

Vikram Simhapuri University: Nellore

Strategic Plan

Agenda for Equity, Excellence and Development

Through the Vision document, the university plans to take its transformative agenda of Academic Excellence, Research and Innovation, Resource Mobilisation and Financial Management, Student Progression, Examination and Evaluation, Administration, Best Practices and Extension Activities and Community Engagement to emerge as a Global leader in education.

The history and present scenario

University came into being, fulfilling the long-cherished dream of the people of Nellore district, re-christened Sri Potti Sri Ramulu Nellore district since 2008. The University is located just 10 KMS from the main town of Nellore. Meanwhile the University Grants Commission conferred recognition on the degrees awarded by Vikrama Simhapuri University under Section 22 of the UGC Act. Subsequently, the university is also sanctioned 2(f) and 12 (b) Status by University Grants Commission. The University is admitted as a full member into Association of Commonwealth Universities with its executive office in London, UK. The University is now one among 500 institutions across the world for having membership in the association. This provides the University to become a global player and an active academic associate in trans-global activities of immediacy and zest undertaken by the association from time to time.

University is extending its services through 98 affiliated colleges in Nellore District offering UG/PG courses. University is offering 26 PG courses in Arts and Science subjects. Further VSU PG Centre, Kavali offers 7 PG Courses in Arts and Science subjects. The University also offers PhD programmes through its departments and Recognized Research Centres.

A few funded and sponsored research schemes are in progress. Members of the teaching faculty have authored a good number of research papers, research reports and book chapters. Departments in the university have conducted number of seminars, workshops, symposia and conferences. In addition, quite a few collaborative research schemes sponsored by CSIR, DBT, DST, ICSSR, UGC etc have been/are being carried out.

Vikrama Simhapuri University is thus situated in an ambience of great cultural awakening, fascinating journeys of the mind, and rapid economic development. In the globalized context of development of the district with its beacons of modernity like the SHAR, Adani krishnapatnam Port, Sri City-SEZs, etc., the local demands of the University a vision and a mission that reflect this saga of progress. The University is thus tuned to help knowledge dissemination and skill development in frontier areas to enable the empowerment of the youth.

VISION AND MISSION OF THE UNIVERSITY- Value System for the Strategic Plan

The Vision and Mission statements of the university replicate in its strategies diligently in pursuing its goals and objectives, which reflect its resolve to tirelessly pursue and achieve its goals, which are affiliated with the societal prospects of nurturing young talent and producing high caliber professionals and scholars. The university consistently remained in delivering the best education to its students and enacting as a catalyst in formulating a bright and sustainable future of the nation and the world.

Vision

“To be recognised as a premier educational institution engaged in creation and dissemination of knowledge and wisdom to impact the society through quality in teaching, research, extension activities and entrepreneurship to meet societal needs and global challenges”.

