

**DTU
POLICY FOR PROMOTION OF
RESEARCH**

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POLICY FOR PROMOTION OF RESEARCH

The university has a policy to promote industrial research, IPR, incubation and development. The policy has been formulated with an objective of setting the direction and standards of research in addition to assurance of quality and ethics in the process.

1.0 Preamble

Strength of an educational institution is governed by research productivity, knowledge generation, and innovation. The attainment of these objectives depends upon the alignment of faculty with all the aspects of research initiatives, being undertaken at the university level. Therefore, the present research policy aims to foster an ecosystem for research, innovation, incubation, product development, transfer of technology and entrepreneurship in Delhi Technological University to contribute to organizations and society.

2.0 Objectives

This policy provides a broad framework to guide research and integrity of scholarly inquiry at the university level. 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 supervised and unsupervised learning and;
- iv) To incentivise the generation of intellectual capital.

3.0 Promotion of Research

The 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.

The research techniques used by the academia shall not violate,

- (i) The established professional ethics, pertaining to the health, safety, privacy, and other personal rights of human beings
- (ii) Or, lead to infliction of injury or pain on animals.

The university shall create conducive environment for research with available facilities and resources, allocate the space, partial funding, and infrastructural resources for research programmes based on the scholarly and educational merits of the proposed research. It shall also provide development opportunities to the researchers for research proposals and reports, publications, patent filing, etc.

4.0 Identification of Thrust Areas

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 departments to prepare a list of research topics, with a view to be focussed in their efforts. Under each discipline and department, there shall be an exhaustive list of such topics or areas, which can be called thrust areas of the department. It shall be utilised for the following research activities:

- i) The thrust areas can be made available to the research scholars who may use it for their doctoral thesis.
- ii) Similarly, the faculty shall also avail the thrust areas 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 thrust areas shall be utilised.

5.0 Research at UG and PG Level

Teaching and research are equally important in a university. On the establishment of the university, it was thought to 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. Accordingly, in the 5th semester onwards of the bachelors programme, the UG Research Project and Mini Project are inducted where the students under the guidance of the faculty, work on the decided topic of the dissertation and seek publications in the listed journals reviewed periodically. The final project is submitted to the institution and also the viva is conducted. Similarly, in the postgraduate programme, research was emphasised emphatically and students were trained for robust research skills. PG students also undertake minor and major projects as part of their course. Partial travel grant is provided to UG and PG students to attend national and international conferences.

6.0 Ph.D. Programme

The university encourage the PhD programme in the thrust areas of the departments. The university has fellowship schemes to the qualified students as per the PhD ordinance. The university supports PhD students with contingency, travel grant to attend national and international conferences.

7.0 Minor Research Projects

From the very beginning, the university encouraged faculty to conduct research. Thus, IRD has developed a scheme for providing financial assistance to Minor Research Project for faculty members of the university. According to this scheme, a faculty member prepares Minor Research Project, which is submitted to a committee at University level and on the recommendations of this committee the University gives financial assistance up to a recommended amount 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 institutions level committee is constituted. It is also mandatory to send a quarterly progress report of such Minor Research Project to the University. For this purpose, every year the university earmarks financial budget under each institution. The faculty should publish two high quality research papers in reputed journals and/or patents from the said minor project undertaken. The university shall continue to encourage faculty members to take up minor research projects and shall earmark appropriate budget for this purpose.

8.0 Major Research Projects

The faculty members and departments keep identifying and updating funding agencies. Faculty members can submit Major Research Project proposals to these agencies. The university provides infrastructure facilities available for conducting a Major Research Project. The University monitors the progress of Major Research Projects funded by an external agency. The account of the Major Research Project is maintained and the utilization certificate is submitted 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 accorded. It shall earmark appropriate budget for this purpose.

9.0 Collaborative Research Projects

The university-industry interaction is envisaged to contribute to the society at large, the departments of University closely work with industries and different organisations. Industries and business organisations face different problems and would like to have the help from the university with an aim to find the solutions to their problems. For that, the university has the following activities:

9.1 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 intellectual property (IP) is generated that will be registered as per IPR Policy of DTU, and income coming out of the commercialization of IP shall be shared as per the IPR policy of DTU.

9.2 Interdisciplinary Research: The interdisciplinary research in the department, institution, researcher or a scholar may 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 has decided to support interdisciplinary research activities for which the following steps will be taken:

- (i) Identify the interdisciplinary area.
- (ii) Identify the different experts from concerned disciplines who can work together.
- (iii) Study the requirement of the infrastructure to conduct the concerned interdisciplinary research.
- (iv) Explore possibilities to find resources for such interdisciplinary research.

9.3 Collaborative International Research

Collaborative international research has been promoted to facilitate mutual learning and expert knowledge sharing. The university policy promotes the MoUs with prominent research institutions abroad, for conducting research jointly in the areas of common interest. For this purpose, a task force in the relevant areas is constituted that will constantly explore the possibilities of having such collaborative or joint research in terms of thrust areas, and to decide the modus operandi of conducting such research and attend to other relevant aspects.

10.0 Training for Research and Publications

Generally, faculty are eager to conduct research, to write a research proposal or having sufficient research skills, they have to channelize their efforts effectively. Hence, in many cases, a research proposals are held up with the funding agency. Therefore, the university proposes to organise training programmes for researchers in the identified areas.

11.0 Publication of Papers and Journals

Publication of papers is complimentary to the effectiveness of the university education. The faculty members must publish continuously in quality journals. The university encourages the publication of papers by the faculty with a targeted aim and collaborative research within and outside the university. A faculty member shall be expected to publish a certain number of research papers in refereed journals at the national and the international levels. The research papers to be published in and to be presented at national and international conferences shall be scrutinised and guided by a formed committee. Each faculty members shall be encouraged to publish quality research papers, Journals and organise conferences, from time to time to boost research activities in the university and to contribute to the existing body of knowledge.

12.0 Centres of Excellence

The university proposes to create an **environment** for **each** department where they work in a specific research area and be known as a specialist organisation or specific research activities in the specialised areas. Through these efforts, the university shall promote a particular department or the Centres of Excellence in a specialised thrust area.

13.0 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:

- (i) Incentive in terms of financial support
- (ii) Incentive in terms of awards/prizes
- (iii) Incentive in terms of funding for the ongoing research
- (iv) Incentive in terms of certificate of recognition.

14.0 Establishment of Research Chairs

The university shall create research chairs and a scheme for appointment for 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.

15.0 Establishment of Project Monitoring Committee (PMC)

To promote, monitor, and incentivise research, the university shall have an exclusive and dedicated PMC, led by a senior academician. The PMC shall take care of day-to-day monitoring of all above activities, 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 PMC of research project shall be an essential component for an intensive research and consultancy endeavour for undertaking sponsored research and industrial consultancy projects having value more than a threshold defined in the “Norms, rules and regulations for undertaking sponsored research and industrial consultancy projects”. The PMC shall have the functions to disseminate the findings of research to the society and also to integrate the research with teaching.

16.0 IPR Policy

The University has an approved IPR policy for protection of IP generated by the faculty, staff and students of the University notified on 21 February 2018. The university proposes to strengthen the research, leading to filing of patents for which the guideline is already available on the university website. The university shall encourage the researchers and scholars to patent a requisite proposal.

However, when a scholar files for a patent, a thorough scrutiny will be carried out and for that a mechanism is already evolved at three levels namely:

- (i) Department at the institution level
- (ii) At the committee level, which has experts
- (iii) At the University level committee where even a lawyer in the concerned field is associated

The university also bears 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 IPR Policy of DTU. The university shall create awareness about intellectual property rights among faculty, researchers and scholars from time to time.

17.0 Incubation at DTU

The university fosters to provide an ecosystem for innovation including incubation centre and other initiatives conducive to the development of technology business incubators. The university conforms to the policy guidelines for setting up incubators in institutions in Delhi as directed by Department of training and technical education, Government of Delhi NCT Reference No. F 75(98)/2015-16/Incubation/PLG/1576-86 dated 25/02/2016. The policy shall be reviewed time to time by the Board of Directors of DTU-Incubation and Incubation Foundation (section 8 company, MCA, GOI)

18.0 Research Misconduct

The university believes that the occurrence of misconduct is a threat to the research policy. The research misconduct is any fabrication construed to falsification and plagiarism in proposing, performing or reviewing research or in the reporting of research results. Research misconduct does not include an honest error or differences of opinion, authorship disputes that do not involve plagiarism, and violations of other university policies. Misconduct in research damages the integrity of the profession and undermines the credibility of scholars. The university currently conforms to the plagiarism policy guidelines of the UGC namely, UGC (Promotion of academic integrity and prevention of plagiarism in higher education institutions) regulation 2017 (F.1-18/ 2010 (CPP-II) dated 1st September 2017). The university shall take seriously all issues 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.

19.0 Review of the Research Policy

A genuine commitment to improving consultation and engagement is not driven solely by legislation. Good quality consultation demonstrates that involving people builds capacity within communities, leads to more appropriately delivered services and connect the communities more closely. Undertaking effective consultation and research is essential to

making sure that decisions are based on sound and reliable information. Poor consultation will lead to misleading results which can damage the reputation of the faculty members and the university. Similarly, consultation only for the fee is a harm to the academia and the integrity of the individual. The policy shall be reviewed after a period of three years or more if required with the permission of the Vice Chancellor.

20.0 Outcome of the Research Policy

Delhi Technological University is research cum teaching institution; and hence promotion of research is of prime importance along with teaching which is hence being embedded into all aspects of DTU's ecosystem. The expected outcome of the research policy is listed below.

ORP 1: Incoming Assistant Professors are provided a generous start-up grant that enables them to quickly setup their labs and start conducting high-quality research. They are also provided an adequate number of PhD students (and M Tech students in the case of engineering faculty) to ensure that their work can proceed in a smooth fashion.

ORP 2: All faculty members are provided travel grants to enable them to attend conferences so that they are able to disseminate their research results to a wide audience. In addition, the faculty members get exposed to the latest research trends.

ORP 3: A strong research culture is promoted using appropriate incentive schemes. High performing faculties are awarded with the Outstanding Research Excellence Award, Premier Research Excellence Award and Commendable Research Excellence Award depending on the quality and societal impact of the research work.

Finally, the strict evaluation process for promotion of faculty at each level gives maximum weightage to research performance thus ensuring that faculty members maintain high quality research output.