
ANNUAL REPORT

2023

DECEMBER 2023

#125, Bettenahalli, Kundana Hobli,
Chapparkallu Road, Bengaluru – 562110

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ABOUT VIDYASHILP UNIVERSITY

Vidyashilp University is the culmination of an outstanding 4-decade legacy of the Vidyashilp Education Group. The University offers a disruptive learning experience that is intellectually, personally, and socially transformative. With a carefully curated curriculum, the University aims to nurture the next generation of courageous change-makers, endowed with the knowledge and skills to address the grand challenges of a globalized world.

Education at VU defies the stereotype of monotonous learning, unlocking doors to limitless possibilities.

Our unique vision to raise bold leaders is achieved by:

Pioneering an Interconnected Approach to Research and Innovation
Elevating the Academic Experience with Best-In-Class Infrastructure and Resources

Cultivating a Culture of Interdisciplinary Problem-Solving
Igniting Interdisciplinary and Collaborative Excellence by forging partnerships with top-tier institutions

Nurturing Tomorrow's Leaders through Industry Mentorship, offering summer internships, live projects

Empowering students not just inside the classroom but outside as well with a range of clubs, sports facilities and exciting events on campus.

LEARNING AT VIDYASHILP UNIVERSITY

Vidyashilp University believes that real-world challenges do not exist in isolation, but are interlinked to each other. Hence, its curriculum focuses on Interdisciplinary learning that allows students to develop deep domain knowledge, while exploring a width of its applications across contexts. The programs offered at Vidyashilp University are interdisciplinary in nature and focus on new-age domains. Students can gain a competitive edge in today's job market through a practical, industry-aligned curriculum and experiential learning opportunities.

B.Tech. (Hons.) Computer Science and Engineering – Data Science
B.A. (Hons.) Psychology
B.A. (Hons.) Economics
B.Des. – Communication Design
B.M.S. (Hons.) Digital Business
B.A., LL.B. (Hons.)
B.M.S., LL.B. (Hons.)

Scholarships

Vidyashilp University aims to develop a strong and talented student community. It fosters diversity of thought, interests, and achievements beyond academics. To encourage this further, the University has curated a number of scholarships to assist meritorious students and all-around achievers in becoming a part of the dynamic VU Community. It also ensures that a student is not limited by financial constraints, if any.

Student Life

Vidyashilp University fosters a well-rounded education by valuing sports, cultural activities, and performing arts. With a vibrant campus life that includes athletics, music, clubs, and more, students can engage in diverse interests, enriching their social and educational experiences.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS
GOVERNING BODIES

Dr. P Dayananda Pai
Chancellor
Vidyashilp University

Dr. P Dayananda Pai is a prominent educationist, philanthropist, and leading developer in Bengaluru. Apart from being the Managing Trustee of VSEG, Dr. Pai is also the Board Trustee of B.M.S. College as well as Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, and a Trustee of Karnataka Chitrakala Parishad. He is also a syndicate member of Manipal University and the National Institute of Technology, Surathkal. He has served as a former syndicate member of Mangalore University. Dr. Pai has been awarded the Karnataka Udyog Award, the Karnataka Rajyotsava Award, and the Aryabhatta Award for social and charitable initiatives. He was conferred an Honorary Doctorate by Mangalore University for his exceptional contribution in the field of education and philanthropy.

Dr. Kiran Pai
Pro-Chancellor
Vidyashilp University

Dr. Kiran Pai (Ed.D.) is the co-founder and Pro-Chancellor of Vidyashilp University. She is also the Director of three prominent schools in Bangalore, India - Vidyashilp Academy, Vidyashilp School and Vidyasagar Preschool.

Dr. Pai is a trained Educational Psychologist with expertise in Instructional Design. She earned her Doctorate in Education (Ed.D) in Organizational Change and Leadership and her Master's in Education in Learning Design and Technology (M.Ed LDT) at the Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California, USA. She was recently awarded the prestigious 2021 Doctoral Distinction Award in recognition of her scholarly work. She is also the recipient of the 2020 Honors from the U.S. based Kappa Delta Pi International Society in Education, which acknowledges only the top 20 percent of prominent international scholars in the field. She was the recipient of the 50 Innovative Leaders award in India awarded by the World Education Congress and Prof. Indira Parikh. Dr. Pai undertook most of her professional training in educational leadership at Harvard University, Boston and the IIM-A. Dr.

Pai is a member of the American Education Research Association (AERA) and the American Psychological Association (APA).

Under her stewardship as the Director of schools in the last fourteen years, Vidyashilp Academy and Vidyasagar Preschools have won the IBCI School Brilliance awards, World Education awards for Pedagogy, and have been consistently ranked as one of the best co-ed day schools in the country. Additionally, her school's revolutionary pedagogy has attracted long-term global and national partnerships with organizations such as UNESCO, IISc, IIM-A, University of Missouri, National Institute of Advanced Sciences and the Atal Innovation Mission. Specifically, Vidyashilp Academy is the only school in India identified by UNESCO Asia Pacific for its leading-edge pedagogical practices. To date, numerous organizations and conference papers continue to cite the school as a concrete example of best practices in promoting learner well-being. Additionally, she is also the Founder-Director of Vidyashilp Community Trust, a large-scale government school reform project for over 3,000 disadvantaged youth.

Prof. Vijayan Immanuel
Vice-Chancellor
Vidyashilp University

Dr. Vijayan Immanuel is an academic leader, professor and education enthusiast leading Vidyashilp University as Vice-Chancellor. With an illustrious career spanning over 35 years, Dr. Immanuel has been at the helm of leadership in multiple Universities in Dehradun, Pune and Bangalore. Dr. Immanuel's experience and achievements span every aspect of University education. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the prestigious Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

As a student and professor alumnus of National Institute of Technology Karnataka, Surathkal, Dr. Immanuel has driven the growth and development in the department of Electrical and Electronics Engineering. Along with his achievements, his career holds the distinction of being an academician with almost a decade in corporate leadership with HCL Technologies and JDA Software.

As a passionate educator, he has been integral in the development and execution of campus and program expansion, Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral research fellowships, leadership programs and teams among others. He brings his expertise to pedagogy from his experiences in various institutions and systems in India and overseas. With his academic and

ENROLMENT DATA FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023

Program	Number of Students
B.Tech. (Hons) Programs	71 (CET: 41, Direct: 30)
B.M.S. Program	23
B.A. Programs	9
B.Des. Program	2
B.A.,LL.B. (Hons) Program	3
Total	108 students were admitted

DETAILS OF CONTINUING STUDENTS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2023

Program	Number of Students
B.Tech. (Hons.) Program	45 promoted+ 1 Year back
B.M.S. Program	17 promoted + 1 Year back
B.A. Program	8 promoted
B.Des. Program	2 promoted
Total	72 promoted + 2 Year Back

professional background, Dr. Immanuel believes in building a unique experience at the University level to help build insightful individuals who will contribute to their company, community and society at large. Dr. Immanuel is a visionary and strives to build excellence in education with a focus on purposeful student experience leading to conscientious citizenship and leadership.

BOARD OF GOVERNORS- MEMBERS

Governing Body	Designation	Experience & Education
Mr. Chetan Rai	Member Nominee of the Government of Karnataka	CEO, YCRAI Pvt. Ltd. B.Sc in IT, University of Maryland Baltimore County
Mr. Ravindra Pai	Member Nominee of the Sponsoring Body	Managing Director, Century Real Estate Holdings Pvt. Ltd. Trustee, Vidyanidhi Education Trust MBA, IIM Bangalore
Mr. Ashwin Pai	Member Nominee of the Sponsoring Body	Executive Director, Century Real Estate Holdings Pvt. Ltd. MBA, Ohio-Manipal Institute of Management
Ms. Shilpa Pai	Member Nominee of the Sponsoring Body	Director, Vidyasagar Preschool, Bhoopasandra, Bengaluru HR and personal coaching for corporate leads
Dr. D.C. Kiran	Member Secretary Registrar (In- charge)	Former Associate Professor, PES University Ph.D. in Computer Engineering, BITS- Pilani

FACULTY DATA 2023 (APPOINTMENTS)

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Date of Appointment	School / Department
Faculty (Regular)				
1.	Ms. Kavya Salim	Assistant Professor	15th May 2023	SLSG
2.	Mr. A Aravindan	Deputy Registrar and Assistant Professor	29th May 2023	SLSG
3.	Dr Jobeth AnnWarjri	Assistant Professor	3rd July 2023	SLADS
4.	Dr Tania Islam	Assistant Professor	10th July 2023	SLADS
5.	Dr Priyambada Tripathi	Assistant Professor	3rd July 2023	SLADS
6.	Dr Ninad Patwardhan	Assistant Professor	18th July 2023	SLADS
7.	Dr Amritha Ghatak	Assistant Professor	16th August 2023	SLADS
8.	Ms. Amlanika Bora	Assistant Professor	26th October 2023	SLSG
9.	Dr. R.P. Suresh	Professor of Practice	1st February 2023	SCDS
TOTAL REGULAR FACULTY RECRUITED SINCE (FEB 2023) 9				
Faculty (Adjunct / Consultant)				
1.	Mr. Narendra Raghunath	Adjunct Professor	17th July 2023	SLADS
2.	Ms. Archana Kumar	Adjunct Faculty	14th August 2023	SLADS
3.	Ms. Spatica Ramanujam	Adjunct Assistant Professor	14th August 2023	SLADS
4.	Ms. Prabhakaran	Adjunct Professor	14th August 2023	SBS
5.	Ms. Lalpeki Ralte	Adjunct Faculty	1st August 2023	SLADS
TOTAL ADJUNCT FACULTY RECRUITED SINCE (FEB 2023) 5				

**STATUTORY MEETINGS OF THE VIDYASHILP UNIVERSITY DURING
JANUARY 2023 TO DECEMBER 2023**

Sl No	Details of the Meeting	Ref Number	Date
1	2nd Meeting of the Academic Council	VU/AC/002/01-2023/001	January 14, 2023
2	2nd Meeting of the Board of Management	VU/BOM/002/02-2023/001	February 25, 2023
3	3rd Meeting of the Board of Governors	VU/BOG/003/03-2023/001	March 11, 2023
4	3rd Meeting of the Academic Council	VU/AC/03/MOP/08-2023	August 12, 2023
5	3rd Meeting of the Board of Management	VU/BOM/003/08-2023/002	August 26, 2023
6	4th Meeting of the Board of Governors	VU/BOG/004/MOP/09-2023	September 23, 2023
7	4th Meeting of the Academic Council	VU/AC/04/MOP/12-2023	December 20, 2023

**2nd Meeting of Academic
Council 14th January 2023
(VU/AC/002/01-2023/001)**

The 2nd Meeting of the Academic Council convened on Saturday, January 14, 2023, at 11:00 AM, held at Vidyashilp University in Bangalore. Chaired by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, the meeting welcomed a diverse range of members, including Prof. Mukta Kulkarni, Dr. Venkatesh Panchapagesan, Prof. Lolita Dutta, and invited guests like Mr. Dhruv Sehra and Ms. Shruti Choudhari among others.

The comprehensive agenda included confirmation of previous meeting minutes, ratification of various Board of Studies meetings, revision of the Academic Calendar, review and approval of student admissions for the academic year 2022 – 2023, evaluation and grading of Semester I courses, amendments to Academic Regulations, and updates on internal quality assurance initiatives and future program offerings.

Discussions were detailed and comprehensive, covering academic, administrative, and quality assurance matters. The Chairperson's report on the 1st Academic Term highlighted adherence to academic regulations, successful completions, and the need for a revised Academic Calendar. Attendees actively engaged, offering suggestions on student admissions, outreach strategies, and enhancing the student feedback mechanism. The meeting concluded with thanks expressed by the Chairperson for the invaluable contributions and active participation of all members in the proceedings.

2nd Meeting of Finance Committee
February 09, 2023
(VU/FC/002/02-2023/001)

The 2nd Meeting of the Finance Committee took place on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 11:00 AM, hosted at Vidyashilp University in Bangalore. The meeting, chaired by Dr. Kiran Pai, the Pro-Chancellor of the University, welcomed attendees including Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Kiran D.C., the Registrar (in-charge), and Mr. Suhas Belki, acting as the Finance Officer (in-charge) and the meeting's Secretary.

The agenda covered pivotal areas: confirmation of prior meeting minutes, review of the University Fee Structure for the Academic year 2023 – 2024, discussion on the Audit Statement for the Financial Year 2021 - 22, notification on scholarships awarded to students of the August 2022 batch, and other significant financial matters. The committee extensively deliberated on modifying the fee structure to include Ph.D. program fees, suggested amendments in the Scholarship Policy, and proposed strategies for better financial reporting. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks by the Secretary, summarizing the key discussions and decisions made during the session.

2nd Board of Management
February 25, 2023
(VU/BOM/002/02-2023/001)

The Board of Management meeting was attended by a diverse group of individuals holding key positions within the university and influential external advisors. Led by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor of Vidyashilp University in Bangalore, the meeting had notable members such as Mr. P. Ravindra Pai and Mr. P. Ashwin Pai, Trustees representing Vidyanidhi Education Trust, integral to the institution's foundation. Additionally, Mr. Ravi Machani, representing Machani Group, provided advisory input, while Dr. Kiran D.C., Registrar (in-charge), served as the meeting's Secretary.

The session saw the participation of various permanent invitees, including Dr. Kiran Pai, the Pro-Chancellor, and esteemed advisory board invitees like Prof. H. A. Ranganath and Mr. Aprameya Radhakrishna. Faculty invitees, Prof. Smitha Rao and Prof. Umesh S. Mahtani, contributed from their academic perspectives. While several members were on leave of absence, their roles and designations were noted for a comprehensive understanding of the board's composition.

Throughout the meeting, discussions were robust, covering various aspects of the university's progress, ratification of minutes, and approval of crucial policies, scholarships, academic programs, and staff appointments. The diverse expertise and perspectives brought by these members underscored the meeting's depth and breadth of decision-making.

3rd Board of Governors
March 11, 2023
(VU/BOG/003/03-2023/001)

The 3rd Meeting of the Board of Governors convened on Saturday, March 11, 2023, at 10:30 AM at Vidyashilp University in Bangalore. Led by Dr. P. Dayananda Pai, the Chancellor of the university, and with a diverse ensemble including Dr. Kiran Pai, Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, Mr. Chetan Rai, Ms. Shilpa Pai, Mr. P. Ravindra Pai, Mr. P. Ashwin Pai, and Dr. Kiran D. C., Registrar (i/c), the meeting delved into several critical agenda items.

Dr. Kiran Pai, the Pro-Chancellor, commenced the meeting, acknowledging the institution's progress and commitment to fostering interdisciplinary academic domains, research, industry partnerships, and a diverse student culture. Noteworthy discussions revolved around the establishment of the Vidyashilp Research Centre, highlighting the faculty's efforts, and seeking support for international relationships. The meeting saw discussions on the addition of an ex-officio member, confirmation of previous meeting minutes, ratification of the Board of Management meeting minutes, approval of programs and revised student intake for the next academic year, setting the university fee structure, and approving the scholarship policy. Further discussions encompassed admissions for undergraduate programs, research scholar admissions, faculty recruitment for the upcoming academic year, and concluded with the Chairperson's gratitude for members' active participation and recommendations.

3rd Academic Council Meeting
August 12, 2023
(VU/AC/03/MOP/08-2023)

The 3rd Meeting of the Academic Council was convened on Saturday, August 12, 2023, at 10:30 AM, at Vidyashilp University in Bangalore. Chaired by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, the meeting welcomed esteemed members including Prof. Mukta Kulkarni, Ms. Apala Lahiri, Dr. Ashish Pandey, Prof. Lolita Dutta, Prof. Suresh V Nadagoudar, and Ms. Anubha Kakroo, among others. With three members attending online, the meeting witnessed robust discussions and crucial agenda items.

The meeting commenced with a welcome address by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, highlighting the upcoming academic term's highlights and confirming compliance with academic regulations. Various agenda items included confirmation and actions taken from past meetings, ratification of minutes from Board of Studies' meetings, discussion on Bar Council inspection results for new academic programs, and amendments to academic regulations.

Significant decisions included confirming past meeting minutes, approving the commencement of new programs approved by the Bar Council of India, ratifying meeting proceedings from various Boards of Studies, and approving amendments to academic regulations to align with the National Higher Education Qualifications Framework. The meeting also reviewed the Academic Calendar for 2023-24 and analyzed student progression data for the academic year 2022-23. The meeting concluded with thanks from the Chairperson for the active participation and valuable contributions from all members.

3rd Finance Committee
September 06, 2023
(VU/FC/003/03-2023/002)

The 3rd Meeting of the Finance Committee took place on Wednesday, September 06, 2023, at 11:00 AM at Vidyashilp University in Bangalore. The committee was chaired by Dr. Kiran Pai, the Pro- Chancellor of the university, in the absence of Dr. P. Dayananda Pai, the Chancellor. Alongside Dr. Kiran Pai were Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, Dr. Kiran D. C., Registrar (i/c), and Mr. Suhas Belki, Finance Officer (i/c).

The agenda encompassed various critical discussions, starting with the confirmation of minutes from the previous meeting, confirmation of actions taken, proposing the university fee structure for the academic year 2024-2025, nominations for inclusion in the Scholarship Committee, amending the approval authority for scholarships, and discussions regarding the budget, financial aspects, and limitations on scholarships for the academic year 2024-2025. Resolutions were passed on each agenda item, including recommendations for fee structure revisions, nominations for the Scholarship Committee, and approval authority amendments for scholarships, concluding with detailed considerations on the count and amount of scholarships for the upcoming academic year. The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks from the Secretary, marking the end of the proceedings.

3rd Board of Management
August 26, 2023
(VU/BOM/003/08-2023/002)

The 3rd Meeting of the Board of Management convened on Saturday, August 26, 2023, at 10:30 AM at Vidyashilp University, Bangalore. Chaired by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, the meeting witnessed the presence of notable members including Mr. P. Ravindra Pai, Mr. P. Ashwin Pai, Prof. Smitha Rao, Prof. Radhika Lobo, and Prof. Gabrielle Malfatti as an Advisory Member, among others, with some members attending online. Key agenda items were discussed, centered around vital university matters.

The meeting commenced with the Chairperson's welcome and an update on upcoming university activities. Agenda items included confirmation of previous meeting minutes, action taken reports, and ratification of Academic Council and Research and Innovation Council proceedings. Noteworthy discussions included approving new academic programs, ratifying staff appointments, and a comprehensive review of academic programs and fee structures for the upcoming academic year.

Critical resolutions were passed, such as ratifying past meeting minutes, approving academic programs with new specializations, submitting proposed fee structures to the Finance Committee, and amending university policies. The meeting concluded with a discussion on student progression and admissions for the academic years, along with a suggestion to establish more international partnerships. The Chairperson expressed gratitude to all members for their active engagement and contributions to the meeting's discussions.



भारतीय विधिज्ञ परिषद् BAR COUNCIL OF INDIA

(Statutory Body Constituted under the Advocates Act, 1961)

21, Rouse Avenue Institutional Area, Near Bal Bhawan, New Delhi - 110002

BCI: D: 755 : 2023 (LE/Std. 27.05.2023)

17.06.2023

1.	The Registrar, Vidyashilp University, No. 125, Bettenahalli, Kundanal Hobli, Chapparkallu Road, Bengaluru-562110 Karnataka
2.	The Principal, School of Legal Studies and Governance, Vidyashilp University, No. 125, Bettenahalli, Kundanal Hobli, Chapparkallu Road, Bengaluru-562110 Karnataka

Sub.: Recognition to Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, Karnataka as per Section 7(1)(i) of the Advocates Act, 1961 for the purpose of conferring the Degrees in Law and fresh approval to its School of Legal Studies and Governance, Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, Karnataka for imparting five year BA LL.B(Hons.) course and five year BMS LL.B(Hons.) course (Bachelor of Management Studies) with intake of one section of 60 students in each course for a period of two years i.e. for the academic year 2023-24 and 2024-25.

Sir,

This is to bring to your kind knowledge that the Standing Committee of Legal Education Committee of Bar Council of India by virtue of its meeting held on 27th May, 2023 considered the matter of School of Legal Studies and Governance, Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

After consideration, fresh recognition has been granted to Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, Karnataka as per Section 7(1)(i) of the Advocates Act, 1961 for the purpose of conferring the Degrees in Law and also granted fresh approval to its School of Legal Studies and Governance, Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, Karnataka for imparting five year BA LL.B(Hons.) course and five year BMS LL.B(Hons.) course (Bachelor of Management Studies) with intake of one section of 60 students in each course for a period of two years i.e. for the academic year 2023-24 and 2024-25.

You are requested to kindly note that you will be required to seek extension of approval of affiliation for the above said course/s after approval of affiliation given by BCI ceases.

4th Board of Governors
SEPTEMBER 23, 2023
(VU/BOG/004/MOP/09-2023)

The 4th Meeting of the Board of Governors was convened on Saturday, September 23, 2023, at 10:30 AM at Vidyashilp University, Bangalore. The session was attended by distinguished members including Dr. Kiran Pai, Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, Mr. Chetan Rai, Ms. Shilpa Pai, Mr. P. Ravindra Pai, Mr. P. Ashwin Pai, and Dr. Kiran D. C. (Registrar i/c), among others. The meeting addressed various critical agenda items concerning the university's operations and future strategies.

Commencing with the confirmation of minutes from prior meetings and action taken reports, the session progressed to review and ratify the proceedings of the Board of Management and Finance Committee meetings. Discussions encompassed the approval of programs and student intake for the upcoming academic year, ratification of fee structures, and the constitution of the Nomination Committee for the selection and appointment of the Vice Chancellor. Additionally, the session saw approval for the formation of statutory authorities and celebrated the publication of the Year Book for the Academic Year 2022-2023, recognizing it as a comprehensive compilation of the university's activities. The Pro Chancellor, on behalf of the Chancellor, extended gratitude to all attendees for their participation and valuable contributions to the meeting.

Kindly note that upon grant of approval, it shall be necessary for the Centre of Legal Education to deposit Rupees Five Lakh per course in shape of guarantee fee to fulfill all the norms of the Bar Council of India.

The same shall be liable to be forfeited if norms are not complied with and same shall carry no interest.

The letter is thus also subject to the payment of guarantee amount as mentioned effective from date of approval of affiliation.

Further details regarding payments including any Institutional Development fee etc, due, if any, shall be intimated to you in due course.

You may kindly bear in mind that the Bar Council of India is the sole and supreme sanctioning authority for seats and as a general rule it does not allow any supernumerary quota of seats for law degree courses, over and above the sanctioned strength of seats and whatever reservation of seats is to be done by the University as a general rule has to be done within sanctioned strength of seats.

A. Conditions/Rules of Legal Education regarding which compliance affidavit has to be filed.

---Further kindly ensure to furnish authenticated and signed bank statements of salary transferred to your faculty bearing bank stamp/seal and signature of the bank manager for a period of three months with effect from the date of receipt of this letter for the preceding period of three months must be furnished immediately. This must be continued to be submitted every three months without fail.

Kindly also furnish purchase receipts of Indian Bar Review and other minimum Library requirement, failing which the Centre of Legal Education shall be liable to the natural consequences, which may include revocation of recognition/approval granted.

Centre of Legal Education (CLE) as defined under the Rules of Legal Education stands for the following and is being reproduced below for convenience:

"Centres of Legal Education" means (a) All approved Departments of Law of Universities, Colleges of Law, Constituent Colleges under recognized Universities and affiliated Colleges or Schools of law of recognized Universities so approved.

Provided that a Department or College or Institution conducting correspondence courses through distance education shall not be included.

B. The Centre of Legal Education is directed to ensure compliance of the conditions stipulated above and also comply with Legal Education Rules 2008, failure of which may lead to subsequent necessary and proper action being taken in this regard :-

1. The Centre of Legal Education is directed to ensure establishment and continuance of a Legal Aid Centre as per Clause-11, Schedule-III of Rule-11 of the Part-IV of the Legal Education Rules - 2008. CLE **should keep activated Legal Aid Clinic.**
2. Centre of Legal Education must ensure to teach clinical subjects and give marks as per the schedule.
3. Centre of Legal Education should ensure the payment of salary to

teachers as per Rules 22 schedule III, Part IV of BCI Rules.

