

Minutes of 35th Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 16/12/2023 (Saturday) at 10.00 a.m.

Venue: Chancellor's Board Room, VFSTR

**Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and
Research**

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh- 522213

MINUTES OF THE 35th MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 16th December, 2023. (Physical and Virtual)

The members of Academic Council met on 16th December, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the Chancellor's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Naga Bhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Dr. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor : Chairman
2. Er. D. Ramakrishna, MD, Efftronics : External Member
3. Prof. K. Subbarangaiah, Director and Head VEDA IIT, Hyd : External Member
4. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar
Professor, Dept. of CSE, IIT Madras : External Member
5. Dr. P.M.V. Rao
Dean, AAA : Permanent Invitee
6. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean, PCF : Member
7. Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore
Dean, SCI, Dean – Admissions and Recruitment
HoD, Dept. of CSE : Member
8. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, Dean, R&D : Member
9. Dr. Sk. Jakeer Hussain
Dean, Infrastructure, Planning and Monitoring : Member
10. Dr. N. Usha Rani, Dean, SEECE : Member
11. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean – Student Affairs
Alumni Linkages, Gender Sensitization and Discipline : Member
12. Dr. M. Ramakrishna, Dean – IQAC
Dean, School of Core Engineering : Member
13. Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean – T&P
Dean School of Law and Management : Member
14. Dr. Y. Ravi Shekhar, Dean, Technology and Development : Member
15. Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Dept. of Chem. Engg. : Member
16. Dr. N. Narayan Rao, HoD, Dept. of AE : Member
17. Dr. D. Venkatesulu, HoD, HOD, Dept. of ACSE and
Joint Dean SCI : Member
18. Dr. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE : Member
19. Dr. T.C. Vekateswarlu, HoD, Bio Technology : Member
20. Dr. G. Sitaramanjeaya Reddy, HoD, BME : Member
21. Dr. Sarita Satpathy, HoD, MBA : Member

22. Dr. N. Srinivasu, Dean, SASH : Member
23. Dr. Jithendra Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmacy : Member
24. Dr. M. Kartikeyan, HoD, Civil Engineering : Member
25. Dr. PVS Shoban, HoD, EEE : Member
26. Dr. K. Kalpana, Interim, Director of LAW : Member
27. Dr. N. Veeranjanyulu, Prof., HoD, Dept. of IT
Director, CDOE : Member
28. Dr. Koya Prabhakar Rao, HoD, Chemistry : Member
29. Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, HoD, Physics : Member
30. Dr. V. Radha Krishna Murthy, Prof of Mathematics : Member
31. Dr. J. Nitchal Kiran, Prof of Physics : Member
32. Dr. P. Ashok Kumar, Prof of Chemical Engg. : Member
33. Dr. Shaik Anwar, Assoc. Prof of Chemistry : Member
34. Dr. B. Nageswara Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg : Member
35. Dr. A. Goswami, Assoc. Prof of Chemistry : Member
36. Dr. K. Santi Sree, Assoc. Prof of IT : Member
37. Dr. N. Ananda Rao, Asst. Prof, Dept of ECE : Member
38. Dr. Dr. G. Nageswarara Rao, Asst. Prof of English : Member
39. Mr. S. Deva Kumar, Asst. Prof. of CSE : Member
40. Mr.T.Ch. Anil Kumar : Member
HoD- Mech. Engg.
41. Dr.D Adam Stephen : Member
HOD-S&H
42. Dr.A. Sharada : Member
HOD-English
43. Prof. G. Mohanacharyulu, Prof of English : Member
44. Dr.B.Srinivasa Rao : Member
Prof. Dept of MBA
45. Dr. Asadi Siva Sankar : Member
Prof. Dept of Civil Engg.
46. Mr. Govardhan Rao Chilukoti, : Special Invitee
Co-ordinator, Dept. of Textile Technology

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

1. Dr. M. Shanti Swarup
Director of Engineering, Math Works, Hyderabad : External Member
2. Dr. R. Balasubramanian, Prof. Dept. of CSE
IIT Roorkee : External Member
3. Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra
Director, NITTTR, Kolkata : External Member
4. Dr. T. Subbbaiah, Prof of Chemical Engg. : Member
5. Dr.Kaki Venkata Rao, HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg. : Member
6. Dr. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, SAFT and Director AHS : Member
7. Dr. P.L.N.Varma, Professor, Dept. of S&H : Member
8. Dr. M. Sarada, Prof of ECE : Member
9. Dr. N. Satya Sree, Prof. of Chemistry : Member
10. Dr. P. Shiva Prasad, Assoc. Prof. of CSE : Member
11. Dr. P. Joshua Reginald, Asst. Prof of ECE : Member
12. Dr. Ch. Siva Koteswara Rao, Asst. Prof of IT : Member

Minutes of the 35th Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 16/12/2023 [Saturday] at 10:00 a.m.

