

NIIT University Policy for Promotion of Research (2023)

1. Preamble

Research-driven education is one of the four core principles of NIIT University (NU). The aim is to ignite students' curiosity and spur students to a quest for knowledge. NU offers research based curricula and many student research projects outside the curricula. Research projects at NU commence in the first year of every undergraduate programme, regardless of discipline. NU's students are taught to internalize research, so much so they can easily spot new phenomena and sense its impact. Project-based learning at NU provides students with research experience in everyday living situations so that every activity in student life becomes a potential research project. This integrative experience of curriculum, community, enquiry and self-learning fosters a transformational change in a student's ability to carry out research. NU has promulgated a policy to promote 'research temper' as well as a 'research career'. The policy is designed with an objective of setting the benchmark standards for the quality of research carried out at NU. In line with the Vision, Mission and Core Principles adopted by NU, this policy is designed to enhance research activities and innovation capabilities at the University. University expects the different Areas to remain focused in their efforts by deciding their select thrust fields commensurate to the Vision and Mission of NU.

2. Objectives

- To inculcate a research temper and promote research activities among faculty, staff and students.
- To improve the quality and relevance of research at NU.
- To nurture industry-oriented and socially relevant research.
- To generate IP by way of patents and scientific publications.
- To establish the practice of the collaborative research between NU and other Universities.

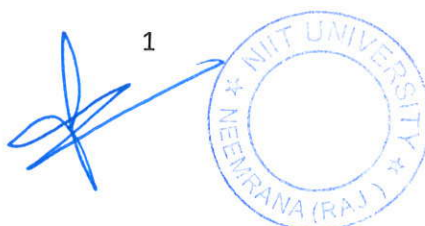
Research Advisory Committee (RAC)

Dean Research	Chairperson	Prof. Ratna Sanyal
All Area Directors	Member	Dr. Abhisek Dutta, Dr. Ganapathirao Maradona, Prof. Debashis Sengupta, Prof. S N Sharan, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar, Dr. Anshima Srivastava
Associate Dean Research	Ex-officio	Dr. Neha Tiwari

Research Advisory Committee will actively work towards promoting and facilitating research activities in the university. The responsibilities of the committee will be but not limited to

- Assess and recommend projects to external funding agencies for support.
- Recommend proposals under various NU schemes such as NUIG, NUCOS, NURAP for support.

1



- Frame list of best practices and ethical guidelines for conducting research and disseminating results.
- Relaxing the condition of number of publications for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons, recorded in writing, in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals.
- Approving Co-Supervisors from other institutions for students enrolled in PhD programme.
- To approve the change in the area of research, title of the thesis, locale and Supervisor.
- Actively seek and facilitate research collaboration with other universities, government and industry bodies.
- Any other as assigned by Academic Council.

3. Monetary Incentives for Authors

NU encourages the publication of journal articles, papers by the faculty and collaborative research within and outside the university. University also provides monetary incentive to full time faculty members and students to strengthen and promote research publication quality according to the following guidelines:

- Authors will maintain highest standard of academic integrity and follow the guidelines for similarity check as per NU Policy.
- Authors will check the list of “Blacklisted Journals or Conferences” from time to time before submitting the research papers to Journals and Conferences. Research Office will circulate such list once every year by August 1. Publications in these will not be eligible for monetary incentive. Authors are strongly advised to avoid submissions to the journals and conferences in the list.
- Duration of incentive cycle is from August 1 of the previous year and July 31 of the year concerned to synchronize with the academic calendar.
- Full time faculty members and registered students at the university till the end date of the relevant cycle are eligible for monetary incentive.
- Affiliation with NU should be clearly visible in the published work to be considered for monetary incentive.
- The incentive amount for joint authorship shall be equally distributed among the eligible authors. In case any faculty member has left the University, then his/her contribution will not be shared among other contributors.
- The student must be first author of the work and will have to make a presentation of the paper before the RAC to be eligible for the monetary incentive.
- The amount of monetary incentive will be as per a given list that will be communicated to the faculty members and students before the start of the incentive cycle i.e., before August 1 of the year concerned.



