

Vivekanand Education Society's

College of Arts, Science & Commerce (Autonomous)

(Affiliated to University of Mumbai)

Re-accredited by NAAC "A" Grade in 3rd Cycle 3.26, Best College Award - Urban Area, University of Mumbai (2012-2013)

****Recipient of PM - USHA Grant (2024)****

****Recipient of FIST Grant (DST)** **Recipient of STAR College Grant (DBT)****

Academic Council Meeting on 9th April 2025

The 2nd meeting of the Academic Council for the academic year 2024–2025 was held on 9th April 2025 from 2:30 p.m. to 4.30 pm in the VESASC Auditorium.

The following members were present

Prin Dr. Anita Kanwar -Chairperson

Prin Dr. Rajendra Shinde- University Nominee (Joined Online)

Dr. Avinash Kale – Academician

Dr. Dona Joseph -HOD, Microbiology

Dr. Ritika Makhijani,- HOD, Chemistry

Dr. Devidas Gulwade –I/C HOD Physics

Ms Riddhi Bharani represented Mr. Vikas Ware HOD, Mathematics

Dr. Varsha Ganatra -HOD, Commerce

Dr. Samhitha Sharma Kain HOD , Economics

Dr. Aarohi Khar HOD, Psychology

Ms. Snehal Pandey(representing the Sociology Dept on behalf of Ms Sonai Lal I/c. HOD, Sociology)

Ms. Sheetal Patil Coordinator, Information Technology

Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar Coordinator, Biotechnology

Mrs. Kanthi Vishwanath Coordinator, Management Studies

Mrs. Sangeeta Bhattacharya Coordinator, Financial Markets

Mrs. Minal Gandhi Coordinator, Banking & Insurance

Dr. Anu Bansal Coordinator, Accounting and Finance

Ms. Pritika Khedwal Coordinator, Mass Media

Dr Malay Shah Teacher Representative

Ms. Shmilona Jain -Teacher Representative

Prof Pooja Jagasia (COE- Invitee)

Mrs. Anusuya Yadav Invitee

Mr. Gokul Choudhary Invitee

Ms. Kiran Ghosh Invitee

Ms. Snehal Obhan Invitee

Dr. Vidya Lunge Invitee

Dr. Meghana Sanjeeva - Member Secretary

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Leave of absence was granted to the following members: :

- 1) Prof. Kishori Bhagat - University Nominee
- 2) Prof. D.M Nerkar- University Nominee
- 3) Mr. A.S Kumar - Industry Expert / Academician
- 4) Dr. Rajiv Gupte - Industry Expert / Academician
- 5) Dr. Vasanth Murlidharan - Industry Expert / Academician
- 6) Ms. Niddhi Makhijani - Industry Expert / Academician
- 7) Mr. Sunil Gwalani - Industry Expert / Academician
- 8) Prof Sunita Sherifani HOD Accountancy
- 9) Dr. Mugdha Apte Teacher Representative

Agenda:

To approve the minutes of the previous meeting of the Academic Council dated 18th October 2024.

2. To consider the recommendations made by the BOS along with the entry and exit options (i.e after one-year certificate course after two years a UG Diploma and on completion of three years UG Degree in the following faculties and departments:

Undergraduate Courses

Faculty of Science

- B.Sc. (Physics, Chemistry and Microbiology)
- B.Sc. (Computer Science), B.Sc. (Information Technology), B.Sc. (Biotechnology)
- B.Sc. (DSDA) and B.Sc. (AI)

Faculty of Commerce

- B.Com.
- BMS, BBI, BFM, BAF
- BBA, B.Com (E-Comm), B.Com. (Finance)

Faculty of Arts

- BA in Economics, Sociology, Psychology, Commerce
- BAMMC
- BA Psychology Major

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3. To approve the Examination Reforms suggested by the Examination Committee.
4. To approve the academic decisions taken in the IQAC.
5. To approve the proposal submission for the fourth year B.A., B.Sc., B.Com. honors course as per NEP by the various departments.
6. To approve additional intake of 15 seats for B.Sc. (Biotechnology) Programme
7. To inform the Council about the conduct of various soft component academic activities under the 'PM-USHA' Grant
8. AOB

The meeting was initiated by Dr. Meghana Sanjeeva, Member Secretary of the Academic Council. She welcomed the members and commenced the proceedings with the customary chanting of OM three times.

Agenda Item 1

To approve the minutes of the meeting of the Academic Council dated 18th October 2024.

Resolution No. 1:

The minutes of the previous Academic Council meeting held on 18th October 2024 were read and were approved by Dr. Kale, seconded by Prof. Ritika Makhijani, and accepted by all members without any modifications.

Agenda Item 2

To consider the recommendations made by the respective Boards of Studies (BOS) for the implementation of NEP 2020 for the academic year 2025-2026.

