

VISVESVARAYA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

“Jnana Sangama”, Belagavi 590018

“RESEARCH POLICY”

1. Aim

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU), Belagavi aims to encourage and sustain excellence in Research and Innovation by cultivating and promoting a research culture among its teachers, staff and students. This would be leveraged for inspiring and enhancing the professional competence of the faculty members; for developing and promoting scientific temperament and research aptitudes among the students; for realizing the vision and mission of the University and for contributing to national development by establishing an institutional fund and a plan for facilitating participation of faculty and students in research and related activities and encouraging innovation in science and technology as per the terms of implementation of the national initiatives in this regard in the university.

2. Scope

This policy shall apply to all the faculty, staff and students of the University and also implementable in all the affiliated/autonomous engineering institutions of the University in the state of Karnataka.

3. Objectives

- To strengthen the institutional capacity for strategic, technical and operational planning, budgeting and control of all research activities of the University.
- To create and administer a research fund for supporting and facilitating research initiatives and projects amongst faculty members and students.
- To guide faculty members in the effective integration of research projects with the regular curriculum implementation and curriculum enrichment activities of the University.
- To identify and establish linkages including MOUs for long term relationships with national & international research organizations and industry bodies and individual companies for widening the scope of research opportunities, research activities and adding to the funding options available to the teachers and students of the University.
- To encourage and facilitate the publication of the research work/projects in the form of



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Intellectual Property/Journal Papers/Book Chapters etc.

- To encourage and facilitate the presentation/communication of the research work/projects as well as their findings and recommendations through academic events such as workshops/seminars/Conferences/guest lecturers or through the media.
- To encourage innovation and incubation of new ideas with encouragement for Transfer of Technology (TOT) or setting up of startup by the faculty and students as per the Gol's NISP implementation in the University.

4. Research Policy Implementation Mechanism

- Facilitate the faculty in undertaking research and will work with the University management to set up a research fund for providing seed money.
- Provide research facilities in terms of laboratory equipment, research journals and research incentives etc. required by the faculty.
- Encourage and promote a research and innovation culture (eg. teaching work load remission, opportunities for attending conferences etc.).
- Encourage the faculty to undertake research by collaborating with other research organizations/ industry.
- Create suitable procedures for giving due recognition for guiding research.
- Facilitate the establishment of specific research units/ centers by funding agencies / university.
- Organize workshops/ training programmes/ sensitization programmes to promote a research and innovation culture on campus.
- Invite industry to agree to mutually use the research facilities and research programmes of each other, sponsor research projects to the University and use the results/technologies developed through TOT to industry.
- Approach National and international organizations such as UGC, ICSSR, ICHR, ICPR, DST, DBT, UNESCO, UNICEF to fund major and minor research projects undertaken by the faculty / students.

5. Policy

5.1 Requirement to Undertake Research

5.1.1 Each faculty will carry out independent, innovative Research and/ or creative S&T activities that are appropriate to their discipline. In doing so they will, individually or in collaboration with colleagues:

- Supervise Research students.
- Focus on innovations in the research.
- Broadly disseminate Research results (i.e. through more than one medium or one Audience) including through their teaching practices and, where appropriate, protect the results of their Research.

- Be active within appropriate professional and discipline communities and with external Stakeholders.
- Contribute to the Research environment and culture of VTU through activities such as mentoring, engagement in new Research initiatives and strengthening the Research infrastructure.
- Participate in initiatives designed to secure financial support for Research activities from external sources (including for example, government funding, industry partnerships and contracts, philanthropic gifts, Research translation and commercialization opportunities).

5.1.2 The requirement to undertake Research is a career expectation and will be balanced with the other obligations of academic staff including teaching and administrative responsibilities.

5.2 Obligations

Research effort will be considered as one of the criteria for faculty's yearly increment/promotion along with their other academic responsibilities.

5.3 Research at UG and PG Level

5.3.1 Teaching and research are equally important in any University. To cultivate a research culture and promote creativity among the undergraduate and post-graduate students, some research component in the curricula, especially in the final or pre-final year of the bachelors programme and final year in the master's programme, is necessary and taking industry or research internship is made mandatory. Similarly, in the postgraduate programme, research should be emphasized emphatically and students must be trained for robust research skills.

5.3.2 To encourage innovation among students University may provide funding to the innovative students projects from each branch of Engineering through "Financial Assistance for Innovative Project of Final Year Students" Scheme.

5.4 Establishment of Research Centers

5.4.1 The VTU encourages the establishment of Research Centers at its Affiliated/Autonomous Engineering Institutions in the State of Karnataka to enhance and facilitate disciplinary and interdisciplinary research collaboration, knowledge transfer and training.

5.4.2 The University's Regional Research Centers will be equipped with facilities and expertise to carry out research in priority areas identified by the University

5.4.3 The VTU encourages to have inter or multi disciplinary faculty in the Centres.

5.4.4 Aspirants of Ph.D. or M.S. (Research) can join for the programs through VTU recognized Research Centers.

5.5 Ph.D./M.S. in Research Programs

5.5.1 To provide opportunities to each individual with exceptional academic background, strong motivation and discipline, and potential to become excellent researchers at national/ international level and to engage themselves in Research and Development, VTU offers Ph.D. doctoral and MS in Research Programs on Part Time/ Full Time basis in a number of disciplines like Basic/Applied Sciences, Engineering Sciences and Management Sciences etc.

5.5.2 Doctoral Fellowships are awarded to selected scholars, who will register for Full Time Ph.D. Programme under the supervision of Faculty members of VTU.

5.6 Major & Minor Research Projects

5.6.1 VTU has a "Research Grants Scheme" to harness and nurture the research talents available in the affiliated institutions in the state of Karnataka. Under this scheme, grants are offered for research in Basic Sciences, Engineering Sciences and Management Sciences.

5.6.2 The Major & Minor Research Projects help young faculty to think about research and innovation prepare the proposal, conduct research and write a research report. The University shall take necessary steps to encourage young faculty to apply for these research projects and shall earmark appropriate support for this purpose.

5.7 Collaborative Research Projects (Industry and Inter-disciplinary)

5.7.1 The University-Industry Interaction is the demand of the day to fill the gap between industry, academia and research.

5.7.2 University promotes its faculty to interact with the industries and different organizations to bring in recent developments in the curriculum of UG, PG and Research.

5.7.3 University will promote and undertake (i) Industry Sponsored Research Project and (ii) Interdisciplinary Research of industrial interest to address the problems of industries.



5.8 Training for Research and Publications

The University shall organize rigorous training programmes for researchers on research methodology and in specially identified areas and shall also encourage participating in the conferences/workshops/symposia.

5.9 Publication of Research Work

5.9.1 Publication of Research Work is a measure of the research potential and efficacy of any University. Therefore, the University encourages the publication of research work in reputed the peer reviewed journals or in the form of generation of Intellectual Property (IP) by the faculty and students.

5.9.2 Research Publications and generation of IP by the faculty would be considered as an Academic Performance Indicator (API) for his/her annual increment/promotion.

5.9.3 University encourages publication of Research Work and generation of IP by providing financial assistance for the same.

5.10 Research Misconduct

5.10.1 University is committed to ensuring that investigations are carried out as expeditiously as possible, at the same time ensuring the utmost degree of thoroughness and ethical standards.

5.10.2 "Research misconduct" is defined as fabrication (making up data or results, and recording or reporting them), falsification (manipulating research materials, equipment, or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the research is not accurately represented), or plagiarism (appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, or words without giving appropriate credit) in proposing, performing, or reviewing research, or in reporting research results.

5.10.3 It is the sole responsibility of faculty or administrator or research staff, or technical personnel and students of the University, to foster an academic environment conducive to free and fair research activities.

5.10.4 If University receives any complaints/applications about 'Research Misconduct', a proper inquiry would be held based on preliminary information gathered and preliminary fact-



finding to ascertain the merit of the case under the supervision of Special Committee to be setup to look in to such allegations.

5.10.5 Employees accused of Research Misconduct (“Respondents”) will be provided with a copy of this procedure and will be informed in writing of the detail of the allegation

5.10.6 Proven misconduct in research is considered as a serious or gross misconduct and normally merits dismissal after due process from the University.

5.10.7 The University will take disciplinary action against any individual who attempts to influence, victimize or intimidate the individual making the allegation of Scientific Misconduct (the “Complainant”) or witnesses.

5.10.8 The University is committed to protecting its employees from malicious accusations and will take action against any individual(s) responsible for such allegations.

5.10.9 If University receives any complaints regarding sexual harassment, in the process of conducting research/projects, it will forward the same to Women’s Cell of the University for further investigation.




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