



VIGNAN'S

Foundation for Science, Technology & Research

(Deemed to be University)

-Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956

F.No. VFSTR/Reg/A1/04/2021

Date : 25.03.2021

MINUTES OF THE 27TH MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL HELD ON 20TH MARCH 2021 BY HYBRID MODE (PHYSICAL AND VIRTUAL)

The Academic Council of VFSTR met on hybrid mode (physical and virtual) on 20th March 2021 at 10:00 AM in the Board Room, 5th Floor, A-Block. Dr.M.Y.S. Prasad, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTR chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Dr. K. Ramamurthy Naidu, Chancellor, VFSTR : Special Invitee
2. Dr. K. Babu Rao
MD, NAVAYUGA InfotechPvt. Ltd., Hyderabad : External Member
3. Dr. M. Shanti Swarup
Director of Engineering MathWorks, Hyderabad : External Member
4. Er. D. Ramakrishna
MD, Efftronics, Vijayawada : External Member
5. Prof. Y. Satyanarayana
Former Vice-Chancellor, DamodaramSanjivayya
National Law University, Visakhapatnam : Special Invitee
6. Dr. Vidhu KampurathPaduvattil
Joint Director-Plant Health Engg., National Institute
Of Plant Health Management, Dept. of Agriculture,
Cooperation & Farmers Welfare, Ministry of
Agriculture, Govt. of India, Hyderabad : Special Invitee
7. Dr.P.M.V.Rao
Dean, Academic Registration and
Evaluation and Controller of Examinations : Permanent Invitee
8. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean - Student Affairs : Internal Member
9. Dr. D. Vijayaramu : Internal Member
Dean, Academics and Dean, Foreign Collaborations
10. Dr. M. Ramakrishna, Dean - IQAC : Internal Member
11. Dr.K.V.Krishna Kishore : Internal Member
Dean, IT & LIS and HoD, Dept. of IT
12. Prof. S. Krupanidhi : Internal Member
Dean, Planning & Monitoring and HoD,
Dept. of Biotech.
13. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao, : Internal Member
Dean, R&D and HoD, Dept. of EEE
14. Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Dean - Admissions : Internal Member
15. Prof.A. Sharada, : Internal Member
Dean-Academic Faculty Development
16. Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu, HoD, Dept. of Chem. Engg. : Internal Member
17. Mr. A. Narayana Rao, HoD, Dept. of AE : Internal Member
18. Dr. N. Ruben, HoD, Dept. of Civil Engg. : Internal Member

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| 19. Dr. D. Venkatesulu, HoD, Dept. of CSE | : Internal Member |
| 20. Dr. T. Pitchaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE | : Internal Member |
| 21. Dr. L. S. Raju, HoD, Dept. of Mech. Engg. | : Internal Member |
| 22. Dr. N. Srinivasu, HoD, Dept. of S&H | : Internal Member |
| 23. Dr. K. Kalpana, HoD, Dept. of MBA | : Internal Member |
| 24. Dr.Dr.JithendraCh, HoD, Dept. of Pharmacy | : Internal Member |
| 25. Dr. N. Usha Rani, Prof., Dept. of ECE | : Internal Member |
| 26. Dr. K. Hematha Kumar, Prof., Dept. of CSE | : Internal Member |
| 27. Dr. N. Veeranjanyulu, Prof., Dept. of IT | : Internal Member |
| 28. Dr. M. Sreenivasulu, Prof., Dept. of S&H | : Internal Member |
| 29. Dr. D. Satyanarayana, Prof., Dept. of Mech. Engg. | : Internal Member |
| 30. Dr. M. Nirupama Bhat, Prof., Dept. of CSE | : Internal Member |
| 31. Dr.P.V.S.Sobhan, Assoc. Prof., Dept. of EEE | : Internal Member |
| 32. Mr. S.V.Ramakrishna, Asst. Prof., Dept. of CSE | : Internal Member |
| 33. Mr. K. Praveen Kumar, Asst. Prof., Dept. of IT | : Internal Member |
| 34. Mr. N.S.N.Murthy, Finance Officer | : Internal Member |
| 35. Mr. R. Suresh Kumar,
Systems Manager of IT Services | : Internal Member |
| 36. Dr. B. Srinivasa Rao, Prof., Dept. of MBA | : Special Invitee |
| 37. Dr. B. Naga Latha, Assoc. Prof. of VIL (VFSTR) | : Special Invitee |
| 38. Mr. L. Ashish Kumar, Asst. Prof. of VIL (VFSTR) | : Special Invitee |
| 39. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar | : Member Secretary |

