

# MALWANCHAL UNIVERSITY, INDORE



(A Private University Established by the Madhya Pradesh Niji Vishwavidyalay Adhiniyam No. 17 of 2007)  
Registration no. MPPU20

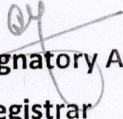
## RESEARCH PROMOTION POLICY



Issued date – 12 August 2021

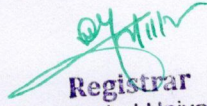
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Approved by – Registrar

  
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## Research Policy

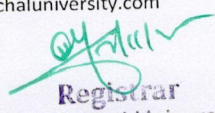
Malwanchal University research policy plan outlines the way in which the university wishes to realize its ambitions in the field of Research. This Research Policy is a guideline for priorities in research, the use of research funds, the faculty members' research plans and initiatives. Research at Malwanchal University aims to lead high quality and impactful research academically and socially. Malwanchal University continues to invest in a wide range of research areas, in a pleasant working environment and in a fruitful symbiosis with many stakeholders in research.

The pursuit of quality, the impact of research and the general research environment are achieved by the following objectives as part of research policy plan.

- University offers academic freedom wherein the researchers enjoy freedom of thought and expression, and have freedom in the choice of their research subjects and identifying methods of solving problems in accordance to the ethical practices and principles.
- Young and experienced researchers are encouraged to shift boundaries in accordance to quality criteria in their field of research. The university provides the best support to their efforts with suitable infrastructure and facilities.
- The university offers a stimulating environment providing researchers opportunities to grow and collaborate with other reputed universities through faculty exchange programme or exploring to work in reputed research labs or work environments for a brief period of time.
- Researchers are accountable to conduct research that benefits university and society at large and should be responsible to make it available to public / public organizations.
- In terms of transparency, researchers are entitled to transparency in policy priorities, in quality and selection criteria and in promotion procedures.
- The research data generated or obtained must be properly documented, stored safely, retrievable, accessible and must be available for other researchers wherever possible subject to certain rules and conditions for legal reasons.
- If research involves data of a confidential nature, confidentiality must be maintained.
- The university research plan encourages inter-disciplinary research in various academic fields.



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- University researchers, faculty members and students who undertake research must adhere to the highest principles of honesty and accuracy so that the knowledge is represented without distortion of the truth.
- The University expects that those engaged in research activity are committed to high standards of professional conduct, integrity and ethics.
- Research results should be open to scrutiny and review by colleagues within the University under appropriate regulations of the university. All the publications must have suitable affiliation of the Malwanchal University.
- The research equipment and software thus obtained either through internal funds or external grants must be available for any researcher within the university, subject to availability.
- The admission of research students and appointment of supervisor will be in accordance with rules and regulations of the University.

Malwanchal University's ambitions for research policies and initiatives can be grouped into following objectives:

## 1. Special Research Funds:

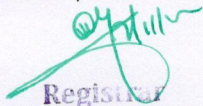
Special research funds are earmarked by the university to meet the objectives of the Research Policy Plan. The funds are available in two categories: Seed level and Growth level. In addition, competitive external funding plays an important role in meeting the objectives of the research plans of the university. Seed level and Growth level funding should be a good beginning for acquiring external research funds. The university calls for proposals to fund the researchers competently through a transparent process. The researchers have to ensure to complete all research projects in time and achieve the set goals. In case of any anomalies, it has to be brought to the notice of Chairperson of Research Advisory Committee, who will escalate it to Vice Chancellor appropriately. The decision of the Vice Chancellor is final and binding upon all involved.

2. The organizational structure is an education-based organizational chart. The duties of Chairperson (RAC), Research Cell and Academic council are transparent. In addition, initiatives are taken to strengthen and encourage inter- and multidisciplinary cooperation and to use available infrastructure of various disciplines efficiently. The university will invest on up-to-date research infrastructure on a need basis and will remain a priority. The university pledges to inventorize, organise and share the available infrastructure efficiently.

3. The research policy plan at University will comprise of focus on gaining National and International reputation and having collaboration with reputed institutes around the world. Research policy, therefore aims to back such research ambitions by encouraging and

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supporting researchers in doing quality research. This will be facilitated by expanding research curriculum to include study on new evolutions at all levels of education. Also to facilitate recruitment of highly motivated researchers with international exposure and admitting research students with good academic background.

4. University encourages promoting research findings at appropriate platforms. The allowances to travel for reputed conferences within India and outside India are governed by the travel grants policy specified by the university. The university encourages faculty members to publish or patent the findings in accordance with the university publication policy.

5. Faculty members must be aware of their obligations to staff and students working as part of the research team. It is particularly important that domain/center head, updates staff, students, postdocs and visiting scholars in their research group about the research activities, sponsorships, intellectual property rights and responsibilities of the team members. Faculty members and students also need to ensure that approved research protocols are followed while carrying out research work.


6. Research misconduct is a failure to adhere to high standards of professional conduct and integrity and to the principles contained in this policy. All researchers must comply with the relevant laws, guidelines of regulatory agencies and University research policy. Failure to comply with this policy will be considered to be interpreted as research misconduct. All concerns about the misconduct of research must be reported to Chairperson (RAC). According to the stipulated protocol of Research misconduct, a preliminary investigation will be carried out by Chairperson (RAC) and report will be submitted to Vice Chancellor. If allegation and instance of misconduct is found apparent, Vice Chancellor will constitute a committee to further investigate and report. The action to be taken based on the report submitted by the investigating committee lies with Vice Chancellor. The decision of Vice Chancellor will be final and binding upon all the members involved.

