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SEED RESEARCH GRANT POLICY

1. INTRODUCTION & OBJECTIVES

AKTU is offering financial support to faculty members of its constituent Colleges and its own faculty i.e., FOA, CAS Design Institute and may extend to its affiliated institutions; who are interested in undertaking minor research projects on contemporary/ Technical/engineering /Science /Energy /Biotechnology/Environmental and advancement in computational field, to meet their requirements for individual and excellent research in specialized areas.

2. OBJECTIVES

- To foster a research culture among the faculty members and students.
- To promote excellence in research in science and technology.
- To support multidisciplinary research.
- To develop research-oriented attitude among young faculty members.

3. SCOPE AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

Keeping in view of new education policy as well as the expectations from the different Accreditation council/Board, AKTU has decided to earmark emerging area of research, augmented intellectual property related activities, Innovation and Startup culture among faculty and students. It will include: -

- Identification of thrust areas related to Basic and applied research
- Train mentor and support research activities to deliver high quality research.
- Provide Seed money
- Provide handholding support and incentives publications, research and innovation in high quality services /applications.
- Encourage faculty, research scholars and students to attend National/International conferences/seminars/continuing education programs/workshops for research capacity building.
- Encourage and nurture students, research scholars to appear for examinations for obtaining research fellowships and young scientist grants for augmentation in Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral fellowships.
- Augment and provide innovation opportunities by strengthening its innovation ecosystem.
- Guiding and facilitating IPR related activities amongst faculty and students of AKTU.

- Promote partnerships and networks within Constituent Colleges and its different Faculties and also with local, regional national and international research Institutions/Universities.

4. IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY AND GUIDELINES

The above scope and terms of reference are implemented through effective enabling mechanisms, committees, expert consultations and voluntary code of conduct and obligations of faculty and researchers' as given below: -

- **CUSTODIAN OF RESEARCH POLICY: -**
 - The research and development activities headed by Dean PG & Research who is supported by Associate Dean/Dy. Deans drew from the constituent Colleges. The Dean PG and research would formulate, implement and periodically update the research policy by duly constituted committees nominated by Vice-Chancellor.
 - The Dean PG and Research is custodian of research Policy and the Appellate Authority will be the Vice Chancellor.
- **FACILITATION, INCENTIVES AND AWARDS TO FACULTY AND RESEARCHERS: -**
 - AKTU facilitates faculty, research scholars and students to publish their research findings in high impact peer-reviewed indexed journals.
 - To provide the contingency grant for Ph.D. scholars annually up to Rs.50,000/-.
 - Provide recognition and incentives for publishing in journals with high impact factor.
 - IPR facilitation: all the expenses incurred towards patents; copyrights & technology transfer are to be fully funded by AKTU.
 - Consultancy Policy for revenue sharing.
 - Promotion of substantial industry collaboration and consultancy.
- **RESEARCH FACILITIES-ENHANCEMENT AND PERMISSION: -**
 - As a policy AKTU would enhance equipment and facilitate funding time to time depending upon the need and services for the R&D to all its constituents and faculty.
 - AKTU would set up its own inter-disciplinary Centre of Excellence.
- **INNOVATION ECOSYSTEM & STARTUPS: -**
 - AKTU is strengthening its innovation ecosystem through transparent and facilitative measures encouraging collaborations, competency building, and seed money for proof of concept. Besides, R&D,

- multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary interaction/collaboration among researchers of Institutions.
- Formulation of Innovation and Startup Policy in line of State and Central government policy.
- **MoU and Non-MoU Collaboration: -**
 - AKTU would foster MoUs with Governmental and Non-Governmental agencies including Philanthropists.

5. CLAUSE ON PROVIDING SEED MONEY TO FACULTY

- Seed money grants will be made available to all the aspiring regular faculty of constituent colleges and Faculties after two/three years their joining the institute.
- All the requests for seed money will be initiated by the Principal Investigator (Faculty or Guide) and forwarded to the Office of the Dean PG & Research through the Dean/ Director of respective institutions.
- One faculty member can submit a maximum of two research proposals at any given time, as Principal Investigator.
- The duration of each project would be normally 2 Years. It may be extended by another one year for valid and necessary reasons.
- It is expected that every research proposal financially supported by AKTU will result in at least one research publication in Scopus/SCI/ASCI/SSCI/UGC approved journals.
- **RESEARCH SEED MONEY: -**
 - The university will provide financial assistance for research proposals which are not submitted to any external funding agency. The maximum amount against this head will be Rs. 5.0 lakhs per year per proposal. This can be used to cover the cost of purchase of components, equipment, chemicals, stationery and travel expenses.
- **PROCESS OF APPROVAL: -**
 - Decision on sanction of seed money for research will be made by committee headed by Dean PG & research. Sanction order will be issued by the Dean PG & research to the Principal Investigator (PI).
 - The committee would be constituted by the Vice-Chancellor on the proposal of Dean PG & Research.