Mission

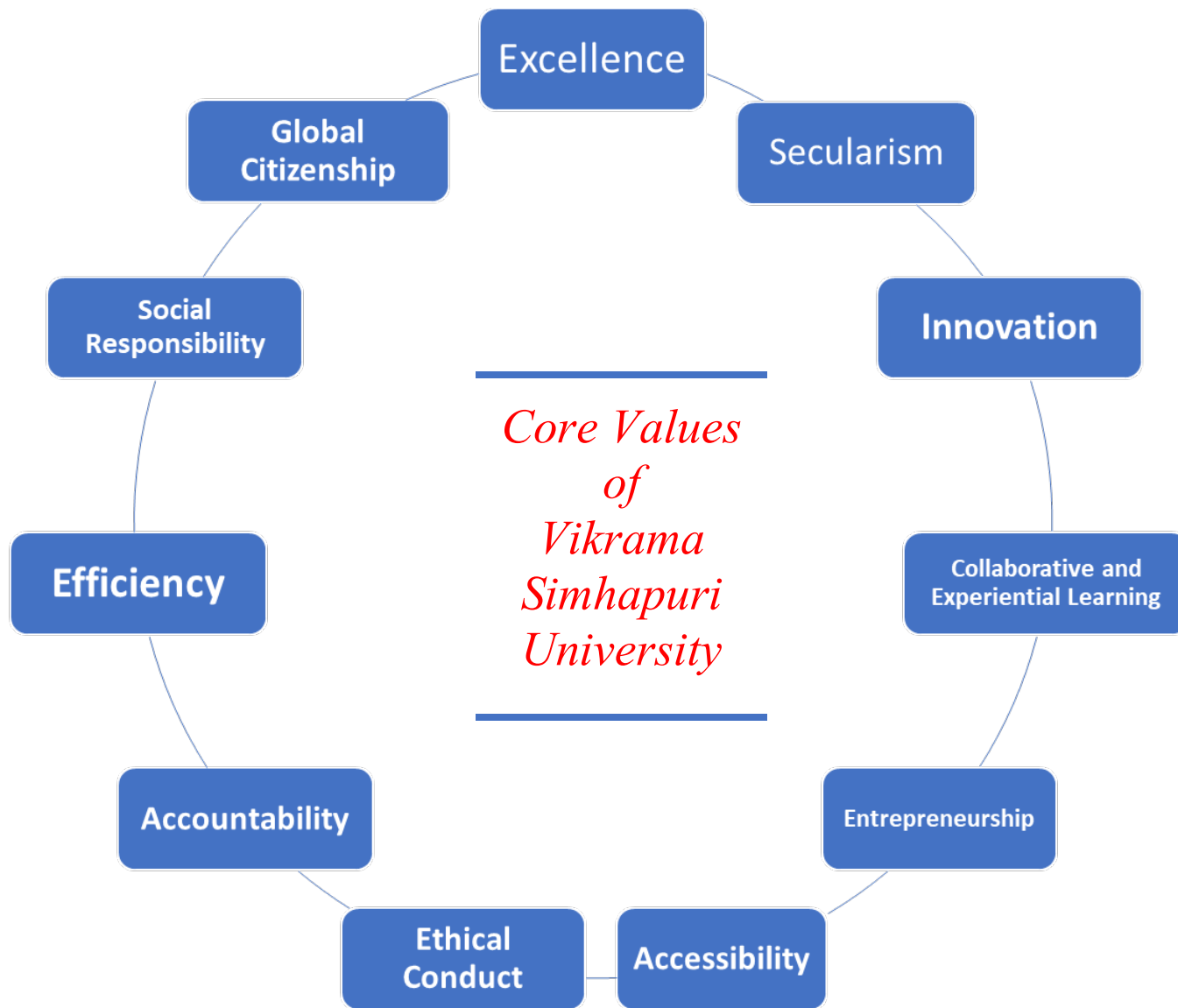
Promote quality, relevance and value-based education to face the global challenges. Create an environment to exchange ideas where research, creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship can flourish. Impact society in a transformative way by engaging in outreach activities. Develop collaborations with leading national and international agencies in areas of knowledge that enriches the competence of students and teachers. Promote decentralised and transparent governance system. Create the ambience for the University-Industry interaction to foster the students for acquiring and utilization of cutting-edge technologies.

Core Values and Graduate Attributes of the University are the catalyst for the Strategic Plan

The Vikrama Simhapuri University is guided by a set of Core Values, which enable it to achieve its vision and Mission. Our core values seek excellence, secularism, innovation, collaboration, entrepreneurship, accessibility, ethical conduct, accountability, efficiency,

social responsibility and global citizenship which are reflected in the academic and administrative governance of the university. The Core Values of the University are:

