

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT POLICY



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MALINENI LAKSHMAIAH WOMEN'S ENGINEERING COLLEGE, GUNTUR

Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to JNTUK, Kakinada

(An ISO9001:2008 Certified Institution)

Pulladigunta (Vil), Vatticherukuru (Md), Prathipadu Road, Guntur – 522 017 A.P.



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PREAMBLE

The realm of research and innovation at Malineni Lakshmaiah Women's Engineering College (MLEW) serves as the foundation around which the teaching and learning processes revolve. The institution has excelled in various facets of academics and research, achieving notable success.

MLEW is committed to fostering a vibrant research culture that nurtures scientific inquiry and enhances research capabilities among its faculty and students. Through its comprehensive Research and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) policy, the institution aims to elevate the standards of research and excellence. Additionally, it ensures that all research activities adhere to applicable rules, regulations, and established norms for the safe and ethical conduct of research.

OBJECTIVES OF THE RESEARCH POLICY:

- 1. Promote a Research Culture**
Foster an environment that encourages innovation, scientific inquiry, and interdisciplinary research among faculty, students, and researchers.
- 2. Enhance Research Excellence**
Support high-quality research that leads to publications, patents, and innovative solutions addressing societal and industrial challenges.
- 3. Encourage Collaboration**
Establish partnerships with industries, academic institutions, and research organizations at national and international levels for knowledge exchange and resource sharing.
- 4. Capacity Building**
Develop the research capabilities of faculty and students through training programs, workshops, and access to state-of-the-art facilities.
- 5. Secure Funding**
Facilitate access to grants and funding opportunities from government bodies, private organizations, and international agencies for research projects.
- 6. Promote Ethical Practices**
Ensure adherence to ethical standards, safety protocols, and intellectual property rights in all research activities.
- 7. Integrate Research and Education**
Link research outcomes with the teaching-learning process to enhance academic programs and align them with contemporary advancements.
- 8. Address Regional and Global Challenges**
Undertake research projects that focus on regional development while addressing global challenges to contribute to sustainable development.
- 9. Monitor and Evaluate**
Establish a robust system for monitoring and evaluating the progress and impact of research activities to ensure continuous improvement.
- 10. Facilitate Knowledge Dissemination**
Encourage the dissemination of research outcomes through publications, conferences, and collaborations to advance scientific knowledge.



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PROMOTION OF RESEARCH:

Promoting research is vital for fostering innovation, advancing knowledge, and addressing real-world challenges. A robust research ecosystem encourages faculty and students to engage in cutting-edge, interdisciplinary research, driving technological and societal progress. To achieve this, institutions must establish a culture of inquiry and creativity through supportive policies, resources, and incentives.

Faculty and students are encouraged to pursue research in their areas of expertise and submit grant proposals to relevant funding agencies. The institution has a well-defined mechanism to review the integrity of research findings and provide constructive feedback to enhance the quality of research outcomes, ensuring progress without discrimination.

All research activities must comply with the rules and guidelines established by the institutional ethics committee, maintaining integrity and upholding the credibility of others.

MLEW offers research incentives to faculty members to foster research activities, including successful completion of grant proposals, consultancy projects, publication in indexed journals, patent filings, authoring books and book chapters, and achieving doctoral degrees. These incentives aim to promote a culture of excellence in research and innovation.

The R&D committee was established to ensure the quality of research outcomes with the members as Mentioned in the list.

Responsibilities of the R&D Committee

- 1. Monitor and Review Research Outcomes**
Oversee and evaluate the progress and impact of research activities to ensure the continuous growth of both the faculty and the institute.
- 2. Facilitate Research Resources**
Provide and maintain suitable research facilities to support effective implementation of research projects.
- 3. Promote Research in Key Areas**
Encourage faculty members to conduct research in emerging and socially relevant areas, increasing their likelihood of securing research grants.
- 4. Foster Research Awareness**
Instill a research-oriented mindset in aspiring researchers by organizing sessions with experts from premier institutes, scientists from R&D organizations, and representatives of funding agencies.
- 5. Allocate Research Funds**
Manage and disburse institutional research funds, provide seed grants for novice researchers, and support collaborative initiatives across departments.
- 6. Monitor Research Fund Utilization**
Oversee the appropriate usage of funds received from external funding agencies to ensure accountability and efficiency.



