

Minutes of the 1st Executive Council Meeting

Date: 26/08/2023 (Saturday) at 09.30 a.m.

Venue: Chairman's Board Room, A-Block, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

MINUTES OF THE 1st EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 26TH AUGUST, 2023.

(Physical and Virtual Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 26th August, 2023 at 09:30 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj
Former Vice-Chairman, UGC, New Delhi : Member
3. Dr. Y. Sarat
Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad : Member
4. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) : Member
5. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : Member
6. Dr. M. Ramakrishna
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
7. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
8. Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore
Dean, IT & LIS, I/c Dean - Admission and
HoD, Dept. of Computing and Informatics
Dean School of Computing and Informatics : Member
9. Prof. L. Suvarna Raju
HoD, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering : Special Invitee
10. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao,
Dean, R&D : Member
11. Prof. P.M.V. Rao, Dean AAA : Special Invitee
12. Prof. Y. Ravishekar
Dean, T&D : Special Invitee
13. Prof. M.S.S. Rukmini
Dean-Students Affairs : Special Invitee
14. Dr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P and
Dean School of Law and Management : Special Invitee
15. Prof. Shaik Jakeer Hussain,
Dean - Infrastructure, Planning & Monitoring : Special Invitee
16. Prof. T. Ramesh Babu,
Dean, School of Agri, Food Science and Tech. : Special Invitee

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| 17. | Dr. N. Srinivasu
Dean School of Applied Sciences and Humanities | : | Special Invitee |
| 18. | Dr. N. Usha Rani
Dean School of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engg. | : | Special Invitee |
| 19. | Prof. T. Pitchaiah
HoD, Dept. of ECE | : | Special Invitee |
| 20. | Prof. T.C. Venkateswarlu, HoD, Dept of BT | : | Special Invitee |
| 21. | Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director of Law | : | Special Invitee |
| 22. | Dr. M. Subba Rao, Assoc. Dean, PCF | : | Representing
Dean,PCF |
| 23. | Dr. Jithendra. Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences | : | Special Invitee |
| 24. | Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar | : | Secretary |

Leave of Absence: The following members have taken the leave of absence.

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| 1. | Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies
IISC, Bengaluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) | : | Member |
| 2. | Prof. B.V.R. Chowdary
Sr. Executive Director, President's Office
NTU, Singapore | : | Member |
| 3. | Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru | : | Member |
| 4. | Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs | : | Member |

Minutes of the 1st Executive Council Meeting

Date: 26/08/2023 [Saturday] at 09:30 a.m.

Item	
	<p>Welcoming the members of the Executive Council by the Registrar.</p> <p>The Chair greeted the members of the Executive Council and welcomed Prof. H. Devaraj to the meeting. The Chair apprised the members about the change of the nomenclature of the Board of Management to Executive Council. After informing the members about the other important engagements of Prof. Lalit M. Patnaik and Prof. BVR Chowdary, for which they couldn't make it to the meeting, the Chair handed over the meeting to the Registrar.</p> <p>The Registrar welcomed the members to the meeting and presented the noteworthy developments in VFSTRU after the 44th Board of Management meeting. He mentioned about the good admissions in VFSTRU for the academic year 2023-24. He brought the news of NBA review visit to five departments viz., CSE, ECE, EEE, Mechanical Engineering and Biotechnology. He informed the members that UGC has extended the deemed to be university status of VFSTRU w.e.f. the year 2021 onwards. The Registrar apprised the members about the three academicians, namely Prof. Subbarangaiah, Director and Head of Veda IIT, Hyderabad; Prof. Bala Subramanian Raman, Professor, Dept. of CSE, IIT Roorkee and Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra, Director, NITTTR, Calcutta, who were brought on board of the Academic Council. The Registrar further informed the members that the Department of Computer Science and Engineering has been shifted to Nagarjuna Bhavan which is now fully operational with all amenities. The Registrar also informed about the conduct of twenty-one faculty recruitment drives that resulted in the appointment of 230 faculty members in various departments.</p> <p>Prof. Devaraj responded to the Registrar's submission and alerted that care should be taken regarding attrition. He proposed to pass a resolution in the meeting that the Executive Council should contemplate and advise the management of VFSTRU on the plans to check attrition particularly at the Assistant Professor stage.</p> <p>Prof. PVGD. Prasada Reddy stated that UGC and Govt. of A.P. have extended the age of superannuation of employees to 65 years to facilitate research and mentoring. He advised the Executive Council to adopt the above-mentioned measure for the staff of VFSTRU. The Chair responded to this point stating that, the policy on extension of service to 65 years for teaching staff has been rolled out in VFSTRU after the 44th Board of Management meeting and coming up for ratification in the first Executive Council Meeting. The Chair stated that after 65, the age can be even further extended to 70 contingent on the significance of the faculty's contribution and exigencies of VFSTRU. When Prof. Devaraj enquired about Professors of Practice, the Chair responded that such measures were already implemented.</p>
1	Confirmation of the Minutes of the 44th Board of Management meeting held on 15th April, 2023.
01/01	The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous BoM meeting. After deliberation, the minutes of 44 th Board of Management meeting were approved.
2	Confirmation of minutes of the 33rd and 34th Academic Council meeting held on 17th June, 2023 and 22nd July, 2023 respectively.
01/02	The minutes of the 33 rd Academic Council meeting were placed before the BoM members for deliberation and approval. After deliberation, the minutes of the 33 rd and 34 th Academic Council meeting were approved.

Actions taken on the decisions of the 44th BoM meeting held on 15.04.2023

Action Point	Action point addressed to	Action Taken
<p>1. The portal of Web of Science should be accessible to all the faculty of Vignan's Institutions.</p>	<p>Dean, T&D</p>	<p>VFSTRU subscribes online portal (which includes Web of Science journals of IEEE and Springer. This portal is exclusively dedicated to VFSTRU as the online journal providers lock the IP address of the university which makes it accessible to university network alone.</p>
<p>2. Deans have to present the status of the research in their respective schools in the first Executive Council.</p>	<p>School Deans</p>	<p>A. School of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engineering The presentations on the status of research in different schools commenced with the Prof. N. Usharani, Dean, SEECE. The Dean presented under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. About SEECE 2. Research clusters 3. Research infrastructure 4. Research outcome 5. Project proposal 6. Industrial grants 7. Research scholars 8. Honors and Minors 9. Seed grants 10. Industry oriented courses 11. Knowledge upgradation 12. Research initiatives 13. Academic initiative leading to research 14. School Research Board 15. Research publications 16. Summary of the Dept. of ECE <p>The Dean stated that the school is working on AIML with special focus on Agriculture data and Medical data. She informed the members that seed grant worth of fifteen lacs was secured by her school. She further informed that Machine learning based automation was the thrust area of her school. She also informed the members that experts from industry were teaching in her department and 12 faculty members were working on Python.</p> <p>Responding to the Dean's presentation, Prof. H. Devaraj advised to generate prototype and secure grant. He also advised the Dean to appoint professor for 6G and improve H-Index. The Dean also presented on the research status of the Departments of EEE and BME.</p>

2. School of Computing and Information:

Dean, SCI Prof. Krishna Kishore presented on the research in his school under the following heads:

1. Research area wise faculty
2. Scholars and publication status
3. Research area wise scholars' strength.
4. Doctoral degree awarded
5. Scholars who submitted their thesis
6. Publication status
7. SCI publication in CSE and IT
8. Road map
9. Strategic plan for the coming three and five years.
10. Thrust area (Machine Learning)

After the presentation, Prof. Devaraj enquired about Professor of Practice for which the Dean responded that there were Professors of Practice who were from Bengaluru on visiting basis. The Dean informed that the H-Index of the school was 28.

The Registrar informed the members that obtaining faculty in Computer Science has become difficult inspite of conducting interviews in Coimbatore, Chennai, Cochin and Bhubaneshwar. He stated that VFSTRU is keen on recruiting post-graduates from IITs, NITs and IEITs.

3.School of Agriculture and Food Technology

HoD Applied Engineering, Dr. Narayana presented on the research in this school under the following heads:

1. Research activity
2. Staff research projects
3. Staff research publications
4. Visiting professors and Professors of practice
5. Ph.D program

The research in the department of Applied Engineering is presented under the following heads:

1. Projects
2. Research publications

The research in the department of FT is presented under the following heads:

1. External funded projects
2. Research publications

4. School of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences

The research in this school was presented under the following heads:

1. Overview of SBTPS
2. Ph.D awards
3. Student strength
4. Research program

The research in the department of Pharmaceutical Sciences was presented under the following heads:

1. Overview of the department of Pharmaceutical Sciences
2. Ph.D programs
3. Action plan for 3 years.

The Chair directed that external candidates i.e. scholars from industry should spend everyday at least one and half hour on critical thinking and weekends on research. The Chair also stated that VFSTRU shall benefit from external candidates. Feedback from external candidates should be taken. When Prof. Devaraj enquired about the placement of BI students, the HoD BT responded that they were placed in TCS. Prof. Devaraj enquired about funding from DBT for which HoD BT and Dean R&D responded that the department had submitted 14 projects.

When the HoD BT mentioned the commencement of M.Tech. Biotechnology, Prof. Devaraj advised to reconsider the same. HoD BT presented the introduction of new courses like Pharm D and Pharmaceutical Engineering and Prof. Devaraj questioned on the availability of faculty. HoD, Pharmacy responded that the department has adequate and qualified faculty to run the above-said programs.

5. School of Core Engineering

The research in this school was presented by Dean, SOCI under following heads:

1. About SOCI
 2. Thrust areas
 3. Programs
 4. Current student intake
 5. Current status of SFR and cadre ratio
 6. Current status of research funding (school wise)
 7. Current status of publication (CoES, MoUs and H-Index)
 8. Future plans from one year and three years.
- Prof. Devaraj advised to improve the package of placement in the school. Vice-Chairman enquired about the SFR in the department from which the Dean responded that it was 1-9.

6. School of Applied Sciences and Humanities: Dean SAS&H presented the research in this school under the following heads:

1. Faculty details
2. Research publication/patents/projects
3. Ph.D details
4. Centers of Excellence: patents, award of Ph.Ds and publications in high indexed journals
5. Action plan for coming two and four years.

