Minutes of 38th Meeting of the Academic Council Date: 28/09/2024 (Saturday) at 10.00 AM.

Venue: Chancellor's Board Room, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research
Vadlamudi, Guntur
Andhra Pradesh- 522213

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MINUTES OF THE 38th MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 28th September, 2024. (Physical and Virtual)

The members of Academic Council met on 28th September, 2024 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.	Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor	:	Chairman
2.	Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar		
,	Professor, Dept. of CSE, IIT Madras	•	External Member
3.	Dr. Subbarangaiah. K (virtual participation) Director and Professor at Veda IIT		
	VLSI Physical Design, Hyd		External Member
4.	Dr. Debi Prasad Mishra (virtual participation)		zxedinat member
	Director, NITTTR, Kolkata	:	External Member
5.	Dr. P.M.V. Rao		
	Dean, AAA	:	Permanent Invitee
6.	Dr. D. Vijayaramu	:	Member
_	Dean, PCF		
7.	Dr. S. Desikan		Manahan
8.	Associate Dean - IQAC (representing Dean IQAC) Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore		Member
0.	Dean, SCI, Dean - Admissions and Recruitment		
	HoD, Dept. of CSE	:	Member
9.	Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, Dean, R&D	:	Member
10.	Prof. D. Venkatesulu, Addl Dean ACSE	:	Member
11.	Dr. Sk. Jakeer Hussain		
	Dean, Infrastructure, Planning and Monitoring	:	Member
12.	Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P		
	Dean School of Law and Management	:	Member
13.	Dr. N.Usha Rani, Dean, SEECE	:	Member
14.	Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean - Student Affairs		14
15.	Alumni Linkages, Gender Sensitization and Discipline	:	Member
16.	Dr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean T&P and Internship	:	Member
10.	Dr. Y. Ravi Shekhar, Dean, Technology and Development		Member
17.	Prof. N. Usha Rani, Dean, SEE&CE	·	Member
18.	Dr. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, SAFT and Director AHS	·	Member
19.	Prof. K. Kalpana, Dean, SL&M		Member
20.	Prof. A. Sharada, Dean, IS		Member
21.	Prof. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Dept. of Chem. Engg.		Member
22.	Dr. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE		Member
23.	Dr. T.C. Vekateswarlu, HoD, Bio-Technology		Member
24.	Dr. Sitaramanjeaya Reddy, HoD, BME		Member
25.	Dr. T.Ch. Anil Kumar, HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg.		Member
26.	Dr. N. Srinivasu, Dean, SASH		Member
27.	Dr. S.V. Phani Kumar, HoD, CSE		Member
