



Vel Tech

Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala
R&D Institute of Science and Technology
(Deemed to be University Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

Minutes of 26th Meeting of the Research Board

Date: 21-08-2024

Time: 11.00 A.M

Mode: Video Conferencing

K. Jagajjagan Rao
23/8/24

S. Salivan

Prof. S. Salivahanan
Vice Chancellor



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Ref No: VTU / Research Board / 2024/ dt.21.08.2024

Date and Time : 21.08.2024 / 11.00 A.M – 12.45 P.M

Location of Meeting : Video Conferencing Mode

Members Present

S. No.	Name of the Experts	Designation / Organization	Research Board Member
1	Prof. Dr. S.Salivahanan	Vice Chancellor, Vel Tech	Chairman
2	Prof. Dr. E. Kannan	Registrar, Vel Tech	Member
3	Prof. Dr. Raju Shanmugam	Dean, Academics, Vel Tech	Member
4	Prof. Dr. P. Chandrakumar	Dean, R&D, Vel Tech	Member
5	Prof. Dr. Valarmathi R S	Dean, SoEC, Vel Tech	Member
6	Prof. Dr. N. Kumarappan	Professor, Annamalai University	Expert Member
7	Prof. Dr. S. Rajaram	Professor, Thiagarajar College of Engineering	Expert Member
8	Prof. Dr. Santanu Paria	Professor National Institute of Technology, Rourkela	Expert Member
9	Prof. Dr. Satyasai Jagannath Nanda	Professor, Malaviya National Institute of Technology	Expert Member
10	Mr. Hari Kumar K,	Managing Director, JH BIO Innovations Pvt. Ltd.,	Expert Member (Industry)
11	Prof. Dr. R. Sivaraman	Professor – CSE & Controller of Examinations	Special Invitee
12	Dr. K. Jagajjanani Rao	Dean (Research Studies), Vel Tech	Secretary
13	Other Invited Members	All Deans, Vel Tech	Invitees

The Honorable Vice Chancellor, Chairman of the Vel Tech Research Board welcomed all the members to the 26th meeting of the Vel Tech Research Board. The meeting commenced with a heartfelt condolence message in remembrance of our foundress president madam, Dr. Sagunthala Rangarajan, followed by the introduction and greetings of the members.

Dr. K. Jagajjanani Rao, Dean (Research Studies) and Secretary of Vel Tech Research Board initiated his discussion on the Agenda.

Items for Consideration

Item No 26.1: To consider and approve Hybrid Mode Coursework Model.

Discussion:

The Dean, Research Studies presented the details of proposal to implement a hybrid mode coursework for industry professionals and scholars from renowned research centers.

Action:

The members suggested replacing the hybrid model with an online mode. It was also proposed to use the term "guided self-study (GSS)" for scholars enrolled from industries and renowned research centers for the Ph.D. program. The online mode may be permitted for completing coursework once approved by the institutional academic council, as recommended by the School Deans/Doctoral Committee.

Item No.: 26.2 To consider and approve Direct Admission to Ph.D. Program for B.E/B.Tech Students.

Discussion:

The Dean, Research Studies presented the details of proposal to consider and approve direct admission to the Ph.D. program for B.E/B.Tech students, who qualifies and possess a valid GATE score are listed in Table 1

Table 1: Direct Admission to Ph.D. Program for students possessing 4 Year B.E/B.Tech or Equivalent

Eligibility	Provided that a candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time. And qualification in any of the UGC-NET/UGC- CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests is mandatory.
Minimum/Maximum Duration	4/6 years
Coursework Minimum/Maximum Credits	Minimum 30 and maximum of 40 during the first two years of the program Including a 'Research and Publication Ethics' and 'Research Methodology' courses

Stipend	Rs. 20,000/month for first two years; Rs. 25,000/month for next two years
Minimum Publications	1 – SCI, 2 – Scopus and 2 International Conference presentation
Mode of Study	Full Time
Age Limit	35

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

Eligibility	Candidates seeking admission after completing a 4-year or 8-semester bachelor's degree program must have a minimum of 80% marks or a CGPA of 8.5 (where the grading system is applicable). A relaxation of 5% marks or the equivalent grade is provided for candidates belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer), Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Sections (EWS), and other reserved categories. Additionally, candidates must have qualified in any of the national-level tests such as UGC-NET, UGC-CSIR NET, GATE, CEED, or similar, with a valid score.
Minimum/Maximum Duration	4/6 years
Coursework Minimum/Maximum Credits	Requiring 30-40 credits in the first two years. This includes courses on 'Research and Publication Ethics' and 'Research Methodology.'
Stipend	Rs. 20,000/month for first two years; Rs. 25,000/month for next two years
Minimum Publications	1 WoS publication, 2 Scopus-indexed publications, and 2 international conference presentations.
Mode of Study	Full-Time
Age Limit	30 Years

Item No.: 26.3 To consider and approve Transition from Regulation VTR DR 2021 to VTR DR 2025 .