- Maximum incentive amount is INR 2,00,000/- only (two lakhs only) per cycle for faculty members and INR 45,000/- only (forty-five thousand only) for students.
- Authors must apply in a prescribed form available with Research Office along with soft copy of the work to be eligible for the monetary incentive.

Details of monetary incentive for full time faculty members

S. No.	Journals/Conference Papers	Reward Amount (INR)
1	Article in Q1 SCI/SSCI/SCIE/AHCI indexed Journals	60,000/-
2	Article in Q2 SCI/SSCI/SCIE/AHCI indexed Journals	50,000/-
3	Article in Q3 SCI/SSCI/SCIE/AHCI indexed Journals	40,000/-
4	Article in Q4 SCI/SSCI/SCIE/AHCI indexed Journals	25,000/-
5	Article in ESCI indexed Journals	20,000/-
6	Article in SCOPUS indexed Journals	20,000/-
7	Article in UGC (CARE) approved/ PubMed indexed Journals	15,000/-
8	Article in Indian Citation Index (ICI) indexed Journals	10,000/-
9	Authored book indexed in BKCI-S, BKCI-SSH having ISBN/ISSN	30,000/-
10	Edited book indexed in BKCI-S, BKCI-SSH having ISBN/ISSN	15,000/-
11	Book chapter in book indexed in BKCI-S, BKCI-SSH having ISBN/ISSN	10,000/-
12	Article in Conference Proceedings indexed in CPCI-S/CPCI-SSH	5,000/-
13	Patent Granted	30,000/-
14	Patent Published	10,000/-

Here,

Q1: First quartile

Q3: Third quartile

SCI: Science Citation Index

SSCI: Social Sciences Citation Index

ESCI: Emerging Source Citation Index

BKCI-SSH: Book Citation Index-Social Sciences and Humanities

Q2: Second quartile

Q4: Fourth quartile

SCIE: Science Citation Index Expanded

AHCI: Arts and Humanities Citation Index

BKCI-S: Book Citation Index-Science



CPCI-S: Conference Proceedings Citation Index-Science

CPCI-SSH: Conference Proceedings Citation Index-Social Sciences and Humanities

- All the indices will be checked with Clarivate Analytics/Web of Science (WoS) Core Collection/SCOPUS/UGC-Care/ICI.
- The quartiles Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4 in SCI/SCIE/SSCI/AHCI indexed journals will be taken from Journal Citation reports (JCR) given by Clarivate Analytics or Scimago as per the research area and the date of publication concerned. Higher of the quartile values as given by Clarivate Analytics and Scimago will be considered. If the same journal has multiple categories and these categories fall under different quartiles, the reward amount will be based on the category to which the publications belong.
- The publications in ABDC category journals in management disciplines will be mapped with the following: i) Science Citation Index Expanded (SCI-Expanded), Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI), Arts & Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI), Conference Proceedings Citation Index - Science (CPCI-S), Conference Proceedings Citation Index - Social Sciences & Humanities (CPCI-SSH), Book Citation Index– Science (BKCI-S), Book Citation Index– Social Sciences & Humanities (BKCI-SSH), Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI) and Current Chemical Reactions (CCR-EXPANDED) hosted on the Web of Science platform; ii) Scopus; iii) Indian Citation Index; iv) UGC Care. In case. if such mapping is not possible then A*,A, B and C will be considered at par with Q1, Q2, Q3 and Q4, respectively for monetary incentive purposes.
- The monetary incentive for students to publishing articles in Q1 SCI/ SSCI/ SCIE/ AHCI indexed Journals is INR 15000/- (fifteen thousand only) per publication. Maximum incentive amount is INR 45000/- only (forty-five thousand only).
- At least one publication in Q1 SCI/SCIE/SSCI/AHCI indexed journals is essential to be eligible for the maximum monetary incentive of INR 2,00,000/- only (Two lakhs only) failing which the maximum incentive will be INR 1,40,000/- only (one lakh forty thousand only).

