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**VIT**<sup>®</sup>  
Vellore Institute of Technology  
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

October 14, 2023

## **HARMONY Project – WORKSHOP /Training Session**

**Topic: International Credit Mobility and Enhancement of  
International Relations Office**

**Date: October 10, 2023 Time: 2.30 pm**

**Venue at VIT: Teahouse, International Relations Office, Vellore Institute of  
Technology (VIT), India**

The Workshop-cum-Training on International Credit Mobility (ICM) was held on October 10, 2023, at Friends Teahouse of the International Relations Office, Vellore Institute of Technology. It was broadly intended to share the experiences of International Credit Mobility and orient university staff about the modus operandi and practices of ICM. Dr. R. Seenivasan, Director, of International Relations of Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT) and the Project Co-ordinator -EU Erasmus+ Mobility & CBHE Projects welcomed the gathering and briefed about the objectives of HARMONY Project, a multi-national/university consortium, led by University of Zaragoza, Spain. Dr. R. Seenivasan delivered his initial remarks on ICM and its necessity in rapidly changing global education. He shared his ideas on ICM based on his own experience and his involvement in HARMONY project and other academic projects involving global universities. His wide range of knowledge and experience in the process of internationalization & global connectivity, networking, joint research activities, strategic partnership and European linkages have immensely benefited the gathering.

The Harmony members presented their perspectives on internationalization and credit mobility. Dr. E.P. Ephzibah, Associate Professor of the School of Computer Science and

Engineering and Information Technology spoke on the Study in India Programme initiative and its unique ways of transferring the credits through semester abroad program and international transfer program quoting the enhanced short-term mobility opportunities available in the global arena. Dr. JNV Raghuram, Assistant Director, International Relations, highlighted the role of the universities in mapping the curriculum and providing equivalencies with respect to the course offered by the international universities. He also explained the advantages of the mobility program taking in to account of the broader perspectives.

The training program Under the experience of the various professors from different fields has sown the seeds of international partnerships and exchanges which would be beneficial for the university's future growth and global standing.

The combined expertise ensured a well-rounded and insightful learning experience for the participants. Prof. Somasundaram shared valuable insights into the Internationalization of Higher Education, delving into its various scopes and opportunities. Participants gained a deeper understanding of how internationalization plays a crucial role in shaping the landscape of higher education and contributes to the development of global citizens.

Participants learned about the office's alignment with the visionary concept of internationalization at home, which seeks to create a culturally diverse and inclusive environment on campus. The training proved to be a valuable opportunity for various departments within VIT, as a diverse group of 50 participants attended, representing the administrative staff, admission office, registrar office, and HR office. The international guest who have visited during that time, have also witnessed the ICM. The mix of attendees brought unique perspectives and backgrounds, enriching the training sessions through lively discussions and active engagement. The interactive nature of the training allowed participants to ask questions, share their personal experiences, and engage in productive dialogue with the facilitators and fellow participants. This dynamic exchange of ideas created a stimulating learning environment that encouraged innovative thinking

and problem-solving. By investing in such initiatives, the university reinforces its dedication to promoting internationalization at home—a transformative approach that brings global experiences and perspectives to the campus community. As the participants absorbed the knowledge imparted during the training, they gained a holistic understanding of the European Union's renowned Erasmus+ program. They explored the program's objectives, structure, and significance in fostering international cooperation and cultural exchange within the academic realm. Additionally, the training delved into the intricacies of international student and faculty exchanges. Participants learned about the benefits of international mobility for both individuals and institutions, fostering a sense of appreciation for diverse cultures and ideas while cultivating academic excellence. Furthermore, the training highlighted the importance of forging international partnerships. The participants explored strategies to identify potential partners, initiate collaborations, and nurture long-lasting relationships with academic institutions worldwide. These partnerships not only enhance research and academic offerings but also contribute to VIT's global reputation. The session also covered strategies for effective international relations management. This encompassed essential skills, such as cross-cultural communication, conflict resolution, and adapting to the diverse needs of international students and faculty. Armed with this knowledge, participants are better equipped to overcome challenges and create an inclusive and supportive environment for all members of the university community.

In conclusion, the mission of the institution, Excellence in education, grounded in ethics and critical thinking for the improvement of life has been reminded through the extensive sharing of knowledge on this subject. This has paved the way for the faculty and staff members to gain invaluable insights and practical tools to navigate the complex landscape of international education, foster meaningful partnerships, and promote a thriving culture of internationalization at home. The impact of this training will undoubtedly be felt as VIT continues to foster an environment that celebrates diversity,

encourages intercultural understanding, and embraces the richness that internationalization brings to the educational experience.



Session -1 on ICM



Session 2 – ICM

## Attendance Sheet :

### Members Present for the ICM workshop :

S.No	Name	Designation	School
1	Dr. Mahesh Ganesapillai	Professor Grade 2	SCHEME
2	Prof.E.James Jabaseelan Samuel	Professor Higher Academic Grade	SAS
3	Dr.Rajesh Kaluri	Associate Professor Sr.	SITE
4	Dr. R. Ramakrishnan	Associate Professor Grade 2	SMEC
5	Dr. Kathiravan S	Associate Professor Sr.	SCOPE
6	Dr. S.Parimala Renganayaki	Associate Professor Sr.	SCE
7	Dr.George Priya Doss C	Associate Professor Sr.	SBST
8	Prof.Vipin Singh	Assistant Professor Grade-1	HOT
9	Prof.Somasundaram D	Associate Professor Grade 2	SENSE
10	Dr. Sowbiya Muneer	Associate Professor Grade 1	VAIAL
11	Prof.Raja	Assistant Professor(Senior)	V-SIGN
12	Dr. Manoraj	Assistant Professor Grade-1	VITBS
13	Dr. Mahalakshmi P.	Professor Grade 2	SELECT
14	Dr.Usha S	Associate Professor Grade 2	SSL
15	Dr Nina Lazar	Assistant Professor Sr. Grade-1	VSPARC