

RESEARCH POLICY

1. PREAMBLE

Raffles University, Neemrana is pledged to develop as a foremost private institution in research by proactively nurturing a culture of research among faculty, research scholars academic associates and students. This allegiance to broadening research will draw on the vast experience in doctoral and post-graduation education including under graduation education in all disciplines providing opportunities to enhance the reputation among the competitors. The University encourages researchers across different schools of thought and, but also promotes integrative research within the disciplines. The University observes social justice goals as envisaged in the constitution and in policies of Government of India by providing equal access to research opportunities.

This policy delivers a set of guidelines for the conduct of research at all levels.

2. AIMS OF THE RESEARCH POLICY

Raffles University, Neemrana (RU) aims to create and supports the research culture for developing and promoting scientific temper and research capacities among its staff and students for addressing the needs of the society. It helps to realize the vision and mission of the University synchronously contributing for the development of the nation. The faculty and students across all schools are motivated by providing University grants/ seed money to carry out intensive research and participate and organize research related activities in a healthy atmosphere.

It also aims at ensuring that the research activities of the University conform to all applicable rules & regulations as well as to the established standards and norms relating to safe & ethical conduct of research.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH POLICY

- Strengthening the institutional capacity for strategic, technical and operational planning, budgeting and control of all research activities of the University
- Creating and administer University seed fund for supporting and facilitating research initiatives and projects for faculty and students
- Developing guidelines to avail and disburse research grants for research and all research related activities*.
- Developing guidelines to avail and grant study leave, sabbatical leave, duty leave, reduction in workload, etc. for faculty members participating in research and research activities.
- Providing a modality for proper coordination of all research activities of the University and aligning them to the vision and mission of the University and national development.
- Forming the guidelines to support preferred focus areas of research and prioritization of disbursing research grants for optimum utilization of seed funds.
- Guide faculty members in the effective integration research projects with the regular curriculum implementation and curriculum enrichment activities.
- Identifying and informing researchers about the appropriate research opportunities announced by different academic, research, industry and government organizations.
- Guidelines for promoting interdisciplinary research and establishing modalities for undertaking joint research projects covering more than one knowledge domain/ school of thought, as well as policies for collaborative research work with academia, industries and research organizations.
- Designing framework for researchers for the successful implementation of the project through optimum utilization of the funds/ grants.

*Related activities - Journal subscription, organizing and participating conferences /seminars, publishing articles, scholarships.

- Developing and promoting linkages with various research funding bodies for the benefit* of the faculty and students.
- Identifying and establishing linkages including MOUs for long term relationship with national and international research organizations for widening the scope of research opportunities and funding options available to the faculties and students of the University.
- Identifying and establishing linkages including MOUs for long term relationships with industry bodies and individual companies for creating opportunities for teachers and students of the University to involve themselves in real time research projects and obtaining aids.
- Encouraging and facilitating the publication of the research work/projects in reputed academic journals.
- Encouraging and facilitating the presentation/communication of the research work/projects as well as their findings and recommendations through academic events such as workshops/seminars/guest lectures or the media
- Compiling data on all the research work/projects undertaken by the faculty and students in central database for ease of monitoring the progress on a timely basis.
- Providing mechanism to ensure that academic staff attain the desired mix of teaching, research and consultancy outputs so as to achieve the University mission.
- Adopting research code, for adhering the ethical and legal norms and principles in research
- Preparing and implementing research quality assurance mechanism for ensuring that all research activities of the University conform to standard quality specifications.
- Framing and administering rules & procedures to ensure the compliance of all researchers to the research quality assurance framework, the research code and all the applicable rules and regulations.

* Benefits - Applying for research grants, availing allowances for attending international conferences or seminars outside India.

4. COMPOSITION OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CELL

Constitution of research and development cell

- Chairperson - Vice chancellor
- Director R&D and Coordinator as Member secretary
- Dean academics – Member
- Two Senior Faculty by rotation of two Years (nominated by Honorable Vice Chancellor/President)

Note: Research Cell may be expanded with the inclusion of more members as necessary. It may also set up and promote 'Action Groups' for managing specific projects/activities.

5. RESEARCH POLICY IMPLEMENTATION MECHANISM

The Research Cell of the University shall be responsible for implementing the research policy of the University by working closely with the University management. The specific roles and functions of the research cell will be as follows

1. Facilitate the faculty in undertaking research work in compliance with the University management to set up a research fund for providing seed money.
2. Provide research facilities in terms of establishing the lab, research journals and research incentives etc. required by the faculty.
3. Encourage and promote research culture among the faculty by providing scholarship up to 50% of fee.
4. Encourage the faculty to undertake collaborative research work with other research organizations/ industry.
5. Framing suitable procedures for guiding research work/ obtaining guideship.

* sharing of teaching work load, facilitating for attending conferences etc.

6. Facilitate the establishment of specific research units/ centers by funding agencies / university.
7. Organize workshops/ training programmes/ sensitization programmes to promote research culture on university.
8. Prepare budgets for supporting students' research projects.
9. Invite industrial experts to avail the research facilities in the University.
10. Approach National and international organizations such as UGC, CSIR, DST-SERB, DST, DBT, NATO, DRDO and BARC to procure grants for major and minor research projects undertaken by the faculty / students under various schemes.
11. Make efforts to establish sophisticated research infrastructure for facilitating cutting edge research.
12. Develop and implement an official Code of Ethics to check malpractices and plagiarism in research.
13. Facilitate Interdepartmental / interdisciplinary research projects and honor with research awards.
14. Create incentives for the faculty who receive state, national and international recognition for their research contributions as well as research awards and recognitions from reputed professional bodies and agencies.
15. Encourage and promote the publication of research articles by the faculty in reputed/ refereed journals.
16. Create and maintain a database of research work and research projects undertaken by the faculty and students as well as collect data by metrics such as Citation Index, Impact Factor, h-index, SNIP, SJR, etc.
17. Publicize the research expertise and consultancy capabilities available in the University.
18. Facilitate the provision consultancy services to industries / Government / Non- Government organizations / community/ public.

19. Prepare Rules & Guidelines for Grant of Research related leave and other remissions
20. Prepare Guidelines for design and evaluation of curriculum-oriented research projects
21. Prepare a university research agenda with relative priorities.
22. Research publication leading to Patent/Patenting Research activities.
23. Encouraging collaborative research with International/National reputed institutes.
24. Providing guidelines for faculty who are invited by reputed organizations for delivering contributory talks in specific domains of interest.

6. NEW INITIATIVES OF THE UNIVERSITY:

The New initiatives of university as follows

- Creation, disbursement, and utilization of SEED money in the implementation as per the national research policies
- The Raffles University implemented the SEED Money ordinance provisions in its later and in spirit of encouraging cutting edge research benefiting the society at large.
- The patent has been done on the new innovation by the faculty of science and Technology and Science, other department of the university.
- It is mandatory for all the PI who availed financial assistance from the university under the SEED money Scheme to publish minimum of Two research Papers in peer reviewed journals.
- The functional MOUs implemented/executed between the university and industries are for knowledge Exchange Programs like Workshops, Internships, Mini projects etc.
- The University has the future continuous research Plan for innovation based on Engineering, Agriculture, Pharmacy, Management, Law, Science, Humanities, and social Sciences.
- The Raffles University organizes national and international events days/conferences/seminars/FDPs/ Workshops/ Symposiums on regular basis throughout the academic sessions.
- The Raffles University has policy and academic calendar for the research as well.