		<p>7. School of Law and Management: Dean SL&M presented the research in his school under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Faculty of the school 2. Research scholars 3. Year wise research activity 4. No of scholars awarded Ph.D 5. Research publication / projects 6. FDP and conferences 7. Future plans <p>HoD, VIL presented the research details of his branch under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Programs offered 2. Students' strength 3. Faculty at VIL 4. Research thrust areas 5. Research publications 6. Strategic plan for 3 to 4 years. <p>Prof. Devaraj advised the HoD to improve the strength of the branch and advertise to achieve nation-wide publicity.</p>
<p>3. VLSI course to be given additional stream</p>	<p>HoD ECE</p>	<p>HoD, ECE presented on the existing ECE curriculum stating that one of the important elective under that was VLSI. The HoD stated that, under this curriculum, student can study 8 courses in VLSI specialization with 24 credits. In addition, students can also choose Honours with additional 16 credits in 4 courses in the same domain. The HoD informed that in the current III year, 67 students have registered for elective in VLSI specialization and 40 students have registered for VLSI Honours.</p>

<p>4. 5G And 6G should be the part of the curriculum.</p>	<p>Dean, T&D</p>	<p>Dean TD had presented the 5G and 6G subjects in the Academic Council conducted on 17th June 2023 and obtained approval in principle to introduce 5G and 6G as a minor stream from the forthcoming semester.</p> <p>When Prof. Devaraj enquired about the importance of 5G and 6G, Dean T&D stated that it was the part of day to day life and helps in research.</p> <p>Relating to the discussion above, Dr. Y. Sarat advised that SAS&H could earn its income by conducting PET and BEC exams; teacher training program and exams for school children.</p> <p>Dr. Sarat also advised the Dean, SL&M to make efforts to upgrade his department of MBA to B-School and admit all the local students. Dr. Sarat further advised to the Director, VIL to improve the strength by conducting Town hall programs and other publicity activities for which the Director responded that plans for Judicial Academy and coaching for judicial services exams were in the pipeline. Dr. Sarat further advised to plan for more composite courses. The Registrar responded that from the coming September 10 to October 1st there shall be many activities in the Law School with several notable personalities shall visit the Law School.</p>
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II	Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval
01/03	<p>i. Next one year and three year plans (to be presented by Deans in administrative positions)</p> <p>1. Dean Admissions</p> <p>Dean Admissions presented on the following details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. B.Tech. admissions details B. Admission in M.Tech. C. Ph.D admissions D. Admissions from out of state and country E. No. of merit students F. Average marks in qualifying exam G. Gender wise analysis H. Future plans <p>Prof. Devaraj questioned on the limited number of students in Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering departments. The Vice-Chairman stated that there was good demand for Civil and Mechanical Engineering braches in other colleges and states. He stated that there should be a thorough review of the situation for improvement. The Chair justified the workload of the faculty in these departments by mentioning the minors introduced and the number of CSE students who were opting for minor course in Structural and Smart City Engineering.</p> <p>Dr. Y. Sarat opined that there must have been certain problems with syllabus and perception about the department. He advised that parents should be convinced to join non-CSE branches by explaining the importance of computer minor in other branches.</p> <p>2. Dean AAA</p> <p>Dean AAA presented on this point under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. One-year plan from Dean AAA's office B. Five years plan from Dean AAA's office <p>3. Dean R&D</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Strategies and plans for next one and three years B. Publications C. Joint collaborations D. Books and book chapters E. Projects F. Ph.D admissions G. Ph.Ds awarded H. Scopus citations I. H-Index J. WoS H-Index K. 1-10 index L. Patents M. Patents granted N. Consultancy and active MoUs O. Extension activities P. E-Content platform Q. Strategic plan for next five years <p>3. Dean PCF</p> <p>The Dean presented the current and future plans under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Orientation program B. Policy making and implementation C. Entrepreneurial activities D. Collaborative activities

4. Dean T&D

The Dean presented the current and future plans under the following heads:

- A. Software development
- B. Hardware infrastructure
- C. Library infrastructure

5. Dean SA

The Dean presented the current and future plans under the following heads:

- A. Gallery at sports ground
- B. Yoga Hall
- C. Flood lights in grounds

6. Dean, IQAC

The Dean presented the current and future plans under the following heads:

- A. One-year plan
- B. Accreditation and certification
- C. Rankings
- D. Collaborations

The agenda point was discussed and approved by the Executive Council.

7. Dean IPM

Under the agenda item for discussion and approval, Dean, PM&B presented the VISION document as below:

1. Various buildings and their area.

Sl.No.	Building	Built up area (Sq.mts.)	Floor area(Sq.mts.)
01.	Vishwesharayya Bhavan	3037.87	12267.86
02.	Aryabhatta Bhavan	3719.2	17538.41
03.	Bhuvana Vijayam	2978.95	15991.93
04.	Pharmacy Block	1084.8	4339.58
05.	NTR Vignan Library	1475.65	5902.6
06.	Nagarjuna Bhavan	46424.15	46424.15

2. Proposed plan required for next three years:

Total area required	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27
	13,480 Sq.mts.	7958 Sq.mts.	8561 Sq.mts.

3. Budget

Academic Year	Area SFT	Cost per SFT	Total cost in crores
2024-25	13480	20000	35.85
2025-26	7958	22000	23.28
2026-27	8561	24000	27.55

4. Future Plans:

Part-3 and Part-4 of Nagarjuna Bhavan will be ready.

Annapurna Block construction with 40 Classrooms and 28 Laboratories

Since the number of sections will increase every year, a separate building must be required for the first year with 60 classrooms and 20 laboratories

No. of sections - 169

Total classrooms - 119

Decision: After extensive deliberation, the agenda point was approved.

01/04	<p>ii. Examination results of the academic year 2022-23 (II semester). (presented by Dean AAA) Dean AAA presented the examination results of the academic year 2022-23 by comparing the aggregate result of I, II, III and IV B.Tech. II semester of the present year with that of previous two years. Decision: The agenda point was discussed and approved by the Executive Council.</p>
01/05	<p>iii. Details of students eligible to receive degrees during the 11th Convocation-2023. (presented by Dean AAA) Dean, AAA presented this topic by presenting the details of students who shall receive their degrees in the forthcoming 11th Convocation. The Dean stated that a total of 1767 students (including Ph.Ds) shall receive their degrees. Decision: The agenda point was discussed and approved by the Executive Council.</p>
01/06	<p>iv. Admissions for the year 2023-24. (presented by Dean Admissions) Dean Admissions presented this agenda point. Decision: The agenda point was discussed and approved by the Executive Council</p>
01/07	<p>v. Vision document of VFSTR (presented by Prof. A. Sharada) Prof. A. Sharada presented the Vision document of VFSTR under the following heads: The Dean further discussed the Vision document under the heads given under Preamble 1. Vision / Mission 2. Genesis 3. Pillars of VISION document a. Pillar I Academic progress and curriculum Pillar II a. Teaching - Learning process b. Research and innovations c. Student support and progression Pillar III Research and innovation Pillar IV Student outcome Pillar V Human resource Pillar VI Infrastructure Decision: The external members directed that the document be sent by email to all concerned for their suggestions if any. If there are no suggestions the agenda point is deemed to be approved.</p>
III	<p>Agenda Items for Information</p>
01/08	<p>i. Status of research activities (presented by Dean R&D) The Dean R&D presented the status of research activities under the following heads: 1. Focussed research areas 2. Publications 3. Citations 4. H-Index 5. Impact factor 6. Funded research projects 7. Patents 8. Ph.Ds awarded</p>

01/09	<p>ii. Establishment of Department of Social Science and Humanities under the School of Applied Science and Humanities. (presented by Dean AAA)</p> <p>The Dean presented that with a view to enhance research culture in various domains of Social Sciences and Humanities and strengthen Vignan's Civil Services Academy by enriching with experts from other domains, the establishment of the Department of Social Sciences and Humanities under the School of Applied Sciences and Humanities and restructuring of the Department of English and the Department of T&P was authorised vide proceedings of Registrar dated 27th July 2023.</p>
01/10	<p>iii. Continuation of Deemed to be University status by Ministry of Education (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar presented on the continuation of deemed to be university for VFSTRU by the Ministry of Education vide the Gazette of India publication Part 1 section 1 dated 27th July, 2023.</p>
iv	<p>Agenda Items for Ratification</p>
01/11	<p>(i) Superannuation of Teaching Staff and Terms of Conditions for their Re-engagement (presented by Dean PCF)</p> <p>Dean PCF presented this agenda point which discussed the superannuation of teaching staff on attainment of 65 years of age and terms of conditions for their re-engagement.</p> <p>This agenda point was ratified after thorough discussion.</p>
01/12	<p>(ii) Appointment of Visiting Professors and Professors of Practice (presented by Dean AHS).</p> <p>The Dean AHS presented the details of five Visiting Professors and two Professors of Practice in the Department of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences on 24th July, 2023.</p> <p>This agenda point was ratified after thorough discussion.</p>
01/13	<p>(iii) Recruitment of faculty since the last BoM meeting held on 15th April, 2023. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar presented the details of faculty recruitment since the last BoM meeting held on held on 15th April, 2023. He presented that out of the 231 candidates selected, 70 faculty have joined VFSTRU.</p> <p>This agenda point was ratified after thorough discussion.</p>
01/14	<p>(iv) List of Teaching and Non-teaching staff joined and relieved since the last meeting held on 15th April, 2023. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar presented that since the last BoM meeting held on 15th April, 2023, total 70 teaching and 48 non-teaching staff joined VFSTRU. The Registrar further presented that in the same above-said duration, 26 teaching and 18 non-teaching staff were relieved from VFSTRU.</p> <p>This agenda point was ratified after thorough discussion.</p>

The following action points was pronounced during the 1st Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	There should be integration of syllabus of Law with that of Engineering courses.	Director, VIL
2.	Director, VIL should develop courses in Cyber Security in consultation with the department of Computer Science.	Director, VIL
3.	Arbitration and Mediation courses, certification courses, conferences should be organised in VIL. There should be an action plan for strength improvement in VIL	Director, VIL
4.	Dean Admissions should discuss with HoDs of Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering to evolve an action plan to increase admissions in the departments with less enrolment.	Dean Admissions HoD, Civil Engg. HoD, Mechanical Engg.
5.	There should be improvement and modification of standards of counselling with the active participation of the departments during counselling for admissions.	Dean Admissions
6.	Departments offering M.Tech. Programs should choose the right specializations and offer these programs in collaboration with industry	HODs of concerned depts.

Having discussed all the agenda points, the meeting was adjourned.


4.9.23

REGISTRAR


VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University)

VADLAMUDI-522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA


4/9/23

VICE-CHANCELLOR

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University)

VADLAMUDI-522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA

Minutes of the 2nd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 23/10/2023 (Monday) at 09.00 a.m.

Venue: Chairman's Board Room, A-Block, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

MINUTES OF THE 2nd EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23rd October, 2023.

(Physical and Virtual Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 23rd October, 2023 at 09:00 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Nagabhusan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Prof. P. Nagabhusan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj
Former Vice-Chairman, UGC, New Delhi : Member
3. Dr. Y. Sarat
Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad : Member
4. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies
IISC, Bengaluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : Member
5. Prof. B.V.R. Chowdary (virtual mode)
Sr. Executive Director, President's Office
NTU, Singapore : Member
6. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : Member
7. Dr. Yarlagadda Jyothi
(Representing Dr. M. Ramakrishna) : Member
8. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs : Member
9. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
10. Prof. Kaki Venkata Rao
HoD, Dept. of Mechanical Engineering : Special Invitee
11. Prof. P.M.V. Rao, Dean AAA : Special Invitee
12. Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director of Law : Special Invitee
13. Dr. M. Karthikeyan, HoD, Dept. of Civil Engineering : Special Invitee
14. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar : Secretary
15. Mr. N.S.N. Murthy, Finance Officer : Special Invitee

Leave of Absence: The following members have taken the leave of absence.

1. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy
Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, Vizag : Member
2. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Former-Vice President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : Member
3. Dr. Anandrup Goswami
Assoc. Professor, Dept. of Chemistry : Member

Minutes of the 2nd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 23/10/2023 [Monday] at 09:00 a.m.

Item		
	<p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The 2nd Executive Council meeting commenced with welcome greetings of the Chair to all the members of the council. The Chair shared Dusherra wishes to all the members and handed over the meeting to the Registrar. The Registrar welcomed the members of the Executive Council who were present both physically and virtually. He also welcomed the Prof. Kaki Venkata Rao (the new internal member) who took over the charge as the new HoD of the Department of Mechanical Engineering from the erstwhile HoD, Dr. L.S. Raju.</p>	
I	<p>Confirmation of the Minutes of the 45th BOM (1st Executive Council) held on 26th August, 2023.</p>	
02/01	<p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Executive Council meeting. Salient points: 1. Students (including scholars receiving Ph.D.s degrees) (1767) in the scheduled 11th Convocation of VFSTRU. 2. Admissions for the academic year 2023-24. 3. Vision document of VFSTRU. After deliberation, the minutes of the 1st Executive Council meeting were approved.</p>	
II.	<p>Actions taken on the decisions of the 1st Executive Council meeting held on 26.08.2023</p>	
Action Point	Action point addressed to	Action Taken
<p>1. The syllabus of Law should be integrated with that of Engineering courses.</p>	<p>Director, VIL</p>	<p>The following courses were included in the R-20 and R-22 for B.A. LL. B (Hons.) and B.B.A. - LL.B. (Hons.) to integrate legal education with science and technology. a. Basic Computer and IT skills. (20LA006) b. Natural Resources and Energy Law. (20LA055) c. Information Technology, Cyber Security and Law. (20LA056) d. Patent Law and Technology Transfer Laws. (22LA904) e. Trade secret, Trade Mark and Design. (20LA061) f. Air and Space Laws. (20LA062) g. Forensic Science and Law. (20LA065)</p>
<p>2. Director, VIL should develop courses in Cyber Security in consultation with the Department of Computer Science.</p>	<p>Director, VIL</p>	<p>VIL offers a Minor course entitled “Cyber Law, IPR and Constitutional Laws” to all the Engineering students with the following subjects: a. Constitutional Law (22LW901) b. Copyright, Trademark and Design Law (22LW902) c. Cyber Security and IT Laws (22LW903) d. Patent Act and Technology Transfer Laws (22LW904) e. Right to Information Act (22LW905)</p>

<p>3. Arbitration and Mediation courses, certificate courses, and conferences should be organized in VIL. There should be an action plan for strength improvement in VIL.</p>	<p>Director, VIL</p>	<p>The following events were conducted by VIL in this regard after 1st Executive Council meeting.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. First International Conference on “Protection of Child Rights” was conducted on 23-09-2023 at VFSTRU campus. b. Workshop on “Recent Developments in Criminal Laws in India” was conducted at VFSTRU under the aegis of VIL under the expertise of Prof. Anup Surendranath, Professor of Law, NLU, Delhi on 14-10-2023. c. VIL planned to organize a Free Legal Aid Camp on 16-10-2023 at one of the VFSTRU adopted villages.
<p>4. Dean Admissions should discuss with HoDs of Civil Engineering and Mechanical Engineering to evolve an action plan to increase admissions in the departments with low admission rate.</p>	<p>HoD, Civil Engg.</p> <p>HoD, Mech. Engg.</p>	<p>HoD, Civil Engineering: The following action plan is designed to increased the admissions in the Department of Civil Engineering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Involvement of students in projects of University. b. Involvement of students in the construction and maintenance activities of University. c. Involvement of students in construction and maintenance of consultancy projects. d. Placement of students. <p>HoD, Mechanical Engineering: The following action plan is designed to increase the admissions in the D Department of Mechanical Engineering:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Advertising the infrastructure in the department. b. Strengthening the curriculum and including employment-oriented and value-added courses. c. Grant of scholarships d. Placements for students. e. Sharing alumni success stories. f. Using alumni and admitted students for peer to peer network. g. Writing blogs/articles on the achievement of present students. i. Sharing the success stories of faculty. j. Organizing competitions and events in the nearby junior colleges. <p>The aforesaid activities will be implemented from the third week of November, 2023. Faculty, scholars and non-teaching staff will coordinate the activities with help of students under the guidance of Admissions Coordinator Dr. T. Ch. Anil Kumar.</p>

<p>5. There should be improvement and modification of the standards of counselling with active participation of the departments during counselling for admissions.</p>	<p>Dean, Admissions</p>	<p>For the upcoming 2024-25 admissions counselling process, a phase of exclusive counselling for branches in less demand was planned to create awareness about the opportunities in different engineering disciplines for parents as well as prospective students. From every department, one admission coordinator, preferably senior faculty will address the availability of infrastructural facilities, expertise of the faculty, career-oriented training for assured placements as well as the opportunities for higher education. The coordinators will arrange department visits for interested parents to showcase their department labs and achievements. In addition to the above, one department specific brochure will be made available to parents.</p> <p>Enclosure - II (Pg. no. 25-26)</p>
<p>6. Departments offering M.Tech. programs should choose the right specializations and offer these programs in collaboration with industry.</p>	<p>HoDs of concerned departments.</p>	<p>The action taken report on this action point will be presented in the next meeting of the Executive Council.</p>

III.	Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval
<p>02/02</p>	<p>i. Details of students eligible to receive degrees during the 11th Convocation 2023 - Presented by Dean, AAA.</p> <p>The Dean stated that, in the 1st Executive Council meeting, approval was accorded to award degrees for 1767 students including P.hd. scholars. This number increased to 1825 with the addition of 58 students (inclusive of scholars) after their promotion in the supplementary exams (for students) and successful completion of the scholars' defence after the 1st Executive Council meeting.</p> <p>The Dean presented that 59 scholars distributed across the branches would receive their doctoral degrees in the 11th Convocation. The Dean presented that in the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th convocations, the number of students inclusive of scholars, who received and shall receive their degrees was 1569, 1866, 1821, 1842 and 1825 respectively.</p> <p>The Dean also presented that total 48 awards would be bestowed to students for their exemplary performance in academic and extra-curricular activities.</p> <p>The Registrar mooted this point, regarding the award of degrees to the eligible students and scholars, for the approval of the Executive Council. The Council gave its approval, for the above-said award of degrees, after deliberation.</p>

<p>02/03</p>	<p>ii. Chief Guest of the 11th Convocation and conferment of Honorary Doctorate degrees (Honoris Causa) to Guests of Honour - Presented by the Chief Coordinator of the convocation.</p> <p>The Chief Coordinator of the 11th Convocation informed that the convocation would commence at 1:30 PM on 23rd October, 2023 at the university campus. A total 1825 students would receive their degrees out of which 1266 students receive their degrees in person while the rest of the above-said number would receive their degrees in absentia.</p> <p>The Chief Coordinator also informed that Hon'ble Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Govt. of India Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman would grace the occasion as the Chief Guest.</p> <p>A committee was constituted to select three eminent personalities reputed for their distinguished contribution in their fields of work, and the committee recommended the following personalities for the award of Honoris Causa:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Dr. P. Subba Rao Pavuluri Founder, Ananth Technologies, Hyderabad b. Dr. S.P. Vasireddy Executive Chairman, Vimta Labs Ltd. Hyderabad c. Ms. Koneru Humpy Padma Shri Awardee - 2007 and Indian Woman Grand Master (Chess) <p>The Chief Coordinator further informed the members that Dr. Subba Rao and Dr. S.P. Vasireddy would be awarded Doctor of Science and Ms. Koneru Humpy would be awarded Doctor of Letters in this 11th Convocation.</p> <p>The proposal to award the honorary doctoral degrees to the above-said Guests of Honour was mooted by the Registrar before the Executive Council. The Council discussed the same and gave its approval.</p>
<p>02/04</p>	<p>iii. Establishment of Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad - Presented by Assoc. Dean, IQAC.</p> <p>Dr. Y. Jyothi, Assoc. Dean IQAC presented the status of establishment of VFSTR Off Campus Centre at Hyderabad. The Dr. Jyothi stated that the proposals for commencing B.Tech. (8 courses), Bachelors degree (4 courses), PG programs (8 programs) Ph.D. (6 programs) were sent for the approval of UGC pending inspection. The intake of students will be 1500. Prof. Patnaik enquired on the existence of any other Off campus centres under Vignan.</p> <p>She presented that 100 seats for Pharmacy were also sanctioned. Forty-one faculty will be recruited which maintains the Student - Teacher ratio at 1: 18. The inspection by UGC shall be in the month of November. This centre shall be known as Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research - Off Campus Centre.</p> <p>The Registrar mentioned that the EC Members had earlier given their Approval-In-Principle for the proposal. He sought the formal approval from the members.</p> <p>After deliberation, the proposal was approved.</p>


IV	Agenda Items for Information
02/05	<p>i. ABET Peer Team and NBA observer visit between 9th and 11th October 2023 for accreditation of five programs namely BT, CSE, ECE, EEE and Mechanical Engineering - Presented by Dr. Jyothi, Associate Dean, IQAC.</p> <p>Dr. Jyothi, Assoc Dean IQAC informed that until then only 75 institutions in India have ABET accreditation and with this effort, VFSTRU shall be the first institution in Andhra Pradesh that would be accredited by ABET. Ten members of the ABET Team formed into three commissions such as EAC, CAC and ANSAC conducted the ABET accreditation process from 09-Oct 2023 to 11-Oct-2023. NBA observer Dr. Shyam Sunder Pattnaik was also the part of the team.</p> <p>Dr. Y. Jyothi stated that Mechanical Engineering was likely to get accreditation for six years while the Department of Biotechnology (with one concern) was on the path of eligibility for accreditation.</p> <p>Dr. Jyothi explained to the members that the Department of ECE was given one year of time for standardisation and in a period of 30 days the department shall clear the concerns related to course design. The Department of EEE had concerns regarding course execution according to which the PEOs of the department were matching with the Student Outcomes for which PEOs should be refined. The Assoc. Dean stated that the Department of CSE has the issue of weakness in curriculum where there was an overlook of professional ethics in teaching - learning process. The global and local impact of the course was pointed by the team. Similar to the Department of EEE, the Department of CSE had PEOs similar to the Student Outcomes and ABET expects outcome attainment of students in every program. She mentioned that the ABET Team responded positively on the areas like infrastructure and HR.</p> <p>Pro. Patnaik stated that the industry demands shall be keenly observed and respected for the design and execution of any course. Dr. Sarat responded that the inputs given by the ABET Team should be noted and implemented. The Assoc. Dean also mentioned that in coming months, the response from ABET shall be positive and they had provisionally sent an email of satisfaction. The Chair directed the Assoc. Dean to send a mail of appreciation to all the concerned.</p> <p>Prof. H. Devaraj advised on the achievement of brand equity for VFSTRU. The Chair responded that the outgoing students shall build the brand equity of the institution. When Dr. Y. Sarath advised for the strengthening of alumni association suggesting the advantage that could be derived from the professional connections, the Chair responded that students still need time to stabilize professionally. Prof. H. Devaraj enquired on the locations of the students' placement for which the Chair responded that they were placed in cities like Bengaluru and Chennai. Prof. Devaraj also stressed on the point to build alumni relations which would help in the funding process if nurtured properly. Dr. Sarath also supported the idea stating that youngsters work hard and their inputs should be welcomed.</p>
V	Agenda Items for Ratification
02/06	<p>Superannuation of non-teaching staff and terms of conditions for their reengagement - Presented by Dean CPF.</p> <p>The Dean CPF presented the point stating the proposals for the administration of superannuating non-teaching staff for the ratification of the Council.</p> <p>The Council ratified the agenda after deliberations.</p>

