Email communication – May 2024 IC COE Meeting.

Hello everyone,

Thank you for joining the two sessions in May for the first round of review by the Board of Observers for the IC-COE program.

Attached, please find an AI generated minutes of the meeting. It is not in the nest format. Hence, I am mentioning the key points here:

1. Synopsys Digital VLSI Lab has been running since Aug 2023; several students have been trained. Student led training (internal) has been conducted.

- Two SNUG student papers have been accepted.

2. One of the key obligations for the Synopsys engagement is for JU to become a nodal training hub in Eastern India.

- Multiple challenges to launch this initiative.

    o Software license not purchased yet due to JU administrative delays. With the appointment of a new VC, the process is now moving, although at a slow pace. Without a purchased license, the external paid training cannot be initiated.

    o Faculties are required to conduct the external training and cannot be student run only. Not enough faculties are trained through the FDP program yet. Need a solution from JU on this.

    o Courses need to be designed with more emphasis on hands-on training. Mrinal and Amit from Synopsys will help JU to build these modules.

3. Purchase of software, computers, GPUs, Embedded system boards Delays.

- Significant delays observed in the process. GJUAF has categorically raised the concern with JU FO, pro-VC team and have been assured that this will move swiftly from here.

- Tender process, procurement process will unfortunately need grass root follow up from the faculties. While not the most efficient, it was agreed that the JU faculty team will follow up on a regular basis to complete this process.

- Failing to acquire this infrastructure is causing almost a year (one batch of students) to miss out on availing these benefits.

- Need to look beyond JU IT department, employing few faculties and some motivated students to fix the software license installation issues.

4. Overall progress with student trainings, internships, projects, hire:

- Few good progress has been made with focussed training, internship opportunities and hiring that have happened through the MoU partners or network.

- Few good student activities including launching, training and development of student clubs, cross department hands on learning have happened.

- Few good opportunities opened up for students' experiences to attend VLSI conferences, submit papers etc.

- Important follow ups required with the following partners to launch their projects:

  - HCL (Biswadeep): Pending student selection, pending project launch. Follow up required.

  - GlobalFoundries (Shubhankar): Launch of the two projects discussed with GF. Follow up required.

  - IMEC (Shubhankar & Santanu): Need a round of follow up to launch the projects and execute the MoU. Arindam Mullick had not been responsive off late. Shubhankar to follow up with him at DAC in June 2024.

- RISC-V Project:

  - Students need a follow up discussion to understand and break down the initial SoW into project plans for 4 sub-groups.

  - Shubhankar will convene a call with Sayan and the student teams.

- Smart Agriculture:

  - Little to no practical progress noticed in the hardware design to gather experimental data.

  - Kishalay from the Observer team is willing to guide identified students but strongly needs to identify a motivated lead on the project at JU. It may be a faculty or it may be a senior student.

Thank you

Shubhankar