VIGNAN'S
Foundation for Science, Technology & Research
U N I V E R S I T Y
(Estd u/s 3 of UGC Act of 1956)

F.No : VFSTRU/Reg/A1/04/2016   **Date: 20th May 2016**

MINUTES OF THE 13th MEETING OF ACADEMIC COUNCEL HELD ON

23rd APRIL 2016

The Academic Council of Vignan University met on 23.04.2016 at 10:00 am in the Board Room, 5th Floor, A - Block. Dr. C. Thangaraj, Vice-Chancellor of VFSTRU, Chaired the meeting. The following members were present.

Members attended :-

1.	Dr. K.Ramamurthy Naidu	: Chancellor, VFSTRU, Special Invitee
2.	Dr. K. Babu Rao	: External Member
3.	Er. D. Rama Krishna	: External Member
4.	Dr. S. Salivahanan, Principal, SSN College of Engg., Rajiv Gandhi Salai (OMR), Kalavakkm	: Spl. Invitee
5.	Mr. Uma Mahesh Director, Innovative Logic Pvt. Ltd., Bangaluru	: Spl. Invitee
6.	Dr. V. T. Somasekhar, Professor, Dept. of Electrical Engg., NIT Warangal	: Spl. Invitee
7.	Mr. S. Ramakrishna, Manager R&D, ISUZU Engg. Business Center, Chennai	: Spl. Invitee
8.	Shri. Chandranath Bhatla Director, Cognizent Technologies Solution, Chennai	: Spl. Invitee
9.	Dr. B.Ramamoorthy	: Rector
10.	Dr. V.M.Rao	: Dean, Engineering & Management
11.	Dr. B.Seetharamanjaneyulu	: Dean, Academics
12.	Dr. P.M.V.Rao	: Dean, Academic Registration and Evaluation
13.	Dr. Avireni Srinivasulu	: Dean - R&D
14.	Dr. Ch. S.S.Murthy	: Dean, Foreign Collaborations
15.	Dr. M. S. S. Rukmini	: Dean, Student Affairs

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16.	Dr. M. Ramakrishna	: Dean, IQAC and HoD Mech. Engg.
17.	Dr. M. Ramesh Naidu	: Dean, Training and Placements and HOD, Chemical Engg.
18.	Mr. R.Sambaiah	: Finance Officer
19.	Dr. N.Gnaneswara Rao	: HoD, CSE
20.	Dr. S. Krupanidhi	: HoD, Biotechnology
21.	Dr. N. Usha Rani	: HoD, ECE
22.	Dr. G. Srinivasa Rao	: HoD, EEE
23.	Dr. N.Veeranjaneyulu	: HoD, IT & MCA
24.	Dr. Vidhu Kampurathi	: HoD, Applied Engineering
25.	Dr. Almelu Mangamma Hebsur	: HoD, Civil Engineering
26.	Mr. D. Vijay Krishna	: HoD, Management
27.	Dr. N.Srinivasu	: HoD, Science & Humanities
28.	Dr.Y.V.Rao	: Professor, Dept. of MBA
29.	Ms. A. Sharada	: Assoc. Prof., Department of S&H
30.	Mr.P.B.G.S.N.Murthy	: Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Mech. Engg.
31.	Dr.D. Vijaya Ramu	: Assoc. Prof., Dept. of Biotechnology
32.	Dr. M.S. Raghunathan	: Registrar, Member Secretary

Leave of Absence:

The following members did not attend the meeting :-

1. Dr. Shanthi Swaroop
   Chief Technology Officer, Uurmi Systems, Hyderabad — External Member

2. Sri.G.Sridhar,
   President and CEO of Paradigm, IT, Hyderabad — External Member

3. Mr. O. Naresh Kumar, Symbiosis Technologies, Visakhapatnam — External Member

4. Mr. Kolli Vinai, Co-Founder & Vice President, College of
   Engineering Team F1, Hyderabad — External Member

5. Dr. P.Purushotham — Internal Member
   Dean, Rural and Skill Development

The following members were on Other Duty (OD) :-

1. Dr. V. Ravi Kumar, Dean, Admissions — Internal Member

2. Prof. K.V.Krishna Kishore, Dean, Library & Information Sciences — Internal Member

3. Mr.R.Suresh Kumar, Systems Administrator — Internal Member

4. Mr.B.Srinivasa Rao, Workshop Superintendent — Internal Member

Student invitees attended:
1. Mr. B. Sanjay Bhargav, Reg. No. 131FA10002, III year student of Automobile Engg.
2. Mr. E. Yeswanth Kumar, Reg. No. 131FA05076, III year student of ECE
3. Ms. Abu Taalha Siddigi, Reg. No. 131FA06002, III year student of EEE
4. Ms. Ravi Vyshnavi, Reg. No. 141FC01049, II year student of MBA
5. Ms. Ch. Mrudula, Reg. No. 131FA03011, III year student of Civil Engg.
6. Mr. K. Praveen Murthy, Reg. No. 131FA03030, III year student of Civil Engg.
7. Mr. Sk. Mujamill, Reg. No. 131FA04108, III year student of CSE
8. Ms. A. Yasasvini, Reg. No. 121FA04216, IV year student of CSE
9. Mr. P. Manoj, Reg. No. 131FA12042, III year student of Agricultural Engg.
10. Mr. N. Chaitanya, Reg. No. 131FA08097, III year student of Mech. Engg.
11. Mr. Vika Boddula, Reg. No. 131FA08178, III year student of Mech. Engg.
12. Mr. J. Radheshyam, Reg. No. 131FA02004, III year student of Chemical Engg.
13. Ms. N. U.V.Sai Malini, Reg. No. 141FA01042, II year student of Biotechnology
14. Ms. T. Sri Amrutha Valli, Reg. No. 141FA05054, II year student of ECE

PROCEEDINGS:

At the outset, Dr.C.Thangaraj welcomed all the members and invitees to the meeting and thanked the Chancellor, external members and special invitees for honoring the meeting with their presence. He has felt happy about bringing R-16 regulations and mentioned that all the faculty members had put in their efforts. He had also expressed his satisfaction about structure of curriculum which is well modified with strong skill component and will help the learners in all aspects. The Chair person appreciated the BoS experts for their invaluable inputs and announced that all criteria were open for discussion. Later, he introduced all the external members and special invitees from different industries and institutions to the members.

I. Confirmation of the minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting viz 11th Academic Council meeting held on 26.08.2015 have been circulated to all the members and since there are no remarks from the members, the same has been passed.

II. Action taken on the decisions of the previous Academic Council meeting

A report on the action taken on the points raised during the previous meeting has been placed before the Academic Council members. All the members along with chair had approved the actions taken.

III. Agenda items for approval

(1) Revision of Curriculum, Structure and Regulations for all programs of B.Tech.

Dr.Seetharamanjaneyulu, Dean, Academics, has offered brief description of R16curriculum structure and regulations. He explained that R16 curriculum with choice based credit system (CBCS) will give more flexibility and viability in choosing courses to the stake

holders. He also emphasized that R16 curriculum has been designed to meet the industry needs and while making this, the stake holders suggestions are taken into consideration. He added that R16 curriculum has been modified with intense skill and knowledge components so that the learner would become job ready. He also said that credit based life skills and employability skills are introduced in the curriculum spanning five semesters.

Dr.K. Baburao had opined that outcome based education would help the stakeholders in honing the employability skills. Mr. S. Ramakrishna had suggested that exposing the learner to industrial orientation would be beneficial. Mr. Chandranath Bhatla opined that choice based credit system is good for students where they can find better option to pursue their interest.

