

Minutes of the 6th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 07/12/2024 (Saturday) at 09.30 AM

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

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

MINUTES OF THE 6th EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 07th December, 2024.

(Physical Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 07th December, 2024 at 09:30 AM 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) : External Member
4. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : External Member
5. Shri. P. Murali Manohar
Former Member Secretary,
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Hyd : External Member
6. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : External Member
7. Dr. M. Malakondaiah, Former DGP, AP : External Member
8. Dr. M. Rama Krishna
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
9. 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
10. Prof. D. Vijay Ramu, Dean PCF : Member
11. Prof. Y. Ravishekar
Dean, T&D : Special Invitee
12. Prof. K. Venkata Rao
Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering : Member
13. Dr. Anandarup Goswami
Associate Professor, Dept. of Chemistry : Member
14. Dr. MSS Rukmuni Dean SA : Special Invitee
15. Dr. D. Venkatesulu, Addl. Dean, ACSE : Special Invitee
16. Prof. N. Veeranjanyulu
HoD, Dept. of IT and Computer Applications : Special Invitee
17. Prof. M. Ramesh Naidu
HoD, Dept. of Chemical Engineering : Special Invitee
18. Dr. Susanta Kumar Satpathy,
Director, Polytechnic Education : 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. UV Manoj Kumar, Asst Prof. Mathematics, HoD, B.Sc. : Special Invitee
22. Sri. NSN Murthy, Finance Officer : Special Invitee
23. Dr. Siva Sankar Mandal Baidya
Asst. Professor, Dept. of SSH : Special Invitee
24. Dr. Bonam Vijaya Bhaskar Rao
Asst. Professor, Dept. of SSH : Special Invitee
25. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
26. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar : Secretary

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 (Virtual Mode) : External Member
2. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies IISC,
Benguluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : External Member

Minutes of the 6th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 07/12/2024 [Saturday] at 09:30 AM

Item	
I.	<p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The Chair commenced the 6th Executive Council Meeting by welcoming the external and internal members of the council and remarked that the union of all members shall usher progress and desired results. The Chair appreciated the Vice-Chairman for possessing the awareness of the educational system in the country and the latter could affect positive developments. The Chair lauded Dr. Malakondaiah for his simple and down to earth nature with critical appreciation of the systems and the latter's association with him and worthwhile contribution throughout the ILDP meetings across various departments. Hon. Chancellor's keynote address was remembered in this context. The Chair pointed at the sharp observation of the Registrar who had an eye for the detail. Dr. Chakravarthi, who had a special place for Vignan in his heart, proved to be very supportive and had been an usherer of good developments in the hour of need. The Chair remarked that expectations on VFSTR were at the international level and should gear up to meet the same which would be possible by incessant efforts towards excellence, permanent preparation and transparency in building and operating the systems. The Chair also welcomed the students who were invited to observe and learn from the proceedings of the meeting. The Chair handed over the meeting to the Registrar who welcomed the members of the council and commenced the proceedings of the meeting.</p> <p>1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 5th Executive Council Meeting held on 23rd August, 2024. The Registrar presented the salient features of the 5th Executive Council meeting held on 23rd August, 2024 and placed the minutes of the council meeting before the members of 6th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes after deliberation.</p> <p>2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 39th Academic Council Meeting held on 30th November, 2024.</p>
II.	<p>The Registrar presented the salient features of the 39th Academic Council meeting held on 30th November, 2024 and placed the minutes of the council meeting before the members of 6th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes after deliberation.</p> <p>After the confirmation of the minutes of the meetings, the agenda items of the 6th Executive Council meeting were taken up.</p> <p>Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 5th Executive Council Meeting:</p> <p>1. HoD ECE should interact with the CEO, Efftronics for obtaining internship in Efftronics - presented by HoD, ECE</p> <p>HoD, ECE stated that Efftronics had been supporting the students of VFSTR with internships and stipend for over a decade and in his interaction with the CEO, it was assured that the same support shall be extended even in the future.</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi enquired on the tangible objectives resulted from the discussion for which the HoD responded on the proposal for initiating the M.Tech. course in IoT in collaboration with Efftronics which conspired to be ineffective due to the dissatisfaction of the company with the pool of 500 students meant for the program. The HoD was advised to increase the number of students.</p> <p>The Vice-Chairman enquired on the number of M.Tech. students in the department for which the HoD responded that it was five students in I M.Tech.</p>