6. CLAUSE ON PROVIDING FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO FACULTY AND STUDENTS TO ATTEND CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS AND PAYMENT OF MEMBERSHIP FEE OF PROFESSIONAL BODIES TO FACULTY

- **FACULTY: -**
 - All regular Faculty in service and completed one year of service are eligible under this clause.
 - The faculty will be eligible for one reimbursement claim per year for National conference and one for international conference as per Calendar Year (January to December).
 - The faculty should be the presenter of the paper/invited speaker/orator/chairing the session /member of Panel discussion or judge for a session, provide no other agency has given financial help for the same.

- **STUDENTS: -**
 - Ph.D. and Postgraduate Students are eligible for one reimbursement claim per year for a National/International conference.
 - Ph.D. and Postgraduate Students should be first author of the paper to be presented as an oral presentation. The research work should be the outcome of their research work done in their institute of specific duration.

- **FUNDING (FOR NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE/ SEMINARS / WORKSHOP): -**

FACULTY

- Registration and Visa fee as per actual paid.
- TA will be payable to those faculty who are principal author of a paper/poster presentation at conference.
- TA will be paid at the economy air fare rates.
- Those are travelling by own car/Taxi will be paid by Government rule.
- Those are travelling by train will be allowed to avail Second Class AC fare or bus fare by shortest route.
- Fooding and lodging allowance as per UGC norms or as per conference charges.

STUDENTS

- Registration and Visa fee as per actual paid.
- TA will be payable to those students who are principal author of a paper/poster presentation at conference.
- TA will be paid at the sleeper class train fare and local travelling allowance will also be admissible.
- Fooding and lodging allowance as per admissible to assistant professor or as per conference charges.

- **PAYMENT OF ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP FEES FOR PROFESSIONAL BODIES FOR FACULTY**

- The faculty will be eligible for annual membership for annual fees for professional bodies during their tenure of service.
- In a calendar year funding will be provided at most for two professional bodies membership.

7. CLAUSE ON INCENTIVES FOR FACULTY & STUDENTS

• CASH AWARDS FOR PUBLICATIONS

- In order to honour the research contributions of faculty and students, AKTU would provide cash awards and commendation certificates for the eligible persons.
- The cash award for publications depends on the impact factor of Web of Sciences.
- Original research articles, reviews and meta-analysis published in Scopus/WoS/ASCI/SSCI/UGC-CARE indexed journals with web of science impact factor will be considered for awards to faculty and research scholars.
- The author should be first or corresponding author and the cash award will be shared by both,

Sl. No.	WoS Impact factor	Cash Award
1	<1	Rs.5000/-
2	1-2	Rs. 10000/-
3	>2	Rs. 15000/-
4	>5	Rs. 20000/-

- Faculty with 10 or more publications in Scopus/web of Science/UGC-CARE in one Calendar Year irrespective of authorship will be awarded Rs. 25000/- to Faculty.
- Postgraduates publishing their dissertation as original research article as First author in Scopus/Web of Science/UGC-CARE will be awarded Rs. 5000/- and will be shared equally with their guide.

• CASH AWARDS FOR EXTRAMURAL RESEARCH GRANTS

- AKTU in order to honour the recipients of Extramural research grants will award a cash award to them as follows:

Sl. No.	Amount received as Extra Mural Research Grants	Cash Award
1	Rs. 5 lakhs – 15 lakhs	Rs.15000/-
2	Rs. 15 lakhs – 25 lakhs	Rs. 25000/-
3	>Rs.25 lakhs	Rs. 50000/-

- **BEQUEST PRIZE**

- Annually on the foundation day University; bequest Prize will be awarded by AKTU for the following categories,

Best Postgraduate Research Paper

Best Ph.D. Research Paper

Best Faculty Research paper

- **AWARDS FOR FACULTY FOR COPYRIGHTS & PATENTS**

- AKTU through its research Fund will sponsor the entire cost involved for filling any patent or copy right by its faculty. The Dean PG & Research will sanction the actual costs incurred for registration and other procedures.
- Once patent is granted or copyright is registered in the affiliation of AKTU, the author will receive a commendation certificate from the Vice Chancellor.

8. CLAUSE ON CODE OF ETHICS FOR RESEARCH

It will be as per UGC guidelines.

9. APPELLATE AUTHORITY

For any difficulty pertaining to this policy, the power to remove difficulties rests with the Vice Chancellor, who is the Chairperson of both the Academic Council and Executive Council.