CLUSTER UNIVERSITY :: KURNOOL

(Established Under AP Act No. 13 of 2020 and Recognized 2(f) by UGC Act 1956)

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RESEARCH MODALITIES AND GUIDELINES

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CELL (RDC)

CLUSTER UNIVERSITY

B-Camp, Kurnool-518 002,

Andhra Pradesh, India

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CLUSTER UNIVERSITY :: KURNOOL
RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT CELL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prof. D.V.R.SAI GOPAL, Vice-Chancellor,

Dr.KATTA VENKATESWARLU, Registrar,

Dr.B.ANUSHA, Director i/c, R&D Cell, Dept. of Chemistry, SJGDC,

Dr.D.SREENIVASULU, Asst. Director i/c, R&D Cell, Dept. of Commerce, SJDC,

Dr.ARATI CHAKRA, Asst. Director i/c, R&D Cell, Dept. of Home Science, KVR GDC (W),

Dr.S.MAHABOOB BASHA, Asst. Director i/c, R&D Cell, Dept. of English, KVR GDC (W),

Dr.K.NAGARAJA SETTY, Dean of Examinations i/c, (Former CoE of CUK), Dept. of Chemistry, SJDC,

Dr.H.AKTHER BHANU, Dean of Administration i/c, Dept. of English, SJDC,

Dr.Md. WAAIZ, Dean of Academics i/c, Dept. of Physics, SJDC,

Dr.K.BALASUBRAMANYAM, Controller of Examinations i/c CUK, Dept. of Commerce, GDC M,

Dr.M.FAMIDA BEGUM, Member, Dept. of Telugu, SJDC.

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Prof. D. Srinivasulu
Registrar

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No.CU/NEP-2020/HEI/UGC-R&D Cell/Appointments/2024 Date: 07-06-2024

PROCEEDINGS OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Sub: Cluster University, Kurnool-NEP 2020-Higher Education Institutions-Establishment of UGC-R&D Cell-Appointment of Director (I/c), Asst. Directors (I/c) and Members-Reg.

Read:
1. Act No. 13 of 2020.
2. G.O.Ms. No. 2, dated 07-01-2020 of the Higher Education (UE) Department, Govt. of A.P.
3. 2nd Executive Council Meeting, dated 25-11-2021 of the Cluster University, Kurnool.
4. Memo No.1608081/UE/A2/2022-1, dated 19-05-2022 of the Higher Education (UE) Department, Govt. of A.P.
5. Proceedings Rc.No.36/OP-II/2021, dated 24-08-2022 of CCE, A.P., Vijayawada.
6. No. CU/Admn. /CCE/C&M/On-Duty/Report/2022, dated 07-09-2022 of the Registrar, Cluster University, Kurnool.
7. F. No. 1-5/2021(NEP/DESK-PARL, dated 14-03-2022 of the Chairman, UGC, New Delhi.
8. Vice-Chancellor's orders, dated 06-06-2024.

ORDER:

In pursuance of the orders of the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor under 8th read above and directions of former Special Chief Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department, Andhra Pradesh and discussions in 2nd Executive Council Meeting with respect to Control and Management regarding Academic and Administrative activities of Cluster University, the new UGC-R&D Cell (RDC) is established as per 7th read above. The following Administrators and Teaching Staff are appointed as Director (I/c), Asst. Directors (I/c) and Members to the office of the UGC-R&D Cell of Cluster University, Kurnool for a period of three years without prejudice to the normal teaching activities at the Constituent Colleges of Cluster University, Kurnool. The individual is requested to report to **the Registrar, Cluster University, Kurnool on or before 17-06-2024**. The new establishment of UGC-R&D Cell will be placed for consideration in the forthcoming Executive Council Meeting of the Cluster University.

Functions of the UGC-R&D Cell of Cluster University, Kurnool:

1. The UGC-R&D Cell works to formulate the modalities to give research guidance to the eligible Teaching Staff of the Constituent Colleges.
2. Framing the Regulations and Guidelines for planning, implementation and monitoring of research activities in the newly established University as per UGC Research Regulations from time to time like Eligibility and Admissions of Candidates, Course Work and Examinations, Duration of the Research Programme, Constitution of Departmental Research Committee relating to Change of the research title or topic, Changing of Research Supervisor/Co-supervisor, Review on progress of the Research Work, Submission and Evaluation of the Thesis, Viva-voce Examination and all other Research related activities.

