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IIT-Gandhinagar wants young blood to hunt for professors

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AHMEDABAD: The best way to solve 'faculty crunch' in institutes is to engage its younger faculty members in the recruitment process. This was advocated by the members of the [Academic Advisory Council](#) of Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar (IIT-Gn) at its meeting on Thursday.

The prominent issue of faculty crunch which prevails in educational institutes across the country was discussed by academicians from different parts of the globe at IIT-Gn on Thursday.

This was the first Academic Advisory Council meeting of IIT-Gn. Nineteen members of the council including director of [Adani Institute of Infrastructure Management](#) (AIIM) Bakul Dholakia; former vice president and provost of California Institute of Technology, USA, Paul Jennings; president of Franklin W Olin College of Engineering, Richard Miller; associate professor at Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Ahmedabad, Raghavan Rangarajan and others attended the meeting.

Discussing on the issue of how to address faculty crunch, the members said that enthusiasm and positive opinions of the younger faculty members about their institutes go a long way towards attracting other faculty members. Moreover, due to their similarities in age and other related factors, younger teachers can really conduct excellent recruitment interviews for newer members.

"Younger teachers encounter no generation gap with the applicants, and therefore they understand and judge them better than senior members," said Jennings. Agreeing to the point, IIT-Gn director Sudhir Jain said that a 27-year-old faculty member at his institute is the star recruiter.

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