

# **Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar**

## **Research & Consultancy Policy**

### **PREAMBLE**

Reputation of any educational institution depends on scholarship, research productivity and innovation. Rapid growth in scientific knowledge is an indication of quest for discovery and has an impact on economic and societal development. Science, technology and innovation is often initiated at the University research environment and it is also the mission of Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar (A Central University). Research and developmental activities create and disseminate new knowledge in range of fields, promotes innovation and these will motivate better learning and teaching among faculties and students of our Vishwavidyalaya as these are often incorporated in the courses. Research is the foundation of knowledge that brings new energy, builds state of the art facilities, promotes research publications, develops collaborations and becomes part of active community that shares the mission objectives. Taking these information into consideration the following research policy of Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar is implemented.

### **PURPOSE**

The purpose of the Research Policy is to create a vibrant atmosphere of research among faculty and researchers in Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar. The policy will serve as an overall framework within which research activities may be carried out.

### **SCOPE**

This is a University specific Research Policy. It is implementable in all Departments within campus of Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya Sagar and serve as guideline for all schools.

### **OBJECTIVES**

- To create an enabling environment within the Vishwavidyalaya in order to foster a research culture as well as provide required support through research framework and guidelines.
- To ensure high level of efficient and effective support system to facilitate faculty and researchers in their research activities.
- Ensure publications in quality journals, indexed in Scopus/Web of Science and/or with impact factor.
- To nurture an environment of undertaking socially useful research with potential for commercialization.
- Establish Research Center (SIC) within Vishwavidyalaya with potential for Excellence.
- To promote research, innovation and intellectual capital.
- To ensure integrity, quality and ethics in research.
- To integrate teaching and research through translational and instructional research.
- To incentivise the generation of intellectual capital, and;

- Forge interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships nationally and globally.

## **PROMOTION OF RESEARCH**

The Vishwavidyalaya believes that researchers are free to choose the subject of their research, to seek support from any funding source for their research work, and to report their findings and conclusions. However, research shall be available for scrutiny of the Vishwavidyalaya and constructive criticism of peers. Research techniques used by the researchers shall not violate established professional ethics, pertaining to the health, safety, privacy, and other personal rights of human beings or to the infliction of injury or pain on animals. The Vishwavidyalaya shall create conducive environment for research. Due to limited resources, the Vishwavidyalaya may not support fully all research likely to be undertaken, but it shall allocate the space, facilities, partial funding, and other resources for research programmes based on the scholarly and educational merits of the proposed research. It shall also provide development opportunities to researchers for writing research proposals and reports, publications, patent filing, etc

## **IDENTIFICATION OF THRUST AREAS**

Although the researchers have the freedom to choose their own topics of research, it is highly desirable to make research socially relevant. The Vishwavidyalaya expects the different Schools and departments to prepare a list of thrust area of research, with a view to be focussed in their efforts. Under each discipline and department, there shall be an exhaustive list of such topics or areas, which can be called a bank of thrust areas. It shall be utilised for the following research activities and 80% of the topics shall be chosen from this Bank:

- i. The Bank can be made available to the research scholars who may use it for their doctoral thesis.
- ii. Similarly, the faculty shall also avail the Bank for identifying the subject for their minor research projects and even for major research projects.
- iii. Even for industry sponsored projects or for collaboration with other institutions, the Bank shall be utilised.

## **RESEARCH AT UG AND PG LEVEL**

Teaching and research are equally important in a Vishwavidyalaya. With the establishment of the Vishwavidyalaya, it was thought that to promote creativity among the undergraduate and post-graduate students, some research components in the curriculum, especially in the final or pre-final year of the bachelors programme and final year in the master's programme, is necessary. Accordingly, in the pre-final final year of the bachelors programme the Minor Research Project and Major Research Project are inducted where the students under the guidance of the faculty work on the decided topic of the dissertation and submit the findings periodically. The final project is submitted to the Vishwavidyalaya and also the viva is conducted. Similarly, in the postgraduate programme, research was emphasised emphatically and students were trained for robust research skills. The Vishwavidyalaya shall further reinforce research training in both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in the future.

## **MINOR RESEARCH PROJECTS**

From the very beginning, the Vishwavidyalaya encouraged young faculty to conduct research. Thus, it has developed a scheme for providing financial assistance to Minor Research Project. According to this scheme, a faculty member prepares Minor Research Project, which is submitted to a committee at Department/Vishwavidyalaya level and on the recommendations of this committee the Vishwavidyalaya gives financial assistance up to Rs. 1.00 Lakh to the faculty concerned. To have the periodical assessment for all such research projects and with an aim to guide the researcher, the departmental or Vishwavidyalaya level committee is constituted. It is also mandatory to send a quarterly progress report of such Minor Research Project to the Vishwavidyalaya. For this purpose, every year the Vishwavidyalaya earmarks financial budget under each school. The Minor Research Project Scheme helps young faculty think about research, prepare the proposal, conduct research and write a research report. It also assists them in preparing proposals for major research projects. The Vishwavidyalaya shall continue to encourage young faculty to take up minor research projects and shall earmark appropriate budget for this purpose.

