INDIAN INSTITUE OF TECHNOLOGY, ROORKEE

DEPARTMENTAL REVIEW TEMPLATE

1. **Name of Department/Center : Humanities & Social Sciences**
2. **Reviewers :**
    1. **Prof Girishwar Misra**
    2. **Prof Ravi Srivastava**
3. **Date of Review: 14 April 2014**

GRID FOR ASSESSMENT

NOTE:

i. Please grade in the box provided for the following parameters in the range of 1-10 with 10 being the highest.
ii. Leave 'blank' for 'No Comment'.
iii. Kindly give your opinion on the strength and weakness of the Department/ Center and your suggestions for future growth.

I. ACADEMICS

I.1	Undergraduate	Score
1.	Curriculum i. Curricular Structure ii. Course Syllabi iii. Flexibility	7
2.	Formal Academic Load on Students i. Teaching ii. Laboratory/Practical iii. Projects(minor/major)	7
3.	Evaluation Process i. Continuing Evaluation ii. Mid-term Evaluation iii. End-term Evaluation	6
4.	Academic Ambience	7
5.	Opportunity for Peer-Based Learning	6
6.	Opportunity for Further Learning(Breadth and Depth) i. Elective Courses Specialization	6

	ii. Minor with Major Discipline iii. Honors Programme in Major Discipline	
7.	E-Assisted Learning i. Availability of Library Resources and Major Search Engines (like Scopus, Web of Science) ii. Multi-Media Assisted Teaching	7
8.	In –Curriculum Research/Exploration Opportunity to Students	6
9.	Technical Societies/ Colloquium for Students i. Departmental Society ii. Student Chapter(s) of Professional Societies	4
10.	Faculty –Student Interaction	5
11.	Faculty Mentoring of Students	
12.	Faculty Advisor System for Students/Class of Students	
13.	Self Study Courses for Student	NA
14.	Effective Teaching Mechanism for Enhanced Number of Students in Various Classes	7
15.	Effectiveness of Assisted Learning: Tutorial System for B.Tech Students/ Seminars	7

I.2	**Graduate Programmes (Masters)**	**Score**
1.	Curriculum i. Curricular Structure ii. Course Syllabi iii. Flexibility	N.A.
2.	Formal Academic Load on Students i. Teaching ii. Laboratory/Practical iii. Seminar/Dissertation	
3.	Evaluation Process i. Continuing Evaluation ii. Mid-Term Evaluation iii. End-Term Evaluation	
4.	Academic Ambience	
5.	Opportunity for Peer-Based Learning	
6.	Opportunity for further Learning(Breadth and Depth) Elective Courses (Specialization Electives)	
7.	E-Assisted Learning i. Availability of Library Resources and Major Search Engines (like Scopus, Web of Science) ii. Multi-Media Assisted Teaching	
8.	In –Curriculum Research/Exploration Opportunity to Students	
9.	Technical Societies/ Colloquium for Students i. Departmental Society ii. Student Chapter(s) of Professional Societies	
10.	Faculty –Student Interaction	

11.	Faculty Mentoring/Supervising of Students	
12.	Faculty Advisor System for Students/Class of Students	
13.	Effectiveness of Assisted Learning: Home Assignments/Seminars/Presentations	

I.3	**Doctoral (PhD) Programmes**	**Score**
1.	Pre-PhD Courses and Evaluation Process	7
2.	Comprehensive Courses Examination	6
3.	Breadth and Depth of Knowledge of Students	6
4.	Seminar/ Presentations and Technical Communication	6
5.	Average No. of Research Students/Faculty	3
6.	Average No. of Research Papers of PhD Students	4/5
7.	Average Duration to Complete PhD (years)	4 years

II. RESEARCH

		Score
1.	Research Ambience in the Department	**6**
2.	Research Awareness among Doctoral Students	**5**
3.	Competence Level of Doctoral Students for Research	**6**
4.	Quality of Research	**7**
5.	Quality of Publications	**6**
6.	Impact of Publications	**NA**
7.	Relevance of Research to Knowledge Generation	**6**
8.	Societal Relevance of Research	**7**
9.	Exposure of Researchers to the International State of Art	**6**
10.	Student Exposure to Attending Quality Conferences/Symposia	**6**
11.	Growth in PhD Programme	**5**
12.	Quality of Research Infrastructure	**7**
13.	Utilization of Existing Research Infrastructure	**6**
14.	Department Initiative on Faculty Hiring	**7**
15.	Breadth and Depth of Research in the Department	**6**
16.	Research Intensity of Faculty Members	**6**

Futuristic Areas For Hiring Faculty Members – Dept has to strengthen all core areas. Faculty is also required to teach Foreign Languages. The dept also wants to initiate interdisciplinary teaching programs.

