



CODE OF ETHICS IN ACADEMIC RESEARCH

1. Rationale:

Research and development (R&D) encompasses systematic efforts to expand the scientific knowledge base and its application to innovate and foster sustainable progress. It integrates original and innovative activities across academic, professional, and technological domains, demanding freedom balanced with ethical responsibility. Upholding ethical, legal, and professional standards is crucial for maintaining integrity and fostering trust within the academic community and beyond.

The Assam Royal Global University adheres closely to the ethical guidelines set forth by the UGC, ensuring that all research activities uphold integrity and transparency. Academic freedom is pivotal, allowing scholars the liberty to explore, publish, and teach without constraint. This freedom supports the pursuit of knowledge and diverse scholarly expressions.

Alongside academic freedom, the institution stresses integrity, accountability, and responsibility in research. Violations of research standards are deemed serious, compromising the institution's credibility. Thus upholding academic integrity necessitates adherence to robust research practices and ethical standards.

2. Ethical dimensions

There are five widely accepted ethical dimensions of academic research that can be rephrased as follows:

- **Moral values:** Concerns the determination of right and wrong conduct in research.
- **Compliance:** Involves adherence to university policies and regulatory frameworks.
- **Rigor and Reproducibility:** Emphasize the necessity for scientific methods that ensure reliability and replicability, essential for justifying research outcomes.
- **Social Value:** Requires that research addresses significant societal issues and contributes to practical solutions.
- **Workplace Relationships:** Recognizes the importance of fostering positive and productive interactions among researchers for enhanced outcomes.

These dimensions collectively guide ethical behavior in research, ensuring integrity, societal benefit, and sustainable outcomes.

3. Institutional Responsibilities

The Assam Royal Global University is dedicated to maintaining high standards across all university activities, particularly in research, while adhering to legal, ethical, and safety norms. To fulfill this commitment, the university:

- Establishes a research governance framework through policies and procedures to facilitate the development of a favourable research ecosystem.
- Offers training, development programs, and mentoring to enhance skills and support career growth.



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- Provides financial support as seed money grants and incentives to promote excellence.
- Implements robust management systems to ensure compliance, handle disputes, prevent misconduct, and facilitate effective decision-making and grievance resolution.
- Provides adequate infrastructure, resources, and support services.

4. Ethical standards for research scholars and faculty members

Key expectations include:

- Maintaining punctuality, dedication, and sincerity in all academic pursuits.
- Adhering to prescribed procedures/ tested protocols when integrating research findings.
- Reporting research results in accordance with established norms.
- Ensuring publications accurately reflect findings without manipulation.
- Upholding quality in all research documentation, including literature reviews, research designs, data collection, analysis, interpretations, and manuscript submissions to recognized journals with proper indexing [UGC-Care/ Scopus/ Web of Science].
- Respecting intellectual property rights such as patents and copyrights.
- Safeguarding confidential communications, including manuscripts, project details, and sensitive records.
- Promoting social welfare and minimizing harm through research and public education, while ensuring environmental stewardship.

These principles uphold academic integrity and promote responsible conduct in research.

5. Research Misconduct

Misconduct in academic research includes fabrication, falsification, plagiarism, or deception in proposing, conducting, or reporting research results. It also involves intentional or negligent deviations from accepted practices, risking harm to individuals or the environment, or facilitating such misconduct through collusion or concealment. The university emphasizes that researchers must strongly oppose research misconduct but recognizes that honest errors or differences of opinion are not considered misconduct.

Examples of misconduct encompass,

- Plagiarism or appropriating ideas, text, or data without proper acknowledgment
- Piracy or exploiting others' ideas without acknowledgment
- Abuse of intellectual property rights,
- Misuse of research resources,
- Defamation or failure to comply with the appropriate legal guidelines



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- Misrepresentation or intentionally misrepresenting the facts and figures, to distort their true meaning or value.
- Personation or the situation in which someone other than the original author has claimed credit for the academic content submitted.
- Fabrication and Fraud or misrepresenting the data, information, or citations in any formal academic context.
- Sabotage or intentionally hindering others from completing their work. This includes damaging library books, disrupting experiments, or violating terms for accessing licensed research resources.

6. Conclusion

Ethics in research is paramount as it ensures that research is conducted in a morally responsible manner. Royal Global University places a strong emphasis on ethical conduct in research and actively promotes moral values among its students, research scholars, and faculty members. The university does not tolerate any violation of ethics and does not expect any research misconduct to occur within its academic community. It is committed to upholding the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in all research activities.

R&D Cell,

The Assam Royal Global University.