RESEARCH POLICY DOCUMENT

<u>RESEARCH POLICY</u>

St. Joseph College of Teacher Education for Women envisages a learned Society that paves way for improvement through Educational Research.

For the institution, Educational Research is important because it improves teaching and learning practices, reforms educational policies, addresses educational challenges, promotes innovation, ensures evidence-based decision-making, and contributes to the broader body of knowledge.

Objectives of Research Policy

This is what we aim at:

1. to help educators to refine their teaching methods and create more engaging and effective learning environments through research,

2. to help policymakers and education administrators to take decisions about curriculum design, assessment strategies, school organization, and resource allocation based on our research findings and outputs .

3. to help educational institution to implement evidence-based practices that promote student achievement and educational equity by relying on research,

4. to identify and address critical challenges arousing in the education system.

5. to investigate issues such as achievement gaps, inclusiveness, student motivation, school climate, classroom management, special education, and the integration of technology in education and to develop interventions, strategies, and programmes to overcome obstacles and improve educational outcomes.

6. to encourage innovation and the development of new ideas in teaching and learning by exploring emerging trends, theories, and technologies in the same.

7. to challenge and encourage educators to think outside the box to improve educational practices by extending the boundaries of knowledge, and by fostering creativity through research.

8. to contribute to the broader field of knowledge by generating new insights, theories, and perspectives which would add to the collective understanding of human learning, cognitive processes, and educational systems.

9. to elaborate its knowledge creation, through multidisciplinary, AI based researches in the field of Education addressing the problems of individualisation and inclusiveness.

Custodian of the Policy

The implementation and updating of the research policy is carried out by the Director, Research Cell. The Research Policy shall also have a Research Advisory Cell to function under the Principal, St. Joseph College of Teacher Education for Women, Ernakulam to assist and advise in matters related to research within the college.

Research Policy

The Institutional Research Policy serves for encouraging and inspiring its Faculty and the Student Community- the Aspiring Research Scholars and the Research scholars to undertake research and further research for the growth and development of the Nation.

1. **Promoting a Research Culture:** Research policy of the institution help establish and promote a culture of research within the institution. It acts as a framework and guideline for conducting research activities, encouraging faculty, staff, and students to engage in research pursuits.

   Policy Statement:
   - ➢ The Institution shall have a Research Cell with the Principal as its Head, a Senior Research Guide as its Director and three more senior Faculty (Preferably Research Guides of the institution, approved by Mahatma Gandhi University).

➤ The Institution shall have a Research Advisory Committee, which includes all the faculty members of the institution who have acquired their Doctorate degree in field of Education.

➤ The term of office of a Research Cell is for two years.

➤ The Research Cell shall ensure the quality and proper documentation of the Research works carried out in the institution.

➤ Every Year, The Research Cell will organize at least one International or National Seminar or Conference with theme that promotes Educational Research.

➤ Clearly communicate the institution's expectations regarding research activities and their importance to all the students (B.Ed., M.Ed., Research Scholars and Faculty members every year). Ensure that these expectations are disseminated to newly appointed faculty, staff, and students who are freshers.

➤ The institution will provide seed money for research projects and doctoral studies of the faculty members subject to the research work undertaken and recommendation of research cell and approval of the Head of the institution.

➤ The faculty members can avail study leave for research purpose without affecting normal functioning of the institution and subject to recommendation of Research cell and approval of Head of the Institution.

➤ All students pursuing research in the college are expected to maintain high standards originality in respect of all the work undertaken by them.

2. **Ensuring Ethical Conduct**: Our Research policy outline ethical standards and guidelines that researchers must adhere to. They must ensure that the research is conducted with integrity, protecting the rights and well-being of research participants.

Policy statement:

➤ The policy demands the researchers of the institution to follow principles regarding informed consent, confidentiality, data protection, and adherence to ethical guidelines set by regulatory bodies like UGC, NCTE, and MG University.

➢ Since the college is affiliated to Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, the college follows the regulations of the University and UGC regarding plagiarism and malpractice in research.

➢ A Ph. D. thesis submitted from the Institution is screened by Mahatma Gandhi University, for plagiarism before it is accepted. Regarding paper publications, each student can avail the facility in the university to check for plagiarism.

➢ The Research Cell should ensure that the researchers undergo institutional level plagiarism checking before submitting the Thesis to the MG University. For this the PG students and the Research Scholars can avail the facility for Plagiarism Checking provided in the college Research centre and Library.

➢ Any sort of research misconduct, including fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism will not be allowed.

3. **Research Guidance and Research Projects:** Research policies help the institution to establish criteria and processes for securing research grants, managing research budgets, and distributing resources among research projects.

Policy statement:

➢ The faculty must apply for funded research projects every year and undertake projects.

➢ Teachers who are already Ph.D holders have to be encouraged for post-doctoral researches.

➢ The faculty of the institution is advised to publish articles only in UGC care listed Journals, or journals indexed in approved and high-quality data bases.

➢ Faculty members who have doctorate degree in Education should meet the requirements for being approved research guides in the Research centre of the institution in accordance with UGC and University norms.

4. **Supporting Collaboration and Interdisciplinary Research**: Research policies often encourage collaboration and interdisciplinary research initiatives. They may provide mechanisms and incentives to promote interdisciplinary collaboration among researchers from different departments or disciplines.

Policy Statement:

> ➢ The Institution has to sign up more MOUs with reputed institutions in various disciplines, that help to contribute new collaborative knowledge to the field of Education.
>
> ➢ The college has to undertake appropriate research activities in collaboration with the institutions with which we have already signed the MOUs, so that a collaborative research culture will be maintained in the campus.

5. **Ensuring Compliance with Regulations and Standards**: Research policies ensure that institutions comply with relevant regulations, guidelines, and standards set by regulatory bodies, funding agencies, and professional organizations.

Policy Statement:

Any research undertaken in this institution should comply with regulations, guidelines, and standards set by regulatory bodies, funding agencies, and professional organizations. These may include guidelines for human subjects research, animal research, intellectual property, conflicts of interest, and research integrity. Compliance with these regulations is essential for maintaining institutional credibility, securing funding, and safeguarding the rights and well-being of research participants.

6. **Enhancing Research Productivity and Impact:** Well-defined research policies can contribute to enhancing research productivity and impact.

Policy statement:

- The research publications made by the faculty and students will be encouraged by displaying them in the college Library too.

- Each and every faculty who is given a chance to guide the M.Ed thesis must publish an article together with the Teacher Educand in the Institutional Peer reviewed Journal EDUFOCUS.

- Any Research finding or contribution of the institution can be presented in the public, seminar or conferences only after getting prior sanction from the college authority and research director.

7. **Updation of Research Facilities in the Institution:** The research policy also helps to maintain the standards of the physical instructional upgradation of research facilities provided by the Institution.

   Policy statement:

   The Research Advisory Committee of the institution should give necessary and timely guidance to improve Research facilities like inclusion of new research tools, library hardware and software updations, Maintaining standards of EDUFOCUS etc.

8. **Honouring of Research:** Every Creative works should be honoured, an appreciation for fruitful researches, will ensure orchestrated immersion of our Faculty and Researchers, in the field of Educational Research,

   Policy Statement:

   - Ph.D. awarded faculty members and students will be honoured by the management and the institution.

   - Research guides will be honoured by the management and the Institution.

   - The Best Researchers and Best Works will be Honoured by the Institution taking into consideration the originality in their Research Contributions.

   - The Research Policy of the institution ensures a culture of integrity and responsible research practices within the institution.