

Minutes of the 7th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 12/04/2025 (Saturday) at 10.00 AM

Venue: Chairman's Board Room, A-Block, VFSTR

Vignan's Foundation for Science, Technology and Research

Vadlamudi, Guntur

Andhra Pradesh - 522213

MINUTES OF THE 7th EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 12th April, 2025.

(Hybrid Mode)

The members of Executive Council met on 12th April, 2025 at 10:00 AM in the Chairman's Board Room, A-Block. Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTRU chaired the meeting. The following members were present:

1. Col. Prof. P. Nagabhushan
Vice-Chancellor, VFSTR, Guntur, A.P. : Chairman
2. Dr. Y. Sarat
Director, United Health Systems Pvt.Ltd, Hyderabad : External Member
3. Prof. BVR Chowdary (virtual mode)
Senior Executive Director, Office of the Provost
University of Singapore (Strategic India and Initiatives) : External Member
4. Shri. P. Murali Manohar
Former Member Secretary,
Mahatma Gandhi National Council of Rural Education, Hyd : External Member
5. Prof.P.V.G.D.Prasada Reddy Vice-Chancellor,
Andhra University, Vizag (Virtual Mode) : External Member
6. Prof. Lalit M Patnaik
Adjunct Professor & NASI Sr. Scientist
Consciousness Studies Program
National Institute of Advanced Studies IISC,
Benguluru (former Vice-Chancellor, DIAT) : External Member
7. Dr. E.S. Chakravarthy
Vice-President and Global RMG Head, TCS, Benguluru : External Member
8. Dr. M. Malakondaiah, Former DGP, AP : External Member
9. Dr. PMV Rao Dean, AAA : Special Invitee
10. Dr. T. Ramesh Babu Dean, SAFT Director, AHS : Special Invitee
11. Dr. M. Rama Krishna
Dean, IQAC and Dean, SoCE : Member
12. 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
13. Prof. D. Vijay Ramu, Dean PCF : Member
14. Prof. Y. Ravishekar
Dean, T&D : Special Invitee
15. Dr. D. Vijay Krishna Dean T&P : Special Invitee

16. Dr. D. Venkatesulu : Special Invitee
Dean R&D, Additional Dean ACSE
17. Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao Liaison Officer,R&D, : Special Invitee
18. Dr. N. Srinivasu Dean SAS&H : Special Invitee
19. Dr. K. Venkata Madhuri Professor and HoD, Physics : Member
20. Dr. Anandarup Goswami :
Associate Professor, Dept. of Chemistry : Member
21. Dr. MSS Rukmuni Dean SA : Special Invitee
22. Prof. N. Veeranjanyulu :
HoD, Dept. of IT and Computer Applications : Special Invitee
23. Dr. N.S. Sampath Kumar, Joint Dean, AAA : Special Invitee
24. Dr. P. Sambaiah, HoD, Dept. of ECE : Special Invitee
25. Mr. Prasad Panda, Director, IR : Special Invitee
26. Dr. Sarita Sathpathy, HoD, Dept. of MBA : Special Invitee
27. Dr. D. Adam Stephen, Associate Professor, HoD, SS&H : Special Invitee
28. Dr. Siva Sankar Mandal Baidya, Asst. Professor, SS&H : Special Invitee
29. Sri. NSN Murthy, Finance Officer : Special Invitee
30. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan, Registrar : Secretary

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

1. Sri. L. Sri Krishna Devarayulu
Vice-Chairman, Lavu Educational Society, Guntur : External Member
2. Dr. GSR Satyanarayana
Asst. Prof. Dept. of ECE : Member
3. Dr. M. Subba Rao
Director, Off Campus, Hyderabad : Special Invitee