VI	Table Agenda
02/07	<p>Grant of gratuity to employees of VFSTR.</p> <p>The Chair mooted this agenda point stating that a specially constituted in-house committee recommended that gratuity should be given to employees of VFSTRU. He stated that the recommendations should be referred to Finance Committee for further action. In this regard, he also directed that a more inclusive sub-committee with Dr.Y.Sarat, EC Member as chairman with Shri. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu, Member of EC, Dr. D.Vijay Krishna, Dean T&P, Mr. N.S.N. Murthy, Finance Officer and Registrar to look into this aspect to reach a logical conclusion.</p>

The following action points were pronounced during the 2nd Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	The meetings of finance committee should not have a gap of more than six months.	Finance Officer
2.	A sub-committee comprising with Dr.Y.Sarat (Chairman), Finance Officer, Registrar, Dr. D.Vijay Krishna, Dean T&P and Shri. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu, Member of EC, should look into the grant of gratuity for the employees of VFSTRU.	Finance Officer

Having discussed all the agenda points, the meeting was adjourned.



REGISTRAR

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University)

VADLAMUDI - 522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P, INDIA.



VICE-CHANCELLOR

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University)

VADLAMUDI - 522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P, INDIA.

Minutes of the 3rd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 24/02/2024 (Saturday) at 09.30 a.m.

Venue: Chairman's Board Room, A-Block, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

MINUTES OF THE 3rd EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th February, 2024.

(Physical and Virtual Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 24th February, 2024 at 09:30 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj
Former Vice-Chairman, UGC, New Delhi : Member
3. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) : Member
4. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies
IISC, Bengaluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : Member
5. Prof. B.V.R. Chowdary
Sr. Executive Director, President's Office
NTU, Singapore : Member
6. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : Member
7. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : Member
8. Shri. P Murali Manohar : UGC Nominee
Former-Member Secretary
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education
Hyderabad
9. Dr. M. Ramakrishna : Member
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE
10. Dr. D. Vijayaramu : Member
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs
11. Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore : Special Invitee
Dean, IT & LIS, I/c Dean - Admission and
HoD, Dept. of Computing and Informatics
Dean School of Computing and Informatics
12. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, : Special Invitee
Dean, R&D
13. Prof. P.M.V. Rao, Dean AAA : Special Invitee
14. Prof. M.S.S. Rukmini : Special Invitee
Dean-Students Affairs
15. Dr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P and : Special Invitee
Dean School of Law and Management

16.	Prof. Shaik Jakeer Hussain, Dean - Infrastructure, Planning & Monitoring	:	Special Invitee
17.	Prof. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, School of Agri, Food Science and Tech.	:	Special Invitee
18.	Dr. N. Srinivasu Dean School of Applied Sciences and Humanities	:	Special Invitee
19.	Dr. N. Usha Rani Dean School of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engg.	:	Special Invitee
20.	Prof.A. Sharada Dean-International Students	:	Special Invitee
21.	Prof. T. Pitchaiah HoD, Dept. of ECE	:	Special Invitee
22.	Prof. T.C. Venkateswarlu, HoD, Dept of BT	:	Special Invitee
23.	Dr. Jithendra. Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences	:	Special Invitee
24.	Prof.D Venkatesulu HoD. Dept of ACSI	:	Special Invitee
25.	Dr.PVS Sobhan HoD, Dept. of EEE	:	Special Invitee
26.	Dr.N Narayana Rao HoD, Dept. of Applied Engineering	:	Special Invitee
27.	Dr.M Karthikeyan HoD, Dept. of Civil Engineering	:	Special Invitee
28.	Mr.T.Ch.Anil Kumar HoD, Dept. of Mech.Engineering	:	Special Invitee
29.	Prof.K Venkata Rao Prof. Dept. of Mech. Engg.	:	Member
30.	Dr.Anadarup Goswami Assoc.Prof. Dept. Of Chemistry	:	Member
31.	Dr.GSR Satyanarayana Asst.Prof. of ECE	:	Member
32.	Dr.Irshaan Syed Co-ordinator Food Technology	:	Special Invitee
33.	Mr.V.Srikanth Asst.Finance Officer, VFSTR	:	Special Invitee
34.	Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar	:	Secretary

Leave of Absence: The following members have taken the leave of absence.

1.	Dr. Y. Sarat Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad	:	Member
2.	Prof. Y. Ravishekar Dean, T&D	:	Special Invitee
3.	Mr.Ch Govardhan Rao, Co-ordinator of Textile Technology	:	Special Invitee
4.	Mr.N.S.N. Murthy Finance Officer	:	Special Invitee

Minutes of the 3rd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 24/02/2024 [Saturday] at 09:30 a.m.

Item	
I.	<p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The 3rd Executive Council meeting commenced with the welcome greetings by the Chair addressed to all the members of the council. The Chair remarked on the latest development of indication by UGC to commence the Off-Campus of VFSTRU at Hyderabad. He thanked Prof. H. Devaraj and Prof. BVR Chowdari for their enquires about him. He appreciated Prof. Lalith M Patnaik for his energy during the convocation. The Chair also appreciated Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy for his second stint as Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University. The Chair then handed over the meeting to the Registrar.</p> <p>The Registrar formally welcomed all the members of the Executive Council and informed that Prof. BVR Chowdari had taken a provost position at National University of Singapore. He thanked for the presence of Prof. Devaraj, Prof. Patnaik and Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy. He specially thanked the UGC nominee Mr. Murali Manohar for his first meeting and presented the profile of the former.</p> <p>The Registrar also brought to the notice of the members the practice of students attending the EC meeting as observers to witness and learn from the proceedings of the council meeting.</p>
II.	<p>Confirmation of the minutes of the 2nd Executive Council meeting held on 23rd October, 2023 and the minutes of 35th Academic Council meeting held on 16th December, 2023</p>
03/01	<p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Executive Council meeting.</p> <p>After deliberation, the minutes of the 2nd Executive Council meeting were approved.</p> <p>Then the Registrar read out the salient features of 35th Academic council meeting and after deliberation the minutes of the same were also approved.</p>

III. Actions taken on the decisions of the 2nd Executive Council meeting held on 23.10.2023

Action Point	Action point addressed to	Action Taken
1. Departments offering M.Tech. programs should choose the right specializations and offer these programs in collaboration with industry.	HoDs of concerned departments	<p>(I)HoD, Food Technology, presenting the action taken report stated that they have carefully considered the recommendations to align M.Tech. program to the needs of the industry and decided to offer the following specializations as per the recommendations of the external experts of BoS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Safety and Quality Assurance (five students on rolls) 2. Food Business and Management 3. Food Engineering <p>The HoD stated that the curricula was designed viewing the latest advancements in the specialized field ensuring that students were well equipped with the necessary skills to meet the demands of the industry. The HoD also stated that preliminary discussions were initiated with key stakeholders for internships and research projects for the students in the next academic</p>

year.

After the presentation by the HoD, Prof. Devaraj questioned the rationale in continuing the course with such a smaller number of students. The HoD answered this question by stating that they were making all efforts to increase the strength in courses by creating awareness in the student community about the value of these courses.

(II) Following HoD, Food Technology, the next presentation was made by HoD, EEE who stated that the industry presence in the neighboring areas was limited mostly MSMEs which adopt basic technology. Expecting professional alliance with them would be futile. So, the HoD stated, a new M.Tech. course in Electrical Vehicle Technology (EVT) which has the potential to integrate the industry with the university in a give and take manner.

The Chair enquired the rationale of the department to continue this course with limited number of students for which the HoD, EEE answered that initially when the course was commenced it attracted good number of students and efforts were on to increase the strength in future.

(III) HoD, Biotechnology presented that following the recommendations from previous Executive Council meeting, the Department of Biotechnology has identified Virchow Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad as the potential industry collaborator to sponsor M.Tech. in Biotechnology. He stated that admissions during the previous year were good and the Directors of Virchow had accepted to sponsor 18 students into the M.Tech program. Efforts were on to revise the curriculum accordingly.

Answering Prof. Devaraj's query on placements, the HoD said that 36 students were placed from the department.

Dr. ES Chakravathi questioned on the special feature of the course and the support that be obtained from Virchow. The HoD responded that a sum of Rs. 42 lakhs will be sponsored by the company to the students of M.Tech. program. He also mentioned about the MoU with Virchow in this regard.

Dr. Chakravarthi explained the importance of having a benchmark to emulate and compete and asked the HoD about the potential benchmarks for him in academy for the department of BT in VFSTRU. The HoD answered that they have the benchmark institutions like IIT Madras, NIT Warangal, and Andhra University.

Prof. BVR Chowdari advised to prepare groundwork to admit at least 25 students.

(IV) HoD Mechanical Engineering stated that

admissions in M.Tech. were nil in the previous course because of the shift to automation by industry after Covid. He stated that post Covid, 23,000 industrial robots were designed and deployed. Consequently, the demand for the specialized courses in robotics has tremendously increased. He stated that the alumni were also opting for robotics. He also stated that in view of the developments, M.Tech. in Robotics and Smart Manufacturing should have very good demand. He also mentioned that five industries in Coimbatore and Bengaluru which the department has contacted for collaboration. Based on their inputs, the course curriculum would be designed. The course would be offered from 2025 and ground work for that commenced.

Dr. ES Chakravarthi questioned on the reasons for the closure of previous M.Tech. course and advised to practice research which shall help to make the decisions more rationally. There should be a review of the course for every two years to make it more viable and the curriculum should always be very clear and comprehensive.

Prof. Patnaik advised that considering the dwindling M.Tech. admissions, a concrete plan is needed to improve the situation.

(V) HoD CSE stated that 14 out of 18 seats in M.Tech. CSE were filled in the AY 2023-24 and efforts were on build tie-ups with industry. The curriculum was revised as per the NEP guidelines and the recommendations of BoS experts. In the current trend of slump in placements, the department has decided to offer stream-wise electives in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Data Science and Cyber Security.

Dr. Chakravarthi advised to dovetail the B.Tech. students to join M.Tech. and employ their services as faculty in name of Teaching Assistants. He stated that this advice shall apply to the Department of Mechanical Engineering as well.

