

Minutes of 33rd Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 17/06/2023 (Saturday) at 10.00 a.m.

Venue: Chancellor's Board Room, VFSTR

**Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and
Research**

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh- 522213

MINUTES OF THE 33rd MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 17TH June, 2023. (Physical and Virtual)

The members of Academic Council met on 17th June, 2023 at 10:00 AM in the Chancellor's Board Room, A-Block. Prof. P. Naga Bhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor : Chairman
2. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar
Professor, Dept. of CSE, IIT Madras : External Member
3. Dr. M. Shanti Swarup
Director of Engineering, Math Works, Hyderabad : External Member
4. Dr. P.M.V. Rao
Dean, AAA : Permanent Invitee
5. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean, PCF : Member
6. Dr. M. Ramakrishna, Dean - IQAC
Dean, School of Core Engineering : Member
7. Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore
Dean, SCI, Dean - Admissions and Recruitment
HoD, Dept. of CSE : Member
8. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao,
Dean, R&D : Member
9. Dr. Sk. Jakeer Hussain
Dean, Infrastructure, Planning and Monitoring : Member
10. Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P
Dean School of Law and Management : Member
11. Dr. N. Usha Rani, Dean, SEECE : Member
12. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean - Student Affairs
Alumni Linkages, Gender Sensitization and Discipline : Member
13. Dr. A. Ravi Shekhar, Dean, Technology and Development : Member
14. Dr. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, SAFT and Director AHS : Member
15. Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Dept. of Chem. Engg. : Member
16. Dr. N. Narayan Rao, HoD, Dept. of AE : Member
17. Dr. D. Venkatesulu, HoD, Dept. of ACSE and
Joint Dean SCI : Member
18. Dr. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE : Member
19. Dr. T.C. Vekateswarlu, HoD, Bio Technology : Member
20. Dr. Sitaramanjeaya Reddy, HoD, BME : Member
21. Dr. L. S. Raju, HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg. : Member
22. Dr. B.M. Rao, Representing HoD, MBA : Member
23. Dr. N. Srinivasu, Dean, SASH : Member
24. Dr. Jithendra Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmacy : Member
25. Dr. M. Kartikeyan, HoD, Civil Engineering : Member
26. Dr. PVS Shoban, HoD, EEE : Member
27. Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director of LAW : Member
28. Dr. N. Veeranjanyulu, Prof., HoD, Dept. of IT
Director, CDOE : Member
29. Dr. KoyaPrabhakar Rao, HoD, Chemistry : Member

30.	Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, HoD, Physics	: Member
31.	Dr. P.L.N. Varma, Professor, Dept. of S&H	: Member
32.	Dr. Kaki Venkat Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg	: Member
33.	Dr. V. Radha Krishna Murthy, Prof of Mathematics	: Member
34.	Dr. T. Subbbaiah, Prof of Chemical Engg.	: Member
35.	Dr. J. Nitchal Kiran, Prof of Physics	: Member
36.	Dr. P. Ashok Kumar, Prof of Chemical Engg.	: Member
37.	Dr. Shaik Anwar, Assoc. Prof of Chemistry	
38.	Dr. B. Nageswara Rao, Prof of Mech. Engg	: Member
39.	Dr. M. Sarada, Prof of ECE	: Member
40.	Dr. B. Premamayudu, Prof of IT	: Member
41.	Dr. G. Mohanacharyulu, Prof of English	: Member
42.	Dr. D. Vinay Kumar, Assoc Prof of Mech. Engg.	: Member
43.	Dr. A. Goswami, Assoc Prof of Chemistry	: Member
44.	Dr. K. Santi Sree, Assoc. Prof of IT	: Member
45.	Dr. N. Satya Sree, Prof. of Chemistry	: Member
46.	Dr. P. Shiva Prasad, Assoc. Prof. of CSE	: Member
47.	Dr. N. Ananda Rao, Asst. Prof, Dept of ECE	: Member
48.	Dr. G. Nageswarara Rao, Asst. Prof of English	: Member
49.	Dr. P. Joshua Reginald, Asst. Prof of ECE	: Member
50.	Mr. S. Deva Kumar, Asst. Prof. of CSE	: Member
51.	Dr. Ch. Siva Koteswara Rao, Asst. Prof of IT	: Member
52.	Cmde. Dr. MS Raghunathan, Registrar, VFSTR	: Member Secretary

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

1. Er. D. Ramakrishna, MD, Efftronics, Vijayawada (External Member)
2. Dr. A. Sharada, HoD, Department of English
3. Dr. Sarita Satpathy, HoD, MBA

Minutes of the 33rd Meeting of the Academic Council

Date: 17/06/2023 [Saturday] at 10:00 a.m.

