UNIVERSITY OF SARGODHA
OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR
(ACAD BRANCH)

NOTIFICATION

On the recommendations of Academic Council made in its 20th (1/2024) meeting held on 16.02.2024, the Syndicate in its 65th (1/2024) meeting held on 28.02.2024 has approved the "University Enhanced Research Grants Framework Policy 2024" (Annex-'A').

(WAQAR AHMAD)
Additional Registrar (General)

No. SU/Acad/24/182

Dated: 15.03.2024

Copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:

- Pro-Vice Chancellor
- Deans of the Faculties
- Principals / Directors / Chairpersons / Incharges of Constituent Colleges / Institutes / School / Teaching Departments
- Controller of Examinations
- Director Implementation
- Director Academics
- Director QEC
- Director ORIC
- Director IT   (with the request to upload on university website)
- Additional Treasurer-I
- Additional Registrar (Establishment)
- Resident Auditor
- Resident Officer
- Secretary to the Vice-Chancellor
- PA to Registrar
- Notification file

Annex-'A'

University Enhanced Research Grants Framework Policy 2024

Objective:

The central objective of this revamped policy is to strengthen and enhance the University of Sargodha Research Grants Framework. This initiative aims to cultivate a vibrant environment that promotes research excellence, facilitates interdisciplinary collaboration, and propels the university towards the forefront of cutting-edge knowledge creation.

1. Definitions:

1.1 University: Refers to the academic institution implementing this policy.

1.2 Research Grants Framework: A refined and adaptable system governing the allocation, application, and management of research grants within the university.

1.3 Applicant: Any faculty, staff, or student seeking research grant funding.

1.4 Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization: The designated body entrusted with the oversight and continuous enhancement of the Research Grants Framework.

2. Core Principles of the Revamped Framework:

2.1 Comprehensive Participation: The framework will encompass a broad spectrum of research domains, encouraging active involvement from all academic disciplines.

2.2 Adaptive Design: Engineered for agility, the framework will readily adapt to various research methodologies, collaborative models, and emerging academic trends.

2.3 Emphasis on Visionary Projects: A primary emphasis will be placed on endorsing innovative research endeavors with the potential to make substantial contributions to both knowledge advancement and societal progress.

2.4 Fostering Interdisciplinary Collaboration: The framework actively promotes and sustains collaborative initiatives spanning multiple disciplines, acknowledging the enriching value of diverse perspectives.

3. Application Process:

3.1 Streamlined Submission Process: The implementation of an intuitive online application system aims to simplify and enhance the submission process.

3.2 Concise and Comprehensive Proposals: Applicants will articulate succinct yet thorough proposals that delineate research objectives, methodologies, and expected outcomes.

3.3 Transparent Timelines: Clearly defined timelines will govern the application process, promoting efficiency and transparency throughout.

4. Evaluation Criteria:

4.1 Transparent and Rigorous Evaluation Criteria: The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization UOS will employ transparent and robust evaluation criteria, giving due emphasis to academic merit, societal impact, and innovative potential during assessments.

4.2 Ongoing Criteria Review: The criteria will undergo regular evaluations to stay aligned with evolving research priorities, ensuring they remain pertinent and reflective of dynamic research landscapes.

5. Funding Categories:

5.1 Varied Funding Categories: A range of funding categories, such as seed grants, project-specific funding, collaborative grants, and strategic initiative grants, will be available to cater to diverse research needs.

5.2 Customized Guidelines: Specific guidelines tailored for each funding category will offer both flexibility and precision, ensuring that researchers can navigate the application process with clarity and relevance to their respective categories.

6. Awards and Disbursement:

6.1 Prompt Notification of Grant Awards: Successful applicants will receive timely communication regarding the approval of their grant awards.

6.2 Compliance with Financial Regulations: Awarded funds will be disbursed in adherence to financial regulations, with allowances for budget adjustments as needed to align with project requirements.

7. Intellectual Property and Open Access:

7.1 Alignment with University Policies: Intellectual property arising from funded research will conform to university policies.

7.2 Advocacy for Open-Access: The framework will actively champion open-access principles, urging researchers to share their findings globally for widespread.

8. Reporting and Assessment:

Mandatory Reporting Requirements: The framework necessitates regular progress reports along with a comprehensive final report, serving as imperative components for ongoing evaluation and refinement of the framework. This ensures a continuous and thorough assessment of the research endeavors within the established framework.

9. Reviews and Updates:

9.1 Ongoing Reviews by the Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization, UOS: The framework will undergo periodic reviews led by the Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization, UOS, to guarantee its alignment with the university's research goals and adaptability to emerging trends.

9.2 Clear Communication of Updates: Transparent communication will accompany updates and enhancements, ensuring the university community is well-informed about the ongoing developments within the framework.

10. Implementation and Capacity Building:

10.1 Leadership in Implementation: The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization will take the lead in ensuring the effective implementation of the framework.

10.2 Empowering Researchers through Capacity Building: Capacity-building initiatives will be undertaken to equip researchers with the essential skills required for successful grant applications, fostering a culture of competence and proficiency.

11. Feedback:

Continuous Feedback Integration: We'll establish continuous feedback mechanisms to gather input from both applicants and the wider university community, enabling ongoing enhancements and responsive adjustments to our framework. This refined approach aims to cultivate a thriving research ecosystem, empowering researchers, stimulating innovation, and positioning the university as a focal point for transformative and impactful research endeavors, elevating the status of university research to new heights.