BHERULAL PATIDAR GOVT. P.G. COLLEGE, MHOW

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY

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FOREWORD

Research and growth are important part of any educational institution. It is now a core activity which needs to be promoted for teaching and knowledge to achieve excellence. I am privileged to share that as envisaged by NEP-2020, inter-disciplinary and trans-disciplinary research, both are being promoted to a great extent in the Institution.

The objective of this **research policy** is to promote novel ideas, innovative practices, scientific research and we are now moving towards green research also.

We have introduced major initiatives to create a suitable ambience to facilitate research like provision for seed money to faculties as well as students, promoting researchers to publish their work in quality and impact factor journals, encouraging collaboration with reputed institutes and industries to obtain more research projects and sponsorships, encouraging inter disciplinary research, and generating research funding opportunities from different organizations. We have also enriched our libraries through subscription of e-journals through DELNET and NLIST-INFLIBNET for faculty and students.

To maintain ethical standards, a review committee, monitors the research activities and originality of the research work by checking plagiarism.

Keeping with the vision and mission of the college, it is our endeavor to promote experimental research initiatives, which are beneficial to the society at large. I extend my best wishes to you all in this journey.

Dr. Praveen Ojha
Principal

Vision and Mission of the Institute

Vision:

"Our vision is to excel as an educational institution by providing career- oriented, value-based education. We aim to cultivate a community of independent, morally upright, and socially conscious young individuals, empowering them to contribute meaningfully to society."

Mission:

➤ Provide quality education across various disciplines to encourage connectivity between research technologies and employability.

➤ Strive to become an institute focused on student needs, fostering experiential, innovative, and lifelong learning approaches to tackle societal challenges.

➤ Ensure literacy, learning and life skills to all, particularly girl students from tribal and background.

➤ Inculcate an entrepreneurial mindset and values in students.

➤ Enhance collaboration with industries and institutions for mutual benefit.

Objective of the Institute

Objectives

➢ To enrich students with best that is to learn.

➢ To infuse an environment of academics with skill-based education and technologies.

➢ To make the learners grow as a confident and well-groomed citizen.

➢ To enable learners to be creative, dynamic and competitive to face the challenges of academic demands at regional, national and international levels.

➢ To raise a generation rich in ethical values and cognitive empowerment to mobilize the available resources.

RESEARCH AND RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY

Table of Content:

RESEARCH AND ETHICS POLICY

In order to foster a culture of responsible and high-quality research in the academic and research community, the onus is also on the HEI to maintain quality standards as well as research integrity. Research quality, benefits, and integrity are highly interdependent. Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the research community pursues novel, significant, and relevant research for the advancement of scientific research and betterment of society. As an Institutional approach, to nurture a research culture on the foundation of honesty and integrity and follow the recommendations of University Grants Commission (UGC), we have drafted this policy.

Preamble: -

This policy document is recognized as the **"Research and Ethics Policy** "of Bherulal Patidar Govt. P.G. College, Mhow

An educational institution's ability to grow, remain sustainable and produce academically excellent graduates depends heavily on research and research ethics. In colleges nowadays, it serves as the main activity that is connected with teaching, learning, and knowledge transfer. This institute's early research was based on "disciplinary approaches," or isolation. Subsequently, diverse research methods were noted. "Cross-disciplinary" research was another popular trend. Interrogative tactics are used using interdisciplinary methods these days. This kind of research yields a large-scale, multilevel strategy that incorporates an innovation system. Understanding from "across" and "among" disciplines is part of this Trans disciplinary approach, which promotes scientific research activities that are sustainable.

The objective of the current research and ethical policy is to provide Bherulal Patidar Govt. P.G. College, Mhow with new energy for research endeavors. It is an effort to encourage professionals and students to do research by educating them about its significance for both individual and societal growth of human civilization. Promoting green research is one of the policy's main goals. The goal of the policy is to create a campus research environment that supports top-notch research. The foundation of research at the college will be strengthened by a sincere application of this policy. This material will also be helpful to our colleagues who are currently conducting research for their own needs. It will serve as an inspiration for the younger generation's original ideas, innovative methods, and scientific research. Additionally, it can help individual's access new job opportunities in areas where research holds strategic value.