Dean Academics has expressed that R16 has been improvised compared with R13 including more skill based aspects and more focused on practical based approach. All the courses in R16 are thoroughly revised with majority of the theory courses amalgamated with laboratory sessions and skill components embedded in them. Each student will be given different practical assignments as part of internal assessment and mini projects which will make the learner job ready. Dean, Academics mentioned that all of the Courses including new courses in R16 B.Tech Curriculum enable either Employability/Entrepreneurship/Skill Development as reviewed and recommended by respective Board of Studies (BoS).The feedback from various stake holders including Students, Employers, Teachers, Alumni, and Parents was carefully reviewed and recommended by BoS for design of R16 B.Tech Curriculum.

Er.D Ramakrishna said that knowledge-skill aspect should be linked with marketing since it has become more crucial at present. He also felt that it was important to cultivate the thought of need identification. Hence, the expert advised to build curriculum that can improve the skill of developing algorithm. In addition to need identification, the candidate should know developing algorithms for certain problems. It has been found that many job aspirants were with poor algorithms developing skill.

Chancellor has expressed his happiness and appreciated the external experts for contributing valuable ideas. He has said that all suggestions will be well taken.

Dr.S. Salivahanan has suggested that students should be encouraged to do research and faculty should guide them in that direction. Er.D.Ramakrishna has felt that ECE students should have elective as JAVA (CSE elective) as it would be helpful in core profession. Mr.S.Ramakrishna has suggested planning projects among different streams as it will fetch good products.

Dean Academics opined that offering knowledge in one area does not serve the interests as well as market requirements. So, it would be better to offer knowledge and skills in multiple streams. HoD, ECE informed that the syllabus had been modified and integrated with all possible suggestions by experts. HoD, CSE said that imparting practical knowledge has been

taken care in new regulations and assured that after completing the course the student will be ready to build algorithm and ready for job.

Vice-Chancellor added that having strong domain knowledge was crucial for all the students.

Mr.E.Yaswanth student of III year ECE felt that core knowledge is required for every engineering student and going too much beyond core was not beneficial. Mr. Manoj student of II year Agriculture felt that students should be encouraged in extra-curricular and co-curricular activities. Students' interest should be taken into consideration and activities should be planned accordingly. Mr.Chaitanya student of III year Mechanical expressed that introduction of design courses and MAT-lab will be useful. HoD, Mechanical said that some designing courses are already included in new regulation. HoD, S&H informed that MAT-lab was introduced for first year students in this regulation.

In the regulation, it has been stated that no candidate will be promoted into next year without 50% of credits. Many experts have responded differently for credit criteria. Dr.S.Salivahanan notified that the rule was not in UGC guidelines. Dr.V.T Somasekhar felt that chronically ill cases should be considered. Vice-Chancellor has opined that chronically ill and less attendance candidates could not make out good result. Finance Officer felt that a committee should be formed to decide for considering such cases and genuine ill cases should be considered with committee's recommendation. Vice-Chancellor also agreed that such cases will be considered based on committee's recommendations.

Mr.Chaitanya student of III year Mechanical suggested that good students should be judged fairly. Mr.Muzzamil student of III year CSE and many other students from different branches have felt that it is better to implement 50% credit system from 2nd year onwards. Vice-Chancellor had viewed that getting 50% credits was not a big deal for any student as getting through 4 courses out of 8 courses will make 50% of total credits; moreover, summer semester would be helpful in clearing backlogs thereby increasing credits. He also added that good counseling system would help the learner to cope with all criteria so, students should be guided right from the start. Rector has added that the same system has been followed in IITs.

Dean Evaluation has opined that getting 50% credits was possible for most of the students, after summer semester. The detained candidates would be less than 7%. He has also added that if implemented, more students will try to clear the backlogs.

A few external members felt that in JNTU, such system was implemented from 2nd year. Dr.Somasekhar has opined that system should have soft corner towards genuine students. Vice-Chancellor opined that since the system wanted to help the stakeholders, all kind of remedial measures are designed.

