Minutes of 32nd Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 10/12/2022 (Saturday) at 10.00 a.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 32^{nd} MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 10^{TH} DECEMBER, 2022. (Physical and Virtual)

The members of Academic Council met on 10th December, 2022 at 10:00 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1.	Dr. K. Babu Rao	
	MD, NAVAYUGA Info Tech. Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad	: External Member (Virtually attended)
2.	Dr. M. Shanti Swarup Director of Engineering, MathWorks, Hyderabad	: External Member
3.	Er. D. Ramakrishna MD, Efftronics, Vijayawada	: External Member
4.	Dr. P.M.V. Rao Dean, AAA and Controller of Examinations	: Permanent Invitee
5.	Dr. D. Vijayaramu Dean, PCF	: Internal Member
6.	Dr. M. Ramakrishna, Dean - IQAC and Dean School of Conventional Engg.	: Internal Member
7.	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	: Internal Member
8.	Prof. S. Krupanidhi Dean School of Biotechnology and Pharmaceutical Sciences	: Internal Member
9.	Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, Dean, R&D	: Internal Member
10.	Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P and Dean School of Law and Management	: Internal Member
11.	Dr. A. Ravi Shekhar, Dean, Technology Development	: Internal Member
12.	Dr. Shaik Jakeer Husaian, Dean - Infrastructure, Planning & Monitoring	: Internal Member
13.	Dr. T. Ramesh Babu Dean School of Agri, Food Sciences and Technology and Director - Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences	: Internal Member
14.	Dr. N. Srinivasu Dean School of Applied Sciences and Humanities	: Internal Member
15.	Dr. N. Usha Rani Dean School of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Eng	g. : Internal Member
16.	Dr. N. Veeranjaneyulu, Director - CDOE and HoD, Dept. of IT	: Internal Member
17.	Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Dept. of Chem. Engg.	: Internal Member
18.	Dr. N. Narayan Rao, HoD, Dept. of AE	: Internal Member
19.	Dr. N. Ruben, HoD, Dept. of Civil Engg.	: Internal Member

20.	Dr. D. Venkatesulu, HoD, Dept. of Applied Advance Computin	g : Internal Member
21.	Dr. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE	: Internal Member
22.	Dr. P.V.S. Sobhan, HoD, Dept. of EEE	: Internal Member
23.	Dr. L. S. Raju, HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg.	: Internal Member
24.	Dr. K. Kalpana, HoD, Dept. of MBA	: Internal Member
25.	Dr. Jithendra Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmacy	: Internal Member
26.	Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director of LAW	: Internal Member
27.	Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, HoD, Dept. of Physics	: Internal Member
28.	Dr. P.L.N.Varma, HoD, Dept. of Mathematics and Statistics	: Internal Member
29.	Dr. Koya Prabhakara Rao, Dept. of Chemistry	: Internal Member
30.	Dr. Kaki Venkat Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg.	: Internal Member
31.	Dr. V. Radha Krishna Murthy, Prof of Mathematics	: Internal Member
32.	Dr. T. Subbbaiah, Prof of Chemical Engg.	: Internal Member
33.	Dr. J. NItchal Kiran, Prof of Physics	: Internal Member
34.	Dr. P. Ashok Kumar, Prof of Chemical Engg.	: Internal Member
35.	Dr. B. Nageswara Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg.	: Internal Member
36.	Dr. M. Sarada, Prof of ECE	: Internal Member
37.	Dr. B. Premamayudu, Prof of IT	: Internal Member
38.	Dr. G. Mohanacharyulu, Prof of English	: Internal Member
39.	Dr. D. Vinay Kumar, Assoc Prof of Mech. Engg.	: Internal Member
40.	Dr. A. Goswami, Assoc Prof of Chemistry	: Internal Member
41.	Dr. N. Ananda Rao, Asst. Prof, Dept of ECE	: Internal Member
42.	Dr. G. Nageswarara Rao, Assoc. Prof of English	: Internal Member
43.	Mr. N.S.N. Murthy, Finance Officer	: Internal Member
44.	Mr. R. Suresh Kumar, Systems Manager of IT Services	: Internal Member
45.	Mr. KJNV Narasa Reddy, Asst. Registrar	: Internal Member
46.	Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunanthan, Registrar	: Secretary
<u>Speci</u>	al Invitees:	
Dr. A	njana Devi, Assoc. Prof, Dept. of Biotechnology	

- Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Dikshit, Asst. Prof, Dept. of ECE
- Dr. A. Avinash Reddy, Asst. Prof, Dept of CSE
- Ms. B. Jyotsna Devi, Asst. Prof., Dept of CSE

Leave of Absence:

- 1. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean Student Affairs
- 2. Dr. B. Nageswara Rao, Prof., Dept. of Mech. Engg.
- 3. Dr. N. Satya Sree, Prof., Dept. of Chemistry

Minutes of the 32nd Meeting of the Academic Council Date: 10/12/2022 [Saturday] at 10:00 a.m.

