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University Research Policy

(Chapter - X, University Policies & Guidelines)

▶ Research

Unveiling Excellence

- Innovation
- Creativity
- ▶ Patent
- ▶ Incubate
- Discover
- Extension
- Development



UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY, MEGHALAYA

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CHAPTER-X

USTM RESEARCH POLICY

A. RESEARCH POLICY

University is committed to promote research to create new knowledge essential for teaching, learning, extension and outreach programme. It encourages original, fundamental and applied research enquiry to create innovation, novelty, generation of ideas and new stock of knowledge. Research output promotes teaching and percolating the benefits of research findings among students and faculty members.

OBJECTIVES

- Develop a healthy research culture and support system among the faculties and researchers for achieving excellence;
- Thrust area of research to be identified from time to time for societal benefit.
- Publications in journals indexed in Scopus/Research Gate/ Google Scholar/ Web of Science or PubMed/ Indian Citation Index;
- In-house referred, peer reviewed and accredited research journal publication;
- Interdisciplinary collaboration and partnership both at national and international level;
- Responding to ethical issues through Ethics committee;
- Award of Ph.D./Post. Doctoral Research after successful completion of requirements/ tenure for the award of the degree.

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) shall frame policy related to research from time to time.

THRUST AREA

The present trend in the science and technology as well as the basic needs of locals, following thrust areas of research are identified –

Bio-resources and livelihood opportunities

The NER is endowed with enormous bio-resources (microbes, flora and fauna) which are yet to be explored for its effective and sustainable utilization. Equally, the livelihood of the people, particularly the tribals need intervention for better economic status. It is an utmost need to investigate the ways and means for the upliftment of these people.

b. FUNDS FROM GOVT AND NONGOVT. AGENCIES

Generation of research fund shall be made from public/ private organizations

- Faculty members will ensure submission and execution of independent, collaborative and consultancy projects;
- PI shall ensure that all research funds administered by him or her are used with honesty, integrity and accountability;
- PI and researchers shall comply with the regulatory framework and policies of the university and the funding agencies in terms of fund management;
- PI and researchers shall give due acknowledgement to all the funding agencies in all published works resulting from the research.
- The university may request outside agencies for financial support to carryout major research projects in the field of recent domain of research as per the suggestion of the granting organization.

c. RESEARCH ENDOWMENT

The university would develop a research endowment in order to facilitate the payment of incentive to the faculty members thereby creating a sustainable ecosystem for cutting edge research and other allied activities pertaining to research. Adequate amount of fixed deposit (FDs) shall be made by the university under Research Endowment and the interest generated from the endowment will be solely utilized for supporting the faculty members in undertaking the research activities including participation in seminar/workshop and conferences.

(vi) Research Fellowships

- Candidates having JRF, SRF from government funding agencies i.e. UGC, DBT, DST ICSSR etc. may enroll in Ph.D. programme of the university.
- The institutional fellowship shall be awarded based on the Ph.D. entrance test.
- Some of the institutional fellowships may also be awarded to the admitted research scholars through University Fellowship Test, UFT to be conducted time to time.
- Internal faculty members of the university may also join in the Ph.D. programme under institutional fellowship scheme.

(vii) Research involving human and animals

- Any research where animals shall be used, strict clause of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animal Act, 1960 and The Breeding of and Experiments on Animals (Control and Supervision) Rules, 1998, 2001, 2006 shall be followed;
- Before initiating research, a proposal shall be submitted to the Institutional Ethics Committee for approval;

 Policies and guidelines of the Institutional Ethics Committee shall be followed in each and every steps of the research.

(viii) Research on hazardous chemicals

- Researcher shall obtain all necessary approval before accepting delivery of hazardous materials, or embarking on the activities in question from the Research Advisory Committee/ URC:
- Researcher engaged in a research activity which poses a significant recognizable inherent risk of physical injury shall take appropriate measures to address the emergency situation.
- For proper disposal of hazardous solid, liquid and radioactive components incineration unit should be used.

