

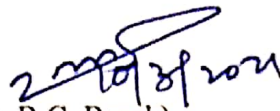


**OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR:: DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITY:DIBRUGARH**  
Memo No.: DU/DR-A/8-1/21/295 Date: 10.03.2021

### NOTIFICATION

As recommended by the 11<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Research Council, held on 28.10.2020, the 121<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Academic Council held on 09.03.2021 vide Resolution No.16 has approved the draft of the Research and Development Policy, Dibrugarh University with immediate effect. The Research and Development Policy, Dibrugarh University is given with this Notification as Annexure-A.

Issued with due approval.

  
(Dr. B.C. Borah)  
Joint Registrar (Academic)  
Dibrugarh University

Copy to:

1. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Dibrugarh University
2. The Deans, Dibrugarh University.
3. The Registrar, Dibrugarh University.
4. The Director, IQAC, Dibrugarh University.
5. The Controller of Examinations, Dibrugarh University.
6. The Director i/c, Directorate of Open and Distance Learning, Dibrugarh University.
7. The Academic Officer, Dibrugarh University
8. The Programmer, Dibrugarh University to upload in the University website.
9. File

(Dr. B.C. Borah)  
Joint Registrar (Academic)  
Dibrugarh University



Annexure : A

## DIBRUGARH UNIVERSITY

### RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (R&D) POLICY (Memo No. DU/DR-A/8-1/21/295 dated 10.03.2021)

#### 1. Preface:

##### 1.1 Research Goals:

Research in any discipline is a continuous process of updating the current level of knowledge and information to the next level by reconnoitering the human instinct of knowing the unknowns in a sustainable manner. Every type of research, be it theoretical, empirical or experimental contributes to the knowledge eco-system. The University knowledge eco-system can essentially harness and nurture such knowledge upliftment in the most meaningful and efficient manner whence the novelty of such enhanced knowledge is a matter of great importance. This is more challenging when a wide range of research areas is to be accommodated to cater to the needs and functions of several faculties. The research goal of Dibrugarh University lies in the heterogeneous composition of social versus individual, linguistic and regional versus global, economical versus asymptotical diversities.

##### 1.2 Motivating towards Research:

Dibrugarh University strives to be recognized as a leading institution in India and abroad by virtue of her ability to deliver quality research through all her faculties. In achieving its goal, the following best practices are to be adopted:

- (a) Enhancement of the critical mass of talents comprising of both faculty and students.
- (b) Provision of adequate resource to foster the needs of the researchers.
- (c) Flexibility and incentives for encouraging quality research.

Dibrugarh University expects that the University will inculcate the research aptitudes among the students during their Post-Graduation programs through student internship projects, term papers, discussions on original publications in the form of seminars and webinars, exposure to researchers of national and international reposes etc. Incentives shall be provided in terms of evaluation and assessment and flexibility in credit transfers.

It is also expected that more and more research scholars from other institutions shall be encouraged. Dibrugarh University shall encourage the departments/ centres to form research groups on specific/specialized areas of research within or across the departments. Intra and Interdisciplinary research is to be appreciated and encouraged.

### **1.3 Research Ethics:**

Utmost integrity should be maintained by a researcher when the results of experimental and field works are reported and analysed. Similarly, acknowledgement of other's data and views are to be duly made leaving no room for any doubt on the reliability of the data or to leave it open to charges of plagiarism. The predatory, un-referred or non-descript journals are not considered for quality evaluation of the research of the university. It should be realized that such publications neither add any value to the contributions of the research community nor the quantity counts for academic credentials. So, publications must be done with great care and in journals indexed by standard indexing databases such as Scopus, SCI, SSCI, ICI etc.

Plagiarism and data manipulation are some of the ethical issues related to the research activities of the university that need to be addressed with strict guidelines. It is to be reiterated to both students and the faculty that the University has to maintain the academic standard and integrity in research and for that it needs to follow vigilant and strict regulations.

