

**RESEARCH POLICY**  
**KUMAUN**  
**UNIVERSITY**

## **1. Preamble:**

The mission to “push the boundaries of knowledge through influential research that tackles societal issues and contributes to the progress of our country” is the guiding star for all the research activities taking place at Kumaun University (KU). KU is committed to establishing itself as a globally acclaimed institution dedicated to excelling in education, research, and innovation. It aims to the pursuit of excellence in research across all domains of knowledge dwelt in the university. KU ensures the flourishing of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary research by adopting the highest norms and standards of a scholarly undertaking. This document provides information on the research policy of Kumaun University. This will help KU to strive towards a Research and Innovation Driven University. KU has a dedicated Research and Development Cell (RDC) which is responsible for the overall functioning of research activities in the University.

## **2. Scope**

- KU aims to promote the paradigm of multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research at the regional scale and integrate it at local as well as global perspective.
- To develop strategies to tackle the pressing challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> century which are crucial to human health, environment and sustainable development.

## **3. Objectives:**

- 3.1.** To provide excellent research culture and infrastructure.
- 3.2.** To create a culture of interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary collaborative research.
- 3.3.** To create knowledge wealth in the form of high-quality research papers, patents, consultancy and technology transfers.
- 3.4.** To create skilled and efficient human resources for scientific research in different disciplines.
- 3.5.** To stand among the leading universities across the globe.

## **4. Guidelines to conduct Academic Research and quality in research:**

- 4.1.** KU has its own Ph.D. Ordinance which is updated from time to time in compliance with UGC regulations. It comprises all the rules and regulations for both Ph.D. students as well as Ph.D. supervisors to follow, for all aspects of the research until awarding the degree to the candidate.
- 4.2.** KU will encourage the Ph.D. scholars who have fellowships to take up research at the University and strive to support the other research scholars to carry out the research.



4.3. KU will motivate the faculty members towards quality research by providing incentives for publishing articles in indexed journals based on the impact factor, granted patents and also for externally funded projects. Universities can make provisions for awards and recognition of achievement in research.

4.4. KU will provide an in-house research grant to financially support the innovative ideas of regular faculty members through KU Internal Funding for Research (KUIFR).

4.5. The regular faculty members will be encouraged to submit the research proposals to National and international organisations such as UGC, CSIR, DST-SERB, DST, DBT, NATO, DRDO and BARC for funding on a regular basis.

4.6. KU will strive to provide its research scholars ample opportunity to interact with the leading resource persons in the relevant field of research either by bringing such resources to research scholars or promoting them to join the events where they can interact with the resource persons.

4.7. KU will provide financial support to its faculties and PhD students to attend/present a poster or paper at national or international conferences.

#### **5. Sponsored Research Projects:**

5.1. KU encourages sponsored research funding by government, private, industrial collaborations, and non-government entities.

5.2. Regular faculty members of KU are allowed to conduct sponsored research projects after obtaining necessary prior permissions from the University. Research work is supported by funding bodies, without impeding the institutional commitments such as responsibilities of teaching, and supervising doctoral research.

5.3. All publications and other knowledge wealth created by such sponsored projects are to explicitly acknowledge and abide by the rules of the University.

5.4. All the faculty members are to undertake research activities in accordance with University rules.

#### **6. Consultancy Research Projects:**

KU has expertise in various research areas to provide knowledge and intellectual inputs which are of interest to the industry. It encourages its faculty to undertake consultancy work.

6.1. All consultative research projects must be undertaken only after prior approval of the University.



- 6.2. The cost-sharing commitments are to be implemented as per the rules of the University.
- 6.3. Distribution of earned consultancy fee amount by the faculty member would be distributed in the ratio of 50% and 50% between KU and PI/Co-PI respectively.
- 6.4. Regular faculty members of KU are allowed to take up consultancy research projects after obtaining necessary prior permissions from the University. However, the faculty member has to undertake that this work will not compromise his/her institutional commitments such as responsibilities of teaching, and supervision of doctoral research.
- 6.5. All publications and other knowledge wealth created by consultancy research projects are to explicitly acknowledge and abide by the rules of the University.
- 6.6. The consultancy research projects of Government agencies can be done without any financial involvement.
- 6.7. All the faculty members are to undertake research activities in accordance with the University rules.
- 6.8. Faculty members of Science and Technology publishing research papers in the journals with impact factors 3-5, above 5-10 and more than 10 (IF by Thompson Reuters/Clarivate) shall be given Rs. 4000/-, Rs.6000/- and Rs.10000/- respectively (to be shared between the first author and corresponding authors).
- 6.9. Faculty members of Arts and Humanities publishing research papers in high-impact factor journals indexed in Scopus shall be given Rs 5000/- (to be shared between the first author and corresponding authors). If someone has published papers as per clause no 6.8, the same clause will be applicable.