The Academic Co-ordinators made the presentation for the following departments

S.N.	Faculty/ Department	Presented by
	Faculty of Science	
1	UG- B.Sc. (Physics, Chemistry, Microbiology, and Mathematics)	Prof. Dr. Ritika Makhijani
2.	UG – B.Sc. (Biotechnology, Computer Science and Information Technology)	Mrs. Vinaya Jategaonkar
3	B.Sc. (DSDA)	Mr. Gokul Choudhary
4	B.Sc. (AI)	Mrs. Vidya Lunge

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	Faculty of Commerce	
5	B.Com.	Dr Varsha Ganatra
6	BMS, BAF, BBI and BFM	Mrs. Sangeeta Bhattacharya
7	BBA	Mrs. Anusuya Yadav
8	B.Com. (Finance)	Ms. Kiran Ghosh
9	B.Com. (E-Commerce)	Ms. Snehal Obhan
	Faculty of Arts	
10	B.A. (Economics, Sociology, Psychology and Commerce)	Mrs. Samhitha Sharma
13	BAMMC	Ms Preetika

Resolution No. 2:

It was resolved to accept the recommendations of the respective BOS regarding the implementation various curricula in accordance with NEP 2020, from the academic year 2025–2026.

Agenda Item 3

To consider the examination reforms proposed by the Examination Committee.

Prof. Pooja Jagasia, Controller of Examinations (COE), presented the proposed examination reforms to the Council. The reforms include revised ATKT (Allowed to Keep Terms) regulations aimed at streamlining academic progression and ensuring clarity in student evaluation. She also informed the Council about the enhancement of question paper standards, developed through a process of anonymous external review to ensure objectivity, academic rigour, and alignment with learning outcomes.

Additionally, it was proposed that ATKT examinations for all semesters be conducted in the month of June each year, thereby providing timely academic clearance, and facilitating smooth progression of students.

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Resolution No. 3:

The Council, after due consideration, approved the revised ATKT rules, enhanced question paper standards through anonymous external review, and the conduct of ATKT examinations for all semesters in June, effective from the academic year 2025–2026, as recommended by the Examination Committee.

Agenda Item 4

To inform the members about academic activities conducted under the PM-USHA Grant.

Dr Aaroohi In-charge of Soft Components of PM-USHA grant updated the members about the successful conduct of various academic activities under the soft component of the PM-USHA Grant. She also projected the activities that were planned for the next term by the various departments.

Agenda Item 5

To consider the proposal for the introduction of the Fourth Year UG (Honours) Programmes.

Prin. Dr. Anita Kanwar informed the Council about the Government Resolution (शासन निर्णय क्रमांक: एनईपी-2022/प्र.क्र.09/नवशे-3/शिकाका, मंत्रालय, मुंबई 400 032) dated 20th April 2023, which outlines the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. She highlighted the provisions related to the introduction of the 4th year of undergraduate education leading to an Honours degree, which is to be considered equivalent to the first year of a Master's degree. The Council was also briefed about the eligibility criteria for students opting for the Honours degree, which includes securing a minimum of 75% marks across all semesters.

It was further informed that while the implementation is proposed from the academic year 2026–27, applications for initiating the 4th year Honours programme must be submitted before October 2025. Therefore, the Council was requested to grant in-principle approval to enable academic departments to formally express their interest and submit proposals for launching the programme, in accordance with the prescribed norms and deadlines.

Resolution No. 5:

The Council approved the proposal for introducing the fourth year of undergraduate honours programmes (B.A., B.Sc., B.Com.) as per NEP 2020 guidelines in principle, to be submitted by the respective departments. The Principal was authorized to take decisions on behalf of the Council regarding implementation.

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Agenda Item 6

To consider the proposal for additional intake for the B.Sc. (Biotechnology) programme.

Prin. Dr. Anita Kanwar briefed the Council on the increasing demand for the B.Sc. (Biotechnology) programme. She highlighted that the college is undertaking expansion of laboratory infrastructure to meet the anticipated academic requirements and that five full-time qualified faculty members are already in place to deliver the programme effectively.

Considering these developments, the Council was requested to consider the proposal to increase the intake capacity of the B.Sc. (Biotechnology) programme from the existing 36 seats to 50 seats.

Resolution No. 6:

The Council approved the proposal to revise the sanctioned intake of the B.Sc. (Biotechnology) programme from 36 to 50 seats, effective from the academic year 2025–2026.

Agenda Item 7 – Any Other Business (AOB)

1. Introduction of English Literature as an Open Elective (OE):

Resolution No 7

The Council approved the introduction of English Literature as an Open Elective course.

2. Review of BBA and BMS Admissions:

The Principal informed the Council of challenges in BBA and BMS admissions under AICTE specifically, delays in timelines and reluctance to undertake the MAH CET as an entrance, which have affected intake.

The Principal proposed that, if BBA/BMS seats by AICTE allotment process through MAH CET remain unoccupied, the college may be allowed to commence the B.Com (Business Administration) programme, with an intake of 60.



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Resolution No 8

In view of these concerns, the Council resolved that, in the event of the college not able to fill the sanctioned intake, the college is allowed to initiate the B.Com (Business Administration) programme with an intake capacity of 60 seats, as an autonomous course designed by the college and approved by the BOS.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks proposed to the esteemed members and the Chair by Vice-Principal Mrs. Samhitha Sharma.

19/11/2025

Principal Dr. (Mrs.) Anita Kanwar
Chairperson, Academic Council