(ix) Intellectual property

- New finding/ method shall be patented and the research work shall be protected through copy right from the competent authority;
- Researcher(s) whose research finding or process contributed in patenting should receive due credit;
- Research collaborators shall endeavor to reach an agreement, consistent with the regulatory framework concerning the allocation of intellectual property.
- External person with interest in the research, the research collaborators, the university through negotiations with the Office of Technology Transfer, establish by contract:
 - (i) ownership of intellectual property arising out of any research related agreement;
 - (ii) the rights and obligations of the parties to seek patents; and
 - (iii) the entitlement of the parties to share in any associated royalties.

(x) Commercialization of research

- Without prejudice to the rights of a researcher's collaborators or sponsors of research, a researcher shall not be obliged to seek commercial development of his or her invention, software or other discovery. The university shall respect the decision of a researcher not to commercialize his or her invention, software or other discovery.
- Researcher who elects not to seek the commercial development of an invention, software or other discovery may, in accordance with the Regulatory Framework governing intellectual property, permit its commercial development by his or her collaborators.
- Researcher who elects to develop an invention, software or other discovery or to become involved directly in its commercial application shall comply with the regulatory framework governing intellectual property.

(xi) Conflict of interest

• A researcher shall comply with the regulatory framework governing conflicts of interest, and consulting activities.

- A researcher shall disclose to all relevant persons (including other institutions, agencies, conference organizers and participants, and journals and publishers) any conflict of interest that might influence such persons' decisions such as whether a researcher should be asked:
 - (i) to review research proposals, funding applications or manuscripts;
 - (ii) to test inventions, software or other discoveries;
 - (iii) to present research results;
 - (iv) to be permitted to undertake research sponsored by outside persons.

(xii) Research misconduct

- A Researcher shall not knowingly engage in plagiarism.
- A researcher shall obtain the prior permission of another person before using, even with proper attribution, the unpublished work or data of the other person.
- Any action that is inconsistent with integrity, honesty or the regulatory framework, including this regulation, may constitute a disciplinary offence and, where appropriate, shall be investigated in accordance with the regulatory framework.

(xiii) Research related agreements

All research related agreements must be approved through university level Research Advisory Committee and executed according to the regulatory framework.

(xiv) Review of regulation

This regulation can be reviewed by competent authorities from time to time depending on need and regulatory changes.

ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

Additional support for research is extended to PG students, Socio economically backward section and women as given below:

- Provision for partial grant for outside laboratory analysis of the research samples for P.G. and Ph.D. scholars;
- Provision for partial travel and subsistence assistance for those PG students who visits other university or institute for research purpose;
- University offers partial grant/ assistance to the PG students for participating and presenting paper in seminar and workshop within the country;
- University have policy to enrich the central library (both offline and online) to encourage research activities;
- Socially and economically weaker students (ST, SC, OBC and EWS) as well as differently-abled are offered with special discount/ free books for conducting research work:
- Provision to award fellowship/ scholarship to the meritorious students;

 University has policy to give more attention on the upliftment of women empowerment in research.

B. RESEARCH INCENTIVE

OBJECTIVE

The primary objective of the incentive policy is to motivate the faculty members of our Institution to undertake quality research, consultancy and other research related activities.

SCOPE

This policy covers all faculty members of all Departments of University of Science and Technology Meghalaya.

The scope of the policy envisages, in particular:

- to motivate the faculty members to concentrate on research related activities, in addition to the teaching, so as to publish research articles in reputed refereed international and national journals with good impact factor.
- to pursue efforts to write books, monographs for publication by International and National publishers of repute.
- to encourage our faculty members to submit proposals and secure funded research projects from various funding agencies in India and Abroad.
- to undertake consultancy projects sponsored by both Government & Private, Industrial and other organizations.
- to encourage creativity in the minds of faculty members, so that they make original contributions by way of products, concepts etc. and obtain patents.

The following categories of incentives shall be awarded to faculty members on their research achievements

1. PUBLICATION OF JOURNAL

For each Research Publication, author/s will be given one-time incentive based on quality of the Journal (Rs 2000 to Rs 5000 per publication).