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	Welcoming the members of Academic Council by the Registrar. The meeting commenced with the remarks of the Chair, Prof. P. Nagabhushan. The Chair positively wished that Dr.Babu Rao also attend the meeting physically. Then the Registrar formally welcomed all the members of the Council. He wished for an in- depth discussion of the agenda and said that all the items approved shall be placed in the BoM meeting which was scheduled on 24 th of December, 2022.	
I	Approval of the Minutes of 31 st Academic Council meeting held on 30-07-22. Minutes of Meeting enclosed.	
	The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Academic Council meeting. After deliberation, the Council approved the minutes of 31 st Academic Council.	
н	Action taken on the decisions of previous Academic Council meeting held on 30-07-22.	
32/01	The HoDs of CSE and IT departments responded to the action point of the previous Academic Council meeting stating that, in academics and placements, Data mining and Analytics were being used. The Placement Cell was analysing students' performance in various training activities spread over the previous two years before the placement drives. Company specific training was being organized based on skill sets required, identifying and focussing on gaps in skill sets. The HoDs stated that advanced learners were also being identified by adopting Analytics to support slow learners and improve placements. Various Analytics were being used by academic planners to design a strategy to improve the performance of students in academics. The HoDs stated that this arrangement will increase the chances of students in obtaining suitable placements.	
	Agenda Items for Approval	
32/02	 i. Extension of R-22 regulations and model syllabus to M.Tech., B.A. LLB(Hons), B.B.A. LLB(Hons), M.A. English and M.Sc. Chemistry Dean, AAA presented the salient features of R22. He spoke on the time-line for content coverage. He stated that faculty were trained on creating the Module Banks. The Module Banks of 97 courses were personally checked by the Vice-Chancellor. Question papers of good quality were given for assessment. The marks scored by the students were comparatively less than those secured in conventional tests. Students were referring books and exchanging information. They were preparing PPTs and documents in IEEE formats. He then presented the performance of students in Module 1 which recorded that no student secured the marks less than 35% indicating that performance has not fallen below a certain limit. 	

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	The Dean presented the list of open electives. Seventeen open elective streams were given to students and 1309 students opted for open electives and 371 students opted for open electives via NPTEL. He also stated that 591 students opted for Honours and 1079 students opted for Minors.
	He then spoke on the programs to be brought under R22. M.Tech. has nine specifications and reference credits of M.Tech. program were presented after comparing them with credits of programs under AICTE, National Credit Network, IIIT Allahabad, IISC Bangalore, R20 VFSTR and R22 VFSTR. He mentioned that a student shall secure 12 credits to obtain an Add on certificate
	The Chair explained the performance of students through a sample case of Module 1. The Chair further mentioned that students of VFSTR shall be on par with students of higher learning institutes and stated that LTP structure has good pay offs. He also informed the members that teachers of VFSTR were interacting with industry professionals for continuous improvement of the system.
	The Dean, AAA then presented on the course structure and employment orientation of M.Tech. under R22.
	 Er.D. Ramakrishna responded that communication skills were vital to the students and mentioned about huge change in the industry set up. He mentioned about the technological component that was to be amalgamated with academics. He pointed at the gap between industry and academy. He advised that Descriptive Analytics were needed for Al and ML. He stressed on the growth mind set needed for people. He appreciated the decision to take assessment system in a new direction by adopting world class systems and plans. Dr. Shanti Swarup remarked that teaching should be minimized and communication skills in writing should be included. Dr. K. Babu Rao stated that students should be trained in technical writing. The Chair responded to this stating that under R22, T1 was composed of original problems and makes the student write original reports. The Chair also said that at M.Tech. level, T5 demands original report writing from students.
	The Dean, AAA stated that from M.Tech., there is a provision for onward continuation to Ph.D. that commences during the M.Tech. II year. The faculty mentor shall be the guide to the scholar under this system.
	Er.D. Ramakrishna questioned the convergence of Minor courses with the degrees for which the Chair responded that initially, the Minor courses may appear tangential, but as the course proceeds, there will be a convergence of the degree with Minor courses, since one course of four credits requires a project work to be undertaken catering the spirits of Branch discipline and minor discipline.
	Next under this agenda point, Prof. Mohancharyulu, Coordinator