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7. **Encourage Multidisciplinary Research**
Promote the development of innovative, multidisciplinary research projects among faculty members.
8. **Track R&D Performance**
Evaluate and maintain a database of research activities to monitor individual and group contributions, encouraging excellence and productivity.
9. **Ensure Ethical Standards**
Verify that all research outputs align with institutional research ethics and guidelines.
10. **Implement Incentive Schemes**
Develop and implement reward systems to motivate and enhance research activities among faculty and students.

Policy for Addressing Academic Malpractices and Plagiarism

To ensure the originality and integrity of research work, the following measures shall be implemented:

1. **Plagiarism Verification**
All research articles, theses, and grant proposals must undergo plagiarism checks using Turnitin software before proceeding further. This helps prevent rejection by journals and funding organizations.
2. **Similarity Index Guidelines**
 - **Overall Similarity Index (OSI):** Must not exceed 20% for research publications and 30% for postgraduate theses.
 - **Individual Source Similarity Index (ISI):** Must remain below 5% for any single source.
3. **Policy on Non-Compliance**
Any violation of these similarity index thresholds may result in the rejection or cancellation of the submitted article, thesis, or grant proposal.

Code of Ethics for Research

All students, faculty members, and associated authorities must adhere to the following ethical principles and guidelines:

1. **Compliance with Guidelines**
Conduct all research activities competently, adhering to the principles and standards set by the relevant authorities.
2. **Novelty of Research**
Ensure research findings are original and innovative to meet the standards required for publication in reputed journals and related avenues.
3. **Accuracy and Integrity**
Present research findings that are accurate, error-free, and uphold originality without compromise.
4. **Avoidance of Misleading Claims**
Refrain from making inaccurate or ambiguous statements that could lead to misinterpretation or confusion.



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5. **Plagiarism-Free Content**

Ensure that all research content is free from plagiarism, maintaining intellectual integrity.

6. **Acknowledgment and Citation**

Appropriately acknowledge and cite the contributions of peer groups and other sources to uphold transparency and respect for intellectual property.

Research Initiatives for Faculty

To foster a culture of research and innovation, the following initiatives have been implemented to encourage faculty members to actively engage in research activities:

1. **Support for Professional Development**

Faculty members are encouraged to organize and participate in national conferences, workshops, Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), and other academic events. Financial assistance, along with academic and duty leave, is provided to help them stay updated on advanced research methods and tools.

2. **Matching Grants for Organized Events**

The institute offers matching grants to conveners or program chairs of conferences, workshops, FDPs, or Short-Term Training Programs (STTPs) when external funding is insufficient to cover the expenses of the event.

3. **Financial Support for Participation**

Faculty members are provided with financial assistance for attending conferences, symposiums, and workshops. This includes coverage for registration fees, travel, and accommodation to facilitate academic and research networking.

4. **Research Incentive Policy**

A well-defined incentive policy is in place to reward faculty members for publishing in indexed journals, authoring books, book chapters, or monographs.

5. **Cash Rewards for Achievements**

Faculty members are offered cash incentives for significant achievements such as earning a Ph.D., securing patents, completing funded projects, and modernizing laboratories.

6. **Paid Leave for Ph.D. Submission**

Faculty members are granted three months of paid leave to complete and submit their Ph.D. thesis. Upon earning the degree, their salary is revised according to institute norms.

7. **Support for Pursuing Ph.D. under QIP**

Faculty members pursuing a Ph.D. in premier institutes under the Quality Improvement Program (QIP) receive full financial support from the institute.

Additional Research Support Initiatives

1. **Seed Grants for Research Initiatives**

Faculty members are provided with seed grants to support the initiation of their research projects.

2. **Patent Filing Support**

The institute covers the entire cost incurred by faculty members for filing national or international patents.



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3. Funding for Advanced Research Facilities

Seed money is allocated to facilitate the acquisition of cutting-edge hardware and software required for research in emerging and high-priority areas.

4. Access to Scholarly Resources

The institute subscribes to online scholarly journals and databases to enhance research capabilities and support academic learning.

Research Initiatives for Students

1. Encouragement for Research Presentations

Students are actively motivated to present their research work at conferences, workshops, and other technical platforms to showcase their innovations and ideas.

2. Integration with Funded Projects

Undergraduate and postgraduate students are encouraged to undertake their final-year projects or theses as part of externally funded research projects or through incubation centers.

3. Patent Filing Support

The institute covers the entire cost incurred by students for filing national or international patents, promoting intellectual property creation.

(Dr.k.Gouthami)

Dean (R&D)

PRINCIPAL

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