VLSI and two students in II M.Tech. VLSI. The Vice-Chairman directed the HoD to discuss with the CEO of Efftronics to utilize these students. The Vice-Chairman hoped that the students earmarked for Efftronics should have been trained for sometime before they were presented before Efftronics for admission into M.Tech. IoT program.

Dr. Y. Sarat asked about the other companies than Efftronics for which the HoD responded that Veda IIT offers placements and internships. The HoD stated that 220 students passed out which is 80% of the total strength and 10% opted for higher education.

The Chair opined that the students should have same mentors in II and III semesters.

The students who have passed out should be used as Teaching Assistants.

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 VFTR with adherence to the stipulations of PCI - presented by HoD Pharmacy**

HoD, Pharmacy presented that he interacted with the Pro VC, Dr. Meenakshi in which she expressed her satisfaction on the course details of Pharmacy in VFSTR and gave inputs for possible progress. Dr. Y.Sarat asked for the schedule of NBA accreditation, the HoD responded that it was in 2024. Dr. Chakravarthy asked about value added courses, the HoD responded that some additional training in communication skills should be provided for the students of Pharmacy. He further stated that as per PCI, internships in companies of Hyderabad were available for students. Dr. Chakravarthy informed that internships in the companies from Bangalore should be sought for. The HoD stated that the coming batch of students, there shall be 100% internships in Pharma companies. The HoDs were advised to associate their departments with departments of other colleges.

3. **Website of VFSTR should be ready in all respects by the next EC meeting - presented by Dean TD**

The Dean TD stated that 95% of the work related to the website was completed with some aspects of design and content as pending which shall be completed in the next four to six weeks' time.

Dr. Y. Sarat advised the Dean to fix a deadline for the completion of the website.

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

1. **Appointment of Dr. M. Malakondiah, former DGP (A) as a member of Executive Council - presented by Dean PCF**

Dean PCF read the elaborate profile of Dr. M. Malakondaiah in which his illustrious contributions were presented. The Chair lauded Dr. M. Malakondaiah and welcomed him aboard as the new member of Executive Council.

Decision: The appointment of Dr. M. Malakondaiah as the member of Executive Council was approved.

2. **List of Vignan online students (July 2022 batch) eligible for the award of degrees in the Special Convocation 2024 scheduled on 07-12-2024 - presented by Prof. N. Veeranjeyulu, Convenor, Convocation**

The Convenor, 2nd Convocation of online students presented that 5594 students had enrolled for the online courses till date. For the 2nd Convocation, on 7th December, 2024, a total 859 students (84.44%), of which 669 from MBA and 190 from MCA, would be receiving their degrees. Prof.N. Veeranjeyulu informed that Prof. Krishna Deva Rao, Vice-Chancellor NALSAR would attend the Convocation as the Chief Guest.

Dr. Chakravarthi questioned on the progress of the students who passed out for which the Convenor responded that four students have submitted their degrees to their employers and received promotion.

Decision: The agenda point was approved by the council after deliberation.

3. Student Intake for the Academic Year 2025-26 - presented by Dean Admissions.

The Dean stated that for the current academic year, the sanction strength was 3210 and the number of students admitted were 3083. The Dean proposed to increase the proposed intake strength to 3930 (proposed increment in intake - 720) for the coming academic year excluding the branches like Agriculture, Bioinformatics, BME, BT, Chemical Engineering, Civil Engineering and CSE.

The Dean proposed that at Hyderabad, the sanctioned strength was 840 and current intake was 699. The Dean proposed an increment of 420 which made the proposed intake strength to be 1260.