Item	
	<p>Welcoming the members of Academic Council by the Registrar The meeting commenced with remarks of the Chair, Prof. P. Nagabhushan who directed the Registrar to formally initiate the proceedings of the meeting. The members who rendered their valuable services during their stint in academic council as members were remembered and the new internal members were introduced to the Council by the Registrar. Dean, PCF read out the profile of Prof. R. Bala Subramanian and Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra who were the new external members. The Chair formally welcomed the new members and thanked them.</p>
I	<p>Confirmation of the Minutes of 34th Academic Council meeting held on 22nd July 2023(virtual mode). Minutes of Meeting enclosed.</p>
35/01	<p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Academic Council meeting held on 22nd July 2023. After deliberation, the Council approved the minutes of 34th Academic Council meeting.</p>
II	<p>Action taken on the decisions of previous AC meeting held on 22-07-23. The Registrar read out the action points while the members responded to the same.</p>
35/02	<p>(i) The road map for venturing into medical education in future with commencement of para medical courses as prelude. Dean PCF initiated the response on the action taken report and directed the HoD of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Prof. Jitendra to present this report. Prof. Jitendra stated that at VFSTR there was already a precedence of science courses in the form of programs like Pharmaceutical Science, Biomedical Engineering and Biotechnology. A Task force was constituted by the Chair comprising experts like Dr. Mahadev Kanchegowda (former Secretary Kempagowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru), Dr. C. Narayan Reddy from Warangal and Dr. Y. Sarat BoM Member from VFSTR. Based on the recommendations that resulted from the discussions among these experts, it was decided to commence one-year PG diploma course for B.Sc. graduates in Medical Imaging Technology and one-year PG Diploma course in Dialysis. The draft curriculum was prepared and MoUs with Lalitha Hospital (Guntur), Ramesh Hospital (Guntur) and DVC Hospital (Vadlamudi) were signed. The HoD informed that BoS should be formally constituted. In this context, Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar enquired on the quality of the intake and after a brief discussion, the Chair formally announced that VFSTR shall venture into medical education.</p>

(ii) The list of electives and minor courses related to the introduction of 5G technology was too long and electives should be merged.

Dean T&D responded to this point stating that the number of 5G electives were reduced to five for other (non-electronic and non-computing) branches and the syllabi were presented to the BoS for approval. The Dean informed that the minor courses were specially catered for non-electronic and non-computing branches. Dr. Rama Krishna enquired on the capabilities of the learners and advised to introduce Mobile Technology as a course in the list of minors.

(iii) The HoD, ECE on MoUs with industries and the number of batches benefitting from current MoU with Efftronics. Action plan for drop outs.

The HoD, Department of ECE presented the four active MoUs the department has with Veda IIT (Hyderabad), Efftronics Systems Ltd. (Vijayawada), Keysight Technologies (Benguluru) and Ananth Technologies (Hyderabad). The HoD presented the M.Tech. (IoT), which the students of VFSTR were to pursue in Efftronics (for which admission test and interviews were conducted in which the students did not meet the industry standards). Admissions were temporarily put on hold.

The action plan for dropouts should be like, if a student wishes to withdraw from the course in the middle of the program he or she should remit the financial benefits received from university and industry.

The Chair asked about the action for securing admissions for the coming year to which the HoD answered that he was contacting all the HoDs of CSE and ECE from the neighbouring colleges to extend their support in realising the admissions in M.Tech. IoT at VFSTR. He also stated that canvassing through electronic media was also planned.

(iv) A committee with the support of Prof. K. Subba Rangaiah should be constituted to create courses for diploma and B.Tech. for relevant degree holders in industry.

Dean AAA responded that AICTE has accorded permission to the institutes with some guidelines to offer B.Tech. degree for working professionals. He stated that elaborate draft shall be presented before the committee in the coming Academic Council.

Prof. Subbarangaiah agreed to the proposal and the Chair directed to convene a meeting with Prof. Subbarangaiah to materialise this plan.

Dr. Ramakrishna advised to constitute clusters and rope in the industry professionals to teach in these clusters.

The Chair advised that working place should be transformed to a learning place.