4. The library should be furnished as per Clause 15 of Schedule III of Legal Education Rules 2008 given below :-

Minimum Library requirement: To start with, a Law Library shall have a set of AIR manual, Combo offer of CD of AIR Pvt. Ltd. (containing electronic version of AIR Supreme Court and High Court Data bases Research 1950-2015 (four connections each) Cr. L.J. Data Base 1950-2015 (four connections) AIR Privy Council Data Base 1900-1950 (four connections) AIR Mannual latest 6th Edition (1-45 Vols.) AIR Journal 2015, Cr. L.J. 2015, L.I.C. 2015, AIR Civil Cases 2015, AIR Law Lines 2015, AIR Cheque Dishonour Reports 2015, AIR Accident Claims and compensation 2015, Institution shall get electronic versions updated every year by AIR Pvt. Ltd. Central Acts and Local Acts, Criminal law journal, SCC, Company cases, Indian Bar Review, selected Judgements on Professional Ethics and Journals with the back volumes for at least ten years and also such number of text books in each subjects taught during the period according to the minimum standard ratio of ten books for each registered students. For running integrated program, text books of such other subjects are also to be kept in the similar minimum ratio.

5. The **Centre of Legal Education** should keep in mind that minimum 10 sets of Indian Bar Review, selected judgments and professional Ethics published by Bar Council of India Trust and the AIR volumes/set must be promptly ordered for the library if not already ordered, as it is an essential requirement to run a law college which is stipulated by Bar Council of India, Legal Education Rules 2008 framed under a Parliament Act.

6. The **Center of Legal Education** is directed to make a minimum investment as provided below for upgrading it's library as per the following guideline :-

"Today with the increasing cost of journals, books, wi-fi, e-library and online facilities including I.T. facilities, the minimum investment by each university should be Rs. 10 lakhs for each year. However for any university/deemed university in rural area, the investment should be Rs. 5 Lakh and for all other affiliated colleges in the urban area it should be Rs. 2 lakhs and in rural area it should be Rs. 1 lakh."

7. Teacher Student ratio shall be 1:40 as per Schedule-III, Rule-11, Clause-17, Part-IV of Bar Council of India Rules.
8. **Centre of Legal Education** is directed to inform the timings of the classes.
9. **Centre of Legal Education** must ensure that not less than three percent seats are reserved for persons with disabilities.
10. **Centre of Legal Education** shall equip itself to provide appropriate facilities in terms of the physical infrastructure, academic infrastructure and any other facilities required for the effective participation of disabled students, teachers and staff in their respective activities. For e.g. (a) ramps in public buildings and (b) Braille symbols and auditory signals in elevators or lifts.

C. Further, the Centre of Legal Education should maintain the timing which has to be minimum 5 ½ hours with half an hour break.

Rule (xxiii), Chapter I

4th Academic Council
December 20, 2023
(VU/AC/004/MOP/12-023)

The 4th Meeting of the Academic Council took place on Wednesday, December 20, 2023, at 11:00 AM, held at Vidyashilp University, Bangalore. The meeting was chaired by Prof. Smitha Rao, officiating Vice Chancellor, in light of the conclusion of Prof. Vijayan Immanuel's tenure as Vice Chancellor. Attended by esteemed members including Dr. Venkatesh Panchapagesan, Prof. Lolita Dutta, Prof. Suresh V Nadagoudar, Ms. Anubha Kakroo, among others (some attending online), the session was comprehensive and productive.

Agenda points included confirmation and action taken reports of prior meetings, ratification of minutes from various Board of Studies meetings encompassing diverse departments like Computational and Data Sciences, Liberal Arts and Design Studies, Business Studies, Legal Studies, and Design Programs. Detailed discussions involved course plans, program structures, and the integration of core and foundational courses across disciplines. The meeting also addressed enrollment figures for the Admission Year 2023, considering potential cutoff numbers for program offerings. Additionally, the Academic Council considered suggestions from external experts regarding program redesign, aligning programs with industry needs, and ensuring students' career readiness. The Chairperson extended appreciation to all members for their valuable contributions to the meeting.

"(xxiii) "Regular Course of Study" means and includes a course which runs for at least five hours a day continuously with an additional half an hour recess every day and running not less than thirty hours of working schedule per week."

Rule 5 of Schedule III

"Classes may be conducted between 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. in a Centre of Legal Education, which is not fully residential. However the Library may remain open till 10 p.m."

- D. Further, the Centre of Legal Education should follow the attendance rule and file affidavit that they are following the aforesaid and below mentioned rule. The next inspection team shall also see whether the said rules are being followed by the university or not. The relevant Rule 12 is given below :-**

"12. End Semester Test: No student of any of the degree program shall be allowed to take the end semester test in a subject if the student concerned has not attended minimum of 70% of the classes held in the subject concerned as also the moot court room exercises, tutorials and practical training conducted in the subject taken together.

Provided that if a student for any exceptional reasons fail to attend 70% of the classes held in any subject, the Dean of the University or the Principal of the Centre of Legal Education, as the case may be, may allow the student to take the test if the student concerned attended at least 65% of the classes held in the subject concerned and attended 70% of classes in all the subjects taken together. The similar power shall rest with the Vice Chancellor or Director of a National Law University, or his authorized representative in the absence of the Dean of Law.

Provided further that a list of such students allowed to take the test with reasons recorded be forwarded to the Bar Council of India."

- E. Centre of Legal Education should also admit students as per the below mentioned Rule:**

7. Minimum marks in qualifying examination for admission: Bar Council of India may from time to time, stipulate the minimum percentage of marks not below 45% of the total marks in case of general category applicants, 42% for OBC category and 40% of the total marks in case of SC and ST applicants, to be obtained for the qualifying examination, such as +2 Examination in case of Integrated Five Years' course or Degree course in any discipline for Three years' LL.B. course, for the purpose of applying for and getting admitted into a Law Degree Program of any recognized University in either of the streams.

Provided that such a minimum qualifying marks shall not automatically entitle a person to get admission into an institution but only shall entitle the person concerned to fulfill other institutional criteria notified by the institution concerned or by the government concerned from time to time to apply for admission.

- F. Centre of Legal Education to follow Clause-24, Schedule-II of Legal Education Rule-2008 lays down Moot Court exercises and Internship; Clause-25,**

Schedule-III lays down Minimum period of Internship which is quoted hereunder.

(i) **24. Moot court exercise and Internship:**

This paper may have three components of 30 marks each and a viva for 10 marks.

(a) Moot Court (30 Marks). Every student may be required to do at least three moot courts in a year with 10 marks for each. The moot court work will be on assigned problem and it will be evaluated for 5 marks for written submissions and 5 marks for oral advocacy.

(b) Observance of Trial in two cases, one Civil and one Criminal (30 marks):

Students may be required to attend two trials in the course of the last two or three years of LL.B. studies. They will maintain a record and enter the various steps observed during their attendance on different days in the court assignment. This scheme will carry 30 marks.

(c) Interviewing techniques and Pre-trial preparations and Internship diary (30 marks):

Each student will observe two interviewing sessions of clients at the Lawyer's Office/Legal Aid Office and record the proceedings in a diary, which will carry 15 marks. Each student will further observe the preparation of documents and court papers by the Advocate and the procedure for the filing of the suit/petition. This will be recorded in the diary, which will carry 15 marks.

(d) The fourth component of this paper will be Viva Voce examination on all the above three aspects. This will carry 10 marks.

(ii) **25. Minimum Period of Internship:** (a) Each registered student shall have completed minimum of twelve weeks internship for Three Year Course stream and twenty weeks in case of Five Year Course stream during the entire period of legal studies under NGO, Trial and Appellate Advocates, Judiciary, Legal Regulatory authorities, Legislatures and Parliament, Other Legal Functionaries, Market Institutions, Law Firms, Companies, Local Self Government and other such bodies as the University shall stipulate, where law is practiced either in action or in dispute resolution or in management.

Provided that internship in any year cannot be for a continuous period of more than Four Weeks and all students shall at least gone through once in the entire academic period with Trial and Appellate Advocates.

(b) Each student shall keep Internship diary in such form as may be stipulated by the University concerned and the same shall be evaluated by the Guide in Internship and also a Core Faculty member of the staff each time. The total mark shall be assessed in the Final Semester of the course in the 4th Clinical course as stipulated under the Rules in Schedule II.

G. Centre of Legal Education should also follow Rule-10 of Legal Education Rules 2008 which is quoted hereunder :-

10. Semester system

The course leading to either degree in law, unitary or on integrated double degree, shall be conducted in semester system in not less than 15 weeks for unitary degree course or not less than 18 weeks in double degree integrated course with not less than 30 class-hours per week including tutorials, moot court room exercise and seminars provided there shall be at least 24 lecture hours per week.

Provided further that in case of specialized and/or honours law courses there shall be not less than 36 class-hours per week including seminar, moot court and tutorial classes and 30 minimum lecture hours per week.

Provided further that Universities are free to adopt trimester system with appropriate division of courses per trimester with each of the trimester not less than 12 weeks.

H. Centre of Legal Education should also follow Rule 17 and Rule 18 of Schedule III of Legal Education Rules 2008 which is quoted hereunder :-

(i) Rule 17. Core Faculty:

There shall be sufficient number of full time faculty members in each Centre of Legal Education (i.e. ,Department, constituent or affiliated college) to teach each subject at all point of time for running courses who can be supported by part time or visiting faculty. Such a core faculty shall in no case be less than six in the first year of the approval with both streams in operation, eight in the second year and ten in the case of third year of law courses. In addition, for the integrated course qualification as is required under the UGC guideline or under such other standard setting body as the discipline is allotted to by any Act, statute, or Rules of the Government of India or of a State.

For the Three Year Bachelor of Law degree course only with two sections without the Honour program, there shall be minimum of 4 core faculty in the first year six in the second and eight in the third year in addition to the Principal/Head or Dean as the case may be.

Provided that an institution intending to run any specialized or honours course must have at least three faculty in the group in which specialization and honours courses are offered.

Provided further that each full time faculty shall take as many classes in the subject or subjects as may be assigned to them on the basis of standard prescribed by 'the standard setting institution' like UGC.

Provided further, if any institution of a University, which was already affiliated to the University and approved to run professional courses of either scheme or both by the Bar Council of India after inspection of the University, falls short of required full time faculty, the new admission in courses may be required to remain suspended until new required number of faculty is procured. The University shall before starting a new academic session, notify which institutions are only be allowed to admit fresh students.

Provided further that if while inspecting the University it was found that in any institution of the University adequate number of full time faculty was

not there in the staff, the Bar Council after giving notice to the University might give a public notice directing the University not to admit students in the new academic year in that institution.

There shall be adequate faculty in the subjects offered in the liberal educational subjects as part of the course by the institution. These faculties in the liberal educational discipline in Arts, Science, Management, Commerce, Engineering, Technology or any other discipline shall possess

(ii) Rule -18 Minimum weekly class program per subject (paper):.

There shall be for each paper (with 4 credit) Four class-hours for one hour duration each and one hour of tutorial/ moot court/ project work per week.

AFFIDAVIT-

Kindly ensure to comply with all the above stipulated and all other requisite Rules of Legal Education 2008 by way of duly notarized compliance affidavit by attaching adequate documentation proof with the same with a period of 6 weeks for being eligible to be issued further Approval for further subsequent academic years. ~~failure to furnish the same shall make the CLE liable to the natural consequences which may include revocation of recognition/approval granted.~~


This letter is subject to final approval/confirmation of the Legal Education Committee and General Council of the Bar Council of India.


You are also requested to attach a copy of this letter with your compliance report/reply.

It is suggested that all information should be provided to Bar Council of India both in hard and soft copy/pen-drive and by email at complianceaffiliationle2@gmail.com.

This is for your information and necessary action.

Yours sincerely,


(Nalin Raj Chaturvedi)
Joint Secretary, BCI
[Legal Education Department]


(Ashok Kumar Pandey)
Joint Secretary
HOD, Legal Education Dept.


(Srimanto Sen)
Secretary

Academic Year 2024 – 25

Proposed Programs / Intake

School	Program	Approved Intake (GoK)	Proposed Program / Intake	
			Proposed Program	Intake / Capacity
School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies	Bachelor of Arts (Hons) BA(Hons)	120	Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Major – Psychology	25
			Bachelor of Arts (Hons) Major – Economics	25
	Bachelor of Design B.Des.	60	Bachelor of Design – Communication Design	15
School of Computational and Data Sciences	Bachelor of Technology (Hons) B.Tech. (Hons)	120	B.Tech (Hons) Computer Science and Engineering (Data Science)	60
			B.Tech (Hons) Computer Science and Engineering (AI & ML)	60
School of Business Studies	Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons) BMS(Hons)	120	Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons) – Digital Business	30
			Bachelor of Management Studies (Hons) – Business Intelligence	30
School of Legal Studies and Governance	Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) BA., LL.B. (Hons)	60	Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) BA., LL.B. (Hons)	20
	Bachelor of Management Studies and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) BMS., LL.B. (Hons)	60	Bachelor of Management Studies and Bachelor of Laws (Hons) BMS., LL.B. (Hons)	20

Ref No.: VU/RG/NTN/09-2022/009

Date: 12.09.2022

NOTIFICATION

CONSTITUTION OF INTERNAL COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE (ICC)

It is hereby notified for the information of all concerned that the University has constituted Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) as per UGC (Prevention, prohibition and redressal of sexual harassment of women employees and students in higher educational institutions) Regulations, 2015 vide Gazette of India Notification No. 171 dated May 2, 2016.

S. No.	Member	Name & Designation
1.	Presiding Officer - Senior Faculty Member	Dr. Radhika Lobo, Professor & Program Chair.
2.	Two Teaching Faculty Members	Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, Assistant Professor. Dr. Setu Havanur, Assistant Professor.
3.	Two Members from Non-Teaching	Ms. Vindya Kushai, Associate Director, Admissions. Mr. Anil Kumar S, Deputy Registrar.
4.	Three Students	Ms. Nidhi Singh, 2022UG000006 Ms. Pereena Percy Vakharia, 2022UG000017 Mr. Gaveesha G S, 2022UG000024
5.	External Members	Dr. Sapna.S, Professor, School of Law, Christ University. Ms. Kalyani Subramaniam, CEO, Maitrayana Charity Foundation, Bangalore.

The term of the office of the members of ICC shall be for a period of three (03) years and one third of the members of the ICC may be changed every year.

Registrar (i/c)

Copy to:

- Office of the Chancellor.
- Office of the Pro-Chancellor.
- Office of the Vice Chancellor.
- The Members of the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC).
- Office File.



NOTIFICATION
UNIVERSITY STUDENT GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL MECHANISM

As per the University Grants Commission (Redressal of Grievances of Students) Regulations, 2023, Vidyashilp University has established a comprehensive Grievances Redressal Mechanism to swiftly and impartially address Complaints/Grievances of students.

The Grievances Redressal Mechanism caters to various complaints, including those related to admissions, procedural irregularities, victimization, harassment, and grievances impacting a student's performance or overall development.

University Student Grievances Redressal Committee:

The University Student Grievances Redressal Committee is tasked with handling interdepartmental/ interschool complaints and issues concerning Hostels, Transport, Security, Sports, and General Administration on the Campus.

Composition:

1. **Chairperson:** Prof. Umesh Mahtani
2. **Members:**
 - Dr. Neha Khurana
 - Dr. Anupama Bhatt
 - Dr. Amrita Ghatak
 - Dr. Ninad Patwardhan
 - Dr. Jobeth Ann Warjri
3. **Special Invitee representing students:** Mr. Aditya Kamod Ravidas
4. **Member Secretary:** Mr. Aravindan A (Deputy Registrar)

Appointment of Ombudsperson:

Professor S. Mahendra Dev (Editor, Economic and Political Weekly (EPW), Chairman, Institute of Development Studies, Andhra Pradesh Distinguished Professor, ICFAI School of Social Sciences, Hyderabad Former Director and Vice-Chancellor, IGIDR, Mumbai) has been appointed as the Ombudsperson, responsible for addressing appeals as per the outlined procedure.

Procedure for Grievance Redressal:

1. **Submission of Grievances:**
 - **Online Portal:** Students submit detailed grievances through the University's designated online portal.
 - **Documentation:** All submissions should include comprehensive details and supporting documents for review.

2. Review and Initial Assessment:

- **Forwarding Complaints:** The Member Secretary (Deputy Registrar) facilitates the forwarding of complaints to the Chairperson for initial review.
- **Preliminary Assessment:** The Chairperson and Committee members conduct a thorough review of submitted grievances and associated documentation.

3. Hearing and Resolution:

- **Scheduling Hearings:** The Committee promptly schedules a hearing, communicating the date to the Registrar and the aggrieved party.
- **Participant Representation:** The aggrieved student or their authorized representative may attend the hearing.
- **Fair and Just Proceedings:** Upholding the principles of natural justice, the Committee ensures a fair and thorough examination of grievances.
- **Timely Resolution:** The Committee aims to resolve grievances within a month of receipt, issuing detailed orders providing suitable relief to the affected party.

4. Decision-making Process:

- **Collaborative Deliberations:** Committee members deliberate on the merits of the grievance, ensuring comprehensive discussion and assessment.
- **Consensus or Voting:** Consensus is sought for decision-making; in case of disagreement, a vote may be conducted, with the majority decision prevailing.

5. Communication of Decision:

- **Documented Orders:** Detailed orders, including reasons for the decision, are documented under the Chairperson's signature.
- **Dissemination:** Copies of the orders are provided to both the institution and the aggrieved party for their information and compliance.

6. Escalation to Ombudsperson:

- **Appeal Process:** If dissatisfied with the Committee's decision, the aggrieved party may appeal to the Ombudsperson through the Deputy Registrar.
- **Ombudsperson's Review:** The Ombudsperson conducts a fair review, following a similar procedure as outlined for the Grievances Redressal Committee.

7. Outcome Compliance:

- **Institutional Compliance:** The institution ensures compliance with the decisions and recommendations made by both the Grievances Redressal Committee and the Ombudsperson.

Enhancements:

1. Roles and Responsibilities:

a. Chairperson:

- Leadership:** Oversee and lead the Committee's proceedings.
- Facilitate Hearings:** Schedule and preside over grievance hearings.
- Decision-making:** Ensure fair and just decisions in alignment with regulations.
- Coordination:** Liaise with the Member Secretary for logistical support and communication.

b. Members:

- Review and Analysis:** Diligently review submitted grievances and associated documentation.
- Participation in Hearings:** Attend grievance hearings, contribute insights, and deliberate on resolutions.
- Collaboration:** Collaborate with other members to assess the merit of complaints and recommend appropriate actions or redressals.

c. Special Invitee representing students:

- Student Advocate:** Represent student interests and perspectives during deliberations.
- Insightful Contribution:** Offer insights into student-related issues and concerns.
- Collaboration:** Collaborate with other Committee members to ensure holistic decision-making.

d. Member Secretary:

- Administrative Support:** Manage logistical aspects of the Committee's functioning.
- Documentation and Record-keeping:** Maintain records of grievances, hearings, and resolutions.
- Communication:** Act as a liaison between the Chairperson, members, and aggrieved parties.

2. **Transparency and Information Dissemination:** Strive for transparency in the decision-making process and disseminate information through various channels for wider awareness among students.



Action by Ombudsperson:

1. Aggrieved students, dissatisfied with the Grievance Redressal Committee's decision, may appeal to the Ombudsperson through Mr. A. Aravindan, Deputy Registrar.
2. The Ombudsperson will follow the prescribed procedure, ensuring a fair hearing and suitable resolution.
3. False or frivolous complaints may lead to appropriate action against the complainant as deemed necessary.

This Grievance Redressal Procedure at Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru, aims to provide a fair, transparent, and efficient resolution of grievances while upholding the rights of students and fostering an optimal learning environment.

Registrar
Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru



CC:

- The office of Pro Chancellor
- The office of Vice Chancellor
- Office of the Registrar
- UGC and all concerned
- All notice boards
- University's website



VIDYASHILP
UNIVERSITY

PART- B

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STUDENT ORIENTATION

1

STUDENT ORIENTATION 1

The orientation program for the founding cohort of 2022 was carefully curated with a well-planned set of activities and experiences. The orientation was designed to provide students with an overview of the University's academic framework and to foster a sense of camaraderie and community among students. Activities that lasted through the week saw wholehearted participation from both faculty members and students. This resulted in a seamless integration of students into the Vidyashilp ecosystem, which prepared them for their journey ahead. The following were sessions conducted by our faculty members:

DAY 01



FIND A BUDDY **PEER BONDING ACTIVITY** **Ms. Aparna Vinod**

'Find a Buddy' was an art-based activity that encouraged students to break the ice and engage with each other. Students were divided into teams of two — artists and objects. The artists were expected to sketch their partner, the object. The object was then expected to find the artist based on the clues sketched on the hand-drawn image! Through this process of image reading, students engaged with each other, and new friendships were forged.



INSTALLATION: **BIRDS OF HOPE & SOUNDS OF** **VIDYASHILP** **Prof. Arvind Lodaya,** **Ms. Aparna Vinod & Ms. Monika Bijlani**

In an effort to encourage students to own the campus space, we co-created two art installations. Individual welcome kits that were handed to each student included art material and instructional booklets. Students engaged in a day-long art experience, where they created unique Origami Swans and Zentangled Bamboo Pieces. Collectively the installation conveyed the hopes and dreams of the University.

DAY 02

INTRODUCTION TO VIDYASHILP AND ITS LEGACY

Prof. Vijayan Immanuel

In this session, Prof. Vijayan Immanuel spoke about the vibrant educational journey of the Vidyashilp Group of Institutions, which culminated in the establishment of Vidyashilp University. He also encouraged students to uphold the core values of the institution and take it to new heights of achievement.

VU STUDENT ATTRIBUTES

Dr. Setu Havanur

This session brought alive the five attributes that VU envisions in each graduate (self-awareness, empathy, confidence, leadership, and resourcefulness). Students listed various examples for each attribute in addition to which one group listed the attributes they carried from high school. The presenter emphasized the role of VU in creating opportunities for building these attributes and that of students in leveraging these opportunities and being responsible for their learning.

INTRODUCTION TO CURRICULUM STRUCTURE

Prof. Umesh Mahtani & Prof. Radhika Lobo

The VU Curriculum structure was explained to the founding cohort with emphasis on the courses under the University Core, Program Foundation, Program Major, Specialization Tracks, and the choice of Minor Courses. In addition to the industry immersion and summer internship projects, the requirements for the research degree were discussed. The weight given to each component was highlighted, along with its importance.

INTRODUCTION TO MINORS

Prof. Umesh Mahtani, Prof. Radhika Lobo, Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Prof. Smitha Rao & Dr. Setu Havanur

Prof. Umesh Mahtani spoke to the students about the seven minors available to them under the B.M.S. program. The specific courses under finance, marketing, and operations were listed and explained. The choice of minors was mentioned and their details were covered in the presentation of these respective programs.

Prof. Arvind Lodaya began by introducing the plan for the minor in Design that is offered to students from other streams. The program comprises six courses of four credits each, and the pedagogy combines some theory and methodological input along with project-based work.

Prof. Smitha Rao explained the specific courses that students can opt for if they choose Data Science as a minor. She also spoke about the career options available to students who opt for such combinations.

Prof. Radhika Lobo explained the specific courses that students can opt for if they choose Economics as a minor. She also went on to explain the career options available to students who choose such courses.

Dr. Setu Havanur introduced the plan for Psychology as a minor, which necessitated the completion of 6 courses (24 credits in total) that spanned across the core areas of Psychology and laid a good foundation in the domain. She explained the value of Psychology in complementing their chosen Major as well as the broader career and life applications.

ANTI-RAGGING RULES

Prof. Umesh Mahtani

The definition of ragging was explained and the students were made aware of the ills of this practice. The various penal codes under which students can be charged and the punitive measures that could be taken were highlighted in this session. Legal actions that can be taken against a person accused of ragging were also listed and discussed in detail.

CODE OF CONDUCT

Prof. Radhika Lobo

Students of VU were instructed on how to conduct themselves on and off campus as part of the Student Code of Conduct. Prof. Radhika referred to the document to explain how students should conduct themselves in relation to other students and faculty.

CAMPUS WALK

Dr. Kiran D.C.

A guided tour of the campus introduced students to the varied facilities on campus. Students were given a blueprint of the campus and encouraged to find specific locations. They took pictures at these locations and hash-tagged them on the VU Instagram page.

DAY 03

INTRODUCTION TO UNIVERSITY CORE

Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Mr. Rahul

Jayaram & Ms. Spatica Ramanujam

A team of educators prepared and presented a one-hour session on VU's Core to our inaugural batch. With the help of a 45-minute-long PowerPoint presentation consisting of videos, slides, audio clips, and small creatives, the team unraveled the big-picture underlying the necessity of these core courses and how they impact the overall learning experience of a student. It concluded with a brief question-and-answer session.