- **Excellence** - in teaching, learning, research and service;
- **Secularism** - by respecting all individuals regardless of class, caste, religion, ability and gender;
- **Innovation** - through new research directions, interdisciplinary curriculum, programs and partnerships. Further in exploring new ways to add to the body of knowledge through exploring new research areas;
- **Collaborative and Experiential Learning** - by associating with industries, national and international organizations enabling student-industry interaction and skill development.
- **Entrepreneurship** - through inculcating entrepreneurial spirit among the students;
- **Accessibility** - to provide affordable education to the marginalized section of the society.
- **Ethical Conduct** - by imparting value system in students;
- **Accountability** - being as a responsible institution to uplift the society and support the government in providing skilled human resource to the state.
- **Efficiency** - adopting to the state of art technology and automation techniques in academics, administration and research activities.
- **Social Responsibility** - dedicated to serving individuals, society and nation through outreach and community engagement; and
- **Global Citizenship** - by indoctrinating meaningful knowledge, skills and Global values leading to identification with the world community.



Strengths, Weakness, Opportunities and Threats of the University

Strengths

- Top notch faculty with global associations
- Admission of meritorious students through APPGCET entrance examination
- MOU's with international experts and institutions for Research activities
- Vast land with lush greenery for students to study in a conducive environment with "Green Champion Certificate"
- Wide continuum of academic disciplines unmatched with other State Universities and fulfilling the local industrial employment needs.
- Consistent Skill development and communal activities
- The university is located on National High Way NH 5 well connected to Chennai industrial corridor.
- Immense efforts in extension and outreach activities through NSS which is recognized with State and National level awards.

Weaknesses

- Unfilled regular faculty positions due to lack of recruitment process with hindrance of court cases
- Inadequate financial resource to expand the academic and infrastructural facilities.
- Not having a supportive alumni.

Opportunities

- The local region has abundant industrial activities in the domains of aquaculture, ports, pharmaceuticals and other MNC's demanding for the skill labour in the respective fields.
- Well established placement cell with active placements in various companies with handsome salary packages.
- Global visibility with the membership of "Association of Commonwealth Universities" with its executive office in London, UK.
- New programmes has been initiated in the novel subjects such as Geo-Physics, Meteorology & Oceanography, Environmental Studies besides Quantitative Economics and Sociology.

