

**Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University
Guwahati, Assam, India**

PROMOTION OF RESEARCH POLICY



**(Approved the by Board of Management in its
51st Meeting held on 27/09/2019)**

1. Preamble

To maintain quality and excellence in an educational institution, research on socially relevant, economically viable and nationally or internationally significant areas is very important. Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University strives for promoting and enhancing the research capacity of the teachers, officers, learners and scholars in the above mentioned areas. The Policy for Promotion of Research at KKHSOU is expected to achieve excellence in the field of academic research and to become a hub of research in the North Eastern part of India. This Policy shall provide a broad framework to promote and guide research and ensure integrity of scholarly inquiry at the University.

2. Objectives

The stated objectives of the Policy are supposed to promote research and innovation, intellectual and social capital in the society as a whole. The objectives are:

- To promote ease of doing research on socially, politically and economically relevant areas
- To ensure integrity, quality and ethics in research
- To conduct research on the existing and emerging areas in the field of ODL
- To build up the national and international academic relationship through exchange research programmes and collaborative research
- To encourage need-based research in new areas having interdisciplinary approaches

3. Promotion of Research

For the promotion of research, the University shall undertake the following activities.

- i) For the promotion of research, KKHSOU shall encourage the teachers, officers, administrators, technicians, librarians and research scholars for doing research and provide financial support based on the availability of funds for research activities. KKHSOU shall allocate funds to be used for providing financial assistance and grants for conducting Minor Research Projects and for providing travel grants for attending seminars/conferences/workshops within the country and abroad. All provisions for grants and financial assistance shall be governed by the existing University Rules.
- ii) KKHSOU shall encourage the scholars to choose their own subject of research, seek support from funding sources for the proposed research work and report their findings and conclusions.
- iii) The research initiatives of KKHSOU shall also include—capacity building in terms of providing facilities for human resources development, encouragement and incentives to the

employees to carry out more research, organizing seminars/conferences/workshops to disseminate new knowledge and offering Ph. D and M. Phil degrees on completion of quality research work.

- iv) KKHSOU shall encourage and enable publication of research works by its employees in quality journals, in conference proceedings and workshops.
- v) KKHSOU shall encourage teachers, officers, technicians, librarians, research scholars to identify and carryout research on the latest industry/technology problems, maintain highest standards of ethics in the research activities and ensure utilization of research outputs.
- vi) KKHSOU shall encourage its faculty to apply for research projects from international, national funding agencies apart from local bodies, industries and other funding sources. High standards of research output in accordance with the UGC norms shall be one of the main criteria for the recruitment and promotion of faculty.
- vii) KKHSOU shall encourage the teachers without PhD to pursue and complete their PhD by providing study leave with salary benefits. It shall also encourage faculty members to pursue Post-Doctoral research, national collaborative and international collaborative research projects and fellowships by providing study leave to spend their time in research activities in the University or in other national and international universities.
- viii) KKHSOU shall nominate the eligible Faculty members as research supervisors in accordance with the MPhil and PhD Regulations of the University. According to the Regulations, only the regular teachers of the University shall be the Research supervisors. Professors and Associate professors are automatically recognized as PhD guides, whereas the eligible assistant professors with prescribed years of experience, PhD degree and required publications are also recognized to supervise MPhil and PhD scholars.
- ix) The University shall periodically collect the research outputs of the faculty members and publish the same in the 'Annual Report' which shall be printed and deposited in the University's repository.
- x) KKHSOU shall try to have a Lab in the institution in due course of time, where both the teachers and the learners as well as researchers from the University and outside shall be able to carry out their research.
- xi) KKHSOU shall organise training programmes on how to write research proposal and research report for the researchers from time to time.
- xii) Publication of research papers is important for the effectiveness and sustenance of the University. KKHSOU resolves that the faculty members and officers must publish continuously in quality UGC listed and Peer reviewed national and international journals as well as in books.

- xiii) KKHSOU shall create an eco-system for innovation by establishing an Innovation centre/cell which will undertake various innovative research initiatives that cater to the needs of diversified groups such as—learners, scholars and university fraternity.
- xiv) KKHSOU shall encourage quality research in different thrust areas. For this purpose, outstanding research contributions made by faculty members, officers, research scholars and other learners shall be recognised. Therefore, the University shall prepare a scheme for providing incentive for such research accomplishments.

4. How to Implement the Policy:

KKHSOU shall implement and monitor its research activities through the following establishments and mechanisms:

- i) The office of Dean (Academic) shall look into the overall academic aspects of the research activities of the University.
- ii) The Research Advisory Council of the University shall monitor the MPhil and Doctoral Research activities.
- iii) The Directorate of Bani Kanta Kakoty Research Institute (BKRI), led by senior academician/s shall undertake important research works in socially relevant areas.
- iv) The University's Centre for Innovation shall undertake various innovative initiatives by providing access to diversified groups namely learners, scholars and KKHSOU's fraternity.
- v) For M.Phil and Pd.D research, the UGC Regulations i.e. Minimum Standards and Procedure for Award of M.Phil/Ph.D Degree Regulations shall be adhered to.
- vi) For Minor Research project, a faculty member shall prepare the proposal which will be submitted to the Research Advisory Committee (RAC) of the University and on its recommendations, the University authority shall grant financial assistance to its faculty members and to the interested scholars from outside the university. For this purpose, every year the University shall allocate financial budget.
- vii) For Major Research project, the University shall provide all kinds of infrastructure facilities available for conducting the Major Research Project. The University shall form suitable mechanism from time to time to monitor the progress of Major Research Projects funded by an external agency, maintain its accounts and submit the utilisation certificate on time as per the requirement of the funding agency.
- viii) For supporting Collaborative Research Projects, the University shall constitute a screening committee which will constantly explore the possibilities of having such collaborative or joint research in the present-day context.

- ix) For National Award and National Fellowship, the University shall constitute a screening committee to select the awardee.
- x) KKHSOU shall follow the University rules while providing financial assistance or travel grants to the faculty members and officers of the university for attending seminar/conference/workshop both inside the country and abroad. For that matter, the faculty member and officer requesting for such assistance will have to give a presentation on the research paper or otherwise before presenting the same in a seminar/conference/workshop outside of the university before a screening committee which shall be duly constituted and which shall give constructive advice to the presenter or decide on providing the financial assistance to the person concerned.
- xi) For the promotion of research publications, the Publication Policy of the University shall be adhered to.

5. Ethics Committee for Checking the Research Misconduct

KKHSOU believes that the occurrence of misconduct is a threat to the basic principles of research. The University defines research misconduct as any fabrication, falsification or plagiarism in proposing, performing or reviewing research or in the reporting of research results. Misconduct in research damages the integrity of the profession and undermines the credibility of scholars. It is also antithetical to the values the University strives to maintain and promote. Therefore, KKHSOU shall take cognizance of the Research Ethics Policy of the University visualised in terms of the UGC Regulations 2018 while dealing with research misconduct.

6. Review of the Policy

The Policy for the Promotion of Research being formulated shall be subject to review and upgradation from time to time.