FIND YOUR VU FAMILY COMMUNITY HUNT

**Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan &
Ms. Meenakshi P.**

Prior to the commencement of the activity, faculty and other support staff members were approached to share 3 details about themselves. These 'clues' were then printed on paper chits. The students were given half an hour to 'find' the person that the clues refer to, speak to them for a few minutes to learn more about them, and return to share their experiences. Later, there was an open discussion about the activity.

POSH AND GENDER SENSITIZATION

**Dr. Sapna S., Head, Law School,
Christ (Deemed to be University)**

Dr. Sapna, a Gender Specialist and Consultant with the Department of Labour, Government of Karnataka conducted the 'Prevention of Sexual Harassment Workshop' for all faculty, students, and staff. Dr. Sapna used examples from industry practices to educate participants on the various aspects and measures involved in the prevention of sexual harassment. This session was pivotal in declaring the commitment of the University to create a safe and enabling workspace for all employees.

DAY 04

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS 1

**ACADEMIC CREDITS, ASSESSMENT,
AND GRADING SYSTEM**

Prof. Vijayan Immanuel

In this session, Prof. Vijayan Immanuel detailed the academic regulations and credit structure of the programs and introduced students to the learning processes that go hand-in-hand with the credit structure. He also introduced them to the assessment and grading techniques associated with this learning framework.

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS 2 ATTENDANCE & TIME TABLE

Dr. Kiran D.C.

Dr. Kiran shared the attendance policy and regulations with the students. He impressed upon them the mandatory requirement to actively participate in assessments and examinations. The structure of the timetable was also shared with them.

INTRODUCTION TO GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Dr. Mehala N.

To begin with, the students were given their Email IDs and Default Passwords.

This session educated the students on:

1. How to join the Google Classroom?
2. How to access class material?
3. How to submit assignments?
4. How to submit quiz components?
5. How to access/post an announcement?
6. How to join an online class/demo session?
7. How to create and submit collaborative work using Google Docs, PPTs, etc.?

DAY 05

CLUBS AND ACTIVITIES

Ms. Monika Bijlani & Dr. Bijil Prakash

Students were informed about the various activities they could participate in and were encouraged to form clubs based on their interests. In order to form these clubs purely on the basis of interest and passion towards a particular discipline or activity, students were encouraged to break away from their existing social groups and mingle with the rest of the cohort. The importance of student-led clubs at a university was emphasized and the prominent role of the first batch in laying the foundation for an enriching student life on campus was also impressed upon.



STUDENT TALENT HUNT

Dr. Bijil Prakash, Ms. Spatica

Ramanujam & Mr. Rahul Jayaram

The faculty at VU conducted a student talent show, where students, individually or in pairs, sang popular and classical songs, played the violin and the guitar, and crooned to western pop numbers. It was a showcase of the creative and performative talents of VU's founding batch.



DAY 06

VISIT TO THE INDIAN MUSIC EXPERIENCE MUSEUM

Students were taken on a day trip to the Indian Music Experience Museum in Bengaluru. It was a unique experience because of the interactive nature of the engagement with visitors. Students explored the outdoor installations of various musical instruments. They toured the different sections of the museum exploring the history, influence, and variety of music that originated in India. They read, listened, and simulated the creation of music in the simulation room. The museum tour concluded with a special exhibition of "Bird Songs".

STUDENT ORIENTATION 2

Vidyashilp University held its second orientation on November 9th and 12th for the CET Batch that joined the University on the aforementioned date. A cohort of incoming students attended the orientation along with a few students from the earlier batch who had missed it for various reasons.

The first day of orientation was organized to familiarize students with the academic and student culture of Vidyashilp University. Multiple sessions were organized, wherein the faculty presented various dimensions of the B.Tech. Program.

SESSION 01

Orientation commenced at 9:30 a.m. with Prof. Smitha Rao's introduction to the B.Tech. Program. She explained the program structure, spread of courses, credits, etc., for the four-year program.

SESSION 03

Mr. Rahul Jayaram presented the University Core courses, their significance, and relevance to the B.Tech. Program.

SESSION 05

The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, unfolded the courses offered in the first semester of the B.Tech. Program.

SESSION 02

Dr. Kiran D.C. explained the Academic Regulations at the University. He focused on the importance of academic credits, attendance, assessments, and other academic policies.

SESSION 04

Dr. Setu Havanur, Prof. Radhika Lobo, Prof. Umesh Mahtani, and Prof. Arvind Lodaya presented the minors offered under the domains of Psychology, Economics, Marketing & Finance, and Design respectively.

SESSION 06

Post Lunch, Dr. Mehala N. briefed the students on a Design Workshop. She familiarized students with the instruments, 3D printers, etc. that were to be used in the workshop. She also illustrated the types of experiments that would be conducted during the course of their program.

Later, the students were welcomed informally by Ms. Monika Bijlani along with a brief introduction to the activities planned for the orientation. They were made to sit in groups of four and were handed Orientation Kits containing the material needed for the workshop, along with a welcome note and instruction booklet.

04
ACTIVITIES

2.5
HOURS

ORIGAMI PEACE CRANE

Origami Peace Crane was an individual activity in which students used the origami paper provided in the kit to craft a crane as per the instructions in the booklet. Mr. Navin Anandan, our in-house Origami Expert, demonstrated the art of folding paper and helped students navigate the complex steps. It was common for students to make more than one crane. Even those who initially struggled with the first crane developed a fascination for the craft and displayed determination to complete it.



BIRDS OF FREEDOM

'Birds of Freedom' was a group activity in which Ms. Monika Bijlani encouraged the students to ponder the form of a 'bird' and what it meant to them. They, then, had to combine their creative minds and skills to craft a bird by folding, tearing, pasting, and stapling the sheets of paper given to them.

They had the freedom to interpret the form of the bird as they pleased or thought relevant. They also explored ways to give shape and form to their idea and make it a part of the collective installation.

BAMBOO WIND CHIME

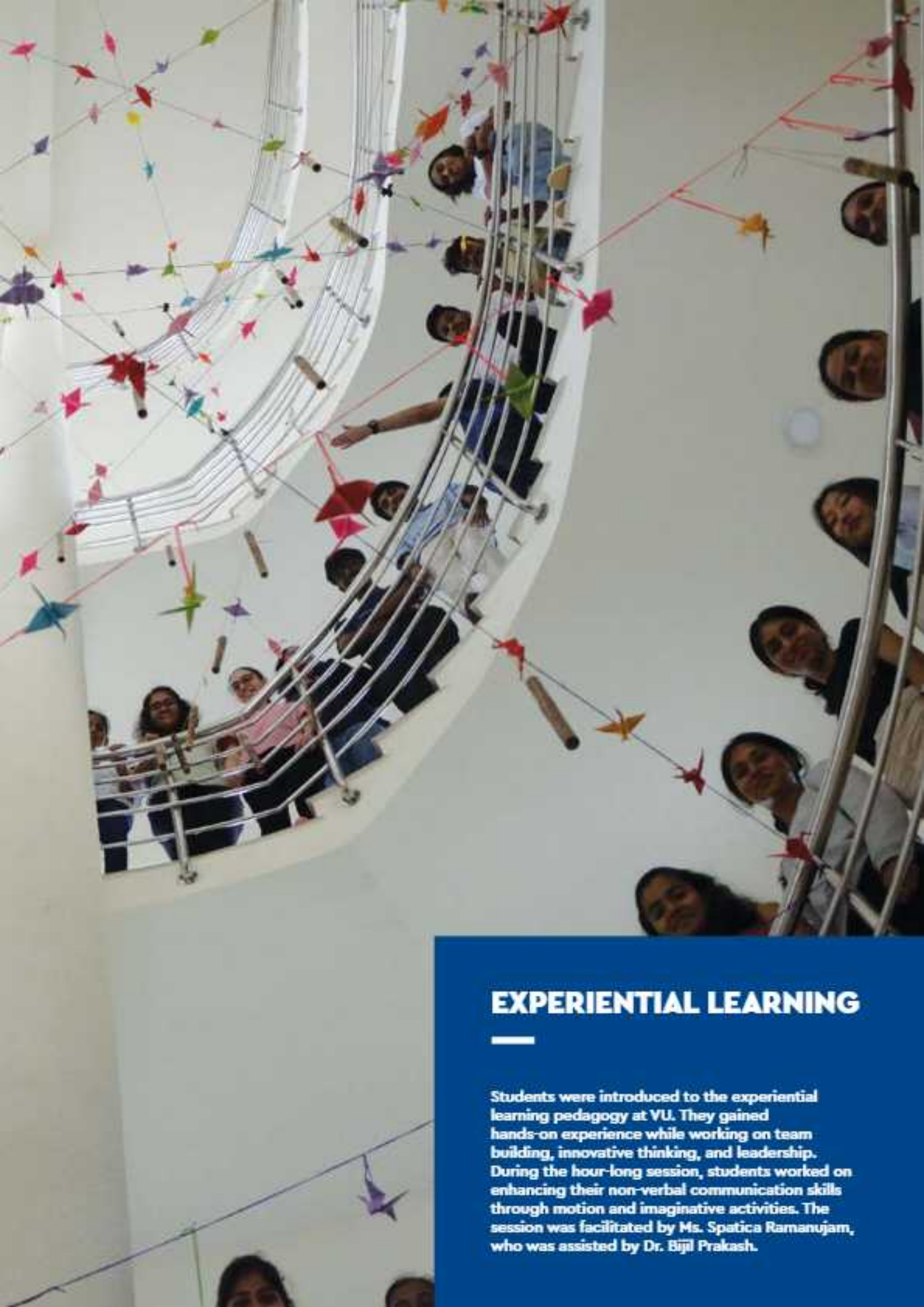
'Bamboo Wind Chime' was an activity in which students were asked to express their emotions using a black marker on a piece of bamboo, based on the 'zentangle' patterns provided in the orientation booklet. Every student had a different approach to this and they explored and expressed their creativity vividly.



MERGING AND INSTALLATION

'Merging and Installation' was a student-driven activity, wherein the enthusiastic members of the 'VU Event Management Club' collaborated with the new batch of CET students to hang their beautiful artworks such that they fit into the larger installation in the lobby area. Thus, they claimed this space and left a mark at the onset of their four-year journey.





EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students were introduced to the experiential learning pedagogy at VU. They gained hands-on experience while working on team building, innovative thinking, and leadership. During the hour-long session, students worked on enhancing their non-verbal communication skills through motion and imaginative activities. The session was facilitated by Ms. Spatica Ramanujam, who was assisted by Dr. Bijil Prakash.

DIVERSE STUDENT COMMUNITY

Number of Students **74**

PROGRAM-WISE DISTRIBUTION

24% (18)



B.M.S. (Hons.)

11% (08)



B.A. (Hons.)

03% (02)



B.Des.

62% (46)



B.Tech. (Hons.)

QUALIFYING EXAMINATION SCORE

ON AVERAGE

86%

75%

72%

75%

GENDER RATIO



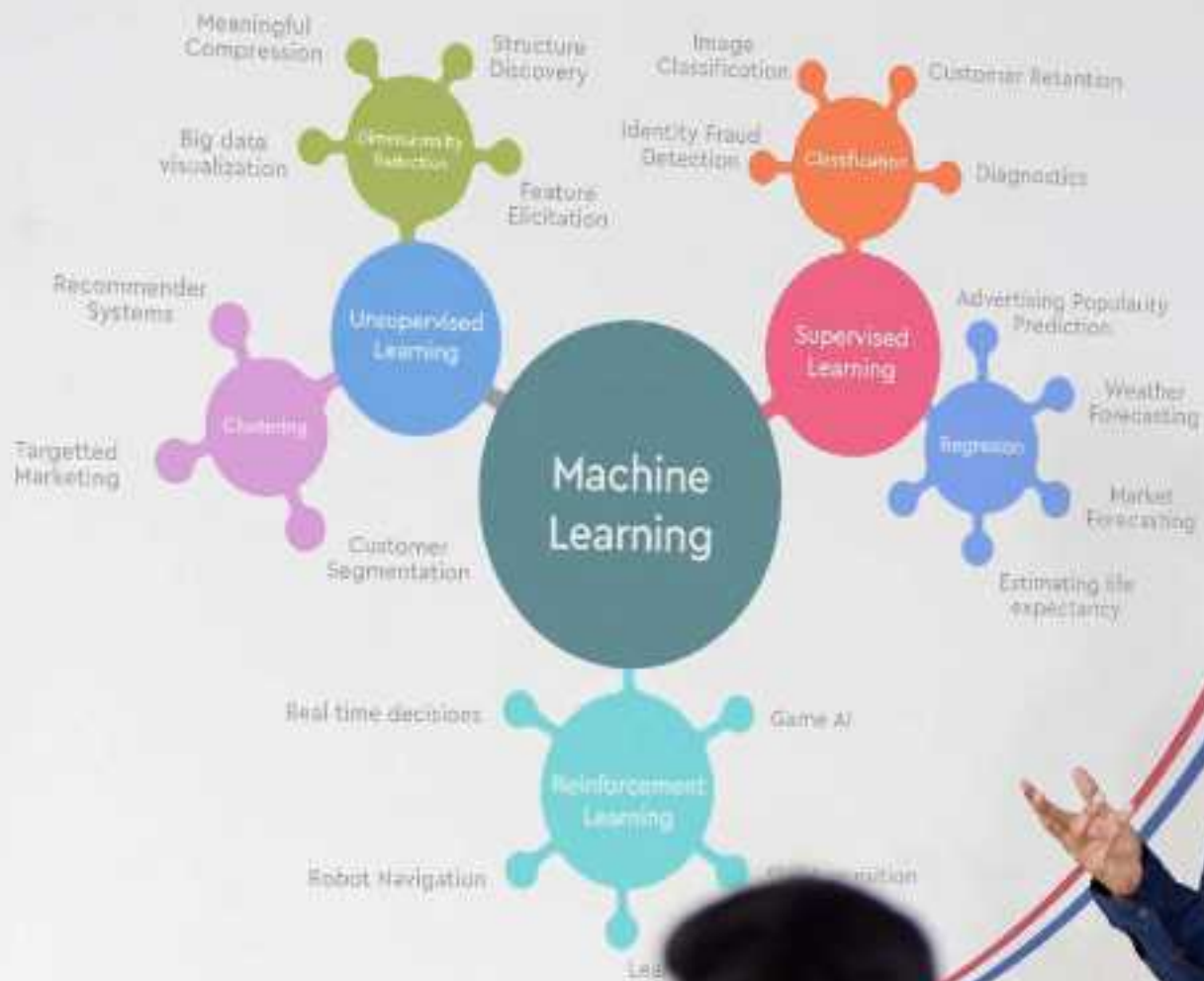
53%

(39)



47%

(35)



STATE-WISE STUDENT PERCENTAGE

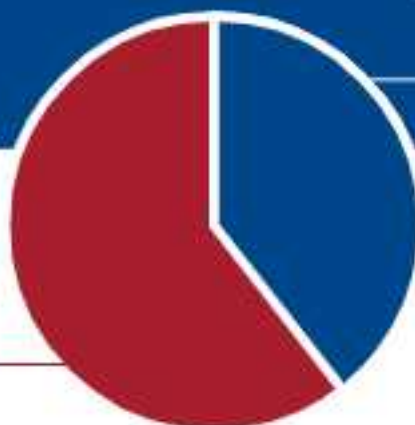
STATES

- Karnataka
- Uttar Pradesh
- Maharashtra
- Andhra Pradesh
- Bihar
- Kerala
- Nagaland
- Telangana
- West Bengal



CET
42%
(31)

UNIVERSITY
58%
(43)



ADMISSION QUOTA

ON AVERAGE



2

FACULTY CAPACITY BUILDING

CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Prof. Neeta Verma, Associate Professor, and Prof. Robert P. Sedlack, Junior Professor in Visual Communication Design, University of Notre Dame, Indiana, U.S.A., conducted a two-day Curriculum Development Workshop for our faculty at the Founding Campus of Vidyashilp University on 11th and 12th July, 2022. The workshop addressed the processes, discourses, and best practices to enable the presentation of a course to students such that it introduces the complexities of the contemporary world and elevates student capabilities.

DAY 01

On Day 1, Prof. Verma began by detailing her fascinating life journey that saw her traversing the expanse of India and America as a design practitioner and academic. She spoke about the challenges, thrills, and pitfalls of weaving design studies into a liberal arts and humanities context, and the varying demands placed on academicians in settings as diverse as contemporary India and America. Prof. Verma presented a visual account of her research on violence and homelessness among urban youth in the U.S. She detailed her

research methodology and highlighted the fact that one of the major contributors to the mental state of youth leading to violence was the lack of structure in broken families (mostly single mothers). She then explained the design solutions offered to single mothers to help them overcome the death of their child through grief-making quilts, which depicted the life of the deceased youth. She also discussed her study on the lives of indigenous communities in the U.S. and other research projects undertaken by her.





She used the rest of the day to discuss two courses in detail that are offered to students, namely, Visualization of Data and Social Design. She shared the detailed syllabus and course plans, and elaborated on the pedagogy adopted to teach the aforementioned courses. Prof. Verma provided an in-depth demonstration of the manner in which data can be visually presented using several examples from history, economics, politics, and society, which were drawn from the past as well as the current time period. She highlighted the need to provide relevant examples to arouse the interest and creativity of students.

She also presented examples of the assignments and projects given to her students and a sample of their submissions to help us comprehend her

point about connecting societal issues and design solutions. Prof. Verma touched upon some of the key matters facing design education today and its role in addressing larger social concerns. Some of her workshop highlights included the ethics of working with marginalized communities, systems thinking, and design processes and pedagogies to build student-centered collaborative learning.



**Prof. Neeta Verma, Associate Professor,
University of Notre Dame, U.S.A.**

DAY 02

On the second day of the faculty workshop, Prof. Verma discussed the processes and ways of constructing strong assessment methods to evaluate student work and rubrics that align with specific outcomes for the courses mentioned earlier. She put forth a process of understanding rubrics and assessments holistically from a bottom-up rather than a top-down format, where the assessment rubrics illuminate, complement, and elevate the learning arc of a student's journey through a course. For instance, she indicated that the jury system, class participation, teamwork and collaboration, research capability, ingenuity and

creativity in assignments, and general preparedness and punctuality could be the parameters for assessing students. She brought out the fact that she interacts with students constantly during the time given to them to submit their assignments so that they are able to correct and improve themselves and thus present a better submission. She urged the faculty to shape their curriculum in ways that reflect and promote interdisciplinarity, transdisciplinarity, and plurality. She also mentioned that higher management should create opportunities for faculty to collaborate in interdisciplinary ways.



Additionally, Prof. Verma discussed modes of assessment and possible rubrics that align with broad course outcomes. She also offered her insights on the B.Des. curriculum, more so on our first-year offerings. She recommended including the history of design in the art and media course, and stressed on thoughtfully indigenizing the program to reflect and draw from the plurality of India and Indian design.

Among other things, she underscored exercises such as faculty retreats for a few days to brainstorm over collaborations and connections. She spoke of building collegiality and systems to strengthen student-teacher interactions.

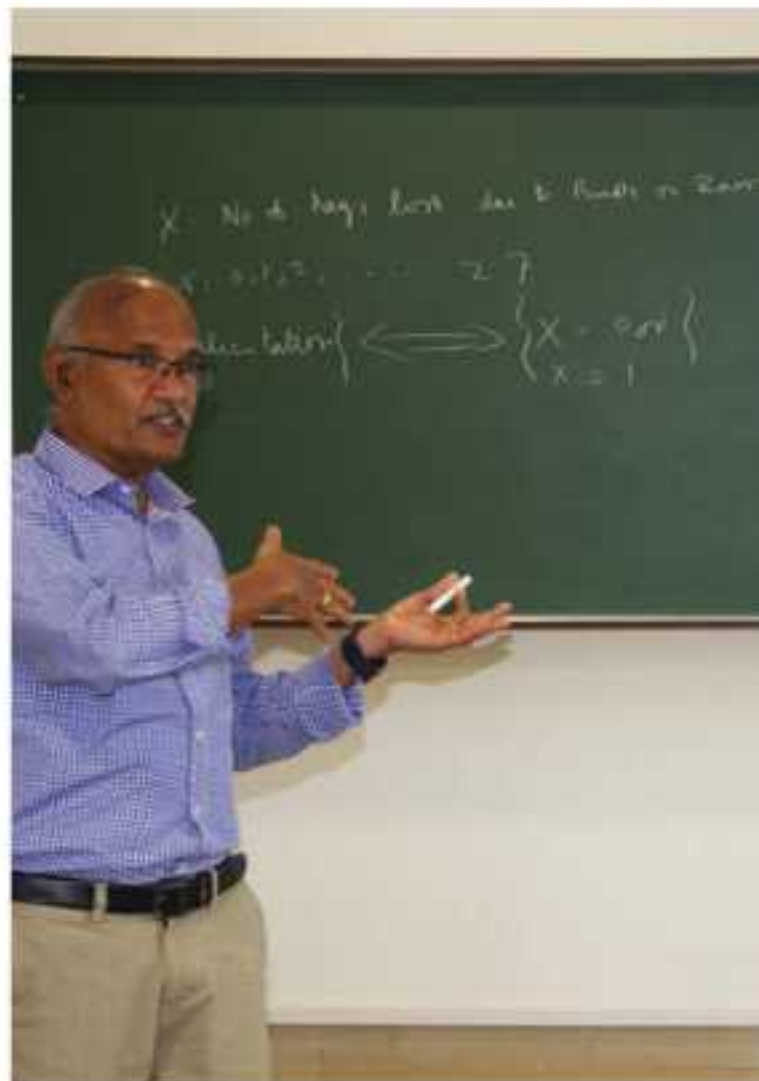


FACULTY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

INTEGRATIVE PEDAGOGY TO TEACH STATISTICS AND DATA SCIENCE TO UNDERGRADUATES

3 DAYS

A Faculty Development Program was held between July 27th and 29th, 2022, at VU on 'Integrative Pedagogy to Teach Statistics and Data Science to Undergraduates'. Prof. R. P. Suresh, Professor of Practice; Prof. Smitha Rao, Program Chair and Professor; and Dr. D. C. Kiran, Associate Professor, School of Computational and Data Sciences, were the resource persons. Dr. Bijil Prakash was the chief coordinator of the FDP.



DAY 01

SESSION 1 OVERVIEW

Both presentations and discussions during the Faculty Development Program focused on changing teaching practices in accordance with the end users' day-to-day experiences or real-life situations across multiple disciplines, including agriculture, medical sciences, and social studies. As a result, a range of benefits could be realized, such as:

The minimized likelihood of scaring students away with a mellow introduction

Encouraging students to be creative and learn responsibly

Enhancing the accessibility to data science

During the Faculty Development Program discussion, a particularly insightful segment involved participants sharing and exploring their introductory session experiences. Another interesting focal point was the discussion on the enhancement of teaching practices.

SESSION 2 CASE STUDY APPROACH AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

The session got underway with a discussion on the importance of a case study-based approach by stating that, "A good case places the student in the position of a real-world manager and encourages them to make decisions and prepare a plan of action. It is also expected that students study cases, arrive at their conclusions about what should be done, discuss their findings, and define solutions." A checklist for successful case-based learning and teaching in statistics and management courses was discussed in detail.

SESSION 3 DESCRIPTIVE STATISTICS – CASE STUDY APPROACH TO DISCUSS THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THE MEASURES OF CENTRAL TENDENCY AND DISPERSION

A case study on a hypothetical DOSWKUSI was given to participants for interaction. There were progressive discussions on the importance of understanding the problem, analyzing the availability of data, teaching concepts related to the information, etc.

SESSION 4 INTRODUCING PROBABILITY AND DISTRIBUTIONS USING THE CASE STUDY APPROACH

The importance of integrative pedagogy with scenarios is that it accommodates a variety of learning styles, theories, and bits of intelligence to provide a deeper understanding of the content.



