



Research Scholars <bhartiyareshscholars@gmail.com>

Attn: [IIT Indore] Towards swift resolution of issues and guidelines for effective resolution of conflicts in BSBE

Research Scholars <bhartiyareshscholars@gmail.com>

2 April 2019 at 17:25

To: ronald DaSilva <iiti_students@zoho.com>, HRD Minister <minister.hrd@gov.in>

Cc: dpgcbsbe <dpgcbsbe@iiti.ac.in>

Dear Sir/Mam

Kindly look into the matter and do the needful at the earliest.

On Tue, 2 Apr 2019, 08:15 ronald DaSilva, <iiti_students@zoho.com> wrote:

Respected Receivers:

After a small informal discussion of this matter at a western publishing house, it was suggested that this article be forwarded. The content is a good read and should be read by all.

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2019/apr/01/are-phds-just-cheap-labour-for-universities>

As before, considering the nature of targeted attacks on students in IIT Indore, this email is also sent to the Research Scholars of India and Democratic Students Research Organization, as well as other bodies, who will now monitor events in the discipline on regular basis.

This is for your information only without any wrong intentions.

With Thanks,

IIT Indore Students Community [on behalf: postdoctoral and PhD scholars]

Sent using [Zoho Mail](#)

----- On Mon, 01 Apr 2019 03:38:46 +0530 ronald DaSilva <iiti_students@zoho.com> wrote -----

Dear DPGC members of BSBE,

We are receiving a lot of reports from BSBE ex-students as well as current students about problems related to research progress and ethics of the supervisors. Normally, isolated cases would not be important for us to take up, however, considering the number of complaints, we found it within the institute's best interests to send this email and make you aware of the responsibilities and liabilities of a supervisor.

1) It is observed that many research supervisors find themselves unable to guide students to reach a suitable amount of publications in the stipulated time period. It is requested to appoint a committee to suggest alternatives and research action plan of the supervisor and not to blame the student for such mishaps.

2) The registrar, IIT Indore has given us an RTI Reply (*will be presented as per requirement*) that the research supervisor is liable to pay the funds of fellowship for TA category candidates if and when the fellowship expires after 4 years. As rules cannot be separated for MHRD-TA and other JRF/SRF, this also means that research supervisor will pay from any existing funds including CPDA, RDF, project grants, salary etc. for any person who is no longer receiving fellowship. Please keep this in mind when working to execute research projects for your students, as any legal dispute on this matter will prove costly to the supervisor and the institution.

3) There are observed cases where complaints are filed against supervisor but proper action is not taken. In cases of academic or research fraud (**including deciding without students' consent the forms, number, or order of authors**), the results can damage the reputation of the entire institution. Institutional members are advised to take swift disciplinary action against any faculty who is committing such kinds of fraud, as action from the publisher end will prove extremely costly for the entire discipline.

4) Faculties are requested to pool their project funds and available resources for benefit of their labs and students.

5) Solve any matter that appears to you within the department and to the satisfaction of the students. The whole university runs because of the students and law and justice departments will never favor administration or

faculties over the students.

6) If any single faculty can justify that it is difficult to get publications within a certain period of time with proof and examples, then to kindly consider award of PhD degree to the concerned students with relaxed criteria as an exceptional case. It is the supervisor's legal and moral duty to award the PhD to the student and so poor performance cannot be used as a justification if the student has put in the adequate efforts.

If the above points are not adhered to strictly, the legal implications are severe in the case that a student approaches the courts for justice. The foremost principle of good research is that no single person should suffer physically, mentally, publicly or legally because of the actions of the supervisor.

This email is written for your information only without any specific mention of incidences or specifically targeting anyone. We will be watching the discipline closely to observe whether positive changes have been implemented, after which appropriate course of action will be decided.

A booklet is attached from Homi Bhabha National Institute on the duties of a supervisor. We request you to follow the guidelines as they too have been made after due consultation with leading scientists of the nation.

For the protection of the students of BSBE, this email is also shared with national research scholars' organizations including Research Scholars of India and Democratic Research Scholars Organization (DRSO). As these umbrella bodies are aware of issues related to IIT Indore, wrong action on your end will affect your far future career due to loss of reputation.

Thanking You,
IIT Indore Students Community [on behalf: Ph.D. scholars]

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