

NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

(Declared as Deemed-to-be-NICHE under Section 3 of the U.G.C. Act 1956)

Accredited by NAAC with 'A' Grade)

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BOARD OF RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & CONSULTANCY (BRDC)

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'Research Promotion' Policy



Sl. No.	Contents	Page
1.	Permeable	3
2.	Purpose	3
3.	Objectives	3
4.	Custodian of Policy	4
5.	Policy and Guidelines	4
6.	Period of Reckoning	6

NICHE-RESEARCH PROMOTION POLICY

Preamble

Research is an important activity in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE) is committed to transform lives and serve the society not only through the attainment of excellence in teaching, innovation, lifelong learning, cultural enrichment and outreach services but also through the promotion of high quality research endeavours. To accomplish its mission, NICHE provides intellectually inspiring, academically challenging and supportive environment conducive to achieve personal growth by engaging in innovative and leading-edge research within and across disciplines. In this regard, Board of Research, Development and Consultancy (BRDC) has been established at the NICHE with the aim to promote quality research among the faculty members, research scholars and students of NICHE. In order to, smoothen and quicken the process of administrative issues related to research, NICHE has created the post of Director of Research. Optimal decentralization of procurement procedures related to research is in place to support students, research scholars and faculty members for carrying out quality research. In order to execute these activities, in-line with the mission of NICHE and legal rules of Government of India, the research promotion policy presented in the following section is currently in force.

Purpose

The purpose of the Research policy being presented here is to create a vibrant atmosphere of research among students, research scholars and faculty members of NICHE. The research policy shall serve as an overall framework within which research activities may be carried out at NICHE.

Objectives

The following are the objectives of the research promotion policy of NICHE.

- To motivate the students, research scholars and faculty members for carrying out cutting-edge research and bringing out innovations
- To evince interest among the faculty members for undertaking research projects of various funding agencies.
- To encourage the students, research scholars and faculty members for carrying out collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects
- To inspire the faculty members for carrying out sponsored consultancy projects
- To encourage the students, research scholars and faculty members for creating, protecting and leveraging Intellectual Property Rights

- To invigorate the students, research scholars and faculty members for publishing quality research work in highly reputed international journals.

Custodian of Policy

The implementation and updating of Research Policy shall be carried out by Directorate of Research, BRDC, NICHE. The execution of the research policy shall be governed by a research advisory body/cell which will function under the guidance of the Vice-Chancellor, NICHE and various administrative committees, to assist and advise in matters related to research.

Policy and Guidelines

The motivational mechanism followed by NICHE, obligation of students, research scholars and faculty members on pursuing research at NICHE and guidelines to be followed while carrying out research at NICHE are presented in the following sub sections.

a. Motivation to the Faculty Members

- Faculty members who do not possess Ph.D. degree are encouraged to pursue and complete their Ph.D. degree by providing study leave with salary benefits.
- Encouraging faculty members to pursue Post-Doctoral research, execute national and international collaborative research projects and availing fellowships by providing study leave to spend their time in research activities in NICHE itself or in other Universities situated within India and outside India.
- The eligible faculty members are encouraged to supervise Ph.D. research scholars in accordance with the Ph.D. Rules and Regulations of NICHE. According to Ph.D. rules and regulations of NICHE, Professors and Associate Professors are directly recognized as Ph.D. guides, whereas the eligible Assistant Professors with five years of experience will be recognized as Ph.D. guides. The faculty members of NICHE possessing Ph.D. degree and required publications in either SCOPUS indexed or SCI/SCIE journals are also recognized to supervise PhD scholars.

b. Obligation of Faculty Members and Researchers

In NICHE, the promotion of faculty members to higher cadres may significantly depends on the research undertaken by the respective faculty member. In accordance with the UGC norms, the quality of research output, especially research publications, will be assessed using the established yardsticks such as SCOPUS indexing and SCI impact factor which will be revised from time-to-time as appropriate. Such research outputs will be considered as one of the criteria for faculty recruitment and promotion along with other academic responsibilities. Faculty members are appreciated with

appropriate monetary incentives for publishing their research papers in either WEB of Science or Scopus indexed journals.

c. Undertaking Research

NICHE encourages its faculty members to apply for financial sponsorships to carry out research projects from international and national funding agencies, local bodies, industries and other funding sources. Faculty members of NICHE and research departments are expected to undertake research, leading to quality publications, presentations in national/international conferences of repute, generation of IP with potential for commercialization, socially useful outcome and other similar research accomplishments. Faculty members are appreciated with appropriate monetary incentives for the funds received through extramural projects of Government funding agencies.

In order to promote research activities, NICHE has established Project Cell that deals with all research projects funded by various funding agencies. In order to facilitate the conduct of allied research and development activities, organizing conferences, seminars and workshops, collaborations and networking with other institutes functioning in India and outside India are being effected.

The faculty members who are working as Assistant Professor and who do not possess any other research grant funded by Government/non-Government agencies are eligible for initial seed money provided by the management for establishment of their research infrastructure.

d. Innovation creativity and patents filing Cell

The emanation of Innovation, unearthing by creativity and patents filing through the conduct of research are encouraged by the separate cells which are established for supporting the said activities in the NICHE.

e. Undertaking Consultancy Projects

NICHE is committed to make its expertise available through service to industry, government and other research organisations. This commitment is accomplished at NICHE by encouraging the faculty members to undertake consultancy projects financial sponsored by both the Government and private industrial and other organizations. NICHE aims to be an entrepreneurial institute while engaging with different organisations. NICHE recognizes the importance of consultancy work undertaken by faculty members as a core and valuable part of its functioning as a university of higher learning. At NICHE such practices are considered as part of the knowledge exchange portfolio and in progressing shared relationships. Therefore, NICHE has established this policy to support all the faculty members who carry out consultancy projects. NICHE expects all members to comply with this policy.

f. Research Management

Overall management of research activities carried out at NICHE are coordinated by the Directorate of Research, under the direct supervision of the Vice Chancellor. Research advisory body and administrative committee shall be responsible for overall pursuance of research activities within the ambit of NICHE.

NICHE encourages faculty members to establish a network with other universities within India as well as abroad and establish MoUs with institutions, industries, organization in India and Abroad.

Every year the research output of all faculty members are collected and published in the 'Annual Report' which would be tabled apart from publishing it in the website of NICHE for disseminating the information to all stakeholders.

g. Ethics in Research

- NICHE attaches the utmost importance in encouraging its faculty members for following ethical guidelines established by appropriate bodies while carrying out the research activities.
- NICHE has established Internal Ethics Committee for research involving human subjects and animal subjects and research proposals must have to be approved in these committees for submission to the funding agencies.
- Plagiarism check is another important focus that NICHE insists. Before submission of theses for Ph.D./M.Phil. they must be checked for plagiarism and certified stating that the thesis is free from plagiarism and is required to be submitted with the signatures of both the research scholar and the concerned research supervisor.
- Plagiarism software has been provided to all the faculty members for checking their research articles, research proposals, student's assignments and research project reports.
- NICHE encourages various departments to conduct workshops in research methodology and research publication and ethics. Deliberations on the ethics in research are an integral part of such workshops. Awareness on research ethics also created among the faculty members by arranging invited talks on ethics in research. Ethics in research is also taught for Ph.D. research scholars as part of their course work. In addition, NICHE has IPR policy in place.

Period of Reckoning

The Calendar year is the period for calculating the credits earned by a faculty member which will be between 1st of January and 31st December of the year.