Discussion:

The Dean, Research Studies presented the details Proposal to transition from the current Regulation VTR DR 2021 to the updated Regulation VTR DR 2025, as given in Table 2.

Table 2: Regulation VTR DR 2021 to VTR DR 2025.

Amendments of Regulation 2021		
Clause	VTR DR- 2021	VTD DR - 2025
6.2	Any regular Assistant Professor with at least two peer reviewed research publications (one from post-Ph.D. with SCI/SCIE indexing and the other from SCOPUS/SCI/SCIE indexing) may be recognized as a Research Supervisor	Any regular Assistant Professor with at least three peer reviewed research publications (one from post-Ph.D. with SCI/SCIE indexing and the other from SCOPUS/SCI/SCIE indexing) may be recognized as a Research Supervisor.
8	A Research Supervisor / Research Co-Supervisor who is a Professor, at any point of time, cannot guide more than eight (8) Ph.D. scholars. An Associate Professor can guide up to a maximum of six (6) Ph.D. scholars and an Assistant Professor can guide up to a maximum of four (4) Ph.D. scholars.	8 extended with..... “Moreover, one additional scholar possibility may be considered based on the written request by the Principal Investigator of the sponsored project to the Vice Chancellor.”
10	After having been admitted, each Ph.D. scholar shall be required to undertake course work of minimum of 12 credits and maximum of 16 credits. The course content shall be formed such that each credit content course takes at least 15 teaching contact hours.	10 extended with..... “If Ph.D. scholar fails to complete his/her coursework in time; his/her tenure is by default extended compensating for the semester delay.”
10.3	The prescribed course work shall normally be completed within one year from the date of provisional registration in the case of full-time research scholars and two years in the case of part-time research scholars.	After completion of the allotted course work (typically within 3 semesters), the research scholar needs to give an open presentation in the concerned research department detailing the problem statement. He/She should submit a hard copy (10 pages with max. 2000 words) of the report with the tentative working title of the proposed research work with expected outcomes to the office of the Dean Research Studies within 7 working days.
12.1	The duration of the programme and the time for submission of thesis are counted from the date of registration.	12.1 extended with Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three (3) years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D. programme.
12.4	The maximum duration shall be additional three years over the respective minimum duration of the Ph.D. programme.	The maximum duration shall be additional two (2) years over the respective minimum duration of the Ph.D. programme; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D.

		programme in such cases should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
12.6	The women candidates may be provided maternity leave/ child care leave once in the entire duration of Ph.D. up to 240 days.	12.6 extended with The women candidates and persons with disability (more than 40%, disability) may be allowed a relaxation two (2) years for Ph.D. in the maximum duration. However, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. programme.
13.4	Every Ph.D. scholar, before submission of thesis, shall produce evidence in the form of reprint in proof of having published two journal papers out of which one journal paper indexed by Scopus and another journal paper indexed by SCI / SCIE or two journal papers indexed by SCI / SCIE as a first author if the Research Supervisor / Research Co-Supervisor is second author or as a second author, if the Research Supervisor / Research Co-Supervisor is first author. The Publication will be approved based on his/her research work and specifically recommended by the RAC.	13.4 extended with During the course of their study, Ph.D. scholars shall present their work at minimum two international conferences.
13.8		The Degree shall specify that the same has been awarded in accordance with the provisions of the UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D.) Regulations, 2022.
16.2	The Scholar has to publish two journal papers out of which one journal paper indexed by Scopus and another journal paper indexed by SCI / SCIE or two journal papers indexed by SCI / SCIE as a first author, if the Research Supervisor / Research Co-Supervisor is second author or as a second author, if the Research Supervisor / Research Co-Supervisor is first author. The Publication will be approved based on his/her research work and specifically recommended by the RAC.	16.2 extended with During the course of their study, Ph.D. scholars shall present their work at minimum two international conferences.*

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board approved the proposed amendments to transition from Regulation VTR DR 2021 to VTR DR 2025. Minor grammatical and English corrections will also be incorporated into the final draft.