Item	
	<p>Welcoming the members of Academic Council by the Registrar The meeting commenced with remarks of the Chair, Prof. P. Nagabhushan who directed the Registrar to formally initiate the proceedings of the meeting. The Registrar introduced the new External Member of the Academic council Prof. P. Sreenivasa Kumar, Professor of CSE from IIT Madras. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar in his opening remarks stated that he was happy to be associated with VFSTR and mentioned his areas of research. Dr. Shanti Swaroop congratulated VFSTR for the 75th rank secured in NIRF rankings and stated that the achievement was a testament to the efforts of all faculty members of VFSTR.</p>
I	<p>Confirmation of the Minutes of 32nd Academic Council meeting held on 10-12-22. Minutes of Meeting enclosed.</p>
33/01	<p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Academic Council meeting. After deliberation, the Council approved the minutes of 32nd Academic Council.</p>
II	<p>Action taken on the decisions of previous AC meeting held on 10-12-22. The Registrar read out the action points while the members responded to the same.</p>
33/02	<p>Responding to the first action point, Dean AAA stated that the LTP structure was revised to maintain more transaction hours which would help the students to thoroughly assimilate the contents delivered in the lecture sessions. He also stated that 50% of lecture sessions remained and the rest of them were allocated to Transaction and Practice. Responding to the second action point, Director, Law stated that students of VIL were actively engaged in writing blogs, articles, research papers, mootings and debating. Basic Computer and IT Skills course were already introduced in the first semester of Law program as a core course with which the students were learning computer skills and applying them as tools for legal research and legal writing. Online database services offered by Manupatra, Lexis-Nexis and West Law etc., were subscribed. He also stated that one law student excelled in programming. Responding to the third action point, Dean IQAC stated that the Office of IQAC presented the roadmap of the university to the Sub-committee formed by the BoM. Till date, three schools presented their roadmap under the following heads:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">A. Admissions: Distribution of students Increasing the number of internal students in Ph.D Increasing the number of girl students Scholarships MoUs with national and international organisations Support to economically and socially challenged students</p>

	<p>B. Academics: Adoption of flexible credit system Innovative teaching 100% scholarships with stipend Field visits Implementation of OBE E-content One credit course offered by visiting foreign professor</p> <p>C. Faculty: Research quality Quality of placement / higher studies Collaborations Infrastructure Accreditation</p> <p>Dr.SanthiSwaroop appreciated the road map and advised that all departments should synchronise with roadmap. Resources for achieving the roadmap should be pooled. He also advised on matters of leadership, risks and contingency plans to achieve the road map. Dean IQAC responded that scorecards were given to all departments for self-assessment.</p> <p>Prof. P. Sreenivasa Kumar pointed at the status of patents for which the Dean, R&D responded on patents.</p> <p>Responding to the fourth action point on compensation of practice sessions lost during pandemic, Dean AAA stated that students lost only the final two weeks of practice in laboratories. He stated that the lost C-programming exercises were conducted through Hacker Earth during the semester and MAT lab for ECE students was practiced during signals and systems and DSP lab sessions of the subsequent semesters. All the practices were conducted after reopening the university for physical classes and hence no additional practice sessions were required.</p> <p>Responding to the fifth action point, Dean, R&D stated that a Subcommittee was formed comprising Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy, Member, BoM Dean IQAC and Dean R&D to identify the thrust areas of the university and departments. The thrust areas were given to the departments and SRBs were constituted.</p>
III	Agenda Items for Approval
33/03	<p>i. Implementation of Academic Bank of Credits (ABC) - presented by Dean AAA.</p> <p>The Dean AAA presented this point stating that the UGC initiative to implement Academic Bank of Credits allows the students to transfer credits from one institution to another in case of transfer. On transfer, the students could access the ABC and could claim their credits which they earned in the previous institution. The Dean further stated that, the main activity of registering the university with ABC and opening students' accounts was almost completed. The Dean also informed that Dr. Vijay Raghavan of ECE department was appointed as the Nodal Officer for ABC in VFSTR. The Dean also informed that VFSTR was one of the first five institutions in Andhra Pradesh to register in ABC.</p> <p>After deliberation, implementation of Academic Bank of Credits was</p>