The discussion on lowering PG admissions happened and Dr. M. Malakondaiah proposed to modify the courses leading to 100% placements.

Prof. BVR Chowdari advised to attract the students towards master's degree, improve their skills and incentivise them.

The Chair stated that Hyderabad was the most happening place where students can be attracted towards master's degree and Vignan could include a finishing school. Dr. Chakravarthi proposed for a more specialised courses in M.Tech.

Decision: The agenda point was approved by the council after deliberation.

IV. Agenda Items (approved by 39th Academic Council) for consideration

1. Commencement of two new Diploma courses (EEE and Mechanical Engineering) from the academic year 2025-26 - presented by Director, Polytechnic Education

The Director of Polytechnic presented this agenda point in which he described the introduction of Polytechnic in the AY 2022-23. He proposed for the introduction of two new courses in Polytechnic in the streams of EEE and Mechanical Engineering from the AY 2025-26. He stated that there was ample scope of employment for the students of these courses in industry. The Director presented the proceedings of external BoS and explained the justification of this program. The credit distribution for these two streams of Polytechnic, course structure and the curriculum design were presented. The duration of the program was three years of six semesters. The minimum credits required for the award of certificate is 124. The minimum qualification for admission into this course was 60% in SSC. All the courses shall commonly have Digital Electronics, basics of computer like C++ and OOPS. There shall be internship at the end of III year. He also presented the syllabus of EEE and Mechanical Engineering (breadth-wise) and department electives and stated that there shall be more scope for practice.

The course structure of DEEE in I, II and III years was presented. Details of internship and the list of department electives were presented. There shall be equal emphasis on practical learning along with theory.

The course structure of Polytechnic in Mechanical Engineering and the list of department electives were presented. There shall be a component of management in all semesters. The Director put the scope of entrepreneurship in this stream open to suggestions from the members of the council. The evaluation criteria were discussed. He proposed for the grant of Rs. 5000 for the students opting for internal internship. He stated the instance of two students of his department securing paid internship of Rs. 8000 for industries of Hyderabad. He presented the progress of current students. The Director stated that APTED was consulted for the design of the syllabus and the members of BoS were themselves from Polytechnic background. Maths course in ML was made compulsory and there shall be 50% theory and 40% scope for practical learning. He further stated that the polytechnic institutions in AP, Rajasthan and Punjab for the prospects of employment of the students of these courses and received positive feedback. The Dean T&P promised campus placement for the students of CSE, EEE and ME who can be absorbed as Junior Trainee Engineer, Safety Engineer and Supervisor.

2. Commencement of BS (Hons) Data Science from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dean ACSE

Dean ACSE presented the commencement of BS (Hons) Data Science program of four years duration (with intake strength of 30) with multiple entry and exit options where one can exit the program after 3 years leading to the award of B.Sc. degree. The BoS comprised both internal and external members. The Dean presented the distribution of 160 credits of the program and the course structure of the 04-year program with 08 semesters.

Dr. Y. Sarat enquired the market demand for this course, the Dean answered in affirmative. Dr. Chakravarthi enquired about the reason behind dual and at once existence of B.Tech. and B.Sc. in Data Science, the Dean responded that the option of the course is affordability driven.

3. Integrated B.Sc. - M.Sc. program in psychology (intake B.Sc. 60 and M.Sc. 30) from the AY 2025-26 - presented by Dr. Sivasankar Mandal Baidya and Dr. Bonam Vijaya Bhaskara Rao of Social Sciences and Humanities.

Dr. Sivasankar Baidya presented this agenda point under the following heads:

- A. Suggestions received from the 38th Academic Council
- B. Plan of action
- C. Plan of action for admissions
- D. Pursuing internships and placement avenues
- E. Visit to various institutions
- F. Acceptance of internship from organisations
- G. Job opportunities for psychology degree holders
- H. Potential stake holders for the success of the program
- I. Endorsement of the syllabus by external experts.

The Chair reminded that the commencement of this course is the fulfilment of assurance to UGC.