28.	Dr. D. Radha Rani		Member
29.	Dr. Ch. Jitendra, HoD, Dept. of Pharmacy	:	Member
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30.	Dr. M. Kartikeyan, HoD, Civil Engineering	:	Member	
31.	Dr. PVS Shoban, HoD, EEE	:	Member	
32.	Prof. Sarita Sathpathy, HoD, MBA	:	Member	
33.	Dr. N. Veeranjaneyulu,			
	Prof., HoD, Dept. of IT, Director, CDOE	:	Member	
34.	Prof. N. Seshagiri Rao, HoD, Mathematics and Statistics	:	Member	
35.	Prof. Koya Prabhakar Rao, HoD, Chemistry	:	Member	
36.	Dr. K.V.Madhuri, HoD, Physics	:	Member	
37.	Dr. Adam Stephen,			
	HoD, Social Sciences and Humanities	:	Member	
38.	Dr. Kaki Venkat Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg	:	Member	
39.	Dr. V. Radha Krishna Murthy, Prof of Mathematics	:	Member	
40.	Dr. J. Nitchal Kiran, Prof of Physics	:	Member	
41.	Dr. P. Ashok Kumar, Prof of Chemical Engg.	:	Member	
42.	Dr. Shaik Anwar, Officiating Prof of Chemistry	:	Member	
43.	Dr. B. Nageswara Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg		Member	
44.	Dr. M. Sarada, Prof of ECE	:	Member	
45.	Dr. G. Mohanacharyulu, Prof of English	:	Member	
46.	Prof. B. Srinivasa Rao, Professor, MBA	:	Member	
47.	Prof. D. John Babu, Professor, BT	:	Member	
48.	Prof. A. Siva Sankar, Prof, Civil Engineering	:	Member	
49.	Dr. A. Goswami, Assoc Prof of Chemistry	:	Member	
50.	Dr. K. Santi Sree, Assoc. Prof of IT	:	Member	
51.	Dr. N. Ananda Rao, Officiating Assoc. Prof, Dept of ECE	:	Member	
52.	Dr. G. Nageswarara Rao, Asst. Prof of English	:	Member	
53.	Dr. P. Joshua Reginald, Officiating Assoc. Prof of ECE	:	Member	
54.	Mr. S. Deva Kumar, Officiating Assoc Prof. of CSE	:	Member	
55.	Dr. Ch. Siva Koteswara Rao, Asst. Prof of IT	:	Member	
56.	Dr. K. Maria Das, Asst. Professor of Chemistry	:	Member	
57.	Dr. M. SubbaRao, Interim Director, Off-Campus, Hyd	:	Special I	nvitee
58.	Dr. N.S. Sampath Kumar, Joint Dean, AAA	:	Special II	nvitee
59.	Mr. Prasad Panda, Director, Industry Relations	:	Special I	nvitee
60.	Dr. U.V. Manoj Kumar, Assistant Prof of Mathematics	:	Special II	nvitee
61.	Cmde. Dr. MS Raghunanthan, Registrar, VFSTR	:	Member	Secretary
Leav	ve of Absence: The following members have taken the	leav	e of abse	nce
62.	Dr. Balasubramaian Raman			
	Professor, Dept. of CSE			
	IIT, Roorkee	:	External	Member
63.	Er. D. Rama Krishna		Futernal	Mambar
,,	MD, Effectronics, Vijayawada	•	External	Member
64.	Dr. Shanti Swaroop Director of Engieering, MathWorks, Hyderabad		External	Member
65.	Dr. Chitrapu Kamaraju, Director, Law		Member	cribei
66.	Dr. N. Satya Sree, Prof. of Chemistry	:	Member	
55.	51. 11. Sacya Sicc, 1 for or chambery	•	Member	