	approved.
	ii. Examination results of academic year 2022-23, I semester - presented by Dean AAA.
33/04	<p>Dean AAA informed the council that results for 32 exams were released and 32 supplementary exams were conducted. For II B.Tech., which is in accordance with R 22 regulation, the results (82.28% pass) were on par with the earlier results (88.47% and 77.52% respectively). The same pattern was also repeated in B.Tech., III-year results. The Dean also presented the other 23 regular examination results.</p> <p>Deliberating on the results, Dr.SanthiSwaroop queried on the poor results of B Pharmacy for which the Dean responded that B Pharmacy has good number of Sudanese students who are deplorably weak in English language but assured that they can clear the backlogs in supplementary exams. The Dean pointed at the 100% results in B.Sc. for the batch comprised good students.</p> <p>After deliberation, examination results of academic year 2022-23, I semester were approved.</p>
	iii. Institution of Para-medical programs w.e.f. 2023-24 -presented by Dean PCF
33/05	<p>Dean PCF stated that in the backdrop of already existing Pharmaceutical, Biomedical and Bio-technology departments, the proposal to commence para-medical programs w.e.f. 2023-24 would be very logical. The support of experts like Dr.MahadevKanchegowda, former Secretary, Kempagowda Institute of Medical Sciences, Bengaluru, DR. C.Narayana Reddy from Warangal and Dr. Y. Sarat, BoM Member, VFSTR, the proposal to float two post B.Sc. one year diploma programmes (Medical Imaging Technology and Dialysis Technology) (three years B.SC. followed by one year diploma) in line with NEP 2020 was presented before the Council. The Dean stated that VFSTR was entering into MoU with hospitals like DVC Hospital, Guntur dist. and Ramesh Hospitals, Guntur. The Dean informed that the initiation of these courses would be a prelude to venture into medical education by Vignan Group. Dr.Sreekar of Pharmacy department would be the coordinator for these programs.</p> <p>Related to this point, Dr.SanthiSwaroop queried on the collaborations and coursework. The Chair commented that these programs should lead Vignan Group into the field of medical education.</p> <p>The Council approved this agenda point in principle.</p>
	iv. 5G and 6G as integral part of curriculum - presented by Dean T&D
33/06	<p>Dean T&D proposed to introduce 5G technology as an open elective for all branches and the same as a minor course for CSE, IT and ECE. The Dean presented the stream of open electives and minor courses and stated that CSE, IT and ECE would be given advanced stream of electives. The details of these electives would be presented in the next Academic Council meeting.</p>

	<p>Prof.Sreenivasa Kumar said that the list of electives and minor courses was very lengthy and advised the Dean to merge them and give importance to fundamental courses. Dr.ShanthiSwaroop opined that thrust on 5G was important and it should be vision compliant. He also stated that the minor courses should be interdisciplinary. The Council approved this agenda point.</p>
	<p>v.B.Tech. - Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology) - presented by HoD ECE.</p>
33/07	<p>HoD ECE stated that the Government of India itself was encouraging the creation of dedicated manpower in the development of chip design which creates a lot of job opportunities to many graduates. He said that VFSTR has the resources to launch the program in VLSI specialization and hence, the Department of ECE had taken the initiative to start new program - B.Tech. in Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology). He presented the notification of AICTE in this respect. The HoD presented this point under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Why VLSI now? B. Program highlights C. Human resources D. Available infrastructure E. Industry interface F. List of departmental electives G. Credits structure H. BoS members <p>The Registrar opined that the program should be exactly as per AICTE nomenclature and norms.</p> <p>Dr.ShanthiSwaroop appreciated the program as it had good outlines and explained its significance for industry and government. He also advised to include low power design and Machine learning in VLSI design which generates good employment. The HoD replied that the concept of low power design was already in the syllabus and shall include Machine learning in the syllabus after discussion.</p> <p>Prof.Sreenivasa Kumar opined that now-a-days, security was an important concern right from the design level and he advised to include more practice element. HoD, ECE responded that security at the design stage was taken care at the department level.</p> <p>The Council approved the commencement of B.Tech. Electronics Engineering (VLSI Design and Technology) from the next academic year 2023-24.</p>
	<p>vi. Outcome of SRB - presented by Dean R&D</p>
33/08	<p>Dean R&D stated that seven SRBs were constituted and meetings were conducted recently. The SRBs advised to secure external funding, internal collaboration and involving students in research.</p>
	<p>vii. (a) Commencement of Ph.D program in the subjects of Agronomy, Genetics and Plant breeding, Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry and Plant Pathology from the academic year 2023-24. (b) Ph.D regulations of Agriculture and allied subjects as per BSMA ad ICAR</p>