The Chair stated that courses should not be mere industry based, but they should be industry inspired because if the industry base changes, the course in M.Tech. would become redundant.

A M.Tech program should be an integration of both finishing school concept catering to the industry needs and a good forecasting mechanism taking the industry forward to the future.

M.Tech. programs should attract industry personnel and the program should be interdisciplinary. Hybridization of knowledge is needed to study the market needs.

2. The meetings of Finance Committee should not have a gap of more than six months	Finance Officer	Finance Committee meeting was held on 10-11-23
3. A sub-committee comprising Dr. Y. Sarat, Member EC (Chairman), Finance Officer (Convenor), Registrar, Dr. D. Vijay Shri L. Krishna Devarayulu, (both members of EC should look into the grant of gratuity for the employees of VFSTRU	Finance Officer	A sub-committee is constituted for studying the possibility and modality of granting gratuity to the staff and the report of the sub-committee would be tabled in the next Finance Committee meeting and eventually the next EC meeting.

IV	Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval
03/02	<p>I. Students intake for commencement of Pharm.D (Doctoral) program with the maximum strength of 30 and M.Pharmacy (PG) program with a maximum strength of 15 by the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dr. Ch. Jitendra, HoD, Pharmacy</p> <p>HoD Pharmacy stated that after taking approval of BoS in the 7th BoS meeting held on 08-02-2024, the Department of Pharmacy is all set for the commencement of Pharm.D (with intake of 30 students) and Master of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Specialization) with an intake of 15 students. The department signed MoUs with Ramesh Hospitals, Lalitha Super-speciality Hospital, Guntur and Aditya Super-speciality Hospital, Guntur to achieve the objectives of these programs. The demand from foreign students and students from other states had inspired for the commencement of these programs with no additional demand for infrastructure.</p> <p>Dean Admissions stated that admissions in other colleges are full.</p> <p>Dr. ES Chakravarthi enquired on the credentials of Pharmacy college like ranking and accreditation. The HoD responded that VFSTRU's Pharmacy department has the approval of Pharmacy Council of India and also the accreditation by NAAC and NBA. The former then advised to have a bench mark institution like JAYCEES and others.</p> <p>Prof. Devaraj enquired on the status of placements in VFSTRU Pharmacy department and assured to support the department in matters related to PCI. However, Prof. Devaraj opined that the deliberation and decision on this point should be deferred and any such proceedings should be subject to the participation of Dr. Y. Sarat, Member Executive Council.</p> <p>Decision: The Matter may be discussed with Dr. Y Sarat, Member Executive Council in view of his expertise in this discipline. Based on his direction the proposal may be taken forward and it may be brought before the next Executive Council for ratification.</p>
03/03	<p>II. Commencement of B.Tech. program in Technical Textiles from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Prof. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD Chemical Engineering</p> <p>The department of Textile Technology has taken an initiative to commence a B.Tech. and M.Tech. programs in Technical Textiles based on the high demand across various sectors like healthcare, automotive and aerospace etc. The wide application of technical textiles in diverse fields like smart textiles and protective clothing also inspired the commencement of these programs at</p>

	<p>VFSTRU. Responding to the application for financial support from Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India under NTTM scheme, the ministry sanctioned Rs. 915 lakhs which was split to equip laboratory with 865 lakhs and provision of training with Rs. 50 lakhs. The funding ensures that students will have access to cutting edge facilities and provide hands on experience in world of technical textiles. Dr. Chakravarthi enquired on the contacts with textile industries for which Prof. Ramesh Naidu answered that the department has MoUs with textile industries.</p> <p>Decision: After deliberation, the Registrar sought the approval of this proposal and the Executive Council gave its approval.</p>
03/04	<p>III. Students' intake for VFSTR and Off-Campus for the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dean Admissions</p> <p>Dean Admissions, Prof. Krishna Kishore proposed that an increment of 630 seats to be sanctioned for the next academic year which shall place the proposed intake strength for AY 2024-25 at 3210. The distribution of this additional strength would be among the courses like CSE (300 seats), AIML (240 seats), DS (60 seats) and Textile Technology (30 seats). The Dean presented the distribution of proposed intake as follows:</p> <p>B.Tech. (3210 seats), M.Tech. (180 seats), Pharmacy (100 seats), Management (BBA -150 seats and MBA -1200 seats), Law (BALLB - 60 seats and BBALLB 60 seats).</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi enquired the reason behind the modest number in the proposed seats for MBA for which Dr. Vijay Krishna responded that competition from other colleges, strict maintenance (which is not liked by many students) and slump in placements were the possible reasons. Dr. Chakravarthi offered to support the MBA department with advisory on Techno-management.</p> <p>The Dean Admissions proposed for the approval of intake strength for Off-campus at Hyderabad which is a total of 1600 seats. The distribution is as follows:</p> <p>B.Tech. (08 programs - 840 seats), UG (210 seats), Pharmacy (100 seats), PG (M.Tech., MBA, and MCA - 342 seats), P.G. (M.Sc. 60 seats) and Ph.D (programs in Engineering, Science, Management and Pharmacy - 48 seats)</p> <p>At this point, the Registrar informed the news about the receipt of Letter of Intent from UGC which is a green signal to commence operations at Hyderabad Off-Campus. Confirmation was also received from the Ministry of Higher Education. He stated that corpus fund of Rs. 25 Crores was deposited and faculty were identified for the Off-Campus. Applications for approval was submitted to AICTE and PCI as well.</p> <p>Decision: After deliberation, the agenda point was approved by the Executive Council.</p>
03/05	<p>IV. Examination Results for the Academic Year 2023-24 - presented by Dean AAA, Prof. PMV Rao</p> <p>The examination results of the previous two years were presented by Dean AAA as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Comparison of aggregate result of I B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (92.21%); year 2023 (87.56%) and year 2022 (88.62%). (II) Comparison of aggregate result of II B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (89.82%); year 2023 (82.04%) and year 2022 (89.05%). (III) Comparison of aggregate result of III B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (91.98%); year 2023 (93.27%) and year 2022 (92.03%). (IV) Comparison of aggregate result of IV B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (96.34%); year 2023 (96.65%) and year 2022 (94.10%). <p>Responding to the query on the reason for the hike in pass percentage (96%), the Dean responded that general transformation of students during three years, pressure of settlement, family pressure, quality of assignments, follow up action after assignments and remedial action in case of slow learners were all responsible for the good results in IV year. The Dean</p>

	<p>mentioned that the results of another 32 examinations pertaining to BBA, BCA, B.Sc. and B. Pharma were in the pipeline.</p> <p>Responding to the query for result in B. Pharmacy, the HoD responded that poor academic background and lack of English language were responsible.</p> <p>In this regard responding to the question of linguistic competence of students hailing from Bihar and African nations, Prof. A. Sharada stated that language improvement classes were going on for the above-mentioned students. She stated that Sudanese students have the problem of acclimatization and absenteeism initially but tend to get streamlined in their second and third years.</p> <p>Decision: After deliberation, the agenda point was approved by the Executive Council.</p>
V.	Agenda Items for Information
03/06	<p>I. Status of Virtual UGC Inspection for Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad.</p> <p>A virtual tour of Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad was presented for the members of Executive Council. The members of the Council applauded the efforts building towards the success of the Off-Campus Centre.</p> <p>Prof. Devaraj raised the question of need for Off-Campus for which Dean IQAC responded saying that Hyderabad was a place with high potential for IT and Pharmacy. The Chair seconded saying that the resources like land, infrastructure and faculty were readily available to commence an Off-Campus at Hyderabad.</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi supported the idea suggesting the benefits of expansion. He stated that Hyderabad was well connected regionally and internationally.</p> <p>Prof. Patnaik stated that every course in degree offered on part-time study basis was available at Hyderabad.</p> <p>Dr. ES Chakravarthi advised for the linking the Off-Campus with VFSTRU, Vadlamudi for the quality teaching reaching out to the Off-Campus. The Chair welcomed this advice and stated that blended mode of teaching can connect all the three campuses of Vignan and already the plans regarding this were discussed with Dean AAA.</p>
03/07	<p>II. Review of ABET Peer team visit during 9th to 11th October 2023 for accreditation of five programs namely BT, CSE, ECE, EEE and Mechanical Engineering.</p> <p>Dean IQAC presented the details of visit of ABET Peer team on the above-said dates to VFSTRU and the various areas of concerns they projected to the departments of CSE, EEE and BT.</p> <p>The Dean stated that for the draft statement of EAC (CSE, ECE, EEE, Mech. Engg. and BT) the due response was submitted to ABET on 09th February, 2024. He also stated that concerning ABET CAC (CSE) the due response was submitted on 09th February 2024. The response from ABET shall be delivered by 9th July 2024.</p>
03/08	<p>III. Status of URB Meeting held o 06-01-24</p> <p>Dean R&D presented this point stating that ten people were identified as experts for URB. And the advice from URB was that all faculty should research in their own domains. The Dean informed the members of the seed grant which would be Rs. 10 lakhs for faculty and Rs. 2 lakhs rupees for students. The following suggestions by URB members were presented by the Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Research areas need to be pruned for more effectiveness based on the current relevance. (II) Associate one expert member from the URB with each SRB based on their expertise to familiarise with the research activities of the school. (III) Organise annual industry meet every year. (IV) Appointment of more Adjunct Professors and Professors of Practice from industry and academia.

- (V) Sanction Seed Grant only for inter-disciplinary proposals.
- (VI) Suggested research areas like AI&ML in Agriculture, pest detection in agriculture sector.
- (VII) Invite societies like IEEE PE, IGDA to organise conferences in VFSTRU.
- (VIII) Faculty should attend top notch conferences.
- (IX) Credits for attending lectures by industry personnel.

