
SRM UNIVERSITY SIKKIM RESEARCH POLICY

Policy Purpose:

Research Policy is framed to guide scholars, students and faculty members of varied departments of SRM University Sikkim (SRMUS) in research. It is designed create vibrant atmosphere of research in SRMUS. The policy is to implement within SRMUS.

Objectives:

- The primary objectives of research policy at universities is to advance knowledge in various fields through research.
- To streamline the research activities in SRMUS.
- To create a conducive environment for the conduct of research among students, scholars and faculty members.
- To strengthen research management and coordination;
- Research policy aims to ensure that the necessary infrastructure, resources, and funding are available to support high-quality research.
- To mobilize and manage funds for quality research and innovations; and

Research Promotion in SRMUS:

SRM University Sikkim is a premier institute in the country engaged in offering education to cater to the needs of the society. SRMUS was established with a vision to bring about innovation in higher education and learning in emerging areas of the knowledge society. Therefore, SRM University Sikkim (SRMUS) is established not only to promote higher education through the academic teachings teaching, but also the promised towards promoting strong research culture and it must be carried out to meet and vision and mission of the University.

The University is committed to providing a dynamic, exciting, discovery-driven intellectual environment for the research both for Ph.D. Research as well as for the major/minor research projects for faculty members.

Therefore, SRMUS mandates all the Departments to prioritize all activities which lead to academic research and fulfil its vision and mission. The Departments and Centres can promote research

- a) PhD programmes and
- b) Undertaking Sponsored Research Projects
 - i. All the matters pertaining to the research that leads to the academic degree MPhil or PhD must be addressed and processed by the URCC. The URCC will approve RACs for each Ph.D. Scholars so that to see the monitor the progress and help the candidate to develop in his/her research work.
 - ii. For Admission, the applications received will be verified by the University Research Coordination Committee (URCC). The chairperson of URCC will be appointed by Vice Chancellor. The URCC will consist of Directors, Deans and all the recognized guides of the University. The URCC shall screen the applications and conduct written and oral examinations. The URCC will select the candidates based on their performance in the written test and/or interview (Research idea and Presentation). The URCC will also allocate the supervisor for each candidate taking into account the preference of the available guides and the candidates if any. Candidate will submit research proposal and present the same to the Research Advisory Committee for acceptance. Research proposal will be sent to ethics committee for approval before acceptance. Supervisor will forward the accepted research proposal to the Chairperson (URCC).



- iii. All the matters pertaining to the sponsored or funded research projects sanctioned by government or industry must be dealt and processed by the Office of the Research and Development Cell (R&DC).

Guiding Principles:

Every Department and Centre of SRMUS should...

- All departments and centres should nurture a conducive environment to conduct research in SRMUS.
- Research should be conducted with respect for the dignity, privacy, and autonomy of the individuals who participate in the study.
- Necessitate the relevance of the research to the present times/issues.
- Incorporate values and ethics in research.
- Mandate that the research area and topic must address issues leading to the upgrading of human, social, environmental conditions in the nation and the world.
- Researchers should seek to maximize the potential benefits of the research while minimizing the potential harms to participants.
- Research should be conducted in a rigorous and transparent manner, with results reported accurately and honestly.
- Promote interdisciplinary research,
- Obligate that the research activity shall not pose any threat to the safety, privacy and personal life of any human being or inflict injury to animals or harm the environment,
- Arrange for space and facility for the scholar for conducting the research.

Ethics in Research:

In lieu of the ethics in higher education, fair conduct of research and prevention of misconduct, as per UGC (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018, students, researchers and faculty members should not perform any academic misconduct during their research work and during publication. SRM University Sikkim, in connection to this, is following various steps for the same;

- As per the Guidelines of UGC "Research and Publication Ethics" is mandatory course which scholars have to undergo Ph.D. program in any departments of the SRMUS.
- Ethical Committee is formed for any research (Major/Minor). This committee will review the projects in details to check and curb the ethics misconduct.
- Ethical report is to be submitted by the scholars before the submission of thesis in the SRMUS.
- SRMUS will use the best tools/software to detect the plagiarism.
- SRMUS will observe frequent workshop on Ethics.