7. The responsible conduct of research requires disclosing any real or perceived conflict of interest. Researchers, Faculty members must disclose any affiliation or financial involvement with any organisation or entity with direct or indirect interest in the research work or resources used for research work. Researchers have to report any conflict of interest which has potential to influence research findings, publication, media reports, grant application, commercial products and finances. Disclosure must be made to Chairperson (RAC) who will refer the matter to Vice Chancellor for further advice.

8. All potentially patentable inventions, created and invented by faculty members of the University using University resources, must be disclosed to the University. If intellectual property rights have to be claimed, ownership of these inventions is assigned to the

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University regardless of the source of funding. Commercialization of technologies developed using University resources will guarantee the contractual obligations of sponsors. Sharing royalty of such commercialization with University is part of such contracts and will be in accordance with IPR policy of the University.

9. A copy of the proposals for external mural funding must be submitted to the office of Chairperson (RAC). The Principle Investigator has overall responsibility for the technical and fiscal management of a sponsored project. This includes the management of the project within funding limitations, adherence to reporting requirements and compliance to application regulations. The sharing of University resources for such sponsored projects will be in accordance with the university policy.

## Research @ Malwanchal University

### Scheme for Initiating Research (IR):

A faculty member with PhD /MD/MS (recruited or initiating research activity) in a niche area at Malwanchal University.

### Aim:

- Enable the beginning of research and related activities for the recruited faculty member or who has significant potential to attract external funding.
- To attract high quality faculty in the present scenario.

### Grants:

Grant of Rs. 2 Lakhs shall be awarded based on the merit of the idea. The amount should be spent within 24 months after granted. (Based on requirement and progress an additional amount of Rs. 1 Lakh may be considered after a year.)

### Criteria:

- Faculty member appointed with Ph.D/MD/MS or faculty member starting research in a niche area.
- The faculty should commit to do research and to seek external funding for R & D projects.


### Procedure:

Faculty members should apply for IR grant, to his/her Head of the Department, providing details of the research to be carried out in the prescribed form. Total budget should not exceed the prescribed limit.

### Constituents:

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- Research plan should describe research that is sustainable and has potential to help community.
- Itemized budget should be consistent with research plan.

## Evaluation Process:

The application/proposal will be reviewed by a Research Advisory Committee appointed by Vice Chancellor and headed by Chairperson (RAC). On recommendation of the committee, VC will consider, approve and sanction the fund.

Chairperson (RAC) will play a key role in monitoring the expenditure of funds.

## Expenditure:

- The grant can be used to purchase research equipment like software, databases, storage, network equipment and laboratory supplies. But purchasing Desktops, Laptops, printers and peripherals are not allowed. The grant also cannot be used for hiring external consultancy or assistance.
- Record of purchase will be maintained by the respective department and sent to Chairperson (RAC) office whenever required.
- All purchases/expenses should be processed in accordance with finance dept. of Malwanchal University policies and procedures.

## Expected Outcomes:

The faculty member is expected to seek external mural funding by the end of this grant and also is expected to enhance the teaching performance. The report submitted as part of this grant will also be used for faculty appraisal.

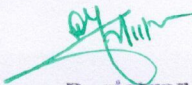
## Formulation of Research Project:

All faculty / students are expected to conceptualize and formulate research project, in consultation with their HODs from their respective depts. or either Chairperson (RAC). The format of preparing a detailed proposal is available with the Research Secretariat of Research Advisory Committee. In brief, the proposal should include or provide:

- Outline the proposed research topics in the context of previous work.
- Highlight about your awareness of current information in the field and area of study.
- Identify the research questions (Objectives) which have not been addressed (suitable gaps in knowledge) and the rational for doing the study.
- Propose a hypothesis which the study would address.
- Identify the research methodology, study design which will help answer the research questions.



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- Nature of the data to be collected.
- Discussion on expected outcome and usefulness of information which is expected to emerge.
- Systematic compilation and organization of bibliography of literature on the topic considered for research.
- Source of funding for research. The proposal should be submitted to the Research Secretariat, RAC.

## **Approval of Research Project by Research Advisory Committee:**

Research Advisory Committee (RAC) which comprises of highly accomplished Research experienced faculty from both within and outside Malwanchal University, reviews all the new research proposals.

Research scholar/faculty, makes a detailed presentation of the research proposal with emphasis on rational, objectives, expected outcome and usefulness of study.

Approval from RAC is mandatory prior to start of research work. The approval can be either with or without modification of the proposal. RAC may even reject the proposal and suggest working on some other related project. It may suggest resubmission of the proposal incorporating changes suggested by the Committee. Recommendations of RAC are final and Research Scholar/faculty has to comply with the same.

Meetings of RAC, is to be held depending upon the research proposals available in an academic year. Research scholar/faculty has to submit project proposal to Research Secretariat at least 20 days prior to the meeting.

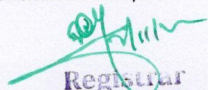
## **Approval of Research Project by Ethics Committee:**

Malwanchal University has ethics committees namely for reviewing Clinical Studies, registered with Drug Controller General of India. The projects necessitating the use of humans for research including clinical trial will have to be cleared by the ethics committee before initiating research work. The composition of the committee is as per the guidelines of regulatory body (CDSCO).

The Research Scholar/faculty whose projects have been approved by the RAC will submit research proposal in the desired format (available with Research Secretariat) for the consideration of Ethics Committee. Once again, Research Scholar/faculty will be invited to this meeting. Meetings of Ethics Committee are held 15 to 30 days after the RAC meeting.



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