representation regarding the fee hike to the Hon'ble Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Higher Education) Dr. Satya Pal Singh during his visit at NITC on 11th Feb. 2018.

Dr. Ajit Prabhu, PTA Executive Member suggested that parents should take more responsibility to attend the PTA meeting. He mentioned that faculty members are doing their best to mould the career of students. He specified parent's role to support the institute to cut down the drug related issues. He asked the parents to give their opinion about the timing of ladies hostel. He requested Director to consider the recommendations by the Executive Committee.

Mr. Joy N R, PTA Executive Member suggested that as per parental concerns, it is required to give more emphasis to gender security than gender equality. Hence it is not necessary to change the timing of ladies hostel. He specified the requirement of refurbishing the main canteen. It is required to keep the kitchen hygiene and modern.

The Joint Secretary cum Treasurer announced the names of the new executive committee members; Mr. Kurian Joseph (F/o Mr. Edwin Kurian, first year B.Tech Civil Engg.) and Mrs. Shajeena Subair (M/o Mr. Afeef Rahman, first year B. Tech Chemical Engg.).

Director answered some of the concerns raised by the parents and are listed below.

- The Director clarified that, after detailed discussion with the students, it is decided to give a time extension till 9 PM to girl students for two months in a temporary basis.
- The fee hike is decided by NIT Council chaired by HRM Minister. The fee hike is necessitated as the internal revenue of the Institute is not at par with the income. Hence internal revenue generation can be increased only through fee hike.

The vote of thanks was offered by Sri. Praveen Kumar D, Executive Committee Member and the meeting came to an end at 4.30 PM.

Sd/
Secretary