Minutes of the 38th Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 28/09/2024 [Saturday] at 10:00 AM

Item						
	Welcoming the members of Academic Council by the Chair.					
	The meeting commenced with welcome remarks of the Chair, Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan					
	who greeted the members of the 38th Academic Council meeting. He said that VFSTRU					
	had been pioneering many systems of academia and was marching well ahead of time.					
	The university had been successful in adopting and adapting to NEP. He directed the					
	Deans, Associate Deans and HoDs to be prepared for R25/26. He expressed his					
	happiness over the decision of ICAR to implement NEP in agriculture education. He					
	desired that the external members should visit VFSTRU for a more convenient and					
	beneficial dialogue to help the university. Then he handed over the meeting to the					
	Registrar who welcomed all the external and internal members along with the students					
	present in the meeting. He recollected the salient features of the 37 th ACM in which					
	commencement of Pharma D and M. Pharmacy from the AY 2024-25 and the steps					
	taken by School of Computing and Informatics to alleviate the problem caused by dearth					
	of faculty were approved.					
I	Confirmation of the Minutes of 37th Academic Council meeting held on 13th July,					
	2024. Minutes of Meeting enclosed.					
	The minutes of 37th Academic Council Meeting held on 13th July 2024 were placed					
	before the council for approval. After deliberation, the Council approved the minutes of					
10	37 th Academic Council meeting.					
II	Action taken on the decisions of 37th AC meeting held on 13-07-24. The Registrar read					
	out the action points while the members responded to the same.					
	Action point 1. A white paper should be drafted by the Department of Chemical					
	Engineering on the placement prospects of the department – presented by Dr. M.					
	Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Chemical Engineering.					
	Dr. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Chemical Engineering presented the overview of the					
	department discussing the courses of the department, faculty, research thrust areas,					
	publication record of the past five years, research projects and funded projects. He					
	presented the student enrolment and placements along with the action plans to improve					
	placements and admissions in his department. He invited advice from the members to improve the admissions in his department.					
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	Prof. K. Subbaragaiah advised that in Gujarat and Assam, there were several plants					
	which can offer placements to the students of Chemical Engineering. He also advised					
	that an elective on process engineering should be offered to the students to improve their					
	employability for which the HoD responded that the same domain was already in place in form of project in the curriculum.					
	Prof. Subbarangaiah also advised to consider the studies on compound semi-conductors					
	which was the most happening domain of FAB.					
	Dr. Malakondaiah advised to consider studies on use of glass in the interiors of nuclear					
	reactors. He quoted a company led by Mr. Nageswara Rao, which registered a growth of					
	30%, using this technology and advised to collaborate with the same. The Chair directed					
	Dr. Prasad Panda to be in touch with that company.					
	Prof. Sreenivas Kumar advised to align the syllabus of the department with the current					
	demands of the industry; organise industrial tours and work on improving the pay					
	package for the students. He also advised to expose the students to Data Analytics. Dr.					
	Ramesh Naidu responded that industrial tours were organised during summer along with					
	training and industry-interaction activities.					

Responding on the point of pay package to students, Dean T&P stated that the pay package for the graduates of Chemical Engineering which was initially 3-5 lakhs per year was now increased to 4-5 lakhs per year which was in tune with the compensation offered to core groups. Prof. Sreenivas Kumar stated that though initially the pay was lesser, but professional growth in future would be very fast and good.

In this context, the Chair narrated the success story of two persons who took up the manufacturing of transistor computers, which was ignored by IBM, and became successful. The Chair sought for an integrated outlook and welcomed the advice of Prof. Sreenivas Kumar and Prof. Mishra.

Action point 2. A new syllabus in ECE shall be drafted by Er. D. Ramakrishna and circulated to evince comments from the department of ECE – presented by Dr. Pitchiah, HoD, ECE.

Dr. Pitchiah presented the structure of new syllabus, presentation, focus, faculty feedback, revision process, and integration with the existing curriculum. He stated that the syllabus of ECE was renovated by a team of experts from Effectronics which would be implemented for the students of II B.Tech.

The Chair advised the HoD to ensure that the syllabus be holistic and caters to the demands of all companies.

Action point 3.A white paper should be drafted which incorporates the strengths of the department and to be presented in the industry conclave so that the same can be recognised there – presented by HoD, Department of Mechanical Engineering.

The HoD of Mechanical Engineering presented on programs offered; number of labs in the department; no of faculty; research thrust areas (composites); projects in the department – ongoing and completed; collaborative research – publications from 2020-30; faculty H-index; patents; project proposals to DST (01 project); ongoing seed grant projects; doctoral program in the department; active MoUs; proposals for future; professional enrichment of faculty; plans to establish Centre of Excellence; and plans to conduct international conference.

Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra advised to look into the domains of product design (which would attract many projects), thermal, manufacturing and 3D Printing.

The HoD responded that two faculty (one with industry experience) were recruited to deal with thermal projects. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar remarked that the department was sailing in the right direction.

The Chair advised the HoD to venture in thermal, manufacturing and robotics.

Dr. Malakondaiah advised that the area of Guntur has rich presence of auto industry and the Department of Mechanical Engineering could develop good working relations with the same. He also mentioned that they could also collaborate with APSRTC for which he would extend his active support.