Research Areas for Improvement
Comments (not more than 100 words for each given below)

Strength:

The teaching programmes run by the Department are in two modalities i.e. generic courses meant for technology students and discipline specific courses leading to Ph.D. degree. The generic courses are compulsory as well as elective. Courses on communication, self awareness and ethics are offered to students entering to all the B.Tech. Programmes. The Ph.D. programme lasts for about 4 years and all the students get placement in various academic and allied institutions. The students responses to the courses and the faculty vary but are distinctly above average.

The faculty members are active in research and in various academic bodies in their respective disciplines.

It is gratifying that aspects of rural development in the region as well as other areas of policy relevance have gained research attention by the faculty and several research projects have been undertaken.

We also note that faculty have been undertaking inter-disciplinary research with other faculties in IIT.

Weakness:

The number of PhD. students seems to have gone down. it might be due to the low faculty strength.

There is insufficient focus on inter-disciplinary areas.

There should be continuous focus on quality of publications.

Suggestions for improvement:

Pro-active steps need to be taken to fill teaching vacancies as early as possible.

The Department also needs to create more positions of project fellows and PDF. In order to strengthen teaching and research the following need to be attended to (a) periodical organization of research methodology workshops dealing with methods and scientific writing,(b) increasing the interaction with subject experts, (c) strengthening labs and providing supporting staff.

Research students have opined that they gain from exposure and interaction with outside faculty. We would recommend more colloquiums and lectures by experts from other institutions with scope for interaction with faculty and research students.

The teaching is conducted with modern audio-visual gadgets. It's essential to cope with the large size of classes in compulsory courses. The tutorials need to be strengthened and space for individual level interaction be created.

Most of the developing areas in the twenty-first century are inter-disciplinary in nature (both within humanities and social sciences, and HSS and sciences). Behavioral studies, cognitive studies, climate change, disaster preparedness and management, linguistics, communication studies are some examples of emerging areas. We feel that there must be a push from the faculty in HSS as well as the IIT to create more space for interdisciplinary teaching and research.

The Department proposes to launch Master's in Economics. In view of the expertise and number of faculty in economics as well as realizing the regional needs this course seems viable. The administration must help the Department and extend necessary help required in this process.

III. Departmental Infrastructure

1.	Adequacy of Class Rooms and Multi-Media Facility	Score
2.	Availability of Laboratories	8
3.	Availability of Conference/Seminar Room, etc.	5
4.	Availability of Seating Space for Research Students	7
5.	Availability of Internet Services in Research Labs and Class Rooms	6
6.	Departmental Library and E-Resources	7
7.	Computing Facilities and Software	5
8.	Adequacy of Offices and Furnishing for Faculty	7
9.	Faculty- Student Ratio	7
10.	Support Staff (Technical/Administrative) Adequacy	4

Comments (not more than 100 words for each given below)

Strength:

The department infrastructure is reasonably good and is well utilized.

The language lab is providing excellent support to developing language and communication skills of the student community

Weakness:

Students have issues with specialized software.

The psychology lab is no functional due to shortage of space and other constraints.

It was observed during the discussion with Ph.D. students that the availability of discipline specific journals and books is limited. This should be assessed periodically and augmented.

Suggestions for improvement:

The Department is facing is a genuine problem of space to house its lab and creating good work environment for the research students. The psychology laboratory needs to be equipped with instruments and gadgets which require extra funding and space. There is need for supporting staff to assist in the lab work. We noted that the Department has two functional Labs (Language and Computer) and one Economic Database and is in the process of computerizing its Psychology Lab. Altogether these Labs have about 90 computers and several softwares. These Labs are being run with the help of a work-hire person employed in High-Skilled Category II (Basic- 8,528+D.A.-0). It would be advisable to have a skilled person in a regular higher slab of 9300-34800-GP-4200 so that the person with desirable qualifications and skills can work with efficiency. The Department does not have any regular technical staff for the routine working of the Labs.
Additional space also needs to be provided for the proposed psychology lab.
E books and other resources need to be acquired to enhance the availability of teaching-research resources.
Networking with other institutions could address issues of specialised data bases and software required by only a few research students.

