



SARDAR PATEL UNIVERSITY

Vallabh Vidyanagar, Gujarat

Policy for the Promotion of Research

Preamble

Sardar Patel University is known for its academic excellence through research and teaching among the state Universities of Gujarat since its inception. The university emblem rightly reflects dispersion of the light of learning for the rural upliftment and the emblem reads 'Sheel Vruth Phalam Shrutam' which means good character and conduct is the fruits of learning. With a mission to impart high quality education, research, and innovation to the students of the rural background, the initiators of this university have taken all the care in appointing quality teachers and professors and established many pioneering university departments and nurtured them to gather national and international attention and funding for quality research. In order to sustain such efforts for the promotion of high quality research and excellence, the university shall use this policy document as a guide.

1. This document shall be called the "Sardar Patel University Policy for promotion of Research".
2. This Policy shall apply to all the researchers (staff members and research students) and supporting administrative sections related to the research activities of the University.

Objectives

This policy provides a framework for the promotion of quality research being carried out at Sardar Patel University.

The main objectives of the policy are aimed:

- To promote and sustain research and innovation in University Departments
- To provide administrative support for the smooth functioning of research
- To adopt and implement high standards prescribed by UGC from time to time on admission to Ph. D. programs and course work
- To provide the consumables and instrumental access to research scholars
- To support researchers for participation in seminars / conferences / faculty development programs / workshops within India and abroad
- To arrange funds from its own source funding the research projects through seed money to young researchers to initiate multidisciplinary research
- To ensure quality through practicing integrity and ethics in research
- To recognize and incentivize the enhancement of intellectual capital gained by the researchers
- To promote and facilitate the national and international research collaborations
- To encourage consultancy and University - Industry interactions

Promotion of Research and Innovation

The University shall appoint a separate Dean-Research & Development to meet all the objectives mentioned in this Policy for promotion of Research.

The University shall extend its support to researchers (teaching faculty members and registered students) (a) to carry out research in their field of interest and expertise, (b) to write and send research proposals for funding from various government agencies and industries (c) to present and publish research findings in the relevant conferences/symposia/workshops etc and peer reviewed journals of repute.

However, the university (through the office of the Dean-R&D / a committee of experts constituted by the Vice chancellor of the University) shall scrutinize the research proposals and provide constructive criticism for improving its quality to make sure of its funding while checking its integrity. However, it is mandatory that the

researchers shall follow the established professional ethics, norms pertaining to the health, safety, privacy, and other personal rights of human beings. The subject wise constituted research committees (DRC) shall look after the admission, counselling, allotment of guide and assign research topic to the Ph. D. students. There shall be only one DRC in a given subject chaired by the head of the university department. Outside experts chosen by the Vice chancellor be co-opted as and when needed. The DRC along with outside experts nominated by the Vice Chancellor shall also facilitate the six monthly review of research progress of the scholars, conduct pre Ph. D. presentation. DRCs are allowed to prepare a list of standard, indexed and reputed journals for publication in their respective subject discipline. DRC shall guide the faculty and research scholars on the ethics about publishing

The University shall provide a research friendly environment for the promotion of research. The University shall extend support for time bound research implementation, by allocating the (available) space, sharing the existing facilities and other resources required for specific research programmes based on the merits of the proposed research.

University shall establish and maintain a center for sophisticated high-end equipments to facilitate easy accessibility to all researchers of the University.

University shall also provide development opportunities by assisting the researchers for presenting the research proposals and reports, publications, patent filing, etc. in suitable forum.

The University shall provide logistic support to maintain research facilities (instruments, equipments etc.) through annual maintenance contract and its revision as and when required depending up on its research utility.

University shall ensure filling up of Technical Posts fallen vacant to sustain the operations and maintenance of high-end equipments.

Identification of Thrust Areas

Although the researchers have the autonomy in choosing their topics of research, it is desirable to make research socially relevant. As many of the University Departments are recognized and supported by the UGC-

DRS/DSA-SAP and center of excellence with specific thrust areas of research, it is expected that researchers focus on largely covering such thrust areas of research in their respective departments

Seed Money for Research

To promote to continue research activities of young faculty members, University shall provide a startup grant or seed money at the beginning their career. It is expected that after the startup project, the candidate will continue their research through major projects seeking grants from various funding agencies. The University shall facilitate and provide administrative and travel assistance to submit and defend research projects funded by external agencies.

The University shall monitor the progress, maintain its accounts and submit the utilization certificate in time to the funding agency for all time bound research projects.

University encourages by providing logistic support to students and faculty members to present/ report their research findings in national/international conferences, symposia, workshops, or scientific meetings.

To facilitate such support to the researchers a separate Personal Professional Development Fund (PPDF) is maintained by the University.

Quality Publications

Faculty members shall be expected to publish their research in high quality peer reviewed national and international journals which are indexed in SCOPUS, Web of Science, Indian citation index, etc. Researchers shall desist from submitting their research articles to paid and predatory journals.

To promote and encourage quality research, University shall provide incentives in public functions of the university for all such researchers who have significant citations and other recognitions or awards granted by independent national or international agencies.

Consultancy and Industrial Sponsored Research

The University encourages its faculty to take up consultancy assignments and projects. All consultancy activities will be governed by the UIIC rules and regulations as updated from time to time under the guidance of Dean-

R&D. Any intellectual property arising out of sponsored research will be owned jointly by the University and the sponsor.

Patent and IPR

The University shall encourage and support its research community to file for patents arising out of their work. However, application for filing patent will have to be submitted to the UIIC of the University for Scrutiny. Expenses for filing patent, sharing of revenue in case a patent is commercialized shall be done as per provisions stated by UIIC.

The University shall create awareness about intellectual property rights among faculty, researchers and scholars from time to time by arranging seminars and workshops through the office of the Dean- R&D.

Collaborative Research and Linkages

To promote national and international research collaborations, the University shall encourage and support its faculty members to conduct collaborative research with reputed national and international academic and research institutions. The University shall also sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with prominent academic and Research Institutions, for conducting joint research in the areas of mutual interest.

To promote inter/multi-disciplinary research, University shall encourage interdepartmental collaborative research projects in terms of guiding research students (as per the guidelines prescribed in the University M Phil and Ph D Regulations), implementing research projects, extension activities etc.

DRC of each subject shall identify and allot topics for research in Multidisciplinary areas in consultation with other departments within and across the faculties during the PhD admission.

Research Misconduct

To promote ethics and integrity in research, University shall consider Research integrity (as any fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in research) very seriously as per the rules and regulations framed under university regulations for research and the regulations for the prevention of Plagiarism in research time to time.

The University believes that the occurrence of misconduct such as sexual harassment or gender discrimination etc. is a threat to the ethics practiced in research. The University shall put in place a mechanism to prevent or

for taking action on all such allegations of misconduct through the office of Dean-R&D and the Women cell of the University and shall bind to all involved.

Office of Dean –R&D

Though university has separate Dean for each faculty to look after the academic aspects of UG and PG programs, the office of the Dean (R&D) will cater to all the needs required to promote all aspects of the policy stated here with an intention of nurturing, sustaining and promoting high quality research in the University for the benefit of the society from time to time. The office of the Dean (Research) is on a full time basis and be responsible for ensuring the smooth functioning of all externally funded research grants/projects in the institution. The Dean of research should have the financial authority to ensure unimpeded utilization of research grants obtained by faculty. The tenure of the office be for three years. The office must also be ensured that funds received under research projects as well as CAS/DSA/UPE schemes are not utilized for other expenditures of the University. The Dean-R&D should be a senior member of the faculty with significant research experience from the constituent departments of the University. The Office of the Dean of Research must also facilitate the culture of entrepreneurship amongst Faculty and Students of the University.

University shall generate and maintain a separate corpus fund for promotion of research for inviting well known researchers (from national / International universities or research institutes) as visiting professor/ professor emeritus for a fixed period of stay on campus. Similarly University shall encourage and support the University researchers to spend a term or more to reputed national / international research institutes / Universities. However, the applications or proposals for the same with all details shall be scrutinized by the office of Dean-R&D.