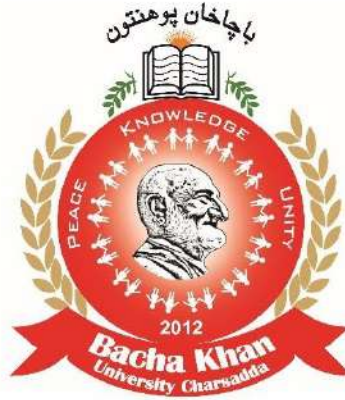


Research Policy



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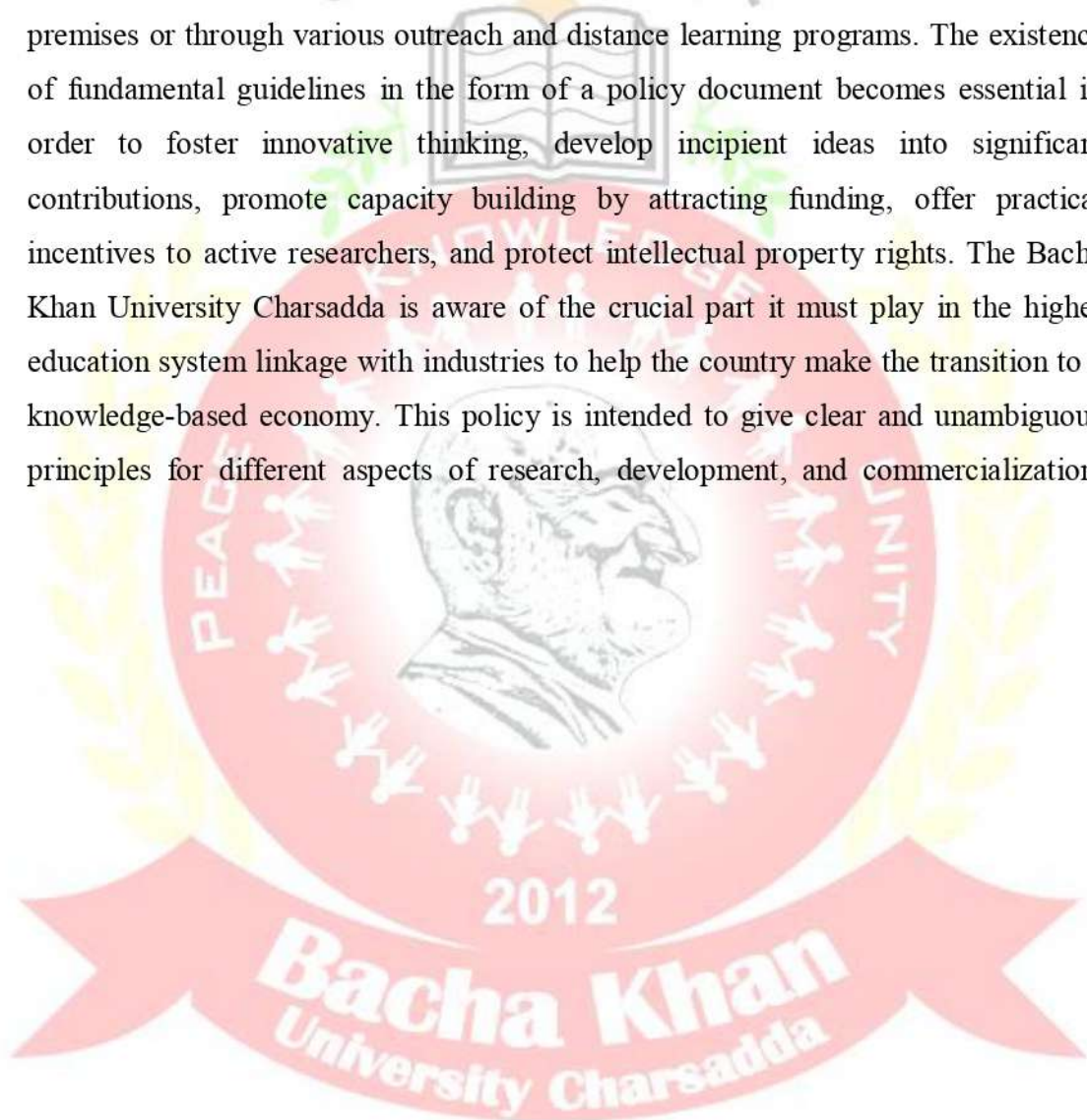
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Executive Summary