Items for Discussion**Item No.: 26.4 Eligibility of ODL Mode Education for Ph.D. Program.****Discussion:**

The Dean, Research Studies presented the qualifications obtained through UG/PG programs via Open and Distance Learning (ODL) should be considered eligible for Ph.D. program.

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board suggested that applications from candidates with degrees obtained via Open and Distance Learning (ODL) may be considered for admission to the Ph.D. program, provided they enroll in full-time mode and should clear institute entrance examination.

Item No.: 26.5 Workload Allocation for Full-Time Research Scholars.**Discussion:**

The Dean, Research Studies presented the the current workload allocation for full-time research scholars.

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board endorsed the UGC recommendation that all Ph.D. scholars, regardless of discipline, must undergo training in teaching, education, pedagogy, and writing related to their Ph.D. subject during their doctoral studies. Ph.D. scholars may also be assigned 4-6 hours per week for teaching or research assistantship, including conducting tutorials, laboratory work, and evaluations.

Item No.: 26.6 Inclusion of Additional Web of Science Indexes.**Discussion:**

The Dean, Research Studies presented Consideration of including additional Web of Science Indexes, alongside or instead of the Web of Science Core Collection, for the acceptance of research articles submitted by Ph.D. scholars.

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board recommended adhering to the Web of Science (WoS) nomenclature instead of using terms like SCI/SCIE/ESCI, with a preference for publications satisfying the Web of Science Core Collection. This applies to Ph.D. scholars submitting research articles and faculty submitting guideship forms.

Items for Record

Item No.: 26.7 Department Change Approval.

Discussion:

The Dean, Research Studies presented the department change from Automobile Engineering to Mechanical Engineering are given in Table 3.

Table 3: Department change from Automobile Engineering to Mechanical Engineering.

S. No.	VTD No.	Name of the Research Scholar	Date of Admission	Name of the Research Supervisor	Mode of Study
1	520	SAMUELRAJ D	20/09/2017	Dr Amalajustus Selvam	PT-EXTERNAL
2	686	MURUGUNACHIPPAN N	12/7/2019	Dr S Padmanabhan	PT-EXTERNAL
3	741	VENKATESH.A.P	25/1/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	FULL TIME
4	742	M. RAJESH KUMAR	25/1/2020	Dr. M. Amala Justus Selvam	PT - INTERNAL
5	743	B GOWTHAMA RAJAN	25/1/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	FULL TIME
6	744	KRISHNA KUMAR B	25/1/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	PT-EXTERNAL
7	812	RAVICHANDRAN T	24/09/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	FULL TIME
8	813	BACKIYARAJ A	24/09/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	PT-EXTERNAL
9	814	S GOVINDAN	24/09/2020	Dr S Padmanabhan	PT - INTERNAL
10	903	ARUNRAJ R	26/02/2021	Dr Amalajustus Selvam	FULL TIME
11	1030	ANTONY RAJA M	08.01.2022	Dr S Padmanabhan	PT-EXTERNAL

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board suggested resolving the concerns of scholars regarding department changes through a “**PROGRESSIVE CLOSURE**”. It was proposed that scholars could receive their awards based on their original enrollment, and the Ph.D. award could reflect the department of Automobile Engineering under the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering as per the enrollment.

Item No.: 26.8 To Approve and record Research Supervisors Guidelines.**Discussion:**

The Dean, Research Studies presented the guidelines for Research Supervisors in accordance with UGC regulations..

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board approved the amended guidelines for Research Supervisors. To be recognized as a Research Supervisor, faculty must have three peer-reviewed publications, including one post-Ph.D. publication indexed in WoS and others indexed in WoS/Scopus.

Item No.: 26.9 Commencement of Ph.D. Admissions.**Discussion:**

The Dean, Research Studies proposed the Commencement of Ph.D. admissions for the Department of Commerce and the School of Media Technology & Communication from Winter session 2024-25.

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

Despite concerns about the need to start a PG program in the Department of Commerce and the School of Media Technology & Communication, the board supported commencing Ph.D. admissions from the upcoming semester. It was emphasized that the Ph.D. programs would offer industry-aligned research opportunities, strong academic support, and exposure to real-world challenges. The degree names will be 'Ph.D. in Commerce' for the Department of Commerce and 'Ph.D. in Media & Communication' for the School of Media Technology & Communication.

Item for Ratification**Item No.: 26.10 Approval and ratification of decisions regarding recognition of faculty members as Research Supervisors.****Discussion:**

Dean, Research Studies presented the list of faculty members who have submitted the applications for recognition of research supervisor and to consider them for Supervisorship to guide the Ph.D.scholars.The details of the submitted applications are given below in Table 4.