Selection of research topics should be more reflective and substantial. It will be in the interest of the faculties and the supervisor's own academic credibility to take suitable steps in this regard. Superficial, repetitive and trivial topics are easier to get a quick degree or good publication but they miss out the motto of academic rigor and credibility or longer usefulness. It is also important for the supervisor to attend to the needs of the R&D of the research and funding agencies. Linkage with industry, action research, administration, agriculture should cover a larger proportion of the total volume of research the university undertakes.

Monitoring the evaluation and assessment process of the theses for the degree of PhD is an essential pointer to ensure quality of research of an institution. It is noted that a balance between the quantity and quality of research works should be maintained by the concerned supervisor. Moreover, the theses evaluators proposed by the supervisors must be selected fully on the basis of their academic merits rather than the personal preferences and other non-academic reasons.

Further, the University shall ensure compliance with the standards of anti-plagiarism as prescribed by the INFLIBNET.

### **1.4 Research Publications:**

In addition to benchmarking of the research publications such as articles in journals, book chapters, conference proceedings indexed in standard indexing agencies viz., Scopus, SCI, SSCI, ICI etc., it is equally important to encourage the researchers to publish their research outputs through social and other media to garner societal exposure (Posts, blogs, Tweets etc.). Being a responsible and integral component of the society and civilization, a university cannot function in isolation and therefore, at least 20% to 30% research activities should have direct or indirect reflections of the societal engagements. To garner a better public perception vis-à-vis highlight

the university's social responsibility, the research outputs that address the contextual and social issues should be presented in the common and social media. There should be some mechanism to encourage the researcher for such activities as well.

### **1.5 Collaborative Research:**

With the advent of globalization, both intra and inter-institutional collaborations have become the need of the hour. Researchers are also interested in both national and international collaborations. Nowadays, interdisciplinary research has gained momentum too and it has become increasingly difficult for one supervisor to provide guidance in all fronts of a particular topic mainly because of this interdisciplinary nature. Both, developing collaborations and building a network of research partners stimulate research activities and open up new avenues for an institution to raise its standard and visibility. This is the new paradigm of global knowledge transfer. Therefore, all types of collaborations viz., between individuals, groups or institutions are encouraged. As a first step in this direction, Dibrugarh University has made provision for co-supervisors from different disciplines within the university or from different institutions wherever it is necessary. Moreover, the role of the Doctoral Committee is to monitor and assist the progress of the scholar during his/her PhD programme. Dibrugarh University also shall make provision for incorporating members to the Doctoral Committee of a particular researcher from different disciplines within the university or from different institutions wherever it is necessary. Incentives will be put in place to enable collaboration on both individual and institutional levels. The following measures shall be deployed to incentivise both the scholar and the faculty member:

- (1) Financial rewards for quality publications
- (2) Financial rewards for innovations as measured by patents.
- (3) Promotion of evaluations to include research output as measured by quality publications, policy documents, consultancy programs, patents and technology transfers to the industries.
- (4) Promotion of mentoring and incubation activities for start-ups. Royalty sharing with the stakeholders for commercial activities and invention technology transfers.
- (5) Each of the research scholars must be given adequate time for teaching assignment by her/his supervisor and this allocated time should be reflected in the departmental time schedule.
- (6) Provision of financial support to research scholars for being teaching assistantship in their respective departments.

The Research and Development activities of the University shall be coordinated by the Office of the Research and Development (R &D) Cell, Dibrugarh University.

## 2. Establishment of Research and Development (R&D) Cell:

There shall be Research and Development Cell of Dibrugarh University under the chair of the Dean, Research and Development. It is entrusted with responsibilities to execute the various activities come under the purview of the Research Policy of the University. It shall be the primary executive organ of the research & development activities.