The outlook of an academic institution is primarily determined by the quality of its research output, whether in the form of high-quality publications, community building, resolving local issues, developing new technologies, or commercializing its research products to target various emerging markets. This is in addition to the quality of the knowledge imparted at various academic levels, either within the premises or through various outreach and distance learning programs. The existence of fundamental guidelines in the form of a policy document becomes essential in order to foster innovative thinking, develop incipient ideas into significant contributions, promote capacity building by attracting funding, offer practical incentives to active researchers, and protect intellectual property rights. The Bacha Khan University Charsadda is aware of the crucial part it must play in the higher education system linkage with industries to help the country make the transition to a knowledge-based economy. This policy is intended to give clear and unambiguous principles for different aspects of research, development, and commercialization.



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1. University Vision, Mission and Goal

1.1.Vision

Be a leading National University by providing excellence in education, innovation and leadership.

1.2.Mission

- Provision of conducive learning environment and qualified faculty with modern infrastructure.
- Provision of equal opportunity of higher education to every segment of the society irrespective of the gender, cast and creed.
- Intellectual stimulation for enhancing innovation, leadership and relevance to the community.


1.3.Goals

- Institutional Strengthening.
- Provision of quality education on door step through well-equipped environment.
- Introduction of research culture in collaboration with all stakeholders including local, national and international industry.
- Emphasis on Research and Technology development on campus.
- Enhancing Departments/Disciplines through introduction of Market Oriented Subjects.

2. Scope of the Research Policy

This policy will provide guidelines for

- a. Starting, carrying out, and compiling research in order to present research papers at national and international conferences.
- b. Publishing original research articles in reputed peer reviewed journals indexed by ISI and recognized by Higher Education Commission Journal Recognition System (HJRS)
- c. Conducting research as per rules and regulation of the BKUC to fulfill the requirements of different degree programs as per requirement.
- d. Writing and publishing of books/book chapters as per rules and regulations of

Bacha Khan University Charsadda.

- e. Carrying out research in order to create, innovate, and develop a new product of significant national importance.
- f. Encouraging and supporting researchers (including faculty members, students and other employees involved in research activities) to market their research products and foster entrepreneurial culture.
- g. Carry out research in collaboration with other government/non-government organizations via mutual cooperation and/or sponsorship programs.
- h. Providing consultancy services to different businesses and organizations.
- i. These guidelines will be put into effect from date of approval and will be regarded as a component of the university's general policy. The policy may be modified time to time subject to the need and approval from the respective bodies/forum.

3. Key stakeholders of University

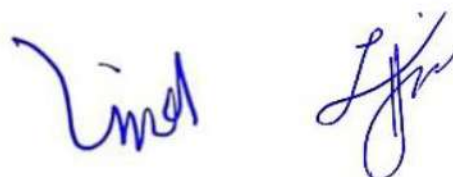
- Faculty members, researchers and students
- Joint (partner) researchers and developers
- Industrial partners
- National/International Funding agencies
- Ministry of Science and Technology, Higher Education commission (HEC) and other relevant government entities
- Offices of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)

4. Limitations

This policy will cover activities related to the conduct of research work that must be initiated, carried out, presented in conferences, and/or published only by students and faculty of Bacha Khan University Charsadda in journals recognized by the Higher Education Commission Islamabad. Moreover, research projects received by the employees of BKUC which may be carried out completely or in partial in BKUC with proper approval from the concerned quarters.