Table 4: Status of applications for supervisorship

S. No.	Research Supervisor Recognition No.	Name of the Research Supervisor	Designation	Department	Remarks
1	50775.ME.24	Dr J Bharani Chandar	Assistant Professor	MECH	Eligible
2	50819.EE.24	Dr Priya R A	Assistant Professor	EEE	Eligible
3	50920.EE.24	Dr S Vinoth John Prakash	Assistant Professor	EEE	Eligible
4	51027.BS.24	Dr U Rajesh Kumar	Associate Professor	Physics	Eligible
5	51126.CV.24	Dr J Anita Jessie	Assistant Professor	CIVIL	Eligible
6	51294.CS.24	Dr S Edwin Raja	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
7	51395.CS.24	Dr K Antony Kumar	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
8	51496.CS.24	Dr Dhinakaran	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
9	51587.EC.24	Dr V Prithivirajan	Associate Professor	ECE	Eligible
10	51688.EC.24	Dr A Mutharasan	Assistant Professor	ECE	Eligible
11	51728.BS.24	Dr K Jayaprakash	Assistant Professor	Physics	Eligible
12	48373.EC.23	Dr D Ferlin Deva Shahila	Assistant Professor	ECE	Eligible
13	43962.EC.23	Dr V Velmurugan	Associate Professor	ECE	Eligible
14	51829.BS.24	Dr S Meenakshi	Assistant Professor	Chemistry	Eligible
15	51930.BS.24	Dr Vivek P M	Assistant Professor	Chemistry	Eligible
16	52097.CS.24	Dr L Sharmila	Professor	CSE	Eligible
17	52198.CS.24	Dr S Saran Raj	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
18	52227.BS.24	Dr K A Venkatesan	Assistant Professor	Mathematics	Eligible
19	52328.BS.24	Dr T Stalin	Assistant Professor	Mathematics	Eligible
20	52489.EC.24	Dr Vinson Joshua S	Associate Professor	ECE	Eligible
21	50775.ME.24	Dr J Bharani Chandar	Assistant Professor	MECH	Eligible
22	50819.EE.24	Dr Priya R A	Assistant Professor	EEE	Eligible
23	527101.CS.24	Dr A Prasanth	Associate Professor	CSE	Eligible
24	528102.CS.24	Dr S Maheswari	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible

25	529103.CS.24	Dr A Udayakumar	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
26	530029.BS.24	Dr N Nagadevi Bala	Assistant Professor	Mathematics	Eligible
27	531104.CS.24	Dr Saravanan S	Associate Professor	CSE	Eligible
28	532105.CS.24	Dr Rajendran T	Associate Professor	CSE	Eligible
29	533106.CS.24	Dr Sathya V	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
30	534107.CS.24	Dr E Sivajothi	Assistant Professor	CSE	Eligible
31	535090.EC.24	Dr S Famila	Assistant Professor	ECE	Eligible
32	536016.BI.24	Dr Sugumari Vallinayagam	Assistant Professor	Biotechnology	Eligible
33	537030.BS.24	Dr R Sankar	Assistant Professor	Mathematics	Eligible
34	538031.BS.24	Dr R Navaneethakrishnan	Assistant Professor	Mathematics	Eligible
35	539029.BS.24	Dr S Nithya	Assistant Professor	Physics	Eligible
36	542109.CS.24	Dr Pandiaraja P	Professor	CSE	Eligible
37	543110.CS.24	Dr Sridevi S	Professor	CSE	Eligible
38	544111.CS.24	Dr SP Chokkalingam	Professor	CSE	Eligible
39	545112.CS.24	Dr C Viswanathan	Professor	CSE	Eligible
40	546113.CS.24	Dr J Kavitha	Associate Professor	CSE	Eligible
41	547114.CS.24	Dr V Senthil Kumar	Associate Professor	CSE	Eligible
42	548091.EC.24	Dr Beulah Jackson	Professor	ECE	Eligible
43	541108.CS.24	Dr Raju S	Professor	CSE	Eligible

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board approved the eligibility of 43 faculty members as research supervisors, based on the submitted applications and compliance with the established norms.

Item No.: 26.11 Ratification of Provisionally Admitted Candidates for the Ph.D. Programme in the Summer Session 2024-25.

Discussion:

Dean, Research Presented presented the details to ratify the Provisionally Admitted Candidates for the Ph.D. Programme in Summer Session of the Academic Year 2024-25 as given in Table 5.