Continued on page 2

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S. No.	Name and Address of the Officer/Teaching Staff	Designation	Phone and Email
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10	**Dr. K. Nagaraja Setty** Lecturer in Chemistry, Silver Jubilee Govt. College, Kurnool. Former Controller of Examinations (I/c), Cluster University, Kurnool.	Member	9866416445 knschem456@gmail.com
11	**Dr. M. Famida Begum,** Lecturer in Telugu, Silver Jubilee Govt. College, Kurnool.	Member	9550083202 famidab62@gmail.com

(BY ORDER)

REGISTRAR

To
Director (I/c), Asst. Directors (I/c) and Members of the UGC-R&D Cell of Cluster University, Kurnool.

Copy to:
The Secretary, A.P. State Council of Higher Education, Govt. of A.P.
The Principals of Constituent Colleges of Cluster University, Kurnool.
PS to the Principal Secretary to Government, Higher Education Department, Govt. of A.P.
PS to the Vice-Chancellor, Cluster University, Kurnool.
File.

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CHAPTER-I

CONCEPT OF CLUSTER UNIVERSITY

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Chapter-I

CONCEPT OF CLUSTER UNIVERSITY

Cluster University Concept:

University Grants Commission (UGC) decided to promote the concept of establishing Cluster College Universities across the country during the 12th Five Year Plan period. This would minimize the burden of existing State-run Universities in inspecting and affiliating colleges of the existing universities. The concept of Cluster Universities will provide an opportunity to students to join higher education within the state instead of getting trapped in the hands of the un-recognized institutes outside. The government is committed to making education a round-the-clock affair and which will help in expanding access to higher education by increasing the gross enrolment ratio. The Cluster University concept is 'a step towards giving motion to education.' The concept of cluster universities aims to promote cutting-edge research and to create outstanding conditions for young scholars at universities, to deepen cooperation between disciplines and institutions, to strengthen national and international cooperation of research. It shall serve as a platform for communication, collaboration and co- operation that will optimize scarce resources as well as free students from the autocracy of boundaries and the constraints of location using emergent IT tools. The concept combines the best in traditional systems with the new opportunities for knowledge enhancement. The plan will bring benefits to all stakeholders with its expected outcomes.Establishing the College Cluster Universities is by clustering a minimum of 3-5 colleges in the area surrounding a city or in a district giving the university its own independent establishment, degree granting powers and governance. Apart from this, the University Grants Commission has also decided to establish 800 constituent colleges in the existing universities. With these innovative approaches to provide access to higher education, the UGC is planning to increase the ***Gross Enrolment Ratio*** **(GER)** by 10 per cent from the current GER to 23.5 – 27 per cent. Enhancing quality in Universities or Model Degree Colleges is to upgrade their academic infrastructure and provide better teaching-learning environment to students. Component 1 provides upgradation of an autonomous college in a university, Component 2 allows creation of a university by conversion of 4-5 colleges in a cluster, Components 4 and 8 provide for Enhancing Quality and Excellence in select State Universities and Autonomous Colleges, and Component 10 on Research, Innovation and Quality Improvement. (Subject to adherence to RUSA norms).

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The Cluster University concept is new and is dedicated to students who want to discover and learn new things regardless of the field/branch/discipline they are in. Currently, educational institutions follow the structure of *single-stream education*. Generally, what happens is that a student who has taken a major is allowed to study relevant subjects. The student can't opt for subjects from other majors. This may restrict students to widen their thinking and learning capability. Sometimes out of a will to learn, sometimes to enhance knowledge, students may wish to adopt the ***"out-of-the-box"*** thinking.

Innovative steps to higher education is the need of the hour and the UGC has come up with new suggestions to cluster colleges in groups to share their resources for better prosperity of the students and teaching community and also it is of the opinion that higher education is not a luxury affair for academia as well as for the policy makers and it has to be pursued earnestly with a lot of application oriented research and development.

Cluster University for Future-Ready Campuses:

With the introduction of Cluster University, the single-stream approach of teaching- learning will be ruled out. All the educational institutions including the ones that are offering professional degrees will be transformed into a rationalized architecture that is popularly being referred to as-multidisciplinary Higher Education Institution (HEI) clusters or knowledge hubs by the year 2030.The Cluster University will head 3,000 or more students and allow them to choose subjects and courses that interest them. The university will allow a vast number of institutions such as - *Teaching-intensive University, Research intensive University and Autonomous Degree Colleges.* Thus, students don't need to stress on anything during their learning journey and can explore their passion for innovation.

Chief benefits of Cluster University:

A University management system can be integrated to multiply the productivity, efficiency, and final learning outcomes.

