

7th March 2022

Research Promotion Policy

(Proposed in the Governing Council Meeting to be held on 7th March 2022 in accordance with NAAC Guidelines for Autonomous Colleges with reference to Criterion III – Research, Innovation and Extensions, to be effective from the academic year 2020-2021)

Preamble: Insights from the best higher educational institutions in India and throughout the world reveal that high quality teaching and learning processes occur in environments where there is research culture and knowledge creation. Since knowledge creation and research are complimentary, therefore, connecting research with higher education requires a major paradigm shift that is crucial to expanding frontiers of knowledge. Moreover, teaching, learning and evaluation processes itself benefit significantly when conducted in an environment of high quality research. Therefore, it is essential to inculcate research aptitude and to promote scientific temper and research culture amongst the faculty members, research scholars and students. Incidentally, one of the key features in the mission and quality policy of our institution is 'to develop inquisitive minds to inculcate research culture'. Thus, in an attempt to facilitate, execute and implement this mission, so that, it not only initiates quality academic research in all fields but also prepares the faculty, research scholars and students to be worthy contributors to socioeconomic development, this institution under the aegis of 'Research Promotion Policy' has proposed the following *key indicators* with supporting *objectives* which need to be created and nurtured:

✓ **Promotion of Research and Facilities**

Objectives:

- Create awareness amongst the research stake holders regarding research opportunities/sponsorship/grants announced by various research institutions and funding agencies including government institutions and private organisations.
- Encourage basic and applied research so that it not only contributes in knowledge creation and fundamental understanding, but also translates into solving practical problems of the world.
- Promote interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research which will have relevance in facing and addressing societal challenges.
- Establish modalities for preparing and undertaking joint research projects covering more than one knowledge domain.
- Provide incentives, recognition to facilitate research publications and research proposal or projects
- Promote and facilitate the presentation of the research work/projects through research meet/conference/seminar/workshop

✓ **Research Infrastructure and Facilities**

Objectives:

- Create requisite infrastructure equipped with state of the art facilities in the form of well equipped research laboratories, resources for referencing and documentation to pursue cutting edge and high quality research work.
- Initiate the publication of institutional annual research journal to encourage publication of original research work from faculty across disciplines.

✓ *Resource Mobilisation for Research*

Objectives:

- Creation of corpus fund to provide seed money to initiate research.
- Recognition of original research work/publication/project by appreciation and monetary incentives or rewards.
- Organise expertise/resources to facilitate funding from UGC/DBT/DST and foreign funding agencies.

✓ *Innovation Ecosystem*

Objectives:

- Constitute a desirable innovation ecosystem to generate awareness about intellectual property rights and to ensure knowledge based value addition in society by creating empowered individuals.
- Create an incubation hub to incubate ideas and innovations which can result in technology product development, filing of patents and moreover, facilitate start ups and encourage entrepreneurship.

✓ *Research Publications and Awards*

Objectives:

- Research output in the form of publications/presentations/projects to be considered as key component in terms of eligibility criteria for faculty recruitment and promotion.
- Appreciate the research publications in high impact factor journals and encourage execution of minor/major research proposal/projects
- Encourage faculty with cash incentives/awards for original research work/publication/project as per the management policy for promotion of research.

✓ *Consultancy*

Objectives:

- Encourage and motivate faculty/researchers to share their expertise/skills and initiate knowledge transfer, thereby, generating and sharing revenue through consultancy.

✓ *Extension Activities*

Objectives:

- Extend the research work with an approach from 'lab to land', so that it will be relevant in engaging in community service and thereby have wider outreach an output.

✓ *Collaboration*

Objectives:

- Strengthen vibrant linkage, collaboration and Memorandum of Understandings with industry, academia and research institutions to facilitate academia-industry and academia-research collaborations.

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) and Ethics Committee (EC)

The execution and implementation of the above key indicators will be under the purview of Research Advisory Committee and Ethics Committee.

The composition, responsibilities and standard operating procedures of the Research Advisory Committee and Ethics Committee will be drafted as per the guidelines of higher educational institutions and organisations such as-University Grants Commission, University of Mumbai, Indian Council of Medical Research etc (refer to important links).

Draft of the Composition of Research Advisory Committee and Ethics Committee

- Research Advisory Committee will have 10 faculty members with adequate representation from faculty of arts, humanities, social sciences, pure and applied sciences.
- Ethics Committee will have 7 members, whereby 2 members will be co-opted from the Research Advisory Committee, in addition to the remaining members represented by Legal counsel, Ethicist/Philosopher/Representative from NGO, Social worker/Lay person, and 2 Research Fellows/Scholars/Subject experts depending upon the needs of the institution.

Responsibilities & Standard Operating Procedures of Research Advisory Committee and Ethics Committee


- Facilitate the faculty in undertaking research and will work with the Institution management to set up a research fund for providing seed money
- Encourage and promote a research culture (eg. teaching work load remission, opportunities for attending conferences etc.).
- Encourage the faculty to undertake research by collaborating with other research organizations/ industry.
- Organize workshops/ training programmes/ sensitization programmes to promote research culture on campus.
- Invite industry to use the research facilities of the Institution and sponsor research projects.

- Encourage faculty members to approach National and international organizations such as UGC, CSIR, DST-SERB, DST, DBT, NATO, DRDO and BARC to fund major and minor research projects
- Develop and implement an official Code of Ethics to check malpractices and plagiarism in research.
- Facilitate Interdepartmental / interdisciplinary research projects.
- Facilitate to create incentives for the faculty who receive state, national and international recognition for their research contributions
- Encourage and promote the publication of research articles by the faculty in reputed/ refereed journals and along with IQAC, maintain a database of research work and research projects undertaken by the faculty and collect data by metrics such as Citation Index, Impact Factor, h-index, SNIP, SJR, etc.
- Encourage faculty members to take up consultancy services to industries / Government / Non- Government organizations / community/ public.
- Researchers have the freedom to choose their own topics of research; it is highly desirable to make research multi-disciplinary and socially relevant.
- The researcher has to submit an undertaking form (provided by the RAEC) stating the originality of the proposal.
- The corresponding author should give a declaration regarding the originality of the work and acknowledge the contribution of the individual authors.
- Ensure that faculty/researcher demonstrate research ethics/integrity and professionalism, fairness and equity, and intellectual honesty and effectively and transparently manage conflicts of interest or potential conflicts of interest
- Ensure that wherever applicable, when animal experimentation is involved or maintaining laboratory animals is needed, compliance towards animal ethics is implemented in the form of Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) as per the norms of Committee for the purpose of Control and Supervision on Experiments on Animals (CPCSEA).
- Ensure that in terms of Biomedical research, wherever applicable, compliance towards Good Clinical Practices, as per the ICMR guidelines is implemented in the form of Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC).
- Ensure quality standards, quality checks and assurance in terms of zero tolerance towards plagiarism and unethical practices in execution of research work.
- Ensure minimal standards and procedures for enrolment of students for phd and submission of research proposal etc.

Important Links:

1. https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/5816125_Promoting-and-Improving.pdf
2. <https://mu.ac.in/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/PHD-S.O.P.-Flowchart-17-03-2021.pdf>
3. https://ethics.ncdirindia.org/ICMR_Ethical_Guidelines.aspx (ICMR ethical guidelines)
4. https://ethics.ncdirindia.org/asset/pdf/ICMR_ethical_guidelines_for_biomedical_research_for_human_participants_2006.pdf (ICMR guidelines for Biomedical research)
5. https://main.icmr.nic.in/sites/default/files/upload_documents/ICMR_policy_ripe.pdf (Publication ethics, ICMR)




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Principal