

# Catalysing Quality Academic Research

**@ E-Conference on Implementation of National Education Policy- 2020**

*Organised by*



**AMET**  
ACADEMY OF MARITIME EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
DEEMED TO BE UNIVERSITY  
(Under Section 3 of UGC Act 1956)

**Prof O R S Rao**  
Vice-Chancellor  
ICFAI University  
Jharkhand

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# About Our University

- **Part of the ICFAI Group , which has pan-India presence**
- **We offer a range of UG,PG and PhD programs in Engg, IT, Management and Law**
- **Mission of the University**
  - To groom our students into ***Competent Professionals. With Values***
  - Competent Professionals should have :
    - Knowledge, relevant to the Profession
    - Hands-on Professional Skills
    - Soft Skills ( *Attitude, Communication etc*)
  - Good Character (including Values) –  
for **Sustained Success** and **Happiness in Life**

# NEP-2020 and Academic Research

- One of the principles of the NEP-2020 is Promoting High Quality Research , as a pre-requisite for providing **Outstanding Education** and **growing and sustaining a large and vibrant Indian economy**
- Recognises the need for a Robust Ecosystem for **Inter-disciplinary research** to address the problems of the Country (Economy, Industry and the Society), particularly during current situation
- Evidence from the World's Best Universities shows a strong correlation between the **culture of research and knowledge creation** and **teaching-learning processes**
- Enabling Initiatives include funding support thru NRF and motivation of faculty by giving more weightage to research in their **Career Management System**

# GOOD ACADEMIC RESEARCH PRACTICES

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- **Public trust in Academic Research and its output is essential**
- Quality, impactful, and ethical research ,with focus on publishing the outcomes in high-quality journals.
- Culture of responsible and quality research, supported by robust policies, procedures and processes together with a governance structure
- Research Integrity across the Research cycle – Selection of Research Problem, Research Design, Conducting Research, Documentation and Dissemination
- All the stakeholders ( The Scholar, Guide , University authorities) to have a common stake in research integrity, based on a set of shared values
- Creation of Office of Research Integrity (ORI) as the entity responsible for the implementation of the guidelines

**Sharing of our Experiences  
in conducting Quality Research in  
Part- time PhD Program in  
Management for  
Working Professionals**

# Our PhD Program (Part time) in Management



- Premise- A number of Experienced Professionals, particularly from Industry are keen on doing Quality Research to address **Live Industry problems (Mostly Inter-disciplinary), leveraging their own experience**
- Introduced in 2012, In strict compliance with the UGC Regulations
- Selection of the candidates on the basis of Online Research Aptitude Test conducted all over India
- Registrations in 2013, First PhD award –late 2016, 30 PhDs awarded till date , Average time taken : 3 years 10 mths from Regn
- Two external examiners : mostly from Premier Institutions like IITs,IIMs,BHU
- Over 100 active scholars, on rolls, from 19 states of India (including Jammu and Kashmir and North Eastern States ), over 35% Inter-disciplinary topics
- Diverse Industries/Sectors (about 25% from Academia and balance from Industry – Manufacturing , Services (Banking, IT, Telecom, Consulting , Healthcare etc)– MNCs/ Private, Govt , PSUs, Defence etc
- Diverse Functions – Mfg, Marketing and Sales, HR, Finance, Gen Management
- Experience – 5 years to 30 years ( Average : 13 years)
- No advertisements, Most of the candidates thru word-of-mouth/referrals

# The ICFAI University, Jharkhand

*Grooming Professionals. With values*



Partial List of organisations, where our PhD Scholars have been working



## Policies / Processes /Practices pursued



1. Selection of the candidates : Besides eligibility conditions, “Ability to sustain passion on long term basis” is a major criterion
2. Selection of Research Problem : Critical to contribute new knowledge. Should be as per Research Policy. Scholar is facilitated to navigate from broad area to final topic from time of admission . Guide is allocated only after broad research problem is identified
3. **Research Integrity across the Cycle as a non-negotiable value. Governance mechanisms in place to ensure the same.**
4. Leveraging the diversity of scholars-Close-knit community of scholars created and nurtured
5. Resources : Swaadhyay Learning Management System developed and a lot of relevant study material is hosted ( Research articles, Research Proposals, PhD Theses, e-Books ,Seminar PPTs etc)
6. Monitoring /Facilitation : Mthly Reports ,6 mthy progress presentns . Grade Sheets issued on the basis of Mile Stone progress )



# Processes/Practices ( Contd...)

6. Publications by the scholars : Workshops on Publication in Indexed Journals and Mentoring by the Guides
7. Evaluation of the Thesis
  - ✓ External Examiners , selected after due diligence
  - ✓ Evaluation feedback in a structured format
  - ✓ Evaluation Feedback forwarded to the scholars and revised thesis to be submitted before conduct of Viva Voce
8. Handbook of Guidelines to the scholars for all the processes of PhD
  - ✓ Fine tuned on the basis of Examiner's Evaln feedback & Viva Voce
9. Capacity Building for Guidance of PhD Scholars – thru Workshops
10. **Service the PhD Scholar as a Valued Customer ( not merely as a student) and collaborate with him ,with Personal Touch & Empathy , at the same time complying with Principles of Research Integrity**

# PhD is a Challenging Journey

*The Scholar and the Guide are not left alone at our University .. The Entire University is committed to support, as a team and ensure Quality Research. We are learning and open to learn from anybody..*



# Benefits out of this program



- Research on problems/issues of interest to the Country
- Our Faculty members benefited with more domain knowledge
- Our students benefited not only by better quality teaching from the faculty but also guest lectures from the PhD scholars
- Better industry interface, opening up more Internship and Placement opportunities

# In a nutshell..

- Quality Academic Research essential not only for ensuring Quality Education but also for the development of the Country , as a whole , particularly during the current unprecedented situation
- Research Integrity ( processes) and Outcomes are equally important
- Challenges galore, but is do-able with the commitment of the Entire University ,starting with the Top Leadership

**Thank You!**

# ICFAI

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