Prof. R. P. Suresh, Professor of Practice

DAY 02

SESSION 1 A CASE STUDY ON EXPLORATORY DATA ANALYSIS

A discussion on three data theories provided a deeper understanding of exploratory data analysis through real-life scenarios:

Initial Data Analysis

Exploratory Data Analysis

Confirmatory Data Analysis

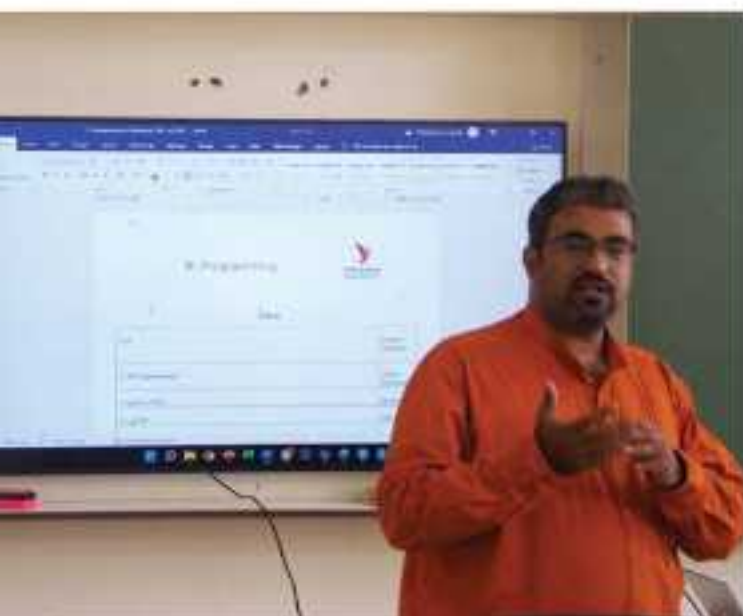
SESSION 2 TEACHING TESTS OF HYPOTHESIS

A case study approach was employed to effectively teach concepts like Poisson distribution, tests of hypothesis, normal distribution, induction, reduction, type I & error, level of significance, etc. Discussions and interactions focused on learning methods as well.

SESSION 3 TEACHING REGRESSION AND TIME SERIES ANALYSIS

Through case studies from multiple domains like sports, human resource data, etc., concepts such as the simple linear regression model, multiple linear regression model, and logistic regression model were discussed along with their applications.





Dr. D. C. Kiran, Associate Professor, School of Computational and Data Sciences

DAY 03

SESSION 1 **BEST APPROACH TO TEACH PROGRAMMING**

The focus of the session was on the incorporation of programming languages in the pedagogy of statistics and data science courses.

SESSIONS 2 AND 3 **CLASSIFICATION TECHNIQUES AND MACHINE LEARNING METHODOLOGY**

Concepts such as logistic regression models, forecasting models, and decision tree models were discussed through case studies from multiple domains. It was interesting to listen to participants as they shared and discussed their experiences in handling sessions using case studies and real-life scenarios.

TEACHER CAPACITY BUILDING CERTIFICATE COURSE AT VSA

COURSE LEADER
MS. SPATICA RAMANUJAM

November 18-19, 2022



Vidyashilp University delivered its first Teacher Capacity Building Certificate Course on November 18th and 19th at the Vidyashilp Academy. Ms. Spatica Ramanujam from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies at VU was the facilitator for the two-day course. There were 20 educators across grades who participated. The course was introduced to enable teachers to develop competencies in communication skills and integrate performing arts into the curriculum for effective classroom engagement.

The following topics were discussed creatively over two days:



Understanding the 3-step process

Structure to enhance the flow
of a presentation/lesson:
Beginning (Present Yourself),
Middle (Audience Engagement),
End (Leave them Transformed)



Non-Verbal Communication Skills

Body Language – posture, head
motion, eye contact, facial
expression



Lesson Plan Integration

Storytelling and theatre-based
activities
How to choose the right story/
activity?
Introduction of a new topic
through stories
Interactive storytelling
Introducing a theatre activity
Introducing concepts through
experiential learning



Verbal Communication Skills

Voice Clarity, Language,
Enunciation, Tone

Ms. Spatica had one-on-one brainstorming sessions with each educator on their lesson plans for initiating experiential learning as an introductory activity in the classroom. A second and third phase of the course has been planned where the facilitator will attend a class to review the implementation of these lesson plans.

The workshop received good feedback. Some comments are listed below:

"The art of using storytelling as a medium to introduce our chapters was very interesting. To use this method in higher classes is what I discovered in this session."



"Both the sessions were interesting and an eye opener in embodied learning. More sessions as a continuation of this will help to delve deep into the learning process and thus help for better use in the classroom."



OUTCOME-BASED EDUCATION: THE WHY AND HOW

COURSE LEADER
PROF. RADHIKA LOBO

JUNE 3, 2022



Outcome-based Education (OBE) was popularized by Psychologist William Spady. The Washington Accord, initiated in 1989, articulated the attributes that engineering graduates must possess and laid the foundation for using OBE. India became a signatory to it in 2017. Subsequently, in 2018, a National Conference for Vice Chancellors and Directors on Research & Innovation was hosted by the UGC. Therein UGC mandated the Learning Outcome Based Curriculum Framework (LOCF) in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

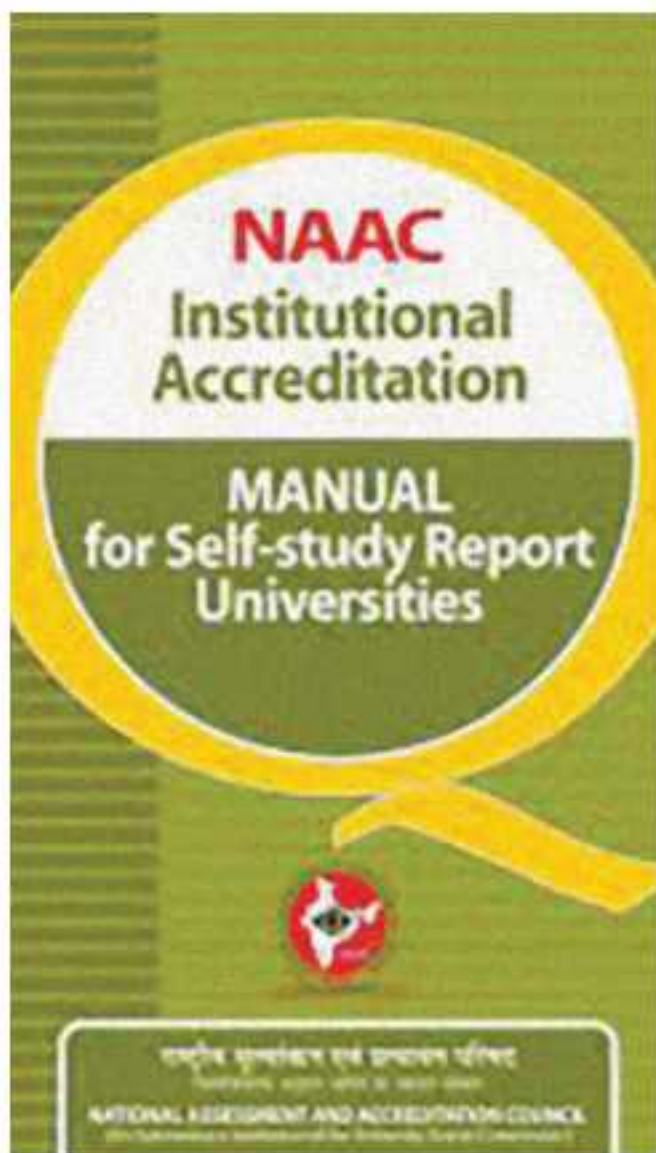
Prof. Radhika Lobo, Program Chair and Professor of Economics, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, held a half-day workshop for the faculty on June 3, 2022, to introduce the concept of OBE and its application in the course curriculum. She explained that the primary objective of adopting an OBE is to nurture an observable and demonstrable trait in the graduating student's reflected knowledge, understanding, skills, attitudes, and values. She discussed what OBE stood for and the process of OBE through empirical examples of the course outcomes from course plans made by the faculty.

The session ended with a commitment to revisit the Mission and Vision Statements of the University and desirable attributes of a VU graduate, to align the program outcomes with these.

NAAC PROCESS: AN OVERVIEW

COURSE LEADER
PROF. RADHIKA LOBO

JUNE 3, 2022



National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), headquartered in Bengaluru, was established in 1994 as an autonomous institution of the University Grants Commission (UGC). The mandate of NAAC as reflected in its vision statement - is making quality assurance an integral part of the functioning of Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).

Vidyashilp University will undergo the accreditation process for about six years, but the documentation process and other preparations need to start from day one of its constitution. Thus, to provide an overview of this process to the faculty, Prof. Radhika Lobo conducted an information session on June 3, 2022, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. She started with the objectives of setting up NAAC, its core values, and the seven criteria under which NAAC assesses and accredits universities. She also explained the weightage assigned to each criterion and sub-criteria.

Prof. Lobo indicated the efforts that the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of VU and the faculty will need, to ensure that the assessment and accreditation process, when applied for, is facilitated smoothly.

DEVELOPING CREATIVE CLASSROOM PRACTICES

MS. APARNA VINOD

NOVEMBER 26, 2022



The 'Developing Creative Classroom Practices' workshop conducted by Ms. Aparna Vinod, Associate Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, presented collaborative and innovative learning methodologies to the faculty members. This workshop was the first in a series of events organized by the Centre of Learning Science and Technologies, Vidyashilp University. The Centre of Learning Science and Technologies aims to establish a culture of innovative pedagogy and learning frameworks that promote interwoven and experiential learning.

The overarching thematic guiding this workshop was to encourage faculty to reinforce the unique 'Learning to Learn' approach offered to all Semester II students of the University. By adopting a twofold system that engages both the learner and faculty, a university-wide ecosystem of experiential learning is envisioned. The student-facing experience aims to create self-directed and engaged learners. In the faculty-facing workshop, participants learn how to use current and creative pedagogies across domains. The Center also developed a framework of classroom practices and methodologies that caters to the unique curricular experience of the University. A toolkit comprising worksheets, tools, and methodologies was shared with the participants.

Ms. Aparna Vinod introduced the faculty

to the conceptual framework of Kolb's experiential cycle and its 4 learning quadrants. The participants were also presented with information on how the Classroom Taxonomies and Positions Framework (CTPF) was developed through multiple learning theories. The CTPF toolkit, shared with all participants, proposes experiential tools and techniques that can be used in various learning environments. The toolkit is designed to be a ready reckoner for faculty members.

The workshop introduced participants to three lines of inquiry being pursued in the 'Learning to Learn' course - Learning as Engaging, Learning as Collaborating, and Learning as Organizing. Each of these areas was unpacked using visual pedagogic tools such as Visual Galleries, Think Pair Share, Semantic Mapping, etc.

The half-day workshop engaged participants in a series of dialogic and experiential pedagogy using conversational and action-based explorations. Faculty worked in teams outside their domains to generate rich dialogue and experience sharing. A follow-up session on the faculty's experience using these methods in their classrooms was also scheduled.



Faculty Feedback

Ms. Spatica Ramanujam

Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies

As an embodied learning practitioner and teacher, the workshop enabled me to specifically think about how experiential learning could be documented. The activity of working on concept maps helped me evolve a way to map this learning.

Prof. Radhika Lobo

Program Chair and Professor of Economics, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies

Congratulations on such a wonderful session. The session helped me understand the theoretical background for some of the teaching-learning methods adopted worldwide; the formal nomenclature used for these as well as the context for using a specific method. The cherry on the cake was your tacit demonstration of these while conducting the session! I am definitely going to use some of these techniques in my class.

Prof. Umesh Mahtani

Program Chair and Professor, School of Business Studies

The workshop was an eye-opener and provided several insights into how learning takes place. The format of the sessions was very engaging and the ideas on learning were highlighted through the various activities conducted. This workshop would be very useful for faculty from other educational institutes.

Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan

Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies

I found that the workshop, the way you had designed it, gave me the space to reflect on the methods you selected, some of which I have also used in my classroom. For example, I found it useful to think about Think Pair Share, Video Response, and Debate, but reflecting on them within the framework of learning methodologies was particularly helpful. I also got some new ideas to use in the classroom – the gallery walk, but as a reading exercise in my course next semester. Moreover, I enjoyed engaging with the activities that you had planned for us – working in pairs and generating concept maps. I found your approach very conversational and enjoyed engaging with the toolkit you proposed too.

Dr. Kiran D.C.

Associate Professor, School of Computational and Data Sciences

The workshop on 'Learning to Learn' was an experience in itself. The learning methodologies discussed were easy, enjoyable, and deeply powerful. I got an opportunity to understand how concept-building techniques can stimulate active learning in learners. I felt I was gaining a technique that could be adopted to teach the Computational Thinking class.

CREATIVE PEDAGOGIES AND CLASSROOM PRACTICES

MS. APARNA VINOD

JANUARY 28, 2023



Vidyashilp University organized its 2nd 'EdConnect' Event on January 28, 2023, in Bengaluru. The workshop titled 'Creative Pedagogies and Classroom Practices' was specially designed for educators from across the country – such as Bengaluru, Dindigul, Coimbatore, Cochin, Hyderabad, Chennai, Palakkad, Patna, and Goa.

In his welcome note, Vice Chancellor Prof. Vijayan Immanuel said, "All that I am today is due to the large contribution of my teachers, right from kindergarten all the way to college. What draws us together is our common passion and purpose, and at the center of the common passion and purpose is the student. We love the student and we are committed to ensure that the student has a great life ahead as they pass through our hallways."

The EdConnect workshop was led by learning and pedagogy expert Ms. Aparna Vinod, Associate Professor, and Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Program Chair and Professor of Design. They presented the Classroom Taxonomies and Positions Framework (CTPF), drawing upon the Experiential Learning Theory.

Educators were introduced to the three lines of inquiry that unlock several visual pedagogic tools:

LEARNING AS *Collaborating*
Think, Pair and Share

LEARNING AS *Engaging*
Annotation or Insert

LEARNING AS *Organizing*
Concept Mapping

The focus of the workshop was to help teachers develop innovative and creative classroom practices - which is becoming unavoidable as students rely on the internet as their main source of information on any topic.

Ms. Aparna Vinod introduced the 'Learning to Learn' course offered to all students at VU, as well as its key deliverables. She followed this up with an introduction to the CTPF (Classroom Taxonomy and Positions Framework), which evolved from David Kolb's Experiential Learning model and also maps the (revised) Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning.



Group photo of all participants

The participants were shown the CTPF 'toolkit' of creative pedagogies for various types of content. They were introduced to three of these pedagogical tools: Think-Pair-Share, Annotate & Insert, and Concept Mapping, in the form of hands-on exercises. This led to several 'A-ha!' moments for many of the participants.

The activity worksheets proved highly popular



Educators participated with immense energy and enthusiasm



WORKSHOPS ATTENDED BY FACULTY

INTRODUCING CONSTRUCTIONIST PEDAGOGIES IN UNIVERSITY LEARNING FOR INCLUSION AND TRANSFORMATION

MS. APARNA VINOD

JUNE 8 – 10, 2023



Ms. Aparna Vinod from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies presented 'Communing - Towards a Pedagogy of Hope and Transformation' at the International Conference held at St. Joseph's University, Bangalore from June 8th to 10th, 2023. Her panel and installation drew from her course 'Learning to Learn', which she designed and delivered to the 1st year students at Vidyashilp University. The panel presented a retrospective teacher journey map, exemplars of student work, and an interview video of the students. The panel was followed by a presentation and discussion with Prof. Cynthia Nirmala Raja of St. Joseph's University, Bangalore. In the installation and panel titled – 'Deliberating Constructionism in Language Learning', Ms. Aparna used a student-led project titled 'Building Pronunciation and Vocabulary Skills to Fluently Communicate in the English Language' to deliberate on the use of constructionist and active pedagogies in language learning.



**The Panel and Installation by Ms. Aparna
at the International Conference,
'Communing – Towards a Pedagogy of
Hope and Transformation'**



QUALITATIVE RESEARCH METHODS FOR HEALTH SCIENCE

DR. SETU HAVANUR

JUNE 15 – 17, 2023



Dr. Setu Havanur, Assistant Professor of Psychology, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, attended a 3-day workshop on Qualitative Research Methods for Health Sciences conducted by the Psychiatric Social Work department of the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) from June 15th to 17th, 2023.



The workshop was based on exercises and demonstrations that specifically revolved around the approach of qualitative research addressing such concerns as developing a research protocol, sampling considerations, data collection, and dissemination. Participants ranged from Ph.D. scholars to professionals with decades of teaching and practice experience. The resource persons included psychiatrists, mental health practitioners, and social scientists who passionately use qualitative methods.

In addition to the exposure to scholarly work on qualitative methods and their scientific rigor, the workshop enabled the participants to form a network of researchers who can act as peers and mentors when conducting qualitative studies.

THE NEW AGE LEARNER: TEACHING BY UNDERSTANDING

FACILITATOR
PROF. LOLITA DUTTA

July 21-22, 2023



The workshop was organized by the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies on July 21 and 22, 2023, and facilitated by Prof. Lolita Dutta, a member of the Vidyashilp University's Academic Council. Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Program Chair for Design Studies at VU, coordinated the session.

The workshop aimed to efficiently engage alternate means of curriculum design, keeping in mind the mutable persona of students in our classrooms. Prof. Dutta addressed pressing issues that all educators have encountered in the classroom in recent times, especially post-COVID. She also gave the faculty members the freedom to freely deliberate upon different pedagogical approaches and the creation of a stimulating academic environment where learning is more fun and less of a chore for students. Prof. Dutta's workshop also compelled faculty members to ask the question, "Who am I as an educator?", which further led to how this awareness can help educators update pedagogies to be more attuned to the specific needs of the new-age learner.



DAY 01

The focus was on the educator and understanding how personal experiences have shaped educators into what they are today. The workshop began with an uncharacteristic introduction by Prof. Dutta narrating her journey as an educator, reminiscing about her childhood and the significant people and moments that shaped her into the academic she is today. The rest of the faculty members followed suit and similarly introduced themselves. This exercise encouraged reflection through which educators were reminded that their lives were shaped by numerous experiences, not just the ones that took place in classrooms.

Later, Prof. Dutta asked faculty members to sit in groups and try to formulate a pedagogical statement from the common themes that emerged from the individual stories of all faculty members. This was geared to elicit a better understanding of the new-age learner. The innovative exercise allowed the groups to first chalk out the basic characteristics of the new-age learner and then formulate a pedagogy statement that they felt would address their varied learning needs. It was a recognition of the fact that knowledge acquisition can be perceived differently by different learners. It also highlighted the need to create a learning space that embraced diverse teaching and learning methodologies.

DAY 02

Prof. Dutta started the session by reminiscing about "troubled learners" and her experience with them. Faculty members also recounted similar experiences and how they tackled these delicate situations. From here, the conversation segued into the categorization of classroom learners and the major characteristics of each type. Throughout the session, Prof. Dutta constantly reminded the faculty members that the new-age classroom is a diversified one where pedagogies should be agile enough to adopt and adapt according to the specific needs of the learner. Prof. Dutta also unpacked the challenges that new-age learners face in the classroom. Some of these challenges had to do with the logistics of being in a diverse classroom where students from different geographical, economic, and social backgrounds learn in the same space. Educators have to be aware of these challenges and address them through their innovative and inclusive pedagogies.

The two-day workshop addressed the unique ways in which personal pedagogies can be reconfigured to address the needs of new-age learners in the classroom. Some questions that emerged and were discussed in Prof. Dutta's workshop were:

What are the key changes/differences between generations of undergraduate students from pre and post-COVID times?

How do their attributes in terms of attention span, mental well-being, social media/screen addiction, online research, knowledge-seeking, etc. impact course design, classroom practices, and assessment strategies?

How might we innovate and diversify our pedagogical repertoire and assessment strategies to effectively capture real learning and knowledge without diluting rigor and quality?

A series of sessions titled 'Luminaries' were conducted by experts for various groups of students and other audiences.





3

LUMINARIES

BEING THE BEST 'ME'

MS. SUDHA SASTRI

OCTOBER 12, 2022



An interactive session titled - Being the Best 'Me' - was held on October 12, 2022, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the main lobby of VU's Founding Campus. The session was conducted by Ms. Sudha Sastri, an IIM-C alumnus, coach-mentor, and organizational culture evangelist. The event was organized by the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies.

Ms. Sudha engaged the students and staff by using games and role play to identify people's strengths. She implored the audience to focus on amplifying their strengths rather than working on their weaknesses. Later, the audience was divided into smaller groups and asked to enact a machine collectively. Students and faculty came up with very innovative ideas. Ms. Sudha emphasized that innovative solutions can only be found when we open our minds. She provided several examples of successful people who had failed initially.

The three key aspects to evolve into the Best 'Me' are to enhance our strengths, open up our minds, and embrace failure.

LECTURE DEMONSTRATION ON MANIPURI DANCE – SPIC MACAY

DR. MANJU ELANGBAM

NOVEMBER 3, 2022



A lecture demonstration about Manipuri dance was held on November 3, 2022, at Vidyashilp University Seminar Hall, between 2 p.m. and 3.30 p.m. The event was organized by Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, in collaboration with Dr. Manju Elangbam and the team from Spic Macay Karnataka, for the students and faculty members of VU. This was Vidyashilp University's first collaboration with SPIC MACAY, a non-profit, non-political, volunteer-led people's movement to increase awareness about Indian values and cultural heritage in students.

Dr. Manju Elangbam is the grandson of the renowned late Guru Elangbam Anganghal Singh, a doyen of Sankirtana and an expert of Cholo. He holds a Bachelor's, Master's, and Ph.D. degree in Manipuri Dance from the Visva-Bharati University in Santiniketan. The Events Management Club of VU actively made the required arrangements for the event.



THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION: A PRODUCT OF UNTOLD STRUGGLE

PROF. ARVIND NARRAIN

JANUARY 26, 2023



A session on 'The Indian Constitution: A Product of Untold Struggle' was conducted on Republic Day by Prof. Arvind Narrain, Human Rights Lawyer, Author and Educator. The VU community assembled in the Main Lobby of VU's founding campus and immersed themselves in a captivating talk, which focused on the history of our great country.

Prof. Arvind set the context by journeying back to the time when a diverse constitutional

assembly debated and framed the constitution of India. He highlighted Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's contribution as well as Mahatma Gandhi's philosophy concerning individual rights and collective responsibility.

Students, faculty members, and staff were spellbound as Prof. Arvind deciphered the true meaning of the Preamble to our Constitution, which begins with "We the People..."

THE HUMANOID ROBOT - SOPHIA'S VISIT TO VU

MR. RAVI MACHANI

FEBRUARY 25, 2023



Humanoids, robots with human-like characteristics, can be used in a variety of applications such as manufacturing, healthcare, entertainment, and education.

These robots are equipped with advanced sensors, Artificial Intelligence (AI), and other cutting-edge technologies that allow them to move and interact with the world in ways that were once thought impossible.

Sophia is one such humanoid robot that has captured the imagination of the public and the scientific community alike due to her advanced Artificial Intelligence and remarkable human-like characteristics.

Developed by Hanson Robotics, a Hong Kong-based engineering and Robotics company, Sophia is equipped with a range of cutting-edge technologies, including

cameras, sensors, and Machine Learning (ML) algorithms that enable her to recognize faces, hold natural conversations, and learn from her interactions with humans.

Her ability to express emotions through subtle facial expressions and tone of voice is particularly impressive. Sophia's advanced capabilities are the result of her developers' pioneering work in the field of Robotics and Artificial Intelligence.



On February 25, 2023, the world-famous humanoid, Sophia, visited the Vidyashilp University campus. The event began with a presentation by Mr. Ravi Machani, Director at Machani Robotics, who explained the technology behind Sophia's Artificial Intelligence and demonstrated some of her unique features.

The visit also opened conversations around the nature of intersectional knowledge that will be necessary for jobs in the future. Mr. Ravi Machani elaborated on how domains such as Data Science, Design, and Neuroscience need to come together to create new technologies for the future. This discussion was an affirmation of the VU curriculum that focuses on interwoven learning to build transdisciplinary capabilities in our learners.

After the presentation, students and faculty gathered around Sophia and eagerly asked her questions about her experiences and capabilities. Sophia's ability to hold natural conversations and express emotions in response to the questions impressed the students.

Many students took the opportunity to click photos with Sophia, and some even posed for selfies. The event was a huge success, generating immense excitement on campus. Students left with a newfound appreciation of the possibilities of Artificial Intelligence and Robotics, and its potential impact across various industries.



It was a unique and memorable experience for all involved and a valuable learning opportunity for students interested in Robotics and Artificial Intelligence.

HUMAN PAPILLOMAVIRUS (HPV) AND CERVICAL CANCER

DR. PUNYASHREE R. M.

MARCH 11, 2023



On Saturday, March 11, 2023, the VU campus hosted a special talk by Dr. Punyashree R. M., Associate Consultant at Cytecure Hospital, Bengaluru. Dr. Punyashree specializes in Gynecological Oncology and Gynecology. She did her MBBS at Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute and her MS in OBG at Mysore Medical College and Research Institute.

