



RESEARCH AND INNOVATION POLICY 2018

On the recommendation of the Senate, the Council of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, as the governing authority of the Wayamba University of Sri Lanka, by resolution adopts the following policy.

Dated: 26.07.2018

Last amended: Not applicable

Signature: Signed

Position: Vice Chancellor, Wayamba University of Sri Lanka

CONTENTS

Contents	1
PART 1 - POLICY	2
1 Name of policy	2
2 Commencement.....	2
3 Policy is binding.....	2
4 Overview	2
5 Application	2
6 Definitions	2
7 Policy Aim	3
8 Research Conduct	3
9 Research and Innovation Output	4
PART 2 – RULES & GUIDELINES	5
10 Research and Innovation Governance	5
11 Research and Innovation Strategy	5
12 Research and Innovation Management.....	5
13 Research and Innovation Support	6
14 Research code breach.....	6
15 Rescissions and replacements	6
Notes	7
Amendment history	7



PART 1 - POLICY

1 Name of policy

This is the Research & Innovation Policy 2018.

2 Commencement

This policy commences on 01.20.2018.

3 Policy is binding

Except to the extent that a contrary intention is expressed, this policy binds the University, staff, students and affiliates.

4 Overview

The Wayamba University of Sri Lanka (WUSL) adopts this 'Research and Innovation Policy' by taking into the facts that it is a relatively newly established University in Sri Lanka, but has been emerging as one of the leading National Universities that possesses a significant track record of achieving progressive results and outcomes with respect to applied research and innovations within a period of less than two decades. This Policy sets out the University's commitment to promoting a culture of responsible and ethical conduct of all those engaged in research and innovation at the University.

5 Application

This Policy applies to all research and innovations undertaken by staff and students of the University.

6 Definitions

Academic Entity means a Faculty, Department, Centre or Unit in the University.

Publication includes all formal public presentations of research outcomes, including written, oral, exhibition or performance.

Research the creation of new knowledge and/or the use of existing knowledge in a new and creative way so as to generate new concepts, methodologies, inventions and understandings. This could include synthesis and analysis of previous research to the extent that it is new and creative.



7 Policy Aim

To assure quality and to provide the framework for Research and Innovations Management at the WUSL. It is the policy of WUSL that research be executed in identified 'Research Entities' which promote innovative research and innovation aiming socio-economic development of the country, in particular, and South Asia and the world, in general.

8 Research Conduct

- (1) The research and innovation at the WUSL is supposed to create an institutional identity, but at the same time, it allows for diversity within the capabilities and capacities of different Faculties, Departments, Units and personalities.
- (2) The Policy geared towards increasing research and innovation quality and participation, productivity, development and funding.
- (3) The Policy encourages, facilitates and stimulates research and innovation in all these entities, and the participation will be open to collaboration with other institutions and universities etc. on mutual agreements/contracts.
- (4) The University will not accept funding for research from, or enter into any partnership or other arrangements with organisations which can tarnish the reputation of the University as specified in the Collaborations & Partnerships Policy.
- (5) The University will not engage in research that leads to the proliferation of conventional weapons, weapons of mass destruction and acts of terrorism and will comply with the Acts related to National Security and the United Nations Security Council.
- (6) Researchers will foster and maintain a research environment of honesty, integrity, and scientific rigour through compliance with all relevant national legislation and protocols. Researchers are responsible for being aware of research integrity and code of ethics, and to participate in further education and training as required for the conduct of their research.
- (7) Researchers will respect research participants and the animals they use in research in compliance to the relevant legislation and codes.
- (8) Where applicable, researchers will inform themselves of the risks involved in their research and carry out appropriate risk assessments as required by Declaration of Helsinki for medical research involving human subjects, including research on identifiable human material and data.
- (9) Researchers will obtain written approval from the appropriate ethics committees, safety and other regulatory bodies, where relevant for:
 - (a) Research using human participants, (including University staff or students) via the University's ethics approval process
 - (b) Research using animals via the University's animal ethics research approval process
 - (c) Research using microorganisms and biological materials, including genetically modified organisms and potential bioterrorist agents and research involving the use of ionising radiation via appropriate approval body.\
 - (d) Where research is managed by collaborators or external parties, evidence of approval from external ethics committees, safety and other regulatory bodies will be provided to the Wayamba University Ethics Review Committee prior to commencing the research at the University.



- (e) The principal investigator nominated on an ethics application must be a University Academic staff member. Students are not eligible to be principal investigators.
- (10) Heads of Academic Units are responsible for the conduct of research within their Academic Units and for the compliance with this Policy and related policies and procedures. Where research takes place across more than one Academic Unit, the Dean/s or relevant Director/s are jointly responsible. In particular, this means having clear, documented processes for managing research and ensuring any associated health and safety, environmental, business or financial risks are identified and managed. This includes research undertaken at any location substantially controlled by the University even though it may not be a University owned site.
- (11) Organisational consent for research involving University staff and students as participants must be obtained prior to seeking human ethics approval. Approval will only be given where staff and student participation is appropriate and necessary for the research and other options are not available. Such research will minimise the number of staff and students involved. Where the research is by an external party it must also be of benefit to the University and relevant results provided to staff or students involved.
- (12) Management of research data and primary materials
Researchers will properly manage research data and primary materials that enables them to justify the outcomes of their research, defend research findings if challenged and to support the reproducibility of research where necessary. Researchers will address ownership, collection, storage and retention of research data, and access to data beyond the completion of their research project.
- (13) Supervisors and research students
 - (a) Supervisors are responsible for ensuring that research students under their supervision meet relevant research integrity compliance obligations. Supervisors will train, mentor, support and provide oversight of research outcomes according to the Code and the Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) Supervision procedure. Supervisors are responsible for the health and safety of any student or staff involved in or affected by the research.
 - (b) Research students will participate in induction and training in the responsible conduct of research and comply with the University's Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) By-laws and Guidelines.
- (14) Collaborative research across institutions
Researchers are encouraged to participate in collaborative research and will comply with any multi-institutional agreements according to Collaborations & Partnerships Policy.
- (15) Conflicts of interests
Researchers will disclose and manage any actual, potential or perceived conflicts of interest in the course of research.