5. Aims of the Research Policy

Directorate of ORIC at Bacha Khan University Charsadda aims to create and support



a research culture for developing and promoting scientific temper and research aptitudes among its teachers, researchers, staff and students. Establishing an institutional fund and strategy for supporting their involvement in research and associated activities and providing the necessary resources and adequate facilities helps to accomplish the vision and missions of the University and for contributing to development at provincial and national level.

It also seeks to ensure that the University's research operations are conducted safely and ethically in accordance with all relevant laws, regulations, and norms.

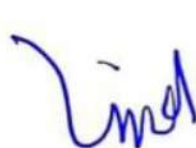
6. Purpose of Policy

To promote high-quality research as per HEC and international standards to address local challenges/problems and find their solutions. Moreover, the policy provides guidelines to ensure training of research students so that they can excel in their respective fields especially to divert their research towards innovation and commercialization to contribute in uplifting of the country's economy.

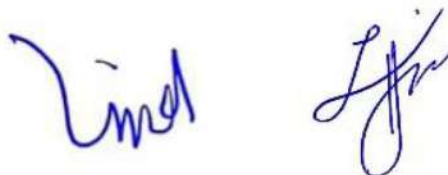
7. Objective of the Research Policy

Following are the main goals relating to research policy and establishment of Directorate of ORIC.

- As research is the fundamental aspect to propel humanity forward therefore, an environment is provided at BKUC where research is valued and young scholars can gain research skills besides theoretical knowledge they acquire during their course work at different levels.
- The purpose of this policy is to help different departments/institutions of BKUC to connect with local businesses/industries and to steer BKUC's research as per needs of the community/society to resolve problems, promote local production and create job opportunities.
- Time to time update faculty members and researcher about available national (HEC and Non-HEC) and international funding opportunities so that they can submit projects and avail fundings to have adequate resources for high quality research to further.
- Assist/train faculty members researchers and students regarding application submission process for funding to different funders.



- Help faculty member's/researchers to complete their projects within stipulated time so that they can further apply for more projects.
- Provide trainings on research, innovation, commercialization, entrepreneurship, freelancing to the students so that they can create job opportunities for others instead of waiting for opportunities to come around.
- In order to encourage and help BKUC faculty members/researchers/students to publish their research work in reputed journals as well as share their findings with others scientists of the field in different conferences.
- Improving the University's capability for strategic, technical, and operational planning, budgeting, and management of all research activities.
- Research funds (Received by the PIs from different funders) should be routed through Directorate of ORIC.
- Promote and encourage research activities by distributing prizes among faculty members/researchers and students who are doing excellent in research.
- Establishing and maintaining a plan detailing the University's chosen focus areas and goals for sponsored research activities.
- Help faculty members successfully incorporate research activities/projects into their teaching practices and curricular enrichment activities.
- Finding relevant research opportunities (collaboration/fundings) advertised by various academic, scientific, industrial, private and/or government organizations and disseminating these informations among faculty members/ researchers.
- Promote inter-disciplinary research activities to have wider audience and have hyper-specialization that is taking over many academic quarters. This will enhance the coordination among different departments and can take benefits of already available facilities in different departments. Moreover, they can collaborate with departments/labs from other universities/research institutes and industries to extend the research projects and cover different aspects for broader impact.
- Facilitating the acquisition of funds, and assigning the responsibility for effective completion of research projects by all participating researchers.
- Connecting the University's researchers with the different organizations and funding agencies so that they may participate and take benefits from the activities and programs.