AIM: -

The research and ethics policy aims to fulfill the vision and mission of the college by promoting research culture and scientific temper among faculty and students

SCOPE: -

All research-related activities will fall under the purview of the research and ethics policy. The college's research committee, which is made up of top professors from several disciplines and outside specialists, will update the research policy and oversee its execution.

The research and ethics committee advises and assists in matters related to research activities in the college.

Research Policy

a) OBJECTIVES

- To **create research fund** for Conducting research activities and projects of faculty and students.
- To guide the researchers to **publish their research work in quality journals**, such as, UGC care list journals or journals indexed in Scopus or WOS.
- To **encourage collaboration** with reputed institutes and industries to create opportunities for faculty and students for knowledge transfer and to obtain research projects & sponsorship.
- To provide a platform to **encourage interdisciplinary research** and joint research projects.
- To create awareness among researchers to get **research funding opportunities from different organizations.**
- To urge departments of the college to become **research centers**.

b) COMMITTEE:

A 'Research and Development Cell' is constituted for the effective implementation of research and research ethics policy, which is as follows:

1. Chairman: Principal

2. Members: 3 to 4 senior faculty members

3. External Members: 1-2 External Experts

2

c) EXPECTED OUTCOMES OF RESEARCH POLICY

The college has set up a Research and ethics Committee which consists of senior Professors from various disciplines and external experts. The Committee shall take the necessary actions for effective and quality research in the college.

Policy shall be implemented with following outcomes:

- To establish infrastructure for departments designated as research centers in order to foster a favorable research environment.
- To motivate academic members to submit applications to various funding organizations for major and minor research initiatives.
- To plan workshops, conferences, and seminars to help teachers and students get better at conducting research.
- Working together with other institutions to support academic and student research projects.
- To inspire academics to submit applications to be recognized as research guides.
- To motivate academic staff and students to publish their research papers in UGC care list journals and Scopus.
- The policy on plagiarism will be closely adhered to at all levels in order to prevent plagiarism when producing research projects and papers.
- To give teachers and students seed money so they can begin their research initiatives.
- To motivate academic staff members to take part in workshops, seminars, and conferences related to their areas of expertise.
- To carry out the tasks that establishes the college's research culture.

d) EXISTING ENCOURAGEMENT FOR RESEARCH

- The college has access to-resources through the **DELNET** and **INFLIBNET N-LIST** program.
- The college provides Rs. 30,000/- as **seed money** for faculty and Rs. 5,000/- for one student from each department to carry out their research projects under the following conditions:
    a. Research committee screens the research projects for approval from the principal.
    b. The number of project proposals and quantum of funds are within the budgetary provision of the college.
- The **reference book and materials** required for writing research project work are available in library.

- The college has **broadband connections and Wi-Fi connection** to enable the faculty and students to carry out their research activities

e) FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO TEACHERS

In line with our institution's commitment to fostering academic excellence and promoting professional development among faculty members, it has been decided to provide financial assistance for faculty participation in activities that contribute to their academic growth.

This financial assistance will be applicable for the following activities:

1. Attending national and international conferences, workshops, and seminars.
2. Participating in faculty/Staff development programs.
3. Undertaking research-related activities, such as paper presentations and publication.
4. Other approved academic activities contributing to the institution's vision.

Terms and Conditions:

1. Financial assistance will be subject to the availability of funds.
2. The faculty member must submit a formal application through proper channel at least **15 days** prior to the activity, detailing the relevance and expected benefits.
3. A detailed report on the activity and outcomes must be submitted within **15 days** of completion.
4. Financial support will cover **registration fees, travel expenses, and accommodation** as per government norms.
5. Faculty members availing assistance should acknowledge the institution in their presentations/publications, wherever applicable.

RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY: -

Research and academic endeavors' must to be firmly grounded on ethical principles. Every member of the institution is required to read and abide by this document, which contains the primary ethical guidelines as well as general guidelines specific to each area of research work, such as working with human or animal subjects, among others. Any disregard for these guidelines will not be tolerated.

a) PURPOSE

A well-established system should be in place at the institution to raise awareness about conducting research and other academic activities, to promote academic integrity, and to stop plagiarism. This policy statement is founded on accepted practices for obtaining ethical permission for research projects, as well as the fundamentals of ethical research. It is vital to study this policy together with any applicable standards, as well as any subject-specific and professional regulations and directions on ethics and research conduct.

b) SCOPE

This research ethics policy applies to all researchers at the institution level who are conducting research as well as to anyone from outside the institution who uses the facilities and conducts research on the campus. This also holds true for any professor or student working in collaboration with an outside expert, institution, or group outside of the Institute.

c) OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the Research Ethics Policy is to:

Encourage the application of the highest ethical standards in research. Increase public knowledge of appropriate research practices for those writing theses or dissertations.
• Create a moral foundation for the institution's ethical review procedure to follow.
• To uphold academic integrity and discourage misconduct among students, teachers, researchers, and staff members, such as plagiarism in academic writing.
• Discourage copying.
• To set up institutional frameworks that support ethical research for dissertations and theses.
• To have tools for identifying plagiarism and systems in place to stop it.

d) GUIDELINES

* The Research Development and Ethics Committee will provide guidance to researchers, staff members, supervisors, and students regarding proper resource attribution, obtaining

author permission when necessary, and acknowledging sources in compliance with discipline-specific requirements, agreements, and regulations.

- The institute should hold seminars and awareness-raising events on responsible research, thesis and dissertation writing, academic integrity, and ethical conduct in education for students, supervisors, researchers, and staff. All research participants must provide their informed permission. Everyone involved in the study—researchers as well as participants should be informed about the purpose and nature of the investigation, as well as any possible benefits, risks, duties, or difficulties, before deciding to take part.

- Confidentiality between individuals should be upheld. Researchers are required to protect the identity and confidentiality of all human subjects and the data associated with them at all times, absent explicit written agreement being obtained.

- The goal of research should be to generate knowledge that advances society.

- Researchers ought to make every effort to disseminate their findings as broadly as they can via institutional learning and teaching roles as well as the public domain.

- A Principal Investigator (PI) and a number of co-PIs typically oversee an experimental research project. They ought to focus especially on mentorship and supervision of researchers. The highest ethical standards should be upheld by research supervisors when interacting with researchers and students. As soon as it is practical, potentially troublesome issues should be discovered and handled completely transparently.

- All gathered research materials, including visual and tangible data, need to be stored in a safe place that is kept hidden from prying eyes. Producing properly documented raw data is essential when defending a publication, particularly when it involves experimental work. It is not acceptable to alter or tamper with the entries in a laboratory notebook.

- Efforts should be made to guarantee that resources are used in a reasonable and efficient manner, adhering to transparent and equitable procedures.

- Participants should be made aware of the handling of data. Grant monies cannot be used for purposes other than those specified in the grant award. Physical resources (e.g., instruments, books, software) emerging from different research projects will belong to the university.

- All experiments involving human, or animal study subjects require ethical approval and permission.

- Colleagues who wish to use the equipment installed in institutional laboratories for their own research should be granted access, provided that it does not interfere with the equipment's intended function. The Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC), which oversees animal experiments, adheres to the standards set forth by the CPCSEA (Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals; http://cpcsea.nic.in).

6

- Researchers are expected to prioritize safety and environmental considerations in their research activities. For the handling, storage or disposal of hazardous material, the relevant licenses, permits, and approvals must be obtained. Environmental rules, regulations, and laws must also be adhered to. It is the duty of researchers to maintain safety standards in the lab and make sure that their methods don't put the research team or others in danger. Researchers are not allowed to keep their research results to themselves unless they are contractually compelled to maintain strict confidentiality.

- Researchers have the responsibility and accountability for the accuracy and comprehensiveness of their reports. The type of funding assistance must be mentioned in all research findings reports to ensure transparency and to acknowledge the financial support.