2. PUBLICATION OF BOOK/BOOK CHAPTER/MONOGRAPH

The e-book and hard copy books are considered for research incentive.

a. For each Book (Reference or Text) authored/edited singly or jointly and published by International Publisher or Apex bodies/Societies with ISBN (International Standard Book Number), the Authors/Editors will be given one-time incentive which will ranging from Rs. 5,000/- to Rs 10000/-.

b. For each "Chapter/ monograph" in Book published by International Publisher with ISBN, the Author/s will be given one-time incentive maximum of Rs. 10,000/-

c. For each "Chapter/monograph" in Book published by National Publisher with ISBN, the author/s will be given one-time incentive maximum of Rs. 5,000/-

3. RESEARCH GRANTS MOBILIZATION

Every faculty member is encouraged conceive research projects and submit proposals for research grants from funding agencies. On receipt of the grant from external agencies, he/she will be awarded with cash awards which may range from Rs10, 000/to Rs1, 00,000/- depending on the amount of grant received in addition to certificates and medals. Additionally, every faculty member is also awarded with a cash amount of Rs2000.00 only for the submission of each project proposal. Since the amount being released in phases, the incentive(s) paid is also proportional to the amount received by the Institution.

4. GRANT OF PATENT

The incentive maximum of Rs. 50,000/- for International and maximum of Rs. 25,000/- for Indian Patent will be given for successfully granted patent.

5. COPYRIGHT

The incentive maximum of Rs. 10,000/- for each copyright will be given to faculty and disbursed equally to faculty.

6. FOR PRESENTING PAPER IN CONFERENCE/SEMINARS/SYMPOSIUM/WORKSHOP/FDP ETC.

Faculty presented paper (oral/poster)/ in International or National/ State (organized in India) Conference/Seminars/ Symposium/Workshop/ FDP etc. shall be provided with T.A. as per rules. Only one International in two calendar years and one National/ State Conference /Seminars/ Symposium/ Workshop/ FDP etc. in one calendar year are permissible for individual faculty. The faculty can claim only (International/National/ State Conference /Seminars/ Symposium/ Workshop/ FDP etc.) event in a calendar year. Prior permission or approval (through proper channel) is mandatory for incentive/award. For International Conference: Maximum amount will be 25,000/- (Registration + TA). National Conference: Maximum amount will be 15,000/- (Registration + TA). Faculty members will be also entitle to get the sponsorship for attending seminar, conference etc. organized by prestigious institutions

7. FOREIGN TOUR FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVMENT IN RESERACH.

Faculty with outstanding achievement in the research will be able to make a Foreign Tour fully sponsored by the university. This will be over and above all other cash awards and incentives described under each category.

8. INCENTIVE FOR MEMBERSHIP IN NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SOCIETIES.

Faculties are also given incentive (membership fee) for getting either life membership or annual membership in recognized National and International societies in their subject domain. The membership will be provided

9. COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT WITH OTHER UNIVERSITY/AGENCY

Any Collaborative research project undertaken by any faculty of USTM with other University/organization with tangible outcome, the faculty member will be honored with cash awards per project. The tangible outcome shall be endorsed by the Research Board.

If the project involves more than one faculty from our Institution, the total will be shared among the participating faculty members. The year in which the collaborative project commenced is the criteria for including this into the scheme. A project cannot be included more than once in the scheme. Any publication arising out of this collaborative research will also be eligible for credits as per the norms of the publication.

The final decision for all the above incentives shall be made by a Committee. The committee shall consist of following members:

- 1. Nominee from the Sponsor
- 2. Nominee from Vice Chancellor
- 3. Registrar (Ex Officio)
- 4. Two Senior Professors
- 5. Finance Officer/Nominee
- 6. Director Research, Member Secretary

In case of any dispute the Vice Chancellor's decision shall be final.

CONTACT:

For any clarification and Details Academic Registrar/Director Research, USTM may be contacted.



Techno City, Khanapara, Kling Road, Baridua 9th Mile, Ri-Bhoi, Meghalaya-793101

Ph. 0361-2895030/ 07002303751/ 098540-23060

E-mail: ustm2011@gmail.com

Web: www.ustm.ac.in