- Finding and maintaining long-term connections with national and international research groups via memorandums of understanding (MOUs) and memorandum of agreement (MOA) to increase the financial and research opportunities accessible to faculty, researchers and students at the university.
- University faculty members, researchers and students may participate in seminars, workshops, conferences and expo's to develop collaboration with different government and non-government organizations for establishment of links with relevant industries/organizations for securing funding for projects or using their resources for execution of research projects on partial/complete basis.
- Development of database of all the research projects completed/in-process from different Departments/Institutes of BKUC so that the information are easily accessible to all employees and students of the University.
- To ensure that research conducted at BKUC meets minimum requirements in terms of quality and quantity.

8. Principles of Research Policy

Deans and Chairperson/Directors/HoDs will encourage and facilitate their respective faculties and Departments/Institutes to approach different funding agencies including international and national (HEC/Non-HEC) to further flourish their departments in research.

9. Research Strategy and Goals

The research plan lays out the research priorities, as well as the methods, tools, and time frames that will be used to complete the work. The Research Mission statement and the corresponding core value are put into action via the research objectives and associated activities outlined below,

- Establish a favorable and productive atmosphere for research.
- Raise the prominence of the institution's research.
- Boost, oversee, and plan the internal and external research financing.
- Encourage and publicize research.
- Support policies and initiatives for research and development at the regional, national, and international levels.
- Maximize the influence and stature of BKUC research nationally and

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internationally.

- Create special research groups to map out the action-based research demands of the sector.

10. Research Commercialization and Innovation

Faculty members/researchers/students are encouraged to innovate and commercialize their research products via Directorate of ORIC. Prototypes will be approved by the respective committee and such Faculty members/researchers/students will be assisted in process of commercialization and copyright (if needed). Those Faculty members/researchers who create new business plans and register startup enterprises will be entitled to get rewards to encourage other researchers to setup new business ideas/plans. ORIC is also in process of establishing the Incubation Centre at Bacha Khan University Charsadda where faculty members/researchers/students can present their ideas for startups and trained staff will further guide/train them regarding further furnishing it and presenting at different forums for large scale investments. Equal opportunity will be given to faculty members/researchers/students from different departments, regardless of race, ethnic background, gender or level of qualification.


11. Research Projects

Each project must be efficiently organized and funded in accordance with the project's approved budget, which must include operational costs, team compensation, and other costs. If the ORIC's share of overhead is included in the budget, it must be added to the ORIC's head in accordance with the policy. Coordination and facilitation will be provided by the ORIC office.

12. Consultancy Services

Consultancy services will be provided to the faculty members/researchers in their respective fields to generate revenue for BKUC. For this purpose faculty members/researchers must obtain NOC from the Competent authority via ORIC to legalize/channelize the provision of services to other institution/organization and should submit detailed feedback/updates to ORIC. At the time of applying for NOC via ORIC, applicants must also provide the profile of the institution/organization to which faculty members/researcher is willing to provide consultancy services.

All such cases must be finalized through Directorate of ORIC and faculty



member/researcher should provide details regarding the quality and nature of work/consultancy services.

13. Seminars/Workshops

Departments/institutes should organize workshops, seminars, webinars, symposia, and training sessions through ORIC. Under certain situations, ORIC will offer funding to the relevant departments to help cover the costs of such seminars, workshops, etc. Departments must provide the brochure and details (preferably CV) of the resource person, expenditure involved, participant registration fees (if any), and other related information to ORIC at the time of application. Remuneration to the resource person will be provided as per Bacha Khan University Charsadda rules and regulations.

14. Research Collaborations/ MoUs

Faculty members/researchers are strongly encouraged to do joint research projects at national and international levels with other public/private institutions and organizations. They are urged to execute cooperation agreements with their collaborators via the Chairman/ Director/ Head of the department after approval from Directorate of ORIC. The department must provide a copy of the letter of partnership (MoU or any other kind of agreement) to ORIC for review and approval. Every MoU must be routed through ORIC to the Vice Chancellor for final approval and signatures. ORIC encourages all the departments/institutes to establish links with industry and other public/private sectors for research innovation and commercialization.

15. Implementation of Policy

This policy becomes effective from the date of approval from ORIC Steering Committee.