Mr.Chandranath Bhatla felt that having stringent rules would yield the desired results. Mr. Uma Mahesh opined that implementing this system was advisable as the student enters into Engineering departments (his / her branch) after first year and gets less opportunity to contact the first year faculty members and seek their help in clearing those first year backlogs. Vice-Chancellor also stressed the same point. After 1st year B.Tech. Programme, every year the learner come across different courses (What they studied in I year they never study in next year).

HoD, S&H opined that objective mode of teaching would be helpful as they (learners) have been in the system sofar. Ms.A.Sharada has opined that first year learners were pressurized immensely and they should be given orientation from day one as immediate switching over to a new system will be tough for students. She also added that it would be better they get slowly habituated to write descriptively.

Outcome: After through discussions R16 curriculum, structure and regulations have been approved for all B.Tech Programmes.

(2) Courses for Ph.D. scholars in various disciplines

The list of courses proposed by respective departments based upon the recommendation of BoS members and DRC to Ph.D. scholars are presented. The scholars are mandatorily required to choose courses for the completion of their course work. In addition to the aforementioned courses, scholars are also provided the option to choose courses from the existing Master's program in their discipline.

Outcome: All the courses for Ph.D were approved by the members.

IV. Agenda items for information
1. Recent semester examination result.

Vice-Chancellor had advised HoD, MBA for focusing on Afghanistan students and enquired about remedial classes. HoD, MBA responded that extra classes were scheduled and language skills were taken care of.

2. Discussion on 4th Convocation

4th Convocation of VFSTRU was scheduled for 29th of July 2016 for awarding degrees to UG, PG and Ph. D students.

3. Accreditation by NAAC with 'A' grade.

Vice-Chancellor congratulated all the staff for Accreditation with 'A' grade by NAAC. He added that all faculty members had put in their complete effort in the achievement.

4. NIRF Ranking

Chancellor felt very happy for standing at 88th place out of 1438 institutions and 233 Universities who participated in the Survey. It was felt that public perception of the University will be beneficial in the long scene.

4. All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)

The data in the required format is forwarded by the University.

5. University Research Board (URB) meeting conducted on 23rd Jan 2016.

Dean R&D has given the gist of University Research Board and briefed about all committees and their composition. He had also explained the functions of all committees. He informed that the University had adopted a four tire system for Ph. D programme.

Dean R&D also respond to a query on the preference of four tier system in place of three tier by informing that department level monitoring would be done better by the committee than the HoD.

Course work

Dr.K.Baburao had viewed that for a Ph.D. scholar getting 60% marks in course work would be fair since the M.Tech it is 50%. It has therefore been approved that scholar should get 60% of marks in course work. Vice-Chancellor has informed that the regulation for Ph.D has been drawn in middle of European and American models with 4 course works and 3 research works.

Dr. Somasekhar has said that most of universities have no course work in their curriculums.

Synopsis

Dean R&D has mentioned that scholars should have unpaid publication in either Scopus or SCI journals and they should send their synopsis to examiner before submission.

Examiners

Chancellor had opined that many Universities go with Indian examiners as against foreign ones. Rector has felt that foreign examiners will be fair and genuine feedback could be expected.
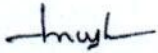
6. Scientific Advisory Committee meeting conducted on 22nd March 2016

The Scientific Advisory Committee meeting was conducted on 22nd March 2016and the suggestions made by members have been incorporated.

In the closing address, the Chancellor said that Academic Council is the Apex Body for academic activities where proposals of new programmes should be discussed and suitable ones to be finalized. He expressed his immense happiness for achieving 88th rank in NIRF and accreditation with 'A' grade by NAAC. He was satisfied that new programmes have been started with new regulations and advised to examine the viability of starting programmes in Law and Travel and Tourism. He further opined that programmes like BBA can be taken to higher level in future.

Vice Chancellor thanked all the members and special invitees for attending the meeting and making it a grand success.

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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