

Minutes of the 3rd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 24/02/2024 (Saturday) at 09.30 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 3rd EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 24th February, 2024.

(Physical and Virtual Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 24th February, 2024 at 09:30 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. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Prof. H. Devaraj
Former Vice-Chairman, UGC, New Delhi : Member
3. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasada Reddy, Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) : Member
4. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies
IISC, Bengaluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : Member
5. Prof. B.V.R. Chowdary
Sr. Executive Director, President's Office
NTU, Singapore : Member
6. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Bengaluru : Member
7. Mr. L. Srikrishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : Member
8. Shri. P Murali Manohar
Former-Member Secretary
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education
Hyderabad : UGC Nominee
9. Dr. M. Ramakrishna
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
10. Dr. D. Vijayaramu
Dean-Promotion, Collaborations and Faculty Affairs : Member
11. 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
12. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao,
Dean, R&D : Special Invitee
13. Prof. P.M.V. Rao, Dean AAA : Special Invitee
14. Prof. M.S.S. Rukmini
Dean-Students Affairs : Special Invitee
15. Dr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P and
Dean School of Law and Management : Special Invitee

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| 16. | Prof. Shaik Jakeer Hussain, Dean - Infrastructure, Planning & Monitoring | : | Special Invitee |
| 17. | Prof. T. Ramesh Babu, Dean, School of Agri, Food Science and Tech. | : | Special Invitee |
| 18. | Dr. N. Srinivasu Dean School of Applied Sciences and Humanities | : | Special Invitee |
| 19. | Dr. N. Usha Rani Dean School of Electrical, Electronics and Communication Engg. | : | Special Invitee |
| 20. | Prof.A. Sharada Dean-International Students | : | Special Invitee |
| 21. | Prof. T. Pitchaiah HoD, Dept. of ECE | : | Special Invitee |
| 22. | Prof. T.C. Venkateswarlu, HoD, Dept of BT | : | Special Invitee |
| 23. | Dr. Jithendra. Ch, HoD, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Sciences | : | Special Invitee |
| 24. | Prof.D Venkatesulu HoD. Dept of ACSI | : | Special Invitee |
| 25. | Dr.PVS Sobhan HoD, Dept. of EEE | : | Special Invitee |
| 26. | Dr.N Narayana Rao HoD, Dept. of Applied Engineering | : | Special Invitee |
| 27. | Dr.M Karthikeyan HoD, Dept. of Civil Engineering | : | Special Invitee |
| 28. | Mr.T.Ch.Anil Kumar HoD, Dept. of Mech.Engineering | : | Special Invitee |
| 29. | Prof.K Venkata Rao Prof. Dept. of Mech. Engg. | : | Member |
| 30. | Dr.Anadarup Goswami Assoc.Prof. Dept. Of Chemistry | : | Member |
| 31. | Dr.GSR Satyanarayana Asst.Prof. of ECE | : | Member |
| 32. | Dr.Irshaan Syed Co-ordinator Food Technology | : | Special Invitee |
| 33. | Mr.V.Srikanth Asst.Finance Officer, VFSTR | : | Special Invitee |
| 34. | Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar | : | Secretary |

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

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| 1. | Dr. Y. Sarat Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad | : | Member |
| 2. | Prof. Y. Ravishekar Dean, T&D | : | Special Invitee |
| 3. | Mr.Ch Govardhan Rao, Co-ordinator of Textile Technology | : | Special Invitee |
| 4. | Mr.N.S.N. Murthy Finance Officer | : | Special Invitee |

Minutes of the 3rd Executive Council Meeting

Date: 24/02/2024 [Saturday] at 09:30 a.m.