Action Point 4: An action plan should be developed to increase the number of M.Tech. and Ph.D. admissions in the Department of CSE – presented by HoD, CSE

HoD, CSE presented the action points as follows:

An action plan should be developed to increase the number of M.Tech. and Ph.D. admissions in the department of CSE:

Current admissions of M.Tech. CSE and Ph.D.

CSE Program are as follows:

AY	NO. OF STUDENTS ADMITTED		
AI	PG (18)	Ph.D.	
2024-25	21	13*	
2023-24	14	17	
2022-23	1	22	

M.Tech. CSE Program is widely promoted on social media – State of art Research facilities, Career Development Opportunities, Scholarships for Meritorious Students and availability of Teaching Assistance for deserving candidates.

Interactions are going on with various IT industries for possible collaborations in research and consultancy activities to support scholarship for meritorious students belong to low income background.

- > Sponsorship Proposals are already sent to PNB and Quixy.
- Discussions are in progress with Delta Technologies and ULearn.

Exploring the possibilities to enrich Industry Institute Interaction by collaborating with Tier II/ III companies to establish Centre of Excellence. Part of COE, companies are expected to offer Internship with stipend and consultancy activities.

Interactions are going on with Quixy, QSpider, and DeltaX.

Planning to conduct a Research Conclave with all the Hyderabad based Companies in the Month of November to establish the Industry Interaction.

The Chair remarked that the department has huge strength and equired about the start-up and incubation activity in the department which should be motivated. The Chair also said that students could proceed on sabbatical and earn credits. Prof. Sreenivas Kumar advised that efforts through group activity should be encouraged.

Dr. Subbarangaiah advised that International Start-up Conferece would be organised in Hyderabad and should be attended. He also informed to pursue the programs in Kerala and Tamilnadu which were dedicated to encourage start-ups.

Action Point 5. A surprise test in Mathematical Aptitude should be administered on the students of I B.Tech. and the Department of Mathematics should be apprised of the students' standards basing which the content of Bridge Course should be designed – presented by HoD, Dept. of Mathematics.

The HoD, Mathematics informed that a Foundational Knowledge Assessment for twenty marks was conducted for the students of I B.Tech. and the key findings were as follows: Performance of students from Biology background:

- a) 1.12% of students secured score between 11-15 marks.
- b) 35.39% of students secured score between 1-5 marks.
- c) 16.85% of students secured score between 6-10 marks.
- d) 46.63% of students secured zero marks.

Performance of students from Non-Biology background

- a) 26.92% of students secured score between 6-10 marks.
- b) 30.27% of students secured score between 1-5 marks.
- c) 26.92% of students secured zero marks.

The HoD discussed the question paper standards. The following responses were evinced during the discussion on this action point.

- 1. Special program is needed for students from Biology background.
- 2. Learning support should be enhanced.
- 3. Focussed study plan for mediocre.
- 4. Evaluation methods should be enhanced.
- 5. Diagnostic tests should be conducted.
- 6. Peer tutoring program should be planned.

Prof. Debi Prasad Mishra appreciated the assessment as a good initiative. He also supported the continuous evaluation system. Prof. Srinivas Kumar opined that minimum criteria marks in Mathematics should be brought into practice. He also opined that teachers also should be trained well.

Prof. Sreenivas Kumar appreciated the assessment as a good step and advised that training for subsequent courses should be offered to students. He advised problem solving skills along with lecture sessions. A training module should be developed purely for skill enhancement and no marks for Maths should be put to build confidence in the students. He also pointed on the problem of English language and training should be imparted in that area as well.

The Chair advised that special inputs should be given to students by dedicating the first two months of I semester for teaching Mathematics.

Action Point 6. The details of admissions should be posted on university website to convince the parents – presented by Dean T&D.

Dean T&D presented this action point by giving the following details on the admission page of university website.

- 1. Various programs available department wise
- 2. Eligibility criteria for each program
- 3. Fees particulars
- 4. Amenities like hostel, labs etc
- 5. Research facilities
- 6. Scholarship details
- 7. Placement details
- 8. Applying online

The Dean also mentioned the details of filled and vacant seats were displayed to parents and students during admission period.

