

Policy document for the promotion of Research

The Central University of Kerala promotes and encourages research / innovation across all disciplines, by providing an ambient and conducive ecosystem nurturing the inquisitiveness, creativity and aptitude for research among the students and faculty members.

The various promotional activities envisaged to bring the research activities to the forefront include the following

1. Research grant for minor projects

In-house funding should be provided for implementing minor projects up to the tune of Rs 2.00 lakhs to the faculty members who are in regular service. The call for proposals may be invited twice in a year, during the monsoon (June – July) and winter (December – January) sessions. The proposals which are of socio-economic, cultural, political, scientific and technical relevance's will be screened by a Project Advisory Committee (PAC) duly appointed by the Hon. Vice-Chancellor. The short-listed proposals will be funded for a duration of maximum 2 years with a ceiling of Rs 2.00 lakhs. The progress of work may be reviewed by the PAC every six months.

The Principal Investigators are encouraged to submit major projects to various State/Central Government funding agencies based on the leads obtained from these in-house projects.

2. Recognition of faculty with prolific and high impact publications

The university will periodically identify and recognize researchers with an excellent track record of publications and patents.

3. Workshops and Training

Workshops and training sessions on research methodology, data processing applications and academic writing will be organized by the university for the benefit of the faculty and students.

4. Establishment of common facilities to promote research

As sophisticated equipment and high-end facilities cannot be replicated in every Department owing to the huge investment and maintenance cost involved, common facilities on priority basis may be established. For instance, the various Science Departments under the Schools of Physical Sciences, Biological Sciences and Earth Sciences have procured state-of-the-art facilities/equipment either from the plan fund allocation or grants received from the external agencies on project mode. Those major facilities may be pooled together under the proposed Central Instrumentation Facility so that, unrestricted accessibility to these facilities will be ensured not only to the faculty members but also to those from other academic / research institutions located in the district of Kasaragod. The income generated from such technical services may be shared between the Department and the University.

Some of these common facilities shall include the following

- a. Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF)
- b. Animal house
- c. Green house
- d. Common Computer Laboratory
- e. Central Library

The Hon. Vice-Chancellor may constitute a committee on infrastructure to identify the need based facilities and periodical review of the emerging requirements.

5. Constitution of mandatory committees

To facilitate the smooth implementation of both the in-house and externally funded projects, mandatory committees as prescribed by the various Central Government agencies like the Department of Biotechnology, Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, National Apex Committee for Stem Cell Research and Therapy etc., such as the following committees will be constituted or made fully operational.

- a. Research and Ethics Committee
- b. Human Ethics Committee
- c. Animal Ethics Committee
- d. Institutional Biosafety Committee
- e. Stem Cell Committee

The composition of the committee, its tenure and terms of references will be in strict compliance with the guidelines issued by the concerned agencies from time to time.

6. Creation of specific policies / guidelines for promotion of research

Further to the above mentioned broad guidelines, it is necessary to have specific guidelines pertaining to the effective implementation of externally funded research projects, consultancy projects, protection of IPR, incentives for innovation and sharing of revenue between the PI/ stakeholders and the University etc. These policies may be collectively termed as the Research, Innovation and Consultancy (RIC) policy of Central University of Kerala.

The components of the RIC policy may be made extensive and not limited to those listed below

- a. Policy on implementation of externally funded research and developmental projects
- b. Policy on implementation of consultancy projects
- c. Policy on innovation and start-ups
- d. Policy on IPR