

ANDHRA UNIVERSITY



Research Promotion Policy

Andhra University Visakhapatnam

Research Promotion Policy

1. Introduction:

The vision and mission of Andhra University emphasized that the research has a core element and priority area since it contributes for the social and economic development of the region as well as the nation and also provide a status of quality of the university among higher education intuitions. The ecosystem of research promotion in Andhra University stresses on the following:

- i) Research promotion and monitoring committees
- ii) Mobilization of funds for research promotion
- iii) Encouragement for faculty research and their achievements
- iv) Establishment of innovation, incubation and startup centres
- v) Strengthening academic and industrial collaboration for research promotion
- vi) Protecting Intellectual property rights and strengthening patent culture
- vii) Establishment of centres of excellence and chairs for multi-disciplinary research
- viii) Encouraging promotion of research in its affiliated colleges
- ix) Addressing Society and industry needs through research and consultancy
- x) Implementation of research ethics.

With the above objectives Andhra University has established Research and development wing along with University Board of Research Studies and Transdisciplinary Hub which are responsible for effective implementation of various research promotion policies and plans.

2. Research Promotion and Monitoring Committees:

The promotion of research is taken care of by three bodies constituted at different levels. At the University level, Board of Research Studies is the Apex Body. At the


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College level, College Research Committee and at the department level Department Research Committee will address the issues related to research.

Board of Research Studies (BRS): Under the Chairmanship of the Vice Chancellor, Board of Research Studies (BRS) is constituted. The Principal, College of Science and Technology, shall be the Convener. Principals of all constituent colleges of Andhra University (Arts Commerce and Management, Law, Engineering and Pharmaceutical Sciences) are associated as members of the Board that includes Rector and Registrar of the university. The University's holistic research needs like Course structure, Fees structure, Decision's on administrative procedures, formulation of research guidelines, and allocation of seats under extramural categories are initiated at this stage of the administrative setup.

Under the aegis of BRS, College Research Committees (CRC) are formed and each College principal does nominate selected senior faculty as the representative of each department who has a good standing in the respective disciplines. These teachers are nominated as the members of CRC. These committees in turn monitor the research activities, admissions of research scholars, conduct of pre-Ph.D. examinations and promotion of Research activity on the University campus. Faculty chairman and chairpersons, special officers from the AUPG Centers do play a vital role in assisting the administrative mechanism on issues like granting of extension of time to submit thesis, and conversions of the course stream etc.

Senior most faculty on rotation from the respective department becomes the Chairman/Chairperson of the BoS (Board of Studies) which is the highest academic body at the departmental level. The fundamental responsibilities of the Chairpersons may include handling, framing and changing of course syllabus from time to time allocation and processing intake of research scholars to eligible guides, besides coordinating and framing model question papers etc.

Departmental Research Committees (DRCs): The faculty members in the department, eligible to guide students to pursue research, become members of DRC. The Departmental Research Committee members also act as members of Ph.D. Viva- Voce Committee. This DRC board is constituted by the University on recommendations


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of the Head and Chairperson, BoS of the respective department. The DRC shall perform the following activities:

- Monitoring the progress of Ph.D. / M.Phil. Students time to time at least in every 6 months where the student has to give a presentation on the work carried out so far, the progress achieved etc.
- It is made mandatory that before the submission of the Ph.D. / M.Phil. thesis that student has to make a presentation on the research topic to the faculty and members of the Board of the respective department. The members present can suggest any modifications or corrections or even reject the thesis if it is found that there are portions of unacceptable or doubtful content.
- Inter disciplinary research and inter institutional research has been encouraged by giving an opportunity to the scientists working in various organizations of repute. These candidates are allowed to conduct their research under EMR (Extra Mural Research). Under extramural research, the candidate has to choose a guide within his organization whose guidance will be recognized by the University after proper scrutiny of his credentials.

3. Mobilization of funds for research promotion:

Andhra University allocates funds from the nonplan grant for creating research infrastructure in academic departments, purchase of books and journals, subscriptions to e-Books and journals/e-journals and maintenance of research laboratories. The University facilitate its faculty to get funds from DST, PURSE programme, TEQIP, the UGC-SAP, DST- FIST, RUSA. collaborative projects with industry and research institutions like ONGC, DRDO, NIRD, NRB, ISRO, BARC, AICTE-MODROBS, etc. The university also encourage its faculty to get research funds from corporates, private and public sector organisations and NGOs.

Seed money is to be created form university self finance funds for research work in the fields of his or her specialization through evaluation of good project proposals received


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from faculty. The University has the policy to encourage research fellows to continue their research work after obtaining their Ph.D. degree as Post-Doctoral Fellows. Post-Doctoral Fellows are encouraged to apply for various funding agencies like DST, UGC, CSIR, NRSA etc. to get fellowships. Once they obtain a fellowship grant they are given infrastructural support.

4. Encouragement for faculty research and their achievements

The university support the faculty members and students for attending conferences/workshop/seminars/training programmes by providing travel grants and other financial assistance. The university also provides partial financial support for organizing Seminars/workshop/conferences/training programmes. Some of the students in Engineering are provided financial assistance to undertake research work in TEQIP and Viswesrayya Ph.D Scheme. The university provides all infrastructure facilities for completing the research projects sanctioned to the faculty, scientists and PDRFs. The faculty members and research scholars are deputed for training programmes and workshops for advanced knowledge in their subjects. Faculty exchange programmes for research collaboration with international and national institutions are encouraged.

The university felicitates and issue certificates of appreciation to its faculty who have done significant research and got awards and honours by outside university organisations. It also provides incentives and cash awards for their achievements. Every year the university presents Prof. Sarvepalli Radhakrishna best academician awards for its faculty for those who have best academic performance. It also encourages its faculty by giving best researcher of the year award in its convocation. The research students are given best thesis awards every year in its convocation.

University has established several research centres such as Centre for Bay of Bengal, Institute of Delta Studies, Population Research Centre, Marine Biological Research Centre, Agroeconomic Research centre, Centre for Gandhian studies, Centre for Nano Technology, Centre for Cyber Security and Data Analytics for Advanced Research in trust areas and to attract funds from various funding agencies. The University has to establish multi-disciplinary teams to get funding from various funding agencies for


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research projects. The university can establish advanced scientific and testing laboratories in Food Science and Pharmaceutical Sciences.

5.Establishment of innovation, incubation and startup centres:

An innovation and incubation centre is to be formed to nurture ideas from students research scholars, faculty and foster such innovations in a research environment. The incubation centre should promote the untapped creativity of the persons involved in the creation and to assist them to become Sound entrepreneurs. The objectives of the centre should be

- i) to encourage development of new technology/innovations based on incubations
- ii) To enhance the skills and knowledge to innovate new products/processes/services.
- iii) to create awareness about innovation, incubation and entrepreneurs among students, research scholars and other inventors.
- iv) to create a platform for speedy commercialization of new innovated product/ processes/ services.
- v) to provide network between academia/industries and other stake holders with a startup ecosystem.

Periodic notifications inviting new ideas from budding inventors are to be collected and brain storming are to be conducted for generating innovative ideas for innovations of new products/ processes/services.

6. Strengthening academic and industrial collaborations for research promotion:

The University should pay a special attention integrating the exiting knowledge with outside academia and industry. A smooth functioning is created for establishing collaboration with academia industry which should help minimizing the organizational complexity. Periodic monitoring mechanism is to be placed for effective functioning of the Memorandum of understanding inked with other educational institute (including foreign Universitas and national universities) and industry/corporations. More priority is given for possible collaborative that would lead to research and innovations. The flexible and dynamic communications between the university and the other partner is to be created through a sound mechanisms and should create a self-motivated research environment for both the parties.


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Faculty exchange programmes, visiting fellowships and travel grants are to be made in the MoU's for efficient collaborations.

7. Protecting Intellectual property rights and strengthening patent culture:

Andhra University should create intellectual property ecosystem which consists of IP creation, protection and commercialization by university. Andhra University is planning to establish centre for intellectual property rights. The centre should formulate an IP policy for IPR leveraging and should conduct awareness programme/workshop for intellectual property rights and patent filing. All students must be provided knowledge on intellectual property rights through conducting value-added courses on IPR. The centre for IPR should make collaborations with other institutions and organizations for collaborative research and safe guarding the Intellectual property of the university created by its faculty and students.

The centre should take several initiatives to nurture the culture of patent filing for the innovations made by the faculty and students. The initiatives may include providing financial support to the inventors for filing, publishing and verification states of patents. The patents filed and published by the researcher scholars shall be exempted from mandatory requirement of publishing two research papers before submitting their Ph.D thesis. The university should provide all necessary facilities for commercializing the patents by making MoU's with the concerned industries/organization which will lead the technology transfer of the patents awarded.

8. Establishment of centres of excellence and Chairs for multi-disciplinary research:

The university should establish centres of excellence in addition to the research centres such as centre for studies on Bay of Bengal, Delta Studies Institute, Population Research Centre, Agro Economic Research Centre, Centre for Gandhian Studies, Centre for Women Studies, Centre for studies of Inclusive and Exclusive Policy, Centre for Nano Technology for multi-disciplinary research. The university should encourage well-performing academic departments and colleges in the university to strive for excellence in their chosen areas of academic and research work. In this strategy, the university should provide substantial support to selected departments and colleges to establish centres of excellence and chairs through various schemes. The centres be able to enhance the academic and research capabilities of the


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faculty in their chosen multi-disciplinary areas. With the emergence and advancement of new areas of study in higher education, integration of various disciplines of study has become a key factor. These centres further strengthen the academic and research facilities and infrastructure at the university for achieving excellence in the chosen disciplines. These enhance the quality and standard of research work and extension activities. These promote excellence in academic programmes relevant to the social, economic and other needs of the nation. These centres strengthen the networking and collaboration with other organisations and Institutions. The university should focus on establishment of chairs in some departments by approaching various public and private sector organisations.

9. Encouraging promotion of research in its affiliated colleges:

The University should provide all necessary support to promote research in its affiliated colleges by the following initiatives. The faculty members serving in the affiliated colleges are to be given admission into M.Phil. and Ph.D. Programmes on priority basis. The University departments give admission for affiliated college faculty members who got support under faculty improvement programmes (FIP). Wherever the affiliated college is found to have enough number of Ph.D. degree holders among the faculty, the University permits the college to start a Research Centre. The colleges with a recognized research centre will be allotted Ph.D. candidates. The faculty members working in the affiliated colleges are encouraged to apply for minor and major research projects from the funding agencies and the College Development Council of Andhra University forwards the same to the respective public sector funding agencies. The eligible guides from the affiliated colleges are to be permitted to act as guides/co-guides to the students admitted for Ph.D. The managements of the affiliated colleges are directed to create research fund in their annual budget for the promotion of research. The training programmes on research methodology are to be organized for the faculty members of the affiliated colleges. The faculty in affiliated colleges are to be permitted to take up collaborative projects in association with the parent department in the University. The progress of research in different affiliated colleges is monitored through College Development Council. Periodic meetings with the managements of the colleges are to be organized to identify the barriers for promotion of research and to find out possible solutions.



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10. Addressing Society and industry needs through research and consultancy:

Andhra university further strengthen its AU Development centre (the consultancy unit) by providing all facilities to its faculty and scientists to get consultancy projects involving research in needs of industry and society. The university should help and advice the industries through its laboratories and expert available with faculty to address the challenges and opportunities for improvements. The AUDC should utilise the students during vacation and project work period to work with industries and NGOs in collecting data, compelling, experimenting, analysing and report generation to solve their problems and to develop strategies for development through internships. More emphasis should be given to applied research. A network is to be built for utilising the experts in industries and NGOs through their interaction with faculty and student. The projects for collaborative research with industries R&D departments are to be applied to various funding agencies. Advanced testing laboratories in pharmaceutical science and food processing are to be established.

11. Implementation of research ethics:

The Research ethics committee is to be formed in the university to ensure research ethics to research activities such as design and implementation of Research, use of resources and research outputs, research towards society, Scientific misconduct and to implement regulations of Research. The committee should also conduct awareness and training programmes on intellectual property, credit of authorship, professional ethics, informed consent rules, confidentiality and privacy, ethic on research involving human participation and research involving animals. The committee should ensure the document of research is free from plagiarism and the related software is to be made available for faculty and research scholars. Proper norms must be adopted to control and monitoring of plagiarism of publications and research reports done by faculty and research scholars.



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