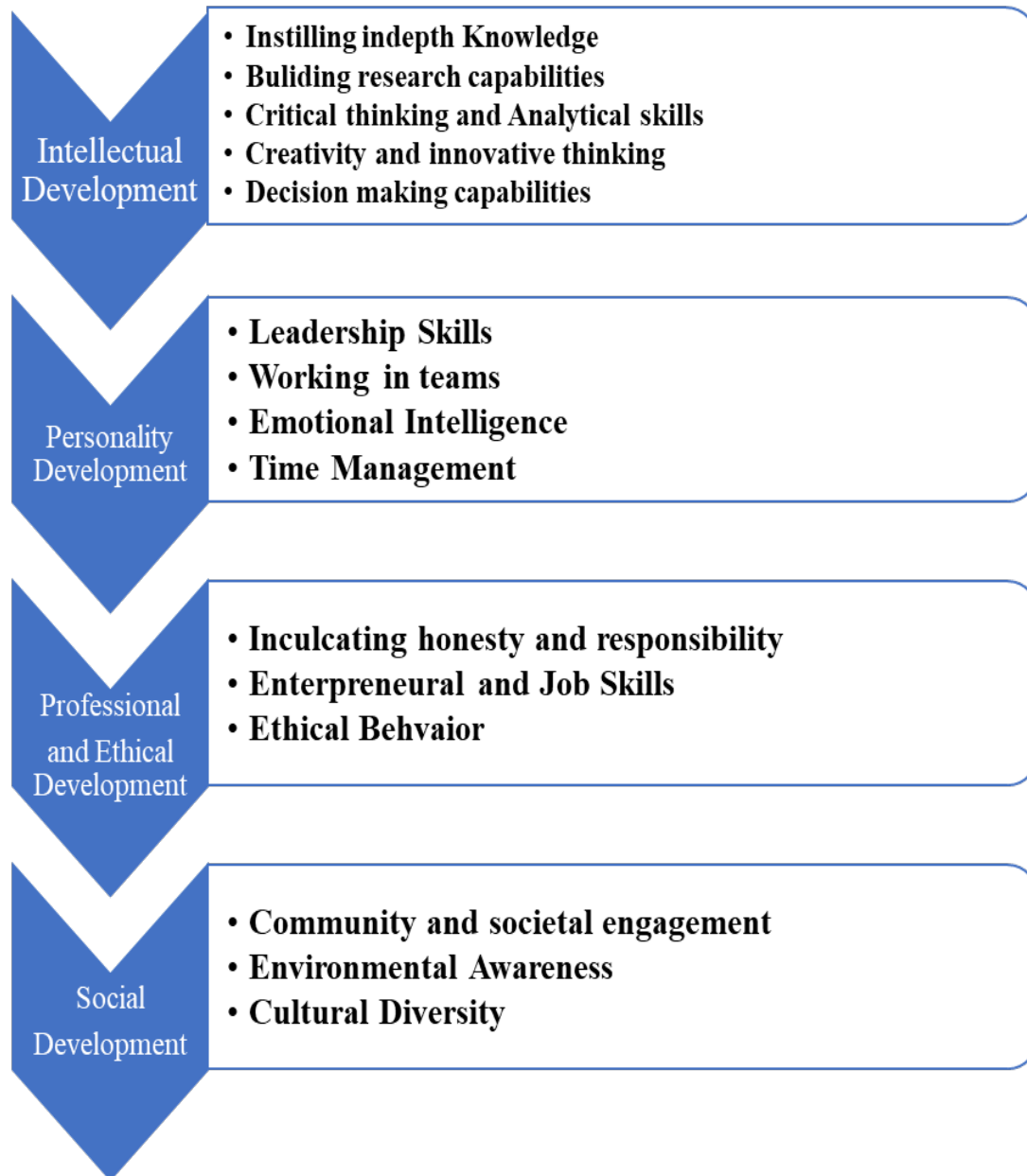
- Focus on green energy initiatives in the campus.
- Innovation and entrepreneurship development opportunities
- Growing industrial activities in the local and at national level and necessity of skill labour in the local region.
- Adoption to the latest research activities and domains.
- Based on the wide demand from students to start government engineering and pharmacy college in the district.

Threats

- Stringent competition from the private universities scale of resources
- Rapidly changing in the aspirations and expectation from society and student aspirations towards the education.
- Building infrastructural facilities for the academic and research purposes.
- Mobilising funds from the non-governmental organizations.
- Attracting students from global level.

The attributes of the University

These are a set of competencies, skills and abilities that the students acquire through the educational programs of the University. These are classified under the domains of Intellectual Development, Personality Development, Professional and Ethical Development and Social Development.



Core Strategies of the Plan

The University's determination to stay at the forefront of teaching-learning is deeper and stronger as it crossed its decennium. Its basic character is defined by an agenda for excellence targeted at equity and innovation with inclusiveness. Excel, Innovate, Empower, Inspire, Explore, Sustain, Engage, and Transform are the key elements of the University's drive to institutional greatness.

The University's Strategic Plan aims to energise academic life and develop a devoted cadre of moral and self-assured leaders capable of leading the nation forward. It aspires to give our young people with the required space and world-class chances, as well as a conducive climate and adequate resources for our academics to emerge as key contributors to global knowledge and interdisciplinary research.

The university is committed to achieve excellence through the following dimensions:

- a. **Knowledge Creation:** The University aspires to be a net generator of knowledge and an innovator.
- b. **Societal Relevance Research:** The University is committed to becoming a research-driven institution that uses academic potential to improve societal well-being. It aspires to conduct world-class research that is relevant to society, nation, and the world.

Focus areas of Strategic Plan

1. Academic Excellence:

Universities are the institutions which should disseminate quality education to the students through delivering knowledge and wisdom. Universities are institutions engaged in higher learning to cater to all sections of diverse groups in the society to fulfil their desires and dreams. Vikrama Simhapuri University believes the above statements and is committed from the past ten years in delivering quality education to all sections of the society.

