

Research and Development Policy QUSIT

Overview:

The Research and Development Policy guides the activities related to Research and Development directed towards developing consistency, quality management and accountability through a strategic framework, to live our continuous focus on innovation and development in all what we do.

Purpose:

To live our mission and vision, we create research culture through putting our continuous efforts for excellence in Research, Innovation and Development, building research capacity, generating resources which enhance teaching and outreach activities.

Office of Research, Innovation and commercialization:

This office briefly called as ORIC an acronym stands for the title, striving to create a fit between the academic researches with the commercial needs. To live this spirit, strong linkage with industries is developed through the following body.

- A. Manager Academia/ Industry Linkages.** This portfolio is responsible for creating linkages with industries for research needs and coordinates them to be supported by academic research findings.
- B. Manager Research Operation.** This portfolio extends support to the Research scholars to conduct the proposed research projects and come with an appropriate solution for the industries.

Quality enhancement Cell:

QEC ensures that academic and research standards are met as defined by Higher Education Commission.

Objectives:

1. To inculcate research culture.
2. To enhance research capacity across the board to ensure that research based knowledge is disseminated to the national and international community.
3. To encourage and empower the staff to conduct and communicate research results.
4. To follow up the research efforts continuity.
5. To define procedures and protocols for effective and efficient utilization of research resources.
6. To enabling the commercialization of research benefits for the researcher, university and community as well.

Policy

A. General

1. This policy is applicable to all members of the university and to those who utilize the resources of the university.
2. All research activities must contribute towards the vision, mission and value system of the university and the nation as well.
3. We believe in “Freedom to Operate “for any research initiative, provided it conforms to the principles and values of the university.
4. Research conducted, must have value for Pakistan and international community as well.
5. The research work must conform to the university priority of research urge.

B. Excellence

1. The researchers will be responsible for academic research, research reliability and research output.
2. QEC and ORIC ensure all funded research are monitored and conform to quality standards.

C. Building Research Capacity

1. We regularly identify our existing strengths and add more resources when available.
2. Successful researchers are rewarded for their contributions.
3. Research hindering things are regularly identified and adjusting practices and measures are adapted accordingly.

4. Collaborative research with outside bodies is accepted and approved, provided it adds to the capacity building of the university or nation at a large.
5. University facilitates staff for management and practices of research to further enhance their capability.
6. Depending upon the resources availability, the university strives to develop and maintain international standards.

D. Building Graduate Research

1. Graduate Study Committee (GSC) exists to develop and maintain the performance of graduate research studies.
2. Qualified faculty as defined by GSC is eligible to supervise research studies.

E. External Research Funding and Grants Administration

1. All externally funded research is needed to get prior approval before submission.
2. Overhead income recovered from a research project, would be apportioned between university research fund by 40%, the concerned department(s) by 20% and researcher by 40%.
3. For any research assistance to the external bodies, all direct and indirect costs would be included in the budget to the sponsor ,however the projects would be taken with less than the budgeted amount as there are numerous other benefits to the university as well.
4. Staff will be accountable for effective and efficient use of the allocated resources.
5. Staff exclusively responsible for the research work, would not be paid the additional amount other than their salaries.

F. Research Output Commercialization

1. Intellectual Property Rights of the university are reserved, related to any research commercialized.
2. Research would be commercialized if appropriate on the benefits to the university, aimed at an addition to the intellectual and human resource capability of the national and international community.
3. All visiting students and scholars will abide by this policy.

G. Publicity and Research Databases

1. All validated research would be part of the research data base of the university.

2. University will publicize research activities making it available to the wider community.

H. Ethical value: University community will adhere to ethical values while dealing with issues related to the research work. We ensure to comply with ethics in research through the following parameters:

1. **Honesty:** Strive for honesty in all scientific communications. Honestly report data, results, methods and procedures, and publication status. Do not fabricate, falsify, or misrepresent data. Do not deceive colleagues, research sponsors, or the public.
2. **Objectivity:** Strive to avoid bias in experimental design, data analysis, data interpretation, peer review, personnel decisions, grant writing, expert testimony, and other aspects of research where objectivity is expected or required. Avoid or minimize bias or self-deception. Disclose personal or financial interests that may affect research.
3. **Integrity:** Keep your promises and agreements; act with sincerity; strive for consistency of thought and action.
4. **Carefulness:** Avoid careless errors and negligence; carefully and critically examine your own work and the work of your peers. Keep good records of research activities, such as data collection, research design, and correspondence with agencies or journals.
5. **Openness:** Share data, results, ideas, tools, resources. Be open to criticism and new ideas.

a. Consultancies

1. The university policy on private work shall apply where appropriate to research contracts.
2. Institutional consultancies would be preferred instead of private ones.
3. University will have a well placed quality management system.

I. Policy Review

This policy would be reviewed regularly and would be changed accordingly.

J. Implementation

Details regarding implementation are part of the university research hand book.

K. University Research Advisory Committee

This body abbreviated as URAC is responsible for advice on research and development; it consists of the Deans of each faculty, Director and Deputy Director ORIC and Pro Vice Chancellor of the university.