| Item | |
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| I. | <p>Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar. The 3rd Executive Council meeting commenced with the welcome greetings by the Chair addressed to all the members of the council. The Chair remarked on the latest development of indication by UGC to commence the Off-Campus of VFSTRU at Hyderabad. He thanked Prof. H. Devaraj and Prof. BVR Chowdari for their enquires about him. He appreciated Prof. Lalith M Patnaik for his energy during the convocation. The Chair also appreciated Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy for his second stint as Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University. The Chair then handed over the meeting to the Registrar.</p> <p>The Registrar formally welcomed all the members of the Executive Council and informed that Prof. BVR Chowdari had taken a provost position at National University of Singapore. He thanked for the presence of Prof. Devaraj, Prof. Patnaik and Prof. PVGD Prasada Reddy. He specially thanked the UGC nominee Mr. Murali Manohar for his first meeting and presented the profile of the former.</p> <p>The Registrar also brought to the notice of the members the practice of students attending the EC meeting as observers to witness and learn from the proceedings of the council meeting.</p> |
| II. | <p>Confirmation of the minutes of the 2nd Executive Council meeting held on 23rd October, 2023 and the minutes of 35th Academic Council meeting held on 16th December, 2023</p> |
| 03/01 | <p>The Registrar read out the salient features of the previous Executive Council meeting.</p> <p>After deliberation, the minutes of the 2nd Executive Council meeting were approved.</p> <p>Then the Registrar read out the salient features of 35th Academic council meeting and after deliberation the minutes of the same were also approved.</p> |

III. Actions taken on the decisions of the 2nd Executive Council meeting held on 23.10.2023

| Action Point | Action point addressed to | Action Taken |
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| 1. Departments offering M.Tech. programs should choose the right specializations and offer these programs in collaboration with industry. | HoDs of concerned departments | <p>(I)HoD, Food Technology, presenting the action taken report stated that they have carefully considered the recommendations to align M.Tech. program to the needs of the industry and decided to offer the following specializations as per the recommendations of the external experts of BoS.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Food Safety and Quality Assurance (five students on rolls) 2. Food Business and Management 3. Food Engineering <p>The HoD stated that the curricula was designed viewing the latest advancements in the specialized field ensuring that students were well equipped with the necessary skills to meet the demands of the industry. The HoD also stated that preliminary discussions were initiated with key stakeholders for internships and research projects for the students in the next academic</p> |

year.

After the presentation by the HoD, Prof. Devaraj questioned the rationale in continuing the course with such a smaller number of students. The HoD answered this question by stating that they were making all efforts to increase the strength in courses by creating awareness in the student community about the value of these courses.

(II) Following HoD, Food Technology, the next presentation was made by HoD, EEE who stated that the industry presence in the neighboring areas was limited mostly MSMEs which adopt basic technology. Expecting professional alliance with them would be futile. So, the HoD stated, a new M.Tech. course in Electrical Vehicle Technology (EVT) which has the potential to integrate the industry with the university in a give and take manner.

The Chair enquired the rationale of the department to continue this course with limited number of students for which the HoD, EEE answered that initially when the course was commenced it attracted good number of students and efforts were on to increase the strength in future.

(III) HoD, Biotechnology presented that following the recommendations from previous Executive Council meeting, the Department of Biotechnology has identified Virchow Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad as the potential industry collaborator to sponsor M.Tech. in Biotechnology. He stated that admissions during the previous year were good and the Directors of Virchow had accepted to sponsor 18 students into the M.Tech program. Efforts were on to revise the curriculum accordingly.

Answering Prof. Devaraj's query on placements, the HoD said that 36 students were placed from the department.

Dr. ES Chakravathi questioned on the special feature of the course and the support that be obtained from Virchow. The HoD responded that a sum of Rs. 42 lakhs will be sponsored by the company to the students of M.Tech. program. He also mentioned about the MoU with Virchow in this regard.

Dr. Chakravarthi explained the importance of having a benchmark to emulate and compete and asked the HoD about the potential benchmarks for him in academy for the department of BT in VFSTRU. The HoD answered that they have the benchmark institutions like IIT Madras, NIT Warangal, and Andhra University.

Prof. BVR Chowdari advised to prepare groundwork to admit at least 25 students.

(IV) HoD Mechanical Engineering stated that

admissions in M.Tech. were nil in the previous course because of the shift to automation by industry after Covid. He stated that post Covid, 23,000 industrial robots were designed and deployed. Consequently, the demand for the specialized courses in robotics has tremendously increased. He stated that the alumni were also opting for robotics. He also stated that in view of the developments, M.Tech. in Robotics and Smart Manufacturing should have very good demand. He also mentioned that five industries in Coimbatore and Bengaluru which the department has contacted for collaboration. Based on their inputs, the course curriculum would be designed. The course would be offered from 2025 and ground work for that commenced.

