



VIGNAN'S

Foundation for Science, Technology & Research

(Deemed to be University)

-Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act 1956

National Level Accreditation



F.No.VFSTR/Reg/02/2018_01

Date : 02.04.2018

MINUTES OF THE 27TH MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT HELD ON 24.03.2018

The 27th Meeting of the Board of Management of VFSTR was held on 24.03.2018 (Saturday) at 10:00 AM 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.

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| 1. Dr. K. Ramamurthy Naidu, Chancellor, VFSTR | Special Invitee |
| 2. Prof. B.V. R. Chowdari, President, NTU, Singapore | External Member |
| 3. Dr. H. Devaraj, Former Vice-Chairman, UGC | External Member |
| 4. Dr. T. S. Rao, Sr. Advisor, Dept. of Biotech., Min. of S&T, Govt. of India | External Member |
| 5. Dr. Y. Sarat, Director, United Health Systems, Hyderabad | External Member |
| 6. Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy, Prof., Department of CSE, AU | External Member |
| 7. Dr. K. V. Krishna Kishore, Dean, IT and Library Services | Internal Member |
| 8. Dr. M. Rama Krishna, Dean, IQAC | Internal Member |
| 9. Dr. S. Krupanidhi, Professor, Department of Biotechnology | Internal Member |
| 10. Dr. K.V. Madhuri, Assoc. Prof., Dept of S&H | Internal Member |
| 11. Mr. Ch. Siva Koteswara Rao, Assistant Professor, Dept. of IT | Internal Member |
| 12. Dr. P. M. V. Rao, Controller of Exams | Permanent Invitee |
| 13. Dr. V.M. Rao, Dean, Engineering and Management | Special Invitee |
| 14. Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini, Dean, Student Affairs | Special Invitee |
| 15. Dr. Ravi Kumar, Dean, Admissions | Special Invitee |
| 16. Dr. Vijay Ramu, Dean, Academics and Foreign Collaboration | Special Invitee |
| 17. Dr. Vidhu Kampurath, Dean R&D | Special Invitee |
| 18. Mr. D. Vijay Krishna, Dean, Training and Placement | Special Invitee |
| 19. Mr. R. Sambaiah, Finance Officer | Special Invitee |
| 20. Dr. G.Sreenivasa Rao, HoD, Dept. of EEE | Special Invitee |
| 21. Dr. N. Srinivas, HoD, Dept. of S&H | Special Invitee |
| 22. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar, VFSTR | Member Secretary |

Leave of Absence

The following members did not attend the meeting due to prior commitments.

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| Sri. L. Srikrishnadevarayalu, Vice-Chairman, Vignan Group | External Member |
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Proceedings

The meeting commenced at 10:00 AM and the Chair Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad welcomed all the members to the meeting. After pleasantries, the Chair, Dr. M. Y. S. Prasad requested Hon. Chancellor, Prof. K. Ramamurthy Naidu to commence the meeting with his remarks.

Prof. Ramamurthy Naidu greeted all the members of the meeting. As the Hon. Chancellor mentioned the award of Honorary Doctorate to Dr. B.V. R. Chowdari, all the members present greeted him. Prof. Ramamurthy Naidu informed the members about the good impressions of Vice-President of India on VFSTR and expressed his hope that VFSTR shall achieve a good rank among the other Universities in the coming times.

Registrar, Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan commenced the proceedings of the meeting of BoM by explaining the various heads in the corpus of the agenda to the Board Members.

1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 26th Board of Management meeting

The Chair invited the comments from the members on the minutes of 26th Board of Management meeting held on 27.12.2017. With no comments, the members confirmed the minutes.

2. Actions taken on the decisions of the 26th Board of Management meeting

The members concerned with the decisions of the 26th Board of Management meeting responded to this agenda point as follows:

A. Feasibility study to start M.A. (English), M.A. (Mass Communications), B.Arch., M.Sc. (Health Psychology) and M.A. (Health Economics)

Dr. V.M. Rao, Dean, Engineering and Management explained that a team conducted feasibility study and deliberations with the English faculty from Department of S&H and faculty from the Department of Civil Engineering. In these deliberations, the rationale for commencing PG program was assessed by inviting the Feasibility Report from the faculty of the departments and consequently, only M.A. (English) was considered feasible to be commenced from the coming academic year. Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy and Prof. B.V. R. Chowdari supported the decision considering the good employment opportunities for post-graduates in English.

As part of this deliberation, Prof. Devaraj and Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy suggested that MOOCs facility can be utilized to the advantage of the PG program by adopting one or two courses from MOOCs and according credits to them. It was suggested that projects related to Health Economics can be introduced to the students of MBA as a precursor to the two year M.A. (Health Economics) course in future. Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy drew the attention of the members to PG program in Health Psychology and advised to take the modus of Central University of Hyderabad as reference.