She addressed the student community on the Human Papillomavirus (HPV) and Cervical Cancer, and the need to vaccinate ourselves against it. What startled the audience was learning that the vaccine can prevent the worst types of cervical cancer if given to girls before puberty. It can also prevent vaginal and vulvar cancer, as well as genital warts, anal cancers, and mouth, throat, head, and neck cancers in women and men.

Dr. Punyashree's talk, a part of the lecture series organized for the students, was very informative and got everyone to discuss the issue. She also inspired one of our students to undertake an infographic design project on HPV vaccination.

VU would like to thank Cytecure and Mr. Amit Sharma, CTO of Cytecure, in particular for their support and facilitation to make this possible. The session was coordinated by Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Program Chair and Professor of Design; and Prof. Radhika Lobo, Program Chair and Professor of Economics.



INDIA IN THE INDO-PACIFIC REGION

DR. ROGER CHI-FENG LIU

APRIL 26, 2023



Dr. Roger Chi-feng Liu, Associate Professor of International Politics with the Department of Social Sciences, FLAME University, delivered a special lecture on 'India in the Indo-Pacific' on April 26, 2023, from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. This was part of the lecture series conducted for the students at VU.

Dr. Liu earned his Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of South Carolina and his research interests include political geography, geopolitics/geo-economics, interstate/intrastate conflicts, geographic/quantitative IR methodology, India's foreign policy, and China-India relations.

Dr. Liu issued a brief background about the countries in the Indo-Pacific area and the political scenario therein. He brought out the need for building international relations through the recently formed QUAD, comprising the USA, Australia, Japan, and India. He explained the important role that India would play therein.

Student groups and other audiences were enriched by a series of sessions titled 'Perspectives'.





4

PERSPECTIVES

DESIGN THINKING FOR SMART LEARNING WEBINAR

MS. APARNA VINOD

SEPTEMBER 3, 2022



The 'Design Thinking for Smart Learning' workshop held on September 3rd, 2022, was conducted by Ms. Aparna Vinod from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies and organized by Mr. Shyam Kumar.

This workshop shifted the application of design from its distant position of product/image making to a more accessible and everyday thinking tool. Students applied the design thinking process to various stages of their learning habits for examinations. Through the workshop, participants learned how to apply empathy as a tool to find solutions.

Using interactive activities such as an Energy Meter, Engagement Meter, My +/- Learning Persona, and Crafting a Personal Slogan, participants reflected on their learning practices and experiences. **114 participants from top schools in the Middle East attended the session and reported positive feedback about their experience.**



Session Feedback

"I found this workshop really helpful. It is one of the most informative and enjoyable seminars I have attended. I learned extremely useful tips to improve my illustrations and presentations. Thanks to several interactive activities conducted by Ms. Aparna." - Aashika P.

"This session was like mental therapy." - Badar Unnisa

"I have attended many webinars, but this one was very fun!" - Kaniska Sharma

"This was a motivating session with some very serious life lessons." - Vansh Kanodia



DESIGN WORKSHOP AT GEAR INNOVATIVE SCHOOL

MS. APARNA VINOD

NOVEMBER 16, 2022



PROF. ARVIND LODAYA



Three VU emissaries braved the worst of Bengaluru's morning traffic on the notorious Outer Ring Road to check in at Gear Innovative School in Bellandur on the morning of November 16th, 2022. Their mission was to engage Grade 11 and 12 students of this progressive and highly-respected school on "Designing Data". The moving force behind this event, Ms. Vindya Kushal, coordinated with the school's staff for the session.

Assembling in the school's amphitheater, Prof. Arvind Lodaya and Ms. Aparna Vinod called out ten questions to the 19 students who turned up. For every affirmative answer, the students moved one step forward. On completion of the ten questions, the professors revealed that the distribution of students was nothing but a bar graph showing their individual "scores" on a 10-point scale of privilege.



The group then marched up to the classroom, where Ms. Aparna Vinod presented an introduction and brief historical overview of "data visualization", along with examples of "misleading" data visualizations achieved using a few clever tricks. The students were then asked to use these or any other "tricks" to deliberately misrepresent the "privilege data" that they had just gathered. Without batting an eyelid, the students got down to the task in earnest and ended up presenting their "misleading" visualizations to the group. They had enjoyed their first taste of "design pedagogy" and were keen for more!

HOW PSYCHOLOGY AND AI CAN ACCELERATE OUR JOURNEY TOWARD A HUMAN-CENTERED AI

PROF. SMITHA RAO

JUNE 8, 2022



DR. SETU HAVANUR



Prof. Smitha Rao, Program Chair and Professor, School of Computational and Data Sciences, and Dr. Setu Havanur, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, were the resource persons. The session was hosted by Ms. Shambhavi Bhat, Senior Manager - Admissions, on June 8, 2022. There were a total of 101 registrations and 50 attendees.

The following were the takeaways from the session:

Impactful insights on the 3 laws of robotics, AI, and the relationship between psychology and AI

Interesting future at the intersection of both domains

How psychology provides crucial inputs to building AI

DECISION SCIENCES – THE ART OF ARRIVING AT INTERDISCIPLINARY BUSINESS SOLUTIONS

PROF. VIJAYAN IMMANUEL

JUNE 10, 2022



Prof. Vijayan Immanuel and Ms. Bhaswati Ramanujam were the resource persons for the session hosted by Ms. Shambhavi Bhat on June 10, 2022. A total of 130 students registered and 85 students were in attendance.

The takeaways from the session were as follows:

CONFLUENCE OF DIGITAL BUSINESS AND DATA SCIENCE

PROF. UMESH MAHTANI

JANUARY 6, 2023



Prof. Umesh Mahtani, Program Chair and Professor, School of Business Studies, was the resource person for the session hosted by Ms. Shambhavi on January 6, 2023. There were 95 registrations and 88 attendees.

The following were the takeaways from the session:

Insights on digital business and reinvention of business models

How digital business merges with data analytics to enable strategic decision making

Using technology to price a product with a wide profit margin

Unravelling business models for digital businesses that use data extensively

Benefits and challenges of digital business

Setting the context for the new domain of Decision Sciences

Detailed explanation of the academic progression and industry immersion

Insight into how this program will set students apart

Mapping the career trajectory



THINK IT THROUGH, PASS IT ON: WEAVING STORIES

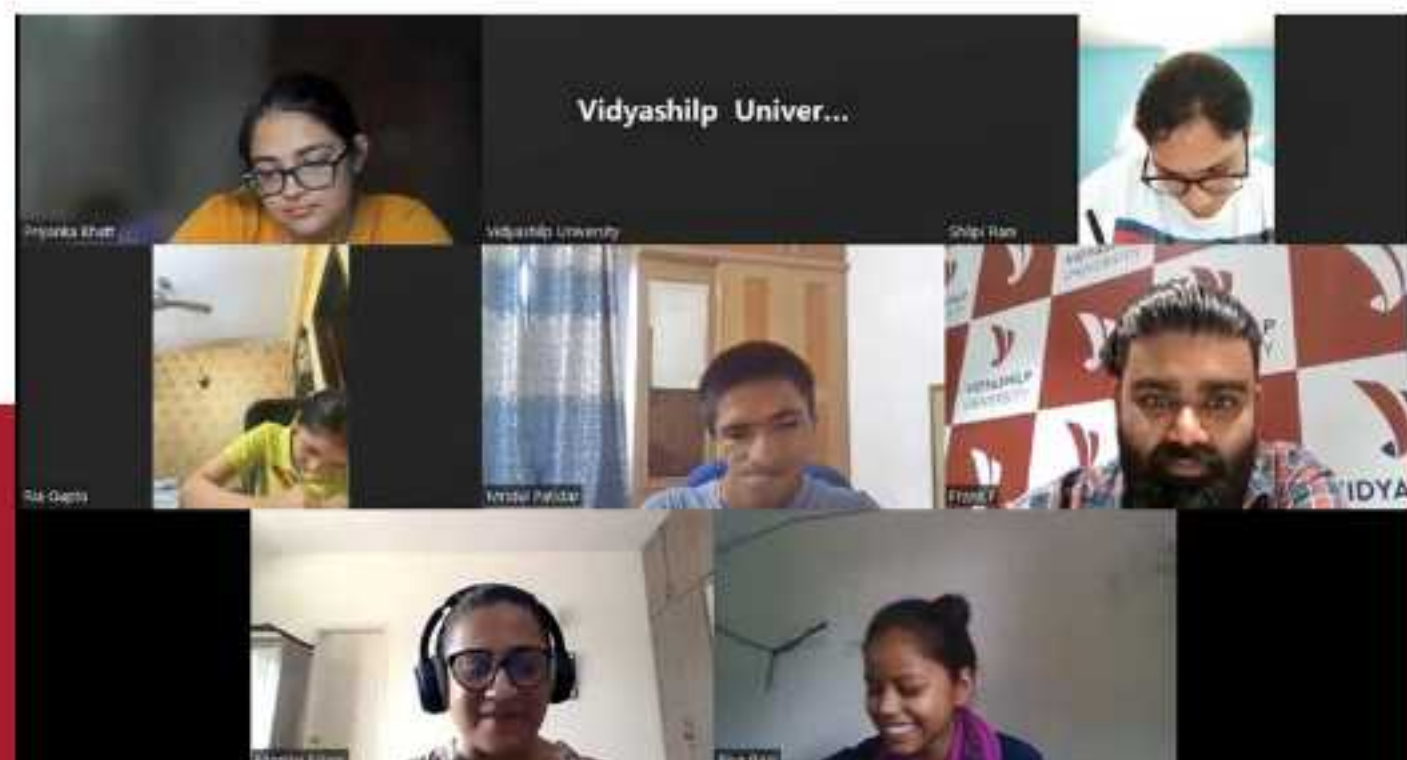
MS. MONICA BIJLANI

MAY 29, 2023



VU conducted participative introductory sessions for students who expressed their interest in joining the University. These sessions were meant to introduce these prospective students to the University by providing an opportunity to interact with one of the faculty members.

This particular session was conducted on May 29, 2023, by Ms. Monica Bijlani, who gave the students a glimpse of the interactive and engaging environment that VU offers to its learners through a discussion on telling stories and weaving narratives.







VSA THEATRE SESSION – 'TWO HEADS BETTER THAN ONE'

MS. SPATICA RAMANUJAM

JULY 27, 2022



A theatre workshop was conducted by Ms. Spatica Ramanujam for a batch of 25 Grade 12 students from VSA.

Students were encouraged to be aware of their leadership style, build team spirit, and create effective communication channels. Some of these themes were touched upon during the theatre-based experiential program. Students discovered their strengths and learned to recognize the strengths of their team members. They also understood the power of their voice, body, and imagination through a theatre-based learning approach.



EMERGING AREAS IN ECONOMICS AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

PROF. RADHIKA LOBO

OCTOBER 19, 2022



An interactive session by Prof. Radhika Lobo on 'Emerging Areas in Economics and Career Opportunities' was held for grade 11 and 12 students at NPS School HSR Layout, Bangalore, on October 19, 2022, from 1.30 p.m. to 2.30 p.m.

WHAT WAS DISCUSSED IN THIS SESSION?

The interdisciplinary approach to the domain of Economics has manifested in several new emerging areas such as Digital Economics (Economics and Data Sciences), Behavioral Economics (Economics and Psychology), Financial Economics (Economics and Financial Markets), etc. As a result of these interdisciplinary and emerging fields, a variety of careers have opened up in corporations, think tanks, educational institutions, health care, and financial services. Educators must adopt specific pedagogical methods to teach students new skills for these careers.

BRAIN AND BEHAVIOR

DR. SETU HAVANUR

NOVEMBER 3, 2022



An interactive session on 'Brain and Behavior' was conducted by Dr. Setu Havanur, Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies, on November 3, 2022, from 9:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. at the Legacy School, Bengaluru. Ms. Vindya Kushal supported her in organizing and planning the session, which was attended by 50 students from grades 11 and 12 along with a few teaching and support staff.

The session started with a 10-minute quiz, which students completed in groups of 5. Dr. Setu Havanur then delivered an interactive 30-minute session on 'Brain and Behavior' demonstrating how human behavior is influenced by different factors and how the brain plays a role in triggering different behaviors. She referred to recent research, as well as relevant news to illustrate the close relationship between the brain and behavior. Students' answers to the quiz and their relation to the session were discussed during the last segment of the workshop.

AN ENTREPRENEURIAL AND BUSINESS QUIZ

STUDENT-RUN INITIATIVE

MAY 15, 2023

The 'Computational Thinking for School Educators' workshop was conducted on August 10th, 2022.

The quiz was a student-run initiative for students from Grades 9 to 11. Prof. Radhika was invited as a guest for the event to interact with the students and distribute prizes, where Vidyashilp University was a key sponsor. The students and educators also had the chance to interact with Prof. Radhika and Ms. Vindya. Vidyashilp University supports such academic and non-academic initiatives in schools across Bengaluru.



COMPUTATIONAL THINKING FOR SCHOOL EDUCATORS

PROF. VIJAYAN IMMANUEL



DR. KIRAN D.C.



SCHOOL OF INDIA, BENGALURU

AUGUST 10, 2022

This workshop was facilitated by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel and Dr. Kiran D.C. for approximately 60 educators across all grades, followed by a discussion with senior educators at the school. It was an hour-long introductory workshop on the potential of using computational thinking in education.



DELHI PUBLIC SCHOOL NORTH, BENGALURU

The 'Computational Thinking for Educators' workshop was conducted on August 26th, 2022.

The workshop was conducted for close to 50 senior grade school educators across varied subject areas. This session served to demystify the domain of computational thinking and go beyond the technical usage of the term. Educators were encouraged to utilize concepts from computational thinking in their pedagogical practices.

The educators raised questions and initiated discussions on how computational thinking practices can be implemented in the classroom. Along with the workshop, a few recommendations were made to invite a cohort of teachers willing to explore, create, and implement computational thinking in curriculum development and classroom pedagogies. A pilot project was planned based on these discussions with a select cohort of teachers and students who volunteered.



WHITEFIELD GLOBAL SCHOOL, BENGALURU

The 'Computational Thinking for Educators' workshop was conducted by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel on May 18, 2023.

"Tell me and I forget; teach me and I may remember; involve me and I learn."
-Benjamin Franklin

Whitefield Global School believes in equipping its teachers with multiple skills and ever-evolving knowledge. With this in mind, the teachers get opportunities to broaden their perspectives on teaching and learning practices through workshops and faculty development programs. One such opportunity involved Prof. Vijayan Immanuel of Vidyashilp University facilitating a workshop for educators dealing with the potential of computational thinking in imparting education.

The training commenced with a welcome address by Middle Segment Coordinator Ms. Nitisha Gupta, followed by a formal introduction by Senior Segment Coordinator Ms. Sakila Sarvanraja. The interaction aimed to equip educators with the knowledge and skills necessary to integrate computational thinking into their teaching practices.



The workshop focused on the significance of computational thinking in the digital age and provided practical strategies for promoting problem-solving, logical reasoning, and computational skills in the classroom. Teachers from various disciplines attended the workshop, which served as a platform for professional development and collaborative learning.

It is anticipated that the knowledge and skills gained from this workshop will have a positive impact on problem-solving abilities and development of future-ready skills among students.



**Educators immersed in
Computational Thinking**

VOYAGING WITH BEYOND 8

INVITED SPEAKER

DR. RANJANA RAGHUNATHAN



'Voyaging with Beyond 8' was organized by Beyond 8 on September 10th, 2022.

BEYOND 8 SCHOOL, BENGALURU

'Voyaging with Beyond 8' was organized by Beyond 8 on September 10, 2022.

Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan of Vidyashilp University was invited to speak about the various attributes of liberal education and its ability to enable young learners to pursue a career in their domain of expertise.

The event commenced with a keynote speaker after which several faculty members shared their thoughts on careers emerging in the domain of liberal education. This was followed by dedicated slots for each university to interact with visitors.



GUIDANCE OF PREPAREDNESS FOR LIFE AHEAD

SAMHITA ACADEMY, BENGALURU

DECEMBER 13, 2022



A team from VU headed by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel visited Samhita Academy on December 13th, 2022 to interact with the students at Ankur Foundation, which is led by the promoters of Samhita Academy. Prof. Vijayan interacted with the students of Grade 11 and Grade 12 on invoking preparedness for life ahead of them. The team also visited the student accommodation to understand life at Ankur Foundation.

SESSION ON POWER OF COMMUNICATION DESIGN

PROF. ARVIND LODAYA

FEBRUARY 1, 2023



RITU'S COMPOSITION, PUNE

Ritu's Composition, a school in Pune, focuses on developing and using innovative STEAM-based pedagogical methods that allow students to learn in creative ways as they experiment with art and design. On February 1, 2023, Prof. Arvind Lodaya of VU conducted a 4-hour workshop on Design for students in the presence of the founder Ms. Sarita Dhimate. Prof. Lodaya started by recounting his story of navigating his way into Design, finding his groove, and building his career. Following this, he conducted an engaging 5-frame visualizing activity for the students, which allowed them to see the power of communication design for themselves. Prof. Lodaya then spoke to the students and Ms. Dhimate about the Bachelor in Design program offered at Vidyashilp University vis-a-vis its uniqueness compared to conventional programs of a similar kind. This was followed by a second activity - 'Funny Venns', a discussion on data visualization and its application in the contemporary context. Mr. Shyam of VU wrapped up the session as the students left with worksheets to help them carry forward their engagement.



Students engaged in the talk and activities facilitated by Prof. Lodaya



DEENS ACADEMY CONVOCATION

CHIEF GUEST

PROF. VIJAYAN IMMANUEL



Deens Academy invited Prof. Vijayan Immanuel as a Chief Guest for their Annual Convocation for the outgoing batch of 2023. The students of Grade 12 from both campuses (Gunjur and Whitefield) and their parents were part of this gala event. Prof. Vijayan delivered an inspirational speech about the grand challenges ahead for the students to conquer.



WORKSHOP ON DESIGN THINKING FOR SCHOOL EDUCATORS

PROF. VIJAYAN IMMANUEL

MAY 27, 2023



L'ECOLE CHEMPAKA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A workshop on Design Thinking for School Educators was conducted by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel on May 27th, 2023 at L'ecole Chempaka International School in Thiruvananthapuram.

Approximately 50 educators attended the workshop held between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Principals, senior coordinators, and educators who participated in the workshop were not only those from L'ecole but also its sister institutions such as the Silver Rocks School. The element of problem-solving across age groups was discussed with the educators.



MINE, YOURS & OURS WORKSHOP

MS. MONICA BIJLANI

DECEMBER 21, 2022



PAGE ACADEMY, HYDERABAD

A workshop titled 'Mine, Yours & Ours' was conducted on December 21st, 2022, at the Page Academy in Hyderabad.

The students who attended the seminar were from the Design Stream. The workshop was facilitated by Ms. Monica Bijlani of VU, followed by a presentation in which Mr. Nirmal Pradeep covered various aspects of VU and the admission process.



DEBATE COMPETITION AT VIDYASHILP ACADEMY

'The Frank Anthony Memorial All India Inter-School Debate Competition' was held at Vidyashilp Academy on July 10th, 2023. Ms. Neha Khurana from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies was invited to be a judge for the event. Eleven teams from various schools participated in the event and debated for and against the motion "Facebook friends are more real than real friends". Ms. Neha Khurana offered her feedback to the students and congratulated VSA for successfully organizing the event.



INTERNET OF THINGS WORKSHOP

DR. KIRAN D. C.



ALPINE PUBLIC SCHOOL

The workshop was conducted for grade 12 students by Dr. Kiran D. C., which was followed by a VU presentation by Mr. Nirmal Pradeep.

**INVITED JUDGE
MS. NEHA KHURANA**

JULY 10, 2023



Ms. Neha Khurana and other judges at The Frank Anthony Memorial Debate at VSA



DEMYSTIFYING DATA SCIENCE

DR. KIRAN D. C.



PROF. SMITHA RAO



The workshop was conducted across schools in Chennai for grade 11 and 12 students from the Computer Science stream. These workshops were conducted by Dr. D. C. Kiran and Prof. Smitha Rao, followed by a talk on VU by Mr. Nirmal Pradeep.





**SRI SANKARA VIDYALAYA
PAMMAL, CHENNAI**

**BUDDING MINDS
SCHOOL, CHENNAI**

**CPS GLOBAL SCHOOL,
CHENNAI**

**BEYOND 8,
CHENNAI**





6

STUDENT INITIATIVES

LAUNCH: EVENT MANAGEMENT CLUB

The year 2022 saw the launch of the Event Management Club at VU with a vision to curate various events on campus for the benefit of students as well as teaching and non-teaching staff. The club which started with just four students - namely Angad Singh, Vidhi Patel, Preksha Ashar, and Vedanth Moola, under the supervision of a faculty member - Dr. Bijil Prakash - has already organized several events in the Academic Year 2022-23. These are:

LAUNCH: CULINARY CLUB

'THE CAKE WALK': A BAKE SALE

A bake sale was held at the informal Learning Space in Vidyashilp University on November 14th, 2022.

Baking is more than a mere amalgamation of ingredients and adherence to a recipe. It represents a form of creative expression, a medium through which love and joy are shared via the enchanting magic of food. From the simple pleasure of kneading dough to the exhilaration of witnessing a flawlessly risen cake, baking is a sensory delight that engages all our senses.

The inception of the VU Culinary Club took place in November 2022, when seven passionate individuals, Aastha Basu, Aditya Ravidas, Aishwarya Iyer, Kruthika S, Nikita Patil, Vidhi Patel, and Vinayak Subramanian, eagerly volunteered to bake an array of confectionery items and sell them under the guidance of Dr. Bijil Prakash. After numerous meetings and meticulous planning, November 14th, 2023, saw the bake sale come to life in the informal Learning Space. Each table was managed by a student baker who proudly served the delectable desserts they had prepared. At the billing counter, Mahalakshmi and Mahek efficiently collected orders and provided customers with tokens that included the name and quantity of their chosen confections. The students ensured a convenient and streamlined payment system by accepting digital payments (UPI) alongside cash transactions. The students also implemented a multi-channel marketing strategy, utilizing university bulletin boards, emails, and word-of-mouth publicity.



LAUNCH: TREKKING CLUB

HIGHWAY TO HEAVEN TREK TO RAVUGODLU

The inception of the VU Trekking Club took place in November 2022 when faculty coordinator Dr. Bijil Prakash and a student Kruthika S. began collaborating with the Karnataka Mountaineering Association. The trek to Ravugodlu was finalized in January 2023 and scheduled for February 4, 2023. The club listed the necessities for the trek and designed a banner to mark its beginning. Around 5:00 a.m. on February 4, 2023, two buses set out to bring students to campus, where they had a sumptuous breakfast and started their journey toward Ravugodlu. Just like that, a new adventure was born!

On reaching the base camp around 9 a.m., the group was briefed about the safety regulations and code of conduct such as placing cell phones in bags to keep their hands free, avoiding playing loud music, littering, and so on. The guide shared valuable knowledge about the location, which instilled a sense of familiarity and belonging in the group. Several obstacles and intermittent breathers later, the group reached the first point around 11 a.m., where they halted for snacks and water.

Followed by the break was another short trek to the other side of the hill. During this trek, the group was taught the 'three-point climbing' technique, wherein the climber has three points in contact with the surface of the rock at all times – either both hands and a leg or both legs and a hand – to navigate a relatively steep surface. After returning to the first checkpoint and visiting a temple, the group gathered for a few pictures with the official trek banner and began their descent toward the base camp with memories of a wonderful experience.



LAUNCH: SOCIAL SCIENCES CLUB

OFF-SITE: A LEADERSHIP ACTIVITY



The Social Sciences Club of Vidyashilp University hosted its inaugural event on Saturday, November 26th, 2022, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. The event called 'Off-Site' took place in the lawn area of the VU campus, and was managed by the executives of the Social Sciences Club with the help of the Event Management Club.

The event started with a welcome address by Cassia Phuleshe. Sandeep Kumar took the stage next and spoke about experiences from his proactive life before and after joining Vidyashilp University. These included his participation in international competitions and brief internships, among others. The life lessons he gathered from those experiences and his reflections on team building and leadership inspired the audience, as indicated in their feedback.



Following the talk, Vidhi Patel took over and introduced students to the activities planned for the day. 'Tank Wheel' and 'Clamber up' were both intended to help students cultivate 'teamwork' - an important life skill to possess. For the games, students were divided into four teams—Yellow, Orange, Red, and Blue—based on the color of their jackets. In the 'Tank Wheel' activity, Team Orange emerged as the winner, while in the 'Clamber Up' activity, Team Blue won by a huge margin.

