

Minutes of the 5th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 23/08/2024 (Friday) at 02.30 p.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 5th EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 23rd August, 2024.

(Physical and Virtual Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 23rd August, 2024 at 02:30 PM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTRU chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Dr. Y. Sarat
Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad : External Member
3. Prof. BVR Chowdary
Senior Executive Director, Office of the Provost
University of Singapore (Strategic India and Initiatives)
(Virtual Mode) ✓ : External Member
4. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) ✓ : External Member
5. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : External Member
6. 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
7. Shri. P. Murali Manohar
Former Member Secretary,
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Hyd : External Member
8. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : External Member
9. Dr. S. Desikan
Representing Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
10. 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
11. Prof. P.M.V. Rao,
Dean AAA : Special Invitee
12. Prof. Y. Ravishekar
Dean, T&D : Special Invitee
13. Dr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean T&P and
Dean School of Law and Management : Special Invitee
14. Prof. T. Ramesh Babu,
Dean, School of Agri, Food Science and Tech. : Special Invitee
15. Prof. K. Venkata Rao
Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering : Member
16. Dr. Anandarup Goswami
Associate Professor, Dept. of Chemistry : Member
17. Prof. N. Veeranjanyulu
HoD, Dept. of IT and Computer Applications : Special Invitee
18. Prof. M. Ramesh Naidu
Chief Coordinator, 12th Convocation - 2024 : Special Invitee

19. Prof. T. Pitchaiah
HoD, Dept. of ECE : Special Invitee
20. Dr. Ch. Jithendra. Ch, HoD,
Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences : Special Invitee
21. Dr. S. Venkarama Phani Kumar
HoD, Dept. of CSE : Special Invitee
22. Dr. Deevi Radha Rani
HoD, Dept. of ACSE : Special Invitee
23. Mr. Sunil
Representing Interim Director-Hyderabad Campus : Special Invitee
24. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
25. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan,
Registrar : Secretary

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

1. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs : Member
(Absence of leave owing to engagement with inspecting DST scientist and Board Meeting of iTBI)

Minutes of the 5th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 23/08/2024 [Friday] at 02:30 p.m.

Item	
I.	<p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The Chair commenced the meeting by expressing his deepest condolences on the sad and untimely demise of Prof. H. Devaraj, the former Vice-Chairman of UGC and Member of Executive Council, VFSTRU. He said that all the members of the Executive Council would surely miss the dynamic presence of Prof. Devaraj and his advisory which he rendered from 2017 till his departure. A resolution was moved by the Chair appreciating the invaluable services rendered by him, and in his honour a two-minute silence was observed by all the members of the Executive Council. The Chair said that he had a mixed feeling as the mourning of Prof. Devaraj had to be followed by jubilation on achieving 72nd position in the ranking given by NIRF and also being accredited by ABET for a period of six years for five B.Tech. programs of the university. The Chair handed over the meeting to the Registrar who read out the salient features of the 37th Academic Council Meeting held on 13th July, 2024. Following this, the deliberation commenced on Action Taken Report on the action points of 4th Executive Council Meeting.</p> <p>1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 4th Executive Council Meeting held on 25th May, 2024. The minutes of the 4th Executive Council Meeting held on 25th May, 2024 were presented before the members of 5th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes after deliberation.</p> <p>2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 37th Academic Council Meeting held on 13th July, 2024. The minutes of the 37th Academic Council Meeting held on 13th July, 2024 were presented before the members of 5th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes after deliberation.</p>
II.	<p>Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 4th Executive Council Meeting:</p> <p>1. Students should be trained to develop as AI operators as the role has immense employment prospects. - presented by Dean T&P The Dean T&P stated that he contacted the HR personnel of many companies in this respect and organised training courses in Gen AI (300 students trained), AWS (more than 60 students trained) and Machine Learning offered by SOCI. He stated that training for non-computer students was also given to make them eligible for AI operator role in the companies giving jobs for AI operators. The Dean presented the companies like PWC, Deolotte and Accenture which were recruiting students with qualification in AI. Dr. Chakravarthi stated that he was impressed with the report by the Dean and advised to encourage diverse career paths and give importance to the fields like health care and pharmaceuticals. HoD, CSE stated that 300 students enrolled for Gen AI Micro-certification and all 1300 students of II year would be enrolled in their second year. Dr. Chakravarthi stated that NLP tools were also very important along with data analysis and data handling. He advised to produce 10-20 students who can be motivated to establish start-ups. He also advised to encourage multi-disciplinary collaborative projects. Prof. BVR Chowdari stated that the National University of Singapore has Masters program in AI which is in high demand attracting salary between 35,000 to 70,000</p>

Singapore dollars.