Objectives

- To provide quality education
- To provide interdisciplinary programs for emerging needs of the job market at the regional and national level.
- To inherent the latest technologies in the teaching andragogy.

- To design the wholistic approaches and policies to provide university educational environment with more lively, vibrant and congenial.

Strategies

- Strengthening the present academic curriculum by consistently redeveloping the present syllabus to meet the industry needs.
- Introducing the novel disciplines for matching the demand and the needs of local, regional and national industries
- Adopting to the “New Education Policy” (NEP) in the curriculum to fall in line with other universities in the country.
- Equip the teachers by digitalising by building ICT enabled class rooms with projectors and smart panels for enhanced pedagogy.
- Designing the remedial programs to equip the students for preparing to Civil Services, NET/SLET and other competitive examinations.
- Designing and launching skill-oriented programmes to the students to give edge in the job market.
- Receiving regular student feedback and analysed the student satisfaction for redesigning the strategies in the future.
- To get industrial exposure to the students before leaving the campus, making them to undergo internships and project works as part of their curriculum.
- Conducting regular academic audits to harness the curriculum and syllabus of the various programs regularly.
- Developing Distance and Online Education Centre in the future for catering the farthest student.
- Establishing Skill Development Centre for equipping with industry-oriented skills and competencies.
- Moving towards “Outcome Based Education” from the traditional educations system.

2. Research and Innovation

The University intends to expand its scope beyond domain-specific research and knowledge development. A dynamic reaction to growing societal requirements has generated a spur for interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research to have a beneficial influence on the University's Academic Reputation, Employer Reputation, and Attractiveness for Faculty and Students.

Objectives

- To Promote multi-disciplinary research in new and emerging thrust areas.
- To create state of art research laboratories with high end equipment's.
- To inculcate innovation in the minds of students and research scholars.
- To get global visibility to the research work happening at the university.

Strategies

- Developing and implementing “University Research Policy” to motivate the students and research scholars towards research.
- Establishing Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship centre for research and entrepreneurial activities.
- Identifying the innovative and novel areas of research and disseminating to the scholars to focus their research on those thrust areas.
- Raising funds from the government bodies and funding agencies for taking up the research activities in the university.
- Recognising and rewarding the students, scholars and faculty for best publications of Scopus Index and UGC Care list Journals.
- Establishing collaborations and entering MoU's with national and international bodies for student exchange and other research programs.
- Developing a research fund at Department and University level for facilitating consistent research.
- Following highest level of ethical standards in the publication through plagiarism check before awarding of doctoral degrees and publication of research papers by the faculty and research scholars.
- Facilitating the faculty to publish books, book chapters, organizing and attending seminars and conferences, printing of monographs, publication of research articles, study material, case studies and other academic literature.
- Creating state of art infrastructure facilities exclusively for the research activities.
- Encouraging the faculty to attain patents for their research work.
- Promoting consultancy research activities among the faculty members.

3. Resource Mobilisation and Financial Management

The university requires adequate funds in order to fulfil the various financial needs such as infrastructure facilities, latest technology adoption, research and innovation, faculty and student welfare activities and other contingency needs. To meet the needs

of the University development it cannot solely rely on the Government, Hence the University has constituted a resource mobilisation committee for raising the funds from the philanthropists, non-government organizations, corporate sector (CSR funds) and other sponsors.

Objectives:

- i. To raise funds to create the infrastructure facilities, latest technology adoption, research and innovation, faculty and student welfare activities and other contingency needs.
- ii. To make regular financial auditing for efficient financial management and self-reliant.
- iii. To chalk out the budgetary plans in line with future course of action.
- iv. To develop and optimal utilization of financial and physical resources.