4. Introduction of B. Sc. Actuarial Science from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dr. UV Manoj Kumar, Coordinator, B.Sc.

The above agenda point was presented under the following heads:

- A. Need of the program
- B. Curriculum design
- C. Components of Actuarial Science
- D. BoS Experts
- E. Course structure
- F. Credits distribution

	<p>Dr. Manoj Kumar stated that there would be a good demand for this course from the students of Togo.</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi raised the issue of Indian Knowledge System, the Chair promised to include this in the next Academic Council Meeting. In further discussion, Dr, Malakondaiah proposed for considering the courses combinations of Business, Technology and Analytics; the Chair proposed Media Technology Application and Financial Engineering while Dr. Chakravarthi proposed Management Information Systems.</p>
	<p>Agenda Items for Information</p> <p>Conduct of Vignan Mahotsav -25 from 06-02-25 to 08-02-25 - Presented by Dean SA</p> <p>Dean SA presented this point by mentioning the various preparations, novel inclusions and the progress of the work related to the event.</p>

Epilogue:

1. The Vice-Chairman reminded Dr. Chakravarthi to support in deployment of an industry expert as faculty for at least one semester.
2. The discussion on Phase I Faculty - Industry immersion program was ensued during which the details of the program were presented as follows:

No. of industries contacted	31
No of industries compliant to the program	18
Faculty deployed to industry under this program	11

Prof. BVS Chowdary remarked that overseas industries also should be contacted as in IIT Indore. He also informed that the Government of India had decided to establish IITs overseas and VFSTR should interact with local universities abroad and serve as a nodal agency for training. He remarked that NUS had been identified for this purpose and he was functioning as liaison.

3. The Vice-Chairman stated that he was always in favour of welfare of the staff and the latter should reciprocate in form of research.
4. Speaking on the issue of space crunch in the university, Hon. Chancellor stated that it would be a resolvable issue considering the growth of the institution. This issue arises due to the variance in increase of intake and the inherent delay in construction activity. Rather than compelling a shift system, the optimum utilization of labs and classrooms is recommended. However, every effort is on to provide the needed infrastructure at the earliest.
5. Mr. Amarnath of III B.Tech. AIML expressed his opinion that there should some awareness programs on financial management in respect of dealing with stocks and shares to the students. This point was well received by the members of the meeting and the Vice-Chairman stated that a booklet on this concept was released by the Government of India and the Department of MBA should be handling the task of making this available to students with interest in that area.

Ms. Manogna of III B.Tech. BME stated that her interest was in her abroad education and hence, some awareness programs should be conducted on higher education prospects in foreign countries which would also include imparting awareness on options which students with similar interests as her would be benefitted.

The meeting concluded with the felicitation of the external members by the Hon. Chancellor, Vice-Chancellor and the Registrar.

V. The following action points were pronounced during the 6th Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	HoD, ECE should offer training to the students before they were deputed to PG course Efftronics. They should be prepared well ahead of time to ensure quality.	HoD, ECE
2.	The Convenor of Vignan Online Education should present on the metrics like progress, placements and branding strategy related to Vignan Online Education.	Prof. N. Veerajeneyulu
3.	A course suitable for employees where cases will be conducted on Saturdays and Sundays should be designed. Industry should be contacted and customised courses suiting to their needs should be designed.	Dean AAA and Director, Industry Relations
4.	A sub-committee should be constituted comprising Dr. Chakravarthi, Dean ACSE and HoD ECE to find solutions to the problem of low strength in M.Tech.	As mentioned in the action point
5.	A committee comprising Dean AAA and Dr. Narayana, Assoc. Dean AAA should be constituted to look into and propose solutions for the problem of infrastructure in VFSTR.	As mentioned in the action point
6.	The decision to release 20 MSMEs in private participation, privately managed Centres of Excellence by the Government of India should be researched and realised in favour of VFSTR.	Dean R&D
7.	Discussion on Garud sponsorship should be presented in the next Executive Council Meeting	Dean R&D

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


REGISTRAR

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


VICE-CHANCELLOR

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