



SYMBIOSIS INTERNATIONAL (DEEMED UNIVERSITY)

(Established under section 3 of the UGC Act 1956)

Re-Accredited by NAAC with 'A' grade (3.58/4) | Awarded Category - I by UGC

Founder : Prof. Dr. S. B. Mujumdar M.Sc. Ph.D. (Awarded Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri by President of India)

EXTRACT OF NOTIFICATION NO. SIU/U- 28/772(A) DATED 25TH AUGUST, 2018

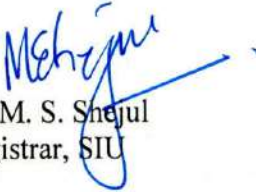
This is to certify that the Promotion of Research at Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Policy has been notified vide Notification No.SIU/28/772(a) dated 25th August, 2018. The policy document is very exhaustive covering several aspects on research promotions. It was thought to have a brief version of this document in the form of a policy.

Therefore, a brief extract from the original Research Manual is hereby reproduced as policy document for convenience of the Researchers & Administrators. The true and correct extract of the Notification No.SIU/28/772(a) dated 25th August, 2018 is attached as Annexure 'A'.

Source: Research Manual notified vide Notification No.SIU/28/772(a) dated 25th August, 2018

Authority: BoM Resolution No. A14 dated 12th July, 2018.

SINGED AND CERTIFIED as a true and correct record.


Dr. M. S. Shejul
Registrar, SIU



Place: Pune
Date of Issue: 14.10.2020

Promotion of Research at Symbiosis International (Deemed University) Policy

1. Background

Research aims at the creation of new knowledge, refinement and extension of the existing knowledge. In general, the purpose of creation or refinement of knowledge is for the welfare and benefit of society. Research is expected to address a wide range of problems prevailing at the local, regional, national or global level and to provide generic and feasible solutions. The outcome of any research must give better insight into the problem and must be dependable so that the domain-specific disciplines of knowledge become richer and relevant to the stakeholders.

Research needs a relevant scholarship, and other knowledge resources and universities are expected to provide the same. That is the reason behind the transformation of the universities globally in the last century from the places of teaching universal knowledge to the places for teaching and creating universal knowledge. This transformation has been subtle but visible in the reputation of the universities, which now depends on both the quality of teaching and research.

The role of universities in creating knowledge and transferring it to enhancing the quality of life of society has been acknowledged across the world. Universities connect with the community by way of understanding its major issues and problems and suggest the means to resolve them. They are expected to make meaningful contributions to the dialogue around the development of policies that impact society.

Symbiosis International (Deemed University) (SIU) has been well aware of the importance of research in higher education as indicated in its vision and mission. The University recognizes its role as a knowledge creator and propagator, and consequently, receives prestigious research funding, publishes research papers in quality journals, files patents, joins editorial boards, jury panels and contributes to the welfare of the society through translational research. The progress in the quality and quantity of research outcome is remarkable in the past few years and the University is eventually poised to attain international recognition for its research prowess.

2. Research Perspective

The University has seven Faculties, namely, Law, Management, Computer Studies, Health and Biological Sciences, Media Communication & Design, Humanities & Social Sciences, and Engineering. These Faculties of Studies manifest the spread of the University's research capabilities across the disciplines and innumerable possibilities of interdisciplinary research. Also, being the largest and vibrant democracy, India offers uncountable research avenues, which have grown manifold in the past three decades due to globalization, and economic and technological evolution of the country. These factors provide opportunities for research aimed to benefit the regional, national and global communities through discoveries, inventions and innovations.

SIU recognizes these realities and has taken initiatives for strengthening its research capability and capacity in different disciplines. The University intends to build its research prowess of international standards through the development of the present and acquisition of new capabilities by taking appropriate initiatives and investing in a focused effort. SIU aims to achieve the following through its research prowess:

- a. To create and enhance the knowledge of the disciplines,
- b. To resolve the problems at regional, national and global levels,
- c. To translate research outcome into tangible benefits to the society in terms of technological, economic and social gains.

The Research & Development (R&D) Mandate of the University is as follows:

1. The R&D must be socially relevant, locally need based, nationally important and globally significant.
2. The focus of R&D in the University is aligned with the national priorities of the Government, reflected through various schemes and grants.
3. The R&D must be applied, translational and leading to innovation.
4. To create R&D hub comprising medical facilities, diverse research centres and constituent institutes that promotes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary research significant to society, and
5. The University's R&D must lead to the development of capable and responsible human resource.

