

## Academic Council Meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023

The 1st meeting of the Academic Council for the academic year 2023-2024 was held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2023 from 2.00 p.m. in the VESASC Auditorium.

The following members were present

- 1) Prin. Dr. Anita Kanwar -Chairperson
- 2) Prin. Dr. Rajendra Shinde- University Nominee
- 3) Prof. Kishori Bhagat - University Nominee
- 4) Prof. D.M Nerkar- University Nominee
- 5) Dr. Avinash Kale - Academician
- 6) Prof. Santhini Nair -HOD, Microbiology
- 7) Dr. Varsha Ahuja- HOD, Chemistry
- 8) Dr. Devidas Gulwade –I/C HOD Physics
- 9) Mr. Vikas Ware HOD, Mathematics
- 10) Dr. Sunita Sherifani- HOD, Accountancy
- 11) Dr. Varsha Ganatra - HOD, Commerce
- 12) Dr. Samhitha Sharma Kain HOD, Economics
- 13) Dr. Aarohi Khar- HOD, Psychology
- 14) Mrs. Sonia Lal I/c. HOD, Sociology
- 15) Mr. Kamlakar Bhopatkar- Coordinator, Computer Science
- 16) Ms. Sheetal Patil represented- Coordinator, Information Technology
- 17) Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar- Coordinator, Biotechnology
- 18) Mrs. Kanthi Vishwanath- Coordinator, Management Studies
- 19) Mrs. Sangeeta Bhattacharya- Coordinator, Financial Markets
- 20) Mrs. Minal Gandhi Coordinator- Banking & Insurance
- 21) Dr. Anu Bansal Coordinator- Accounting and Finance
- 22) Mrs. Mahek Sukhani-Coordinator, Mass Media
- 23) Prof. Ritika Makhijani- Teacher Representative
- 24) Mrs. Shmilona Jain- Teacher Representative
- 25) Dr. Mugdha Apte- Teacher Representative
- 26) Ms. Anusuya Yadav- Invitee
- 27) Mr. Gokul Choudhary- Invitee
- 28) Ms. Kiran Ghosh- Invitee
- 29) Ms. Snehal Obhan- Invitee
- 30) Dr. Vidya Lunge- Invitee
- 31) Dr. Dona Joseph- Invitee
- 32)Dr. Meghana Sanjeeva- Member Secretary

Leave of absence was granted to the following members:

- 1) Dr. Rajiv Gupte - Industry Expert / Academician
- 2) Mr. Balaji Ramadurai- Industry Expert / Academician
- 3) Mr. A.S Kumar - Industry Expert / Academician
- 4) Dr. Vasanth Murlidharan - Industry Expert / Academician
- 5) Ms. Niddhi Makhijani - Industry Expert / Academician
- 6) Dr. A. Subramanian (Kumar)- Industry Expert / Academician
- 7) Mr. Sunil Gwalani - Industry Expert / Academician
- 8) Dr. Madhavi Vaidya - Teacher Representative

The agenda for the meeting was as below.

### **Agenda**

1. To read and confirm the minutes of the previous meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023
2. To finalize the academic changes implemented from 2023-2024, in view of NEP 2020
3. To discuss and finalize the examination modalities under NEP from 2023-2024.
4. To discuss the introduction of New courses from the Academic Year 2024-2025 under Autonomy
5. AOB

The Member Secretary Dr. Meghana welcomed all the members and initiated the meeting with the chanting of OM as per the practice of VES management.

Before discussing the meeting's agenda, the Principal extended a warm welcome to the two newly nominated members

1. Prof. Kishori Bhagat, currently the Principal of DSDD ACS College, Wada, Prof. Bhagat and also holds the position of Associate Dean of the Faculty of Commerce and Management at the University of Mumbai.

2. Prof. DM Nerkar, Vice Principal and Head of the Physics Department at Sathaye College, Vile Parle.

Prof. Kishori Bhagat and Prof. Nerkar are members in the Academic Council in the capacity of University nominees in place of /to replace Prof. Bhambare, who has assumed the position of Pro Vice-Chancellor at the University of Mumbai, and Prin Kiran Mangoankar, who has now retired.

The following points were discussed and/or approved.

**Agenda Item No. 1:** To read and confirm the minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Academic Council Meeting of the academic year 2022-23, held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

Prin. Shinde raised queries about the starting of the B.Sc (AI) Course and the status of OSM which were discussed in the last meeting.

Prin. Dr. Anita Kanwar, responded to Prin. Shinde's inquiry about the commencement of the B.Sc. (AI) Course by confirming that the course was initiated in the current academic year. She further mentioned that 46 students have been admitted to the program.

