



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



VIT[®]
Vellore Institute of Technology
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

European Union Erasmus+ HARMONY Project

International Research Workshop

Date: September, 10, 2023 Time: 10:30 a.m.

Venue at VIT: Rajaji Hall, Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), India

The Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) hosted the international research workshop on 10 September 2023, as it is committed to excellence in fundamental research as well as the development of innovative technologies for the future. VIT offers a quality research training experience for its students. The institute maintain its relevance to world class research by linking with international research networks. The research facilities on campus have helped in attracting academicians, industry experts and researchers from all over the globe and enables them to pursue their research ambitions and pursuits. The world is changing and evolving rapidly at a lightning pace. Research can contribute immensely to this by inculcating knowledge and the dissemination of information and data which is very valuable these days.

Aims and objectives of the Workshop and Discussed points :

- To offer Research Programmes in par with international standards in various disciplines.

- To instill Research culture in the minds of the students in their undergraduate programme itself.
- To foster and promote Research Integrity amongst the researchers.
- To formulate the Research Policies and Regulations, from time to time, based on the needs, but in total compliance with associated regulatory bodies.

The discussions covered a wide range of topics, including the roles of the International Affairs Office, recent updates and policies, strategies for implementing internationalization on campus, and ways in which department coordinators can enhance the initiative through various exchange programs. Dr. R. Seenivasan, Director, International Relations of Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) delivered a comprehensive presentation, encompassing these crucial aspects. The 'Internationalization of the Research Workshop' was organized with the primary objective of fostering a deeper understanding of the internationalization process within Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT). Workshop Agenda and Discussions Roles of the International Affairs Office The workshop commenced with an exploration of the fundamental roles played by the International Relations Office.

It was emphasized that this office serves as a central hub for coordinating international activities within the institution, facilitating collaboration with international partners, and promoting internationalization initiatives.

Best practices to accelerate the international research opportunities :

The research workshop focused on the various aspects which would pave the way for increasing the global network to achieve the research goals and gain knowledge on the subject. The eminent scientist from the schools and the research centers were invited to share their ideas to enhance the research opportunities , the directors from the following centers were invited to present about their research centers. The faculty members actively involved in executing a number of R&D projects from

government agencies including DST, AR&DB, ISRO, UGC, BNRS and various consultancy projects from industries. These centre has the strong collaboration with various foreign universities across the globe.

- Automotive Research Center(ARC)
- Centre for Clean Environment (CCE)
- Centre for Functional Materials(CFM)
- Centre for Innovative Manufacturing Research (CIMR)
- Centre for NanoBiotechnology (CNBT)
- Centre for Nanotechnology Research (CNR)
- CO2 Research and Green Technologies Centre
- Centre for Bio Separation Technology (CBST)
- Centre for Biomaterials, Cellular and Molecular Theranostics (CBCMT)
- Centre for Disaster Mitigation & Management (CDMM)
- Technology Information Forecasting and assessment Council (TIFAC)

The students get a chance to visit other international partner universities in their final semester under the Semester Abroad Programme (SAP). VIT's Semester Abroad programme aims to encourage students from all streams to pursue their courses and capstone project in one of the international partner universities abroad. The Office of International Relations organizes a roadshow to students in their pre-final year and all are invited to participate. The Semester Abroad Programme (SAP) is pursued by both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

VIT also offers an International Transfer Programme (ITP) where the students can opt for studying at a partner university after completing a minimum of 2 (two) years of their bachelor's degree in VIT. The students can opt for the International Transfer Programme in partner universities in the USA, UK, Belgium, Sweden, New Zealand and Australia. This international program is offered to Engineering streams. The International Relations of VIT also brings in over 200+ faculty from foreign universities to take up teaching and research assignments at VIT. International

programs don't end here. There are internships, summer and winter schools available all over the globe for the students to earn a fellowship, valuable work and study experience.

The workshop also addressed recent updates and policies related to internationalization. This section aimed to ensure that all participants were well-informed about the latest developments, regulations, and guidelines that would impact their internationalization efforts. *Strategies for Implementing Internationalization on Campus*. A significant portion of the workshop was dedicated to strategizing the implementation of internationalization on campus. Various approaches and best practices were discussed to create a more inclusive and globally connected academic environment. *Enhancing Exchange Programs* The heart of the workshop revolved around enhancing exchange programs to provide students and faculty with more opportunities for international experiences. The following exchange programs were highlighted:

1. Semester Exchanges: Facilitating student exchanges for a semester at partner institutions.
2. Short-Term Programs: Offering short-term study programs with a global focus.
3. International Internships: Providing opportunities for students to gain international work experience.
4. Virtual Mobilities: Promoting virtual exchanges and collaborations.
5. Scholarships: Identifying scholarship opportunities to support international experiences.
6. Leadership Programs: Nurturing leadership skills through international programs.
7. Erasmus Opportunities
8. DAAD - Academic Exchange programme

The comprehensive discussions and presentations enriched our understanding of the responsibilities of Department Coordination Officers and the strategies needed to

achieve our primary objective of becoming more internationalized. We firmly believe that through our collective efforts, we can create more opportunities for both students and faculty members to gain valuable international experiences, ultimately contributing to the global reach and academic excellence of Daffodil International University.

A few photos taken during the session with the Directors and the faculty members

