

F.No.VFSTRU/Reg/A5/05/2018

Dated : 16.07.2018

**MINUTES OF THE 05TH MEETING OF THE
PLANNING AND MONITORING BOARD HELD ON 07.07.2018**

The 05th meeting of the Planning and Monitoring Board of VFSTR University was convened at 10:30 Am on 07.07.2018 (Saturday) 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 University	Special Invitee
2. Sri Mala Kondayya, Ex DGP, Govt. Of Andhra Pradesh	Special Invitee
3. Dr. Y. Venkata Ramireddy, Chairman, Savera Hospitals, Ananthapur	Member
4. Prof. D.N. Reddy - Former Vice Chancellor, JNTU(H) & Director, CR Rao Advanced Institute of Maths, University of Hyderabad.	Member
5. Dr. Krishna Ella, Chairman & MD, Bharat Biotech International Ltd., Hyderabad	Member
6. Dr. V.M. Rao, Dean - Engineering and Management	Internal Member
7. Dr. PMV Rao, Dean - Dean Academic Registration and Evaluation	Internal Member
8. Dr. K. V. Krishna Kishore, Dean, IT and Library Services	Internal Member
9. Dr. S. Krupanidhi, Dean, Planning and Monitoring	Internal Member
10. Dr.G. Srinivasa Rao, Dean-R & D	Internal Member
11. Dr. D. Vijayaramu, Dean - Foreign Collaborations	Internal Member
12. Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - Training & Placement	Internal Member
13. Dr. M. Ramakrishna, Dean - IQAC	Special Invitee
14. Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Dean - Admissions	Special Invitee
15. Dr. N. Ruben, HoD-Civil Engineering	Special Invitee
16. Mr. R. Sambaiah, Finance Officer	Special Invitee
17. Mr. M. Subbarao, Director - APSSDC	Special Invitee
18. Cmde. Dr. M.S.Raghunathan, Registrar	Secretary

Leave of Absence

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

Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, Vice-Chancellor,
Dr.APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow

Central Govt. Nominee

PROCEEDINGS:

The meeting commenced at 10.30 AM and the chair Vice Chancellor greeted the members present.

I. Opening Address by the Chair and External Members

The Chair, Vice Chancellor, VFSTR, Honourable Chancellor, and Registrar exchanged pleasantries with the members present. They expressed their affinity with the external members and wished for the profound and distilled experience of the Members in academia and Industry which they would contribute to VFSTR.

The Vice Chancellor Dr.M.Y.S.Prasad commenced the meeting by welcoming all the members to the meeting and introduced the external members of the Planning and Monitoring Board. Thereafter, the Vice Chancellor expressed his gratitude towards all the external members and stated that Planning and Monitoring Board meeting is aimed at academic developmental activities, strengthening of research, governance, new concepts of teaching etc., and requested the guidance of all the council members to achieve the same. He stated that the meeting also aimed at framing a clear road map for the next 5 years period with regard to academic, research activities, governance and developing new concepts in teaching.

Sri Mala Kondayya, Rtd. DGP, a special invitee opined that, after bifurcation of the state of A.P does not possess many industries to uplift the economy; the same can be achieved if one concentrated on the emerging trends like artificial intelligence, machine learning, block chain technology etc.

He stated that the product from the universities should be high on skill and talent to stand in the forefront of the world's competitive edge. The era of globalization and liberalization also carries certain threats like talent draining along with fascinating advantages. He mentioned that, countries like Australia, United States have set up their higher educational institutions in Saudi Arabia and attracting students from India in large numbers and students from Vijayawada and Guntur are currently studying in those universities and colleges. Regarding exports concerned, India is in a position to export its manpower to other nations and get good amount of foreign reserves.

He urged on strengthening the higher education in our country which in turn strengthen the nation.

Dr. DN Reddy opined that, competent and qualified faculty and curriculum are the backbone of any university and expressed his utmost satisfaction on infrastructural developments and quality of input of the students that took place over a period of time in VFSTR. He also emphasized on teaching-learning with technology and improvement in "Skill Base" are the need of the hour and more importance to be given to societal demanding PG programs, connectivity with industry and outcome based education. Though VFSTR is situated in a rural area, we need to overcome this phenomenon by putting the best efforts in exploring opportunities to remain connected with the industry. He also urged on the need to produce good student citizens which is more important in the present scenario.