Major initiatives taken in this regard by the University include, but not limited to, are the following:

- a. Creation of policies and processes for spreading effective research culture in the University,
- b. SIU's Ph.D. Programme,
- c. Offering Junior and Senior Research Fellowships to meritorious Ph.D. students,
- d. Forming research oriented collaboration with research institutions,
- e. Establishing research centres in emerging research areas,
- f. Internal funding to Faculty members (henceforth, faculty) and students for research projects,
- g. Supporting faculty for applying and receiving research funds from government and non-government agencies,
- h. Supporting faculty for pursuing doctoral research in terms of fee concession, resources, special facilities, etc.
- i. Support to faculty for undertaking research based consultancy work,
- j. Hosting international research conferences of repute,
- k. Providing financial support to the faculty for traveling abroad for presenting their research work.
- l. Keeping the bibliometric record of the publications based on research done by the faculty members of SIU,
- m. Providing academic and intellectual support to the faculty members through Faculty Development Programmes (FDPs), sensitization programmes, consultation and hand holding for generating high quality research outcomes,
- n. Encouraging interactions between the faculty members having similar research interests through research clusters to promote multi-disciplinary and interdisciplinary research of significance to society,
- o. Creating and managing the intellectual assets for the University through the Intellectual Property Cell (IP Cell),
- p. Nestling and incubating the worthy intellectual property created through research and mediated through Symbiosis Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SCEI).

3. Symbiosis Centre for Research and Innovation (SCRI)

SCRI is the administrative department of the University that offers Ph.D. programme of the University, provides fellowships and funding for research, and gives support for collaborations, inventions, innovations and publications to the researchers at SIU. The Department is a nodal agency for promoting and enabling research activities of SIU fraternity (Annexure 1.B.2).

It has the responsibility of successful implementation of all research initiatives of the University, monitoring and measuring the progress and taking corrective actions to ensure the desired outcome of the initiative/effort.

SCRI works on the policies set by the University by providing support as given below:

- a. To implement institutional research agenda and the policies to reflect a conscious effort for creating a congenial and scholarly climate that nurtures the quality research culture in the University.
- b. To establish standards for research activities at SIU that leads to good quality contribution to the existing knowledge.
- c. To build research capacity and mentor the researchers to translate their effort into high quality research outcome.
- d. To set up a systematic process for administering the research programmes.
- e. To facilitate the research endeavours of the researchers at SIU.

4. Research Centres

For focused research, the University has established various centres such as

Symbiosis Centre for Waste Resource Management (SCWRM),

Symbiosis Centre for Stem Cell Research (SCSCR),

Symbiosis Centre for Nanoscience and Nanotechnology (SCNN),

Symbiosis Centre for Medical Image Analysis (SCMIA),

Symbiosis Centre for Behavioural Studies (SCBS),

Symbiosis Centre for Advanced Legal Studies and Research (SCALSAR).

These Centres are led by the researchers of repute in respective disciplines and are intended to be the Centres of Excellence.

5. Advisory Board and Committees

5.1 Research Advisory Board

The Research Advisory Board (RAB) of the University is the apex body for creating a vision for research aligned with SIU's vision in terms of identifying research thrust areas, emerging avenues, international outreach and associations. The Board, formally constituted in 2018 (Annexure I.B.4.i), has eminent academics, researchers and the experts from the industry in the areas aligned to the disciplines (Faculty) present in the University viz. Health and Biological Sciences, Engineering, Humanities and Social Sciences, Management, Information Technology, Engineering, Design, Media, Telecommunications, Geo-informatics, etc.

The Terms of the Reference (ToR) of the RAB of SIU is as follows:

- a. To create a Vision for research at SIU in terms of identifying further research thrust areas, emerging avenues, international outreach and associations.
- b. To identify emerging avenues for research in the respective domain and help establish global standards.
- c. To help build an international network of researchers, through collaborations with the best Universities/organizations in the domain.
- d. To define a set of guidelines for monitoring, evaluating and auditing the activities of the Research Centres established at SIU with respect to established standards, and
- e. To assess the contribution of SCRI towards the enhancement of research at SIU.

5.2 Independent Ethics Committee (IEC)

The research with human subjects is guided by the principles enshrined in the 'Declaration of Helsinki'. This is also the basis of 'Good Clinical Practices (GCP)' adopted by the International Council on Harmonization (ICH) of Technical Requirements for Registration of Pharmaceuticals for Human Use. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has also issued ethical guidelines for research on human subjects in 2000, and subsequently in 2006. They also form part of guidelines issued by the Central Drug Standards Control Organization of the Ministry of Health, Government of India.

At SIU, these principles are put into practice through the formation and operation of an Independent Ethics Committee (IEC). This committee focuses on rights, safety and well-being of the research participants, if research involves human subjects or if there is a

possibility of involvement of ethical issues. IEC is expected to review and approve such research proposals (Annexure 1.B.4.2).