Dr. ES Chakravarthi questioned on the reasons for the closure of previous M.Tech. course and advised to practice research which shall help to make the decisions more rationally. There should be a review of the course for every two years to make it more viable and the curriculum should always be very clear and comprehensive.

Prof. Patnaik advised that considering the dwindling M.Tech. admissions, a concrete plan is needed to improve the situation.

(V) HoD CSE stated that 14 out of 18 seats in M.Tech. CSE were filled in the AY 2023-24 and efforts were on build tie-ups with industry. The curriculum was revised as per the NEP guidelines and the recommendations of BoS experts. In the current trend of slump in placements, the department has decided to offer stream-wise electives in Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning, Data Science and Cyber Security.

Dr. Chakravarthi advised to dovetail the B.Tech. students to join M.Tech. and employ their services as faculty in name of Teaching Assistants. He stated that this advice shall apply to the Department of Mechanical Engineering as well.

The Chair stated that courses should not be mere industry based, but they should be industry inspired because if the industry base changes, the course in M.Tech. would become redundant.

A M.Tech program should be an integration of both finishing school concept catering to the industry needs and a good forecasting mechanism taking the industry forward to the future.

M.Tech. programs should attract industry personnel and the program should be interdisciplinary. Hybridization of knowledge is needed to study the market needs.

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| 2. The meetings of Finance Committee should not have a gap of more than six months | Finance Officer | Finance Committee meeting was held on 10-11-23 |
| 3. A sub-committee comprising Dr. Y. Sarat, Member EC (Chairman), Finance Officer (Convenor), Registrar, Dr. D. Vijay Shri L. Krishna Devarayulu, (both members of EC should look into the grant of gratuity for the employees of VFSTRU | Finance Officer | A sub-committee is constituted for studying the possibility and modality of granting gratuity to the staff and the report of the sub-committee would be tabled in the next Finance Committee meeting and eventually the next EC meeting. |

| IV | Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval |
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| 03/02 | <p>I. Students intake for commencement of Pharm.D (Doctoral) program with the maximum strength of 30 and M.Pharmacy (PG) program with a maximum strength of 15 by the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dr. Ch. Jitendra, HoD, Pharmacy</p> <p>HoD Pharmacy stated that after taking approval of BoS in the 7th BoS meeting held on 08-02-2024, the Department of Pharmacy is all set for the commencement of Pharm.D (with intake of 30 students) and Master of Pharmacy (Pharmaceutical Specialization) with an intake of 15 students. The department signed MoUs with Ramesh Hospitals, Lalitha Super-speciality Hospital, Guntur and Aditya Super-speciality Hospital, Guntur to achieve the objectives of these programs. The demand from foreign students and students from other states had inspired for the commencement of these programs with no additional demand for infrastructure.</p> <p>Dean Admissions stated that admissions in other colleges are full.</p> <p>Dr. ES Chakravarthi enquired on the credentials of Pharmacy college like ranking and accreditation. The HoD responded that VFSTRU's Pharmacy department has the approval of Pharmacy Council of India and also the accreditation by NAAC and NBA. The former then advised to have a bench mark institution like JAYCEES and others.</p> <p>Prof. Devaraj enquired on the status of placements in VFSTRU Pharmacy department and assured to support the department in matters related to PCI. However, Prof. Devaraj opined that the deliberation and decision on this point should be deferred and any such proceedings should be subject to the participation of Dr. Y. Sarat, Member Executive Council.</p> <p>Decision: The Matter may be discussed with Dr. Y Sarat, Member Executive Council in view of his expertise in this discipline. Based on his direction the proposal may be taken forward and it may be brought before the next Executive Council for ratification.</p> |
| 03/03 | <p>II. Commencement of B.Tech. program in Technical Textiles from the AY 2024-25 - presented by Prof. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD Chemical Engineering</p> <p>The department of Textile Technology has taken an initiative to commence a B.Tech. and M.Tech. programs in Technical Textiles based on the high demand across various sectors like healthcare, automotive and aerospace etc. The wide application of technical textiles in diverse fields like smart textiles and protective clothing also inspired the commencement of these programs at</p> |