Minutes of the 7th Executive Council Meeting

Date: 12/04/2025 [Saturday] at 10:00 AM

	<p>I. Welcoming the members of Executive Council by the Chair and the Registrar.</p> <p>The Chair commenced the 7th Executive Council Meeting by welcoming the external and internal members of the council. The Chair gave a special welcome to the Registrar Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan and announced the completion of the latter's stint in VFSTR by the end of April 2025. The Chair stated that the Registrar had rendered yeomen services to the organization for eleven years. Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan was crucial in streamlining and implementing the Vignan 7th Pay Commission. The Chair raised the toast to declare that the 7th Executive Council Meeting should be dedicated to the departing Registrar. The chair also stated that the 7th Executive Council Meeting would be in the honour of outgoing Registrar Cmde. Dr. M.S. Raghunathan for which the house echoed the acceptance in sync.</p> <p>The Chair invited laudatory remarks from the members of the council for which Dr. Y. Sarat responded that the Registrar served the university in turbulent times and made contribution to bail out the university during testing times. Dr. Y. Sarat accoladed Cmde. Dr. Raghunathan's strong sense of belonging; down to earth attitude and the fabric of discipline that carved him a special niche among the executives of the university.</p> <p>Prof. BVR Chowdari remembered his association with the Registrar from the former's initial days and generously praised the latter's discipline, enthusiasm and cooperative professionalism. He wished the Registrar all the best after thanking for all his services to VFSTR.</p> <p>Prof. Patnaik highly praised Cmde. Dr. Raghunathan as jovial, disciplined and meticulous personality and appreciated the services rendered by him.</p> <p>The Registrar, Cmde. R.M.S. Raghunathan in his response stated that he was well honoured by the words of the members and thanked the Vice-Chancellor along with all the other External members of the Council.</p> <p>Dr. M. Malakondaiah informed the members that five candidates were interviewed for the position of Registrar of whom, Dr. PMV Rao, the serving Dean AAA, was the unanimous choice for the incumbency of the Registrar, VFSTR. The incumbency of Dr. PMV Rao as the Registrar Designate of the university was announced. The house responded positively unanimously.</p> <p>The appointment of Dr. K. Meghana, as the Chief Executive Officer, VFSTR and as the member of Executive Council was moved by Dr. Sarath which was seconded by Prof. Patnaik. The council was unanimous to include the CEO, VFSTR as the new member of Executive Council.</p> <p>Dr. K. Meghana, as the new member of the Executive Council, was formally welcomed, in absentia, and the profile of her was rendered by Prof. D. Vijay Ramu, Dean PCF.</p> <p>II. 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the 27th and 28th Finance Committee Meetings held on 06-12-2024 and 29-03-25 respectively.</p> <p>The Finance Officer presented the salient features of the 27th and 28th Finance Committee meetings [Implementation of Gratuity and Budget Proposal for FY 2025-26] and placed the minutes of the two FCMs for confirmation before the members of 7th Executive Council. The salient aspect of the Finance Committee Meeting was the "Approval of the</p>

Gratuity” to the entitled staff after through deliberations. However, the modalities of payment of Gratuity has to be worked out in consultation with the Auditors. It was also informed that Auditors would be requested to give the report within a fortnight. The council confirmed the minutes after deliberation.

2. Confirmation of the minutes of the 40th Academic Council Meeting held on 22-02-2025.

The Registrar presented the salient features of the 40th Academic Council meeting held on 22-02-2025 and placed the minutes of the council meeting before the members of 7th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes of the 40th Academic Council meeting after deliberation.

3. Confirmation of the minutes of the 6th Executive Council Meeting held on 07-12-2024.

The Registrar presented the salient features of the 6th Executive Council meeting held on 07-12-2024 and placed the minutes of the council meeting before the members of 7th Executive Council for confirmation. The council confirmed the minutes of the 6th Executive Council meeting after deliberation.

After the confirmation of the minutes of the meetings, the agenda items of the 7th Executive Council meeting were taken up.

III. Action Taken Report on the decisions of the 6th Executive Council Meeting:

1. HoD, ECE should offer training to the students before they were deputed to PG course in M/s Effectronics. They should prepare well ahead of time. - ATR rendered by HoD, ECE

The HoD, ECE responded that, in the year 2023, out of 383 students, one student got selected to the PG course in Effectronics while none could make it to the course in 2024. In the discussion with the HR persons of the company, it was revealed that the students of the department should be proficient in Basic Mathematics, Digital Electronics, Micro Controllers, C Programming and Data Communication.