The R&D Cell will be constituted as below:

- |  |                   |
|--|-------------------|
| a. The Dean, R&D, D.U.   | – Chairperson     |
| b. The Deans of the Faculties of Studies, D.U.   | - Advisors        |
| c. The Dean, Students Affairs, D.U.  | - Advisor         |
| d. The Registrar, D.U.   | - Advisor         |
| e. The Director, IQAC, D.U.  | - Member          |
| f. One Professor from each of the Faculty of Studies<br>(nominated by the Vice-Chancellor for a tenure of 3 years) | - Members         |
| g. One Member not below the position of Director/ Deputy<br>Director of premier Research Institute                 | - Member          |
| h. One Member from R&D Department of a premier Industry  | - Member          |
| i. Joint Registrar (Academic), D.U.  | -Member Secretary |

## 3. Responsibilities of the R & D Cell:

- 3.1 The R&D Cell perform its responsibilities as an advisory body of the Research Council in the performance of the Council's responsibilities in respect of the establishment and promotion of excellence in the University's research and development, academic and research training activities. This includes the development, review and monitoring of achievements under the Research & Development and any other relevant aspects.
- 3.2 Development and enhancement of the research capacities of the University.
- 3.3 Motivating the Faculties to pursue research in their respective areas of expertise.
- 3.4 Protection and commercialization of the intellectual properties of the University.
- 3.5 Consultancy activities related to R & D.
- 3.6 Provision of research and development opportunities to promote enthusiasm, awareness of current scholarship and relevance in teaching and other Institutional activities.
- 3.7 Development of infrastructure conducive to promoting the quality and quantity of research and development.

- 3.8 Recognising the research and development priorities; and monitoring the quality and quantity of faculty research and development.
- 3.9 Disbursement of Research Funds of the University to the researchers, both individually and in groups; including research infrastructure funds; research interns; Post-doctoral research; seeding grants to young researchers; research initiative across the disciplines; and provision of consolidated information to the Research Council and other appropriate bodies of the University.
- 3.10 Monitoring of the utilization of Research Funds to ensure that the funds are properly and formally accounted for.
- 3.11 Promotion of emerging areas of research and development in line with the spirit of National Education Policy, 2020.
- 3.12 Development of mechanisms conducive to the best possible ways of engaging and motivating researchers.
- 3.13 Monitoring and enhancing the quality of research programmes, projects and the research infrastructure within the University, including the training of research scholars.
- 3.14 Fostering the development of multi-disciplinary research endeavours across Faculties and departments.
- 3.15 Coordinating the entire process of research internship.
- 3.16 Monitoring the research and development performance of individuals, groups, Departments, Centres, and Faculties to encourage excellence and productivity through maintaining a database of research and development activities.
- 3.17 Ensuring adherence of the Code of Research Ethics.
- 3.18 Formulating incentive schemes for promotion of research activities with teachers and students/scholars.
- 3.19 Building strategic and durable partnerships, and exploring scopes for funding research from Industries and Research Institutions for steering, funding and cooperation.
- 3.20 Functioning in compliance with the relevant Regulations of Dibrugarh University.

#### **4. Terms of Office**

4.1 The tenure of the Members of the R&D Cell shall be of 3 (three) years from the date of notification.

4.2 An appointed member may also be appointed to serve for other Committees/ responsibilities as desired by the University.

#### **5. Quorum**

The quorum for meetings of the R&D Cell shall be 50% of the filled-in members of the R&D Cell.

#### **6. Meeting Schedule**

The R&D Cell will normally meet at least once in each semester. The Member-Secretary on consultation with the Chairperson may invite more meetings, if required.

#### **7. Reporting**

The R&D Cell will report to the Vice-Chancellor of the University.

#### **8. Research and Development Principles**

8.1 The University emphasises on fundamental outcome-based research in all levels. The faculty members and researchers of the University shall be encouraged and facilitated for publication of quality research papers and filing patents on their works.

Further, the University shall strive to contribute in the research domain of sustainable development goals.

8.2 The University shall strive to attain benchmark for its research facilities through certification by recognised national and international accreditation agencies.

8.3 The University shall endeavour to extend research and consultancy services on the local and immediate issues of the society.