Dr. Venkata Ramireddy expressed his happiness that, VFSTR has been putting in best efforts to improve the quality of education and assured his continuous advice and suggestions through Planning and Monitoring Board.

Dr. Krishna Ella opined that, the faculty in universities need to change their mind-set to attain success. Faculty members should concentrate on the needs of the industry and societal needs of Amarawathi, Vijayawada, Guntur and other surrounding areas. The students should pay more interest on becoming Science students rather than engineers as all the fields are a part of Science including the latest technologies like “Artificial Intelligence” and “Big data”. Faculty must aim at transforming VFSTR from Engineering institution to Science institution which will certainly open the doors for global competition. He urged upon the faculty members to have competitive analysis about the upcoming institutions and their strategies.

The Chair summarized the opening remarks of the external members by emphasizing on environmental change which is the prominent factor in the fast changing world to remain in the business.

II. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 4th Planning and Monitoring Board meeting held 13th May 2017

The chair invited comments from the members on the minutes of the 04th Planning and Monitoring Board meeting held on 13th May 2017. There being no suggestions and remarks from the members, the same has been passed by the council.

III. Actions taken on the decisions of the 4th planning and Monitoring Board Meeting:

Commencing the discussion on the above agenda the chair Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad informed the members present that all the suggestions of the previous 04th Planning and Monitoring Board were meticulously implemented.

In response to a specific query raised by an external member with regard to the status of the previous PMB meeting held on 13th May 2017, the Dean-R & D and Dean-Academics have offered the following explanation to them:-

1. A team from the university had visited various industries.
2. Industry personnel invited for enrolling in Ph.D. program of VFSTR.
3. Feasibility study was carried out for courses like infrastructural Management, Construction Management and Hospitality Management etc.
4. The certification courses offered by APSSDC are tied up with organizations like Courssera, Amazon, Google, Autodesk etc.

Dr. Krishna Ella suggested to adopt the model of IISER, Pune and IISER Tirupati (part of MHRD) for the research part of VFSTR is concerned.

IV. Agenda Items for Discussions and Recommendations

1. Road Map for the next five years 2018- 2023 as Vision Document of VFSTR.

The roadmap for the next five years was presented under the following broad heads:-

- i. Educational processes
- ii. Human Resources
- iii. Physical Resources
- iv. Governance
- v. Building Relationships
- vi. Research-Plan by the Departments:

For each of the above, a list of events were provided for discussions and recommendations of the members as deemed appropriate:-

i. Educational Processes:

1. Adoption of SWAYAM courses and Preparation of new SWAYAM courses.
2. Regular reviewing of academic programs of the University.
3. Create new departments / electives in response to the emerging frontier areas
4. Offer programs with more flexible credit systems
5. Develop Specialized Centers of Excellence in all departments, particularly Bigdata analytics & Centers of skill development.
6. Strengthen industry and academia consortium.
7. The faculty to be categorized under two dimensions i) Research and ii) Teaching.
8. Short Term training programs, National and International Conferences are to be organized on a regular basis.
9. Digitizing Library

ii. Human Resources:

1. Instill heterogeneous academic community among students and faculty.
2. Maintain Student: Teacher ratio: 20:1.
3. Recruitment and retention of faculty and focus on the reduction of attrition.
4. Faculty Welfare Schemes and Student general insurance schemes.
5. HRD Programs such as faculty orientation programs (FOP)
6. SAC (Student Activity Council)
7. Guest faculty, adjunct faculty and research advisors

iii. Physical Resources:

1. Develop Digital Campus by transforming processes related to academic and administrative events.

2. Develop Green Campus by adopting solar energy and waste management systems.
3. Develop Smart Campus by developing all amenities for student progression.
4. Develop multipurpose indoor hall for recreation and facility for sports and games.
5. Develop state-of-the art facilities to promote learning and research.
6. Effective utilization of available space and infrastructure.