The HoD assured for initiating a 45-day Pre-semester program through which the deficiency in students can be addressed. He also presented the courses and faculty who shall involve in this program. The HoD also presented that 72 students were attending internship in technical institutions while 30 students were inclined to join M.Tech.

The HoD also presented the M.Tech. IoT action plan for 2025 by discussing the meeting at Effectronics, publicity through social media, workshops and awareness programs and challenge management.

In this context, Dr. Sarath advised to give more technical inputs to the students and encourage the students for higher education.

2. The Convenor of Vignan Online Education should present on the metrics like progress, placement and branding strategy related to Vignan Online Education. - ATR rendered by Director CDOE

The Director CDOE presented the action taken report as following:

A. Till date, 891 students graduated from Vignan CDOE.

B. Of the abovementioned students, 137 were international students.

The Director then presented the distribution of candidates enrolled basing their occupation and work-experience.

C. The Director then presented that 341 students sought placement support.

D. The Director then presented on the system of measuring the impact; alumni network and interaction and branding through website and social media.

Dr. Chakravarthy suggested to use the video bytes capturing students' experience for marketing. He also stated that the net worth of online teaching field is Rs. 64,000 crores with a growth rate of 28% each year.

The Registrar advised the Director to maintain the exclusivity of the CDOE and there should be no overlap of the same with conventional education.

Prof. Patnaik advised to extend the online education services to selected branches of Engineering.

3. A structured upskilling program for all employees of VFSTR at various levels should be conducted - ATR presented by Dean AAA and Director IR

The Director IR presented the Action Taken Report under the following heads:

A. Focus on overview of upskilling program

B. Upskilling for employees at various levels

C. Challenges

D. Optimizing resources - in house training

E. Program execution

Training for primary level employees

F. MS Excel training program

G. Cost efficiency

H. Customised, sustainable and relatable programs

I. Activity

Training for secondary level employees

J. Faculty Orientation Programs

Training for tertiary level employees

K. Programs conducted with support of Administrative Staff College

L. Upcoming programs for tertiary level employees

Prof. Patnaik advised that senior faculty from premier institutions should be roped in to counsel the faculty on research, patenting and teaching.

Dr. Chakravarthy advised that the training offered to the primary level employees should upscale their skills to excel in their regular or special assignments.

	<p>4. A sub-committee comprising Dr. Chakravarthy, Addnl. Dean ACSC and HOD, ECE to solve the problems related to poor strength in M.Tech. - ATR presented by Additional Dean, ACSE</p> <p>The Additional Dean ACSE presented the ATR under following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Current status of M.Tech. in VFSTR B. Current challenges in post-graduation C. Proposed strategies <p>5. A committee comprising Dean AAA and Dr. Narayana, Assoc. Dean AAA should look into and propose solutions for the problem of infrastructure in VFSTR. - ATR scheduled to be presented by Dean AAA.</p> <p>The submission of this ATR was deferred to the next Executive Council Meeting as requested by Dean AAA.</p>
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	<p>IV. Agenda Items for Discussion and Approval</p> <p>1. Financial estimates of the university for the AY 2025-26 - presented by the Finance Officer, VFSTR</p> <p>The Finance Officer presented the agenda point under the following heads:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Budget for 2025-26 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Income for the FY 2025-26 is Rs.410 crores ii. Revenue expenditure is Rs. 291 crores iii. Capital expenditure is Rs. 114.82 crores iv. Unplanned expenditure is Rs. 4.10 crores B. Budgeted income for the FY 2025-26 is Rs. 410,00,00,000 C. Budgeted expenditure for the FY 2025-26 is Rs. 410.00 crores D. Budgeted expenditure for the FY 2025-26 in percentage <p>The Chair informed the members of the council that “Grant of Gratuity” to the staff of VFSTR was approved in principle in the 28th Finance Committee Meeting on 29-03-25. Hon. Chancellor accorded his approval and the same was submitted to the auditor for further action.</p> <p>The Executive Council deliberated on the agenda point and approved it.</p>
	<p>V. Agenda Items for Information and Ratification</p> <p>1. AICTE approval for students’ intake for the academic year 2025-26 (for both VFSTR campus and Hyderabad Off-campus) - presented by Dean, Admissions</p> <p>The Dean presented that the proposal for increment in students’ intake for the academic year 2025-26 for both VFSTR campus and Hyderabad Off-campus was approved by the 40th Academic Council and would be sent to AICTE for approval. The proposed increment in the strength was as follows:</p> <p>B.Tech. - 720 seats, BBA / BBA (Hons) - 90 seats, MBA - 120 seats</p> <p>For Hyderabad campus, it was proposed that there should be an increment of 420 seats.</p>