The event ended with a brief vote of thanks delivered by the club President, which included a mention of Angad and Preksha from the Event Management Team, who helped set up the lawn and the audio system.

Panelist Aman Verma is seen delivering his speech on 'Youth Power'



PANEL ON UNION BUDGET 2023-2024

India's Minister of Finance Nirmala Sitharaman, delivered the budget speech for 2023-2024 on February 1, 2023. The 'Social Sciences Club' of Vidyashilp University held a panel discussion on this budget on February 9, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the VU Founding campus. The panel comprised eight student participants from the B.A. and B.M.S. programs and was attended by all students from these streams.

The panelists spoke about the budget proposals under the 'Saptarishi' components and analyzed the same. Sandeep Kumar explained 'Inclusive Development' and 'Infrastructure and Investment'. He pointed out the budget outlays and the proposed schemes therein.

Cassia Phuleshe examined the proposals listed under 'Reaching the Last Mile' and explained how the government hoped to reach the marginalized. Akash Sharma outlined the proposals relating to 'Unleashing the Potential'. Trisha Pal brought out and analyzed the proposals relating to 'Green Growth'. Aman Verma explained the proposals to unleash 'Youth Power'. Angad Singh and Ravish Kumar examined in detail the proposals concerning the 'Financial Sector' and 'Tax Reforms' respectively.

Atul Gaikwad, a student in the B.A. program, acted as the Master of Ceremony for the event. The session was coordinated by Prof. Radhika Lobo, Program Chair and Professor of Economics.





WELLBEING INITIATIVES FOR ALL

7

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELL-BEING FOR ALL: A GLOBAL PRIORITY

DR. SHEKHAR SESHADRI

OCTOBER 8, 2022



A session on 'Mental Health and Well-being for All: A Global Priority' was held on October 8, 2022, from 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. in the Main Lobby of the VU Founding Campus. The session was conducted by Dr. Shekhar Seshadri, Senior Professor (Retd.), Department of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, NIMHANS. Dr. Setu Havanur from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies arranged this event for the students, faculty, research scholars, and non-teaching staff. Educators from other schools in Bangalore were also invited and a few of them attended the event.

Dr. Shekhar Seshadri started by introducing the concept of mental health and the significance of World Mental Health Day. He illustrated how mental health plays out at different levels (global, national, communal, familial, and personal) using scenarios that students enacted based on his prompts. In the end, he briefly discussed the resources students can leverage to support their well-being.



COUNSELLING SUPPORT AT VU

**SESSIONS BY
DR. PREETI MATHUR**



VU initiated a counselling support service in October 2022. Dr. Preeti Mathur, Head of Counselling and Special Education

Department at the Delhi Public School (Bangalore) was engaged in conducting counselling sessions at VU. Dr. Mathur is a trained clinical psychologist with over 22 years of experience in the field. Students and staff were informed of her availability, and a Google form was circulated to everyone to enlist themselves if they desired to consult her. Dr. Bijil Prakash and Dr. Setu Havanur facilitated her visits and

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY: STUDENT PERFORMANCES

DR. SETU HAVANUR

OCTOBER 10, 2022



MS. SPATICA RAMANUJAM



The VU Founding Campus hosted an event on October 10, 2022, from 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. to mark World Mental Health Day. Dr. Setu Havanur and Ms. Spatica Ramanujam from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies organized this event for the students, faculty, and non-teaching staff.

Three students and a faculty member presented monologues from contemporary and classical texts (curated by Dr. Setu and Ms. Spatica), highlighting different aspects of mental health. The contemporary monologues brought out issues related to depression and anxiety. Macbeth's monologue from Shakespeare and Arjuna's monologue from the Bhagavad Gita were also included in the performances.

The objective of the event was to bring out various aspects of mental health issues and sensitize students and faculty to the gravity of the matter. It also highlighted the fact that no problem is too small to be brought to light.



meetings with students. Since the inception of the program, Dr. Mathur has been present at our campus on eight working Saturdays, during which time 14 students visited her. These students benefited from multiple sessions and follow-ups over these eight days.

In the future, VU plans to establish a full-time Counselling and Wellness Centre on

campus, which the students and faculty can use as and when required. The counselling support system is a small but significant step in that direction.

VU STUDENTS VISIT NIMHANS TO MARK NATIONAL SCIENCE DAY

COURSE INSTRUCTOR
DR. SETU HAVANUR

MARCH 1, 2023



Students who opted for the course 'Introduction to Psychology' during Semester II of 2022-23 visited the National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS) on National Science Day. They were accompanied by the course instructor Dr. Setu Havanur from the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies. This year the theme of National Science Day was 'Global Science for Global Well-Being', which added value to those enrolled in the Psychology program.

The expo included observation of preserved brains, demonstrations, interactive games, and interactions with experts on matters related to the science of well-being. Students explored the booths, learned many concepts, and were enriched with added practical knowledge related to concepts taught in the classroom. Some topics that students found exciting and engaging were a demonstration of neural impulses in the brain, electrophysiological recording of brain activity, and models on how brain surgery is performed. Overall, students had a good experience at the expo as they learned about many disciplines and interacted with experts involved in promoting well-being within the community.



VISIT BY SAMPURNA MONTFORT COLLEGE

MARCH 1, 2023

In pursuit of the goal of setting up a VU Wellness Centre, a series of conversations were initiated with Dr. Arun, Fr. Tomy, and Br. Mathew, all trained mental health practitioners from Sampurna Montfort College, an established institution in the space of mental well-being and Psychology.

Dr. Arun and Fr. Tomy visited VU on March 25, 2023, and facilitated a series of group discussions – with the teaching faculty, students, admissions and marcom teams in three separate meetings. Additionally, some meetings were held with smaller groups of students who wanted to share certain matters in confidence. Before the discussions, a needs assessment was conducted through two questionnaires, which were shared with students and faculty/staff separately.

1) Sensitization and education

2) Prevention and peer support, and

3) Building an overall culture based on people's well-being

It may be noted that a VU Wellness Club has been constituted to address some physical and mental well-being challenges faced by the student community. The Wellness Club was set up by student volunteers under the guidance of Dr. Setu Havanur and Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan. Informal and verbal feedback from the students and faculty members voiced resounding support for the inclusion of this initiative in VU's core organizational culture.

The faculty advisors plan to work towards organizing more workshops and programs in association with Sampurna Montfort College under the aegis of the proposed VU Wellness Centre.

MENTAL HEALTH SENSITIZATION

FACILITATOR
FATHER TOMY JOSEPH

JULY 26 – 27, 2023



FACILITATOR
DR. ARUN S.



A two-day workshop on “Mental Health Sensitization” was held on July 26 and 27, 2023, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the VU Founding campus for the teaching faculty and admission counselors. There were about 20 participants who attended the event on both days.

This workshop was organized as an initiative of the VU Wellness Club and facilitated by Fr. Tomy Joseph and Dr. Arun S., practitioners at Sampurna Montfort College. The faculty facilitators for this session were Dr. Setu Havanur and Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, both of whom are Assistant Professors in the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies at Vidyashilp University.

This workshop aimed to effectively engage faculty members and staff (especially admission counselors) to be more aware of mental health in an academic space. Fr. Tomy and Dr. Arun emphasized the enhanced awareness about mental health and the necessary skill sets and sensitivity required to actively handle the issue in classrooms and other university spaces. They also educated the participants on common myths surrounding mental health issues, and the resources to empower themselves.

DAY 01

Fr. Tomy aligned the perspectives of the participants towards the idea that mental well-being always functions at the community level and should be understood as a social issue. He introduced the participants to the Bio-Psycho-Social Model and Relational Cultural Theory as theoretical frameworks for the two-day workshop. After establishing the premise, participants engaged in a group ice-breaking session where they were asked to answer three questions:

Share something about your place of origin and how you feel personally connected to it

Share something about you that has helped you become who you are today

Share something about a person who has significantly influenced your life.

These questions foregrounded the key idea that we are shaped by innate characteristics as well as the environment in which we grew up. The participants were also acquainted with the different kinds of mental and learning disorders that range from ADHD and IDD to full-blown mental disorders such as schizophrenia.

DAY 02

On the following day, the focus was on encouraging a growth mindset (flexible, open to new experiences) over a fixed mindset. The speakers asked the participants to self-assess through a Growth Mindset Quiz. The questions were geared towards assessing the quiz-taker's view on mental growth-related issues. The session then segued into watching and discussing four videos in progression, all addressing pertinent learner-related issues, such as neuroplasticity, neurodivergence, and the unique learning experience and journey of each student.

The two-day workshop gave the participants a chance to brainstorm strategies through which mental health issues can be sensitively handled in a university setting. Above all, the speakers emphasized the three cardinal sensitivities required to handle mental health—patience, mindfulness, and the ability to tolerate. One should also be cognizant of the fact that mental health issues generally cannot be treated in isolation. It is important to note that in most cases educators are the first point of contact and a relationship of trust must be built to help students in need.







VU offers a range of sports facilities for its students with the belief that physical well-being plays a pivotal role in promoting holistic development and a sense of community among students.

THE CENTRE FOR SPORTS EXCELLENCE

The renowned Centre for Sports Excellence (CSE) offers extensive training programs for a wide range of sports. In order to provide sports facilities to students beyond the campus, a collaboration has been established between Vidyashilp University and CSE. The MOU was signed in February 2023. This collaborative program is overseen by Dr. Bijil Prakash, who accompanies students to CSE every working Saturday between 3 p.m. and 5 p.m. In the last semester, 8 sessions were held out of a total of 20 sessions. The number of students enrolled in each activity is provided below:

CRICKET: 15



FOOTBALL: 7



BASKETBALL: 8



SWIMMING: 13



BADMINTON: 19

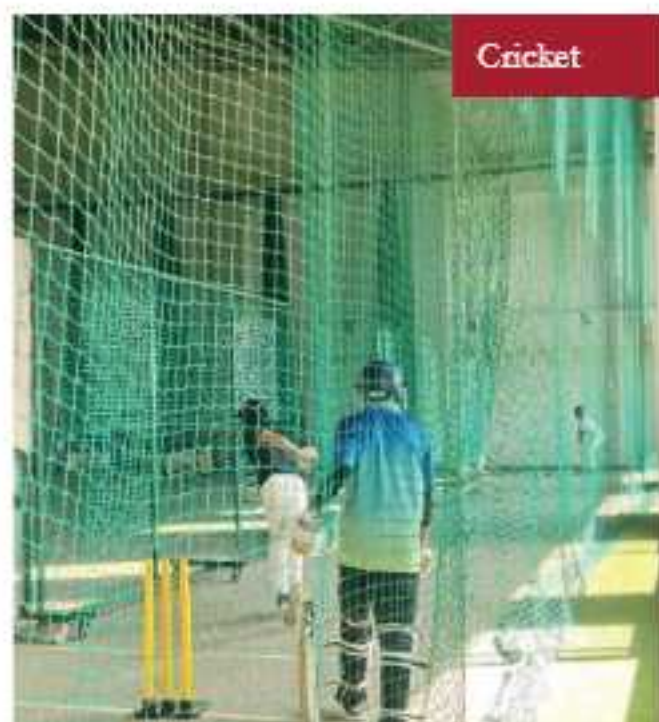


YOGA: 3





Basketball



Cricket



Badminton

FUTSAL

Futsal, a variant of football that is played on a smaller field, is a popular sport among students. The futsal court consists of a synthetic turf surface, which allows students to engage in fast-paced and competitive matches. The facility is equipped with goalposts, boundary lines, and appropriate futsal balls, creating an optimal playing environment for futsal enthusiasts.



VOLLEYBALL

The University provides an outdoor volleyball court for students who enjoy the game. The courts are equipped with high-quality synthetic flooring, net systems, and seating arrangements. These facilities encourage friendly matches, tournaments, and regular practice sessions for volleyball enthusiasts.

BASKETBALL

The University's sports facility includes a well-maintained outdoor basketball court. These outdoor courts are made of high-quality synthetic flooring and provide ample space for students to engage in basketball games and practice drills. The facility is equipped with basketball hoops and markings to create an authentic playing experience.



CRICKET

Cricket is a widely followed sport in India. The University's cricket facility includes an open field for casual matches and practice sessions, along with necessary equipment such as cricket balls, bats, and stumps. For professional training, students are sent to the Centre for Sports Excellence - Dravid Padukone Academy.



FRISBEE

Frisbee, a popular recreational sport, is gaining popularity among university students. The University sports facilities include open lawn areas where students can play the sport. These fields provide ample space for multiple teams to participate simultaneously.



TABLE TENNIS

Table tennis is a popular indoor sport that requires agility and precision. The University's sports facility includes two TT tables placed in a dedicated indoor sporting area. Each table is equipped with a net, paddles, and balls, allowing students to participate in friendly matches, practice sessions, and organized tournaments.



BADMINTON

The University offers badminton facilities with a portable net, quality racquets, and shuttles. Students can engage in casual games to improve their badminton skills and promote physical fitness. For professional training, students are sent to the Centre for Sports Excellence - Dravid Padukone Academy.



CARROM AND CHESS

Apart from outdoor sports, the University's sports facilitators recognize the importance of indoor games. Therefore dedicated areas for carrom and chess are set up to provide students with spaces to enjoy these intellectually stimulating games. The indoor sports area is equipped with carrom and chess boards to enable students to engage in friendly competition.



The University's sports facilitators ensure the proper maintenance, scheduling, and availability of equipment for each sport. The facilities are accessible to all students, faculty, and staff.

SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS





SOCIAL INITIATIVES

9

GENDER AND YOU WORKSHOP

**MS. SPATICA
RAMANUJAM**



**DR. RANJANA
RAGHUNATHAN**



OCTOBER 31, 2022

A workshop titled 'Gender and You' was conducted by faculty members Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan and Ms. Spatica Ramarujam on October 31, 2022. The event took place at VU in the Seminar Hall, between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. This was part of a series of events planned by the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies toward gender sensitization and awareness. Students and faculty from VU participated in the workshop. Some of the topics discussed at the workshop were as follows:

What is our experience of gender in everyday life?

How do gender roles and stereotypes play out in society?

How can students experience healthy gender equations in their relationships and friendships?

WELL-BEING WALL

As a VU student, I feel connected when...

[illegible]

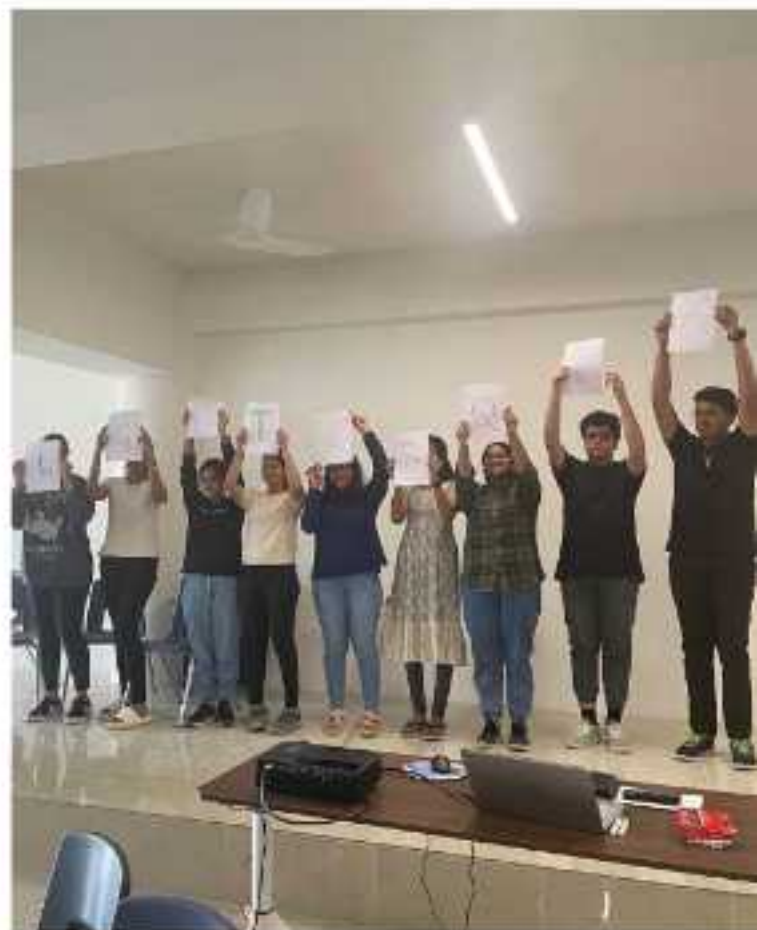


Some interesting feedback responses from students included:

"The workshop was very insightful and it broadened my knowledge of gender."

"It made me realize that sex is biology and gender is a social construct."

Students also shared their responses to the question: "What does gender mean to you?" on the VU Well-Being Wall.



The workshop also touched upon key aspects of understanding basic terminologies on the gender binary and gender spectrum, roles and stereotypes, and how to develop healthy relationships. Students and faculty created role plays, poetry, and artwork around these themes and shared them at the end of the workshop. The artwork was displayed on the notice board at the University for all to see.

The Event Management and Backstage Club, a student-led initiative, assisted the faculty members in organizing this event, by working on the logistics, setting up the event venue, putting up posters, and exhibiting the artwork after the event. This was the Club's first event after its inception.

Additionally, Dr. Ranjana and Ms. Spatica collaborated with Prof. Arvind Lodaya and the Bachelor of Design program students to incorporate this into their design studio practice. Students designed eight different posters for the event, which were circulated and displayed around the campus.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Vidyashilp University conducted two events to mark International Women's Day in 2023.

INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP FOR VU SUPPORT STAFF

PROF. RADHIKA LOBO



DR. RANJANA RAGHUNATHAN



MS. SPATICA RAMANUJAM



MARCH 07, 2023



The workshop was conducted at the VU Lecture Hall 1 between 12:00 p.m. and 1:00 p.m. It was conducted by Prof. Radhika Lobo, Program Chair and Professor of Economics, Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, and Ms. Spatica Ramanujam, both Assistant Professors, School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies. A few students willingly participated in the same.

The workshop began with an activity where participants answered some broad questions about their life experiences related to finances, banking, insurance, health, nutrition, gender roles and responsibilities, education, care work, freedom, workplace, and family. Depending on their answers, they either took a step forward or stayed in place, which highlighted the different levels of privilege and hurdles faced. This was followed by a video screening about the history of International Women's Day and the ongoing challenges faced by women in their quest for a just and equitable world.

Faculty members then facilitated an open-ended discussion with the participants on the themes and challenges they faced. This workshop was the first in a series of discussions and activities planned for empowering the VU support staff community.

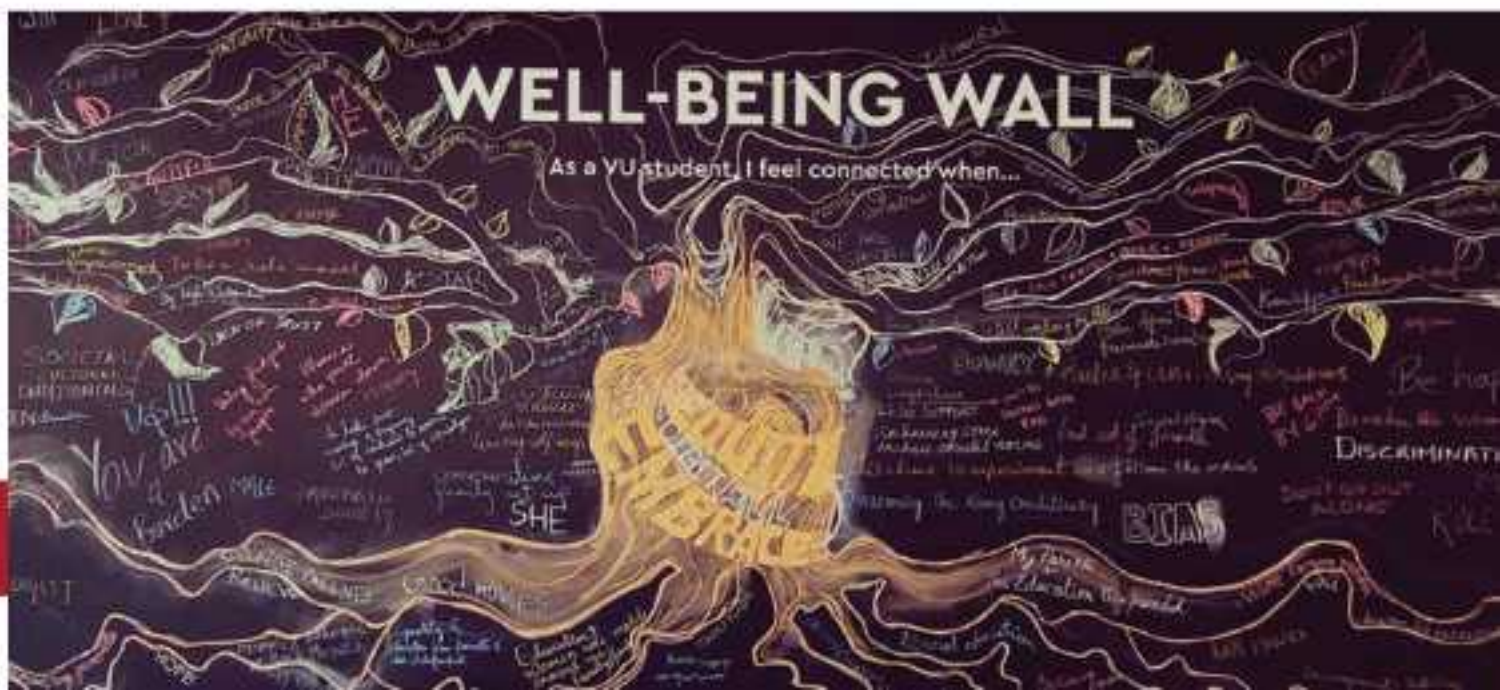


**MS. KALYANI
SUBRAMANYAM**



Gender equality is our end goal, and equity is the means of getting there! Ms. Kalyani Subramanyam, Maitrayana's CEO, was invited to speak at Vidyashilp University on the need for equity over equality. Talking about Maitrayana's efforts toward building leadership and rights-based awareness among adolescent girls and young women, Ms. Kalyani focused on the fact that equal opportunities are not enough. She said, "We need to think of equity-based solutions to overcome structural barriers that prevent women from realizing their potential and bringing systemic change."

The session was engaging, with frequent questions from students and faculty. It was facilitated by Prof. Radhika Lobo, Program Chair and Professor of Economics. Students, Angad and Vidhi from the Events Team coordinated the event. The session was also a part of the Lecture Series organized for the students.



LECTURE ON OUR WATER FUTURE

MR. S. VISWANATH

APRIL 8, 2023



Mr. S. Viswanath, a storyteller, writer, and educator on sustainable water and sanitation, was invited by Vidyashilp University to address the students about 'Our Water Future' on April 8, 2023, as part of the lecture series and to create awareness among students concerning water usage and its importance.

His talk covered a wide range of topics, from water conservation to sustainable sanitation. He encouraged students to challenge common misconceptions about waste by pointing out that waste is a valuable resource if utilized effectively. Through various real-life case studies and data, he elaborated on the many communities that have become economically self-sufficient through the wise use of waste resources. The talk was interactive, with students participating and asking several questions.

GENWISE CAMP

Vidyashilp University hosted a unique 2-week camp between December 18th and 30th, 2022, for gifted school students from the UAE and India. 25 students between the ages of 11 and 15 who had been identified through the ASSET Talent Search test attended the camp conducted by GenWise – India's leading organization in gifted programs. Students spent 10-12 hours each day on campus engaged in interesting and challenging courses such as soft robotics, economics, technology of the internet, the process of scientific inquiry, and viewing society through the literary lens of George Orwell. Students also engaged in fun activities for socio-emotional learning. VU faculty conducted engaging sessions for students on collaboration and creativity, using theatre and origami. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Vijayan, also conducted a session during which he shared his inspirational journey with the students.



A grade 6 student, Mariah Ann Mathew from Our Own English High School, Dubai, said: "These are minds from all over the world in one room, and we get to hear different opinions...and it changes your world or perspective about a topic".



HOLISTIC COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – SERIES OF TALKS FOR VU STUDENTS

As part of Vidyashilp University's (VU) core curriculum, all students engage in a course entitled Community Engagement and Service Experience, which is overseen by the Ethnography Lab. To pilot the course, VU collaborated with Satya Foundation, a community organization in North Bangalore. This year the course started on May 8th, 2023, and concluded on May 19th, 2023.