iv. Governance:

1. Digital Payments: Transition from a less-cash mode to cash-less mode to be initiated.
2. Focus on more professionalism and transparency.
3. Redesign Organizational Process of the administration with more young participation.
4. Elaborate the system for redressal of grievances.
5. Periodic Teacher-parent meetings

v. Building Relationships:

1. Setup a Technology Park in collaboration with Alumni and Industry
2. University-Industry Consortium
3. Incubation centers and E-cell

vi. Research-Plan by the Departments:

Focus on specific areas of research depending on the availability of expertise:

1. Phase - 1 : Initiation
2. Phase - II : Implementation
3. Phsae - III : Institutionalization

Recommendations from Members

Dr. D.N. Reddy suggested to enrich e-learning resources through certification and industrial training to the students. He stressed up on implementation of CBCS, incorporate latest syllabus like R 16 and working for R 19 regulations, implementing real-time experimental projects in the campus with the aid of scientists and technical staff from various organizations like ISRO, DRDO, implementation of women scientist scheme, establishment of student activity council, efficient faculty needs to be rewarded with incentives apart form the regular welfare appreciations, recruitment of adjunct faculty from R & D institutes , create awareness on 3D printing, cyber security and .net etc...,

He also suggested to set up STP (Sewage Treatment Plant) plant in the campus and employ the technicians above the age of 60 years whose experience and expertise would be of great use to the students.

Dr. Krishna Ella opined that, faculty members should be subjected to a feedback mechanism to assess their teaching ability and in the same way, faculty with better feedback should be sent to other institutions in India and abroad to further hone their teaching skills and abilities.

Dr. Krishna Ella advised to consider the allied fields like integrating engineering and computer sciences by taking a model of IISER Pune for good outcome by nurturing students with curiosity and creativity in an intellectually vibrant atmosphere of research. He also stressed on submission of a project proposal on Artificial Intelligence in association with few faculty members from United States and approach the Technology Development Board (TDB) to get funding for Centre of Excellence.

He also suggested to hire the experienced faculty members for VFSTR from abroad who wish to work in India for one or two years whose experience would certainly mend the students of present generation.

He advised to apply for “Atal Incubation Centre” with the theme of “Rural Engineering Innovation” through NITI Aayog which is a policy of Govt. of India, aimed at sustainable developmental goals which also changes the mind-set of the faculty members of VFSTR.

He also advised to conduct a lecture on the Funding Agencies available in the country who sponsor the projects proposed by various universities. He also urged upon appointing a consultancy who can support the faculty members in writing project proposals.

He stressed upon starting a Veterinary College as this stream has ample opportunities for jobs and the Government of A.P has given permission to start private veterinary colleges.

Dr. Venkata Ramireddy suggested pedagogical reviews once in 2 years to faculty with respect to the papers publication, presentation of the subject and deliverance level of the lecture and be connected with other universities and bring awareness about cyber technology, .Net and Nanotechnology. Dr. Venkata Ramireddy suggested Dean-R&D and Dean-Academics to include English communication skills in the curriculum and provision of skill based laboratories to the students.

Sri P Malakondayya, special invitee advised to think for the futuristic terms like introducing residential system, offering same subject to 3 to 4 professors to identify the best faculty and at least 10% of the parents need to attend for the parents meet organized by the university.

2. To consider and approve Annual Quality Assurance Report (AQAR) for the year 2016-17.

The report was presented to the members and the same was approved.

V. Agenda Items for Information

1. AICTE approval for the Academic year 2018-19

AICTE approved all the present 16 UG and 11 PG courses.

2. Pharmacy Council of India (PCI) approval for the Academic year 2018-19

Pharmacy Council of India has given the approval to start B.Pharmacy course from the Academic Year 2018-19 with 60 intake capacity. UGC approval awaited to start the course.

3. Admissions 2018-19

The Chair presented the details of admissions for 2018-19 to the members.

4. Second Semester Results of Academic Year 2017-18

The Chair presented the results of Second Semester to the members.

