

**VIGNAN'S**

Foundation for Science, Technology &amp; Research

(Deemed to be University)

-Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956



F.No.VFSTR/Reg/02/2018\_03

Date : 09<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018

## MINUTES OF THE 29<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON 03.08.2018

The 29<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Management of VFSTR was held on 03.08.2018 (Saturday) at 04:30 PM in the Board Room (V Floor) of A-Block. Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad, Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR chaired the meeting.

The following members were present :-

1. Dr. K. Ramamurthy Naidu, Chancellor, VFSTR - Special Invitee
2. Prof. B.V. R. Chowdari, Sr. Executive Director, President's Office, NTU, Singapore - External Member
3. Dr. T. S. Rao, Sr. Advisor, Dept. of Biotech., Min. of S&T, Govt. of India - External Member
4. Dr. Y. Sarat, Director, United Health Systems, Hyderabad - External Member
5. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy, Prof., Dept. of CSE, AU - External Member
6. Sri. L. Srikrishnadevarayalu, Vice-Chairman, Vignan Group, Guntur - External Member
7. Dr. V.M. Rao, Dean, Engg. and Management - Special Invitee
8. Dr. K. V. Krishna Kishore, Dean, IT and Lib. Services - Internal Member
9. Dr. M. Rama Krishna, Dean, IQAC - Internal Member
10. Dr. S. Krupanidhi, Professor, Dept. of Biotechnology - Internal Member
11. Dr. K.V. Madhuri, Assoc. Prof., Dept of S&H - Internal Member
12. Mr. Ch. Siva Koteswara Rao, Asst. Prof., Dept. of IT - Internal Member
13. Dr. P. M. V. Rao, Controller of Exams - Permanent Invitee
14. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean, Student Affairs - Special Invitee
15. Dr. Ravi Kumar, Dean, Admissions - Special Invitee
16. Dr. Vijay Ramu, Dean, Academics and Foreign Collaboration - Special Invitee
17. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, Dean R&D - Special Invitee
18. Dr. G.Sreenivasa Rao, HoD, Dept. of EEE - Special Invitee
19. Dr. N. Srinivas, HoD, Dept. of S&H - Special Invitee
20. Mr.T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE - Special Invitee
21. Dr. D. Venkateswarlu, HoD, Dept. of CSE - Special Invitee
22. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar, VFSTR - Member Secretary

### Leave of Absence

The following members did not attend the meeting with a request of absence due to prior commitments.

Dr. H. Devaraj, Former Vice-Chairman, UGC	- External Member
Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean, Training and Placement	- Special Invitee

### **Proceedings**

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad expressed his delight over the 6th convocation to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018. He conveyed that the highlight of the convocation would be the 17 PhD degrees to be awarded in this academic year alone compared to the cumulative 9 PhD degrees awarded over the last few years. Thereafter, he invited Honourable Chancellor, Pof. Ramamurthy Naidu for the opening remarks. The Chancellor appreciated the university in connection with the improved figures in the number of candidates eligible to be awarded a PhD.

Following his remarks, the Registrar, Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan commenced the meeting.

#### **I. Agenda items for the meeting**

##### **1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting.**

The minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> Board of Management meeting were presented to the Council. There being no suggestions or remarks from the members, the same have been passed by the Council.

##### **2. Actions taken on the decisions of the previous meeting.**

The actions taken on the suggestions by the Board members from the last meeting were presented. The major issue discussed was in connection with the maintenance of the technical and content quality of the university website. Dr.K.V.Krishna Kishore, Dean IT Services & LIS, elaborated on the steps taken towards the same. It was proposed that the student feedback too be considered for the website amendment process.

Dr.P.V.G.D. Reddy commented that utility of the website would be different for different users. This must be considered while redesigning or revamping the website.

All the other actions taken were duly noted by the members.

#### **II. Agenda Items for approval**

##### **1. Award of degrees to students in the Sixth Convocation - 2018 scheduled on 04<sup>th</sup> August 2018 and Honorary Doctorate Degrees to three eminent personalities**

Cmde. Dr.M.S.Raghunathan, the Registrar, VFSTR, presented the report on the award of degrees to 1230 passed out students which includes UG, PG & Ph.D in the Sixth Convocation scheduled on 04<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018. Besides, he also presented a report on scholars who have completed their Ph.D. viva-voce.

Dr. Vijay Ramu, Dean Academics briefed on the profiles of the three recipients of the honorary doctorates in the 6<sup>th</sup> Convocation 2018 instead of four since Dr.B.V.R. Mohan Reddy, the fourth recipient who was also supposed to be the Chief Guest had expressed his inability to attend the Convocation due to sudden official commitments. All the above has been approved by the members of the Board.

**2. Results of passed out batches for award of degrees**

Dr. P.M.V. Rao, Dean Evaluation, presented the results of the 1230 students eligible for the award of degree. He briefed on the statistics of the pass percentage of the students over 8 semesters and percentage of students who have cleared their exams without any backlogs. Dr.Ramamurthy Naidu suggested that the departments could offer specialized GATE training to improve the performance in the exam. Dr.V.Madhusudhan Rao, Dean Engineering & Management clarified that the action had been initiated and that at least 15 ranks are expected this year.

This was followed by a briefing on the awards and medals to be distributed to the meritorious students and academic achievers. The categories under the same were academic awards, best outgoing student award, Chairman's gold medal, and endowment awards. The branch wise list of the same with criteria of selection was presented to the members of the Board. Dr. P.V.G.D Reddy, Prof. Dept. of CSE, AU, Visakhapatnam noted that the list did not show any sponsored awards from the industry or an award that was funded by an external agency. He opined that requests can be forwarded to industries and external agencies for sponsored awards in addition to university awards. This would be a beneficial recognition for the student beyond the academic domain and would strengthen the university-industry collaboration. In connection with the suggestion, Dr.T.S.Rao, Sr.Advisor, DBT, New Delhi, suggested that the industries be contacted and invited to set the eligibility criteria for the same. Prof. Ramamurthy Naidu, the Chancellor, proposed for the alumni medal in addition to the Chairman's gold medal. The external members opined that the call for all the above mentioned awards must be posted on the university website. Vice-Chancellor, Dr.M.Y.S Prasad, assured the members that the proposal would be studied and initiated accordingly.

The Board members were also informed that it was proposed in the 20<sup>th</sup> Academic Council Meeting to institute an award to honour students with exemplary achievements in non-academic fields too. The members of the Board appreciated the proposal. Awards from various quartets like Gallantry Award, Bravery Award, Social Service Awards etc. were proposed. Dr.P.V.G.D

Prasad Reddy recommended that individual departments may maintain social media where the achievements of the nominated students may be posted. This would help both in sharing and publicizing the work and achievement of the student concerned which in turn would facilitate recognition of the student by an external agency.

With respect to the above proposal, Vice-Chancellor, Dr.M.Y.S. Prasad, directed the internal members to request the counselors across departments to observe their students closely and nominate the eligible students through the HOD to the Vice-Chancellor. The selection committee, at the end of the year, would process the same and decide upon the eligible candidates.

3. **The Minutes of the 05<sup>th</sup> Planning and Monitoring Board meeting held on 07.07.2018**

The Minutes of the 05<sup>th</sup> Planning and Monitoring Board meeting were presented to the members of the Board. The same was approved.

4. **The Minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting held on 30.07.2018**

The minutes of the 20<sup>th</sup> Academic Council meeting were presented to the Board members. The same was approved.

III. **Agenda Items for Ratification**

1. **Intake capacity of B.Sc. for the Academic Year 2018-19**

It was opined that specialized courses must be built into the B.Sc curriculum to make it adaptive of the constant changes in the job market and academia. The increase of intake capacity of B.Sc. Programme from 60 to 120 seats for the Academic Year 2018-19 has been ratified.

2. **Scholarships for SC and ST Admitted candidates**

In addition to the existing reservation policy of VFSTR, extension of 10% scholarship in the Tuition Fee for all SC / ST admitted students has been ratified.

3. **Appointment of Adjunct Professors for VFSTR**

- |                             |                        |
|-----------------------------|------------------------|
| a) Dr. Krishnan Neelakantan | b) Dr. A. Ramakrishna  |
| c) Dr. Purnaiah Boddapati   | d) Dr. V.S.Raghunathan |

4. **Appointment of Research Advisors for VFSTR**

- |                            |                             |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a) Mr. R V Subba Rao (S&H) | b) Mr. V. R. Seshadri (ECE) |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|

The members of the Board opined that more diversity factor, particularly with respect to the research area, could be built into the selection process. The Vice-Chancellor, Dr.M.Y.S. Prasad clarified that the selected advisors had their research canvas spread through fields as diverse as material sciences, high speed computing, chip development, atomic energy and electronics. He

informed the members of the Board that the departments and the external members could however, suggest more and better names for the same.

Dr. T.S. Rao recommended that the research advisors appointed in various departments of the university be requested to spend about 15 days on the campus and interact with the faculty. All the above appointments have been ratified.

5. List of teaching and non-teaching staff joined and relieved since last BoM meeting held on 23.06.2018

The above point was discussed and ratified by the members of the Board.

#### IV. Agenda items for information

-NIL-

#### V. Any other points with the permission of the chair.

Dr.Y.Sarat reminded the internal members about the importance of maintaining a department wise database of the alumni and that an in-charge for the same be identified. Dr.M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean Students informed the members that alumni group has been constituted and the first meeting of the same would be organized shortly. She assured the members that the database for the same would be maintained. It was recommended that the university employs student members to manage the alumni affairs with an incentive for the students involved.

The members also opined that one foreign faculty be recruited per department who would serve as a visiting faculty. This, in their opinion could improve both the rankings and research output of the university.

VU Today, a tabloid which was initiated with the objective of capturing various activities and events across the campus was highly appreciated by the external members.

Thereafter, The Vice-Chancellor thanked the members for their valuable inputs. The members of the Board were thanked and felicitated by the Chairman.

There being no further points, the meeting was adjourned.

**The decisions / actions from the 29th Board of Management Meeting are as given below:**

##### a) Constitution of an Alumni Association

The alumni database across the departments must be maintained. Students who could operate and maintain this database must be identified and incentivized for the work.

**[Action: Dean Student Affairs]**

- b) Institution of special awards to honour students for their exemplary achievements in non-academic fields.
- c) Identification of students eligible for the Exemplary Achievement Award.

[Action: Selection committee, Vice-Chancellor, all HODs, all Counselors]

- d) Requests must be forwarded to industries and external agencies for sponsored awards in addition to university awards.

There being no further points, the meeting was adjourned.



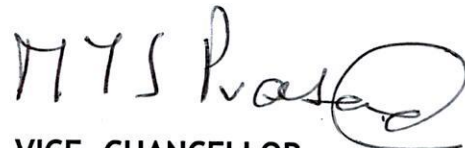
**REGISTRAR  
VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION**

**FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH**

Declared to be Deemed University U/S 3 of UGC Act 1956,

**VADLAMUDI-522 213.**

**A.P. INDIA**



**VICE- CHANCELLOR  
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