

Research and Development Policy

VERSION 2.0



**GAUHATI
UNIVERSITY**

NAAC 'A' GRADE INSTITUTION



Overview

Gauhati University is committed to fostering a sustainable research culture among its faculty and students, aiming to continually generate knowledge. Research within higher educational institutions plays a pivotal role in advancing knowledge creation, with its outcomes directly benefiting societal well-being, the economy, and societal progress. Therefore, the research policy of Gauhati University aims to cultivate and support the scientific curiosity and research capabilities of all its learners. It endeavors to align with the university's vision and mission by engaging in research that is academically, practically, and socially relevant, thus contributing to broader societal development. To facilitate this, the university established the Office of the Director of Research and Development Cell (RDC) in 2022, granting it substantial autonomy to oversee the smooth execution of research and consultancy projects funded by various government and non-government agencies. This office is responsible for managing all aspects of research projects, from submitting proposals for funding to coordinating project activities, including recruitment, fieldwork permissions, and participation in academic events. Additionally, it oversees departmental and institutional research initiatives, such as UGC-SAP, UGC-BSR startup grants, DST-FIST, DST-PURSE, DBT-Institutional Bioinformatics Facility, DBT-funded Institutional Biotech Hub etc. The Director of RDC also plays a crucial role in facilitating Institutional Ethical Committee, Animal Ethical Committee, Institutional Biosafety Committee etc. and managing various scholar fellowships, thereby contributing to the academic and collaborative research environment at Gauhati University. In addition, the office also deals with various fellowships of scholars including UGC-NET CSIR-JRF/SRF, DBT-JRF/SRF, UGC-JRF/SRF, NFOBC, NFST, RGNFST, MANF, DS Kothari, NPDP, SVSGC, DST-INSPIRE etc.

Vision

The following statement is a vision of the university, which is a declaration for the university's intention to guide its internal decision-making process for realizing its core values.

To perform a transformative role for the region and its people, foster a spirit of enquiry, articulate global human, social and scientific concerns from its strong base in the region, set ethical standards in thinking and practice and enable the making of responsible citizens and compassionate and sensitive human beings.

Mission

This Vision results in the following Mission statements.

1. Academic Excellence to provide quality teaching and a learning environment that takes account of changing student needs and expectations, incorporate global developments in all fields into its curricula, conduct cutting edge research through innovation and collaboration across all borders.
2. To Widen Horizon of Institutional Activity to extend its activities to address environmental, social and cultural concerns in the region, and promote free inquiry and life-long learning.
3. To Empower and Competent Stakeholders to empower stakeholders of the university and its affiliated colleges through capacity development, augmentation of skills and entrepreneurship, provide access to knowledge, extend academic and administrative assistance and enable employability.
4. To Improve Support-Structure to improve existing academic and administrative resources and enhance physical and technological infrastructure for the effective realization of the University's vision.

Objectives

- Establishing an organizational framework with role-specific responsibilities within the Research and Development Cell (RDC), crafting Research Policies tailored for Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), pinpointing focal areas for research, and assembling affiliated cluster groups, frontline teams, or research consortia.
- Introducing provisions in Research Policies to facilitate the recruitment of research personnel, acquisition of equipment, and financial management, granting adequate independence to Principal Investigator(s), and disseminating research findings to stakeholders and the general public.
- Setting up a dedicated entity to support and advance researchers and innovators, identifying potential collaborators from industry, research institutions, academia, and other stakeholders to foster cooperative and synergistic partnerships.
- Acting as an intermediary between researchers and relevant funding agencies, providing guidance in the preparation and submission of project proposals, and overseeing compliance with timelines post-grant approval.
- Enhancing coordination among various units handling University-Industry partnerships, Incubation, Innovation, Entrepreneurship Development, and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR).
- Establishing an Institutional Research Information System to share the status of ongoing/completed research projects/programs, expertise, and resources, leveraging Information and Communication Technology (ICT) for compiling a database of in-house experts for industrial consultancy and services.
- Leveraging the expertise of retired faculty/scientists to enhance the research capabilities of young talents and promoting researcher mobility across institutions and Research and Development Laboratories.

