

RESEARCH POLICY FOR SREE SANKARACHARYA UNIVERSITY OF SANSKRIT

The goodwill and reputation of any academic institution of higher learning is dependent upon the quality of scholarship, pedagogy, and research output it maintains and inculcates. Accordingly, the teaching community, academic activities, and learning environment in the University are tuned to achieve these objectives. The present research policy aims to spell out the research priorities of the University in terms of its objectives, focus areas, research programmes, potential etc.

Purpose

The purpose of research policy is to create a vibrant atmosphere of research among faculty and research scholars in SSUS main centre and regional centres.

Objectives

The broad framework is intended to guide research, its scholarly quality and integrity in all levels of in and out 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 incentivise the generation of intellectual capital; v) To consolidate and initiate intellectual dialogues between Sanskrit and other knowledge traditions, Indian, Eastern and Western; vi) To document and archive the knowledge, linguistic, philosophical and performance traditions of Kerala , vii) To make the academic community capable of developing an intense engagement with the social and cultural situations, viii) To ensure high level of efficient and effective support system to facilitate faculty and researchers in their research activities, ix) Establish new research centres in regional campuses, x) Ensure publications in quality journals, indexed in Scopus/Web of science and/or with impact factor, xi) Forge interdisciplinary collaborations and partnerships nationally and internationally

Promotion of Research

The researchers are free to choose the areas and topic of their research, to seek academic and financial support from any institution for their research work, and to freely report and publish their findings and conclusions. However, research shall undergo processes of academic scrutiny and rigorous peer review. Research techniques used by the researchers shall not violate intellectual property rights, and 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 is committed to create a conducive environment for research. It shall allocate wherever possible necessary space, facilities, funding, and other resources for research programmes based on the scholarly and academic merits of the proposed research. It shall also

provide developmental opportunities to researchers for writing research proposals and reports, publications, patent filing, etc.

The research works leading to P.hd degree should have a continuity and extension in the form of Post-Doctoral research opportunities in Research Departments.

Faculty who are desirous of completing in depth research work shall be granted sabbatical Leave in accordance with the regulations of the University.

Although the researchers are free to choose their own topics of research, it is highly desirable to make research socially relevant and in tune with the academic vision of the University.

University shall pursue collaborations at the local, national and international levels to strengthen and enrich its research programmes and projects. The University shall earmark appropriate budget for scholarship and research facilities for students exchange programmes and residencies in different institutions. It shall also recognise the reputed 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 improved. It shall urge research scholars to publish and patent their research work.

Overall management of research activities may be coordinated by R&D Cell Director.

The implementation and updating of research policy shall be carried out by R&D Cell in consultation with the research standing committee of the Syndicate.

Research output will be considered one of the criteria for faculty recruitment and placement/promotion along with other academic responsibilities.

Research Projects

In its mission to encourage young faculty to conduct research, the University shall promote them to develop Research Project proposals and projects. The faculty members shall prepare such Research Projects, which will be submitted to an Academic Committee for approval. Based on the recommendations of this committee the University shall give financial assistance to the faculty concerned. There shall be periodical assessments for all such research projects in order to guide and monitor the researcher by an academic committee constituted for the purpose. It is also mandatory to send a quarterly progress report of such Research Project to the University. For this purpose, every year the University earmarks financial budget under each department/regional centre

The University shall also identify a list of potential funding agencies for major research projects. The faculty can submit Major Research Project proposals to these agencies through the University. These proposals are scrutinised before submitting the same to a funding agency. The University provides all kinds of infrastructure facilities available for conducting a Major Research Project.

The University shall 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 University 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.

The structure and orientation of Research in the University can broadly be envisioned in the following way-

a. Collaborative Research:

For any university to grow and reach out to a larger academic community, institutional collaborations are inevitable. If we want to contribute to the society at large, the University has to partner with different academic and cultural organisations. Such collaboration and partnering will be of immense help to create synergies that will help both

. For this, an organisation can sponsor a project and the experts of the institution concerned can conduct research on this project. The financial support for such research shall be borne by the organisation concerned. Any income generated out of the patent shall be shared between the organisation, researcher and the University. This will lead to three kinds of benefit: a) the researcher will get exposures to the concerned area of research; and b) the Organisation will get academic support, research input; and c) the larger society will benefit from such academic exercises.

B. Interdisciplinary Research: Today, interdisciplinary research is the norm, and no institution, discipline, researcher or scholar can address a research problem without involving or engaging with more than one discipline. Therefore, the University shall promote 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.

C. Regional and Indigenous Research : Research works carried out from broad perspectives have to be supplemented and strengthened with researches carried out with emphasis on regional and local milieu. Such researches can surely lead to innovative and path breaking results which will be a unique contribution of the University. Equally important are the research schemes with a thrust on the indigenous modes of intellectual and cultural legacy.

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