



NICHE
KANYAKUMARI
DEEMED-TO-BE UNIVERSITY

NOORUL ISLAM CENTRE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

📍 Kumaracoil - 629 180, Kanyakumari District, Tamil Nadu, India

🌐 www.niuniv.com ✉ info@niuniv.com

☎ +91-9486856101, 04651-250566

NICHE Research Promotion Policy

Research is an important activity in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs). Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education (NICHE Deemed to be University) is committed to transforming lives and serving society through the attainment of excellence in teaching, innovation, lifelong learning, cultural enrichment, and outreach services and through the promotion of high-quality research endeavors. In order to promote research activities, NICHE has established Project Cell, which deals with all research projects funded by various funding agencies. In order to facilitate the conduct of allied research and development activities like organizing conferences, seminars, and workshops, collaborations and networking with other institutes functioning in and outside India are being affected.

To accomplish its mission, NICHE provides an intellectually inspiring, academically challenging and supportive environment conducive to achieving personal growth by engaging in innovative and leading-edge research within and across disciplines. In this regard, the Board of Research, Development and Consultancy (BRDC) has been established at the NICHE with the aim of promoting quality research among the faculty members, research scholars and students of NICHE. So as to smoothen and quicken the process of administrative issues related to research, NICHE has created the post of Director of Research. Optimal decentralization of procurement procedures related to research is in place to support students, research scholars, and faculty members in carrying out quality research. In order to execute these activities, in line with the mission of NICHE and the legal rules of the Government of India, the research promotion policy presented in the following section is in force in NICHE.

Purpose

The purpose of the Research policy being presented here is to create a vibrant atmosphere of research among NICHE students, research scholars, and faculty members. The policy shall serve as an overall framework within which research activities may be carried out at NICHE.

Objectives

The following are the objectives of NICHE's research promotion policy.

- To motivate the students, research scholars and faculty members to carry out cutting-edge research and bring out innovations
- To evince interest among faculty members in undertaking research projects with various funding agencies.
- To encourage the students, research scholars and faculty members to carry out collaborative and interdisciplinary research projects
- To inspire the faculty members to carry out sponsored consultancy projects

- To encourage the students, research scholars, and faculty members to create, protect and leverage Intellectual Property Rights
- Invigorate the students, research scholars, and faculty members to publish quality research work in highly reputed international journals.

Custodian of Policy

The Directorate of Research, BRDC, NICHE, shall implement and update the research policy. The execution of the research policy shall be governed by a research advisory body/cell, which will function under the guidance of the Vice-Chancellor, NICHE, and various administrative committees to assist and advise in matters related to research as carried out by NICHE.

Policy and Guidelines

The following subsection presents NICHE's motivational mechanism, students', research scholars', and faculty members' obligations to pursue research at NICHE, and guidelines for conducting research at NICHE.

a. Motivation to the Faculty Members

- Faculty members who do not possess a Ph.D. degree are encouraged to pursue and complete their Ph.D. degree by providing study leave with salary benefits.
- Encouraging faculty members to pursue post-doctoral research, execute national and international collaborative research projects, and avail themselves of fellowships by providing study leave to spend their time in research activities in NICHE itself or in other Universities situated within and outside India.
- The eligible faculty members are encouraged to supervise Ph.D. research scholars in accordance with Ph.D. Rules and Regulations of NICHE. According to PhD rules and regulations of NICHE, Professors and Associate Professors are automatically recognized as PhD guides, whereas eligible Assistant Professors with five years of experience will be recognized as PhD guides. The faculty members of NICHE possessing Ph.D. degrees and required publications in either SCOPUS-indexed or SCI journals are also recognized to supervise PhD scholars.

b. Obligation of Faculty Members and Researchers

In NICHE, the promotion of faculty members to higher cadres may significantly depend on the research undertaken by the respective faculty members. In accordance with the UGC norms, the quality of research output, especially research publications, may be assessed using the established yardsticks such as SCOPUS indexing and SCI impact factor, which will be revised from time to time as appropriate. Such research outputs will be considered one of the criteria for faculty recruitment and promotion, along with other academic responsibilities. Faculty members are appreciated with appropriate monetary incentives for publishing their research papers in either WEB of Science or Scopus-indexed journals.

c. Undertaking Research

NICHE encourages its faculty members to apply for financial sponsorships to carry out research projects from international and national funding agencies, local bodies, industries and other funding sources. Faculty members of NICHE and research departments are expected to undertake research leading to quality publications, presentations at national/international conferences of repute, the generation of IP with potential for commercialization, socially useful outcomes, and

other similar research accomplishments. Faculty members are appreciated with appropriate monetary incentives for the funds received from the extramural project Government funding agencies for executing the projects.

Faculty members (with up to five years of experience from the date of their joining) who do not possess any other research grant funded by Government or non-government agencies are eligible for the initial seed money to establish their research infrastructure.

d. Innovation creativity and patents filing Cell

The separate cells established to support the said activities in NICHE encourage the emanation of innovation, its unearthing through creativity, and patent filing through research.

e. Undertaking Consultancy Projects

NICHE is committed to making its expertise available through service to industry, government and other research organizations. This commitment is accomplished at NICHE by encouraging faculty members to undertake consultancy projects that the government, private industries, and other organizations financially sponsor. NICHE aims to be an entrepreneurial institute that engages with different organisations. NICHE recognises the importance of consultancy work undertaken by faculty members as a core and valuable part of its functioning as a university of higher learning. At NICHE, such practices are considered part of the knowledge exchange portfolio and progressing shared relationships. Therefore, NICHE has established this policy to support all the faculty members who carry out consultancy projects. NICHE expects all members to comply with this policy.

f. Research Management

The Directorate of Research, NICHE, may coordinate the overall management of research activities carried out under the direct supervision of the Vice Chancellor. The research advisory body and administrative committee shall be responsible for pursuing research activities within NICHE's ambit.

NICHE encourages faculty members to network with other universities within India and abroad and establish MoUs with institutions. NICHE has established more than 25 such MoUs to benefit students, faculty members, and research scholars who wish to conduct research activities in collaboration with covered institutions.

Every year, faculty members' research outputs are collected and published in the 'Annual Report,' which is tabled and also published on the NICHE website to disseminate the information to all stakeholders.

g. Ethics in Research

- NICHE attaches utmost importance to encouraging its faculty members to follow ethical guidelines established by appropriate bodies while carrying out research activities.
- NICHE has established an Internal Ethics Committee for research involving human and animal subjects. These committees must approve research proposals before submission to funding agencies.
- Plagiarism check is another important focus that NICHE insists on. Before submission, Ph.D./M.Phil. theses must be checked for plagiarism, and a certificate stating that the thesis

is free from plagiarism must be submitted with the signatures of both the research scholar and the concerned research guide.

- All faculty members have been provided with plagiarism software to check their research articles, research proposals, student assignments, and research project reports for plagiarism.
- NICHE encourages various departments to conduct workshops on research methodology, research publications, and ethics. Deliberations on ethics in research are an integral part of such workshops. Faculty members also raise Awareness of research ethics by arranging invited talks on ethics in research. Ethics in research is also taught for PhD research scholars as part of their coursework, where ethics is essential. In addition, NICHE has an IPR policy in place.




Registrar

Dr. P. THIRUMALVALAVAN,
Registrar,
Noorul Islam Centre for Higher Education,
Kumaracoil - 629 180, Thuckalay,
Kanyakumari District.