**7. Recruitment of JRFs and other staff for the sponsored projects:**

- 7.1. An advertisement may be released calling for eligible candidates following which suitable candidates will be shortlisted.
- 7.2. The expert committee will be constituted by the principal investigator of the sponsored project keeping the aim and deliverables in focus.
- 7.3. The Interview of the shortlisted candidates will be conducted by the Expert Committee and the Minutes of the interview will be prepared for the same. The enclosure for the Minutes of Meeting must include a list of the students who were shortlisted but were not selected.

7.4. The selected candidate/s has to join within the stipulated time and a joining report is to be submitted to the concerned authorities at the Directorate of Research.

7.5. In case a selected candidate doesn't join within the stipulated time, the PI can also decide to select the next most suitable candidate from the waiting list (i.e., shortlisted but not selected).

7.6. In cases where the JRF leaves within the first 6 months of selection, the students on the waiting list may be called upon to take their place. However, if more than 6 months have passed since the JRF joined then the procedure needs to be redone from the beginning.

#### **8. Intellectual Property Rights/ Copyrights:**

8.1 The university owns the Intellectual Property (IP) and Copyrights arising from all research produced on the University campuses irrespective of funding agency.

8.2. The university has a dedicated IPR cell with the provision of payment of patent filing costs to the faculty members.

8.3. The university will provide financial support to protect the intellectual work and its outcome from the research work carried out in KU.

#### **9. Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) /Agreements:**

9.1. All the MoUs and Agreements with other Universities, Institutions and Industries will ensure a bi-directional knowledge and information flow.

9.2. All such MoUs and Agreements will commit to the objectives and values of KU.

#### **10. Engagement of researchers from other institutions:**

10.1. As a pivotal regional university, we are committed to sharing our expertise and infrastructural resources for societal relevance.

10.2. KU will make its research facilities accessible to researchers and other potential users outside the university to bridge the infrastructural gap, disseminate the research and strengthen networks of knowledge sharing.

#### **11. Financial administration of Research Projects:**

11.1. The University encourages equitable sharing of resources and benefits of research projects with researchers to promote quality research in the University.



**11.2.** GFR rules apply to all research activities involving University researchers and the establishment of research infrastructure.

**12. Conflict of Interest and resolution mechanism:**

**12.1.** The University expects all researchers including the faculty members to observe the highest standards of research conduct and ethical integrity and the practices set out in the guidelines published by scientific and learned societies, and other relevant professional bodies.

All researchers should be aware of the legal requirements, which regulate their work, particularly health and safety legislation and data protection.

**12.2.** The high standards of Kumaun University mandate public disclosure of all financial interests by individuals involved in sponsored, consultant and other funding. The financial interests are to be disclosed by all faculty members along with the identity of the funding agency, amount and duration of funding received.

**12.3.** All conflicts of interest and disputes are subject to resolution through university mechanisms. The University reserves the right, to evolve a mechanism and resolve the situation in a time-bound manner. All disputes are subject to the jurisdiction of the High Court of Uttarakhand.

**13. Setting up of Instrumentation facility:**

KU will strive to establish Central Research Facilities to include research instruments available under one single portal and offer centralised governance to provide support to all researchers of KU as well as other research institutions to provide a conducive research environment.

**14. Awareness of Research and Publication Ethics among the researchers:**

KU understands the high need for the awareness of Research and Publication Ethics for faculty members as well as research scholars. KU will, therefore, develop and implement an official Code of Ethics to check malpractices and plagiarism in research. Also, it will conduct periodic workshops/ events to raise awareness among the faculty members and research scholars.