Dr.K.Mallikharjuna Babu, Principal, BMSCE and Chairman, Academic Council extended a cordial welcome to all the members/invitees to the ninth meeting of the academic council. The Chairman extended welcome to Mr.Ashwith Rego (Alumni of the College) and thanked him for accepting the invitation to brief the Council on IIT Bombay (new initiative) on “Blended MOOCs”.
The Principal further informed the members that Dr.G.N.Sekhar had handed over charge of department of Mathematics to Dr.S.Jayanthi during January 2014. However, Dr.Sekhar, Vice-principal, has been requested to continue to serve the council as its Member. The Council noted the same and concurred. The Chairman then requested Dr.Ravishankar Deekshit, Dean (Academic) to take up the agenda for discussion.

1 CONFRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF EIGHTH ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 29.04.2015

The minutes of the Eighth Academic Council Meeting held on 29.04.2015 were confirmed.

2 ACTION TAKEN REPORT ON THE DECISIONS IN EIGHTH ACADEMIC COUNCIL MEETING

The Dean (Academic) presented the actions taken report on the decisions of the Academic Council in its eighth Meeting held on 29.04.2015. The Council noted and resolved to confirm the action taken on the decisions of the Academic Council in its eighth meeting held on 29.04.2015. The members appreciated the fact that all the recommendations/decisions of the previous meeting of the Council have been adopted.

3 RE-CONSTITUTION OF BOARD OF STUDIES IN VARIOUS CLUSTER/DEPARTMENTS

The Council noted that the reconstitution is as per the Visvesvaraya Technological University Autonomous College Statute, 2006 [Statute framed under section 43(a) of (2006 amended) VTU Act 1994]. The Council resolved to ratify the reconstitution of members of Boards of Studies of various cluster/departments for a term of two years from 23.07.2014 to 22.07.2016. The reconstituted list of BOS is provided in Annexure-I.
4  REVIEW OF FIRST YEAR CURRICULUM INTRODUCED FOR THE AY 2014-15

The Principal informed the Council that a sub-committee was constituted on 09.06.2015 to review the First year Curriculum and suggest modification/changes as deemed appropriate. The Principal requested Dr. B.V. Ravishankar, Dean (First Year) to brief the council regarding the recommendations of the Sub-Committee.

Dr. B.V. Ravishankar, informed the members that the curriculum for the first year was revised from AY 2014-15 through a comprehensive process of curriculum planning and design with prime focus on employability and innovation. The Dean (First Year) then made a brief PPT presentation on the salient aspects of the revised curricula. He specifically highlighted the introduction of the course “Biology for Engineers” and other initiatives like collaborative-labs etc.

The Principal informed the members that first year curriculum would remain more or less the same except for slight modification in the pedagogical content in the “Biology for Engineers” course. The Council noted the same and approved.

While on the subject, Dr. K. Rajanikanth informed that the Department Equivalence Committee (DEC) shall address the issues related to mapping for equivalence in subjects arising due to curriculum revision. The recommendation of the Equivalence Committee shall be vetted and approved by the BOS.

5  CURRICULUM DESIGN & DEVELOPMENT (CDD)

The Principal informed the Council that the institution adopts systematic process of curriculum design and development (CDD). The Institution ensures that the curriculum is current and meets the needs of industry and students with focus on thrust areas. The College conducts regular brain storming sessions/workshops/seminars on the feasibility and utility of the curriculum. The inputs of experts from Industry, Academic Peers, Resource Persons, Alumni, faculty and students is highly valued and proactively
considered. After the approval of the concerned Board of Studies and Academic Council, the curriculum is disseminated at different levels.

A brief report on CDD was presented by the Principal. The report highlighted the review process, rationale, stakeholders input, focus on outcomes based education, credit distribution, books for reference, assessment, Innovations, Alternative Assessment Tools, Self-study component etc.

6 DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF SCHEME & SYLLABUS FOR HIGHER SEMESTERS FROM THE AY 2015-16

The Head of the Departments made presentation of their respective Scheme & Syllabus for 3rd and 4th semesters and Scheme for 5th to 8th Semesters of their respective programmes. After detailed deliberations, the Council approved the Scheme & Syllabus for 3rd to 4th semesters with some general observations and few program specific suggestions as shown below:

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<th>Suggestions:</th>
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<tr>
<td>1. Self-Study component shall be an extension to the regular syllabus and not to be part it.</td>
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<td>2. The evaluation pattern (CIE &amp; SEE) need not be shown/mentioned in the scheme</td>
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<th>Programme Specific comments:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Electronics &amp; Instrumentation (EI)</td>
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Information Science & Engineering (IS)  
a) Programming in C++ course could be offered in 3rd semester instead of JAVA programming  
b) The JAVA Programming Course could be offered during 4th Semester instead of Advanced JAVA Programming

The scheme & syllabus of 3rd and 4th Semesters is attached in Annexure-II

7  MODIFICATIONS TO ACADEMIC RULES & REGULATIONS FOR B.E. AND B.Arch.

The Principal presented before the Council the draft copy of the Academic Rules and Regulations (applicable to all autonomous programmes) for consideration and approval. In particular, the members, noted that the earlier rule 10.3.3 regarding termination from the programme was revised as Item No.15.6.3 which states: “Absence from classes for a semester without leave of absence being granted by competent authorities (Refer Academic Rules & Regulations)”. After detailed deliberations, the Academic Council approved the Academic Rules and Regulations. The approved Academic Rules and Regulations applicable to all autonomous programmes are provided in Annexure-III.

