

VIDYA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (VAST), THALKOTTUKARA, THRISSUR

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Governors (BoG) held at 10.00 a.m. on 25.07.2022

Members Present:

1. Dr. Santosh Prasanna, Chairman, Vidya International Charitable Trust (VICT).
2. Er P.K Asokan, Chief Patron, Vidya International Charitable Trust (VICT).
3. Er. K.G. Sukumaran, Author Trustee, Vidya International Charitable Trust (VICT).
4. Sri. Suresh Lal, Director (Executive Director)– VICT
5. Sri P N Umirajan, Administrative Director
6. Dr. B. Anil, Academic Director VICT
7. Er. Lakshminarayana K, Former General Manager, SIFL, Athani, Thrissur
8. Dr. P. Pratapchandran Nair Former Principal, and Professor Emeritus, VAST
9. Dr. Saji C.B., Principal, Vidya Academy of Science and Technology,
10. Dr. Sudha Balagopalan, Dean- Academics & Former Principal, VAST.
11. Mr. Amal Ganesh, Asst Professor, Vidya Academy of Science and Technology

Members Absent:

1. Members from University, DTE
2. Member from KTU

Agenda:

1. Review of previous minutes and discussions.
2. Add on Courses, NBA accreditation of departments.
3. Plan of action for further progress of the institution
4. Any other items as approved by the body.

The meeting started with silent prayer. Thereafter, the Principal welcomed all the members of the Governing Body.

6. The principal gave an overview on the various activities that are ongoing
7. The following points are also to be discussed:

a. General

- i. The institution, like others, had to go through the difficulties of Covid-19
- ii. Unique crisis-None had experienced it before
- iii. We managed with strict measures, controls
- iv. Now we are back to routine. Regular offline classes are ongoing in full swing.

b. Remedial Measures

- i. Enabled online teaching-Work from home –Teach & Learn from home
- ii. Practical classes- Video record of the lab experiments
- iii. Spread of covid- Strict implementation of protocols in campus ; Mass vaccination drive in association with the M/s Appollo Hospital
- iv. Parents Crisis: Provided facility to pay fee on Installments, PTA Executive support- 135 students were given Covid special scholarships
- v. Cash flow crisis-: Overcame by financial planning and communications to stakeholders
- vi. Students' dilemma/loss of focus: Online Arts festivals/Anti Covid activities- Product developments
- vii. Moral support: Online PTA Meetings, Strengthening Teacher Mentorship

c. Academics

- i. Continued to get 100% pass in all MTech results
- ii. Good results in MCA, two ranks (MCA course duration is now reduced to two years from the existing 3 years.
- iii. In BTech, we had faced some challenges due to the classes conducted completely online. 2021 pass-out S8 result was 89.43%. We have taken measures and the classes are fully off-line from the current semester.

d. Non-Academics

- i. Leaders in Placements in Thrissur, 350+ placement offers already for the current batch, Highest with 14 lacs in M/s CAPGEMINI, average etc package is 3 lacs

- ii. Products Developed - It operated sanitizer dispenser, UV Sanitizer for Govt hospitals, Pushpa Chakra for flower vendors, 5000 masks made from home, Automated token system for hospitals –Medical College, Semi Automated Hand Glove removal for Doctors etc. were developed
- iii. Got remarkable achievements in NSS, Received prizes for Best NSS Unit, Best Student Volunteer and Best Program Officer. National Indira Gandhi Award for Best NSS volunteer
- iv. Best Student Volunteer Award instituted by Indian Society for Technical Education (Kerala Chapter)
- v. The Skill center is functional in the campus. The centre is enabled to take care of repairs and maintenance of home appliances, electronic equipment, manufacturing of LED bulbs and tubes, take training in Robotics etc.
- vi. Consultancy Wing is established- Product Development M/s Manappuram, Ventilator
- vii. Many Micro/Mini projects are developed by first year students under the guidance of Dean Academics. The main focus is to kindle the engineering aptitude of the students by equipping them with latest technology and innovation through building socially relevant projects.
- ix. VRC is established- Many research proposals are getting ready
- x. VSEC- Combining the social service activities
- xi. IEDC-Skill Centre activities for student skilling

3. Previous minutes to be read and approved, in addition to the further points of discussions as per the agenda, as follows:

Item No	Agenda	Description	Points for discussion	Action to be taken by	Action taken
1	Foreign University- collaboration	To have collaboration with foreign universities.	Formal collaboration with foreign universities is challenging at this point of time as we need to get approval from AICTE and APJAKTU. APJAKTU is expected to come out with policy decisions.	VICT, Principal	Ongoing
2	Preparing Students for Industry readiness through Add-on courses.	Incorporating add-on courses beyond regular curriculum, in the areas that are emerging time to time	To improve the English language of our students, we have associated with Cambridge University to offer English (BEC) certification courses to first year students. To introduce core courses as required	CCE, Principal	Approved Cambridge BEC certification programme has commenced. Departments have been instructed to identify and introduce relevant add-on courses.

			NEP 2020 is becoming a reality soon In addition to the flexibility that the scheme offers to students, this will require the teachers to be enabled accordingly. Institutions will require higher SFR to cater to the need of additional subjects offered. Abolishing Affiliation system by 2035 Hence we should prepare for autonomy before that. Need to channelize financial resources		Institutional roadmap prepared with the objective of achieving Autonomous Status by 2030. Preparatory initiatives are in progress.
3	Preparing for NEP-2020.	To get prepared for NEP 2020		VICT, Principal	
4	NBA accreditation	NBA accreditation in all departments	To prepare and get accreditation for all depts..	ED, AD, Principal	In progress
5	Additional Programmes in Emerging Areas. Reduction in intake/closure of courses	To start courses in Emerging Areas To reduce intake/close courses that are not in preference	To continuously be vigilant about the trends and emerging areas and to start new courses, accordingly to offer academic flexibility Due to the ever merging nature of technology, time bound reassessment of existing courses need to be carried out and decisions need to be taken accordingly	VICT, ED, AD, Principal	New programmes in emerging areas are being explored.
6	Discussion of results and placements of all branches	Review academic performance and placement outcomes.	Analyse branch-wise university results and placement statistics to identify improvement measures.	Principal, HoDs	Department-specific action plans have been initiated to improve pass percentage and placement
7	Industry centre of Excellence in campus	To provide in campus centres of excellence/incubation centres and startups in collaboration with Industries	To develop infrastructure and invite technology organisations/industries for collaboration	VICT, Principal	Industry collaborations are being strengthened, and infrastructure development for Centres of Excellence is progressing
8	Establishing Community Skill Development Centre	To share the facilities of the campus for skill development of eligible general public	Keeping the facilities available after academic working hours/days.	Principal	Ongoing

9	Discussion of PO/PSO attainment of all branches	Discussion of Programme Outcomes (PO) and Programme Specific Outcomes (PSO) attainment.	Discussion of Programme Outcomes (PO) and Programme Specific Outcomes (PSC), attainment.	Principal, HoDs	PO/PSO attainment of all departments was discussed
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The meeting concluded at 12.00 noon

Dr. Saji C.B
Principal & Member Secretary