Dr. Anita Kanwar also provided an update on the OSM facility, stating that the college is still in the process of exploring various options and vendors.

**Resolution - Agenda Item No. 1:**

During the meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting, held on March 16, 2023, were read and subsequently approved by Prin. Shinde. Dr. Varsha Ganatra seconded the approval, and the minutes were also accepted by all the members.

**Agenda Item No. 2** To finalize the academic changes implemented from 2023-2024, in view of NEP 2020

The Principal delivered a comprehensive presentation on the entire process involved in implementing the National Education Policy (NEP). She highlighted that during the previous meeting, valuable inputs were received from esteemed external members. These inputs played a significant role in guiding the academic coordinators and Heads of Departments (HODs) in developing suitable academic structures for each of the courses in alignment with the NEP 2020. These structures served as the foundational framework, enabling each Board of Studies (BOS) to plan and design the curriculum for their respective courses. Govt of Maharashtra circular (शासन पत्रिका क्रमांक: एनईपी-2022/प्र.क्र.09/णवणश-3/णशकाना मंत्रालय, मुंबई 400 032) **Dated 20<sup>th</sup> April 2023 and** Government of Maharashtra circular **Dated 16<sup>th</sup> May 2023 were adhered to** for implementation of NEP structure in **Undergraduate courses and postgraduate courses respectively**. She also explained how the open electives, value-added courses, and skill and ability enhancement courses were well integrated into the course structure, providing students with a wide range of options and choices. Additionally, she highlighted the co-curricular credits, wherein students had ample opportunities to earn credits through various extracurricular activities. She remarked that students and staff both were satisfied with the implementation of the NEP and it has also seen a rise in admission and participation of students in various college activities. The Principal expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the esteemed members and her team of academic coordinators and HoD's for their dedication and effort in advancing the NEP initiative. She also mentioned that the syllabus of first year NEP 2020 batch is already approved by the respective Board of studies and the changes suggested by them are incorporated and the final approval is taken.

Following her presentation, the academic coordinators were invited to present the structure and papers offered at FY for various courses. The presentations were as follows:

- SFC Arts (BAMMC, MA PR, and MA (Psychology)) presented by Dr. Aarohi Khar.
- SFC Science Courses, (B.Sc. (Computer Science, IT, BT) and MSc. (Microbiology, Analytical Chemistry and Organic Chemistry)) presented by Ms. Vinaya Jategoankar.

- SFC Commerce Courses (BMS, BBI, BFM, BAF, M.Com (Accountancy) and M.Com. Management) presented by Ms. Sangeeta Bhattacharya.
- Autonomous courses (BBA, B. Com (Finance), B.Com. (e-Commerce), B.Sc. (Data Science and Data Analytics), B.Sc. (Artificial Intelligence)) presented by Dr. Varsha Ganatra.
- Aided Arts Courses (B. A. (Economics, Psychology, Sociology, Commerce)) presented by Ms. Samhitha Sharma.
- Aided Science Courses (B.Sc. (Microbiology, Chemistry and Physics)) presented by Prof. Ritika Makhijani
- Aided Commerce Courses (B. Com.) presented by Dr. Sunita Sherfani.

During the meeting, several points were discussed, and some inquiries were raised:

**1. Inclusion of Big Data in M.Sc. Microbiology Curriculum:** Dr. Kale stressed the importance of incorporating Big Data into the M.Sc. Microbiology curriculum. Dr. Mugdha Apte clarified that Bioinformatics had been integrated into the curriculum. Prof. Santhini pointed out that the course is currently being offered to students who did not have a foundation in this area during their undergraduate studies. With the National Education Policy (NEP) in mind, the plan is to introduce a foundational understanding at the undergraduate level and then at the postgraduate level, recognizing the significance of this subject. The department will seek additional input in this regard.

**2. Coverage of Industrial Chemistry Syllabus:** Dr. Kale inquired about the coverage of the Industrial Chemistry syllabus. Additionally, the contents of the Communication Skills paper offered by the Chemistry department, particularly focusing on scientific writing, were discussed. Prof. Ritika Makhijani clarified that the Industrial Chemistry syllabus was included in Part II of the M.Sc. course.

**3. Choice of MS-Excel as a Program to be offered:** Dr. Kale sought an understanding of the rationale behind offering a course on MS- Excel. It was explained that MS-Excel's widespread use in various organizations makes it a valuable tool. Dr. Kale agreed and expressed that the entire MS-Office suite is relevant recognizing the importance of each component.

The Principal also mentioned the availability of a basic computer course to address the needs of students before they progress to advanced courses.