Action Point 7. A committee to be constituted to devise strategies to rejuvenate certain core Engineering departments. – presented by Dean AAA

- 1. Textile Technology Department has to attract the students (who could not offer regular intermediate and engineering program) during their school program itself. And in 10+2 they may offer a vocational degree and then admitting them into B.Tech. Even their medium of instruction can be changed to local language.
- 2. These Departments has to come forward to offer B.Tech. programs for working professionals to effectively use their resources and also to enhance the perception of the department and research possibility.
- 3. Latest courses related to Artificial Intelligence and its applications in Mechanical, Robotics and Automation, chemical, Civil Engineering are to be incorporated into curriculum to make the students employable and make courses more attractive.
- 4. These are to be advertised across India and abroad to attract students. Departments, have to put more efforts in publicizing their curriculum, facilities and placements.
- 5. Textile Technology Department may offer a course "Fashion Technology" with a minor in "Textile Technology" & "Technical Textiles".

III Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval

Results of assessment announced after previous Academic Council Meeting - presented by Dean AAA

Dean AAA presented the results of assessment announced after previous ACM as follows:

Program	Year	AY 2021-22	AY 2022-23	Present year
BCA	II-II	75.76% (25/33)	66.67%(42/63)	97.01%(65/67)
B.Pharmacy	I-II	70.00%(28/40)	65.45%(36/55)	48.44%(31/64)
B.Sc.	I-II	90.24%(74/82)	81.33%(122/150)	77.87%(95/122)
(Hons)	II-II	N/A	83.95%(68/81)	80.69%(117/145)

	Agriculture	III-II	N/A	N/A	81.25% (68/80)
					ilts of assessment announced
	after previous	Academi	c Council Meetin	g as presented by I	Dean AAA was approved by
	the council aft	er deliber	ation.		
iv	Agenda Items	for Infor	nation		

(1) ABET Accreditation and NIRF Ranking – Presented by Hon. Chancellor

Hon. Chancellor stated that VFSTRU was accredited by internationally reputed ABET for five programs (CSE, ECE, EEE, Mechanical Engineering and Biotechology) which was a rare achievement. This makes VFSTRU as the only Engineering institution in the two Telugu states to have this accreditation. This accreditation causes good benefit for students who aspire for higher education abroad. Hon. Chancellor added that this achievement was earned by adhering to high levels of integrity.

Ho. Chancellor further stated that collaboration proposals with foreign universities resulting in MoUs in areas of publications, projects and faculty training would be possible. He wished that as many as 10 MoUs with reputed universities should be realised. This accreditation makes possible the launch of five-year integrated B.Tech. plus M.Tech. This also shall boost the research activity.

(2) Commencement of VFSTR Off-campus at Hyderabad – presented by Interim Director, Off-campus.

The Interim Director Off-campus at Hyderabad presented this point under the following heads:

- a. Receipt of Letter of Intent from UGC on 23rd February 2024.
- b. Receipt of Letter of Approval on 21st May 2024.
- c. Receipt of Approval letter for Hyderabad campus from the Ministry of Education followed by gazette notification on 3rd August 2024.
- d. Receipt of Approval letter for Hyderabad campus from PCI on 11th August 2024.
- e. Admission report
- f. Inaugural session of Vignan's University, Hyderabad on 19th August 2024.
- g. Commencement of Orientation program from 19th August 2024 to 24th August 2024.
- h. Commencement of classes from 28th August 2024.
- i. Abstract academic calendar of Vignan's University.

(3) Additional eligible students for the award of degrees in the 12th Convocation – presented by Dean AAA.

Dean AAA presented the details of students eligible for the award of degrees in the 12th Convocation.