	-presented by Dr. T. Ramesh Babu, Director AHS.
33/09	<p>The Director, AHS presented that the members of Board of Studies approved for the commencement of Ph.D. program from the academic year 2023-24 in the above-said disciplines. He stated that the nomenclature of the course was as per AICTE norms. He said there was a need for PG and Ph.D staff in the department. He presented the FAO vision and sustainable development goal and stated that discipline wise, the number of seats was as per the number in SAUs and ICAR institutes. The Director presented on Ph.D regulations of agriculture and allied subjects; credit requirement; scholarships and fee structure, and MoUs. Prof.Srinivasa Kumar advised to pave the way for M.Sc. considering the market and industry conditions.</p> <p>Dr. Shanti Swaroop enquired about M.Sc. in the department for which the Director responded that the M.Sc. program will commence after two years i.e. in 2025 with the B.Sc. passed out students. He opined that with M.Sc., Ph.D would be successful.</p> <p>The Director stated that the department was supported by two SAUs and was recruiting additional professors. When Dr. Shanti Swaroop enquired about the land and infrastructure, the Director responded that there was 40 acres of land sufficient to take 11-12 Ph.D candidates. He also stated that MoUs with good institutes shall help the department.</p> <p>The Chair opined that M.Sc. course will help the Ph.D. program. The Director stated that scholars would teach and research.</p> <p>After deliberation, the proposal to commence Ph.D program (Agriculture) and Ph.D regulations as per ICAR in the Department of Agriculture was approved by the Council.</p>
	<p>viii. (a) Introduction of two years LLM degree program in Law at VIL. (b) Introduction of Ph.D program in Law at VIL - presented by Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director, VIL</p>
33/10	<p>The HoD, Law presented the point under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Vision B. UG programs at VIL C. Admissions into B.A. LLB (Hons) and BBA LLB (Hons) D. Faculty at VIL E. Aims and objectives of Centre for PG Studies and Research F. Programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Constitutional Law Corporate Law Intellectual Property Rights law Labour ad Employment Laws G. Credit system H. Ph.D program I. Fee structure <p>Prof.Sreenivasa Kumar asked if students can choose any one of the various areas and the HoD answered in affirmative.</p> <p>Dr. Shanti Swaroop said that he was sharing two links through chatas a support to the program.</p>

	<p>The Chair enquired if the commencement of these courses was as per the stipulations of Bar Council and opined that Computational Law was very popular. The Chair also stated that Law studies should be multi-disciplinary. Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar opined that Computational Law was very good and directed the HoD to collaborate with CSE department. The Director, VIL stated that Ph.D programs require more teachers. The proposal to commence two years LLM degree program and Ph.D program in Law was approved in principle by the Council.</p>
	<p>ix. (a) Commencement of M.Tech. IoT for the academic year 2023-24 - presented by HoD ECE. (b) Commencement of B.Tech. (IoT) for the next academic year 2023-24 - presented by HoD, ACSE</p>
33/11	<p>The HoD ECE presented the proposal to commence M.Tech. (IoT) under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Introduction B. Program highlights C. HR D. Available infrastructure E. Course structure <ul style="list-style-type: none"> First six months - Internship Next one year - Semester two and three course work Next six months - Project internship in industry F. BoS members <p>The HoD assured that students would not be forced to take NPTEL courses.</p> <p>Prof. Sreenivasa Kumar advised to change the nomenclature (title) of the program because it could be confused with other M.Tech. programs. He also advised to highlight the industry collaboration in the program. He also advised the HoD to secure MoUs with other industries also for long term sustainability.</p> <p>The Chair asked if M/S Efftronics could accommodate the remaining batches of students and advised MoUs with other industries also besides M/S Efftronics.</p> <p>Dr. Shanti Swaroop appreciated the collaboration of ECE department with Efftronics.</p> <p>HoD, CSE presented on the second part of the agenda viz, commencement of B.Tech. (IoT) from the next academic year 2023-24 under the following heads:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> A. Approval of 60 seats by AICTE B. BoS approval C. BoS members D. IoT technology E. Credit distribution F. Program core (CSE + Specialization - 61 credits) G. Program electives (61 credits) H. First semester courses I. Honours stream J. Course structure