Dr. Chakravarthi suggested that there should be AI&ML application for all horizontal branches. And AI&ML plan for the coming five years. The Chair then put forth the research layout of the university under the following heads:

- (a) Funding agencies
- (b) Publications
- (c) Research projects sponsored by government agencies
- (d) Patents granted and published
- (e) Citations of publications from 2021-23

IV. Status of Research Activities

Dean R&D presented the status research activities in the university under the following heads:

- (I) University research focus areas
 - E Mobility
 - 5G/6G/IoT
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Composite materials
 - Waste to wealth
 - AI&ML
 - Anti-cancer drug design
- (II) Research publications progression
 - Accepted journal papers - 160
 - Communicated journal papers - 325
 - Book chapters published - 97
 - Conference papers presented - 252
- (III) Research Projects sponsored by government agencies
 - 2021 - Four projects of 4.19 crores
 - 2022 - Eleven projects of 19.22 crores
 - 2023 - Eleven projects of 13.67 crores
- (IV) Funded research projects
- (V) Research projects sponsored by non-government agencies
- (VI) Citations

<u>WoS</u>	<u>Scopus</u>
2021- 2837	2021- 3482
2022- 4003	2022 - 5746
2023 - 4110	2023 - 7031
- (V) H-Index

<u>WoS</u>	<u>Scopus</u>
2021 - 26	2021 - 31
2022 - 36	2022 - 39
2023 - 47	2023 - 51

03/09

03/10	<p>V. Vignan Mahotsav - 2024 Dean SA presented this agenda point stating that conduct of sports events in three zones and introduction of Cricket championship are the new features of Vignan Mahotsav 2024. A video covering the highlights of Vignan Mahotsav was also screened. The Dean presented the important features of the event as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 477 1516 786"> <tr> <td>No of registrations</td> <td>7495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of states</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of colleges</td> <td>220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of events</td> <td>93 (sports - 50, cultural - 43)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (sponsorship)</td> <td>Rs. 7,95,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (commercial)</td> <td>Rs. 10,85,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (Registrations)</td> <td>Rs. 16,99,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation</td> <td>1530 (Boys - 1170, Girls - 360)</td> </tr> </table>	No of registrations	7495	No of states	20	No of colleges	220	No of events	93 (sports - 50, cultural - 43)	Revenue (sponsorship)	Rs. 7,95,000	Revenue (commercial)	Rs. 10,85,000	Revenue (Registrations)	Rs. 16,99,600	Accommodation	1530 (Boys - 1170, Girls - 360)
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03/11	<p>VI. Establishment of Office of Dean, International Students (DIS) Prof. A. Sharada, Dean IS presented the Mission statement and Goals of the Office of Dean for International Students as follows: Mission Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The mission of the Dean of International Students Office is to foster an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive environment for international students at Vignan's Foundation for Science Technology and Research. ➤ The Office is dedicated to promoting cultural diversity, facilitating cross-culture and enhancing the academic and personal success of the international student community at VFSTR. <p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhance Student Support Services: Academic advising, immigration assistance, orientation programs, and student welfare. ➤ Promote Intercultural Understanding and Engagement: Organize cultural events, workshops, seminars, and intercultural competency training programmers. ➤ Facilitate Academic Success and Integration: Offer academic resources, tutoring services, English language support programmes, ad opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration ad research. ➤ Ensure Compliance with Immigration Regulations: Assist students in maintaining legal status and navigate the procedures of overseas Indian study and immigration system. ➤ Advocate for the Needs for International Students: Address issues related to cultural adjustment, academic challenges, housing, healthcare, and other concerns of international students. <p>She then presented on the country wise distribution of international students.</p>																
03/12	<p>VII. Visit of Foreign Delegates (Israel and Japan) Dean CPF presented on the visit of H.E. Ambassador of Israel to VFSTRU, Mr.Naor Gilon on 10th January which resulted in deliberations to explore collaborative opportunities in agricultural technology, education, research and cultural exchange between India and Israel. The visit aimed at promoting bilateral relations, mutual collaboration, and E-collaboration to leverage the expertise of both nations for the benefit of students. The deliberations also included the exploration of establishment of Centres of Excellence, joint master's and Ph.D programs. From 6th to 8th January, there was a visit of delegates from Japan to explore the</p>																

	<p>future collaborative avenues between VFSTRU and Japanese industries and academia. The visit aimed to improve academic and research quotient. After the presentation, Prof. Chowdari enquired on the implications of these visit for which the Dean mentioned the sponsoring students to Japan according to which, our students should self-finance their hospitality while the transport shall be borne by the host country.</p>
VI.	Agenda Items for Ratification
03/13	<p>I. Leave Encashment Policy The Registrar presented the new Leave Encashment Policy which shall be retrospectively effective from 01-12-2023. Guidelines for encashment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Staff member has to put in minimum 10 Years of service ➤ The staff members should have reached the retirement age (Teaching Staff: 65 years; Non-Teaching Staff:62 years) ➤ The number of leaves to be counted for encashment are the sum of earned leaves and half pay leaves. The total number of leaves considered as basis for calculation of encashment should not exceed 300 days (ELs= 300; HPLs- 240 (120 full days). ➤ This encashment policy is also applicable for the staff who die in harness while is in the active service of VFSTR ➤ This policy is not applicable for the staff members who are dismissed or terminated under disciplinary reasons <p>Encashment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 75% of the leaves eligible for encashment * (Basic +DA) @ one day <p>Decision: After deliberation, the council ratified the agenda point.</p>
03/14	<p>II. Superannuation of Non-Teaching Staff The Registrar presented the details of two teaching and five non-teaching staff who were relieved from duties on attaining superannuation. Decision: After deliberation, the council ratified the agenda point.</p>
03/15	<p>III. No. of recruitments, staff joined and relieved since the first Executive Council meeting held on 26-08-2023. The Registrar presented that a total of 117 teaching staff were recruited in 16 recruitments and 89 on-teaching staff were recruited in 08 recruitments. The Registrar stated that 64 teaching staff (of which 46 were Asst. Professors) joined which included recruitment under CAP, PDF and TRA. Twenty-five teaching faculty and 23 non-teaching staff were relieved from duties on their own request. Decision: The council ratified the agenda point.</p>
	Table Agenda
03/16	<p>Reforms and Policy Development in Research Arena Dean R&D stated that, at the behest of respected Vice-Chairman, to draw measures to retain and attract good researching faculty from premier institutions, a questionnaire was served to faculty from IITs and NITs seeking their response on the matters related to research. The essence of the survey was presented by the Dean in which the responses from faculty were elicited to increase the flexibility factor for research at VFSTRU. Basing on this an action plan was drafted by the Dean R&D which included grant of biennial career development fund (three lakhs per faculty for a period of two years) to cover the expenses related to article processing, and accessing high quality open access journals; expenses related to attending conferences, workshops and filing patents. The survey also evoked responses from the faculty as to establish a Patent Cell and appoint a patent attorney; appointment of research advisors and mentors in each school and organising of staff and scholar's colloquium every fortnight; establishment of labs; provision of time flexibility, hostel accommodation for PG and Ph.D. scholars and faculty accommodation. Prof. Chowdari responded saying that career development fund is practised</p>

everywhere and questioned on the sample size of the survey conducted.

Decision: After deliberation, the council directed the following: -

1. One Committee headed by Dean-R&D should be constituted to look into the problem of the researchers at VFSTRU and propose the remedies for the same.
2. One Committee comprising professor Prof. Lalit M Patnaik (Member Executive Council), Prof. Balasubramanian Prof, CSE IIT Roorkee and Prof. P. Sreenivasa Kumar, Prof. IIT Madras,(both members of Academic Council) to recommend on the modalities to create career development fund for faculty to carry out research besides addressing other issues of concern as brought up by Dean-R&D. .

VII. The following action points were pronounced during the 3rd Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	A white paper on all the proposals concerning the commencement of new M.Tech. programs should be submitted by the concerned HoDs in the next Executive Council Meeting.	HoDs of CSE, ECE, EEE, BT, and Mechanical Engineering
2.	On the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD should discuss the plan with the Vice-Chancellor and convey their decisions to the hon'ble Chairman.	HoD, EEE
3.	Concerning the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD may seek the help of Prof. Patnaik to consult the professors at IITs/IISC. The HoD should also contact BHEL for a clearer prospect on the proposal.	HoD, EEE
4.	The II and III year students should be deployed to teach English classes on remunerative basis to students from Bihar and African students	Dean IS and Dean SA
5.	Two committees should be constituted of which one chaired by Dean R&D shall look into the problems of the researchers at VFSTRU and propose remedies for the same. The second committee shall comprise Prof. Patnaik (Member Executive Council), Prof. Bala Subramanian, Professor, CSE, IIT Roorkee and Prof. Srinivasa Kumar, Professor, IIT, Madras (both members of Academic Council). This committee shall recommend on the modalities to create career development fund for faculty to carry out research besides addressing other issues of concerned as brought up by Dean-R&D. The committee is also mandated to make recommendations towards funded projects sponsored by centre and state governments.	Dean R&D is to co-ordinate both the committees and present the recommendations in the next Executive Council meeting.

Having discussed all the agenda points, the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes of the 4th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 25/05/2024 (Saturday) at 09.30 a.m.

Venue: Chairman's Board Room, A-Block, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

**MINUTES OF THE 4th EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 25th May, 2024.
(Physical and Virtual Mode)**

The members of Executive Council met on 25th May, 2024 at 09:30 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj
Former Vice-Chairman, UGC, New Delhi : External Member
3. Dr. Y. Sarat
Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad : External Member
4. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : External Member
5. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies
IISC, Bengaluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : External Member
6. Dr. M. Ramakrishna
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
7. Prof.K. Venkat Rao,
Professor, Dept. of Mech.Engg : Member
8. Dr.Anandrup Goswami,
Assoc.Prof., Dept. of ECE : Member
9. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
10. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao,
Dean, R&D : Special Invitee
11. Prof. P.M.V. Rao, Dean AAA : Special Invitee
12. Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore
Dean, IT & LIS, I/c Dean - Admission and
HoD, Dept. of Computing and Informatics
Dean School of Computing and Informatics : Special Invitee
13. Prof. G. Srinivasa Rao,
Dean, R&D : Special Invitee
14. Dr. Sk. Jakeer Hussain
Dean, Infrastructure, Planning and Monitoring : Special Invitee
15. Dr. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P
Dean School of Law and Management : Special Invitee
16. Prof. N.Usha Rani, Dean, SEECE : Special Invitee
17. Prof. Y. Ravi Shekhar, Dean, Technology and Development : Special Invitee
18. Prof.N Srinivas, Dean, SAS&H : Special Invitee

19.	Prof. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, SAFT and Director AHS	:	Special Invitee
20.	Prof.A.Sharada, Dean, International Students	:	Special Invitee
21.	Prof. D. Venkatesulu, HoD, Dept. of ACSE and Joint Dean SCI	:	Special Invitee
22.	Prof. N. Veeranjaneyulu, HoD, Dept. of IT, Director, CDOE	:	Special Invitee
23.	Dr.N Narayana Rao, HoD, AE	:	Special Invitee
24.	Prof. T.C. Vekateswarlu, HoD, Bio Technology	:	Special Invitee
25.	Dr. M. Kartikeyan, HoD, Civil Engineering	:	Special Invitee
26.	Prof. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, ECE	:	Special Invitee
27.	Dr. PVS Shoban, HoD, EEE	:	Special Invitee
28.	Mr.T.Ch .Anil Kumar HoD, Mech.Engg.	:	Special Invitee
29.	Prof. Sarita Sathpathy, HoD, MBA	:	Special Invitee
30.	Dr.Ch.Jithendra, HoD, Pharamceutical Sciences	:	Special Invitee
31.	Prof. G .Sitaramanjeaya Reddy, HoD, BME	:	Special Invitee
32.	Prof. P.L.N.Varma, Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Statistics	:	Special Invitee
33.	Prof. M. Sreenivasulu, HoD, Physics	:	Special Invitee
34.	Prof. G. Mohanacharyulu, HoD, English	:	Special Invitee
35.	Prof. Koya Prabhakar Rao, HoD, Chemistry	:	Special Invitee
36.	Prof. K. Kalpana, Interim Director, LAW	:	Special Invitee
37.	Dr.D Adam Stephen, HoD SS&H	:	Special Invitee
38.	Dr.S. Anil Kumar Assoc.Prof., Dept. of Bio.Technology	:	Special Invitee
39.	Dr.N. Sampath Kumar, Joint Dean, AAA	:	Special Invitee
40.	P.R. Gopinathan, Senior Central Government Counsel For Ugc - University Grants Commission, Ministry Of Education, Government Of India	:	Special Guest
41.	Dr.D.Benet Bosco Dhas C.E.O, 30M Genomics Pvt.Ltd. Hyderabad	:	Special Invitee
42.	Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar	:	Secretary

Present through Virtual Mode:

1. Prof. B.V.R. Chowdary
Sr. Executive Director, President's Office
NTU, Singapore : Member
2. Shri.P.Murali Manohar
Former-Member Secretary
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education : UGC Nominee
3. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs : Member

Leave of Absence: The following members have taken the leave of absence.

1. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : Member
2. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) : Member
3. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean - Student Affairs : Special Invitee

Minutes of the 4th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 25/05/2024 [Saturday] at 09:30 a.m.

Item	
	<p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The Chair formally welcomed the members of the 4th Executive Council including the student participants and handed over the meeting to the Registrar for further proceedings. The Registrar greeted and welcomed the members to the Executive Council and requested the Special guest Mr. P.R.Gopinathan to deliver his early remarks.</p> <p>Mr. P.R.Gopinathan, is a senior advocate and legal advisor & Standing council for AICTE and NCTE. He stated that he felt good to visit VFSTR and it was a long pending visit. He said that he experienced positive vibrations the moment he stepped into VFSTR and informed the members that he has thirty-five years of experience in imparting law education. He mentioned that he has four focus areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Department of Law: The aim of the department should be to increase the admissions in the Department of Law. 2. Securing grants: Being a well evolved university with 12B status, the institution can successfully secure many grants from the state and central governments. 3. Inter-state admissions: The university must make efforts to attract admissions from outside the state. 4. Admission in Robotics and Mechatronics: The university should strive to get admissions in the departments of Robotics and Mechatronics. <p>Mr. P.R. Gopinathan further stated that he would always remain accessible through email and shall support the university by all means. He wished that VFSTR should attain NAAC A++ status. The Registrar directed Prof. K. Kalpana, Dean, School of Law to interact with Mr. P.R. Gopinathan and receive his advice on law education. The Registrar then informed the members that AICTE had accorded the "Letter of Approval" for VFSTRU Hyderabad (deemed to be university) at Yadadri, Bhuvanagiri District in Telangana State. He also mentioned that formal approval from the Ministry of Education/GOI is awaited.</p>

I.	<p>I. Recent Initiatives in the School of Agriculture and Horticulture Sciences (presented by Prof. T. Ramesh, Dean of Agriculture and Horticulture Sciences)</p>
I.	<p>The Dean, Prof. T. Ramesh presented on the above-said initiative of his department under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. About the Department of Agriculture and Horticulture Sciences B. Commencement of the department C. Area of land under the department D. Students' strength in the department E. Tree Outside Forest, India (TOFI) F. Consortium partners G. Strategies for TOFI H. Seven participant states in TOFI I. Expected output J. Hi-Tech Tree Nursery (HTN): Layout K. List of species for propagation of trees under TOFI L. Salient features of state of art Hi-Tech nursery (HTN) M. Benefits for students and entrepreneurs N. MoU between ICRAF and VFSTRU signed on 25th March, 2023 O. Obligations of ICRAF P. Visuals of the inaugural of TOFI <p>The Dean mentioned that the program would be supported by technology for TOFI</p>

and presented wood-based technology and non-wood-based technology in which students of VFSTRU would be involved. There was no funding from the state government, and the representatives of this program from USA were impressed by the amenities in the department.

Prof. BVR Chowdari enquired on the continuance of this program after the expiry of the agreement in 2026 for which the Dean responded that the program will continue even after the expiry of the agreement. The timber harvested from this program can be utilized by various institutions under Vignan Group.

Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy asked for measurable outcomes of the program stating that start-ups can be possible with students who could form as an entrepreneurial group and the project could also involve many engineering students from other branches. Prof. Ramesh responded that CSE students would be needed for computer related operations and the system would be exclusively maintained by students for three years and beyond. The dean also mentioned that 10,00,000 saplings could be supplied from this program, would support entrepreneurial outcomes and also would encourage women entrepreneurs.

Prof. H. Devaraj enquired on the reason behind not commencing Ph.D program in the department without M.Sc. program. The dean responded that the first batch of current Ag.B.SC. students would be passing out in the year 2025 until then the PG program cannot be commenced. To stimulate the research environment in the department Ph.D program was commenced. The Chair opined that research should commence in the department and researchers should be the teachers.

Prof. Chowdari congratulated on the commencement of research programs in the department and on the success of global conference conducted in his department in November 2022.

II. Recent Initiative in the School of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences (presented by S. Anil Kumar, Assoc. Prof. BT)

Commencement of M.Tech. Bio-Technology Program for AY 2024-25.

Mr. S. Anil Kumar presented under the following points:

- A. Virchow Foundation, operating under Virchow Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, has committed to support the M.Tech. Biotechnology program, scheduled to commence from the academic year 2024-25.
- B. Virchow Foundation has agreed to provide Rs.76,80,000/- in phased installments to bolster the program.
- C. Out of the grant of Rs. 76.8 lakhs, Rs. 42 Lakhs will be disbursed as stipend to the 18 students (employees of VBPC) at the rate of Rs. 10,000 per month per student. Virchow Foundation also covers the salary of an industry-supported Professor of Practice with a salary of Rs.1,40,000/- per month for a duration of 24 months.
- D. Program guarantees placement opportunities, collaborative efforts between Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology & Research (Deemed to be University), Vadlamudi and Virchow Foundation.
- E. Virchow Foundation is eager to collaborate with VFSTR on joint projects to be submitted to various funding agencies, emphasizing their commitment to foster Industry-University collaborative endeavors.

Mr. Anil Kumar also discussed the action plan for improving admissions and upcoming events in his department. The Chair opined that M.Tech. programs shall improve the perception for the university.

II.

III. Progress of the Departments of CSE, ACSE, IT, ECE, EEE and BME (presented by concerned HoDs)

a. Progress of the Department of CSE. (presented by Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore, HoD, CSE)

The HoD, CSE presented the progress of his department under the following heads:

- b. 100% admissions in B.Tech. in the Department of CSE.
- c. Admissions in M.Tech. (Fourteen out of eighteen seats filled in M.Tech.)
- d. Attendance analysis
- e. Skill development programs
- f. Training programs for students planned during the summer vacation.
- g. Faculty - Cadre ratio / Faculty - Student ratio
- h. Research progression
- i. Strategic plans for the next three years.

In this context, Prof. Patnaik enquired on the distinctive achievements of faculty of the department. He advised to engage the AICTE recognised "Distinguished Professionals" from industry and R&D labs to support the department. He also enquired on the nature of scholars enrolled in the department i.e. whether they were full-time or part-time. The HoD responded that there were scholars in both full-time and part-time research programs.

b. Progress of the Department of ACSE (presented by Dr. B. Jyostna Devi, representing HoD, ACSE)

Dr. B. Jyostna Devi presented the progress of the department under the following heads:

- B. Establishment of the department.
- C. Actual admissions against sanctioned intake strength.
- D. Gender distribution
- E. Student quality
- F. Faculty
- G. Faculty - student ratio
- H. Research analysis
- I. Placements
- J. Faculty publications
- K. Mentorship
- L. Invited lectures delivered by experts.
- M. Strategic plan for the next five years.

III.

C. Progress of the Department of IT (presented by Prof. Veerajeneyulu, HoD, IT)

The HoD, IT presented the progress of his department under the following heads:

- a. Programs offered
- b. Student quality
- c. Faculty student ratio
- d. Faculty strength
- e. B.Tech. result analysis
- f. BCA result analysis
- g. MCA result analysis
- h. B.Tech. placements
- i. Research publications
- j. Workshops and guest lectures.
- k. Strategic plan.

	<p>After the presentation, Prof. BVR Chowdari advised that faculty should publish in high impact journals.</p> <p>The presentation on the progress of departments like ECE, EEE and BME was deferred to be made in a separate session.</p>
IV.	Agenda Items for the Meeting
	Confirmation of the minutes of the 3rd Executive Council meeting held on 24th February, 2024 and the minutes of 36th Academic Council meeting held on 20th April, 2024.
	<p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Executive Council meeting.</p> <p>After deliberation, the minutes of the 3rd Executive Council meeting were approved.</p> <p>Then the Registrar read out the salient features of 36th Academic council meeting and after deliberation the minutes of the same were approved.</p>

Actions Taken Report on the decisions of the Third Executive Council Meeting:

V.	Action Point	Action point addressed to	Action Taken
1.	<p>A white paper on all the proposals concerning the commencement of new M.Tech. programs should be submitted by the concerned HoDs in the next Executive Council Meeting.</p>	<p>HoD-Dept. of Mechanical Engineering</p>	<p>Department of Mechanical Engineering has proposed to replace the existing M. Tech. in “Machine Design” due to low admissions from past three years.</p> <p>New Program proposed is M. Tech in “Robotics & Automation” from A.Y. 2025-26.</p> <p>During the discussions in the 3rd ECM, in the PPT it was mentioned that the curriculum for new program will be designed after taking inputs from the industry experts.</p> <p>Dr. E S Chakravarthy suggested not to design entire curriculum based on industry experts only which will have value for 2 to 3 years only.</p> <p>Based on his suggestion, after taking inputs from the alumni and academia and also keeping the developments that are happening in the field of robotics and automation, a tentative course list will be provided in the 5th ECM.</p>

		HoD-Dept. of EEE	<p>To offer the M.Tech. EVT program with industry collaboration.</p> <p>The department approached EV industries like TATA Motors, Eaton India Pvt Ltd, Olectra Green, and GE Energy, but, they have declined collaboration for the time being and have suggested to focus on improving research facilities and expertise.</p> <p>However, they are open to offering internships to postgraduates in the future.</p>
2.	On the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD should discuss the plan with the Vice-Chancellor and convey their decisions to Hon'ble Chairman.	HoD-Dept. of EEE	<p>Upon sharing this information with the hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, it was recognized that improvements were needed in critical areas like lab facilities and expertise to meet the standards.</p> <p>He suggested to focus on the existing M.Tech. EVT program at the Hyderabad campus and also emphasized establishing a new EV lab in the main campus, encouraging faculty towards EV research and recruiting faculty with EV specialization.</p> <p>To align with the process, the honourable Vice-Chancellor also suggested offering a program - M.Tech. (by Research) on EVT exclusively for industry professionals.</p>
3.	Concerning the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD may seek the help of Prof. Patnaik to consult the professors at IITs. The HoD should also contact BHEL for a clearer prospect on the proposal.		
4.	The II- and III-year students should be deployed to teach English classes on remunerative basis to students from Bihar and African students	Dean International Students	<p>The Office of Dean, International Students has, with the approval of our Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, invited applications and appointed an exclusive English Teacher to cater to the needs of both international and Bihar students.</p> <p>At present, 17 students from Sudan have enrolled and are undergoing the three-month English Foundation Course being offered by the University.</p>
5.	Two committees should be constituted of which one chaired by Dean R&D shall look into the problems of the researchers at VFSTRU and propose remedies	Dean R&D	<p>Allocation of Career Development Fund (CDF) Rs. 3,00,000/- for a block period of three years as a corpus fund for faculty members.</p> <p>Allocation of Contingency Grant (CG) to</p>