The students attended talks by Dr. Annapurna Kamath, Mr. Kiran Mandanna, Ms. Sandya Narayanan, Dr. Shanthi Tummala, and Ms. Bianca Fernandes. The Ethnography Lab organized these talks to cover the various areas under Community Engagement:

Rural Development and Women's Self-help Group

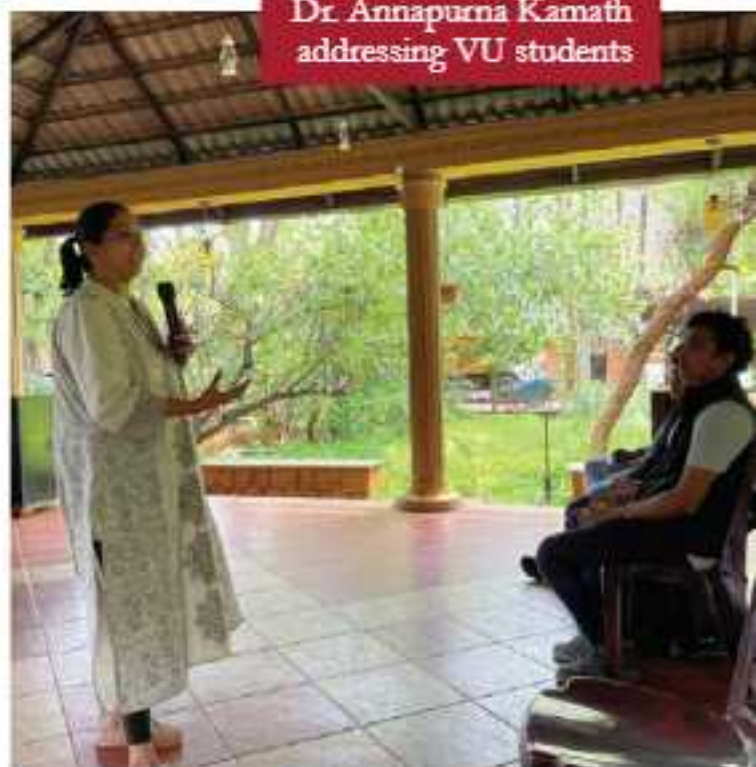
Policies and Laws Related to Solid Waste Management in India

Community Mobilization for Waste Management

Right to Dignity for Waste Workers

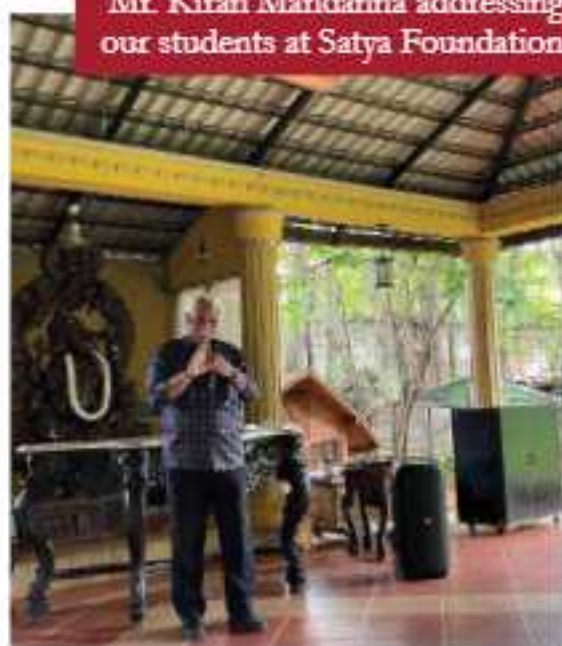
These conversations, together with Dr. Annapurna Kamath's talk, laid the foundation for an inspiring learning experience in community work.

**Dr. Annapurna Kamath
addressing VU students**

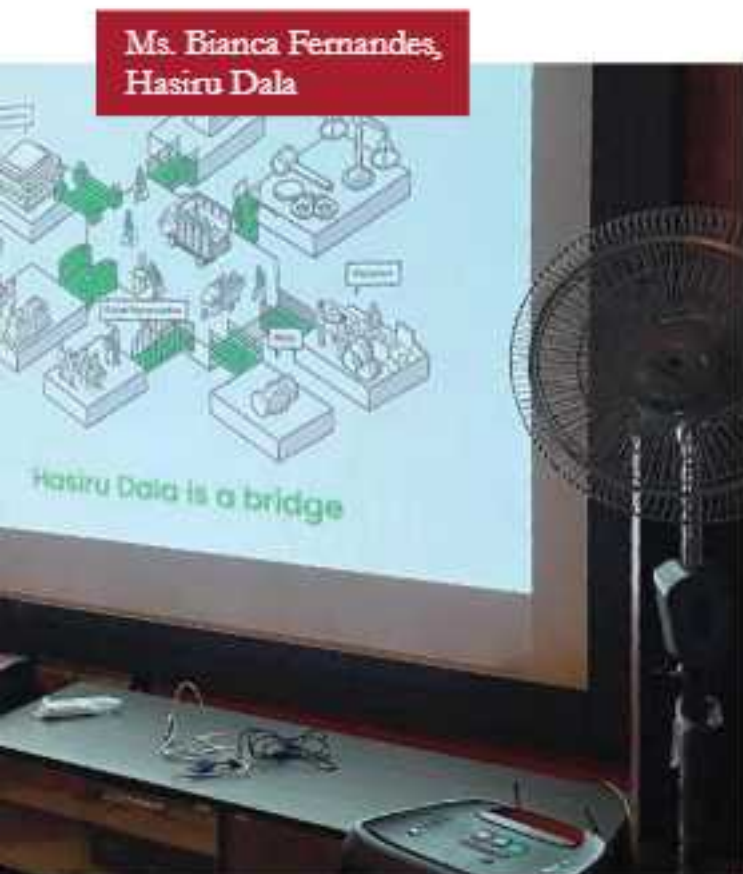




**Ms. Sandya Narayan,
SWMRT Bangalore**



**Mr. Kiran Mandanna addressing
our students at Satya Foundation**



**Ms. Bianca Fernandes,
Hasiru Dala**



**Dr. Shanthi Tummala, waste
warrior and activist**





10

CAMPUS TOURS AND VISITS

VSA STUDENTS VISIT VU

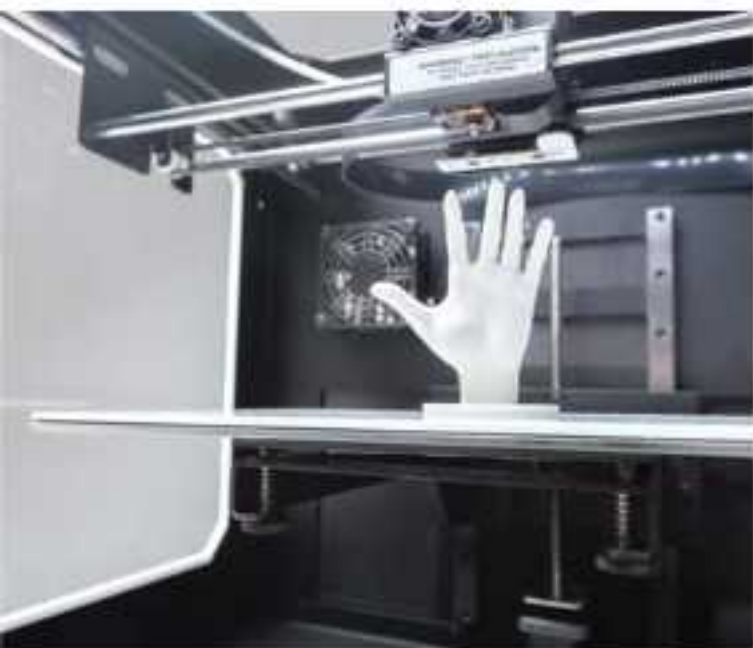
INTERACTION: VSA EDUCATORS AND DESIGN FACULTY

It was fitting that the interaction with VSA educators happened on Children's Day because the focus of the interaction was "Mapping key shifts in the post-COVID/digital era". The session began with an introduction by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel on the progressive vision and values on which the University was founded. One of the key decisions to launch the program on Design was to stimulate and foster interdisciplinarity as a culture and value at the University.

Introducing the 4-year B.Des. undergraduate program in Communication Design, the Program Chair for Design, Prof. Arvind Lodaya, explained that the program was positioned for the digital era, marking and emphasizing its inherent nature to prepare "digital native" students - those who graduate from schools like VSA - for creative and digital careers. The educators from VSA clarified various queries with the Design faculty.



THE MAKERS' SPACE TOUR



Students from VSA visited the VU Makers' Space at about 12.30 p.m. The Makers' Space is equipped with 3D printers, lasers and CNC engraving machines, IoT components, and Material Science lab equipment. Students were introduced to 3D printing technology and the materials used in it. The 3D-printed models designed and printed by VU students were displayed in the lab. Students were shown how different smart materials can be used for designing models. IoT models such as distance sensing robots, bluetooth-controlled cars, temperature sensors, automatic plant watering systems, prototypes of digital noticeboards, password-based door lock systems, line following robots, fire alarm systems, security alarm robots, automatic room lights and control systems, etc. were also explained. Students and educators from VSA appreciated the models and enthusiastically clarified their doubts regarding learning and designing 3D models.



ETHNOGRAPHY: UNDERSTANDING SOCIETY FROM DIFFERENT LENSES

This session was jointly conducted by Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, Dr. Setu Havanur, and Prof. Radhika Lobo for the Cambridge students from VSA as well as their educators from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. in the Seminar Hall. It started with the screening of a short award-winning Marathi film titled 'Gosht Eka Kawalyachi'. The film was an ethnographic presentation of a social taboo prevalent in rural Maharashtra. The students then interacted with the faculty to understand the film's economic, psychological, and sociological context. During the discussion, the faculty also brought out career options available to students in these domains. Students interacted with the faculty to understand further nuances in ethnography.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Students were introduced to the experiential learning pedagogy at VU. They gained hands-on experience while working on team building, innovative thinking, and leadership. During the hour-long session, students worked on enhancing their non-verbal communication skills through motion and imaginative activities. The session was facilitated by Ms. Spatica Ramanujam, who was assisted by Dr. Bijil Prakash.





11

CENTERS FOR ADVANCED LEARNING

VIDYASHILP RESEARCH CENTER

The Vidyashilp Research Center (VRC) has been established as a first step in realizing the University's mission and research objectives. This Center, in conjunction with the Schools of the University and other Centers/Academies established for specific purposes, leads the way and develops plans and projects to build the research capability and contribution of the University.

Under the aegis of the VRC, the Ethnography Lab has been set up wherein students have taken up several community engagements. A research project has also been undertaken by Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, who initiated the lab. Additionally, several VU faculty have ongoing research projects under the aegis of VRC.

ETHNOGRAPHY LAB

The Ethnography Lab is an initiative of the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies – anchored under the VRC. Initiated by Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan, it was set up to facilitate conversations on ethnographic research. The lab provides both faculty and students with a platform to collaborate on ethnographic research with stakeholders inside and outside the University. It is also intended to be an intellectual community and resource center for a wide variety of researchers who work with ethnographic research methods.

OBJECTIVES:

Promote ethnographic research methods and practice, within and outside the University

Encourage community engagement and public knowledge sharing

Create a thriving intellectual community grounded in fieldwork, conversations, and the practice of ethnography



ACTIVITIES OF THE ETHNOGRAPHY LAB

I. RESEARCH ON URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS

Areas of Bengaluru (or any town/city) are rich in historical and anthropological insights. The research on urban neighbourhoods aims to trace the social life and transformations of select neighbourhoods around Bangalore, by using ethnographic methods (field observation, interviews, oral histories) and historical data. Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan began working on this research in January 2023. She is now collaborating with three undergraduate students from VU, to use this research as a pedagogical tool for some of the undergraduate courses in the coming year.

II. HERITAGE WALK IN MALLESWARAM

Students of VU were taken on a heritage walk to the old neighbourhood of Malleswaram, where they soaked in the various stories, myths, and history of this bustling neighbourhood. They were exposed to innovative research methods such as walking and sensory ethnography, to map the contours of urban ethnography. The students collectively organized a small-scale exhibition to share their personal reflections and experiences of this heritage walk.



III. VU AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: REFLECTIONS FROM A PILOT COLLABORATION

A core philosophy at VU is to create a community of students who will evolve into conscientious leaders through interdisciplinary programs and meaningful collective learning experiences. To this end, irrespective of the program chosen, all students go through a 2-week long course on Community Engagement. This course is designed as an introduction for students to interact with communities and gain exposure to some of the ground realities of Indian society. Students work with community partners on specific projects and get first-hand experience of real-world challenges and complexities while engaging in community-based work. The main role envisaged for the students is to actively observe, learn, and participate in specific activities. The students then reflect on experiences and insights gained through individual journals and group discussions.

OBJECTIVES:

Have the ability to communicate across social and cultural barriers

Develop trust and respect for others who may have different life circumstances

Develop self-awareness and empathy

PARTNERSHIP AND COLLABORATION

As a pilot project in community engagement, VU collaborated with Satya Foundation, a charitable trust located in Jakkur, North Bangalore that works on holistic community development. Students from VU worked on four of their community development areas.

1. Early childhood education – Anganwadis
2. Women empowerment – Self-help groups
3. Solid waste management
4. Lake conservation and communities

Prior to the commencement of the course, the faculty of the School of Liberal Arts and Design Studies had extended conversations about partner collaboration and the alignment of values. It emerged that this course had to be anchored in a perspective where students are learners, thinkers, and contributors, who can respond to real-life challenges. We wanted the collaboration to have roadmaps for future projects and deepen the work that might arise from a brief engagement with an organization.

We found great synergy and alignment with Satya Foundation, which was open to piloting a large-scale collaboration on a course with 74 students. We were keen on enabling students to reflect on their experiences and ideas while simultaneously contributing to the organization's needs in tangible ways. Students were divided across the four broad areas of work and were subdivided into smaller groups for specific tasks. The planning of these projects took place between January and May, 2023.

ACTIVITIES:

To anchor the community engagement projects, we organized a series of talks by experts from different organizations in the field of community work.

1. Dr. Annapurna Kamath (Founding Trustee, Satya Foundation)
2. Mr. Kiran Mandanna (Outreach India, rural development, and women's self-help groups)
3. Ms. Sandya Narayanan (Solid Waste Management Roundtable, Bangalore)
4. Dr. Shanthi Tummala (Community mobilizer for waste management, South Bangalore)
5. Ms. Bianca Fernandes (Hasiru Dala, an initiative to ensure the dignity of ragpickers)

The series of talks set the context for the issues in Bengaluru and provided the students with an overview of some of the large issues facing our society. They also got an overview of different approaches to community work for addressing the multifarious and diverse complexities in Bengaluru.

The students were engaged in various projects for a duration of two weeks in May 2023. All students were given an orientation about the organization, the community of Jakkur, and its surroundings in North Bangalore. They were also provided with an overview of the activities on which they would be working. Students engaged in a community walk and mapping exercise, before they settled into their respective project tasks.

ANGANWADIS

Students, with some community volunteers, visited around fifteen Anganwadis in the ward. They interacted with the Anganwadi students and the teachers, and attended a community meeting of Anganwadi workers. A needs assessment report with some suggestions was then submitted to the Foundation for follow-up and further action.



SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Students were given an overview of the process of waste management and the challenges related to it. Issues on waste segregation and the implementation of laws and policies related to them at a community level became abundantly clear. Through their households, business surveys, working with waste collectors, and visits to the dry waste collection center, students understood the issues faced by workers.



VU Student along with a waste collection truck in the neighborhood



VU Students conducting household surveys about waste management practices

LAKE CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITIES

VU students engaged with local communities who live near and use the lakes of North Bangalore for their daily needs. The students also met and interacted with users of the lake for recreational purposes. These perspectives gave them an overview of the lakes' history as well as a peek into the needs of various communities who visit the lakes daily. Issues related to conservation, usage, cleanliness, and agriculture were unearthed. The survey results were compiled and submitted to the Satya Foundation for further action.

VU Students interviewing lake communities



The needs assessment reports, community maps, home-based business ideas, and surveys of the lake users and communities were shared with the Satya Foundation. We plan for the subsequent batches of VU students to take this work forward in a meaningful way. Additionally, linkages of these projects to the domain-specific courses and programs at VU are opportunities to deepen the interdisciplinary focus of VU. Some of the students will engage with community organizations through internships, while others have plans to start a students' club at VU to deepen the work on campus and extend it to local communities.

ONGOING PROJECTS UNDER VRC

I. PROJECT AND MOU WITH EVUE TECHNOLOGY PVT. LTD.

Principal Investigator: Prof. Smitha Rao

Evue Technologies Pvt. Ltd. is a skills assessment platform with a remote, reliable, and fast candidate selection process, which uses a friendly AI robot assistant, available on-demand and powered by virtual reality, machine learning, computer vision, NLP science, audio, and video analytics. The company pre-screens candidates by assessing them on key competencies that are critical for the job and ranks them on the desired competencies using cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence. Evue Technologies was founded by an IIMB Alumni.

Memorandum of Understanding with Evue Technologies

Evue Technologies is collaborating with Vidyashilp University to build efficient AI models to automate their online platform. The first one deals with analyzing video interviews of candidates, and using automation to rate them on employable skills. These projects involve interdisciplinary research in Data Science, Psychology, Language, and Computer Science. An MoU was signed between Evue Technologies and Vidyashilp University on August 18, 2021.

II. MOA WITH KAIZEN SECURE VOIZ

Principal Investigator: Prof. Smitha Rao

Kaizen Secure Voiz is a new breed technology start-up under Kaizen Technologies (Kaizentek) group, which has been providing superior information technology talent and solutions to private and public sector clients since 1995. Kaizentek's reputation as an IT expert is built on a decade of experience as a full spectrum source for the IT community. Its clients include more than 1,000 well-known national and multinational corporations.

Memorandum of Association with Kaizen Secure Voiz

An MoA was signed between Vidyashilp University and Kaizen Secure Voiz on April 13, 2022. Vidyashilp University will be working with Kaizen Secure Voiz

on research projects to analyze, design, and develop several voice-based solutions using Voice Analytics. Deep Learning and Natural Language Processing (NLP) add new layers to the voice analytics process, producing significant insights and scalable results. These projects cover research on various areas of Spoken Language Understanding (SLU).

III. PREDICTING FAILURES BEYOND THE WARRANTY PERIOD

Principal Investigator: Prof. R. P. Suresh

Most organizations use the observed failures of products during the warranty period to determine warranty reserve funds, warranty extension decisions, and more. However, companies have inadequate or incomplete data to help in predicting failures beyond the warranty period as most consumers tend to use external repair/service units for repair/replacement. Thus, to help in decisions such as the extension of warranties and others, companies use various kinds of external data - notably sales of spare parts and so on. In this project, the plan is to develop methodologies using some external data and extract the pattern of failures during the warranty period to estimate failures beyond it.

IV. RELIGION AND WELL-BEING: A PSYCHOLOGICAL AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL EXPLORATION OF THE ROLE OF RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCES ON MENTAL HEALTH

Principal Investigator: Dr. Setu Havanur
Co-investigator: Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan

This project is designed to explore the broadly conceived relationship between religion and well-being. It adopts a comparative and interdisciplinary approach by weaving psychological and anthropological perspectives. The research will use a combination of field methods and interviews to explore participants' experiences of well-being through their religious beliefs and practices. The lead researchers have conducted a pilot study and will expand it further in 2023. Additionally, they are exploring opportunities to extend its scope to include a variety of religious practices in Karnataka.

V. A BEHAVIORAL STUDY ON HOW HUMANS REPRESENT NUMBERS`

Principal Investigator: Dr. Setu Havanur

Research Assistant: Ms. Priyadharshni E (Ph.D. Scholar, Homi Bhabha Centre for Science Education),

Collaborator: Dr. Arianna Felisatti (University of Potsdam, Germany)

The objective of the study is to understand the mental representation of numbers using a random number generation (RNG) task. Past studies have used verbal RNG tasks to understand executive functions as well as numerical cognition. Researchers at the University of Potsdam have been interested in studying the number representation with the use of fingers. This project proposes to i) study how performance differs between verbal versus finger random number generation and the underlying processes, and ii) explore the cross-cultural differences in the finger RNG task as countries differ in finger counting patterns. While researchers at the University of Potsdam have collected data from European participants and have collaborated with Chinese researchers for data from Chinese participants, this leg of the project will collect data from the Indian population.

VI. VIDEO RETRIEVAL SYSTEM

Principal Investigator: Dr. N. Mehala

An MoU was signed with Makonis AI Solutions Pvt. Ltd. for this collaborative research project, which will be executed under the joint supervision of Dr. N. Mehala, Associate Professor, VU, and Mr. Ravi Venkatesulu, Chief AI Scientist at Makonis AI Solutions Pvt. Ltd. Ms. Divyashree S., a Research Scholar at VU, will also be involved in the project that will be part of her Ph.D. research. The duration of the project is 3 years.

Videos recorded during in-class teaching and made available online are versatile resources on par with a textbook and the classroom itself. Accessing the content of interest in a lecture video is not easy as there is no Table of Contents or Index Section. This project will make automatic topic-segmentation, indexing, and semantic searching in videos possible to help students easily access and review the topic of their choice.

VII. AUTOMATED EVALUATION SYSTEM

Principal Investigator: Dr. N. Mehala

As part of the above-mentioned MoU between Vidyashilp University and Makonis AI Solutions Pvt. Ltd., a collaborative research project titled "Automated Evaluation System" will be executed under the joint supervision of Dr. N. Mehala, Associate Professor, School of Computational and Data Sciences, and Mr. Ravi Venkatesulu, Chief AI Scientist, Makonis AI Solutions Pvt. Ltd.

PROBLEM STATEMENT:

As more test preparation and instructional materials are being delivered online, the need for automated scoring is necessary. Therefore, our solution is focused on accelerating innovation in test assessment technology using AI. It aims to improve learning outcomes, by using automated text analysis to judge students' understanding of high-level concepts from their open-ended written responses, typically for homework assignments, practice tests, etc. The AI engine provides immediate feedback to the student on missing points that constitute a correct answer. Helping students become better writers by automatically reviewing their writing in a platform that they are already using for schoolwork and providing meaningful feedback on basic features of writing is incredibly helpful. It means that students can practice more writing without the requirement for teachers to check their work.

FACULTY CONTRIBUTIONS: RESEARCH PAPERS, NEWSPAPER ARTICLES, AND INVITED TALKS

PUBLICATIONS IN RESEARCH JOURNALS

1. Yvonna Tia Steele and **Radhika Lobo**, *Analysis of the Maritime Piracy in the Gulf of Guinea: Legislation and Impact on International Trade*, Calcutta Journal of Global Affairs, Kolkata, May 2022.

2. **Umesh Mahtani**, *'Financial distress assessment using related party transactions'*, Indian Journal of Corporate Governance (Sage Publications) Publication Date June 15, 2022.

3. **Radhika Lobo**, *'Foreign Investment in Agri-Allied Sectors: Boost to Growth and Employment in Rural India'*, MEDC Economic Digest, ISSN 2581-995X, Vol 04, November 14, 2022.

4. **Bijil Prakash**, Amit Setia, Shourya Bose, Ravi P Agarwal, *'Error analysis of a Haar wavelets-based numerical method with its application to a nonlinear fractional dengue model'*, International Journal of Computer Mathematics, Taylor & Francis ISSN:0020-7160, 21st November, 2022.

5. Prabhshaan Chawla and **Radhika Lobo**, *'A Study of Corporate Attributes and its Role in Influencing Public Policy'* Artha Vijnana, Vol LXIV, No 4, December, 2022, pp 392-404.

6. **Umesh Mahtani**, Amarnani, A. N., & Sukhathankar V., Goa Institute of Management, *Campus Water Sustainability Projects (2023)*, Emerald Emerging Markets Case Studies, 13(1), 1-26, January 6, 2023.

7. **Neha Khurana**, *Cartooning through crisis: The case of Abu in India's Emergency Years 1975-77 (2023)*, 452F, Issue 29, July 26, 2023.

PUBLICATION: BOOK CHAPTER

8. **Ranjana Raghunathan** and Yogeswaran Doraisingam, *'Tracing Transformations in Hindu Marriage and Funeral Rituals in Singapore'*, in Lavanya Balachandran and Sylvia Koh (eds.) *Hinduism in Singapore and the Hindu Endowments Board*, pp. 118-63, (Singapore: Hindu Endowments Board), November 2022.