Procedure

- Authors will inform the Research Office within one week of the work getting published and submit a soft copy to Research Office. This is to help Research Office to verify the publication and start preparing the proposal for incentive even before the cycle ends on July 31.
- Authors will apply for incentive in a prescribed form available with Research Office latest by end of first week of August. Soft copies of the works should also be provided to the Research Office.
- Research office will propose the incentive and share it with authors latest by the end of third week of August. Authors should make a representation in writing to the Research Office in case of any dispute. Research Office must resolve the dispute by end of fourth week of August. The matter may be presented to Research Committee if required. Decision of the Research Committee will be final and binding to all.



A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'S' followed by a horizontal line and a vertical stroke.

4. Incentives for Faculty Members to Participate in Conferences

NU encourages participation of faculty members in national and international conferences for updating themselves with the latest developments in different areas as well as to present their work to a wider community. University provides monetary incentive and professional leaves to faculty members to participate in conferences as per the following guidelines:

- Full time faculty members at the university at the time of the conference are eligible for monetary incentive.
- Faculty members will maintain highest standard of academic integrity and follow the guidelines for similarity check as per NU Policy.
- Faculty members will check the list of “Blacklisted Conferences” from time to time before applying to participate in the Conferences. Research Office will circulate such list once every year by August 1. Participation in these will not be eligible for monetary incentive. Faculty members are strongly advised to avoid participation in the conferences in the list.
- Duration of incentive cycle is from August 1 of the previous year and July 31 of the year concerned.
- NU will sponsor participation in one international conference held abroad and two national/International conferences held within India per cycle. The sponsorship would cover the registration fee, travel (international/national and local), per diem allowance and visa fee, if applicable. Required professional leave will be granted to cover the duration of the conference along with one day before the start and one day after the end of the conference subject to a maximum of six days.
- Full financial support will be considered for oral presentation. Maximum of 50% financial support will be provided for session chair/invited lecture/poster presentation in the conference. Only one author per paper/poster will be considered for support.
- Decision to support will depend on the record of research publication in the preceding three years in the subject area of the conference and availability of funds. Preference will be given to faculty members who have not been supported in the last two years.
- Final decision to support will be taken by the Research Committee based on the merit of the proposal and availability of funds for the cycle concerned.

Procedure for Application

- The application along with the letter of acceptance of the paper from the organizers of conference should be sent 45 days prior to the commencement of the conference, through the Area Director to Dean Research for presenting to the Research Committee.
- If the paper is co-authored, then a no-objection certificate(s) from the author(s) may be attached with the application. In case of two or more applications for the same paper(s) only one application will be considered, and priority will be given to the first author.

Procedure for Reimbursement/Advance



- The faculty member must fill the reimbursement/advance form as provided by Dean Research Office. The NUTAP approval of Research Committee along with the conference participation certificate should be attached with form.
- Attach all bills including tickets and submit the filled form to Research Office within one month of the attending the conference for reimbursement or settling the advance as the case may be.
- Research Office will verify the claim and approve reimbursement or settlement.
- The matter will be presented to the Research Committee in case of any dispute. The decision of the Research Committee will be final and binding to all.

5. NIIT University Travel Assistance Program (NUTAP)

This program is to encourage participation of students in national and international conferences by providing monetary incentives to students as per the following guidelines:

- Registered students at the university at the time of the conference are eligible for monetary incentive.
- Students will maintain highest standard of academic integrity and follow the guidelines for similarity check as per NU Policy.
- Students will check the list of "Blacklisted Conferences" from time to time before applying to participate in the Conferences. Research Office will circulate such list once every year by August 1. Participation in these will not be eligible for monetary incentive. Students are strongly advised to avoid participation in the conferences in the list.
- Duration of incentive cycle is from August 1 of the previous year and July 31 of the year concerned.
- NIIT University offers maximum financial support up to INR 10,000/- only (ten thousand only) for National and up to INR 30,000/- only (thirty thousand only) for International Conference participations for each research paper/poster. The sponsorship would cover part or whole of the registration fee, travel (economy class air fare by the shortest route for international conferences or AC III train fare for national conferences) plus local transportation, per diem allowance and visa fees (for international travel) as per existing rules duly supported by vouchers.
- Required leave will be granted to cover the duration of the conference along with one day before the start and one day after the end of the conference subject to a maximum of six days. Leave will be granted by Dean Academics on the recommendations of the Dean Research.
- Only one author per paper/poster will be considered for support.
- Preference will be given to students who have a CGPA greater than 7.5, have not been supported in the past and who secure partial support from other funding sources like IARCS, Microsoft Research, DST, DIT, etc. which give support to students for travel to conferences.
- Final decision to support will be taken by the Research Committee based on the merit of the proposal and availability of funds for the cycle concerned.

