Vel Tech
High Tech
Dr.Rangarajan Dr.Sakunthala
Engineering College

Autonomous - Affiliated to Anna University

Avadi, Chennai

36TH GC - MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Venue: Board Room
Date: 13/04/2024
Time: 11:15 am

36TH GC - MINUTES OF THE MEETING

Minutes:

The Principal initiated the meeting by welcoming all external members. The session commenced with the presentation of the Action Taken Report from the 35th General Council (GC) meeting. All queries and suggestions raised during the 35th meeting were duly addressed and presented.

Following this, the Principal delivered a comprehensive presentation covering the institution's activities and achievements, spanning 197 slides. The presentation concluded with a SWOC (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Challenges) analysis of the institute.

Subsequently, a discussion and suggestion session ensued, during which all external members shared their perspectives and recommendations for the institution's advancement. The comments from external members are outlined below in the order of their suggestions.

Dr. Jaspal Singh- UGC Nominee:

- The member appreciated the Principal for his presentation.
- The member requested copies of ePR and its feedback to be sent to his mail.
- An inquiry was made about the selection criteria for faculty, to which the Principal provided a justified response.
- A suggestion was made to showcase student project works in project expos.
- The faculty's recognition and rewards from publications were highly appreciated. Additionally, a suggestion was made to recognize and provide incentives to faculty for their teaching performances, project submissions, patent submissions, etc.
- It was advised to conduct a self-study of the institution, comparing the pre-autonomous and post-autonomous phases to ensure growth in the right direction.
- A recommendation was given to prioritize setting up an incubation center, submitting patents, and organizing international conferences to achieve a better grade during NAAC.
- Establishing an International Affairs Office was also suggested.

Dr. Narayana Kalkura – Anna University Nominee:

- Dr. Narayana commended the efforts of the Management and the Principal.
- He suggested fostering collaborations with national institutes to enhance the likelihood of receiving funding from government agencies.
- Dr. Narayana recommended that departments prioritize focus on key areas to attract funding.
- The institute was encouraged to prioritize initiatives related to start-ups and establishes an incubation center to support start-up ventures.
- Encouraging alumni contributions was suggested.
- Selecting and assigning student projects based on the focus areas of their respective courses was proposed.
- The member recommended establishing collaborations with foreign consulates to facilitate foreign language learning.
- Additional measures to provide training and support for slow learners and students from Tamil medium backgrounds were advised for implementation by the institution.

Dr. Sekar – DOTE Nominee:

- Dr. Sekar commended the efforts put forth for the presentation.
- He recommended the development of a 10-year roadmap to target the institution's growth.
- Faculty were encouraged to seek funding from AICTE to organize international conferences.
- Consideration was proposed for providing publication incentives to faculty serving as first, second, or corresponding authors.
- The institute should promote and support students in taking the GATE examinations, with efforts aimed at increasing pass percentiles.
- Mechanisms should be devised to enhance high-package placements and facilitate collaborative research projects for students to improve their placement prospects.
- Suggestions were made to revise the timetable format, including teaching sessions in the morning and training sessions in the afternoon.
- The institute should establish mechanisms to improve pass percentages in NPTEL exams.
- Development of a Virtual Class Advisor for CSE, IT, and AI & DS was recommended.
- Introduction of AR and VR in the syllabus was suggested.
- Attention was drawn to the low budget for R&D and a typographical error on slide 65.
- Emphasis was placed on the importance of establishing an incubator to promote start-ups.
- The outcomes of conducted FDPs, specifically in MATLAB and SIMULINK, should be showcased.
- Faculty retention, years of experience, and designations should adhere to Anna University norms.
- Project-Based Courses should constitute 50% of the curriculum to ensure optimal credit distribution.
- The absence of data related to internal and external audits in the presentation was noted, with the Principal justifying the institution's audit practices.
- Suggestions were made to include CO-PO mapping and attainment in the presentation.
- Research centers for Chemistry, Mathematics, and English should be established.
- Recommendations were provided for initiating Master's programs in Cyber Security, AI & DS, and AIML.

Dr. Jayavel – Academic Expert:

- The member stressed the importance of allocating time for faculty members to engage in research.
- He strongly advocated for providing stipends to Ph.D. candidates and emphasized the importance of training them to secure positions in national institutions.
- The institute should exert additional efforts to identify reputable conferences and seminars for students to attend, covering their expenses.
- Heads of Departments (HoDs) should correspond with librarians from other esteemed institutions to request program-oriented journals.
- Departments should ensure an adequate number of Honors courses are available for student selection.
- The member highlighted the importance of implementing measures to support and uplift weak students.
- He emphasized the necessity of providing training for students preparing for GATE and other competitive examinations.
- The member stressed the need for establishing an Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) cell within the institute.

Ms. Sucharitha – Industry Expert (Online):

- The member emphasized the necessity of obtaining streamlined, structured feedback from industry stakeholders.
- It was insisted by the member to incorporate cloud computing as a Value-Added Course for computer-related departments.
- The institute should arrange leadership speak sessions focusing on AI & ML or Ethical AI to tackle real-world issues.

Dr. Bhaskar – Academic Expert (Online):

- The member expressed appreciation for the excellent presentation.
- It was emphasized by the member to identify specific thrust areas within each department to enhance their research outcomes.
- Faculty should be motivated to develop collaborative research proposals to increase their funding opportunities.
- The institute should also introduce rewards and recognition programs for teaching efforts.
- The member insisted on including PO attainments and DAC minutes in the next presentation.

The meeting concluded with the Principal expressing gratitude to all members and acknowledging their valuable suggestions and constructive criticism aimed at improving the institution.