YENEPOYA
(DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY)
Recognised under Sec 3(A) of the UGC Act 1956
Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade

Research Policy

Yenepoya (Deemed to be University)

2019

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Research Policy

1. Preamble

Rapid transmission of knowledge in science is a central and complementary function of a higher education institution which impacts national development. In science and technology, research and innovation are the cornerstones helping in the continuous creation of knowledge contributing to social well-being, health, culture, economic development and the advancement of society. Hence the promotion of research and innovation is one of the key missions of Yenepoya (Deemed to be University).

2. Scope

This research policy applies to all research conducted by a researcher including under graduate, postgraduate students, internship students, doctoral students, faculties, Fellowship students, students/faculty from other institutions conducting research as a part of exchange program or fellowships etc. The aim of this policy is to establish the framework for the research activities. The University shall ensure that all faculties receive support to do research through various schemes and they shall have the right to disseminate the research outcomes through publications and patents. It is important that faculty adhere to the spirit, ethics and the letter of the policy.

3. Purpose

The purpose of the research policy is to prescribe standards of responsibility and ethical conduct expected of all persons engaged in research in the University. Further, to ensure that researchers are aware of and informed about the changes in the national and international regulatory framework relevant to research from time to time.

4. Objectives

- To maintain and adhere to the highest standards of honesty, research ethics and integrity
- To familiarize all researchers with and abide by the research policies and guidelines
- To evaluate the research/academic credentials
- To ensure that the policy, governance and administrative support creates an excellent research environment
- To use scientific rigor and integrity in obtaining, recording, analyzing data, reporting and publishing the results.

5. Research Policy guidelines

5.1 Ethics in research

The primary responsibility of all stake holders is to maintain the highest standards of honesty, integrity and ethical standards in research. All the research work shall be subjected to approval from the Scientific Review Board (SRB) and ethical committees to ensure ethical standards on all aspects of research including welfare and safety of the subjects. The principal investigator shall ensure that no research can be initiated without the appropriate approval of the concerned ethical committee. University shall not allow the initiation of any project without the approval of IEC/AEC. All the projects that are approved by the IEC/AEC shall be informed to the University through the heads of the constituent colleges/ centres. Even if the faculty leaves the Institute after completing most of the research, the research work must be credited to Yenepoya (Deemed to be University)

5.2 Faculty support and promotions

All the faculty members of Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) shall have to undertake quality research demonstrated with quality publications and participation in conferences. They shall also engage in translational research to address challenges that are socially relevant. The promotion of faculty shall significantly depend on the quality of research, especially publications and research

grants.

Based on the budgetary provisions available from time to time the following support shall be provided;

1. The University shall provide seed grants to conduct high quality research and to build enthusiastic teams with interdisciplinary research goals.
2. Faculty members shall be provided with manpower assistance in the form of JRF or SRF, doctoral and postdoctoral researchers.
3. Travel grants and financial support shall be provided to attend national/international conferences to disseminate research results to a wide audience globally for the regular faculty of the institution.
4. The University shall provide a fixed grant annually to constituent colleges and centres for imparting research training to gain knowledge through research and build research culture among undergraduate and postgraduate students.
5. Research incentives shall be given to appreciate and encourage high quality research outputs annually.
6. Promote and facilitate research collaborations with Institutes of State/National and International repute.

5.3 Student Support

The University shall provide financial support to undergraduate and postgraduate students for such research projects that are additional to the mandatory research work. The number of fellowships to the research scholars enrolled for the Ph.D. program shall be based on the availability of the funds. The students/research scholars receiving the financial support shall acknowledge the same in the publications arising from the research. Additional financial support will be considered to exceptional candidates who wish to undertake research in the cutting edge areas, Student research mentorship program and ICMR student research projects.

5.4 Training and Supervision-Role of supervisors

The University emphasizes on appropriate mentoring, training and supervision of undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral students in research that demonstrates excellence, integrity, respect and recognition.

A supervisor/mentor/guide for students shall be notified as per the eligibility requirement outlined in the respective statutory councils or UGC as applicable. Such faculty engaged in mentoring the research activities shall take reasonable measures to;

i. ensure that the students have been advised of their obligations in respect of academic integrity and the ethical conduct of research;

ii. ensure that the students have received a copy of the regulatory framework relevant to their particular research;

iii. provide the students with a copy of any research related documents which the students have been asked to sign;

iv. disclose to the students any special conditions concerning such matters as constraints on publication, limitations on the future use of data, and ownership of intellectual property that may influence a student's decision to participate in the research;

v. ensure that research data generated is free of any forms of malpractices (fabrication, plagiarism, etc.,) and publication ethics is ensured.

vi. not enter into an arrangement with a person to write or contribute to a publication/thesis without the researcher's contribution being publicly acknowledged. Such an arrangement is only acceptable if the researcher if so requested, is prepared to be publicly associated with the publication/report/thesis.

vii. Ph.D. supervisor shall ensure that the regulations/guidelines provided by UGC on the Ph.D. program are adhered to.

viii. acknowledge his or her affiliation with the university in all publications resulting from research undertaken with a member of the University or collaborators in other universities/institutions.

ix. not enter into any arrangement with any person/organization to conduct any research under the auspices of the University, or on University premises or using students, academic,

administrative or support staff, or University resources or facilities on the understanding that the conduct of the research is to be kept secret.

x. shall comply with the regulatory framework governing the conduct of research activities that pose a recognizable inherent risk of accidental injury to persons or property activities; obtain all necessary approvals before accepting delivery of hazardous materials, or embarking on the activities in question; and notify those who may be placed at risk prior to the commencement of the activities.

The policy encompasses and encourages the faculty members to engage visiting scholars and interns from other organizations by providing an opportunity to pursue their research and professional interests in departments or centres of the campus. The number of research internships shall be decided by the department/centre based on the availability of resources and infrastructure. The above guidelines shall be applicable to the supervisors of internship students.

5.5 Doctoral research

The institute offers Ph.D. in all the departments for eligible candidates as per criteria defined under the Ph.D. regulations of UGC and its amendments. The research supervisor shall ensure that;

i. The quality of the thesis and publications are maintained to high standards.

ii. All types of research output from the doctoral studies should be published with Yenepoya (Deemed to be University) affiliation.

iii. The patents arising from the study shall be applied through Yenepoya (Deemed to be University).

5.6 Collaborative research (Inter Institutional)

The Principal Coordinator (PC) shall take all responsibilities in the case of collaborative or team research involving multiple departments or institutions. The researchers from the participating institutions shall be aware of research policy and comply with the regulatory guidelines. The

financial and resource sharing shall be decided on before the commencement of the project. An agreement between all the collaborating partners shall be made defining the roles of each part and IP sharing among the collaborators.

5.7 Research funds

The University provides all the support to mobilize resources for research through extramural grants from the government and non-governmental organizations. The Principal Investigator shall ensure that all research funds administered by her/him are used with honesty, integrity and accountability is maintained. The source of funding shall be acknowledged, in all publications generated by the funding support including seed grants from the institute.

5.7.1 Fund Management

The University shall take all the required financial and administrative responsibilities for the management of research grants/funds and allow the Principal Investigator (PI) to utilize the amount for which it has been sanctioned.

The extramural grants will be maintained generally in the University savings bank account. However, if the sanctioning agency requires a separate account will be opened for the maintenance of the funds.

The finance office shall maintain the audited annual statement of the accounts and utilization certificates.

Copies of the sanction orders, terms of reference and other documents shall be submitted by the PI to the Head of the University and any agreement that has to be entered with the funding agency, the University shall do so with a tripartite agreement between the PI and University and agency. A completion report of the grants with outputs and milestones achieved shall be submitted to the University.

5.8 Conflict of interest

All researchers comply to disclose to all relevant persons any conflict of interest that might influence such persons' decisions (including other institutions, agencies, conference organizers, conference/workshop participants, and journals and publishers).

5.9 Research misconduct

In order to ensure the continued integrity of research, any research misconduct that is inconsistent with honesty or the University regulation, Vice Chancellor may constitute a disciplinary committee headed by Pro Vice Chancellor, Registrar and shall be investigated in accordance with the University regulations and disciplinary procedures as per the policy for Prevention of malpractices in research. Vice Chancellor shall be the appellate authority.

6. Quality of Publications

The University intends to maintain the high quality of research outputs by promoting research publications in journals of high standards, indexed in leading databases, such as Clarivate Analytics (Web of Science) and Scopus (Elsevier), and PubMed.

7. Plagiarism policy

University has adopted a policy for the prevention of plagiarism in line with UGC (Promotion of Academic integrity and prevention of plagiarism in Higher Education Institutions) regulations 2017.

8. Intellectual Property Policy

As per the IPR policy of the University.

9. Policy term

The University research policy shall be subject to review annually on the basis of suggestions received from the stakeholders.