Leave of absence:

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| Dr. V. M. Rao, Dean - E&M | : Internal Member |
| Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean - T&P | : Internal Member |
| Dr.B.Seetharamanjanyulu, Prof., Dept. of ECE | : Internal Member |
| Dr.ShaikJakeerHusaian, Prof., Dept. of ECE | : Internal Member |
| Dr.B.M.Rao, Prof., Dept. of MBA | : Internal Member |
| Dr.P.L.N.Varma, Professor, Dept. of S&H | : Internal Member |

Above Internal members have taken permission for leave of absence.

Proceedings of the Meeting:

Before the commencement of the meeting, the Chair welcomed all the members and special invitees for the meeting which was held in hybrid mode - both virtual and physical.

The Chancellor in his opening remarks had expressed concern over the low admissions in certain branches and asked the Chair to enquire into the issue of how admissions were happening in other universities.

Er. D. Rama Krishna his opening remarks stated that digitalization is happening at a very fast rate. Most of the syllabus of ECE has to be changed. He stated that the industry now needs the people who would build algorithms. The other branches also should be digitalized. The university should call more number of experts from digitalization industry. The syllabus of Computer Science and Engineering should also be revamped by 50%. He mentioned that every decision now in industry is made by data analytics and every activity is now digitalized.

Prof. K. Babu Rao in his opening remarks stated that the inter-department borders were becoming porous and every department should think of inter-departmental activities.

Dr. Shanti Swarupin his opening remarks stated that digital skills were needed for employment. Ability to recall the knowledge is the important order of the day. Inter-disciplinary courses should be promoted. He mentioned that courses in Google and Coursera are filled with multi-disciplinary courses.

Prof. Y. Satyanarayanain his opening remarks stated that law courses keep on updating themselves. He stated that VignanInstitute of Law has taken a bold step by introducing BBA. LLB in addition to B.A LLB course. He advised VFSTR to make vigorous efforts to attract students into law course.

Dr. Vidhu Kampurathin his opening remarks stated that VFSTR should strictly follow ICAR syllabus. He advised to include certificate courses to improve the employability of the students.

Dean, admissions in response to Chancellor's query stated that the reduction of admissions in VFSTR is not a unique feature because, same trend is happening in other colleges also. He stated that CSE branch is chosen by many in comparison with other branches.

The Chancellor here mentioned that the external members should help in revamping the existing syllabi and update it by introducing inter-disciplinary syllabi.

Agenda:

I. Confirmation of the Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the 26th Meeting of Academic Council held virtually on 20.11.2020 was placed for confirmation. After deliberations, the council approved the minutes.

II. Agenda Items for Approval:

1. Commencement of Law Programmes viz. B.A LLB (Hons.) and B.B.A. LLB (Hons.) (Five years Integrated Programme) from the Academic year 2020-21.

HoD, MBA, Dr. Kalpana stated that Law programs viz. B.A LLB (Hons.) and B.B.A. LLB (Hons.) has been sanctioned by UGC with a strength of 60 students. She presented the semester wise syllabus. She stated that the course will have a total credits of 208 for 52 courses. She then presented on the proposed new Honors

course in Law and also the proposed seminar course and optionals. She also presented on the assessment procedure.