8  ACADEMIC CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 2015-16

The proposed Academic Calendar for the year 2015-16 was approved. The Council authorized the Principal to make necessary changes in the calendar if need be. The approved Calendar of Events for the Academic Year 2013-14 is provided in Annexure-IV.

9  ANY OTHER SUBJECT WITH THE PERMISSION OF THE CHAIR

a) INTERNAL QUALITY ASSURANCE CELL (IQAC)

Dr.K.R.Suresh Director, IQAC informed the members that as mandated by NAAC, an Internal Quality Assurance Cell has been established as a post accreditation quality sustenance measure. The aim of IQAC is to make meaningful contribution in the post-accreditation phase of the institution. A functional IQAC and timely
submission of Annual Quality Assurance Reports (AQARs) are the Minimum Institutional Requirements (MIR) to volunteer for second, third or subsequent cycle’s accreditation.

The Director, IQAC highlighted the following activities/contributions made by IQAC since its inception:

- Submission of Annual report (2013-14) to NAAC & other regulatory bodies
- Academic audit of all the departments
- Facilitated International Educators Training Program conducted by IUCEE. Six faculty of the Institution have qualified in the Microsoft Educators’ Training program.
- Facilitating the teaching and non-teaching training programs.

The Council noted the same and expressed its satisfaction

b) IIT Bombay BLENDED MOOCs

Mr. Ashwith Rego, an alumnus of BMSCE, made a brief presentation on the Blended MOOCs Model of IIT Bombay for the benefit of members of the Council. Mr. Ashwith informed the members that Blended MOOCs program facilitates a flipped classroom model where the lecture videos and assessments are handled by the MOOCs in tandem with the faculty handling similar course.

Benefits of this Model

- Students can watch videos multiple times to have more clarity on the concepts
- Students get instant feedback on the problem sets which tell them if they need to view the lecture again.
- Instructors have a parallel workshop course where they are given instructions in pedagogy. Live online video sessions will be held regularly where instructors can interact with the faculty teaching the MOOC.
 Teachers can then focus on active learning in the form of discussions, problem solving and practical assignments in the classroom.

 Teachers are free to choose how they blend the MOOC with their classroom course. They are also free to choose how much of the grade on the MOOC needs to be factored in to the students' marks.

Mr. Ashwith then presented an interface of IITBombayX at www.iitbombayx.in

c) RECOGNITION

The Principal brought to the notice of the Members the recent survey rating of Times of India (in Delhi/Mumbai Edition dated 16.06.2015) wherein the college has been ranked 3rd among top 50 Private Engineering Institutes in the Country and 14th among top 100 engineering institutes in the Country. The Principal further informed that BMSCE has retained its first position amongst engineering institutes in the state and attributed the success to the patronage and guidance of the Management and the support of all stake holders. The Council recorded its appreciation.

d) FACULTY SABBATICAL

The Principal informed the Council that Dr. Gowrishankar, Professor and Head, Department of Information Science & Engineering is proceeding to University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), USA to take up a one semester appointment as Visiting Professor of Computer Science at University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) commencing from August 12, 2015 to December 22, 2015 under Joint Programme between BMS College of Engineering and University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH), USA.
e) MAL-PRACTICE CASES

The Controller of Examinations (COE) made a detailed presentation on the mal-practice cases recorded during the CIE & SEE examination for the Academic Year 2014-15 (both even and odd semesters) and punishment imposed on the students involved in Malpractices during examination. The COE presented the List of students declared as fit for Termination from Programme (NFTE) and also presented the result analysis of First and second semester (AY 2014-2015).

f) THIRD GRADUATION DAY (AUTONOMOUS BATCH)

The Principal informed the Members that the Graduation Ceremony of the Third Batch of Autonomous batch of Engineering Graduates (2010-14) and the Second Autonomous batch of Architecture Graduates (2009-2014) had been scheduled for 26.07.2015. A total of 935 students who have completed the prescribed academic requirement are being awarded the degrees. He also extended invitation to all the AC members to grace the occasion—the annual convocation of the institute. The Members of the Council extended their best wishes to the graduating students and organizers for the successful conduction of the event.

The meeting ended with thanks to the Chair.

Dean (Academic)  

Principal