2. A half-day workshop on the techniques to attract and recruit talent personnel should be organised under the aegis of Dr. ES Chakravarthi for all the departments. (ATR presented by Dean Admissions)

The Dean stated that Dr. Chakravarthi conducted a meeting and suggested certain reforms to achieve the above-said goal. He said that the interview for recruitment should be completed within one day and offer document should be given to the candidate on the same day. He said so far, six interviews were conducted in the above-said manner. The Dean also mentioned the following means and ways for attracting and retaining the talent in VFSTRU.

1. Academic placement program
2. Employee referral program
3. Increase in M.Tech. stipend and reducing teaching load.
4. Duo-offer to wife and husband

The Dean said that measures will be taken to maintain work-life balance. M.Tech. stipend was increased to the effect that currently Rs. 15,000 per month would be paid during the first year and Rs. 20,000 would be paid for the M.Tech. students during the final year. He stated that sanctioning paternity leave was under consideration.

Dr. Chakravarthi mooted the issue of platform for industry personnel with experience of seven years and above who want to teach for a brief period of six months. The Chair stated that this plan can work out well for cities like Hyderabad and Bangalore considering the salary, amenities, climate and educational facilities for children and can be implemented in the Hyderabad campus. Moreover, such industry personnel also need to be academically oriented. The Chair also mentioned that accommodation for teachers hailing from North India is discussed with the Chairman. Prof. L.M. Patnaik also mentioned that accommodation for faculty shall add to the status and functioning of the university. He also advised to reduce the probation period to three months for which the Chair countered that three months would be too less period to assess the faculty. The Chair recommended that there should be housing facility for the faculty and also education facility for children.

3. IoT and Image Processing should be allotted as projects for ECE and CSE students. (presented by HoDs of CSE, ECE and ACSE)

HoD, ECE responded that in his department, IoT and AI&ML (Image Processing) were two clusters among the five research clusters. He stated that they were already guiding projects in that domain and would further increase the number of projects in this domain. In this context, the Vice-Chairman questioned on the internships in Electronics for which the HoD responded that they were not yet realised. He further stated that M.Tech. students can be trained and upgraded.

HoD, ACSE stated that 63 students from AI&ML and CSBS were trained by clustering them into seven batches. All final year students were trained in AI by experts. Dr. Chakravarthi enquired the possibility of interdisciplinary project within the batch for which the HoD responded that it was happening in the projects of his departments related to Robotics. Dr. Chakravarthi also sought for the commencement of relay projects in the department.

HoD, CSE responded that out of 140 IV CSE batches in 2023-24, 10 project batches have worked on IoT applications and more than 60 project batches have carried work in the area of computer vision applications. Some of the project titles in the domains of IoT and Computer vision were presented by the HoD

4. Website of VFSTRU should be immediately and appropriately upgraded and if needed, support from external professionals should be sought for. (presented by Dean T&D)

The Dean T&D responded that the website which was once static was now dynamic and the database system was simplified that it can be updated even by DEOs of the departments. When Dr. Chakravarthi enquired if the website can be converted into android /IOC, the Dean responded that conversion into android would be possible

but conversion into IOC had some problems. The Dean stated that three students were working on webpages. Dr. Chakravarthi opined that the students can be encouraged towards a start-up (concerning webpages) in the process of training and development. The Chair advised to reward the performance of the students with additional credits or consider the same as project work. The Dean assured that the website would be ready in two months' time.

III. **Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval**

1. List of eligible students for the award of degrees in the 12th Convocation scheduled on 24th August, 2024. (presented by Dean AAA)

The Dean AAA presented the list of eligible students for the award of degrees in the 12th Convocation. The dean stated that 1539 students of various programs of VFSTRU would receive their degrees in the convocation of which 39 Ph.d. degrees will be awarded to scholars for their research.

Decision: The list of eligible students for the award of degrees in the 12th Convocation was approved after deliberation.

2. Chief Guest and Guests of Honour for the 12th Convocation 2024. (presented by Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, Convenor of the 12th Convocation)

Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu informed that Sri. Pamidighantam Srinarashimha would be the Chief Guest for the 12th Convocation. Sri. D. Sheshagiri Rao, Founder Chairman of SEC Industries and Sri. M. Lokeshwara Rao, Chairman of Lokesh Industries would be the Guests of Honour. Sri Saluri Koteswararao who is supposed to attend the convocation as Guest of Honour would be represented at the conference by his son owing to the former's ill-health. Dr. D. Sehshagiri Rao, owing to his advanced age, would be represented in the convocation by his son

Decision: The details of Chief Guest and Guests of Honour for the 12th Convocation were discussed and approved by the council.

