

C.R.E.C. Parent Teacher Association

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Minutes of the Annual General Body Meeting held on 09-02-2019

The meeting started at 2.00 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 and congratulated all the top ranking students of the Monsoon semester, 2018-'19.

Dr. Sivaji Chakravorti, Director, NIT Calicut, cordially welcomed all the participants to the gathering. He expressed his happiness about the whole-hearted participation of the parents towards the activities of the PTA. He emphasised that, while institute provides technical education to students, parents are major stakeholders and play a major role in imparting values to students thereby shaping them into good citizens of the country. He emphasized that students of NIT Calicut get opportunities for higher education in some of the prestigious institutes which reflects the quality of the education provided by the faculty of the institute. He also mentioned that new faculty members have been recruited during the academic year 2018-19, all of them holding PhD degrees from reputed institutes. He expressed his willingness to listen to the comments and suggestions provided by parents.

Dr. A Shaija, Secretary PTA presented the minutes of the last AGM held on 10/02/2018 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 **2017-'18**, and the proposed budget for the financial year **2018-'19** and both were approved by the General Body.

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 mentioned that around 40-50% of students are failing in various first year courses and raised the apprehension that the reason for the high failure rate could be attributed to the tendency of the students to relax after working quite hard during their intermediate level education. She requested the

parents to attend the department level meetings every year. She insisted the parents to instruct their wards to have at least 6 hours of sleep every day and also to be regular in classes. She outlined the role of parents to generate young professionals. She also raised the issues of mobile phone usage by first year students during classroom sessions.

After the presidential address, Dr. Sudhish requested the Director to distribute award certificates to top ranking students of various academic programmes of the Institute during Monsoon semester 2018-2019. He expressed his appreciation about the PTA for taking the initiative to recognise the top performing students, which is being done for the first time.

This was followed by Director felicitating Mr. Praveen Kumar, outgoing executive member of PTA for his services to the PTA meetings. Mr. Praveen Kumar, in his felicitation speech mentioned about NITC's good reputation in Kerala for its quality education and praised the Director for his contribution in this regard. He complimented the Director on his initiative to better the alumni interaction.

Dr. Shaija announced the election of new executive members for PTA. Mr. Saifudheen E. M. (F/O of 1st year CSE student Mr. Haneem E. M.) and Mr. Sahajan K. P. (F/O of 1st year ME student Arjun K. P.) volunteered to be the new executive members of CRECPTA.

The Dean (Students Welfare), Dr. S D Madhukumar in his speech, emphasized that the co-operation is needed from everyone to impart discipline in students. He pointed out that the movies of this generation have a major impact on younger generation minds.

The Chief-Warden, Dr. A. Santhiagu described the hostel life of students in NITC. He mentioned that helping students and considering their requests is the motto of the NITC hostel staff. He agreed that only nominal facilities are being provided to students and emphasized that the staff are very strict in maintaining the discipline. He expressed his apprehension that only 20% students are generally found to be well-disciplined in hostels. He requested the parents to extend their co-operation to the hostel staff by paying special attention towards their wards' daily activities.

In the open interaction, student representatives from the Ladies Hostel requested for the revision of entry timings for girl students. They requested for maintaining the gender equality to give permission for girl students, to work on technical and cultural activities after 9 PM or till at least 11 PM without any permission. They also requested for a new path to be laid from Ladies Hostel to the campus and the path to be provided with enough security. Both parents and faculty members expressed their views on the request by the LH student representatives and the following points are some of its highlights:

- Few of the parents have supported the students' proposal, while majority of the parents observed that safety aspects should be given top priority.
- There was a suggestion to impose restriction on timings in the boys hostel also to 9PM.
- Apprehensions were raised on the utility of the extra two hours extra time for the girl students.
- There was a suggestion to restrict the WiFi facility from 11PM to 4AM.
- Prof. Jose Mathew, Professor, MED mentioned that the practice of allowing girl students (after taking permission) for usage of CAD/CAM software in laboratory is prevalent since many years.

He observed that the idea of restricting WiFi access may not be useful as the internet can be accessed using mobile networks.

- Prof. Paul Joseph, Professor, EED observed that although he had supported the idea of allowing girl students to work during odd hours in the past, it was found that the same was misused by the students.
- Prof. Madhukumar observed that the practice of allowing girl students to work until 11 PM based on request is already prevailing.
- Dr. Shaija mentioned that during her tenure as Warden of the LH, she received compliments on NITC girls' hostel being one of the best Ladies Hostel in South India. She also stressed that there's not even a single incident for the last ten years that any girl student was denied permission for any academic and cultural purposes irrespective of time. She also emphasized that as 'freedom comes with the responsibility' the first year students has restrictions on their movements being new to the campus and is equally applicable to girls students also.
- The Chief-Warden, Dr. A. Santhiagu observed that the hostel staff are like foster parents to the students and hence taking into consideration the safety of students, restrictions were put on students hostel timings.
- Director, Dr. Shivaji Chakravorti concluded the discussion by stating that a blanket permission to extend the timings in Ladies Hostel till 11 pm cannot be given. But upon request, girl students are allowed to work on institute related activities (academic, cultural or sports) until 11PM with the knowledge of faculty advisors/ lab in-charges/ guides and wardens.

The vote of thanks was offered by Mr. Kurian Joseph, EC Member, PTA and the meeting came to an end at around 5.10 PM.

Sd/
Secretary