- Serving as a central hub for generating and refining research topics/themes through workshops, training programs, and ensuring adherence to ethical standards in research activities, including obtaining clearance from bioethical committees when necessary.

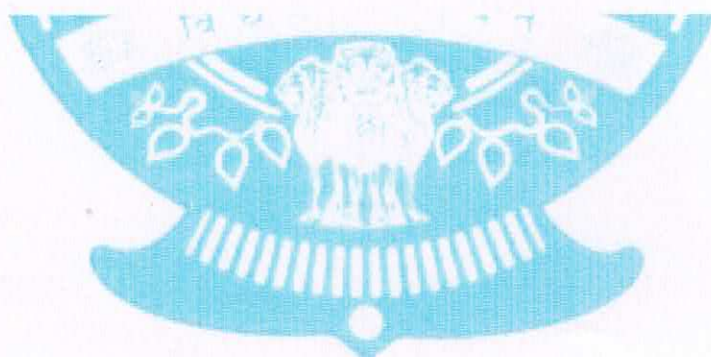
Policy Statement of Research and Development Activities

The following is Gauhati University's research and development policy:

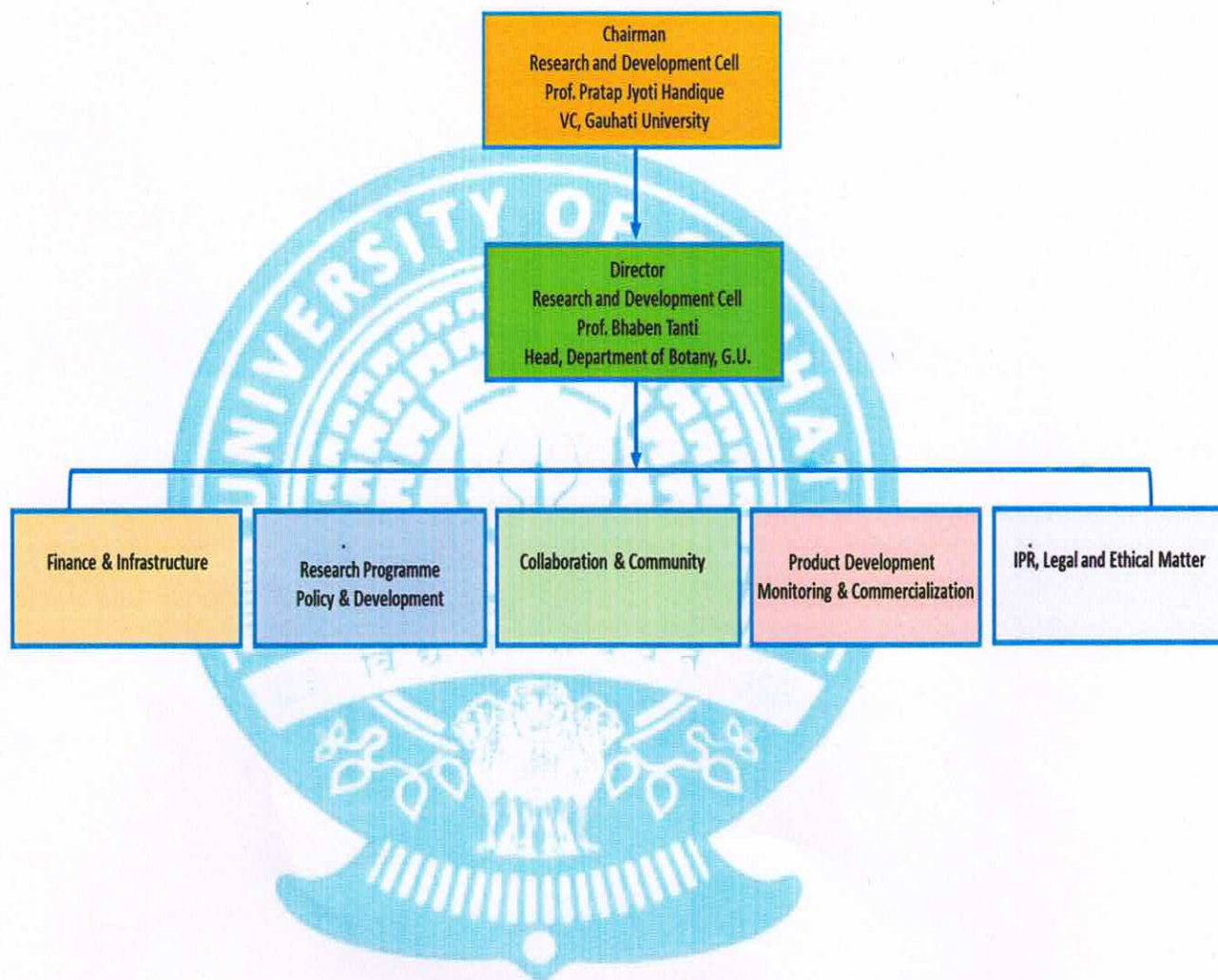
- The university's focus on promoting research involves establishing a dedicated Research and Development Cell (RDC) in accordance with the guidelines of the Ministry of Education, Government of India. This cell, led by the Director of RDC, aims to effectively coordinate and support all research endeavours, especially those under sponsored research initiatives.
- Gauhati University's research policy aims to position the institution as a hub for research and innovation, contributing to the global knowledge network.
- The policy underscores a commitment to pioneering both fundamental and practical research endeavours across diverse fields.
- The research policy grants every university researcher the autonomy to select and pursue their research endeavours, encompassing interdisciplinary and transdisciplinary initiatives, and fostering collaboration with scholars both within and outside Gauhati University as needed.
- The research policy promotes and fosters partnerships with suitable national and international academic institutions, research organizations, and industries. It further advocates for collaborations between the university and industry to engage in pioneering research vital to the sector's advancement.
- The objective is to conduct advanced research in an open, responsible, and ethical manner, overseen by the University Ethics Committee, Animal Ethics Committee, and Biosafety Committee where applicable or deemed necessary.