She stated that Lex Digita helps in the digitalization of legal process. She stated that basic computer courses like MS Office, Word, Excel will be taught to the law students. Basics of Artificial Intelligence will also be taught to the students. Special emphasis will be given on teaching legal drafting for the students.

Dr. M. Shanti Swarup mentioned that the course has good comprehensive focus on various aspects like History, English and Management. However, he advised to increase the number of electives in the course.

Er. D. Rama Krishna mentioned that lot of transactions were happening in the world and lot of buying and selling is happening. He stated that any one course that deals with these transactions should be introduced.

The Chair opined that the BoS on the Law program should facilitate the participation of the students in courts along with senior lawyers. He stated that ideally there should be a slot allotted to realise this in the last semester. The Chancellor seconded the opinion of the Chair. Mr. Ashish Kumar, Asst. Prof. of Law mentioned that every semester, students will be going for internships. Prof. Satyanarayana opined that BCI has not yet proposed about one semester of practice. He stated that eminent lawyers and judges will be invited for Moot court.

Prof. K. Babu Rao stated that last semester can be split for three months of practice and three months of classroom teaching.

The Registrar stated that, one semester long internship may be discussed in BoS and then it could be taken up with BCI for approval. The Council after deliberations approved the commencement of the two courses viz., B.A. LLB and BBA, LLB from this academic year 2020-2021.

2. Commencement of 4 Year B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture Programme from the Academic Year 2021-22:

HoD, AE stated that UGC letter No. F.1-3. 2018 (CPP-1/DU) dated 25 Feb 2021 gives the authorisation to commence B.Sc, Agriculture in VFSTR. HoD, AE presented on the salient aspects of Course Curriculum for B.Sc, Agriculture. He stated that there shall be an intake of 320 students and the course shall be for four years. He presented on the eligibility, fee structure, distribution of 185 credits and distribution of courses. He stated that there shall be one year of internship and agro-industry attachment. He also presented on the evaluation of experimental learning; examination and evaluation system; marks to points conversion table and jobs in government and private sector.

Dr. Vidhu mentioned that the syllabus content is completely from ICAR. He appreciated the intake strength and stated the responsibility of placing them will be on VFSTR. He stated that courses like Pesticide Management, Mechanization

Management and Pesticide Residue Analysis have good value. The Chair enquired about the on farm products for which Dr. Vidhu gave explanation. When the Chancellor proposed the introduction of courses in Bio-Control agents and Vermi compost Dr. Vidhu stated that they can be introduced as per the interest of the students.

Dr. Shanti Swarup appreciated the intake of 320 students and appreciated the course being inter-disciplinary. He also proposed courses in Agribusiness and management and climate change. He stated that both faculty and students should be dedicated to their jobs to realize the vision with which this course was commenced. He stated that he has put some important information about the similar course in American universities in the chat.

The Chair stated that 25 acres and 31 faculty were needed for the course of A.G. B.Sc. He stated that 06 faculty were needed initially and they can be drawn from existing departments like S&H and Bio-Technology.

The Council after an elaborate discussion approved the commencement of B.Sc.(Hons) Agriculture in VFSTR from the academic year 2021-22.

3. Self-Learning Material (SLM), E-Learning Material (ELM), Project Program Reports (PPRs) and Weightage of Continuous Assessment (max. 30%) and end semester examinations (min 70%) for Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Online (OL) mode for both UG & PG Programmes:

Dr.Kalpana presented on the preparedness of Self Learning Material (SLM), E-Learning Material (ELM), Project Program Reports (PPRs) and Weightage of Continuous Assessment (max. 30%) and end semester examination or term end examination (min 70%) for Open and Distance Learning and Online mode for both UG and PG programs namely BBA (General) and MBA (General, Finance & HR). She stated that the material was prepared in house for 20 courses (first two years) of BBA (General) and 12 courses (First year) for MBA (General), MBA (Finance) and MBA (HR). She mentioned that the material shall be submitted to UGC (DEB) once approved by the Academic Council. The Chancellor mentioned that the deficiency in distance learning is the lack of application. Er. D. Ramakrishna observed that material should be more graphical and animated. After extensive deliberations, the self-learning material for ODL and OL mode for both UG & PG programs was approved by the council.

