

Minutes of the AMM General Body Meeting (GBM) held on March 20, 2009

The meeting took place at the Department of Engineering Design, IIT Madras. The following members attended the meeting:

1. Dr. G. Saravana Kumar, IIT Madras
2. Dr. Shankar Krishnapillai, IIT Madras (Treasurer)
3. Mr. G. Venkata Reddy, Venlax Ltd.
4. Mr. Sivakumar K. B., Venlax Ltd.
5. Prof. C. Amarnath, IIT Bombay (President)
6. Prof. S. K. Saha, IIT Delhi (Vice-president)
7. Prof. S. Bhaumik, BESU (ZVP East)
8. Dr. M. Sreekumar, IITDM
9. Prof. N. Siva Prasad, IIT Madras
10. Dr. Vivekananda Shanmuganathan, VIT Vellore (ZVP South)
11. Dr. Sandipan Bandyopadhyay, IIT Madras (Secretary)

After the opening remarks from the President, activity report for August 2008-February 2009 and financial report for the same period were presented by the Secretary and the Treasurer respectively. The following agenda items were discussed afterwards:

1. Modification of the existing fee structure: The members agreed that the existing fee structure was far too dated to be applicable in the present. After much deliberation, the following new structure has been proposed:
  - a) Category A (Individuals with an Engineering/Science degree or diploma with interest in Mechanisms and Machines):
    - i. Annual membership fee: Rs. 150/-
    - ii. Admission fee (fixed to be half of the annual fee): Rs. 75/-
    - iii. Life membership fee (fixed to be 10 times the annual fee): Rs. 1500/- plus the admission fee, totaling Rs. 1575/-.
  - b) Category B (Individuals from member organizations):
    - i. Annual membership fee (2 times that of category A): Rs. 300/-
    - ii. Admission fee (2 times that of category A): Rs. 150/-
    - iii. Life membership: (2 times that of category A): Rs. 3150/-
  - c) Corporate membership fee: Rs. 15,750/ (total), allowing 5 members from each organization to take part in the GBM, with one voting member.
  - d) Category C (Full-time students in Engineering/Science degree/diploma streams)
    - i. Annual membership fee (for the period of studentship): Nil
    - ii. Admission fee for the period of studentship): Nil

- iii. Processing fee: Rs. 150/- (The members proposed the introduction of a processing fee of Rs. 150/- for student members, payable only once during the period of studentship).

At the completion of studies, the student members can upgrade to Category A/B. Further, due to administrative reasons, at this point AMM is restricting inductions in Categories A,B as life members only.

2. In order to decentralise and spread the AMM activities, a new body, namely the “Zonal Vice Presidents” has been formed. It consists of one member from each of the four zones, East, West, North and South. The roles of the ZVPs have been formulated and would be made available online soon. At present the ZVPs are the following:

East zone: Dr. Subhasis Bhaumik, BESU Howrah

West zone: Dr. Himanshu Chaudhary, MNIT Jaipur

North zone: Dr. Rajesh Sharma, NIT Hamirpur

South zone: Dr. P. Vivekananda Shanmuganathan, VIT University, Vellore

It has been suggested that the ZVPs be included automatically in the Governing Council (GC) as a part of the required 6 Ordinary Members. Mr. V. Reddy of M/s Venlax Ltd. has been admitted as the member from the industries in the GC.

3. Meetings of the GC and the General Body: It has been suggested that GC meeting and the GBM be held at the same time. One GC meeting and GBM should take place on the sidelines of NaCoMM and IPRoMM, thereby making sure that GC and GB meet at least one in each year with sufficient attendance.
4. A new scheme for membership numbers was proposed by Prof. Saha and formalised by the members. As per this, the membership number would be of the form: NYYYYXXXX, where N = A/B/C/D indicates the membership category, YYYYY indicate the year of joining, and XXXX indicates the application number in the respective category in the respective year.
5. A proposal was received from Prof. Ashitava Ghosal of IISc Bangalore (organiser of the NaCoMM 2007 and HMMS 2007) regarding the transfer of the surplus funds from the above accounts to AMM in order to develop basic office facilities of AMM. Members welcomed the proposal and asked the Secretary and Treasurer to work on the formalities.
6. The rates for advertising through the AMM newsbulletin were discussed, and fixed as follows:
  - a) Full page (A4): Rs. 5000/-
  - b) Half page: Rs. 3000/-
  - c) Quarter page: Rs. 2000/-

7. Terms and conditions for AMM name and logo to be used in various conferences/workshops were discussed and the following details were finalised:
  - a) NaCoMM and IPRoMM would get Rs. 10000/- as seed money as per the present practice.
  - b) Any other workshop/conference to be held under the aegis of AMM can request seed grants for Rs. 5000/- and Rs. 10000/- respectively. It is expected that organisers would return the seed money if they can. Further, it is expected that the organisers would actively promote AMM membership during their programme. Further, following the examples of previous NaCoMMs (NaCoMM'03, NaCoMM'07), the organisers are encouraged to help AMM with the proceeds of such events.
  - c) In any case, the organisers would require prior permission of AMM to use the name/logo of AMM in their fliers and/or any other relevant materials.
  
8. Several developmental proposals were discussed, such as:
  - a) Creation of an “AMM Innovators’ Forum”
  - b) Creation of “AMM Student Chapters”

These issues are to be discussed further within the AMM community.

The meeting ended with the Secretary thanking the members for their time.