IV. Admissions of PhD Students

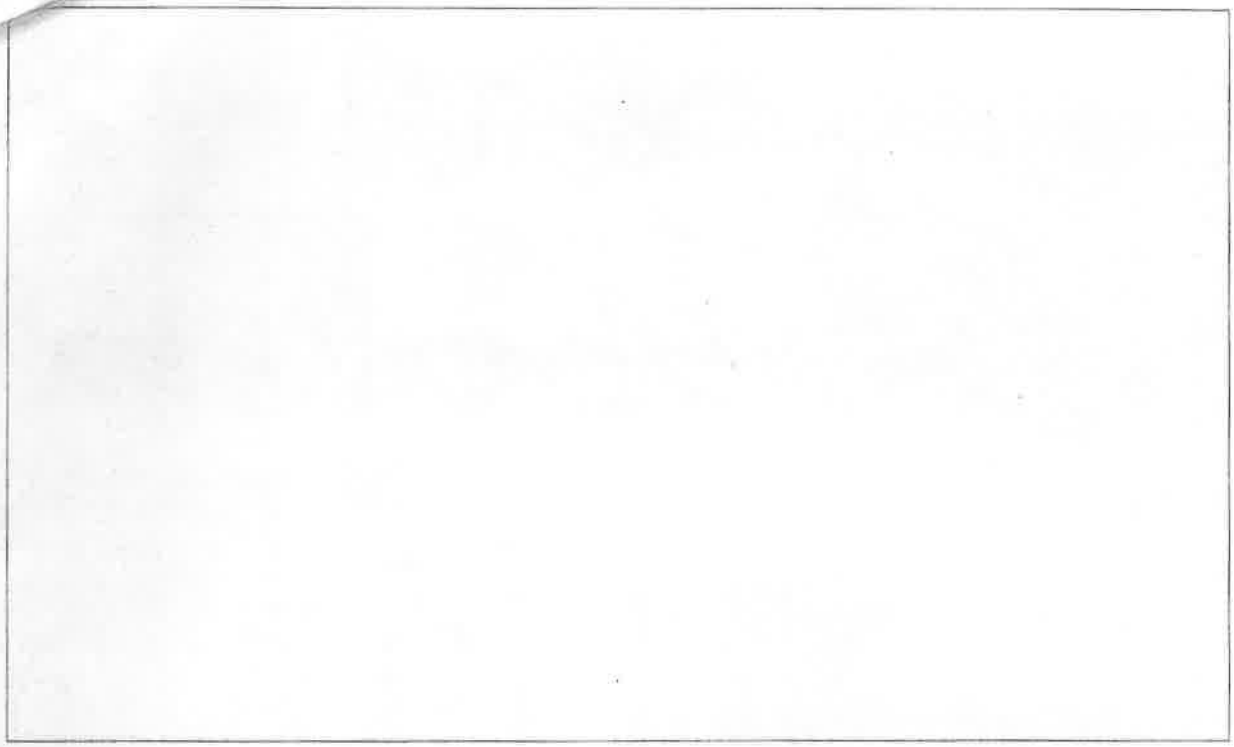
		Score
1.	Intake of PhD Students	
2.	Admission Process	07

Suggestions:

We found the process of student admission quite sound. Students seem to be attracted by the general profile of IIT than by specific advisor resumes. it would be useful to advertise publicise core areas for research.

V. Outcomes

		Score
1.	Placements i. Placement of B.Tech/IDD Students ii. Placement of Masters Student iii. Placement of PhD Students	 NA NA 8
2.	Average No. of Ph.D.s Awarded per Year	5/6
3.	Publications per Faculty in ISI Indexed Journals/Year	NA
4.	Average Citations per Faculty/Year (Last-Three Years) (Web of Science/Scopus)	NA
5.	Recognitions; Awards(National/International) to Faculty/Students	4
6.	Consultancy and Projects	6
7.	No. of Ph.D. graduates who took Academics as Career (Based on Data of Last 5 Years)	25+ 2 students joined IES
Comments and Suggestions for improvement:		



28.4.2014

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