NAAC ACCREDITED

Sub: Research Policy

-: Notification:-

The reputation of any Institute of Higher Education, particularly of the University depends on scholarship, Research Productivity and innovations. The success of a university in attaining its objective is greatly contingent upon the alignment of the faculty with all aspect of research initiative being under taken at University. The faculty members of Dharmsinh Desai University do conduct activities of research. The university also encourages research in many ways.

However the university has thought that to bring the existing research activities at next level, it has to have a structured research policy which indicates directions and roadmap to strengthen different research activities at all levels and hence decided to have a research policy.

Accordingly a draft research policy was prepared which was circulated to deans and discussed also. Now it is formally approved and enclosed herewith Appendix-A. so that from the new academic year we can start implementing it in a phase manner.

All Deans concerned are hereby informed that peruse this policy and start implementing the same after the due process of approval in each items of policy in respective Faculties/ institution.

No. DDU/Res. Policy/01/2022
Date: 30/06/2022

(Dr. H. M. Desai)
Vice Chancellor

To,
1) **Campus Director**
2) **All Deans / Principals**
3) **Coordinator IQAC**
4) **Research Cell**
5) **Registrar**
6) **Controller of Examination**
7) **Account Section**

Encl.:- Research Policy.

APPENDIX - A

DHARAMSINH DESAI UNIVERSITY

RESEARCH POLICY

Preamble

Reputation of any educational institution depends on scholarship, research productivity and innovation. The success of a University in attaining its objectives is greatly contingent upon the alignment of the faculty with all the aspects of research initiatives, being undertaken at the university. Therefore, the present research policy aims to help DHARAMSINH DESAI University and faculty to achieve excellence and contribute to organizations and society.

DDU has long history of more then fifty years. It has the journey from an affiliated college to Autonomous college to Deemed to be University and now its status

is as statutory University. It has its own research activities but to bring them to the next level a systematic plan to strengthen the Research in different directions is now required and hence this Research Policy which will provide further road map to proceed towards strengthening quality research which is one of the important Pillars of any good University

Objective

This policy provides a broad framework to guide research and integrity of scholarly inquiry at the University. The objectives of policy are as follows:

i) To promote research, innovation and intellectual capital,
ii) To ensure integrity, quality and ethics in research,
iii) To integrate teaching and research through translational and instructional research, and;
iv) To incentivize the generation of intellectual capital.

Promotion of research

The University 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 to the University 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 University shall create conducive environment for research. Due to limited resources, the University 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. (Bank of thrust arears)

Although the researchers have the freedom to choose their own topics of research, it is highly desirable to make research socially relevant. The University expects the different institutes and departments to prepare a list of research topics, with a view to be focused 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 utilized for the following research activities and 80% of the topics shall be chosen from this Bank. This Bank will also have interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary areas.

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 utilized.

Research at UG and PG Level

Teaching and research are equally important in a university. it is thought that to promote creativity among the under-graduate 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. Accordingly, in the pre-final final year of the bachelors programme the Minor Research Project and Major Research Project are to be 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 institution and also the viva is conducted. Similarly, in the postgraduate programme, research is to be emphasised emphatically and students are to be trained for robust research skills. The University should further in force research training in both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes in future if not already there

Idea Lab

Students have many ideas on which they want to work, but in the absence of the infrastructure, including the place and space, they are unable to work on them. Therefore, the University would encourage an Idea Lab in each institution and in due course of time at the University level, where the students can research on an idea. The Idea Lab also provides the opportunity to the students to questions in different areas of knowledge. It shall equip them with an ability to think, concretize the idea, design research study, work on it and report the findings. It shall also encourage research scholars to publish and patent their research work.

Ph.D. Programme

The steps towards doctoral programmes are already commenced long a go both for full-time scholars and external scholars. The University being a self-financed University it has limited resources for conducting research and also in the development of the rich infrastructure for conducting research in different fields; therefore, it shall further work to have collaboration with different prominent National institutions where they have requisite research infrastructures and also have expertise to guide the scholars in different areas. In pursuance to this need, the University should start recognizing prominent research institutions like Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO), Indian Institute of Plasma Research (IPR), B V Patel Pharmaceutical Education & Research Development Centre and like.

Similarly, on the basis of the expertise, experience gained and infrastructure of the R and D of prominent industries such as Cadila, Intas, Piramal and like for Ph.D. research.

The University shall further boost doctoral research and earmark appropriate budget for scholarship and research facilities in different institutions. It shall also recognise the worthy R&D organisations for doctoral research and build bridges with them. The University shall continue to encourage faculty and research scholars to get funding for attending International conferences from external agencies as a matching share so that the quality in research paper can be maintained. It shall urge research scholars to publish and patent their research work. For attending international conference and allow teachers to contribute papers university will also provide financial assistance subject to certain condition,

Seed money for Minor research projects

From the very beginning, the University encourages young faculty to conduct research. Thus, it shall develop and further strengthen the scheme for providing financial assistance to Minor Research Project, to start with, as seed money. According to this scheme, faculty member will prepare Minor Research Project which shall be submitted to a committee at department/University level and on the recommendations of this committee the University will give 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 institution level committee shall be constituted. It is also mandatory to send a quarterly progress report of such MinorResearch Project to the University. For this purpose, every year the University earmarks financial budget under each institution.

The scheme for Minor Research Project will help young faculty to think about research, prepare the proposal, conduct research and write a research report. It will also assist them in preparing proposals for major research projects. The University shall continue to encourage young faculty to take up minor research project. The minor research project mostly will be only for young Assistant Professor.

Major Research Project

The University will identify more and more National and inter-national funding agencies. Faculty can submit Major Research Project proposals to these agencies. These proposals will be scrutinized by senior people in the concerned field before submitting the same to a funding agency. The University will provide all kind of infrastructure facilities available for conducting such Major Research Projects..

The University will strengthen the plan to evolve a mechanism through which it shall continue to monitor the progress of Major Research Projects funded by an external agency, maintain its accounts and submit the utilisation certificate in time to the funding agency as per the requirement of the funding agency.

The University shall provide funding on its own also 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 Project

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

(i) **Industry Sponsored Research Project:** An organisation can sponsor a project and the experts of the institution 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 University. 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, University and Industry can earn money and at the end, the society ultimately will benefit.

(ii) **Interdisciplinary Research:** The interdisciplinary research is a must now a days. No department, institution, 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 University will strengthen 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 University will plans to have more and more MoUs with prominent research institutions in India and abroad for conducting research jointly in the areas of common interest which can be effective. 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 projects

Generally, faculty are eager to conduct research, but the young new faculties, because of the lack of proper guidance or training do not have 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 University shall organise rigorous training programmes for researchers in the different identified areas.

Publication and present of Papers in Journals and reputed conference;

Publication of papers is critical for the effectiveness of the University. Faculty must publish continuously in quality journals. Most preferably in scops or web of science or such other equivalent journals. Therefore, the University will plan to encourage more and more 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 and reputed journals at national and international levels. These journals are also identified by the UGC in different areas and published on its web site.

Research papers to be published and to be presented at national and international conferences shall also be scrutinized and guided by a committee of senior professors.

Each institution shall be encouraged to organise research conference from time to time to boost research activities in the Institute and to contribute to the existing body of knowledge.

Patent and IPR

The University would like to strengthen the research, leading to filing of patents for which the guideline will be available. If any innovation is done, the University shall encourage the researchers and scholars to patent it. However, when a scholar files for a patent, a thorough scrutiny will be carried out and for that a mechanism will be evolved at three levels namely:

1. Department or at institution level
2. At the committee level, which has experts
3. At the University level committee where even a lawyer in the concerned field will be associated.

The University will also bear all expenditure for filing application for patent. If the patent is commercialised the sharing of earning is to be done between researcher and the University as per the guideline to be developed from time to time.

The University shall create awareness about intellectual property rights among faculty, researchers and scholars from time to time.

Centre of excellence

The University would like to create an environment for a department and an institution where they work in a specific research area and be known as a specialist organisation. This will conduce to focus on specific research activities in the specialized areas. Through these efforts, the University shall promote a particular department or an institution as the Centre of Excellence in due course for a specialized thrust area.

Incentives for outstanding Research

The University 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 are identified as under:

a) Incentive in terms of increments
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 Chair

The University 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.

Creation of separate Research wing

In due course of time the university can also think about creating separate wing only for conducting research to start with in specific ares which can be

Expanded for other areas. The teachers interested in research should be appointed in this wing with very little teaching load with certain targeted work.

Establishment of directorate of research

To promote, monitor and incentivize research, the University shall have an exclusive and dedicated Directorate of Research, led by a senior academician. The Directorate shall take care of day-to-day monitoring of all above activities including doctorate programme. generating ideas about the conduct of research in different areas, implementing the ideas, meeting the requirement of funding, monitoring the activities and assessing the outcomes constantly and periodically.

Therefore, the Directorate of Research shall be an essential component for any research endeavor. The Directorate shall have the functions to disseminate the findings of research to the society and also to integrate the research with teaching.

Research Park

This idea of a Research Park is a relatively recent one where collaborative research can be conducted.

Under this scheme, the infrastructure and ambience are created in the concerned field for conducting research where the University and the industries invest money, the experts and research scholars working in the industry and the University can work together and find solutions to the problems of industry or create new knowledge technology know how which ultimately will benefit the society. In the Park, the research can be conducted jointly by different institutions of the University also, Under this park more than one research projects are to be conducted and will create research environment and ambience and culture.

Research misconduct

The University believes that the occurrence of misconduct is a threat to the basic principles of research. The University defines research misconduct, as any fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in proposing, performing or reviewing research or in the reporting of research results. Misconduct in research damages the integrity of the profession and undermines the credibility of scholars. It is also unethical to the values the University which strives to maintain and promote.

The University shall take seriously all allegations of misconduct, and shall ensure that the procedures for the inquiry, investigation and adjudication of any misconduct are well defined and just for all parties involved. The University shall also see that the thesis and all research papers are scrutinized through a reliable software.

Constant Review and monitoring of implementation of Research policy:

The policy will be reviewed after a period of every two years. There will be a systematic mechanism to constant monitor the implementation

Of research policy.