III	Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval
35/03	<p>(i) In principle approval for B.Tech. program in Technical Textiles from the AY 2024-25. (presented by Dean SCE/HoD Textiles).</p> <p>Dean IQAC presented that Rs.9.15 crores were granted by the Ministry of Textiles out of which Rs. 8.65 crores were allocated for the establishment of laboratories and Rs. 50 lakhs were allocated for teaching incurrence. Dr. Ramakrishna advised to contact and visit the neighbouring industries for which the Dean responded that industries were already contacted and committees were formed with industry.</p> <p>Dr. Ramakrishna advised to conduct a workshop to create awareness in the students about the course for which the Dean answered that seventy students have already registered for the course. The Chair opined that Textile Technology program should be interdisciplinary. Prof. Sreenivas Kumar advised that the programs offered by the Textile department should be strengthened. He further enquired on the absorption of B.Tech. students into industry and advised for the change of intake strength in Textile Engineering and Textile Technology.</p> <p>The Council approved in principle for the commencement of B.Tech. program in Technical Textiles from the AY 2024-25.</p> <p>(ii) Approval for increase of intake for the AY 2024-25 (presented by Dean- Admissions in consultation with Dean IQAC).</p> <p>Dean Admissions presented that since there was high demand for Engineering courses especially in the Computer Science branch and others, the need to increase the overall intake (to 3210) was needed. The distribution of this proposed increase in intake was like CSE (increase in intake by 300 seats), CS AI&ML (increase by 240 seats), CSE DS (increase by 60 seats), MCA (increase by 60 seats), Pharmacy (increase by 40 seats) and Textile Engineering (increase by 40 seats). Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar enquired on the availability of faculty for the increased strength for which the Dean Admissions stated that recruitment was a continuous process to fill the teaching vacancies in VFSTR. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar enquired on the previous time an increase in intake was effected and advised to retain the current strength as there were reduction in placements. Dean Admissions stated that this fall in placements was also seen in other branches. Dr. Ramakrishna seconded Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar stating that industry was now recruiting senior professionals causing a drop in the recruitment of freshers. Dean T&P responded to this discussion stating that mass recruitment stopped in the industry but worthy students were getting placements. Prof. Subbarangaiah seconded Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar advising to retain the current status of intake strength.</p> <p>Dean AAA intervened in the discussion stating that there was a huge demand for admissions in the department of CSE and in case VFSTR does not admit these aspiring students, they shall, as a natural course of action, resort to join neighbouring colleges with poor infrastructure and teaching facilities. He justified that VFSTR shall provide quality education to these students who shall be otherwise denied the same</p>

	<p>with their admission in other colleges.</p> <p>The Chair stated that quality should be maintained in education and advised Dean Admissions to present the suggestions of External members, concerning the increase of intake strength, before the Executive Council of VFSTR for their final decision.</p> <p>(iii) Establishment of Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad (to be presented by Dean IQAC).</p> <p>Dean IQAC stated that application for Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad was submitted in online mode with all required enclosures after taking the in principle approval from the members of Executive Council. The total proposed intake was 1600 of which UG Engg. (840 seats), other UG programs (210 seats), UG Pharmacy program (100 seats), PG programs (312 seats), PG Program - non Engineering (90 seats) and Ph.D program (48 seats).</p> <p>The Dean stated that UGC visit (off-line) was scheduled in the coming week.</p>
iv	Agenda Items for Information
35/04	<p>(i) ABET Peer team and NBA observer visit during 9th to 11th October 2023 for accreditation of five programs namely BT, CSE, ECE, EEE and Mech. Engg. (presented by Dean IQAC).</p> <p>The Dean presented about the visit of ABET team in the above said dates and mentioned that departments like Mechanical Engineering and Biotechnology met all the criteria while, for six years accreditation), compliance on certain aspects was needed from the departments like CSE, ECE and EEE.</p> <p>(ii) Details of XI Convocation conducted on 23-10-23 (presented by Dean T&P).</p> <p>Dean, T&P presented on the conduct of XI Convocation and the conferment of Honorary Doctorates to Dr. Pavuluri SubbaRao for his contributions to Indian Aerospace industry, Dr. S.P. Vasireddy for his contribution in food and Pharma sectors, and Smt. Koneru Humpy for her excellence in the game of Chess.</p> <p>The Dean mentioned that 1344 B.Tech. degrees were given away of whom 628 were given to woman students. 237 candidates received their Master's degrees and 56 scholars received their Ph.D. degrees.</p> <p>(iii) Status of Research Activities (presented by Dean R&D).</p> <p>Dean R&D presented the status of research under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Research focus areas (2) Publications (3) Citations (4) H-Index (5) Funded research projects (6) Patents (7) Ph.D.s awarded (8) Future plans


Er.D.Ramakrishna advised that research should be multi-dimensional and should concentrate on aspects like fail-safe systems which attract huge investment. The Chair enquired on the number of projects which got approved in the first level and also questioned on the impact of research.
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There are no agenda points for ratification.

Having discussed all the points, the meeting was adjourned.

The following action points were pronounced during the 35th Academic Council meeting.

Action Point	Action point addressed to
1. Er. D. Ramakrishna, External Member should be the member of BoS to be conducted for discussing the electives and minor courses in 5G technology.	Dean T&D
2. In-house IoT workshop should be conducted to motivate the B.Tech. students to join M.Tech. IoT.	HoD, ECE


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