5.3 Advisory Committees of Research Centres

The University has established six Research Centres that conduct research in niche areas such as Medical Image Analysis, Nanoscience and Nanotechnology, Stem Cell Research, Waste Resource Management, Behavioural Studies and Advanced Legal Studies. These research centres are developed with a potential of becoming the Centres of Excellence in future. The research centres are guided by the committees of eminent researchers in respective domains. These committees are named as the Advisory Committees of Research Centres (ACRC). In addition to advising the researchers of the research centres, ACRCs also monitor and evaluate their progress with an objective of enhancing the quality of research outcome.

5.4 IP Cell

Protecting Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) is important for promoting the culture of discovery, invention and innovation, especially, in the context of socio-economic development at local, regional, national and global levels. It is doubtless that invention(s), innovation(s) and scientific progress are the basis for economical, technological and social progress for profitable growth and better life.

At SIU, the protection of intellectual property (IP) holds the key to empower the academic fraternity of the University at large to capture the value of invention and innovations and transfer the same to the society at large.

The SIU IP Cell comprises eminent scientists, researchers, technocrats and academicians, who are helping in channelizing the various processes of innovation in academic research. The IP Cell is governed by the rules and regulations set in IP policy and very foundation of IP management. It has following essential functions:

- a. Basic understanding about IP, different forms of IP rights such as creating Patents, Copyrights, Design etc. and incentives thereof for creators;
- b. Establishing the structure, key structure, functional aspects, ownership and responsibilities related to IP, and

- c. Helping SIU to fulfil its social commitment and to ensure the dissemination of knowledge and progress of technology for the betterment of the society.

5.5 Research and Recognition Committee

There is a Research and Recognition Committee (RRC) constituted for each Faculty. The RRC deals with matters such as the admission of the candidate to Ph.D. Programme, approval of Research Guides and allied matters related to the research activities in the Faculty (Annexure 1.B.4.5).

The RRC shall have the following powers & functions:

- a. To regulate and coordinate research activities in the Faculty and maintain standards of research at SIU.
- b. To grant admission to the candidate for the Ph.D. programme and facilitates the selection of supervisor and or co-supervisor at SIU.
- c. To grant recognition to research supervisors in accordance with the norms prescribed by the Academic Council.
- d. To approve the topic of Ph.D. research based on the recommendations of the Research Advisory Committee of the Ph.D. Scholar.
- e. To ensure the adherence to Ph.D. rules and accordingly approve extension, discontinuation, transfer and other such actions for the Ph.D. Scholars, and
- d. To deal with all other matters related to research activities in the Faculties of the University.

5.6 Deans' Council

The Deans' Council is mainly responsible for laying down the uniform policies for various academic and research related matters across the Faculties and Constituent Institutes (Annexure 1.B.4.6).

5.7 Committees for Academic Integrity

To promote academic integrity and inculcate the culture of academic honesty, SIU is currently in the process of formulating a policy, which shall be in line with the University Grants Commission (Promotion of Academic Integrity and Prevention of Plagiarism in Higher Educational Institutions) Regulations, 2018, New Delhi dated 23rd July 2018. In

the forthcoming policy, the University plans to establish a three-tier system for the promotion of academic integrity and prevention of plagiarism.

5.8 Institute's Research Committee (IRC)

Every constituent institute/department of SIU has its IRC to provide direction to the research activities for its faculty members and students. The committee also draws external experts as its members, to help the academic fraternity of the institute to decide the research work that they must focus upon as a part of their curriculum and regular research activities (Annexure 1.B.4.8).

5.9 Research Advisory Committee

SIU constitutes a Research Advisory Committee for over sighting the doctoral research work of each Ph.D. Student. The Research Supervisor of the student is the Convener of this Committee. This Committee has the following responsibilities (Annexure 1.B.4.9):

- To review the research proposal and finalize the topic of research;
- To supervise the research student to develop the study design and methodology of research and identify the course(s) that he/she may have to do, and
- To periodically review and assist in the progress of the research work of the research student.

6. Research Clusters

Research clusters are the groups of faculty members of the University, who have research expertise and experience, aptitude and desire in the same and related areas. These faculty members may be working in different Faculties and institutes of SIU. Clusters consolidate the research prowess in specific area by bringing the “physically and geographically distributed researchers” of the University together. All academics working on the rolls of the University can be a part of the clusters. The potential of the thrust areas of research clusters is continuously assessed by the relevant expert committees. The proposed thrust areas are identified on the following guidelines:

- Orientation towards society and alignment with national/global/societal agenda.
- Relevance to the emerging and contemporarily areas of the discipline, and
- Commensurate to the identified capacity and capability of the cluster.