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| | <p>VFSTRU. Responding to the application for financial support from Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India under NTTM scheme, the ministry sanctioned Rs. 915 lakhs which was split to equip laboratory with 865 lakhs and provision of training with Rs. 50 lakhs. The funding ensures that students will have access to cutting edge facilities and provide hands on experience in world of technical textiles. Dr. Chakravarthi enquired on the contacts with textile industries for which Prof. Ramesh Naidu answered that the department has MoUs with textile industries. Decision: After deliberation, the Registrar sought the approval of this proposal and the Executive Council gave its approval.</p> |
| 03/04 | <p>III. Students' intake for VFSTR and Off-Campus for the AY 2024-25 - presented by Dean Admissions</p> <p>Dean Admissions, Prof. Krishna Kishore proposed that an increment of 630 seats to be sanctioned for the next academic year which shall place the proposed intake strength for AY 2024-25 at 3210. The distribution of this additional strength would be among the courses like CSE (300 seats), AIML (240 seats), DS (60 seats) and Textile Technology (30 seats). The Dean presented the distribution of proposed intake as follows: B.Tech. (3210 seats), M.Tech. (180 seats), Pharmacy (100 seats), Management (BBA -150 seats and MBA -1200 seats), Law (BALLB - 60 seats and BBALLB 60 seats).</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi enquired the reason behind the modest number in the proposed seats for MBA for which Dr. Vijay Krishna responded that competition from other colleges, strict maintenance (which is not liked by many students) and slump in placements were the possible reasons. Dr. Chakravarthi offered to support the MBA department with advisory on Techno-management.</p> <p>The Dean Admissions proposed for the approval of intake strength for Off-campus at Hyderabad which is a total of 1600 seats. The distribution is as follows: B.Tech. (08 programs - 840 seats), UG (210 seats), Pharmacy (100 seats), PG (M.Tech., MBA, and MCA - 342 seats), P.G. (M.Sc. 60 seats) and Ph.D (programs in Engineering, Science, Management and Pharmacy - 48 seats)</p> <p>At this point, the Registrar informed the news about the receipt of Letter of Intent from UGC which is a green signal to commence operations at Hyderabad Off-Campus. Confirmation was also received from the Ministry of Higher Education. He stated that corpus fund of Rs. 25 Crores was deposited and faculty were identified for the Off-Campus. Applications for approval was submitted to AICTE and PCI as well.</p> <p>Decision: After deliberation, the agenda point was approved by the Executive Council.</p> |
| 03/05 | <p>IV. Examination Results for the Academic Year 2023-24 - presented by Dean AAA, Prof. PMV Rao</p> <p>The examination results of the previous two years were presented by Dean AAA as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Comparison of aggregate result of I B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (92.21%); year 2023 (87.56%) and year 2022 (88.62%). (II) Comparison of aggregate result of II B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (89.82%); year 2023 (82.04%) and year 2022 (89.05%). (III) Comparison of aggregate result of III B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (91.98%); year 2023 (93.27%) and year 2022 (92.03%). (IV) Comparison of aggregate result of IV B.Tech. I semester for the year 2024 (96.34%); year 2023 (96.65%) and year 2022 (94.10%). <p>Responding to the query on the reason for the hike in pass percentage (96%), the Dean responded that general transformation of students during three years, pressure of settlement, family pressure, quality of assignments, follow up action after assignments and remedial action in case of slow learners were all responsible for the good results in IV year. The Dean</p> |