for M.A. English program presented the inclusion of M.A. English
under R22 norms under the following headings:
1. Reference credits
2. Credit structure of M.A. English
3. Add on courses offered under M.A. English
4. Course structure
5. Program Electives
6. Honourable exit option
Dr. Shanti Swarup advised about including courses like documentation and computational linguistics.
Next under this agenda point, Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director, Law presented on the plan to draw B.A. LLB and BBA LLB under R22 norms by presenting under following headings:
1. Salient features of R22 regulations
2. Comparison between R20 and R22
3. Course distribution of B.A. LLB (Hons) and BBA LLB (Hons)
Dr. Shanti Swarup appreciated the proposal as well formulated and suggested for finding the possibility of synchronising legal studies with computer science to deal with the data bases of cases.
Next under this agenda point, Prof. Koya Prabhakar, HoD, Department of Chemistry presented the inclusion of M.Sc. Chemistry into R22 norms under the following heads:
1. Strength of the department
2. Conversion to R22 structure
3. Comparison with credit structure of other institutions.
4. Category of courses.
5. M.Sc. Chemistry and Organic Chemistry under R22 structure
Dr. Shanti Swarup queried about the study of energy, particularly Nuclear Energy, under M.Sc. Chemistry course. Prof. Prabhakara responded that in courses like Material Chemistry and Physical Chemistry, there shall be study of energy.
Er. D. Ramakrishna enquired about the fire accidents related to chemicals and the needed fire safety. The HoD replied that the concepts would be initially explained in the labs and he shall make efforts to add one more course on the same which cover industrial hazards, chemical hazards, hazards and security. The Chair directed the Dean School of Conventional Engineering to design a course related to industrial hazards and safety that may be offered as an open elective.
After these deliberations, extension of R-22 regulations and model syllabus to M.Tech., B.A. LLB(Hons), B.B.A. LLB (Hons), M.A. English and M.Sc. Chemistry was approved.

	ii. Commencement of M.Sc. Data Science - Two years program with effect from academic year 2023-24	
	Ms. B. Jyostna Devi presented on this agenda point under the following heads:	
	 Requirement of Data Science Importance of Dual Degree program Salient features of the program Multiple entry and exit options Admissions criteria Credit distribution for both M.Sc. and B.Sc. (Hons) in Data Science Credit distribution for B.Tech. in Data Science Er. D. Ramakrishna responded stating that, faulty should spend at least one or two years with industry experts and design the Data Science syllabus. 	
	Dr. Santi Swarup stated that relevance of Data Science with other studies should be brought.	
32/03	Ms. B. Jyotsna Devi responded that the course syllabus of Data Science is comprehensive and they shall consult the experts on this area for making the course more effective.	
	The Vice-Chairman sought for the requisites like benchmarks, information and directions from the External members for the commencement of B.Tech. and B.Sc. Data Science on more rational grounds.	
	The Chair responded to this and assured that the course in Data Science is for the less fortunate B.Sc. students. He stated that the expertise available with the Department of Computer Science and Engineering shall be utilized for teaching Data Science. The data in Vignan Group should be made used and Dean, AAA and, Dean T&P should use Data Analytics with the help of Er. D. Ramakrishna. The data could be used by the students of VFSTR for the hands on experience of Data Analytics. He further assured that, the exercise of BoS and Workshop to launch this course formally is still pending and those formalities shall be completed within the stipulated time. He said that the case of M.Sc. Data Science was presented before the Academic Council for its approval in principle.	
	The Council approved this agenda point in principle.	
	iii. Commencement of one-year Post-Graduate Diploma in Biotechnology by the Department of Biotechnology w.e.f. academic year 2023-24	
32/04	 Prof. Krupanidhi of Biotechnology presented on this agenda point under the following heads: 1. Contents of the course 2. Faculty expertise 	

 Purpose of proposing one-year diploma in BT Course structure Pool of electives Eligibility for admissions Dr. Shanti Swarup responded that he was impressed with the plan and queried if the department had expert faculty to handle the
5. Pool of electives6. Eligibility for admissionsDr. Shanti Swarup responded that he was impressed with the plan
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Dr. Shanti Swarup responded that he was impressed with the plan
course.
The Chair responded that the Department of Biotechnology is
sufficiently equipped to handle the course.
After deliberation, the Council approved the commencement of
one-year PG Diploma in Biotechnology.
iv. Examination results of academic year 2021-22 (II Semester)
The results of examinations announced after previous Academic
32/05 Council are presented before the Council by Dean, AAA and the Council ratified the results after deliberation.
v. Outcomes of SRB and URB
With the direction from Dean, R&D, Dr. Ramesh, Dean, AHS
presented the outcomes of SRB in his department under the
following heads:
1. Suggestions of international experts and other experts
2. Futuristic plans
3. Centres of Excellence
4. MoUs signed
Prof. N. Usha Rani, Dean, School of Electrical, Electronics and
Communication Engineering presented the outcomes of the SRB
under the following heads:
32/06 1. Members of SRB
2. Research groups and centres
3. Outcomes of SRB
Mr. D. Vijay Krishna and Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore also presented
on the outcomes of their respective schools by discussing the outcomes.
Er.D. Ramakrishna advised not to cast a wide net and to excel in
one area or two like knowledge or research. He also advised to
consult authentic sources to select the choice of research area
for excellence.
After deliberation, the Council approved the outcomes of SRBs.
vi. M.Tech. by Research and MBA by Research regulations
Dean R&D presented on this agenda points under the following
heads:
1. Preamble
2. Categories of admission (Internal and External)
3. Admission process
32/07 4. Coursework for candidates
5. Conduct of coursework
6. Coursework assessments
7. Duration of the program
8. Publication of research findings
9. Honourable exit

	10. Re-joining after honourable exit The Chair stated his opinion that M.Tech. with Research shall help the candidates for securing a better position in the industry and entry in Ph.D as well. Er.D. Ramakrishna advised for imparting good capabilities in the learners through this program. The Council after deliberation, approved the M.Tech. by Research and MBA by Research regulations.		
IV	Agenda Items for Ratification		
	i. Commencement of Ph.D. program in Pharmaceutical Sciences		
32/08	HoD, Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences presented that, after obtaining the approval of previous Academic Council to commence Ph.D. in Pharmaceutical Sciences, the VC directed that the proposal be discussed with BoS members of Pharmaceutical Sciences. After obtaining the valuable inputs of the BoS members, the proposal to commence Ph.D. program in Pharma was placed before the Academic Council for ratification. After due deliberation, the Council ratified the proposal.		
	ii. Commencement of M.Sc. Chemistry (with specialization in M.Sc. Organic Chemistry) w.e.f. academic year 2022-23		
32/09	HoD, Department of Chemistry presented this agenda point for ratification of the Council. He stated that M.Sc. Chemistry with 30 strength is being offered from the Academic year 2020-21. In addition M.Sc. Organic Chemistry with 30 strength has started from the year 2021-22. The Council ratified the proposal.		
	iii. Details of students added to the eligibility list for award of degrees during 10 th Convocation held in Sep 2022.		
32/10 Dean, AAA presented for ratification of the details of stud added to the eligibility list for award of degrees during Convocation held in September 2022. The Council ratified this agenda point.			
V	Agenda points for Information		
	i. Status of Centre for Distance and Online Education Programs		
32/11 Director CDOE presented this agenda point for information.			
32/12	 ii. Status of Research Activities The status of research activities in VFSTR that were recorded after the previous Academic Council was presented by the Dean, R&D. 		
32/13	iii. Three faculty members from departments of Biotechnology, ECE and CSE to brief the Academic Council on the research conducted by them		

The following faculty presented on their research work:

Name of the faculty, designation and department	Title of research work
Dr. Anjana Devi, Associate Professor, Dept. of Biotechnology	Valorisation of Cadamba Fruit Waste

Dr. Ashutosh Kumar Dikshit, Asst. Prof, Dept of ECE	Modelling and Development of Devices for Realtime Applications
Dr. A. Avinash Reddy, Asst. Prof, Dept of CSE	An Efficient Medium Assess Control Mechanism for Next Generation Network

VI. The following action points were pronounced during the 32^{nd} Academic Council meeting.

S.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1	The Chair directed that the LTP structure should be strictly maintained as L-2, T-1 and P-2 for the new courses brought under R22 (for MTech)	Dean, AAA and all HoDs
· 2	The Chair directed that one more specialization course associating Legal studies with computers should be designed.	Dean, AAA and Director, Law
3	Dr. Shanti Swarup suggested that a roadmap for development of every department may be designed.	Deans of all schools and HoDs
4	Dr. K. Babu Rao opined that conducting as Academic Audit for resources may be a better idea before proposing a new program.	HoD, Biotechnology
5	Er.D. Ramakrishna suggested that additional practices may be conducted for students who could not attend the practice sessions in full during pandemic	Dean, AAA and Deans of all schools
6	Er.D. Ramakrishna suggested that excellence in one or two areas should be the vision for research.	Dean, R&D
7	The Chair directed that all schools should be ready with their thrust areas in research by the next Academic Council meeting.	Dean, R&D, Deans of all schools and all HoDs
8	The Chair directed the HoD, CSE to develop more creative projects that were to be assigned for students.	HoD, CSE
9	The Chair directed the Dean School of Conventional Engineering to design a course related to industrial hazards and safety that may be offered as an open elective.	Dean School of Conventional Engineering

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 CUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA