

**MINUTES OF THE SIXTY FIRST MEETING
OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL**

**VENUE : VIVEKANANDA HALL
GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (DTBU)
GANDHIGRAM**

DATE : 15.07.2025

TIME : 10.31 A.M.



**THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE
(Deemed to be University)
GANDHIGRAM - 624 302, DINDIGUL DISTRICT
TAMIL NADU**

**THE GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE
(Deemed to be University)
GANDHIGRAM**

**MINUTES OF THE 61st MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC COUNCIL
HELD ON 15.07.2025 AT 10.31 A.M. AT VIVEKANANDA HALL
GANDHIGRAM RURAL INSTITUTE (DTBU), GANDHIGRAM**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sl.No.	Name	Membership
1.	Dr.N.Panchanatham Vice-Chancellor Gandhigram Rural Institute (DTBU) Gandhigram.	Chairperson
2.	Dr.S.Balasundari Dean, School of English and Foreign Languages	Member
3.	Dr. O.Muthiah Dean, School of Tamil, Indian Languages and Rural Arts	Member
4.	Dr.K.S.Nakkeeran Dean, School of Social Sciences	Member
5.	Dr.A.Balakrishnan Dean, School of Health Sciences and Rural Development	Member
6.	Dr.M.Sundaramari Dean, School of Agriculture and Animal Sciences	Member
7.	Dr.M.G.Sethuraman Dean, School of Sciences	Member
8.	Dr.K.Mahendran Dean, School of Computer Science & Technologies & Director i/c., Centre for Rural Technology	Member
9.	Dr.B.Tamilmani Dean, School of Management Studies & Head, Department of Cooperation	Member
10.	Dr.P.U.Mahalingam Head, Department of Biology and Director, IQAC	Member
11.	Dr.G.Mahadevan Head, Department of Mathematics	Member
12.	Dr.K.K.Satheeshkumar Head, Department of Chemistry	Member
13.	Dr.R.I.Sathya Head, Department of Home Science and Director, DDU-KK	Member
14.	Dr.S.Ariponnammal Head, Department of Physics	Member
15.	Dr.P.Kalavathi Head, Department of Computer Science and Applications	Member
16.	Dr.L.Rathakrishnan Head, Department of Rural Industries and Management	Member
17.	Dr.P.Anandakumar Head, Department of Tamil	Member

18.	Dr.SonkhoginHaokip Head, Dept. of Political Science & Development Administration	Member
19.	Dr.K.Manikandan Head, Department of Economics	Member
20.	Dr.R.Venkataravi Head, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension and Director i/c., Centre for LLL & E	Member
21.	Dr.P.S.Sreedevi Head, Department of Education	Member
22.	Dr.P.Anandharajakumar Head in-charge, Department of Rural Development and controller of Examinations i/c.	Member
23.	Dr.M.SaleemBaig Head In-charge, Department of Hindi	Member
24.	Dr.R.Kumaran Head in-charge, Department of Sociology	Member
25.	Dr.R.Mani Head in-charge, Dept. of Gandhian Thought & Peace Science	Member
26.	Dr.M.R.Rajan Head in-charge, Department of Rural Health and Sanitation	Member
27.	Dr.V.Kirubakaran Director In-charge, Centre for Rural Energy	Member
28.	Dr.S.Shaji Director in-charge, Centre for Malayalam Studies	
29.	Dr.B.Gurugnanam Director In-charge, Centre for Applied Geology	Member
30.	Dr.M.Muthukumar Director In-charge, Centre for Geoinformatics	Member
31.	Dr.N.Devaki, Director in/charge, Centre for Future Studies	Member
32.	Dr.K.Raja Alias Pranmalai Professor, Department of Rural Industries and Management	Member
33.	Dr.G.Baskaran Senior Professor, School of English and Foreign Languages	Member
34.	Dr.P.Balasubramaniam Senior Professor, Department of Mathematics	Member
35.	Dr.S.Meenakshi Professor, Department of Chemistry andDirctor, Research and Development, GRI.	Member
36.	Dr.Anitha Pius Professor, Department of Chemistry	Member
37.	Dr.K.P.Elango Senior Professor, Department of Chemistry	Member
38.	Dr.P.Vickraman Professor, Department of Physics	Member
39.	Dr.G.S.Kannan Senior Professor, School of Agriculture & Animal Sciences	Member
40.	Dr.K.Ravichandran Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation	Member
41.	Dr.Well Haorei Associate Professor, Dept. of Rural Industries and Management	Member
42.	Dr.S.Kavitha Maithily Associate Professor, Department of Home Science	Member

43.	Dr.S.Sivagurunathan Assistant Professor, Dept. of Computer Science & Applications	Member
44.	Dr.B.Senthilkumar Assistant Professor, Dept. of Rural Industries and Mamangement	Member
45.	Dr.K.Tharanikkarasu Professor Department of Chemistry Pondicherry University Pondicherry – 605 014.	Member
46.	Dr.M.Sundaramari Registrar in-charge Gandhigram Rural Institute Gandhigram.	Ex-Officio Secretary
47.	Dr.R.Uthayakumar, Director (Academic)	Special Invitee
48.	Dr.C.Sugumar Director of Physical Education and Yoga Centre	Special Invitee
49.	Dr.S.S.Vijayanchali, Director i/c., Centre for Women's Studies	Special Invitee

MEMBERS PRESENT THROUGH ONLINE:

1	Prof.V.BharathiHarishankar Vice-Chancellor Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women Coimbatore – 641 043.	Member
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The following members could not attend the meeting of the Academic Council:

1	Prof.G.Ravi Vice-Chancellor Alagappa University Karaikudi – 630 003.	Member
2	Dr.S.Manivel Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation	Member
3	Dr.M.Hilaria Soundari Head, Department of Applied Research	Member
4	Dr.N.Devaki, Director in/charge, Centre for Future Studies	Member
5	Dr.G.Muralidharan, Coordinator, CBCS & NEP 2020 Implementation Coordinator	Special Invitee
6	Dr.C.Pitchai, Professor in-charge of Library	Special Invitee
7	Dr.P.Shanugavadivu Director, Centre for Distance and Online Education	Special Invitee
8	Dr.N.Palaniappan Director, Computer Centre	Special Invitee

The meeting started with one minute silent prayer at 10.31 a.m.

The Chairperson welcomed the members and thanked them for being available for the meeting for interaction during the meeting. He introduced the external members to the council and also he welcomed both internal and external new members to the meeting.

The Chairperson presented the report of activities held between the previous Academic Council and the present Academic Council. He highlighted achievements of the Institute such as historical achievement of A++ Grade by GRI from NAAC (4th Cycle of accreditation), awards won by our faculties, MoUs signed, CSR Funds received, Endowment fund received etc.

The agenda for the meeting was taken up for discussion.

1. **Item No.1082/AC.2025.VII**

To confirm the minutes of the Sixtieth (60th) meeting of the Academic Council held on 05.07.2024.

The Academic Council confirmed the minutes of the Sixtieth meeting of the Academic Council held on 05.07.2024.

2. **Item No.1083/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the report of the Registrar on the action taken on the resolutions passed by the 60th Academic Council at its meeting held on 05.07.2024.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the report of the Registrar on the action taken on the resolutions passed by the 60th Academic Council at its meeting held on 05.07.2024.

3. **Item No.1084/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Applied Research held on 02.05.2025.

Dr.A.Balakrishnan, Senior Professor, Department of Applied Research presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Applied Research held on 02.05.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.K.Ravichandran, Senior Professor, Department of Cooperation, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Applied Research held on 02.05.2025.

4. **Item No.1085/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 13.05.2025.

Dr.M.R.Rajan, Head in-charge, Department of Rural Health and Sanitation presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 13.05.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.A.Balakrishnan, Senior Professor & Dean, School of Health Sciences and Rural Development, GRI.

Dr.M.G.Sethuraman suggested to finalize the credit for VPP in consultation with CBCS & NEP 2020 Coordinator and also VPP fees shall be referred to fee revision committee.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Rural Health and Sanitation held on 13.05.2025.

Further 2 credit to be included for VPP. The matter may be placed before the Examination Reforms Advisory Committee.(ERAC)

5. **Item No.1086/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the School of Agriculture and Animal Sciences held on 11.06.2025.

Dr.G.S.Kannan, Senior Professor, School of Agriculture and Animal Science presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the School of Agriculture and Animal Science held on 11.06.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.B.Gurugnanam, Senior Professor, Centre for Applied Geology, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the School of Agriculture and Animal Science held on 11.06.2025.

6. **Item No.1087/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of Institute Research Advisory Council held on 04.02.2025.

The Academic Council considered and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of Institute Research Advisory Council held on 04.02.2025.

7. **Item No.1088/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the Ph.D Programme Regulations-2024 as prepared and approved by Institute Research Advisory Council based on UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the Ph.D. Programme Regulations-2024 based on UGC (Minimum Standards and Procedures for Award of Ph.D. Degree) Regulations, 2022.

8. **Item No.1089/AC.2025.VII**

To consider and approve the decision taken in the meeting of Institute Research Advisory Council held on 04.02.2025 to rename the Research Advisory Committee into Institute Research Advisory Council notified in the UGC Gazette Notification Ph.D. Regulations 2022.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the renaming of Research Advisory Committee as Institute Research Advisory Council and to make necessary changes in the Institute Bye-laws.

9. Item No.1090/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve to convert the existing Cell for Culture and Arts into Centre for Culture and Arts under the School of Tamil, Indian Languages and Rural Arts.

Dr.O.Muthiah, Dean, School of Tamil, Indian Languages and Rural Arts presented the agenda and seconded by Dr.G.S.Kannan, Senior Professor, School of Agriculture & Animal Sciences, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and approved to change the Cell for Culture and Arts into Centre for Indian Culture and Rural Arts under School of Tamil, Indian Languages and Rural Arts.

10. Item No.1091/AC.2025.VII

To consider and ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science held on 18.10.2024.

Dr.R.Mani, Head in-charge, Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science held on 18.10.2024 and it was seconded by Dr.P.Anandarajakumar, Professor, Department of Rural Development, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and ratified the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Gandhian Thought and Peace Science held on 18.10.2024 with regard to conversion of 1 credit "Shanti Sena" course syllabus to 2 credit course for all UG and Five year Integrated Programme with effect from 2024-25 onwards.

11. Item No.1092/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Rural Industries and Management held on 20.06.2025.

Dr.L.Rathakrishnan, Head, Department of Rural Industries and Management presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Rural Industries and Management held on 20.06.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.P.Anandarajakumar, Professor, Department of Rural Development, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Rural Industries and Management held on 20.06.2025 and the credit to be awarded for Part I-Tamil Paper is 3 credits each for the first two semesters only.

12. Item No.1093/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Education held on 09.06.2025.

Dr.P.S.Sreedevi, Head, Department of Education presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 09.06.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.K. Raja Alias Pranmalai, Professor, Department of Rural Industries and Management, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Department of Education held on 09.06.2025.

13. Item No.1094/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension held on 10.07.2025.

Dr.R.Venkataravi, Head, Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of the Department of Lifelong Learning and Extension held on 10.07.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.L.Rathakrishnan, Senior Professor, Department of Rural Industries and Management, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of the Lifelong Learning and Extension held on 10.07.2025.

14. Item No.1095/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies for Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance held on 10.07.2025.

Dr.R.Venkataravi, Coordinator, Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance presented the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Studies of Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance held on 10.07.2025 and it was seconded by Dr.R.I.Sathya, Senior Professor, Department of Home Science, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting of Board of Studies of Diploma in Two Wheeler Mechanism and Maintenance n held on 10.07.2025.

15. Item No.1096/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve to start a Centre for Distance and Online Education based on the UGC (ODL Programmes and Online Programmes) Regulations, 2020 and subsequent amendments to admit students from the January 2026 session.

Dr.R.Udhayakumar, Director (Academic) presented the proposal and seconded by Dr.B.Gurugnanam, Professor, Centre for Applied Geology, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and approved in principle for the establishment of a Centre for Distance and Online Education to admit students from the January 2026 session.

16. Item No.1097/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the recommendation of the NAAC Peer-team for implementing their report with regard to Quality enhancement of the Institution.

Dr.P.U.Mahalingam, Director, IQAC presented and seconded by Dr.M.G.Sethuraman, Senior Professor, Department of Chemistry, GRI.

The Academic Council approved for adopting the NAAC Peer Team report with regard to NAAC Assessment and Accreditation (4th Cycle).

17. Item No.1098/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the proposal for admitting the Indian/NRI/Foreign students in the Schools/Departments/Centres of the Institute for undertaking Internship/Course Project work, along with guidelines and Application Format.

Dr.S.Meenakshi, Director, Research and Development presented the proposal for admitting the Indian/NRI/Foreign students in the Schools/Departments/centers of the Institute for undertaking internship/course project work.

The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal for admitting the Indian/NRI/Foreign students in the Schools/Departments/Centers of the Institute for undertaking internship/course project work along with guidelines and Application Format. Also approved to include the social sciences under the humanities stream.

18. Item No.1099/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the initiation of Institute Post Doctoral Fellowship scheme in GRI, Gandhigram to provide an opportunity to the scholars to carry out advanced studies and research in Schools/Departments/Centres of the Institute.

Dr.S.Meenakshi, Director, Research and Development presented the proposal for the initiation of Institute PDF in Gandhigram Rural Institute, Gandhigram and the same was seconded by Dr.L.Rathakrishnan, Senior Professor, Department of Rural Industries and Management, GRI.

The Academic Council considered and approved the proposal in principle and necessary guidelines for the Institute PDF shall be framed by a duly constituted Committee.

19. Item No.1100/AC.2025.VII

To consider the request of the Director, Centre for Rural Technology for creation of Department of Civil Engineering for further directions.

Dr.K.Mahendran, Director, Centre for Rural Technology presented and seconded by Dr.B.Gurugnanam, Professor, Centre for Applied Geology.

The Academic Council considered and directed that a Committee may be formed to look into the issue and to submit a report shortly.

Another Committee may also be constituted to look into the reorganization of Schools/Departments/Centres.

20. Item No.1101/AC.2025.VII

To consider and ratify the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of Examination Reforms Advisory Committee (ERAC).

The Academic Council considered, approved and ratified the action taken by the Vice-Chancellor on the minutes of the meeting of Examination Reforms Advisory Committee (ERAC) and also directed not to furnish percentage of marks in the Statement of Grades.

Further the Certificate for percentage (%) of marks shall be issued separately for those who request for the same.

21. Item No.1102/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the action taken by the Controller of Examinations treating two-credit course on Environmental Studies/Environmental Education/Environmental Science uniformly across the UG programmes.

The Controller of Examinations presented the action taken by him treating two-credit course on Environmental Studies/Environmental Education/Environmental Science uniformly across the UG programmes.

The Academic Council considered and approved the action taken by the Controller of Examinations treating two-credit course on Environmental Studies/Environmental Education/Environmental Science uniformly across the UG programmes and the same shall be implemented for B.Voc. Programmes with effect from the academic year 2025-26.

22. Item No.1103/AC.2025.VII

To consider and issue direction on the request of Director, Centre for Rural Energy for conducting Ph.D. Course Work Examinations online for a Part-time Ph.D. Scholar living abroad.

The Controller of Examinations presented the request of Director, Centre for Rural Energy for conducting Ph.D. Course Work Examinations online for a Part-time Ph.D. Scholar living abroad.

The Academic Council considered and directed that a Committee may be constituted to look into the request.

23. Item No.1104/AC.2025.VII

To consider and issue direction on conduct of Viva-Voce for Ph.D. candidates namely Mr.T.S.Jawahar, Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension and Ms.G.Sathyapriya, Department of Physics.

The Controller of Examination presented the issue of conducting Viva-Voce for Ph.D. candidates Mr.T.S.Jawahar, Department of Lifelong Learning & Extension and Ms.G.Sathyapriya, Department of Physics.

The Academic Council resolved that the respective Deans of Schools will look into the issue and solve the same.

24. Item No.1105/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve conduct of Extraordinary Supplementary Examinations for the candidates who have appeared in the Extraordinary Special Supplementary Examinations held in August 2023 and unsuccessful. And for those candidates who have crossed N+2 years.

The Controller of Examination presented the above agenda item for conduct of Extraordinary Supplementary Examinations for the candidates who have appeared in the Extraordinary Special Supplementary Examinations held in August 2023 and unsuccessful.

The Academic Council considered and approved for the conduct of Extraordinary supplementary examinations for the candidates who have appeared in the Extraordinary special supplementary examinations held in August 2023 and unsuccessful after collecting an examination fees of Rs.5,000/- per paper.

25. Item No.1106/AC.2025.VII

To consider and approve the proposal for offering Online Certificate Course on "V.O.C. Iyal" in Collaboration with V.O.C. Research circle, Tamil Nadu along with the syllabus.

Dr.P.Anandakumar, Head, Department of Tamil presented the proposal for offering Online Certificate Course on "V.O.C. Iyal" in Collaboration with V.O.C. Research circle, Tamil Nadu.

The Academic Council considered and approved in principle and directed that the above proposal shall be implemented after framing modalities and signing an MoU with V.O.C. Research Circle, Tamil Nadu.

26. Item No.1107/AC.2025.VII – Any other matter

1. Dr.M.Saleem Baig, Professor & Head i/c., Department of Hindi presented a request for teaching Core Hindi compulsory for those students who study Tamil under Part-I and teaching Core Tamil compulsory for those students who study Hindi under Part-I.

The Academic Council directed to constitute a Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr.G.Muralidharan, Senior Professor & Coordinator, CBCS/NEP 2020 to look in to the issue.

2. The Controller of Examinations i/c. informed the Academic Council that a Research Supervisor from the Department of Mathematics requested to induct Foreign Faculty working in colleges/universities abroad to be included as co-guide for the Ph.D research scholars in GRI (DTU).

The Academic Council directed that the matter be placed before the Institute Research Advisory Council for consideration and recommendation subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Department concerned in GRI to sign MoU with college/University from where co-guide would be drawn.
- (b) The curriculum/academic credentials of the foreign faculty proposed to be inducted as co-guide should be approved by the Vice-Chancellor of GRI prior to his/her induction as co-guide.
3. The Academic Council also directed that a Committee be constituted to frame re-entry criteria for the UG programmes owing to implementation of NEP 2020 with multiple exit and entry.
4. Due to the urgent requirement for placing and approving the Minutes of the 61st meeting of Academic Council in the ensuing Board of Management to be held on 18.07.2025, Vice-Chancellor and Registrar i/c., are hereby authorized to finalize the Minutes and place the same in Board of Management meeting. However, a soft copy of the draft minutes will be sent through mail today by 3.00 p.m. to all the members for approval to be granted on or before 17.07.2025 by 5.00 p.m.

The meeting came to an end at 2.15 p.m with tanks to the Chair and members.

Dr. M.Sundaramari
Registrar i/c

Dr. N.Panchanatham
Vice-Chancellor

Gandhigram
15.07.2025


REGISTRAR
Gandhigram Rural Institute(DTBU)