8.4 The University keeps provision for financial support to the faculty members for publication of their research papers in the journals indexed by Web of Science or SCOPUS or any such quality journals duly recognised by the UGC and/or other such assessment and accreditation bodies.

8.5 The University encourages full-time research in Ph.D. Programmes. Besides, pursuing the Six-Month Course Work on the relevant discipline, the University urges regular attendance in the concerned Department/ Centre for Studies for quality research output. The registered research scholars shall support the concerned Department/ Centre for Studies as the Teaching Assistants.

There shall be no provision of Part-Time Research Scholars. However, the same may considered by the Chairperson, Research Council under special circumstances.

- 8.6 Any publication made as outcome of Ph.D./ M.Phil research programme of Dibrugarh University must mention the affiliation to Dibrugarh University with the mention of the name of Supervisor/ Co-supervisor otherwise such publications shall not be considered as the publication from the Ph.D. research programme to fulfil the requirement of Ph.D. thesis submission.
- 8.7 In order to ensure quality research outcome in the Ph.D. level, the Policy encourages publishing at least two research papers in Scopus or Web of Science indexed journals at the time of submission presentation of his/her Ph.D. work.

### **9. Faculty Involvement in Research and Development**

Besides, the eligibility criteria as enshrined in the Dibrugarh University Regulations for the Research Council and for the Degree of Ph.D., the University shall consider the following principles to ensure active involvement of faculty members in research and development-

- 9.1 While applying for recognition of Ph.D. Supervisorship, the faculty members shall have to ensure that the research publications submitted for consideration are published in only Scopus and Web of Science indexed or any other journals accepted by the NIRF.
- 9.2 In personal career advancement, quality research contributions of the faculty members may be given a substantial weightage.
- 9.3 The faculty members working in the Centres of Studies and Departments of the Dibrugarh University who have completed five (5) consecutive academic sessions in teaching service in *ad-hoc*/ non-regular status in the University and satisfy the necessary eligibility criteria may be considered eligible to supervise Ph. D candidates as Co-supervisors with an eligible faculty member of regular status.
- 9.4 In order to ensure induction of promising faculty members in the University, the recruitment policy of the University for the position of faculty members may be upgraded. Ph.D. in the relevant discipline shall be minimum qualification for application and Post-Doctoral Fellowship may be given due weightage at the time of screening or recruitment. In breeding candidature shall not be encouraged in case of recruitment.
- 9.5 In case of promotion, quality research publications of the faculty members shall be given due weightage.



Additional weightage may be given to faculty members or candidates having/completed sponsored research projects by national/international agencies both for sciences and social sciences at the time of applying for promotion and recruitment.

Additional weightage may also be given to faculty members or candidates with evidence of national/International collaboration.

In case of publication of books or book chapters, the quality of the books published may be evaluated. ISBN shall not be the sole criteria for acceptance.

## **10. Post-Doctoral Research**

The University may take necessary steps for facilitation of Post- Doctoral Research in the relevant disciplines. For that purpose, a separate Regulations shall be adopted for Post Doctoral Research Programmes based on the following principles-

- 10.1 A Ph. D. degree holder can register for Post-Doctoral Research in Dibrugarh University under the supervision of an approved supervisor and faculty member of Dibrugarh University at regular status. However, the other requirements and eligibility criteria to apply and avail any fellowship offered by funding agencies shall be additionally applicable.
- 10.2 To be eligible to become supervisor for Post-Doctoral programmes, the faculty members must fulfil the requisite criteria for Ph.D. Supervisorship. Besides that, the intending Supervisor should have adequate specialized research experience in the relevant area evidenced by research publications, patents or research projects completed. There shall not be any provision for consideration to make publications equivalent to Ph. D. degree.
- 10.3 Any faculty member whose date of superannuation falls within three years from the date of DRC for approval of any new Ph. D. proposal as supervisor may not be eligible for consideration.

Any superannuated teacher may not be eligible to hold any position in the DRC and therefore, such superannuated teacher shall not be eligible to attend and participate in any deliberation in the concerned Faculty Board meeting.