- When it comes to open access data for research that is supported by the public, the Institute should follow the rules set forth by regulatory organizations.

- In line with the publication's concept of authorship, all researchers who have contributed to the generation of fundings and their distribution should receive due credit.

e) RESEARCH MISCONDUCT

- Research misconduct will be prosecuted for any kind of noncompliance with the research ethics policy.
- Paraphrasing is the process of putting something from a source into one's own words without giving due credit to the original author or source.
- Any task, piece of work or other material that has been produced by someone else and presented as one's own.
- Duplicating any other kind of work—such as a graph, experimental data or results, laboratory reports, a proof or a problem solution—in whole or in part without giving due credit to the original author.
- The act of creating a source for a reference in a paper, publication, or presentation, as well as falsifying or misusing data, is examples of fabrication.
- Making an attempt to obtain illegal assistance for academic purposes.
- Creating obstacles that prevent fair and equal access to the processes of education and research, such as tampering with, damaging or obstructing the availability of scholarly works.
- Modifying, fabricating or tampering with official documents, such as academic records, in order to gain an advantage over others.
- Making a false allegation of a breach of academic integrity;
- Giving false information during an academic proceeding; or deleting evidence that is essential to the outcome of an academic proceeding.

- When an individual intentionally or knowingly helps someone else break any rules outlined in the Research Ethics policy.
- It is unethical and has to be addressed when malicious accusations are made against any scientific activity.

f) IMPLEMENTATION:

- It's imperative to stop unethical behavior before it starts by creating a professional culture, offering suitable ethical training and emphasizing that unethical behavior is not tolerated in the organization. In order to ensure that the community is fully aware of these challenges, the institution must create or adopt suitable ethics documents and regularly offer direct ethical training to its personnel through lectures and interactive workshops.
- Nevertheless, it is recommended that the institution's research development and ethics committee provide timely and equitable settlement of all concerns purportedly originating from policy violations. If ethical problems are found, they must be handled right away.
- Punitive action should be implemented for harassment, discrimination, and other issues in addition to data and publication-related violations. It is important to send a loud and clear message that acting unethically is unacceptable.

g) DISCIPLINARY ACTION

While implementing disciplinary actions against violation of research ethics, following principles are to be followed.

- Everyone concerned needs to be aware of and comprehend the responsibilities of the people handling the accusation.
- Steps should be taken to guarantee an impartial and unbiased inquiry.
- To make sure that the procedures and the interests of the parties concerned in the allegation do not conflict.
- The institute ought to defend the right to confidentiality of the pertinent parties.
- Everyone facing criminal charges ought to have the right to file an appeal.
- A prompt and impartial investigation of the matter is necessary.
- The result should be communicated to all parties as soon as is practical.
- The proceedings should be clearly documented; the subject should be thoroughly investigated and resolved as soon as possible.
- As soon as practicable, all parties involved should be informed of the outcome.

h) AMENDMENTS

- The Institute shall examine its Research and Research Ethics Policy on a regular basis and change it as necessary to comply with national policies and directives issued by competent apex bodies.
- Pertaining to any contradiction/or conflict of interest, in any Policy of the Institution, the later revised policy will take precedence.

PUBLICATION OF RESEARCH & RESEARCH ETHICS POLICY: -

The Research and Research Ethics Policy Shall be widely publicized to the Institute's research guides/supervisors, registered research candidates, and teaching faculty, as well as prominently displayed on the Institutional Website to attract the attention of concerned stakeholders.

Important Links:-

- https://www.ugc.ac.in/e-book/UGC_GARP_2020_Good%20Academic%20Research%20Practices.pdf
- https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/5816125_Promoting-and-Improving.pdf
- https://www.ugc.ac.in/pdfnews/4405511_Draft-UGC-PhD-regulations-2022.pdf
- https://www.ugc.ac.in/oldpdf/pub/report/3.pdf
- https://www.ugc.ac.in/e-book/CARE%20ENGLISH.pdf
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