The Chair initiated the discussion on the increment proposal and its compatibility with the existing infrastructure and faculty. In the discussion that ensued, it was decided that, infrastructure would not be a problem and efforts should be made to muster faculty (atleast in the form of TRAs and Teaching Associates) to match the increasing strength.

The proposal for increasing the intake for the AY 2025-26 was ratified by the ECM.

2. Commencement of M.Sc. (Agriculture) program for the AY 2025-26 - presented by Dean, SAFT

The Dean SAFT placed the proposed commencement of M.Sc. (Agriculture) for the AY 2025-26 which was already approved by the 40th Academic Council. The presentation was made under the following heads:

A. About the department

B. M.Sc. seats / years across SAUs and ICAR institutions

C. No of seats intake per year

The proposal for the commencement of M.Sc. (Agriculture) was ratified by the ECM.

3. Commencement of B.A. (Hons) program for the AY 2025-26 - presented by HoD, SSH.

The HoD, SSH presented the above agenda point under the following heads:

A. Foundation of leadership

B. B.A. (Hons): Program objectives

C. B.A. (Hons) Program outcomes

D. Minimum credits as stipulated by UGC

E. Multiple entry / exit options - B.A. and M.A degrees

F. B.A. (Hons) - the rationale

Dr. Chakravarty enquired about the commercial feasibility of this above-said program and advised to enquire and emulate the best colleges which are already hosting this program.

The agenda point was ratified by the ECM after deliberation.

4. Commencement of Integrated B.Ed. program for the AY 2025-26 - presented by Dr. Sivasankar Mandal, Assistant Professor, SSH

Dr. Sivasankar Mandal presented the proposal to commence the Integrated B.Ed program under the following heads:

A. Integrated B.Ed program - An overview

B. Objectives of the course

C. Regular B.Ed. program compared with Integrated B.Ed. program.

D. Program structure

E. Specialization

The agenda point was ratified by the council after deliberation.

5. Salient features of academic regulations -2025 - presented by Joint Dean AAA.

The Joint Dean, AAA presented the salient features of academic regulations 2025 under the following heads:

- A. Salient features of academic regulations - 2025
- B. Pre-semester between orientation and the first semester
- C. Credit requirement - 160 plus 10
- D. Creative work in lieu of course
- E. Year-long projects / internships
- F. UG / PG program R25 / C25

The agenda point was ratified by the council after deliberation.

6. Assessment results of I semester of AY 2024-25

Dean AAA presented the assessment results of I semester 2024-25 under the following heads:

- A. B.Tech. assessment results (AY 2024-25 I semester)
- B. Other regular programs: assessment results
- C. 28 supplementary assessment results

After the presentation the Chair stipulated that the students registering for the next courses should have the prior registration for the courses in which they secured R grade course (in case, if any).

The agenda point was ratified by the council after deliberation.

7. Status of research activity in VFSTR - presented by Dean, Research

The Dean Research presented the agenda point under the following heads:

- A. University research focus areas
- B. Publications (720 publications till date)
- C. Citations and H Index
- D. Funded research projects
- E. Patents
- F. Seed fund
- G. Ph.Ds awarded

Prof. BVR Chowdari enquired on the impact factor of the journal publications.