- Promotes the cultivation of a research culture among qualified individuals by providing research fellowships. It also underscores the importance of granting necessary leave to faculty and students for research training or workshops, among other activities.
- It fosters a research-oriented environment among recently appointed faculty members through initiatives such as providing seed funding, research awards, and incentives for publishing in reputable journals.
- The policy prioritizes the establishment of advanced research laboratories equipped with sophisticated instruments to facilitate high-quality research.
- It promotes the publication of insightful research by university academics in reputable journals and encourages faculty and students to present their findings at conferences, seminars, workshops, and other academic events.
- The policy ensures the efficient dissemination of research findings to a broad audience and their application for societal advancement.
- Through its intellectual property rights (IPR) provision, inventor(s) are provided with safeguards for their created knowledge and the development of processes, technologies, and products. The full IPR Policy is available in the Gauhati University IPR Cell.
- The policy also heightens researchers' awareness of the importance of securing copyright and patent protection for their creative works.
- The policy applies equally to every University employee and student who engages in research activities of whatever kind.
- This research policy grants individual University researchers full autonomy to choose and pursue their research areas, including interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary studies, and to collaborate with other researchers within or outside the University.
- The policy underscores the significance of research ethics and prohibits any misconduct, plagiarism, falsification, or dishonesty by researchers.

- This policy provides a set of guidelines for conducting research, especially within sponsored and consultancy projects at Gauhati University.
- Through efficient use of information and communication technology (ICT), the policy supports the establishment of an institutional research information system to share updates on ongoing/completed research projects, expertise, resources, and achievements.
- It fosters an innovative environment for knowledge transfer via the Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIC) to promote entrepreneurship.
- The policy underscores the establishment of a Project Management Cell to ensure the smooth operation of research projects, consultancies, and fellowships.
- Additionally, it prioritizes the safety of researchers, particularly when handling hazardous laboratory chemicals or radiation, in compliance with standard safety regulations. University departments are required to conduct a Laboratory Induction Programme for new researchers.



Governance



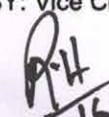
ISSUED & CONTROLLED BY: MR /Director, IQAC, GU


16/3/2023

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16/03/2023

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