## **11. Infrastructure and Financial Support**

- 11.1 The University shall thrive to upgrade all Central and Departmental research facilities priority-wise aiming quality research outputs from the faculty members and researchers.
- 11.2 It shall initiate/ encourage introduction of scheme(s) for funding to start research works by the newly recruited faculty members in the line of Minor Research Projects.

These research projects shall be operated with a stringent and transparent mechanism of granting, mid-term and final evaluation by concerned subject- experts.

The University may also create a research fund for facilitating research works in sustainable manner. The Fund may be operated by the Office of the Dean, R&D.

- 11.3 Research scholars may avail only one research grant/ research fellowship at a time.
- 11.4 Financial support to registered Ph.D. Research Scholar or Post-Doctoral Fellow for publication of research papers shall be granted subject to fulfilment of all requisite criteria of quality assurance.

## **12 Development:**

- 12.1 A monthly publication (in soft form) containing the list of research papers, review articles, short communications published by faculty members in journals/proceedings, presentations in seminars (Local/ National/ International) may be circulated among all the faculty members from the Office of the Dean, Research and Development, Dibrugarh University.
- 12.2 Faculty members who have received any funded R & D research project as Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-PI (if associated in the project) shall be eligible to get an honorarium of 10% and 5% of the institutional overhead (if included in the funded project) respectively, distributed equally on yearly basis during the tenure of the project depending on the fund received from the funding agency. Such PI and Co-PI together shall be eligible to order and purchase necessary research items and accessories directly up to Rs. 10,000/- from recurring head(s) and upto Rs. 50,000/- from non-recurring head for urgent needs. However, all such orders/ purchases shall be made as per adopted guidelines of the University and shall be intimated to the Dean, R & D in writing for office record. All such orders/ purchases have to be placed in the next meeting of concerned purchase committee. Further, the PI and Co-PI shall be held responsible for any deviation from the accepted norms of the university as well as the funding agency and consequent audit objection against such orders/ purchases.
- 12.3 All research work at Dibrugarh University leading to patentable product/ concept/ theory shall be adequately funded from Dibrugarh University for further regulatory work in the patent application process. Application for such financial assistance shall be scrutinized and the amount of assistance shall be determined by a committee constituted by the University.
- 12.4 Any research carried out by a faculty member or research scholar without any financial help from funding agency and leading to development of new concept or breakthrough, as evident from the submitted documents, shall be eligible to get financial assistance for necessary infrastructural development to carry out experimental work or to carry on the targeted work towards completion. Application for such financial assistance shall be scrutinized and the amount of assistance shall be determined by a committee constituted by the University.

- 12.5 The IPR Cell and the Consultancy Cell shall be constituent Cells of the Office of the Dean, R & D and shall be under the purview of the Dean, R & D in their functioning.
- 12.6 Dibrugarh University shall maintain a separate fund for assistance in R & D work to the faculty members and other researchers.

### **13. Consultancy**

- 13.1 Dibrugarh University shall adopt consultancy encouraging schemes from time to time and shall declare such schemes annually, preferably at the beginning of the financial year for the faculty members and other researchers.
- 13.2 Any infrastructural development to provide work set up or laboratory experimental set up shall be made available from the share of University (40% in the existing guidelines) generated by a faculty member for further progress in the consultancy work.

### **14. General**

- 14.1 This Research and Development Policy intends to ensure fulfilment of minimum benchmark for congenial research ambience and quality research output in the University. The Policy will appreciate and accommodate any initiative and step of the University above the benchmark proposed.
- 14.2 Since, the Policy is a holistic guideline for research, development and consultancy works of the University, the related clauses of the relevant Regulations shall be modified in order to comply with the spirit of the Policy.
- 14.3 In case of any inconformity is identified between the Dibrugarh University Act or Ordinances and this Policy, the stand of the Dibrugarh University Act, Statutes, Ordinances or Rules will sustain.

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