Table 5: Statistics of Ph.D. National Admission Summer Session AY 2024-25

Statistics of Ph.D. National Admission Summer Session 2024-25 (Batch 45)															
S.No.	DEPT.	Application			Entrance Exam			Interview			Selected for Certificate Verification		Provisionally Admitted		
		Applied	Not Shortlisted	Shortlisted	Exemption from Entrance Exam	Eligible for Entrance Exam	Attended for Exam	Selected for Interview		Selected in Interview	Mode of Study		Mode of Study		
								Through Entrance Exam	Exemption from Entrance Exam		Full Time	Part Time	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Engineering															
1	AERO	8	0	8	0	8	8	7	0	7	3	4	2	1	3
2	BIOMEDICAL	3	0	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	2
3	BIOTECH	10	0	10	3	7	5	5	3	6	5	1	3	0	3
4	CIVIL	11	0	11	0	11	11	7	0	5	2	3	2	3	5
5	CSE	36	0	36	0	36	31	26	0	24	2	22	2	17	19
6	IT	3	0	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1	1	0	1
7	ECE	18	0	18	1	17	16	11	1	11	4	7	3	3	6
	EEE	5	0	5	0	5	5	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
8	MECH	11	0	11	0	11	9	7	0	7	3	4	2	2	4
TOTAL		105	0	105	6	99	89	68	6	65	21	44	16	27	43
S&H															
9	CHEMISTRY	9	0	9	0	9	7	7	0	7	2	5	2	2	4
10	COMPUTER SCIENCE	5	0	5	2	3	3	2	2	3	3	0	2	0	2
11	ENGLISH	16	1	15	8	7	7	6	8	11	9	2	5	1	6
12	MATHS	28	1	27	15	12	8	8	15	19	7	12	7	10	17
13	PHYSICS	16	0	16	2	14	14	13	2	15	11	4	8	4	12
TOTAL		74	2	72	27	45	39	36	27	55	32	23	24	17	41
MBA															
14	MBA	9	1	8	0	8	7	6	0	3	0	3	0	3	3
TOTAL		9	1	8	0	8	7	6	0	3	0	3	0	3	3
OVER ALL TOTAL		188	3	185	33	152	135	110	33	123	53	70	40	47	87

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board resolved to ratify the list of provisionally admitted candidates for the Ph.D. programme in the Summer Session of the Academic Year 2024-25.

Any other items with the permission of the Chairperson.

Item No.: 26.12 Possibility of holding Pre-Viva/Viva meetings for national scholars online.

Discussion

With the permission of the Chairperson, the Dean, Research Studies discussed the Possibility of holding Pre-Viva/Viva meetings for national scholars online.

Action/Suggestions by the Members:

The board endorsed the UGC recommendation to allow institutions to conduct pre-viva and viva voce meetings online upon request by external examiners. The process should adhere to the same standards and integrity expected in in-person viva sessions.

Item No.: 26.13 Can the Resigned Supervisor Act as Supervisor?

Discussion

The Dean, Research Studies discuss the Resigned Supervisor Act as Supervisor

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board suggested that a resigned supervisor may continue to act as a supervisor for Ph.D. scholars in the advanced stages of completion (i.e., thesis submission, pre-viva, viva stages), upon written request and approval from the Vice Chancellor. In such cases, the HoD or Co-Supervisor will serve as the convener to oversee the remaining formalities. For other cases, or where the request is rejected, a new supervisor will be appointed in alignment with the scholar's research work.

Item No.: 26.14 Migration of Ph.D. Programme from other Institutes to our Institute.

Discussion

The members have discussed the Migration of Ph.D. Programme from other Institutes to our Institute

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board decided not to recommend the migration of Ph.D. programs from other institutes at this time, citing concerns that it could diminish the quality of the Institute's Ph.D. program.

Item No.: 26.15 Submission of self- plagiarism exclusion certificate.

Discussion

Dean, Research Studies proposed the submission of self-plagarisim exclusion certificate from the scholars who are submitting the Ph.D. thesis.

Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:

The board agreed to implement the proposed format for the submission of a self-plagiarism exclusion certificate. This certificate will help identify portions of the thesis that have been published, accepted, communicated, or are to be communicated.

Item No.: 26.16 Guideship to professor of practice and adjunct faculty and preference to research faculty while supervisor allotment.**Suggestions by the Members/Follow-up Action:**

The board suggested allowing co-supervisorship for professors of practice and adjunct faculty. The proposal to prioritize research faculty in supervisor allotment was also viewed positively and may be considered upon approval by the departmental research committee, based on available vacancies.

With no further items on the agenda, the meeting was concluded. Gudieship