<p>for the same. The second committee shall comprise Prof. Patnaik (Member Executive Council), Prof. Bala Subramaniam, Professor, CSE, IIT Roorkee and Prof. Srinivasa Kumar, Professor, IIT, Madras (both Members of Academic Council). This committee shall recommend on the modalities to create career development fund for faculty to carry out research besides addressing other issues of concerned as brought up by Dean_R&D. The committee is also mandated to make recommendations towards funded projects sponsored by centre and state governments.</p>		<p>all the Departments. Early Promotion of faculty members waiving off the minimum period requirement. 100% reimbursement of Registration fee, two-way air fare to faculty members to attend top notch tier 1- conferences once in two years. Discussed the possibility of establishment of Patent cell in VFSTR in collaboration with BANANA consultancy, Bangalore. Policy for attending the workshops was amended. Revised the guidelines for recognizing faculty member as Research supervisor. Proposed Research day on every Saturday of the week. Proposed to recruit an Asst. Registrar (Research) who will function to take care of funded projects relating queries and clearing of bills. An ERP for R&D need to be procured.</p>
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VI	Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval																																															
1.	<p>Students Intake for VFSTR Main Campus for the AY 2024-25. (presented by Dean Admissions) Dean Admissions presented the above-said agenda point by discussing the admission of students for VFSTR Main Campus for the AY 2024-25 under the following heads like (1) Sanctioned intake 2023-24 (2) Admitted students 2023-24 (3) Proposed increment in intake and (4) Proposed intake for 2024-25. The details of the discussions were presented in the form of the following two tables (Table 01: Engineering, Pharmacy, Management and Law Table 02: Sciences) Table 01:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="323 1725 1486 2134"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Description</th> <th colspan="2">Engineering</th> <th>Pharmacy</th> <th colspan="2">Management</th> <th colspan="2">Law</th> </tr> <tr> <th>B.Tech.</th> <th>M.Tech.</th> <th>B.Pharmacy</th> <th>BBA</th> <th>MBA</th> <th>BA,LLB</th> <th>BBA,LL</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Sanctioned Intake 2023-24</td> <td>2580</td> <td>180</td> <td>60</td> <td>150</td> <td>120</td> <td>60</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Admitted 2023-24</td> <td>2763</td> <td>26</td> <td>67</td> <td>119</td> <td>120</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proposed Increment in intake</td> <td>630</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>40</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> <td>Nil</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Proposed intake for 2024-25</td> <td>3210</td> <td>180</td> <td>100</td> <td>150</td> <td>120</td> <td>60</td> <td>60</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Description	Engineering		Pharmacy	Management		Law		B.Tech.	M.Tech.	B.Pharmacy	BBA	MBA	BA,LLB	BBA,LL	Sanctioned Intake 2023-24	2580	180	60	150	120	60	60	Admitted 2023-24	2763	26	67	119	120	14	15	Proposed Increment in intake	630	Nil	40	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Proposed intake for 2024-25	3210	180	100	150	120	60	60
Description	Engineering		Pharmacy	Management		Law																																										
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Table 02:

Description	Sciences							
	Under Graduate			Post Graduate				
	BCA	B.Sc.	AG B.Sc.	MCA	M.Sc. (Chem)	M.Sc. Organic Chemistry	M.A. English	M.Sc. Data Science
Sanctioned Intake 2023-24	60	60	320	60	30	30	30	18
Admitted 2023-24	58	21	143	63	5	21	10	Nil
Proposed Increment in intake	Nil	Nil	Nil	60	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Proposed intake for 2024-25	60	60	320	120	30	30	30	18

Decision: After deliberation, the members of the Executive Council approved this agenda point.

2.

II. Students Intake and status of Vignan Off-Campus at Hyderabad for the AY 2024-25. (presented by Dean IQAC & Interim Director (off campus, HYD.), Dr. M. Rama Krishna)

Dean IQAC presented that twenty-seven programs were proposed to be offered at VFSTRU, Hyderabad for which the proposed intake of student strength was 1600. He also presented all the programs proposed to be offered at the Hyderabad campus.

Decision: After deliberation, the members of the Executive Council approved this agenda point.

VII.

Agenda Items for Information

1.

I. Commencement of Integrated M.Tech. by Research and Ph.D. programs in the Department of ACSE. (presented by Dr. B. Jyostna Devi)

Dr. B. Jyostna Devi presented the above-said agenda point under the following heads:

- a. Overview of the department
- b. Current status of the department
- c. Status of R&D
- d. Consultancy programs
- e. Research focus areas
- f. Papers published (including those in Q1 and Q2 journals)
- g. External funding
- h. Citations
- i. Future plans

2.

II. Status of research activities (presented by Dean R&D)

Dean R&D presented on the status of R&D in VFSTRU.

3.

III. Results of Examinations announced after the 3rd Executive Council Meeting (presented by Dean AAA)

Dean AAA presented the results of examinations announced after the 3rd Executive Council Meeting as under the following tables:

Program	Year-Sem.	AY 2021-22	AY 2022-23	AY 2023-24
MBA	II-I	96.88 (93/96)	90.29 (93/103)	98.32 (117/119)
B.Sc., (Hons.) Agricultural	I-I	83.53 (71/85)	78.20 (122/156)	76.56 (98/128)

	II-I	---	70.37 (57/81)	84.11 (127/151)
	III-I	---	---	95.00 (76/80)

Supplementary Examination Results

Examination Name	Pass % (Pass/Registered)
B.TECH.AGE, I YEAR - I SEMESTER, SUPPLEMENTARY (R19) EXAMINATION - FEB 2024	33.33 (1/3)
B.TECH., I YEAR - I,II SEMESTER, SUPPLEMENTARY (R21) EXAMINATION - MAR 2024	26.42 (56/212)
B.TECH., SINGLE SUBJECT SUPPLEMENTARY (R19) EXAMINATION - MAR 2024 SUBJECT WISE AVERAGE MARKS	33.33 (3/9)
B.B.A., SINGLE SUBJECT SUPPLEMENTARY (R20) EXAMINATION - MAR 2024	100 (2/2)
DIPLOMA, I YEAR - I SEMESTER, SUPPLEMENTARY (R21) EXAMINATION - APR 2024	43.33 (13/30)
DIPLOMA, II YEAR - I SEMESTER, SUPPLEMENTARY (R21) EXAMINATION - APR 2024	85.00 (17/20)

The dean stated that in some programs the result was lower due to the introduction of R22 syllabus which would take some time for the students to assimilate.

IV. Minor Revision in the curriculum of R22 regulations. (presented by Dean AAA)

Dean AAA presented the following revisions in the R22 curriculum:

- a. Introducing courses like Gender Sensitization, Indian Knowledge System (Branch-specific), Universal Human Values as 'Binary grade courses'. Introducing courses like Cyber Security, Professional Ethics, Design Thinking into main courses. These courses are recommended by UGC/ AICTE/ ABET/ NEP.
- b. Providing more credits for Computational / Basic science courses.
4. c. Making First year B.Tech. courses common across all branches with two streams (M.P.C & Bi.P.C.). This arrangement is expected to help in organizing the classwork for sections commencing late due to delayed admissions (for both Indian and Foreign students) and also for branches with a smaller number of student intake.

The Dean also presented the credits distribution for various categories and courses; course grading and award of class.

5.	<p>V. Status of Vignan TBI (presented by Dr. Anadруп Goswami representing Dean PCF)</p> <p>Dr. Anadруп Goswami presented on the above-said agenda point under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. About Vignan TBI - commencement b. The team of TBI c. Co-workers, space and office d. R&D labs and incubation <p>Mr. Sandeep, CEO, Vignan TBI Council presented the start-up ecosystem performance under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Start-ups under funding b. Ignition grant released by DST and grants in pipeline c. Corporate funding d. Supporting partners e. Major events at Vignan TBI f. Pre-incubatee achievements at national level g. KPIs of TBI (present status and targets (DST targets and International targets)) <p>VI. Status of Project: 30M Genomics (presented by Dr. Benet Bosco Dhas, CEO of 30M Genomics)</p> <p>Dr. Benet Bosco Dhas of 30M Genomics presented the above agenda point under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The journey of 30M Genomics b. The people c. Achievement process d. Prenatal genetic testing e. Challenges in testing of genetics f. Solutions g. Current status <p>Dr. Bosco Dhas stated that his company would offer solution to various problems related to genetics which shall be very cost effective i.e. only 10 percent of the total cost for the same tests prevailing in the market.</p>
VIII.	Agenda Items for Ratification
1.	<p>I. List of teaching and non-teaching staff joined and relieved since the 3rd Executive Council Meeting held on 24-02-2024. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar informed the members that 13 teaching staff (11 Asst. Professors, 01 CAP and 01 PDF) have joined VFSTRU after the 3rd Executive Council Meeting. He also informed that 09 non-teaching staff (07 Junior Assistants, 01 Computer Lab Assistant and 01 Technical Assistant) have joined after the 3rd Executive Council Meeting.</p> <p>The Registrar also mentioned that five Assistant Professors and five non-teaching staff (01 Lab Technician, 01 CRM, 01 Jr. Assistant, 01 Lab Assistant and 01 Programmer) were relieved after the Third Executive Council Meeting.</p>

IX. Discussion on Table agenda points:

1. Status of Alumni activities: (presented by Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu)

Responding to Dr. Y. Sarat's query on the status of Alumni activities in VFSTRU, Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu stated that an Alumni meet was planned in July 2024 which would be followed by alumni meets in Chennai and Bengaluru. He also said that they were also planning for an alumni meet on the eve of Silver Jubilee of Vignan.

2. Status of Website of VFSTRU:

Responding to the query of Dr. Y. Sarat on the status of website of the university, Dean T&D responded that the work was in progress. Dr. Sarat said that the website was the face of the university and it should be treated with utmost importance.

X. The following action points were pronounced during the 3rd Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	Students should be trained to develop as AI operators as the role has immense employment prospects.	Dean Placements
2.	A half-day workshop on the techniques to attract and recruit talented personnel should be organised under the aegis of Dr.E.S.Chakravarthy for all the departments	HoDs of all Departments, Dean_ School of Computing and Informatics to Coordinate
3.	IoT and Image Processing should be allotted as projects for ECE and CSE students.	HoDs of ECE,CSE and ACSE
4.	Website of VFSRU should be immediately and appropriately upgraded and if needed, support from external professionals should be obtained.	Dean, T&D

Having discussed all the agenda points, the meeting was adjourned.


28.5.24
REGISTRAR

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION
FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH
(Deemed to be University)
VADLAMUDI - 522 213
GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P, INDIA


-28/5/24
VICE-CHANCELLOR

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