ARTICLES IN NEWSPAPERS

9. **Rahul Jayaram**, *'Fooled by Faith'* Deccan Herald, July 17, 2022.

10. **Rahul Jayaram**, *'Freedom from Family'* Deccan Herald, August 14, 2022.

11. **Rahul Jayaram**, *'Empowering the Teacher'*, Deccan Herald, September 12, 2022.

12. **Rahul Jayaram**, *'A Most Misconstrued Man'- Review of Furrows in a Field: The Unexplored Life of H.D. Deve Gowda*, Hindustan Times, September 16, 2022.

13. **Rahul Jayaram**, '*Making Teaching Attractive*' Deccan Herald, October 9, 2022.
14. **Ranjana Raghunathan** and **Spatika Ramanujam**, Dark comedy in '*Darlings*' sheds light on the complex 'cycle of abuse', The Wire, October 29, 2022.
15. **Rahul Jayaram**, '*For Its Own Sake Hindi Belt Needs English More*' Deccan Herald, November 13, 2022.
16. **Ranjana Raghunathan**, '*Appreciating the world through an ethnographic lens*', Education World, November 2022.
17. **Umesh Mahtani**, '*How start-ups can avoid layoffs through sustainable business management?*', Times of India, December 2, 2022.
18. **Rahul Jayaram**, '*Learning without Burden*' Deccan Herald, December 4, 2022.
19. **Smitha Rao**, '*Data Science – A Boon to Society*' in Express Computer (The Indian Express), December 6, 2022.
20. **Rahul Jayaram**, '*French Football & English Cricket: No Fear of Losing*' Deccan Herald, January 1, 2023.
21. **Rahul Jayaram**, '*Misplaced Priorities of Indian Education*' Deccan Herald, January 29, 2023.
22. **Arvind Lodaya & Aparna Vinod**, '*Learning to Learn in the Age of AI*', Deccan Herald, April 15, 2023.
23. **Smitha Rao**, '*5 Reasons Why Skills in Data Science are Gaining the Attention of Top IT Recruiting Companies*' Express Computer, April 21, 2023.
24. **Umesh Mahtani**, '*Tips for students entering the workforce in the layoff season*' The Hindu, 7th May, 2023 (Online) and May 8, 2023.
25. **Radhika Lobo**, '*How liberal arts degree helps in developing critical thinking*' The Hans India on July 2, 2023. (Online + Print)
26. **D. C. Kiran**, '*Why computational studies are gaining popularity*' Education Times, (The Times of India), July 3, 2023. (Print)

CONFERENCE PAPER PRESENTATION/PROCEEDINGS

27. **Arvind Lodaya**, *"Designing Means and Not Ends to Solve Wicked Problems at Global Scale"*, 4th DesignOps Global Conference 2022 (<https://designops-conference.com>), organized by DesignOps Conference, online, June 14-16, 2022.

28. **Ranjana Raghunathan**, *Secrecy in Marriage: Threat and Hope for making Relatedness, in Panel titled, The hope for marriage: Transforming intimate worlds and social futures*, in 17th EASA 2022 (European Association of Social Anthropologists): Transformation, Hope and Commons, Biennial Conference School of History, Anthropology, Philosophy and Politics, Queen's University Belfast, July 26-29, 2022.

29. **Arvind Lodaya**, *"Does Creativity Need Rescuing?"*, Third SARC International Conference on the New Human Family in South Asia, organized by Soka University Japan, online, November 26-27, 2022.

30. **R. P. Suresh**, *'Applications of Reliability Tools in Industry: Issues and Challenges'*, International Workshop on Reliability and Survival Analysis – 22, held in IISER, Kolkata, December 23, 2022.

31. **Arvind Lodaya**, *'Humanizing the Justice Experience: Can UX Design Methods Help?'*, Symposium on Redesigning our Justice System, organized by Justice Adda, International Centre Goa, January 7-8, 2023.

32. **Umesh Mahtani**, Anamika Sinha, and **Setu Havanur**, *Factors influencing financial reporting fraud under regulatory controls in the Indian context: Behavioral theory perspective*, EURAM 2023, Trinity Business School, Dublin, Ireland, June 14-16, 2023.

33. **Neha Khurana**, *Towards an Indigenous History of Indian Satirical Cartoons: The Case of R.K. Laxman*, Bennett University, Greater Noida, July 24, 2023.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS/ INVITED TALKS

34. **Smitha Rao**, Session Chair, *"4th International Conference on Advances in Computing & Information Technology"* (IACIT- 2022), May 18, 2022.

35. **Radhika Lobo**, Session Chair for *"Empowering to Create Smart Future through E-Governance and Digitization"* Presidency University, July 8, 2022.

36. **R. P. Suresh**, Invited Talk on *'Applications of reliability tools in warranty problems in industry: issues and challenges, Seminar on Statistics and Reliability'*, University of Pune, Pune, September 23, 2022.

37. **Arvind Lodaya**, *"Bringing about a Copernican Revolution in Public Services"*, invited lecture/masterclass by JusticeAdda (Goa), online, October 15, 2022.

38. **Radhika Lobo**, *'Role of International Institutions in Promoting Gender-Based Policies'*, Resource Person for Online Short-Term Course, 'Gender Equality and Social Transformation' UGC Human Resource Development Centre October 18, 2022.

39. **Radhika Lobo**, *"Designing the Curriculum, 'Resource Person for Faculty Induction Program"*, UGC Human Resource Development Centre, November 3, 2022.

40. **Arvind Lodaya**, *The Zen of Failing*, Keynote address for Session, 2nd Impact/Failure Conclave, organized by Selco Foundation, IIM Bangalore, November 25-26, 2022.

41. **Arvind Lodaya**, *How Can We Achieve Sustainability*, Session Keynote at 3rd International Conference on the New Human Family in South Asia, organized by Soka University, online, November 26-27, 2022.

REVIEWERS/ REFEREES IN NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS/ PUBLICATIONS

52. **R. P. Suresh**, Reviewed a paper for Mathematical Reviews, May 2023.

42. **Radhika Lobo**, Keynote address on '*Globalisation 5.0*', in International Conference "*Recent Trends in Hospitality, Culinary and Business Practices*", Chaupal 2022 Vedaanya University, December 8-9, 2022.

43. **R. P. Suresh**, Invited Talk on '*Industrial Applications to Statistics and Some of the Challenges*', Colloquium in Statistics, Department of Statistics, University of Pune, Pune, March 4, 2023.

44. **R. P. Suresh**, Invited Talk on, '*Applications of Reliability Tools in Industry: Issues and Challenges*', IISER, Kolkata, December 23, 2022.

45. **Radhika Lobo**, Invited talk on '*DigitAll and Equity*', International Women's Day, Hinduja College, Mumbai, March 10, 2023.

46. **Radhika Lobo**, '*Education and Health, Panel discussion on Union budget, 2023*', CMS, Jain University, March 11, 2023.

47. **Ranjana Raghunathan**, '*Urban Entanglements in the global city of Singapore*', NIAS Urban Lecture Series, March 28, 2023.

48. **Smitha Rao**, '*Putting Math to Work: A Career in Data Science & Analytics*', Mindler, Bengaluru, June 16, 2023.

49. **Smitha Rao**, '*Data Storytelling*', Workshop organized by Qualcomm, June 26, 2023.

50. **Neha Khurana**, '*Invited Talk on English Literature and Industry Expectations*', Amity University, Noida, July 15, 2023.

51. **Smitha Rao**, '*Data Storytelling*', Workshop organized by Qualcomm, July 21, 2023.

CENTER FOR LEARNING SCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGIES

The Center for Learning Sciences and Technologies at Vidyashilp University is dedicated to fostering a culture of pedagogical innovation within the University. Its primary goal is to enhance educational experiences through evidence-based pedagogical methods that prioritize student-centric and transdisciplinary approaches. The center collaborates with various stakeholders within and outside the University to initiate conversations and promote its vision.

KEY INITIATIVES

DEVELOPING LEARNING ASSETS

The Center has developed the "Classroom Taxonomies & Positions Framework" (CTPF) and toolkit, which effectively maps the University's learning scenarios. The CTPF framework serves as a pedagogical guide, enabling faculty to align their teaching practices with unique teaching scenarios and classroom circumstances.

DEVELOPING IN-HOUSE CAPACITY

The Center has designed and facilitated workshops, talks, and faculty development programs that focus on creative pedagogies and classroom practices to support its goals. It regularly invites renowned pedagogues and alternative learning experts to train and enhance faculty capacity.

EXTENDING CONVERSATIONS

The Center expands its operations beyond the University by conducting workshops and delivering talks to school leaders and teachers. These sessions address immediate educational challenges arising from the rapidly changing educational landscape. Topics covered include Making Thinking Visible, the Future of Learning (How, Not What), and Creative Pedagogies and Classroom Practices.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT

As part of introducing students to learner-centric pedagogies, the center offers a foundational course called 'Learning to Learn'. This course is included in the University's core curriculum and is accessible to all students. Through active and constructivist pedagogy, the course develops lifelong learning skills and empowers students to take ownership of their learning.

CENTER FOR WRITING

The Center for Writing is an endeavor aimed at helping students hone their writing skills to express themselves clearly and precisely. In today's day and age, this entails the students excelling at writing within their respective disciplines and presenting themselves to the world through their writing. The Center for Writing thus proposes to shape students' writing and presentation skills through a series of mini-courses carefully curated to address different needs. The Center for Writing is set to be

launched in the Academic Year 2023-24. Some workshop-based courses that will be available to students are:

Research writing

Business and technical writing / writing at the university and the workplace

Writing about oneself

Writing for the media



RESEARCH PROJECT: 'LEARNING ANALYTICS IN HIGHER EDUCATION IN INDIA'

Principal Investigator: Prof. Anitha Kurup

Research Associate: Mr. Debarun Sarkar

One of the ongoing research projects undertaken by the Center is 'Learning Analytics in Higher Education in India'. This collaborative effort involves the Education Programme at the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS), Bengaluru, and the Center for Learning Sciences and Technologies at Vidyashilp University, Bengaluru. Led by Professor Anitha Kurup, Head of the Education Programme at the NIAS, the project aims to explore the potential of using learning analytics in the Indian higher education context and is an attempt to jumpstart an interface between the fields of social sciences and learning analytics. This intersectional field, which is relatively new to India, has been gaining popularity and attention over the past few years, especially in the domain of engineering.

While the project has maintained a focus on the field of learning analytics, a range of ancillary concerns have also emerged as a key focus of the project. Operationalizing learning analytics necessitates thinking through organizational reforms, existing work and labor practices, curriculum, pedagogical techniques, and assessment methodologies. Through collaborations with various institutions of higher education, the project will produce an analysis of data that will play a key role in rethinking curriculum, pedagogy, and assessment. Prof. Kurup and Mr. Sarkar have been presenting their research at various institutions across the world and have two major publications to their credit.





12

OPEN HOUSE

ENGAGEMENT WITH PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

The 'Open House' is a platform where the University invites prospective students to visit the campus along with their parents or guardians. The event is a great opportunity for these visiting students to know what their Life at VU would look like. It gives them a chance to learn about the University, the curriculum, and the admission process. They also get an opportunity to interact directly with the Vice Chancellor and faculty to understand the intricate nature of the courses that are curated for them.



Our students involve themselves by providing a campus tour and enthusiastically telling the visitors about how and what they learn.

A typical Open House at VU is filled with a lot of learning, loads of interactions, and some delicious samosas.





04

**OPEN HOUSES
HOSTED AT VU**

DATES

**11th FEBRUARY
2023**

**08th APRIL
2023**

**06th MAY
2023**

**10th JUNE
2023**



We have students coming in from all parts of the city during these days. Overall, we had over 60 registrations, of which 35 students visited us along with their parents.





13

STATUTORY MEETINGS

2ND MEETING OF THE RESEARCH AND INNOVATION COUNCIL, DECEMBER 22, 2022

The 2nd Meeting of the Research and Innovation Council was held on Thursday, December 22, 2022, at 3 p.m. Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, Vice Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, chaired the meeting. Prof. Preeti Goyal from the Great Lakes Institute of Management, Gurgaon, and Prof. Anitha Kurup from the National Institute of Advanced Studies served as expert members. Prof. Smitha Rao, Prof. Jayaraman Valadi, Dr. Anupama A. V., Dr. N. Mehala, and Dr. Kiran D. C. were invited by the Vice Chancellor to attend the meeting. Dr. Bijil Prakash, Dr. Setu Havanur, and Prof. Umesh S. Mahtani were also present as invitees. Prof. Mohan Sangeneni, Dr. Shilpi Sharma, Prof. Radhika Lobo, and Prof. R. P. Suresh were granted a leave of absence. The meeting saw active participation from esteemed members, contributing to the advancement of research and innovation initiatives at Vidyashilp University.





2ND MEETING OF ACADEMIC COUNCIL, JANUARY 14, 2023

The second meeting of the Academic Council was held on January 14, 2023. Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, Vice Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, chaired the meeting. Prof. Mukta Kulkarni, Member of the Board of Governors and Chair of the Internal Committee at IIM Bangalore, and Dr. Venkatesh Panchapagesan, Head of the Real Estate Research Initiative and Associate Professor of Finance at IIM Bangalore were members who attended the meeting in person, while Prof. Lolita Dutta, former Associate Director and HoD at Unitedworld Institute of Design, Karnavati University, participated online. Additionally, Mr. Dhruv Sehra, founder of 256 Network and President of Kairos, and Ms. Shruti Choudhari, Director of Projects & Strategy at B L Kashyap & Sons Ltd. and Founder & Principal Architect of Chrysalis Design Studio, were present as invitees. Prof. Umesh S. Mahtani, Prof. Arvind

Lodaya, Prof. Smitha Rao, Prof. Radhika Lobo, and Dr. Kiran D. C. were the internal members who were present. Ms. Apala Lahiri, Co-Founder and CEO of Human Factors International, and Dr. Ashish Pandey, Assistant Professor at IIM Lucknow and former CEO of Front Yard Residential, were granted leave of absence.

The 2nd Academic Council meeting addressed key academic matters and approved crucial decisions. The meeting ratified minutes, reviewed the Revised Academic Calendar, and approved student admissions. Evaluation processes, grading, and an amendment to the Academic Regulations were also endorsed. The constitution of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) and upcoming program offerings were highlighted. The meeting exemplified the University's commitment to academic excellence and transparent governance.

2ND MEETING OF THE BOARD OF MANAGEMENT, FEBRUARY 25, 2023

The 2nd Meeting of the Board of Management was conducted on February 25, 2023, and was attended by several key members. Present at the meeting were Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Chairperson and Vice Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, along with Mr. P. Ravindra Pai, and Mr. P. Ashwin Pai, both Trustees of Vidyanidhi Education Trust and representing the Sponsoring Body. Additionally, Mr. Ravi Machani, the Managing Director of Machani Group and Advisory Member representing the Chancellor, was also present. Dr. Kiran D. C., Registrar (i/c) of Vidyashilp University, acted as the Secretary for the meeting. The Permanent Invitee, Dr. Kiran Pai, Pro-Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, was in attendance as well. Among the Advisory Board Invitees, Prof. H. A. Ranganath, former Director of NAAC and former Vice Chancellor of Bangalore University, and Mr. Aprameya Radhakrishna, Co-Founder & CEO of Koo and Angel Investor in Indian startups, attended the meeting. The Faculty Invitees included Prof. Smitha Rao, Professor in the School of Computational and Data Sciences, and Prof. Umesh S. Mahtani, Professor in the School of Business Studies.

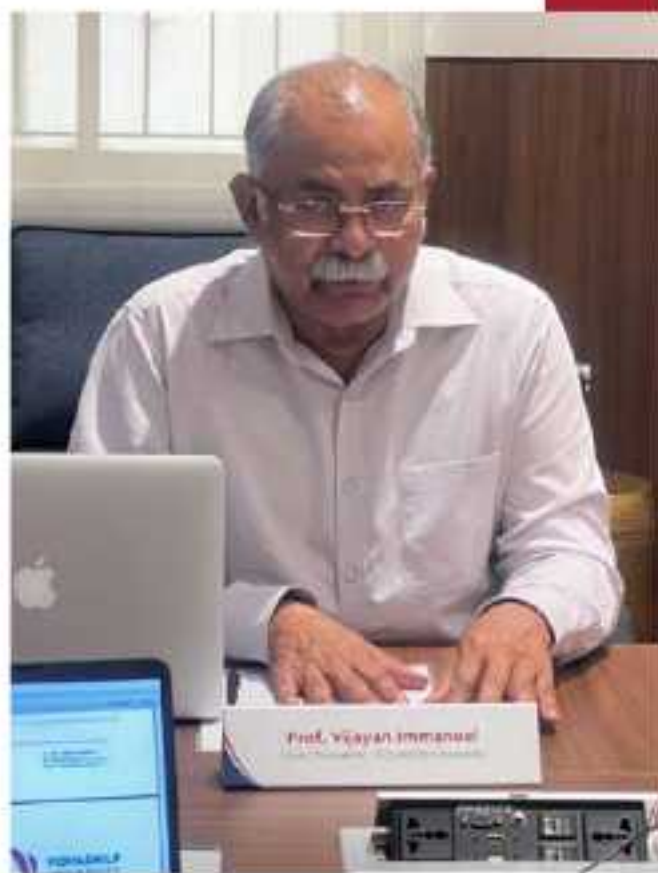
Notably, Mr. Aprameya Radhakrishna attended the meeting online. Several members, including Prof. Arvind Lodaya, Prof. Radhika Lobo, Prof. Gabrielle Malfatti, Mr. Pranav Pai, Prof. Devi Singh, Mr. Prashanth Prakash, and Mr. N. Rangachary, were granted leave of absence and did not attend the meeting.

The second Board of Management meeting, chaired by Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, focused on significant developments at the University. Apart from the regular BOM agenda, the board commended the University's progress, completion of statutory compliances, and the establishment of the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC). Recommendations were made to explore cutting-edge technologies. Membership with the Association of Indian Universities (AIU) and registration with the National Academic Depository (NAD) were acknowledged. The meeting concluded with discussions on a sports policy and updates on admissions for the next academic year.



3RD BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING ON MARCH 11, 2023

Vidyashilp University held its 3rd Board of Governors Meeting on March 11, 2023. The meeting was graced by esteemed members, including Dr. P. Dayananda Pai, the Chancellor of Vidyashilp University, who led the proceedings as the Chairperson. Joining him were Dr. Kiran Pai, the Pro-Chancellor, and Prof. Vijayan Immanuel, the Vice Chancellor, both bringing their expertise to the table. Mr. Chetan Rai, the CEO of YCRAI Pvt. Ltd., attended as the state government's nominee, while Ms. Shilpa Pai, Mr. P. Ravindra Pai, and Mr. P. Ashwin Pai represented the Vidyandhi Education Trust. Dr. Kiran D. C., the Registrar (i/c) of Vidyashilp University, managed the meeting as the Secretary. The meeting showcased Vidyashilp University's commitment to excellence in education and research. Their presence and active engagement signify the University's determination to build a world-class institution for the benefit of students and society at large.







14

COFFEE MEET

PAN INDIA INITIATIVE

The 'Coffee Meet' was an exciting initiative by Vidyashilp University to reach out to students across 10 cities in India. The faculty accompanied by a member of the counseling team travelled to each city. These meetings were held to give students living in these cities a chance to meet with the faculty directly and know in depth about the curriculum. Through these interactions, the students also learned a lot about the University, the admission process, and campus life at VU.

In all, we conducted the Coffee Meet in 10 cities.

Counselor: Prashanth Raja
Faculty: Ms. Aparna Vinod

April 8, 2023
Chennai

Counselor: Sindhu V.
Faculty: Dr. Bijil Prakash

April 8, 2023
Kochi

Counselor: Frank Russel Felix

April 9, 2023
Indore

Counselor: Vindya Kushal
Faculty: Dr. D. C. Kiran

April 15, 2023
Mysore

Counselor: Shyam Kumar
Faculty: Ms. Neha Khurana

April 16, 2023
New Delhi





Counselor: Shweta Kaul
Faculty: Prof. Radhika Lobo

April 23, 2023
Mumbai

Counselor: Frank Russel Felix
Faculty: Dr. Ranjana Raghunathan

April 29, 2023
Kolkata

Counselor: Vindya Kushal
Faculty: Prof. Smitha Rao

April 29, 2023
Coimbatore



Counselor: Shyam Kumar
Faculty: Prof. Arvind Lodaya & Ms. Aparna Vinod

April 29, 2023
Pune

Counselor: Nirmal Pradeep
Faculty: Prof. Smitha Rao

April 29, 2023
Hyderabad

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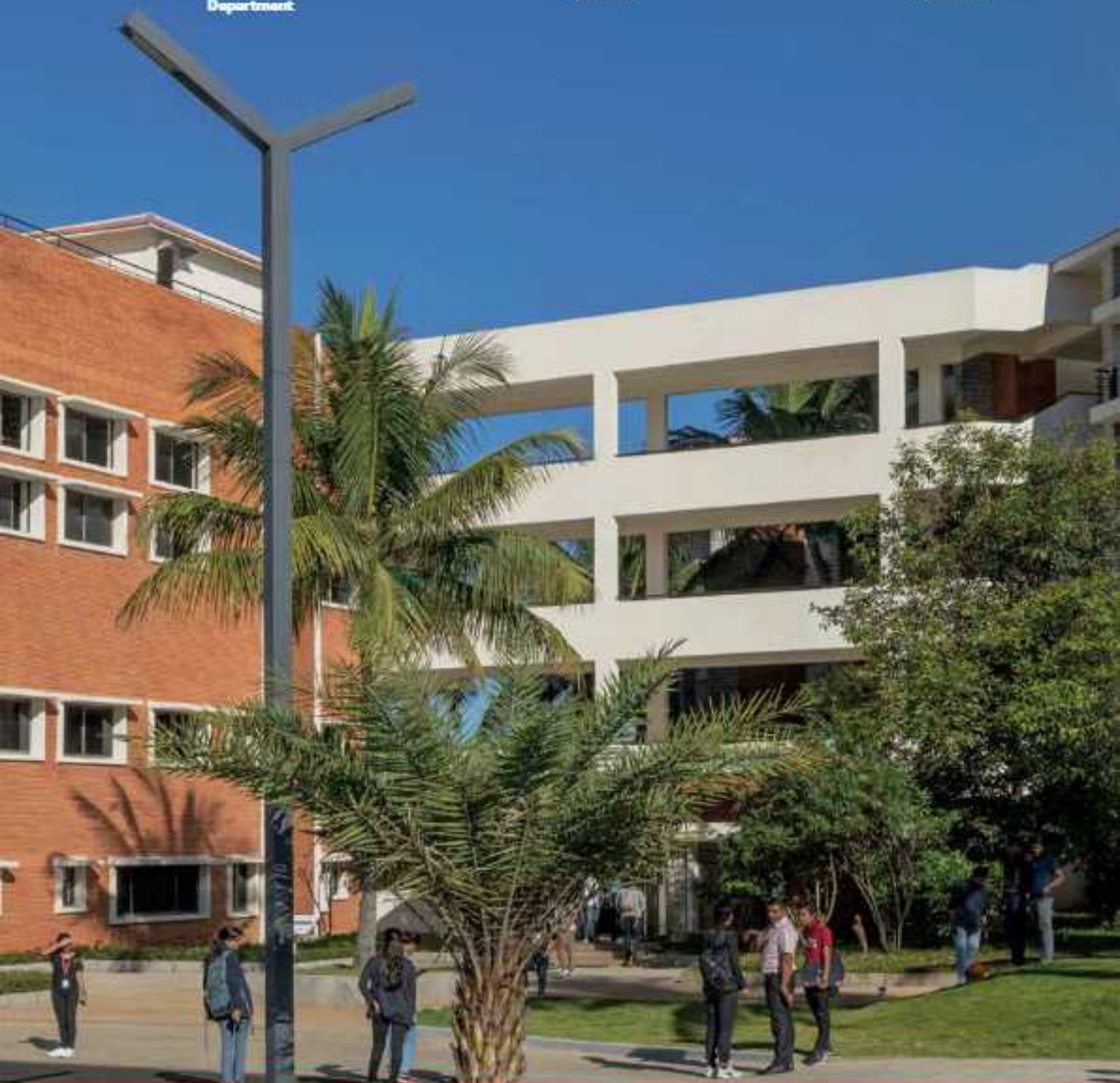
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