

The Robotics Society (TRS)
Governing Council Meeting
Minutes of Meeting (MoM)

Date: 30.01.2024 (Thursday) | Time: 7.00 PM to 8.30 PM | Mode: Online

Agenda of the Meeting:

1. Student Chapters Update and Call for activities (Dr Rajeevlochan and Dr Nayan)
2. AIR 2025: Conference Dates and other updates (Dr Suril Shah)
3. TRS Workshops 2024 (Status)
4. TRS Membership Cards
5. Follow-Up Points and Status Updates of GBM (July 23) minutes:
 - a. Announcement for DD Robocon 2024 (Student Chapter Coordinators)
 - b. Robotics Archive (Publication Coordinators?)
 - c. Resolution points among AMM-ISME-TRS (Secretary)
 - d. TRS Local chapters (Coordinators?)
 - e. Income Tax liabilities – to discuss with CA.

Following GC members were present:

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| Mr. Alok Mukherjee [President] | Dr Sandipan Bandhyopadhyay |
| Prof Ashish Dutta [Vice President, Academics] | Dr Rajeevlochana G. Chittawadigi |
| Dr Naresh C. Murmu [Vice President, R & D] | Dr Srijan Bhattacharya |
| Prof. Subir Kumar Saha, IIT Delhi | Dr Riby Abhraham Boby |
| Dr Debanik Roy | Dr Nayan M Kakoty, Tezpur University |
| Prof Mohammed Suhaib | Dr Vineet Vashista, IIT Gandhinagar |
| Prof Pushparaj M. Pathak | Ms. Aishwarya Rao |
| Dr Ashish Singla, TIET Patiala | Mr Subhash Pratap |
| Prof Hari K. Voruganti | Mr Shreyas Patel |
| Prof Santakumar Mohan | Dr Ramakrishna K., Treasurer |
| Dr Suril V. Shah, IIT Jodhpur | Dr Ekta Singla, Secretary |

The Committee considered the following items:

1. **Student Chapters Update and Call for activities:** TRS encourages the Student Chapters (TRS-SC) for organizing robotics activities/workshops focusing on hands-on experiences and novel application

domains of robotics, for learning and enriching of students' skills. Dr Rajeevlochan and Dr Kakoty proposed and presented to the committee – TRS-SCALE – a platform for calling/funding the proposals in two phases annually, with the estimated annual budget of 3 lacs. The budget is planned based upon the annual expenditure being done in last couple of years on such activities, and also in-line with the CA's recommendations of utilizing the surplus. Details were presented, and are attached to the minutes as Annexure-A.

Resolution: The proposal is appreciated and accepted, and the committee approves the annual estimated funding of Rs 3 lacs for TRS-SCALE. Funds will be transferred only to institute principle/registrar/CFO accounts, and funding should be given on reimbursement basis. Advance is allowed to be given, if requested and approved by the selection committee.

- AIR 2025:** Dr. Suril Shah and Dr Riby Bobby from IIT Jodhpur proposed the conference dates in first/second week of July, 2025, for three days. After discussion it is concluded that July 2-5, 2025 are the most suitable dates, with atleast four full days required for the conference – based upon previous trends. There had been suggestions on including Industry-oriented short-presentations, for boosting industry-academia work interface.

Resolution: Dr Suril Shah is suggested to finalize the dates, organizing committees and Program committee, and to send formal request with any funding requirement from TRS. An amount of 1 lac (as loan) is agreed upon by the committee.

- TRS Workshops 2024 (Status): TRS workshops for year 2024** were awarded to IIT Gandinagar and Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Bengaluru. Corresponding conveners, Dr Vineet and Dr Rajeevlochan gave the updates on their funds raising plans. There is also a suggestion of collaborations with CSIR-CMERI, Durgapur for conducting the workshop, and Dr Murmu (Director) has kindly agreed for the same.

Resolution: The conveners would be announcing the dates and final plans, after discussing among themselves. The two workshops should be announced with a substantial gap among the two.

- TRS Membership Cards:** Dr. Ekta Singla, Secretary, shared her proposal for planning and developing I-Cards for Life-members (215), Membership plate/plaque for student-Chapters (38) and for Governing Council members (30). It is proposed that the estimated budget is Rs 30,000 and that would be bear from the AIR-2023 funds-collection.

Resolution: The proposal of some identity cards/plaques is well accepted by the committee members, and the initiative will help boosting TRS identity. It is advised that Student members of GC will be involved in initiating and executing the task.

5. Follow-Up Points and Status Updates of GBM (July 23) minutes:

a. *Announcement for DD Robocon 2024 (Student Chapter Coordinators)*

Resolution: The award will be announced as stated in the GBM minutes, and followup will be kept by the TRS student chapter coordinators. It is resolved that the award should be given as cash-award for the students' team and should be transferred to the faculty coordinator of the students chapter. It should be encouraged to utilize the amount for robotic activities/learning etc.

b. *Robotics Archive (Publication Coordinators):* The point could not be discussed. In general status update, Dr Ekta Singla shared the Newsletters planned for May and November.

c. *Resolution points among AMM-ISME-TRS (Secretary):* Dr Ekta Singla, Secretary, informed about the letters being sent to the AMM and ISME secretaries about the resolution points minuted in TRS GBM MoMs. It is advised to wait for the responses, and take further discussions/actions based upon their responses/suggestions etc.

d. *TRS Local chapters:* There is also an opinion that with limited number of life-members – it is quite early to initiate local chapters. To explore the possibility of making TRS Local chapters, their duties, organization and related tasks – secretary proposed to have specific Local Chapter Coordinators. Prof Hari Voruganti and Dr Ashish Singla have kindly accepted the responsibility and the committee agrees for the same.

e. *Income Tax liabilities:* It is informed by Secretary, Dr Ekta Singla, that a meeting is held with the CA Praveen Gupta and the TRS treasurer on January 30, 2024, and matters are discussed related to surplus utilization, account signatories, and for any other updates. It is being informed that with the change in GC, the authorized account signatories are now President Mr Alok Mukherjee, Treasurer Dr Ramakrishna and Secretary Dr Ekta Singla.

The meeting gets over with thanks to all the members.