**4. Utilization of Case Studies:** Ms. Sangeeta Bhattacharya was asked about the use of case studies or case-based teaching methods, with an emphasis on contemporary topics such as cryptocurrency

and their relevance to real-world issues. To which she said in SY and TY classes the case study approach is integrated.

**5. Accounting for Co-curricular Credits:** Prof. Nerkar inquired about the procedure for documenting the hours required to earn co-curricular credits. It was clarified that a logbook system is in place, which is verified and signed by the teacher in charge for each activity.

**Resolution Agenda item 2:** Following a thorough discussion and valuable suggestions regarding the above agenda point, the structure and contents for all the courses at FY level under the National Education Policy 2020 (NEP 2020) were unanimously accepted by the members.

Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde congratulated the Principal and the entire teaching staff for the successful implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP). He acknowledged the challenges faced by many colleges in the implementation and applauded the smooth initiation of this significant task at VESASC.

**Agenda Item 3:** To discuss and finalize the examination modalities under NEP from 2023-2024.

Vice Principal and Controller of Examination Prof. Santhini Nair apprised the Academic Council regarding the modalities for assessment to be followed under NEP 2020.

Mode of assessment

Internal and External assessment for the following:

- MAJOR
- MINOR
- Vocational Skill Courses(VSC)
- Skill Enhancement courses (SEC)
- Value Education Courses(VEC)
- Ability Enhancement Courses(AEC)

External or Term end exam Papers: (60%) Semester End Examination : Internal Component (40%)

- ❖ Students will have to score 40% of marks INDIVIDUALLY in Internal assessment as well as Semester-end Examination to pass the course.
- ❖ Practical Examination will consist of Semester-end examination. There will not be internal exams for the practical component in most of the cases

Complete internal assessment for

- Indian Knowledge System (IKS)
- Open Elective courses (OE)

### **Continuous Internal Assessment [40%]**

Evaluation type (Any 2-3 methods along with compulsory 5<sup>th</sup> point)

1. Assignments.
2. Project-based learning (PBL)activities- Group Discussion/ Research/ Case studies/ Reports / Assignments / Presentations / Skit / Poster / etc.
3. Class Test (Objective - Multiple Choice Questions/ Subjective).
4. Active participation in class activities.
5. Overall conduct as a responsible student with respect to good behavior, leadership qualities, interpersonal skills etc.

### **Complete internal monitoring for Co-Curricular courses**

Co-curricular Courses include involvement/ participation in various areas such as

- Cultural Activities
- Departmental activities
- Fine/ Applied/ Visual/ Performing Arts
- Sports and fitness
- NSS/ NCC, DLLE
- The Sunday School (TSS)
- Health & Wellness
- Yoga education etc.

Record of involvement /participation by students has to be documented with signatures of teacher in charge in students' CC Cards.

Principal Dr. Rajendra Shinde shared his experiences at his college concerning the modification of individual passing criteria for internal and external assessments. He mentioned that they had introduced new rules to encourage students to take their examinations more seriously and, at the same time, to avoid overburden on the teaching staff by avoiding multiple rounds of repetitive examination conduct

Prof. Kishori Bhagat emphasized that Continuous Internal Evaluation is at the core of the National Education Policy (NEP), and stressed the importance of conducting at least three different types of assessments for the internal component.

**Resolution No 3:** It was resolved that the modalities of the examination presented were accepted by the members.

**Agenda Item No 4:** To discuss about the proposals of the new courses to be started in 2024-2025.

The college proposes the introduction of the following two new courses

1. B. Sc. (Psychology)
2. M.Sc. (Finance)

The Principal informed that the detailed structure and syllabus will be worked out and presented at the next Academic council meeting

**Resolution No 4:** The proposal for the introduction of both the courses, namely B.Sc. (Psychology and M.Sc Finance was accepted by the members.

Prof Kishori Bhagat appreciated the idea of introduction of B.Sc. Psychology and mentioned that she looked forward to the course content of M.Sc. Finance program.

**Agenda Item 5:** Any other Business

Principal Shinde shared his experience about the development of the Indian Knowledge System (IKS) course as an online course with all four quadrants and highlighted its advantages. He suggested that similar online courses could be created for specific subjects, which would be beneficial. Additionally, he explained how at his college, they had introduced two major subjects at the first year level to help students make more informed choices after experiencing these subjects for a semester.

The University nominees suggested to be ready for the next year of NEP 2020 from 2024-2025 and once again congratulated the college for the successful implementation of the NEP 2020.

There being no other matter, the meeting ended with vote of thanks proposed by Dr. Santhini Nair to all esteemed members.

30/10/2023

Principal Dr. Anita Kanwar  
Chairperson AC