## **MAJOR RESEARCH PROJECTS**

The Vishwavidyalaya has identified a list of more than many funding agencies. Faculty can submit Major Research Project proposals to these agencies. These proposals are scrutinised before submitting the same to a funding agency. The Vishwavidyalaya provides all kinds of infrastructure facilities available for conducting a Major Research Project. The Vishwavidyalaya plans to evolve a mechanism through which it shall monitor the progress of Major Research Projects funded by an external agency, maintain its accounts and submit the utilising certificate in time to the funding agency as per the requirement of the funding agency. The Vishwavidyalaya shall provide funding on its own to certain important Major Research Projects where the funding from the outside agency is not possible. It shall earmark appropriate budget for this purpose.

## **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS**

The Vishwavidyalaya-Industry Interaction is the demand of the day. If we want to contribute to the society at large, the Vishwavidyalaya has to closely work with industries and different organisations. Industries and business organisations are facing different kind of problems and many of them would like to have the help from the Vishwavidyalaya with an aim to find the solutions to their problems. For that, the Vishwavidyalaya has planned to have the following activities:

### **(i) Industry Sponsored Research Project**

An organisation can sponsor a project and the experts of the Vishwavidyalaya concerned can conduct research on this project for which the financial support will come from the

organisation. As a result, if any patent is registered, then there shall be a sharing of income coming out of the patent among the industry, researcher and Vishwavidyalaya. This will lead to three kinds of benefit: a) the researcher will get exposures to the concerned area of research; b) the industry will get solutions to its problem; and, c) the researcher, Vishwavidyalaya and Industry can earn money and at the end, the society ultimately will benefit.

## **(ii) Interdisciplinary Research**

The interdisciplinary research is a must nowadays. No department, Vishwavidyalaya, researcher or a scholar can address a research problem in which more than one discipline is involved and unless they get together and conduct interdisciplinary research no fruitful findings can be arrived at. Therefore, the Vishwavidyalaya has decided to have exercise in interdisciplinary research activities for which the following steps will be taken: a) Identify the interdisciplinary area. b) Identify the different experts from concerned disciplines who can work together. c) Study the requirement of the infrastructure to conduct the concerned interdisciplinary research. d) Explore possibilities to find resources for such interdisciplinary research.

## **COLLABORATIVE INTERNATIONAL RESEARCH**

We live in a global village. Knowledge is being produced in the different parts of the world. Collaborative international research is essential to facilitate mutual learning and expertise sharing. The Vishwavidyalaya plans to have the MoUs with prominent research institutions/Universities abroad, for conducting research jointly in the areas of common interest. For this purpose, a Task Force shall be constituted that will constantly explore the possibilities of having such collaborative or joint research in terms of thrust areas, decide the modus operandi of conducting such research and attend to other relevant aspects.

## **TRAINING FOR RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS**

Generally, faculty are eager to conduct research, but because of the lack of expertise to write a research proposal or having insufficient research skills, they are unable to channelize their efforts effectively. Hence, in many cases, a research proposal is rejected by a funding agency. Even for publication of papers because of the lack of knowledge about how to write a paper and under which format it should be submitted, sometimes the papers are not accepted. Therefore, the Vishwavidyalaya shall organise rigorous training programmes for researchers in the identified areas.

## **PUBLICATION OF PAPERS AND JOURNALS**

Publication of papers is critical for the effectiveness of the Vishwavidyalaya. Faculty must publish continuously in quality journals. Therefore, the Vishwavidyalaya plans to encourage the publication of papers by the faculty with a targeted aim. A faculty member shall be expected to publish a certain number of research papers in refereed journals at national and international levels. These journals shall be identified by respective institutes. Research

papers to be published in identified journals and to be presented at national and international conferences shall be scrutinised and guided by a committee of senior professors. Each institution shall be encouraged to publish a quality journal and organise research conference, from time to time to boost research activities in the Institute and to contribute to the existing body of knowledge. For quality research publication a incentive will be given as token of appreciation.

## **PATENT AND IPR**

The Vishwavidyalaya would like to strengthen the research, leading to filing of patents as per the IPR guideline of the university. If any innovation is done, the Vishwavidyalaya shall encourage the researchers and scholars to patent it. The Vishwavidyalaya also bears all expenditure for filing application for patent after its scrutiny.

## **INCENTIVES FOR OUTSTANDING RESEARCH**

The Vishwavidyalaya would like to encourage quality research in different thrust areas. For this purpose, outstanding research contributions done by faculty, researcher, and research scholar shall be recognised. Therefore, the University shall prepare a scheme for providing incentive to researchers and scholars. The incentives Vishwavidyalaya are identified as under: a) Incentive in terms of money b) Incentive in terms of awards/prizes c) Incentive in terms of more funding for the ongoing research d) Incentive in terms of certificate or giving more weightage for the career advancement scheme, etc.

## **ESTABLISHMENT OF RESEARCH CHAIRS**

The Vishwavidyalaya shall create research chairs and a scheme for appointment of Professor Emeritus for a particular term, where very senior scientists or professors shall be appointed for chairs and they shall conduct research on an important topic. The research chair professors shall take some teaching load in line with the principle of integrating the research and teaching.

## **CUSTODIAN OF POLICY**

The implementation and updating of Research Policy shall be carried out by Director of Research, Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar. The Research Policy shall have a research advisory body to function under Vice Chancellor, Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar and administrative committee, to assist and advise in matters related to research within Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar.

## **POLICY AND GUIDELINES**

### **1. Undertaking Research**

Faculty members of Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar and research departments are expected to undertake research, leading to quality publications, presentations in National/International conferences of repute, generation of Intellectual

property with potential for commercialization, socially useful outcome and other similar research activity. Obligations of faculty and researchers (including post graduate researchers). Research output will be considered one of the criteria for faculty recruitment and promotion along with other academic responsibilities.

## **2. Recruitment and Promotion**

The Vishwavidyalaya shall recruit such faculty members and researchers who have demonstrable/demonstrated capability in research. Faculty promotion may significantly depend on research undertaken. The quality of research output, especially research publications, may be assessed on the established yardsticks such as Impact Factor (IF) and which will be revised from time-to-time as appropriate.

## **3. Research Management**

Overall management of research activities may be coordinated by Director of Research, Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar under direct supervision of Vice Chancellor. Research advisory body and administrative committee shall be responsible for overall functioning of research activities within the Vishwavidyalaya. Each department research activities will be coordinated by Head of the department/Principal Investigator or the nominations from each department.

## **4. Academic Dishonesty and Disciplinary Committee**

It is expected that each member involved in research – faculty, researchers and postgraduate researchers - will adhere to highest ethical standards of conduct. Highest ethical standards of conduct include data integrity, adhering to ethical guidelines, given from time to time, for carrying out research. Each faculty member and researcher shall follow academic honesty in his/her research work. Faculty and researchers shall be careful not to fall prey to academic dishonesty. A disciplinary committee, on instruction of Vice-Chancellor, shall be formed in order to carry out inquiry when academic dishonesty is reported against an individual/group. Suitable disciplinary action may be initiated, if found guilty, against such individual/group.

## **5. Resources for research support**

The University provides intramural funding through seed money and Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar Endowment Chair in Sociology and B Matilal, Endowment Chair in Philosophy based on the quality and impact of research. Vishwavidyalaya will extend facility by supporting publication charges, where manuscripts are communicated to quality journals. Such requests will be scrutinized through a committee appointed by Vice-Chancellor. Director of research will facilitate awareness regarding potential funding. The University may also provide additional manpower in departments with higher research intensity and research output, depending on specific justifiable requirements while adhering to regulations of statutory agencies.

## **QUALITY OF PUBLICATIONS**

The research carried put in vishwavidyalay system should be of good quality adhering to highest standards of ethics. In order to recognize the research contribution, currently Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar considers Impact factor provided by JCR@ of Thomson Reuters etc. Vishwavidyalaya encourages publications in journals indexed in Scopus/Web of Science. Vishwavidyalaya may revise such policy as deemed necessary in future.

## **ETHICS IN RESEARCH (DATA INTEGRITY AND MANAGEMENT)**

Please refer Ethics Committee

## **INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY AND COMMERCIALIZATIONS**

Please refer to Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, SagarIntellectual Property Policy.

## **RESEARCH INCENTIVE POLICY**

Revised research incentive policy to be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> January; 2019. Please refer the revised research incentive policy.

## **PERIODIC REVIEW OF RESEARCH OUTPUT**

Periodic review of research output shall be carried out by each school/department and provide such information to Office of Director of Research, Doctor Harisingh Gour Vishwavidyalaya, Sagar, periodically (preferably quarterly) for assessment and required corrective actions, if any.

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