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| | <p>mentioned that the results of another 32 examinations pertaining to BBA, BCA, B.Sc. and B. Pharma were in the pipeline.</p> <p>Responding to the query for result in B. Pharmacy, the HoD responded that poor academic background and lack of English language were responsible.</p> <p>In this regard responding to the question of linguistic competence of students hailing from Bihar and African nations, Prof. A. Sharada stated that language improvement classes were going on for the above-mentioned students. She stated that Sudanese students have the problem of acclimatization and absenteeism initially but tend to get streamlined in their second and third years.</p> <p>Decision: After deliberation, the agenda point was approved by the Executive Council.</p> |
| V. | Agenda Items for Information |
| 03/06 | <p>I. Status of Virtual UGC Inspection for Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad.</p> <p>A virtual tour of Off-Campus Centre at Hyderabad was presented for the members of Executive Council. The members of the Council applauded the efforts building towards the success of the Off-Campus Centre.</p> <p>Prof. Devaraj raised the question of need for Off-Campus for which Dean IQAC responded saying that Hyderabad was a place with high potential for IT and Pharmacy. The Chair seconded saying that the resources like land, infrastructure and faculty were readily available to commence an Off-Campus at Hyderabad.</p> <p>Dr. Chakravarthi supported the idea suggesting the benefits of expansion. He stated that Hyderabad was well connected regionally and internationally.</p> <p>Prof. Patnaik stated that every course in degree offered on part-time study basis was available at Hyderabad.</p> <p>Dr. ES Chakravarthi advised for the linking the Off-Campus with VFSTRU, Vadlamudi for the quality teaching reaching out to the Off-Campus. The Chair welcomed this advice and stated that blended mode of teaching can connect all the three campuses of Vignan and already the plans regarding this were discussed with Dean AAA.</p> |
| 03/07 | <p>II. Review of ABET Peer team visit during 9th to 11th October 2023 for accreditation of five programs namely BT, CSE, ECE, EEE and Mechanical Engineering.</p> <p>Dean IQAC presented the details of visit of ABET Peer team on the above-said dates to VFSTRU and the various areas of concerns they projected to the departments of CSE, EEE and BT.</p> <p>The Dean stated that for the draft statement of EAC (CSE, ECE, EEE, Mech. Engg. and BT) the due response was submitted to ABET on 09th February, 2024. He also stated that concerning ABET CAC (CSE) the due response was submitted on 09th February 2024. The response from ABET shall be delivered by 9th July 2024.</p> |
| 03/08 | <p>III. Status of URB Meeting held o 06-01-24</p> <p>Dean R&D presented this point stating that ten people were identified as experts for URB. And the advice from URB was that all faculty should research in their own domains. The Dean informed the members of the seed grant which would be Rs. 10 lakhs for faculty and Rs. 2 lakhs rupees for students. The following suggestions by URB members were presented by the Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (I) Research areas need to be pruned for more effectiveness based on the current relevance. (II) Associate one expert member from the URB with each SRB based on their expertise to familiarise with the research activities of the school. (III) Organise annual industry meet every year. (IV) Appointment of more Adjunct Professors and Professors of Practice from industry and academia. |

- (V) Sanction Seed Grant only for inter-disciplinary proposals.
- (VI) Suggested research areas like AI&ML in Agriculture, pest detection in agriculture sector.
- (VII) Invite societies like IEEE PE, IGDA to organise conferences in VFSTRU.
- (VIII) Faculty should attend top notch conferences.
- (IX) Credits for attending lectures by industry personnel.

Dr. Chakravarthi suggested that there should be AI&ML application for all horizontal branches. And AI&ML plan for the coming five years. The Chair then put forth the research layout of the university under the following heads:

- (a) Funding agencies
- (b) Publications
- (c) Research projects sponsored by government agencies
- (d) Patents granted and published
- (e) Citations of publications from 2021-23

IV. Status of Research Activities

Dean R&D presented the status research activities in the university under the following heads:

- (I) University research focus areas
 - E Mobility
 - 5G/6G/IoT
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Composite materials
 - Waste to wealth
 - AI&ML
 - Anti-cancer drug design
- (II) Research publications progression
 - Accepted journal papers - 160
 - Communicated journal papers - 325
 - Book chapters published - 97
 - Conference papers presented - 252
- (III) Research Projects sponsored by government agencies
 - 2021 - Four projects of 4.19 crores
 - 2022 - Eleven projects of 19.22 crores
 - 2023 - Eleven projects of 13.67 crores
- (IV) Funded research projects
- (V) Research projects sponsored by non-government agencies
- (VI) Citations

| <u>WoS</u> | <u>Scopus</u> |
|-------------|---------------|
| 2021- 2837 | 2021- 3482 |
| 2022- 4003 | 2022 - 5746 |
| 2023 - 4110 | 2023 - 7031 |
- (V) H-Index

| <u>WoS</u> | <u>Scopus</u> |
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| 2021 - 26 | 2021 - 31 |
| 2022 - 36 | 2022 - 39 |
| 2023 - 47 | 2023 - 51 |