The agenda point was noted by the council members.

8. Conduct of Vignan Bala Mahotsav and Vignan Mahotsav - 2025 - presented by Dean, SA.

The Dean, SA presented two events through an vivid audio-video display capturing the various events of the above two events.

The agenda point was noted by the council members.

9. Faculty Industry Immersion Program - presented by Director IR

The agenda point was presented by the Director IR under the following heads:

- A. Objectives of faculty immersion
- B. Outcomes of faculty immersion
- C. Update on review meetings
- D. List of partnering companies
- E. Faculty Immersion Program - Phase II
- F. Confirmed partners - Institutions and companies - Phase II

The agenda point was noted by the council members.

10. MoU with Schneider Electric India Pvt. Ltd - presented by Liaison Officer, R&D

The Liaison Officer, R&D presented the agenda point under the following heads:

- A. Green Yodha Initiative
- B. Green Yodha: MoU signing ceremony
- C. Impact of Green Initiative
- D. Vignan adoption - social consciousness
- E. Community - social responsibility
- F. DSA project
- G. Green Campus - SE India Pvt. Ltd.
- H. Expected outcomes

The agenda point was noted by the council members.

11. MoU with Bowling Green State University, Ohio, USA - presented by Dean PCF

The Dean PCF presented the agenda point under the following heads:

- A. MoU with BGSC
- B. MoU exchange
- C. About BGSU
- D. About CTAAE@BGSU
- E. Collaboration avenues

Responding to the enquiry of Prof. BVR Chowdari, the Dean also clarified the matters related to funding by the university.

Dr. Chakravarty appreciated the initiative and cautioned about the futuristic implications concerning assured funding from the American university in view of changing geo political scenario.

The agenda point was noted by the council members.

12. Recruitment of Teaching and Non-teaching staff - presented by the

	<p>Registrar, VFSTR</p> <p>The Registrar presented the details off recruitment of teaching and non-teaching staff (both VFSTR and Off-campus) between December 2024 and March 2025. He stated that 37 teaching staff members were recruited to serve VFSTR and 06 teaching staff members intended for Hyderabad Off-campus.</p> <p>In the non-teaching side, 59 candidates were recruited for VFSTR while 8 members were intended for the Off-campus.</p> <p>Between December 2024 and March 2025, 16 teaching staff members and 21 non-teaching staff members were relieved from duties from VFSTR, while one teaching staff member was relieved from duties from Off-campus</p> <p>The agenda point was noted by the council members.</p> <p>Epilogue:</p> <p>Before the formal conclusion of the meeting, Dr. Y. Sarat made the following observations: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appreciated the upgradation of the VFSTR website. • Advised for e-governance system in the VFSTR. • Suggested on improvement in managing the alumni contact systems. • Advised on evolving VFSTR Distance Education wing as a distinct entity.
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The deliberations on the actual business of the meeting was followed by a vibrant response from the observing students which ensued some discussion.

VI. The following action points were pronounced during the 7th Executive Council meeting.

Sl.No.	Action Point	Action point addressed to
1.	The strategic measures presented by sub-committee (constituted to solve the problem of poor strength in PG education) should be more defined and action specific and should be presented in the next ECM.	The sub-committee comprising Dr. Chakravarthy, Addl. Dean ACSE and HOD, ECE Prof. Lalit M Patnaik may also be consulted
2.	A presentation by one of the beneficiaries of FIP along with one industry personnel should be scheduled in the coming ECM	Director IR
3.	The Director CDOE should present to the Chairman on the vision, purpose, strategy of online education to the Chairman.	Director CDOE
4.	Preventive Measures to overcome the problem of infrastructure in VFSTR.	Dean AAA

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


15.04.2025
REGISTRAR

VIGNAN'S FOUNDATION
FOR SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND RESEARCH
(Deemed to be University)
VADLAMUDI-522 213
GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA


15/4/25
VICE-CHANCELLOR

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GUNTUR (DISTRICT), A.P. INDIA