	<p>The question of Theory of Computation was discussed. Dr. Shanti Swaroop enquired on the possibility of Masters Program in IoT for which the HoD, ACSE replied in affirmative.</p> <p>The Chair opined that the course should be taught in collaboration with ECE department.</p> <p>The Council approved in principle the commencement of M.Tech. (IoT) and B.Tech. (IoT) from the next academic year 2023-24.</p>
iv	Agenda Items for Information
	i. Status of Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE) programs - presented by the Director of CDOE
33/12	<p>Director of CDOE presented this point under the following headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Programs offered B. Intake and current strength July 2022 - 1902 students June 2023 - 344 students C. Sanctioned intake for 2023 -24 MBA-General (3000), MCA (3000) and the rest 3000 D. Fee structure (2023 - 24) E. Hierarchical structure of CDOE F. Calendar of events 2022 -23 G. Continuous assessment and End semester exams <p>Prof.Sreenivasa Kumar enquired about evaluation; the Director CDOE responded that valuation was assigned to faculty. Dr. Shanti Swaroop enquired about NPTEL courses and the Director responded that the programs were run in conventional mode and no NPTEL teaching was involved.</p>
	ii. Status of Research Activities - presented by Dean R&D
33/13	<p>Dean R&D presented the above agenda point under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Research component B. University thrust areas C. Research publication D. Citations E. H-Index F. Funded research projects G. Consultancy projects - 2023 Under this head, Prof.Subbaiah, Dept. of Chemical Engineering presented on the consultancy project which was secured by VFSTR in the recent times. H. Patents granted / published I. Doctoral degrees awarded J. Strategic plan for the next five years
	iii.Considering the use of native language feasibility in T&P sessions as per UGC's direction despite the medium of instruction in English - presented by Dean AAA
33/14	<p>Dean AAA maintained that English shall be the medium of instruction but proposed that local language can be used to some extent in Transaction and Practice sessions for the benefit of students.</p>

	Prof.Sreenivasa Kumar opined that the directive by UGC can be moderated by allowing the students to discuss among themselves during the T and P sessions.
	iv. Two-year Diploma in Agriculture - by Director AHS
33/15	The Director, AHS presented this point stating that Diploma in Agriculture was to be handled by the Directorate of Polytechnic and presented on the courses offered in the Diploma in Agriculture. He also presented on the syllabus of the Diploma course.

There are no agenda points for ratification.

In the closing remarks, the Chair appreciated the HoDs, Deans, Internal Members for their support in the growth of VFSTR. He exhorted that the Department of Mathematics should be more proactive. He also made a brief mention about the migration of other faculty to the department of CSE.

Having discussed all the points, the meeting was adjourned.

VI. The following action points were pronounced during the 33rd Academic Council meeting.

Action Point	Action point addressed to
1. The road map for venturing into medical education in future with commencement of para medical courses as prelude should be presented in the next Academic Council meeting.	Dean, PCF.
2. The list of electives and Minor courses (related to introduction of 5G technology) was too long and the electives should be merged.	Dean, T&D
3. Migration of conventional ECE students to VLSI should be facilitated.	HoD, ECE
4. The HoD, ECE should present on MoUs with industries and the number of batches benefitting from the current MoU with Efftronics; Action plan for drop-outs to be devised	HoD, ECE


19.6.23
Registrar

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University)

VADLAMUDI-522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA


19/6/23

Vice-Chancellor

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION

FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH

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VADLAMUDI-522 213

GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA