

## **Research Office**

Starex University is a research oriented university. It gives special importance on creation of a research ecosystem and integrating research at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels of studies. Academic, basic and applied research, scholarly publications and creativity is the fundamental building block of the academic mission of the University.

## **Research Administration**

Dr. Manoj Kumar

Director, Research

## **Extramural Sponsored Research**

The University's goal is to become nationally and internationally recognized for the quality of its research and creative endeavors and their applicability to improving quality of life, generating new insights and expanding the boundaries of human knowledge and creativity. University has created a strong ecosystem for research conduct including state-of-the-art laboratory spaces, start-up funds or seed-funds, professional development assistance, consumable grants, fellowships to research scholars, travel support, etc. Special emphasis is laid on sponsored research funded extramurally through submission of competitive grant proposals. Extramurally sponsored research not only helps in creating sustainable research environment at the University but also enhances faculty member's scholarly endeavours.

## **Policy for Promotion of Research**

The University has a policy to promote industrial research Industrial promotional 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 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 Starex University to contribute to organizations and society.

## **2 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;
- (i) To incentivize the generation of intellectual capital.

## **3 Promotion of Research**

The researchers are free to choose the subject of their research, to seek support from a 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 being.
- (ii) Or, lead to infection 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 in scholarly and educational merits of the proposed research. It shall also provide development opportunities to the researcher's proposals and reports publications, patent filing etc.

#### **4 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 focused 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 utilized 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 utilized.

#### **5 Research at UG and PG Level**

Teaching and research are equally important in the 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 emphasized 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 Ph. D. Programme**

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

## **7 Minor Research Projects**

From the very beginning, the University encouraged faculty to conduct research. Thus, University has developed a scheme for providing financial assistance to minor research project for faculty members. 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 department. The faculty should publish high quality research papers in UGC listed national/international 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 Minor 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 infrastructures facilities available for conducting 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 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 organizations. Industries and business organizations 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 organization 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 organization. As a result, if any intellectual property (IP) is generated that will be registered as per intellectual property right (IPR) of Starex University, and income coming out of the commercialization of intellectual property (IP) shall be shared as per the IPR policy of Starex University.

**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.
- (iv) Study the requirement of the infrastructure to conduct the concerned interdisciplinary research.

- (v) 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 Training of Research and Publications**

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

### **11 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 publications 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 UGC listed journals and/or in refereed journals at the national and international journal of repute. The research papers to be published in and to be presented at national and international conferences shall be scrutinized and guided by a formed committee. Each faculty member shall be encouraged to publish quality research papers, journals and organize conferences, from time to time to boost research activities in the University and to contribute to the existing body of knowledge.

### **12 Centers 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 organization or specific research activities in the specialized areas. Through these efforts, the University shall promote a particular department or the centers of excellence in a specialized thrust area.

### **13 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 recognized. 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 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 Establishment of Project Monitoring Committee (PMC)**

To promote monitor and incentive research, the University shall have an exclusive and dedicated PMC, led by a senior academician. The PMC shall take of day-to-day monitoring or 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 endeavor 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 IPR Policy**

The University has an approved IPR policy for promotion of IP generated by the faculty, staff and students of the University. 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 through 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 commercialized the sharing of earning is to be done between researcher and the University as per the IPR policy of Starex University. The University shall create awareness about intellectual property rights among faculty, researchers and scholars from time to time.

## **17 Incubation at Starex University**

The University fosters to provide and ecosystem for innovation including incubation center and other initiative conducive to the development of technology business incubators. The policy shall be reviewed time to time by the Board of Directors of Starex University Incubation and Incubation Foundation.



## **18 Research Misconduct**

The University believes that the occurrence of misconduct is a threat to the research policy. Their research misconduct is any fabrication constructed 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 confirms to the plagiarism policy guidelines of the UGC namely, UGC (Promotion of academic integrity and prevention of plagiarism in higher education institutions) regulation 2007 (F. 1-18/2010 (CPP-II) dated 2st 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 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 top 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 be 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 Outcome of the Research Policy**

Starex 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 Starex University ecosystem. The expected outcome of the research policy is listed below;

**ORP1:** 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 Ph. D> students to endure that their work can proceed in a smooth fashion.

**ORP2:** 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 ordinance. In addition, the faculty members get exposed to the latest research trends.

**ORP3:** 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 social 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.

### **About The Incubator**

Promoting entrepreneurship is the priority goal in order to enhance the job opportunities to the young population and fortunately India has got demographic dividend. Entrepreneurship is a special skill where a person becomes a job giver rather than job seeker. An entrepreneur is a person who has to perform a number of functions right from the planning for initiating a start up to the final sale and marketing of the project. Risk bearing uncertainty bearing and carrying out innovations through the development activities in research and teaching are the prime factors of an entrepreneur. In fact India has to become a destination from where goods and services are exported and also our dependence on imports has to be continuously decreased in

order to make Indian economy a self-salient economy. We have to create our linkage with the corporate sector so that research output could be socially useful and relevant to the society. We have to contribute so that Indian economy could again be a fastest developing economy of the world.