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| 03/10 | <p>V. Vignan Mahotsav - 2024 Dean SA presented this agenda point stating that conduct of sports events in three zones and introduction of Cricket championship are the new features of Vignan Mahotsav 2024. A video covering the highlights of Vignan Mahotsav was also screened. The Dean presented the important features of the event as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="352 477 1516 786"> <tr> <td>No of registrations</td> <td>7495</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of states</td> <td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of colleges</td> <td>220</td> </tr> <tr> <td>No of events</td> <td>93 (sports - 50, cultural - 43)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (sponsorship)</td> <td>Rs. 7,95,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (commercial)</td> <td>Rs. 10,85,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Revenue (Registrations)</td> <td>Rs. 16,99,600</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accommodation</td> <td>1530 (Boys - 1170, Girls - 360)</td> </tr> </table> | No of registrations | 7495 | No of states | 20 | No of colleges | 220 | No of events | 93 (sports - 50, cultural - 43) | Revenue (sponsorship) | Rs. 7,95,000 | Revenue (commercial) | Rs. 10,85,000 | Revenue (Registrations) | Rs. 16,99,600 | Accommodation | 1530 (Boys - 1170, Girls - 360) |
| No of registrations | 7495 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No of states | 20 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No of colleges | 220 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| No of events | 93 (sports - 50, cultural - 43) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue (sponsorship) | Rs. 7,95,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue (commercial) | Rs. 10,85,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revenue (Registrations) | Rs. 16,99,600 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Accommodation | 1530 (Boys - 1170, Girls - 360) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 03/11 | <p>VI. Establishment of Office of Dean, International Students (DIS) Prof. A. Sharada, Dean IS presented the Mission statement and Goals of the Office of Dean for International Students as follows: Mission Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The mission of the Dean of International Students Office is to foster an inclusive, welcoming, and supportive environment for international students at Vignan's Foundation for Science Technology and Research. ➤ The Office is dedicated to promoting cultural diversity, facilitating cross-culture and enhancing the academic and personal success of the international student community at VFSTR. <p>Goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Enhance Student Support Services: Academic advising, immigration assistance, orientation programs, and student welfare. ➤ Promote Intercultural Understanding and Engagement: Organize cultural events, workshops, seminars, and intercultural competency training programmers. ➤ Facilitate Academic Success and Integration: Offer academic resources, tutoring services, English language support programmes, ad opportunities for cross-disciplinary collaboration ad research. ➤ Ensure Compliance with Immigration Regulations: Assist students in maintaining legal status and navigate the procedures of overseas Indian study and immigration system. ➤ Advocate for the Needs for International Students: Address issues related to cultural adjustment, academic challenges, housing, healthcare, and other concerns of international students. <p>She then presented on the country wise distribution of international students.</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 03/12 | <p>VII. Visit of Foreign Delegates (Israel and Japan) Dean CPF presented on the visit of H.E. Ambassador of Israel to VFSTRU, Mr.Naor Gilon on 10th January which resulted in deliberations to explore collaborative opportunities in agricultural technology, education, research and cultural exchange between India and Israel. The visit aimed at promoting bilateral relations, mutual collaboration, and E-collaboration to leverage the expertise of both nations for the benefit of students. The deliberations also included the exploration of establishment of Centres of Excellence, joint master's and Ph.D programs. From 6th to 8th January, there was a visit of delegates from Japan to explore the</p> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