Strategies

- i. Approaching philanthropists, non-government organizations, corporate sector (CSR funds) and other sponsorers with concrete development proposals.
- ii. Appoint internal auditors for monitoring and supervising the financial needs and manage the financial resources efficiently by reducing the wastage of financial resources.
- iii. Monitoring the avenues to tap the funds from various philanthropists, non-government organizations, corporate sector (CSR funds) and other sponsors.
- iv. Raising funds from internal sources through consultancy and self-finance courses and certificate programs.
- v. Institution of gold medals and scholarships by the industry.
- vi. Cost saving measures such as paperless communication, energy savings, adopting to green energy, water conservation and protection and other best practices.
- vii. Improving financial management through adopting to financial systems that could bring governance and transparency in the system.
- viii. Revising existing fee structures for generating internal funds.

4. Student progression

The university is committed to harness the skills and competencies of the students. In order to develop skills in the students the university has established Skill Development Centre, Library- Digital Library facility, Placement and Training Centre, Entrepreneurial Development Cell and other initiatives. The university is committed to harness the skills and competencies with more initiatives in the future.

Objectives

- i. To enhance the skill and competency development in students.
- ii. To make the student-industry ready for wider job opportunities.
- iii. To counsel and guide for overall development of student in all aspects.
- iv. To inculcate entrepreneurial spirit in students.

Strategies

- i. Develop the 'Skill Development Centre' with all kind of infrastructure needed such as ICT enabled class rooms, Computer systems and other facilities.
- ii. Design industry-oriented programs to impart skills needed for the job market.
- iii. Provide overall training to inculcate the entrepreneurial spirit among the students.
- iv. Invite various financial institutions for funding the entrepreneurial ideas among the students for start-ups.
- v. Impart non career guidance for the overall development of students such as personality development, life skills, soft skills, emotional intelligence, yoga and meditation, sports activities and hence forth.
- vi. Invite industries for campus placements for providing good job opportunities.
- vii. Orient students towards career guidance and development.
- viii. Provide assistance for internships and field visits for industry exposure.

5. Examination and Evaluation

The university has consistently evolved in adopting the latest technologies in automating the examination process. Further the university is committed to maintain the transparency and ethical conduct in the examination and evaluation process. In this regard the university examination section has brought various best practices to facilitate the students. The university follows full online processing and automation of examination process and faster results processing.

Objectives:

- i. To maintain transparency and fidelity in the examination process.

- ii. To consistently adopt the latest automation practices in the examination and evaluation process.
- iii. To announce examination results and facilitate the students to take their desire in a timely manner.

Strategies

- i. Develop Comprehensive “Examination Manual System” that outlines the rules and regulations -Pre, Post and during the Examination process.
- ii. Evaluation of each answer script by multiple experts for maintaining fairness in the evaluation process.
- iii. Question paper setting with BOS approved panel of subject experts
- iv. Providing OMR enabled answer scripts for theory and practical examinations.
- v. Coding and decoding of the answer script for results processing and speedy announcement of results.
- vi. Adopt to the latest on-screen evaluation process for more transparency and fidelity in the evaluation process in the future.
- vii. Issuance of Certificates to the students within stipulated time by applying through online portal.
- viii. Preservation of students results records in the form of Tabulated Marks Statement and Tabulated Registers. In addition, to preserve the same in soft copy in the server.
- ix. Timely preserving the student Original Degree Certificates in NAD portal.
- x. To provide convenience to the students the payment of examination fee to be enabled though online.

6. Administration

The University envisions the seamless integration of all process in wholistic system approach for timely and efficient decision making. Efficient and effective administration requires able leadership and right policies in place. The university is fortunate enough to have a comprehensive administrative structure and policies in place for administering the activities and process of the university.

Objectives

- i. To maintain academic, financial and administration autonomy in the University.
- ii. To ensure transparent, participative and good governance at all levels of university.