Sl.No.	Program	No. of students approved in the 37 th ACM	Added students	Total eligible students
1.	B.Tech.	930	64	994
2.	BBA	91	18	109
3.	BCA	50	08	58
4.	B.Sc.	39	06	45
5	B.Pharmacy	34	06	40
6.	MBA	97	03	100
7.	MCA	62	1	63
8.	M.Sc.(Chem)	12	03	15
9.	M.Sc.(Org.Chem)	22	03	25

10.	M.Tech.	01	18	19
11.	Ph.D.	22	1	39
	Total	1360	147	1507
	CDOE-MBA		32	32
	Grand Total	1360	179	1539

(4) Convocation 2024 – presented by Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, Chief Coordinator of 12th Convocation.

Dr. Ramesh Naidu presented the point informing the members of ACM, the Chief Guest of the convocation (Hon. Mr. Justice, Sri Pamidighantam Sri Narasimha), award of honorary degrees to Sri Dontineni Sheshagiri Rao, Sri Mullapudi Lokeswara Rao and Sri Saluri Koteswara Rao. He also presented the details of eligible students who received their degrees during the 12th Convocation (total 1539 students).

(5) International students who have joined VFSTRU – presented by Dean IS.

Dean IS presented this point under the following heads:

- a. Country-wise distribution of admissions as on 19-9-24 (332 students).
- b. Gender-wise distribution of admissions 2023-24.
- c. Brach wise distribution of admissions 2023-24.
- d. Gender-wise distribution of admissions 2024-25.
- e. Brach wise distribution of admissions 2024-25.
- f. Tentative admissions of international students.

Hon. Chancellor remarked that along with graduate and PG students, research scholars also should be attracted to VFSTRU. The prestige of the university shall increase with the presence of foreign faculty.

Prof. Sreenivas Kumar opined that the existing UG students could be encouraged to complete their masters at VFSTRU and take up research.

The following table agenda points were discussed during the meeting.

1. Guidelines to offer B.Tech. program to working professionals. – presented by Dean AAA

Dean AAA presented this point under the following heads:

- a. Experience
- b. Course duration
- c. Timings
- d. Credits
- e. Lecture hours
- f. T&P sessions
- g. Curriculum
- h. Proposed distribution of credits
- i. Core courses
- j. Department electives
- k. Open electives

Hon. Chancellor opined that there should be flexibility in the plan to access the students who were working professionals in manner that gives the comfort and possibility for them without interfering in their professional life.

The members gave their approval in principle for this point after deliberation.

2. Introducing B.Sc. Actuarial Science – presented by Dr. UV Manoj Kumar, HoD, B.Sc.

The HoD presented this point under the following heads:

- a. BoS experts opinion.
- b. Introduction to Actuarial Science

- c. Items of program
- d. Curriculum design in line with NEP
- e. Course structure
- f. Credit distribution
- g. Expertise and resource persons available

The proposal was approved in principle after deliberation.

3. Introduction of B.Sc. Data Science and B.Sc Data Science (Hons). – presented by Dean ACSE.

The Dean ACSE presented this agenda point stating the features of this program which would offer B.Sc. degree as exit benefit on discontinuation after three years. He also stated that the four-year B.Sc. (Hons) was equivalent to B.Tech. course. He informed that the BoS will be held in the coming week.

4. Implementing revised ICAR regulations for B.Sc. Agriculture(Hons), B.Tech. Agricultural Engg. – Presented by Dean, AHS.

Dean, AHS presented the implementation of revised ICAR regulations for B.Sc. Agriculture (Hons.), B.Tech. (Agricultural Engg.).

There are no agenda points for ratification.

The closing remarks were rendered by the Chair.

Having discussed all the points, the meeting was adjourned.

The following action points were pronounced during the 37th Academic Council meeting.

Action Point	Action point addressed to
1. A workshop should be planned to develop strategies for improving Mathematics and English.	
2. HoD Mathematics should present the results of the assessment to the Hon. Chairman.	HoD, Mathematics

Registron

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.