B. Supporting students' attachment program to NTU, Singapore as offered by Prof. B.V.R. Chowdari

Dean, Foreign Collaboration, Dr. Vijay Ramu presented that deserving students were identified along with faculty supervisors from VFSTR. Research themes and supervisors at NTU were identified and these details were posted to Prof. B.V. R. Chowdari. Dr. Vijay Ramu also informed that faculty at NTU were contacted.

Prof. Chowdari responded that NTU's 'India Connect' program offers Research internship program for Indian students which is dependent on faculty and research projects proposed. The admission of students into NTU involves various bodies, right supervisors and approval at various levels. He appreciated the efforts of VFSTR students who were earlier sent to NUS.

Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy suggested a possibility that the entire first semester of the fourth year can be dedicated for project by adjusting one subject of the course work into the second semester of third year and the other into second semester of fourth year.

C. Opinion of external experts on the course content of B.Pharmacy

Dr. Vijay Ramu, Dean, Academics stated that the course content of B.Pharmacy was good in the opinion of external experts who were selected on the basis of their good H-Index.

D. Centre for elite courses (or) Finishing school in Department of Bio Technology

HoD, BioTechnology, Dr. Sri Rama Krupanidhi responded that all the academic and allied benefits of a finishing school are enjoyed by the students of Bio Technology in VFSTR which is evident in the high placement rate in students of the department of Bio Technology. He also brought to the notice of the members that APSSDC offers a three month programme named 'Pratyancha' which has benefits equal to that which are drawn from the elite courses and centers suggested in the previous BoM. He also informed the members that 09 Bio Technology students received employment offer which is preceded by an induction course like training program conducted at Chalapathi College, at Lam, Guntur.

E. Out of turn promotion for deserving faculty

The Chair, Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad explained the intention behind the plan to give out of turn promotion to some deserving faculty i.e. to prevent the attrition of outstanding faculty. Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad explained that good faculty with consistent performance in teaching and research shall, on the recommendations of their HoD, will be processed for out of turn promotion. Dr. Y. Sarat in this respect advised, which was seconded by Dr. T.S. Rao, to frame a rational criteria for identifying star performers and they shall

also be offered the benefit of self appraisal to present their case comprehensively. Dr. H. Devaraj pointed at the important role of IQAC in the context of granting out of turn promotion to faculty. The Chair concluded the discussion on the point that this plan with good intent shall be implemented with objectivity.

F. Coursework for Ph.D scholars and UGC norms.

Following the discussion on the issue of customizing the coursework of Ph.D scholars from industry, the Dean - R&D made a statement that no compromise of UGC norms shall happen in the research programs of VFSTR.

3. Continuation of the Deemed to be University status accorded by UGC consequent upon the recommendations of UGC and AICTE Expert Committee visit during 9th - 11^t Oct, 2017.

The members were informed by the Registrar, Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan about the recommendations of the UGC and AICTE Expert Committee that visited VFSTR on 9th - 11th October, 2017 according to which the deemed University status of VFSTR was preserved. In this regard, Dr. H. Devaraj advised for more rigorous research activity in VFSTR which shall assure 3.26 - 3.5 NAAC rating for VFSTR.

4. Recent initiatives of AICTE and VFSTR response

Registrar, Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan informed the members of BoM about the developments related to

- i) Application to AICTE seeking approval for commencement of technical programs as a new technical institution & subsequent visit of AICTE Expert Committee to the University on 4th March, 2018.
- ii) Filing of Writ Petition (W.P) in the Hon. High Court of Judicature at Hyderabad against AICTE on 5th March, 2018 and conditions that led to the filing of W.P and thereof.

II. Agenda items for approval

All the under-mentioned agenda items were presented for the approval of the Board.

1. Minutes of the 18th Finance Committee Meeting held on 16th March, 2018.

The Minutes of 18th Finance Committee Meeting were presented to the BoM by Finance Officer, Mr. R. Sambaiah. In the discussion that ensued on this agenda point, the following advices were given by the members before they approved the Minutes of the 18th Finance Committee Meeting:

Dr. T.S. Rao advised that VFSTR should make efforts to acquire more funding from external agencies. He mentioned about the MHRD's IMPRINT - 2 which funds research programs of the institutions.

Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy advised to consult research organizations to recruit the researchers into VFSTR.

Dr. Y. Sarat advised to recruit more faculty having flair for research.

Dr. B.V. R. Chowdari advised to upgrade the research standards and performance in VFSTR to match the competition at DST.

2. Commencement of Off-campus centers in Hyderabad and Visakhapatnam

The discussion on this agenda point was deferred to the next meeting of BoM.

3. Division of the Department of S&H into four Schools

Dr. N. Srinivasu, HoD, S&H presented the proposal to divide the present S&H department for administrative convenience to form four divisions comprising School of Physical Sciences, School of Chemical Sciences, School of Mathematics and School of Linguistics Studies. The proposal was approved by the members.

