Office of Research Studies

MINUTES OF THE 30th RESEARCH BOARD MEETING

Date and Time : 26.09.2026 & 10.15 A.M – 12.30 P.M

Location of Meeting : VC Chamber, Vel Tech

Research Board Members

S. No	Name of the Experts	Designation / Organization	Research Board Member
1	Prof. Dr. Rajat Gupta	Vice Chancellor, Vel Tech	Chairman
2	Prof. Dr. R. Sivaraman,	Pro-Vice Chancellor, Vel Tech	Ex-officio Member
3	Prof. Dr. S. Ramesh	Registrar, Vel Tech	Member
4	Prof. Dr. N. Lenin	Dean (Academics), Vel Tech	Member
5	Prof. Dr. P. Chandrakumar	Dean (R&D), Vel Tech	Member
6	Prof. Dr. Valarmathi R S	Dean (SoEC), Vel Tech	Member
7	Prof. Dr. Mihir Kumar Purkait	Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, IIT Guwahati, Assam	Expert Member - Academician
8	Prof. Dr.Mohd. Farooq Wani	Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, NIT Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir	Expert Member - Academician
9	Dr.M. Gulam Nabi Alsath	Associate Professor, Department of ECE & Deputy Director, Centre for Research, College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	Expert Member - Academician
10	Dr. Rajendra Prasath	Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh	Expert Member - Academician
11	Dr. R. Vijay	Director, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad	Expert Member - R&D
12	Dr. Shourya Dutta Gupta	Associate Professor, Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, Telangana.	Expert Member - R&D
13	Mr. N. Sivasankaran	Chief Technical Officer, Co-founder and Director (Innovation & Technical),Viruksa Manufacturing Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu.	Expert Member - Industry
14	Prof. Dr. C. R. Bharathi	Controller of Examinations (i/c), Vel Tech	Special Invitee
15	Prof. Dr. M. Vinod Kumar	Dean (Research Studies), Vel Tech	Secretary
16	Other Invited Members	All Deans, Vel Tech	Invitees

Agenda Items

A. Opening

The Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Chairman of the Research Board, welcomed all members to the 30th meeting. The session began with a presentation by the Dean (Research Studies) highlighting major research developments, followed by agenda discussions.

Item No.	Agenda
30.1	**To inform the Board about the leave of absence of members** **Action**: The board was informed about the absence of members. The attendance sheet is attached in *Annexure I*.
30.2	**To confirm and record the action taken report on the minutes of the 29th Research Board held on 21.04.2026.** **Action**: The minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed. All major actions are summarized as follows: *(i)Initiation of Multidisciplinary Ph.D. Programmes* The formulation of research groups and the development of guidelines for each multidisciplinary research cluster are currently in progress. The same will be finalized before the commencement of the next Ph.D. admission cycle (AY 2027-2028). *(ii) The proposal for establishment of Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) for academic, social and non-clinical research.* The IEC has been formulated and the relevant documents are prepared, including the IEC Policy, Ethical Approval Request Form, and Ethical Clearance Certificate. The Ethical Approval Request Form and Ethical Clearance Certificate were circulated to the Research Board Members via email for review. Based on their suggestions, the Ethical Approval Request Form was revised and subsequently approved by the members. The Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for the IEC will be presented for discussion and approval under Item No. 30.4.

30.3	**The current status of research scholars' progression.** **Action**: The Dean (Research Studies) presented the statistics of research scholars, highlighting that the institution currently has 1286 scholars, comprising 29% (373) full-time and 71% (913) part-time scholars. The Board appreciated the current progress and overall statistics related to the research scholars' progression.

B. Items for Discussion and Approval

The Dean (Research Studies) presented the following agenda for discussion to the board members.

Item No.	Agenda
30.4	**To discuss and approve the SOP for IEC.** **Decision**: The Board approved the Item No. 30.4. The detailed SOP for IEC is attached in *Annexure II.*
30.5	**To discuss and approve the proposal for research co-supervisor eligibility for Academicians in India & Abroad and Scientists from Government R&D organizations / National Laboratories.** **Decision**: The Board approved Item No. 30.5 and recommended that the appointment of Co-Supervisors be subject to the following conditions: 1. *Compliance with UGC Regulations*: The appointment of Co-Supervisors shall be in accordance with Clause 6.1 of the UGC Regulations, 2022, which states: "Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other institutions may be permitted with the approval of the competent authority". 2. *Ph.D. Qualification*: Possession of a Ph.D. degree shall be mandatory for appointment as a Co-Supervisor. 3. *Research Profile*: The selection of Co-Supervisors shall be based on their research profile, expertise, and relevance to the research area of the scholar.

	The Board advised that an official letter be addressed to the UGC, seeking clarification and permission to appoint industry professionals without a Ph.D. degree as Co-Supervisors.
30.6	**To discuss and approve the proposal for "AI use in Ph.D. Plagiarism" in thesis report as per UGC.** **Decision**: The Board approved the continuation of the existing practice followed at Vel Tech for the use of AI tools in Ph.D. thesis reports with respect to plagiarism. The practice followed at Vel Tech for checking the plagiarism of Thesis is attached in *Annexure III*.
30.7	**To discuss and approve the proposed upper age limit for admission to the Full-Time Ph.D. Programme as per the University norms.** **Decision**: The Board recommended that the upper age limit for admission to the Full-Time Ph.D. Programme be prescribed in accordance with the applicable UGC guidelines.

C. Items for Ratification and Reporting

The Dean (Research Studies) presented the following agenda for Ratification and Reporting to the board members.

Item No.	Agenda
30.8	**To record the constitution and nominated members of the IEC for the ethical review and monitoring of eligible non-clinical research.** **Decision**: The board resolved to ratify the Item No. 30.8. The nominated members of the IEC are attached in *Annexure IV*.
30.9	**To record the appointment of new committee members for verification of certificates of selected candidates for Ph.D. programme before admission.** **Decision**: The board resolved to ratify the Item No. 30.9. The new committee members for verification of certificates are attached in *Annexure V*.

30.10	**To record newly approved Research Supervisors since the last Research Board meeting held on 21-04-2026.** **Decision:** The Board resolved to record the list of newly approved Research Supervisors since the previous Research Board Meeting, as provided in *Annexure VI*.
30.11	**To record vacant positions of Research Supervisors for Winter Session 2026-27.** **Decision**: The Board resolved to record the vacant Research Supervisor positions across various departments for the Winter Session 2026-27 admission process are attached in *Annexure VII*.
30.12	**To record the events and sessions conducted for research scholars through Research Studies Office since the last Research Board meeting conducted on 21-04.2026.** **Decision**: The Board resolved to record the events and sessions conducted for research scholars through the office of Research Studies are attached in *Annexure VIII*.

D. Closing

Item No.	Agenda
30.13	**Any other item with the permission of the Chairperson.** The Chairperson appreciated the research initiatives supported by data analysis and encouraged the members to continue emphasizing the enhancement of research quality. No additional item was discussed. The following suggestions are provided by the board members to strengthen the institution's research ecosystem: ➢ Ph.D. workshops on research writing and publication, supplemented by hands-on training sessions to enhance research scholars' skills. ➢ Explore the opportunities for M.Tech. scholars to transition to the Ph.D. programme. ➢ Maintain a database of adjunct professor's profiles and leveraging their expertise to encourage faculty collaborations, research visits, and joint

	research activities, thereby promoting academic exchange among faculty members and research scholars.
30.14	**Vote of thanks** The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairperson and members for their active participation and valuable contributions, proposed by the Secretary.

M. 23/10/2026.

Dean (Research Studies)

Prof. Dr. M. Vinod Kumar
Dean - Research Studies
Vel Tech
Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala
R&D Institute of Science and Technology
University
(Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
Avadi, Chennai

Vice Chancellor

Prof. Rajat Gupta
Vice Chancellor
Vel Tech
Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala
R&D Institute of Science and Technology
University
(Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
Avadi, Chennai

Vel Tech
Rangarajan Dr. Sagunthala R&D Institute of Science and Technology
DEEMED TO BE
University
(Estd. u/s 3 of UGC Act, 1956)
Avadi, Chennai

ANNEXURE I

Office of Research Studies

30th Research Board Meeting

26th September 2026 | 10.15 am onwards | Venue: Senate Hall

Attendance Sheet

S. No.	List of Committee Members	Signature
1.	Prof. Rajat Gupta Vice Chancellor, Vel Tech	
2.	Prof. Dr. R. Sivaraman Pro-Vice Chancellor	AB
3.	Dr. S. Ramesh Registrar, Vel Tech	26/9/26
4.	Dr. N. Lenin Professor & Dean Academics, Vel Tech	26/09/26
5.	Prof. Dr. P. Chandrakumar Dean – R & D, Vel Tech	
6.	Prof. Dr. Valarmathi R S Dean – SoEC, Vel Tech	26/9/26.
7.	Prof. Dr. Mihir Kumar Purkait Professor, Department of Chemical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, Assam	26/9/2026
8.	Prof. Dr.Mohd. Farooq Wani Professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, National Institute of Technology Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir	
9.	Dr. M. Gulam Nabi Alsath Associate Professor, Department of Electronics & Communication Engineering and Deputy Director, Centre for Research, College of Engineering Guindy, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu	26.09.2026.
10.	Dr. Rajendra Prasath Associate Professor, Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Indian Institute of Information Technology, Sri City, Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh	26/9/26
11.	Dr. R. Vijay Director, International Advanced Research Centre for Powder Metallurgy & New Materials (ARCI), Hyderabad, Telangana	AB

S. No.	List of Committee Members	Signature
12.	Dr. Shourya Dutta Gupta Associate Professor, Materials Science and Metallurgical Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, Telangana	
13.	Mr. N. Sivasankaran Chief Technical Officer, Co-founder and Director (Innovation & Technical), Viruksa Manufacturing Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu	
14.	Dr. M. Vinod Kumar Professor & Dean (Research Studies), Vel Tech	
	Special Invitees	
15.	Dr. C. R. Bharathi Professor and Controller of Examinations (i/c), Vel Tech	
16.	Dr. R. Kavitha Associate Dean – Academics, Vel Tech	
17.	Dr. M. Rajeev Kumar Professor & Dean (Quality Assurance), Vel Tech	
18.	Dr. P. Suresh Professor & Dean (International Relations & HRDC), Vel Tech	
19.	Dr. P. Vijayaraman Dean (Campus to Corporate), Vel Tech	
20.	Dr. S. Sridevi Professor & Dean (Student Affairs), Vel Tech	AB
21.	Dr. S. P. Chokkalingam Professor & Dean (SoC), Vel Tech	
22.	Dr. K. Jagajjanani Rao Professor & Dean (SoBE), Vel Tech	
23.	Dr. M.S. Murali Dhar Professor & Dean (FME), Vel Tech	AB
24.	Dr. B. Venugopal Professor & Dean (SoL), Vel Tech	
25.	Dr. K. Ravishankar Professor & Dean (SoM), Vel Tech	AB
26.	Dr. K. Aruna Professor & Dean (SCoM), Vel Tech	AB

Annexure II

Standard Operating Procedure for Institutional Ethics Committee

A structured **four-stage review process** will be implemented.

Step 1: Pre-Submission Ethics Check

Before submitting the proposal, the **research supervisor must certify** that:

- the research minimizes potential harm
- participant confidentiality is protected
- ethical principles are incorporated in the research design

Step 2: Formal Submission

Researchers must submit the **Ethical Approval Request Form** in **Research Portal (Clique)**

Step 3: Review Meeting

- Review and approve research manuscripts / proposals from ethical perspectives
- Evaluate risks and benefits associated with proposed studies
- Verify adequacy of informed consent procedures
- Assess confidentiality and data protection measures
- Recommend modifications wherever necessary
- Address ethical complaints or concerns arising from research activities

Step 4: Committee Decision

The IEC shall meet periodically, as required, with meetings conducted monthly once in online mode and quarterly in offline mode. Based on the nature of the cases/issues considered, the IEC may issue one of the following decisions:

1. **Approved** – Ethics clearance granted.
2. **Conditional Approval** – Minor modifications required before approval.
3. **Resubmission / Rejection** – Major ethical concerns requiring substantial revision.

Upon approval, an **Ethics Clearance Certificate** will be issued.

Annexure III

Practice Followed at Vel Tech for Checking the Plagiarism of Thesis

1. Thesis Plagiarism / Similarity

For checking thesis plagiarism/similarity, **DrillBit** is used through **INFLIBNET's ShodhShuddhi programme**. If **similarity index is below 10%,** then the thesis is processed for submission.

2. AI-Generated Content

(a) **AI-Generated Content < 10%:** If a scholar's thesis shows **less than 10% AI-generated content** in the **DrillBit** report, the thesis is processed for submission.

(Or)

(b) **AI-Generated Content > 20%:** If a thesis shows **more than 20% AI-generated content** in the **DrillBit** report, the AI-generated content is **further verified using Turnitin**. The thesis is accepted when the **Turnitin AI detection is 0% or below 20%**.

Annexure IV

Members of Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC)

COMPOSITION OF THE IEC

The Institutional Ethics Committee consist of seven members from diverse disciplines to ensure independent and objective review.

S. No	Member Name & Institution	Representation
1	**Dr C. Sheela**, Managing Partner, SS Clini Research LLP, Director - Research & Education, Dr. RK Diabetic Foot and Podiatry Institute, Chennai.	Chairman
2	**Dr. K. Jagajjanani Rao,** Dean, School of Bioengineering, Vel Tech	Member Secretary
3	**Dr. K. Ravishankar,** Dean, School of Management, Vel Tech	Subject Experts
4	**Dr. P. Azhagu Saravana Babu,** HoD, Department of Biotechnology, Vel Tech	Subject Experts
5	**Dr. B. Venugopal,** Dean, School of Law, Vel Tech	Legal Expert
6	**Dr. P. Chandrakumar,** Dean (R&D), Vel Tech	Social and Ethical Implications
7	**Dr. M. Vinod Kumar,** Dean (Research Studies), Vel Tech	Social and Ethical Implications

Annexure V

Committee Members for Verification of Certificates

The following members are nominated for verification of certificates of selected candidates for Ph.D. programme.

Chairperson

- Prof. Dr. S. Ramesh,
  Registrar

Members

- Prof. Dr. K. Ravishankar,
  Prof. & Dean (School of Management)

- Dr. A. Prasanth,
  Assistant Dean (Research Studies)

- Prof. Dr. R. Jaganraj,
  Prof. & Head - Aeronautical Engineering

- Prof. Dr. D. Senthilkumar,
  Prof. & Head - Physics

Secretary

- Prof. Dr. M. Vinod Kumar,
  Dean (Research Studies)

Annexure VI

Newly Approved Research Supervisors

The following table presents the details of the newly approved Research Supervisors in the respective departments since the previous Research Board Meeting held on 21-04-2026.

S.No.	Department	Newly Approved Research Supervisor
1	Aeronautical Engineering	0
2	Biomedical Engineering	0
3	Biotechnology	1
4	Chemistry	2
5	Civil Engineering	1
6	Commerce	7
7	CSE	22
8	EEE	1
9	ECE	3
10	English	2
11	Information Technology	3
12	Law	0
13	Management Studies	4
14	Mathematics	7
15	Mechanical Engineering	2
16	Media and Communication	1
17	Physics	1
Total (as on 25.09.2026)		**57**

Annexure VII

Vacant Positions of Research Supervisors for Winter Session 2026-27

The following table presents the details of the vacant positions of research supervisors for Winter Session 2026-27.

S.No.	Department	Research Supervisor Vacancy
1	Aeronautical Engineering	33
2	Biomedical Engineering	42
3	Biotechnology	39
4	Chemistry	102
5	Civil Engineering	69
6	Commerce	67
7	CSE	739
8	EEE	78
9	ECE	511
10	English	19
11	Information Technology	37
12	Law	1
13	Management Studies	26
14	Mathematics	137
15	Mechanical Engineering	165
16	Media and Communication	5
17	Physics	63
Total (as on 25.09.2026)		**2133**

Annexure VIII

Events and Sessions Conducted for Research Scholars

The following details provides the events and sessions conducted for research scholars since the previous Research Board Meeting held on 21-04-2026.

- Research Talk on "Practical Strategies for Strengthening Your Research", held on 15.07.2026
- Orientation Program for newly admitted scholars (Batch 49), held on 08.08.2026
- Workshop on “Mastering the Art of Scholarly Writing: From Draft to Publication”, held on 22.08.2026
- Guest Lecture on “Research on Multimodal Language Models”, held on 02.09.2026

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