Strategies

- i. Interlinking all the administrative departments seamlessly.
- ii. Establishing and adhering to statutes, regulations, policies and procedures for smooth functioning of university.
- iii. Decentralising of power and responsibilities to faster the decision-making process and implementation of policies scrupulously.
- iv. Formation of committees for swifter decision making and maintain transparency in the system.
- v. Developing integrated facilities that can be utilised by all the administrative and academic departments of the university.
- vi. Mobilise funds from internal and external sources to develop and maintain the future development of the university.
- vii. Maintaining central database of all the confidential and critical files related to faculty, staff and students.
- viii. Bring automation in the written communication process from bottom to top and vice versa, to maintain the record of the correspondence and transparency in the system.
- ix. Consistently improving the process and procedures of administration for increased efficiency and effectiveness.
- x. Liaison between the internal departments with Government, external agencies, non-government bodies and other agencies for smooth functioning and development of University.
- xi. Appointment of efficient department heads in administrative and academic sections of the university.
- xii. Optimal utilisation of human and financial resources.
- xiii. Landscaping and beautification of the campus.
- xiv. Maintenance and renovation of equipment, buildings and other infrastructure facilities.

7. Best Practices

The university strives for sustainability through its best practices in all endeavours. The university is consistently instrumental in promoting and implementing the best practices among students, staff and nearby communities. The university has conducted workshops, orientation, awareness campaigns and research activities to inculcate the sustainable practices.

Objectives

- i. To practice the principles of reduce, rethink, reequip, reuse and recreate for sustainable development.
- ii. To promote energy efficient and eco-friendly practices in infrastructure and system development.
- iii. To promote and build clean and green surroundings.

Strategies

- i. Adopting, implementing and regular monitoring of green policy in university.
- ii. Educating, enlightening students, staff and nearby community on environmental conservation initiatives.
- iii. Attaining vehicles free zone in university campus by adopting healthy, eco-friendly practices.
- iv. Harnessing renewable energy resources such as solar energy to supplement the existing energy resources.
- v. Conservation of energy by promoting and inculcating energy saving habits and practices such as opting for energy efficient equipment, turning off electrical and desktop systems after the use.
- vi. Conservation of rain water through constructing water harvesting system in the campus.
- vii. Encouraging use of eco-friendly products and minimising non-decomposable waste.
- viii. Converting decomposable waste generated in the campus and hostel kitchens into manure for further use in gardening.
- ix. Regularly conducting green and energy audit to get accreditation from the authorised agencies
- x. Instituting electives and sustainable development practices for students.

8. Extension activities and Community Engagement

The tertiary motive is to develop the nearby communities along with the university development. The university has imbibed in its core values to develop people for humanity and social welfare. The university has consistently designed its policies and procedures to be proactive to social, regional and local requirements, problems and issues of relevance. The university through its NSS cell, Extension and community engagement cell has reaffirmed its commitment towards society.

Objectives

- i. To develop a sense of social responsibility among faculty, staff and students.
- ii. To integrate the activities such as sensitization, awareness and active participation of various stakeholders.
- iii. To identify the local talents, issues and priorities for development.
- iv. To ensure involvement of local community for their empowerment.

Strategies

- i. Motivate and support the NSS Cell to actively participate in local, regional and national problems through sensitization and awareness programs.
- ii. Founding relationship with the local and regional communities to understand their issues and problems
- iii. Motivating faculty and students to get associated with NGO's and support their activities.
- iv. Motivating the faculty to contribute through their research to address the issues of the local community.
- v. Organizing extension activities in the areas of education, health, hygiene, child and women welfare.
- vi. Contributing to local cultural development through organising youth festivals and annual programs to groom the talent among the students and local community.
- vii. Sensitizing the local community to solve their issues through various constructive measures for self-sustainability.
- viii. Ensuring greater participation and involvement of local bodies in the developmental programs of the university.

Conclusion

The Strategic Plan of the University aims to impart high-quality teaching and research knowledge, as well as to empower students and scholars to learn differently through a

multidisciplinary approach and to apply what they have learned to build a New India. This strategy aims to provide a vibrant academic platform while also improving the University's global standing in the near future. The plan focuses on improving the University's reputation as a globally distinguished institution across issue specificities in order to respond to the rising demands and difficulties of a rapidly changing society.