4. Proposed intake capacity for UG and PG for the academic year 2018-19

The agenda point was presented by Dean, Admissions and the proposed intake was approved by the BoM.

5. In principal approval to commence PG courses in Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry from the academic year 2019-20

The proposal to commence PG courses in Mathematics from the Academic Year 2018-19, and Physics and Chemistry from the academic year 2019-20 was presented by Dr. N. Srinivasu, HoD, S&H seeking approval of members of BoM in principle. The proposal was approved by the members in principle.

III. Agenda items for ratification

All the under-mentioned agenda items were presented for the ratification of the members of the Board of Management.

- i) Change of Deans and HoDs
- ii) Appointment of Adjunct Professors
- iii) Appointment of Advisers for VFSTR
- iv) Appointment of Professors from Korea as Guest Professors in the Department of CSE.
- v) Recruitment of faculty in various IITs/NITs/IIITs etc., for the academic year 2018-19 through campus recruitment.
- vi) Recruitment of faculty in VFSTR from 01st July, 2017 to till date.
- vii) List of teaching and non-teaching staff joined and relieved since last BoM meeting held on 27th December, 2017.

All the agenda items were discussed by the members and were ratified.

IV. Agenda items for information

All the under-mentioned agenda items were presented for the information of the Board.

- i) Results of First semester of Academic year 2017-18 [presented by Dean, Evaluation, Dr. PMV Rao]
- ii) Sports Fete and Vignan Mahotsav - 2018 [presented by Dean, Students' Affairs, Dr. M.S.S. Rukmini]
- iii) International student exchange program [presented by Dean, Foreign Collaborations, Dr.D. Vijay Ramu]
- iv) Status of campus placements and felicitation of parents of students placed through campus placements [presented by Dean T&P, Mr. D. Vijay Krishna]
- v) Commissioning of 1MW Roof Top Solar PV Plant on 18th March, 2018. [presented by HoD, EEE, Dr. G.Sreenivasa Rao]
- vi) Nomination of Prof. Vinay Kumar Pathak, VC of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Technical University, Lucknow by UGC as member in Planning and Monitoring Board (PMB) of VFSTR. [presented by Cmde, Dr. M.S. Raghunathan]
- vii) MoUs signed with institutions / industry since the last BoM Meeting. [presented by the Cmde, Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar, VFSTR]
- viii) List of active and inactive MoUs with Academia /Industry. [presented by the Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar, VFSTR]
- ix) One more skill development lab sanctioned by APSSDC. [presented by Dr. V.M. Rao, Dean, E&M]
- x) Parent - Teachers Association (PTA) meeting [presented by Dr. MSS Rukmini, Dean, Student Affairs]

All the members of the Board took a note of the above-mentioned agenda points.

Hon'ble Chancellor expressed his happiness in informing the members that funded projects are expected by the end of March. He also said that VFSTR is putting committed efforts to acquire projects. He advised that capable faculty whether on regular or adjunct basis have to be recruited for the sake of excellence in research.

The meeting concluded with the remarks of the Chair, Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad who assured that good proposals shall be considered with special interest. He further stated that internal quality of research in VFSTR will be enriched.

The decisions / actions from the 27th Board of Management Meeting are as given below:-

1. Commencement of two year course in MA - English and M.Sc. - Mathematics is approved to start from the coming academic year pending course design and UGC approval. The decision was taken however, with a remark on the legitimacy and technicality involved in launch of course in Humanities under Department of S&H.
[Action: Deans E&M; Academics and HoD, S&H]
2. Prof. B.V.R. Chowdari announced his support to the admission of students from VFSTR into internship program at NTU. It was also decided that the credits for this attachment

program which shall be deemed as "Extended Internship" shall be ascertained by appropriate authority in VFSTR.

[Action: Dean, Academics and Dean - Evaluation]

3. Prof. P. V. G. D. Prasad Reddy offered support for research in VFSTR through the program called Bionic Year of Andhra University.

[Action: Dean, Research and Development]

4. Comprehensive research plan of the University to be presented in the forthcoming BoM Meeting.

[Action: Dean, Research and Development]

5. The Office of Research and Development should make efforts to identify fake journals even from the white list of journals released by UGC by a thorough review of all journals.

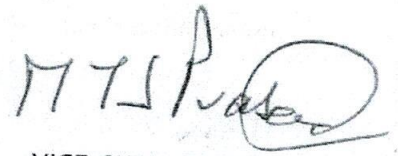
[Action: Dean, Research and Development]

The 27th Board of Management Meeting concluded as the Registrar proposed the Vote of thanks to the members. The External Members were felicitated by Hon'ble Chairman, Sri. Dr. L. Rathaiah and the Chair, Dr. M.Y.S. Prasad, Vice-Chancellor.

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



VICE-CHANCELLOR
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