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| | <p>future collaborative avenues between VFSTRU and Japanese industries and academia. The visit aimed to improve academic and research quotient. After the presentation, Prof. Chowdari enquired on the implications of these visit for which the Dean mentioned the sponsoring students to Japan according to which, our students should self-finance their hospitality while the transport shall be borne by the host country.</p> |
| VI. | Agenda Items for Ratification |
| 03/13 | <p>I. Leave Encashment Policy The Registrar presented the new Leave Encashment Policy which shall be retrospectively effective from 01-12-2023. Guidelines for encashment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ The Staff member has to put in minimum 10 Years of service ➤ The staff members should have reached the retirement age (Teaching Staff: 65 years; Non-Teaching Staff:62 years) ➤ The number of leaves to be counted for encashment are the sum of earned leaves and half pay leaves. The total number of leaves considered as basis for calculation of encashment should not exceed 300 days (ELs= 300; HPLs- 240 (120 full days). ➤ This encashment policy is also applicable for the staff who die in harness while is in the active service of VFSTR ➤ This policy is not applicable for the staff members who are dismissed or terminated under disciplinary reasons <p>Encashment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ 75% of the leaves eligible for encashment * (Basic +DA) @ one day <p>Decision: After deliberation, the council ratified the agenda point.</p> |
| 03/14 | <p>II. Superannuation of Non-Teaching Staff The Registrar presented the details of two teaching and five non-teaching staff who were relieved from duties on attaining superannuation. Decision: After deliberation, the council ratified the agenda point.</p> |
| 03/15 | <p>III. No. of recruitments, staff joined and relieved since the first Executive Council meeting held on 26-08-2023. The Registrar presented that a total of 117 teaching staff were recruited in 16 recruitments and 89 on-teaching staff were recruited in 08 recruitments. The Registrar stated that 64 teaching staff (of which 46 were Asst. Professors) joined which included recruitment under CAP, PDF and TRA. Twenty-five teaching faculty and 23 non-teaching staff were relieved from duties on their own request. Decision: The council ratified the agenda point.</p> |
| | Table Agenda |
| 03/16 | <p>Reforms and Policy Development in Research Arena Dean R&D stated that, at the behest of respected Vice-Chairman, to draw measures to retain and attract good researching faculty from premier institutions, a questionnaire was served to faculty from IITs and NITs seeking their response on the matters related to research. The essence of the survey was presented by the Dean in which the responses from faculty were elicited to increase the flexibility factor for research at VFSTRU. Basing on this an action plan was drafted by the Dean R&D which included grant of biennial career development fund (three lakhs per faculty for a period of two years) to cover the expenses related to article processing, and accessing high quality open access journals; expenses related to attending conferences, workshops and filing patents. The survey also evoked responses from the faculty as to establish a Patent Cell and appoint a patent attorney; appointment of research advisors and mentors in each school and organising of staff and scholar's colloquium every fortnight; establishment of labs; provision of time flexibility, hostel accommodation for PG and Ph.D. scholars and faculty accommodation. Prof. Chowdari responded saying that career development fund is practised</p> |

everywhere and questioned on the sample size of the survey conducted.

Decision: After deliberation, the council directed the following: -

1. One Committee headed by Dean-R&D should be constituted to look into the problem of the researchers at VFSTRU and propose the remedies for the same.
2. One Committee comprising professor Prof. Lalit M Patnaik (Member Executive Council), Prof. Balasubramanian Prof, CSE IIT Roorkee and Prof. P. Sreenivasa Kumar, Prof. IIT Madras,(both members of Academic Council) to recommend on the modalities to create career development fund for faculty to carry out research besides addressing other issues of concern as brought up by Dean-R&D. .

VII. The following action points were pronounced during the 3rd Executive Council meeting.

| Sl.No. | Action Point | Action point addressed to |
|--------|--|---|
| 1. | A white paper on all the proposals concerning the commencement of new M.Tech. programs should be submitted by the concerned HoDs in the next Executive Council Meeting. | HoDs of CSE, ECE, EEE, BT, and Mechanical Engineering |
| 2. | On the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD should discuss the plan with the Vice-Chancellor and convey their decisions to the hon'ble Chairman. | HoD, EEE |
| 3. | Concerning the commencement of M.Tech. EVT by the Department of EEE, the HoD may seek the help of Prof. Patnaik to consult the professors at IITs/IISC. The HoD should also contact BHEL for a clearer prospect on the proposal. | HoD, EEE |
| 4. | The II and III year students should be deployed to teach English classes on remunerative basis to students from Bihar and African students | Dean IS and Dean SA |
| 5. | Two committees should be constituted of which one chaired by Dean R&D shall look into the problems of the researchers at VFSTRU and propose remedies for the same. The second committee shall comprise Prof. Patnaik (Member Executive Council), Prof. Bala Subramanian, Professor, CSE, IIT Roorkee and Prof. Srinivasa Kumar, Professor, IIT, Madras (both members of Academic Council). This committee shall recommend on the modalities to create career development fund for faculty to carry out research besides addressing other issues of concerned as brought up by Dean-R&D. The committee is also mandated to make recommendations towards funded projects sponsored by centre and state governments. | Dean R&D is to co-ordinate both the committees and present the recommendations in the next Executive Council meeting. |

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