5. APSSDC - Skill Development

The Chair presented the programs organized in APSSDC since last PMB Meeting.

Programs Organized

S. No.	Program	Duration	Department	No. of Participants	Certification
1	Certification program on Python for Everybody	1 st -14 th Jun, 2018 (14 days)	CSE & IT (III year)	476	Coursera
2	Certification program on Internet of Things (IOT)	1 st -14 th Jun, 2018 (14 days)	ECE, EEE & BME (III year)	203	Coursera
3	Certification program on Internet of Things (IOT)	11 th - 24 th Jun, 2018 (14 days)	Mech (II year)	18	Autodesk
4	C Programming	14 th -20 th May, 2018 (6 days)	ECE, CSE & IT (II year)	175	APSSDC
5	Data Structures & Algorithms	14 th -20 th , May, 2018 (6 days)	ECE (II year)	25	APSSDC
6	PLC Fundamentals	15 th -17 th Mar, 2018 (3 days)	EEE (II & III year)	90	APSSDC

APSSDC in association with CSE department organized a faculty workshop on "Amazon Web Services (AWS)" from 18th -19th, June, 2018.

Resource Persons : Amazon Web Services, Bangalore

No .of participants : 61

6. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)

VFSTR has been ranked between 100-150 in the NIRF 2018.

7. MoUs signed since last PMB Meeting

The Chair informed the MoUs signed with various foreign universities selected for internship and exchange of students and faculty of VFSTR. The MoUs signed

with various companies for internship programs were also presented before the members.

8. Details of Placements 2017-18

The Chair informed the details of placements obtained by students of VFSTR.

9. Details of Internships 2017-18

The Chair informed the details of internships programs attended by students of VFSTR.

10. The schedule of Sixth Convocation scheduled on 04th August 2018

The schedule of Sixth convocation of the University to be held on 04th August 2018 (Saturday) from 3 PM to 6 PM for award of Degrees to graduands of UG, PG and Ph.D. program was presented to the members.

11. Funded ongoing projects 2017

The Chair presented the details of the projects funded externally and the ones that are funded internally for the year 2018 to the members.

12. Establishment of Structural Engineering Research Lab

The Chair presented the information about Structural Engineering Lab being established in VFSTR.

13. Establishment of Bio-gas plant.

The Chair presented the information about Biogas Plant being established in VFSTR.

Based on the deliberations, the draft road map was approved to be placed in the ensuing BoM with the following recommendations:-

1. Best teacher award to be given based on the merit and performance.

Action: Dean, E & M

2. 10% students and faculty should avail the international exchange program per year. Also, Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, should be considered for international exchange program

Action: Dean, FC

3. It is suggested to provide training to the faculty and technical staff so as to improve the **knowledge base** in the University as part of the five year plan. It is also reiterated to bring senior faculty from national agencies to impart training to the faculty on a regular basis as the technical staff is closely working with students' projects.

Action: Dean, R & D

4. It is recommended to invite foreign professors, scientists and NRI as guest faculty under the DST scheme. Their remuneration will be taken care by DST. It is further suggested to identify the experts and put up the proposal.

Action: All HoDs

5. It is suggested to take the help of a few experts for the preparation and identification of the topics of local importance for project proposal to national agencies.

Action: Dean R & D

6. It is advised to apply for "Atal Incubation Centre" with the theme of "Rural Engineering Innovation" through NITI Aayog which is a policy of Govt. of India, aimed at sustainable developmental goals and having top priority.

Action: Director, E-Cell

7. It is suggested to start a Veterinary College as there is a lot of importance in improving Indian rural economy.

Action: Dean, E & M

8. It is advised to follow and emulate IISER, Pune and Tirupati so as to enrich research activities as these institutes are stuffed with young bright faculty.

Action: Dean, R & D

9. It is suggested to choose the topics such as Cyber Security, Network Security and Malware to secure funding and train students.

Action: Dean, IT Services

The Vice Chancellor, Dr.M.Y.S.Prasad has conveyed his thanks to all the external members for attending the PMB meeting in spite of their busy schedule and spending their valuable time.

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

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