3. Commencement of Pharm D and M.Pharmacy after the approval by PCI. (presented by HoD, Pharmacy)

The HoD, Pharmacy stated that after the inspection by PCI, approval was given by the same for commencing Pharm D (with an intake strength of 30 students) and M.Pharmacy (with an intake strength of 15 students) at VFSTRU. He also informed that the number of seats in B.Pharmacy had increased from 60 to 100. He stated that the existing infrastructure and labs were sufficient for B.Pharmacy and hence new labs have to be provided. The HoD stated that the department was associated with Aditya Hospitals, Guntur for the purpose of practicals.

The Vice-Chairman enquired the HoD, the variation in the systems and academics of JNTU affiliated Pharmacy colleges and B.pharmacy course at VFSTRU for which the HoD responded that owing to the strict need to adhere to the rules of PCI, the degree of latitude enjoyed would be minimum in the above-said areas. However, at VFSTRU, the add-on courses and CRT offered to the students were the unique features of B.Pharmacy course. In this context, Dr. Chakravarthi intervened and stated that 15-25% of amendments would be permitted in the course.

The Vice-Chairman directed the HoD to consult Dr. Meenakshi, Pro VC of Narsi Monjee University, Bombay and discuss the possibility and degree of autonomy that can be enjoyed by VFSTRU with respect to the above-said courses.

Decision: The agenda point on commencement of Pharm D and M.Pharmacy was discussed and approved by the council.

IV. **Agenda Items for Information**

1. Status of Vignan Off-Campus at Hyderabad (presented by Mr. Sunil, Coordinator MBA)

The agenda point was presented by Mr. Sunil, Asst.Prof, MBA under the following heads:

1. Physical details of the Off-campus and various landmark events concerning the application for approval, inspection and receipt of approval to commence

← singer and composer
← the fluid

	<p>the Off-campus.</p> <p>2. Name of programs and proposed student intake.</p> <p>3. Branch-wise admissions report as on date.</p> <p>2. Results of end semester (even) for the academic year 2023-24. (presented by Dean AAA)</p> <p>The Dean AAA presented the agenda point under the following heads</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Comparison of aggregate results of I B. Tech. II semester for the AYs 2021-22 (88.60% students pass), 2022-23(91.42%) and 2023-24(87.59%). 2. Comparison of aggregate results of II B. Tech. II semester for the AYs 2021-22 (90.06% students pass), 2022-23(87.59%) and 2023-24(92.27%). 3. Comparison of aggregate results of III B. Tech. II semester for the AYs 2021-22 (89.15% students pass), 2022-23(93.79%) and 2023-24(91.41%). 4. Comparison of aggregate results of IV B. Tech. II semester for the AYs 2021-22 (99.69% students pass), 2022-23(99.47%) and 2023-24(98.62%). <p>3. Appointment of Professor (Emeritus), Professors of Practice and Adjunct Faculty since 26th March 2024. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar informed that five Professors of Practice (two in Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences; One in the department of Advanced Computer Science and Engineering; one in School of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences and one in School of Law and Management) were appointed.</p> <p>Two Honorary Professors of Practice were appointed (one in the Department of ACSE and one in the Department of ECE)</p> <p>One Adjunct faculty was appointed in the Department of ACSE and one Professor Emeritus was appointed in the Department of ECE.</p> <p>4. Faculty joined and relieved from 01st January 2024 till date. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar presented that 136 teaching faculty joined VFSTRU in various cadres since 01st January 2024 and 35 teaching faculty in various cadres were relieved from duties since the same date from VFSTRU.</p> <p>5. Non-Teaching staff joined and relieved from 01st January, 2024. (presented by the Registrar)</p> <p>The Registrar presented that 71 non-teaching staff (including technical and non-technical staff) were recruited into VFSTRU since 01st January 2024 and 27 non-teaching staff were relieved since the same date from VFSTRU.</p>
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Discussion on table agenda points.

New Logo for VFSTRU

Dean T&D presented the new logo of VFSTRU for the approval of the council. Dr. Chakravarthi sought for the explanation on the philosophy and rationale behind the various features of the new logo. After extensive discussion, the new logo has been approved.

V. The following action points were pronounced during the 5rd Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	The HoD, ECE should interact with the CEO Effectronics for obtaining internships in Effectronics. The outcome of the discussion with the Er.D.Ramakrishna should be presented in the next Executive Council Meeting.	HoD, ECE
2.	HoD Pharmacy should consult Dr. Meenakshi, Pro VC of Narsi Monjee University, Mumbai and know the chance and degree of autonomy that is possible in the pharmacy courses at VFSTRU with adherence to the stipulations of PCI and present	HoD, Pharmacy

	the same in the next Executive Council Meeting.	
3.	Website of VFSTRU should be ready in all respects by the next EC Meeting	Dean T&D

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


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