9 Research and Innovation Output

- (1) Research outputs recognized by the WUSL include, but may not be limited to:
 - (a) Staff qualification improvement at postgraduate level
 - (b) Postgraduate qualifications awarded to students
 - (c) Books and/or chapters in books and peer-reviewed conference proceedings
 - (d) Articles published in national and international journals (non-accredited and peer-reviewed journals)



- (e) Presentations made at local, national and international conferences, and therefore subject to peer-review
 - (f) Patents registered at national or international level
 - (g) Research and development related downstream activities, characterized by successful technology transfer
 - (h) Rating of researchers by accredited agencies/bodies
 - (i) The number of research chairs, centres of excellence, centres of competency, research or innovation platform projects, niche areas allocated to WUSL by funding agencies, state departments, and the private sector
- (2) Publication and dissemination of research
- (a) Researchers will disseminate their research findings responsibly and as broadly as possible
 - (b) Authorship: Researchers will accurately and appropriately attribute authorship and contributions fairly for all research outputs.
- (3) Peer review
- Researchers are encouraged to participate in peer review and will conduct peer review responsibly and declare any conflict/s of interest.

PART 2 – RULES & GUIDELINES

10 Research and Innovation Governance

- (1) The University Council governs and approves research and innovation policies.
- (2) The Senate of the University governs academic quality of research.
- (3) The Senate Research & Higher Degrees Committee (SRHDC) advises Senate on the strategy, plans and quality of research and innovation of the university.
- (4) The SRHDC, together with the Faculty Research and Higher Degree Committee, has the responsibility to evaluate the research undertaken within different research entities at WUSL and make recommendations to Senate and Council.

11 Research and Innovation Strategy

The Vice-Chancellor (VC) assumes the overall responsibility for the policy and strategy of research and innovation at the University. The SRHDC supports the VC in making his/her decisions by policy formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

12 Research and Innovation Management

Research and innovation are performed within the defined Research Entities, and all research entities are interlinked through the SRHDC. WUSL will ensure the provision of effective, efficient and equitable support for researchers, through a 'Research Management Structure'.

- (1) Research is managed according to the guidelines set and approved by the Senate (e.g. By-Laws, Policies on Supervision and Report Preparation).
- (2) Research and innovation is funded in accordance with the Institutional Research and Innovation Strategy.



- (3) The Faculty Research & Higher Degree Committees directs Faculty research and innovation within the WUSL strategy. It devises the strategies necessary to attain, promote, monitor and review postgraduate activities within the Faculty.

13 Research and Innovation Support

- (1) The SRHDC joins hands with other entities and centres (e.g. Business Incubation Centre) on the protection of intellectual property rights, patents applications and professional indemnity, related to research and innovation activities.
- (2) The SRHDC facilitates and evaluates the project proposals submitted to research funding agencies, as applicable, and especially those aiming the funds from the University and supports the effective and optimal appropriation of the University's funds, including applications and allocation of funds, as well as the continuous monitoring and reporting of all research funds of the University.
- (3) Research and innovation performance is evaluated or assessed by way of research and innovation performance indicators and an annual Research and Innovation Reports / Forums / Award Schemes.
- (4) The extent by which the university can earn and leverage funding for research and innovation activities, including the categories:
 - (a) First income stream funding - Wayamba University Grants
 - (b) Second income stream funding – from Science Councils, Government Departments (e.g. NRC, NSF) and the private sector
 - (c) Third income stream funding - from international sources

14 Research code breach

- (1) Departures from the standards of conduct outlined in this Policy may amount to research code breach or serious research code breach on the part of the individual researcher.
- (2) Any person will report any suspected research code breach or serious research code breach in a timely manner and the action will be taken according to the procedure specified in Research Integrity Breaches procedure.

15 Rescissions and replacements

This document replaces the following, which are rescinded as from the date of commencement of this document:

Not applicable



NOTES

Research & Innovation Policy 2018

Date adopted: 26.07.2018

Date commenced: 01.10.2018

Administrator: Senate; Senate Research & Higher Degrees Committee

Review date: 30.09.2023

Rescinded documents: Not applicable

Related documents: Declaration of Helsinki - Medical Research Involving Human Subjects

Collaborations & Partnerships Policy

University's Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) By-laws and Guidelines

Wayamba University Research Ethics Review Procedure

Code and the Higher Degrees by Research (HDR) Supervision procedure

Research Integrity Breaches procedure (to be developed)

AMENDMENT HISTORY

Provision	Amendment	Commencing
	Not applicable	