Procedure for Application



- The application along with the letter of acceptance of the paper from the organizers of conference should be sent 30 days prior to the commencement of the conference, through the Area Director to Dean Research for presenting to the Research Committee. If the paper does not have a faculty co-author, an endorsement by a faculty member needs to be enclosed.
- If the paper is co-authored, then a no-objection certificate(s) from the author(s) may be attached with the application. In case of two or more applications for the same paper(s) only one application will be considered, and priority will be given to the first author.

Procedure for Reimbursement

- The student must fill the reimbursement form as provided by Dean Research Office. The NUTAP approval of Research Committee along with the conference participation certificate should be attached with form.
- Attach all bills including tickets and submit the filled form to Research Office within one month of the attending the conference.
- Research Office will verify the claim and approve reimbursement.
- The matter will be presented to the Research Committee in case of any dispute. The decision of the Research Committee will be final and binding to all.

6. NIIT University Research Assistantship Programme (NURAP):

The NU Research Assistantship Programme (NURAP) is designed to engage the students more deeply in the research life of the University. The Programme therefore provides opportunities to work with faculty to carry out innovative research and to vigorously pursue the applications that flow from it. The students will work very closely with and be mentored by faculty researchers to enhance their skills in areas of their interest. The aim is to develop innovative solutions to the most daunting challenges by engaging in frontline research at the frontiers of modern technology. NU will provide an assistantship of INR 5,000 only (five thousand only) per month for two months to the students selected under NURap. Further the hostel fee would be borne by NU for two months (June & July of the academic year concerned).

Procedure for application:

Faculties interested to mentor students in NURAP must submit a list of projects with the prerequisites. For financial assistance, students should be categorized into two stages. In stage one, the student will be under observation for a certain period to see whether s/he is able to understand the project and have interest and ability to do it. Here student needs to show some progress in the initial development of the project including learning the prerequisites for the project. In stage two, the student will get a fellowship based on his/her monthly performance certified by the faculty mentor.



7. NIIT University Ignition Grant (NUIG)

NUIG scheme is to provide financial assistance to the newly joined full time faculty members of the university to enable a quick start to their research program as per the following guidelines:

- Faculty members who have been in less than three years of regular service in NU are eligible for financial assistance under the scheme. As a special measure, period between March 2020 and October 2022 is not to be counted in the eligibility to account for Covid 19 pandemic.
- Faculty member will present the research proposal complete with the budget, timelines and deliverables to RAC along with the recommendations of the area director concerned. The RAC will decide on the support to the proposal.
- Financial assistance to a maximum of INR 2,00,000 only (two lakhs only) per faculty member will be provided under the scheme. However, a higher amount may be provided depending on the project.
- More than one eligible faculty members can present a joint proposal for the grant. The financial assistance that can be provided will increase proportionately.
- The duration of the support is for a maximum of two years. However, support can be extended for one more year depending on the project.
- Faculty member is expected to generate external funds and publish articles based on the support. The articles should acknowledge the support by NU through NUIG. A yearly progress report will be submitted to Research Office and the same will be assessed by RAC for continuation of support. Faculty member will make a presentation and submit a report including financial statement at the completion of the project.

8. NIIT University Conference Organization Support (NUCOS)

NUCOS is the scheme to provide partial financial support to individual academic areas or a group of them to organize conferences (national/international), symposium, workshops etc. to provide a platform for the interaction of international and national researchers with NU researchers. Maximum support of INR 2,00,000 only (two lakhs only) for international conference and INR 1,00,000 (one lakh only) for national conference can be provided under the scheme. The decision to support will be taken by RAC.

9. Review of the Research Promotion Policy

The policy will be reviewed every year by May 31 for ensuring that it enhances the objectives stated in this policy document and is ready in time for the next academic year that starts on August 1.