The Chair directed that the materials of digital content should be combined with materials of ODL and OL. The Chair also directed that the ODL and OL materials should be perused by the Registrar and Dean Academics.

III. Agenda Items for Ratification:

There were no agenda items to be ratified.

IV. Agenda Items for Information:

1. Submission of Self Study Report (SSR) to NAAC for II cycle of Accreditation:

Dean, IQAC stated that VFSTR was accredited by NAAC on 16 November 2015 with 'A' grade and CGPA of 3.02. The validity of first cycle expired on 15th November 2020. VFSTR submitted IAQA on 5th Feb 2021 and SSR on 10 February 2021 as per Revised Accreditation Frame (RAF) of NAAC. In RAF, the weightage has been

divided into Quantitative as 70% and Qualitative weightage as 30%. In the first phase, NAAC directed VFSTR to submit relevant documents for evaluating quantitative metrics. VFSTR submitted all the queries raised by NAAC on 8th March 2021

2. Submission of Performance and Academic Outcome to UGC for extension of Deemed to be University status:

Dean, IQAC stated that performance and academic outcome is being submitted to UGC for continuance of Deemed to be University status.

3. Submission of Data for NIRF - 2021 Ranking:

Dean, IQAC informed the council that VFSTR submitted the data for NIRF - 2021 ranking in four categories like Engineering, Management, Overall and Research. The ranking will be given in the first week of April 2021.

4. Results of Odd semester of Academic year 2020-21:

Dean AR&E presented the odd semester results for the following courses for the academic Year 2020-21: Regular BBA, MBA and Pre-Ph.D Examinations; Supplementary results of Single subject of B.Tech. (R13 & R16), BBA (R17), BCA (R15), MBA (R17) and MCA (R15).

V. Any other points with the permission of the chair

The Chair mooted the discussion on low admissions in certain branches and digitalization of all branches in VFSTR.

Dr. Shanti Swarup recommended to bring computer science into Civil and Mechanical Engineering branches. He stated that computers will become the mainstream. He advised to adopt interdisciplinary knowledge.

Er. D. Rama Krishna stated that the presence of software with microprocessors is omnipresent. Courses have to be revamped as per the need of the society. He also opined that education should be inter-disciplinary.

Prof. Babu Rao opined that every department should come forward to propose what they can do for betterment of existing courses. Allied departments should consult each other for better results. The students also should be convinced about the new courses.

Dr. Vidhu proposed that add on courses should be made available for current trends. Computer based precision equipment is coming into market. He advised to incorporate computer knowledge into the curriculum.

The Chair opined that 15% of the courses was fundamental and the rest has become obsolete.

Prof N. Usha Rani stated that 25% of the fundamentals can be changed. The application part of the syllabus is changing. She opined that active learning gives

more results. Short and long term adjustments should be made and the frequency of evaluation should also change.

Dr. K.V. Krishna Kishore stated that changes should be made in the first year itself so that the students can be stimulated for higher levels of learning.

Dr.N. Srinivasu opined that multi-disciplinary knowledge is essential

Dean, Academics opined that most of the syllabi of VFSTR was inter-disciplinary and sought the help of the members in identifying suitable experts to make the syllabi more inter-disciplinary in nature.

The following action points were given during the meeting:

Action point	Action to be taken by
The material of digital content should be combined with the materials of ODL and OL	HoD, MBA
The ODL and OL materials should be perused by the Registrar and Dean, Academics.	The Registrar and Dean, Academics
Every HoD should analyse the existing Courses and Syllabus in three categories - Fundamentals, Core Advanced Domain expertise, and Computer related latest tools.	All HoDs

There being no further points, the meeting was adjourned.



REGISTRAR

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VICE-CHANCELLOR

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