Scholar's Responsibilities:

- Scholars and researchers shall follow all the Rules and Regulations of SRMUS pertaining to the Research Programme.
- Scholars shall submit the research report on time.
- Scholars shall conduct their research with utmost honesty and integrity.
- Conduct independent research inquiry,



- Scholars shall share their research findings with the broader academic community and the public.
- Scholars have a responsibility to ensure that their research findings are used responsibly and ethically.
- Scholars should ensure that their research is conducted in a rigorous and transparent manner.
- Carry out plagiarism check of the report/thesis of their research before submission of the same for evaluation.

Sponsored Research Projects:

- All the Departments of SRMUS must strive for recognition (National/International) through schemes and funding.
- All the Departments must motivate their faculty members and students to apply for government funded research projects /schemes.
- Departments must strive for collaborative research work with different agencies.
- The University must provide seed money grant to faculty members to conduct internal projects.
- The University shall provide required basic infrastructure to the faculty member and Ph.D. scholars for research.
- Faculty members must file patent for their patentable work the successful completion their research projects after.
- All research work must be covered by IPR and copyright protection.

Consultancy:

- The University shall have comprehensive policy on Consultancy.
- The University must encourage the faculty to provide consultancy services to industry/institutions
- The consultancy work shall bring monetary benefit to the University, or enhance its academic reputation
- The consultancy work must not negatively affect the academic responsibilities of the faculty.

Research Funding:

- Faculty members shall follow/go through the detailed guidelines/research policy of the SRMUS before submitting the projects.
- The University must provide fund and facilities to foster research environment in every Department through its resources.
- The Department of the University must encourage every research scholar and faculty to strive to secure funding from external agencies.
- The application to secure any external funding must be submitted through Registrar's Office of SRMUS, after obtaining necessary approval from the R&DC or Departmental Research Committee as applicable.
- Copy of detailed projects shall be submitted to R&DC of SRMUS for record.
- The Finance Section must provide financial management service for research.

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- The Project Investigating officer (PI) shall provide the utilization certificate after the successful completion of the research project.

Research Incentives:

- The University shall incentivize every research activity which results in contribution to any discipline of knowledge, in one of the following ways:
- Issue a Certificate of Excellence
- Acknowledge it by displaying the achievement of the faculty/scholar on University website.
- Extend monetary incentive in line with the UGC/ other institutional regulations, to the faculty/scholar who brings international recognition to the University through their project.

Awareness of Intellectual property Rights:

Protecting and managing your research output are the most significant part to researchers. It is also essential to all researchers and Ph.D. scholars to know about the rights related to authorship in connection with research publications and the right way to protect R&D innovations.

- SRMUS, in this connection, shall provide awareness workshop on IPR.
- Hands on training on IPR processing and filing.
- SRMUS shall encourage researcher for patents.
- All potential patentable inventions of the faculty members shall be disclosed on a timely basis to the University. Further, title of the inventions shall be assigned to the University, regardless of the source of funding.

Compliance Statements:

All students (Under Graduate, Post Graduate, Ph.D. Scholars and faculty members) of the SRM University Sikkim are required to submit a signed statement that no part of their work, be it assignment, term paper, project report, thesis or dissertation etc. is not copied in any form and it is their own creation and they are aware about the plagiarism policy of the SRMUS.

Office of the Research and Development Cell (R&DC):

The office of Research and Development Cell shall deal with all the external or sponsored research projects.

All proposals and applications for any sponsored research project must be verified and approved by the R&DC before submission.

The R&C must process all the matters related with the funds, its distribution and utilization till the completion of the research project in collaboration with the Finance Section.

The faculty/scholar must apprise every three months or as demanded by the R&DC about the progress of the research project.

All the applications and proposal of acceptance of consultancy work whether research type or non-research type must be processed through R&DC.

The R&DC must form a committee to decide the incentive to be given to the scholar/faculty after the successful completion of any project.


Registrar

SRM University Sikkim

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