More Space for Student-Teacher Collaboration: With Higher Education Institutions getting merged to form a large unit, there would be more space for better student-teacher collaboration. Students who are genuinely interested in learning a particular course would come together helping faculties to achieve better student learning outcomes.

Inculcating Leadership Qualities among Students: Students would be more confident as they pursue their choice of subjects. They would get an open field to polish their skills and also develop new ones. Thus, the process would ultimately lead to the inculcation of leadership

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qualities among the students.

Accelerating Institutional Networking: since the Cluster University concept of the new education policy speaks of merging multidisciplinary HEIs, institutional networking would obviously go uphill.

Fewer Resources and More Expertise: Students would be able to learn under a single entity. In a nutshell, Cluster University is an excellent concept ***to boost the students' strengths and empower*** them with a valuable career. It can be considered the one-size-fits-all educational approach to serve every student aiming to push their limits and ***"achieve the unachievable!"*** *or unlock the locking things in the nature (research activities).* A student or a teacher or educator is able to reap these benefits once it gets implemented on a full scale.

Cluster University Kurnool (CUK):

It is fortunate that the first Cluster University in South India was announced by the Govt. of Andhra Pradesh at Kurnool, a historical city of Andhra Pradesh, in the year 2020. The establishment of the Cluster University Kurnool, is an innovative and a strategic intervention in the higher education sector of the State. The CUK has been established under "The Cluster University (Kurnool) Act, 2019 Act 13 of 2020" and the infrastructure development was funded through the Rashtriya Uchchattar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) scheme of the Ministry of Human Resources and Development and Government of Andhra Pradesh. The mandate of CUK is to provide opportunities to the aspiring students of the State to pursue higher education and also to bridge the critical gaps in specialized disciplines. The CUK has been created by pooling the resources of the three existing government colleges at Kurnool –

1. Silver Jubilee Government College (Autonomous)
2. K.V.R. Government College for Women (Autonomous)
3. Government Degree College for Men.

These three constituent colleges of the Cluster University have adequate academic, physical and technical infrastructural facilities and the mission of CUK would be to lead these colleges to the advanced schools of learning.

The higher educational sector of the State is in dire need of a paradigm shift due to technological innovations occurring around the world. The modern tools of e-learning shall form an integral component of the educational system at CUK. Innovative and integrated under-graduate and post-graduate courses will be introduced at CUK that will be strengthening the bridging of Institute, Industry and Community linkage. The Father of The Nation, Mahatma

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Gandhi quoted that *"Literacy in itself is no education. Literacy is not the end of education or even the beginning. By education, I mean an all-round drawing out of the best in the child and man-body, mind and spirit."*

The planning of the Cluster University is intended to introduce a multi-dimensional assessment system that shall include seminars, group interaction, community development Programmes, skill development and skill enhancement programs according to the NEP-2020 guidelines. The constituent campuses of CUK have glorious past and have immensely contributed to the intellectual growth of the people of Andhra Pradesh.

Academic Development:

The faculty of the constituent colleges is highly skilled with many of them having multi-dimensional expertise both in teaching and research. The CUK will have one of the largest faculty strengths in the region with the augmentation of Clustering of the institutions and one will find the CUK intellectually stimulating with a wonderful learning experience. According to the RUSA guidelines, the three constituent colleges are nomenclature as *College of Science (K.V.R. Government College for Women), College of Management (Silver Jubilee Government College) and College of Arts (Government Degree College for Men). The* total teaching faculty of the three Constituent Colleges of Cluster University is 169 and 87 have PhDs and are well experienced and expertise in teaching and research activities. 12 Faculty members are from the premier education institutes like IITs, IICT, IISC, Central Universities and Professional Universities. The three colleges have NAAC accreditation: Silver Jubilee Government College - NAAC 'A', KVR Government Degree College for Women - NAAC 'B++', Government Degree College for Men -NAAC 'B+'. The specialty of areas includes: 1. Research Inculcation and advancement and dissemination of knowledge, 2. Integrated courses in Humanities, Social Sciences and Science and Technology, 3. Inter-disciplinary courses with a thrust on frontier areas of knowledge, 4. Innovative practices in teaching, training and research with quality concerns, global standards according to National Education Policy 2020.

The three constituent colleges offer basic UG (37) and PG (21) Programmes of Sciences, Commerce and Management and Arts and the total number of the students being admitted is 1890 in UG and 790 in PG each year. For the first time, the UG admissions of the two constituent colleges – KVR Govt Degree College for Women (A) and Govt Degree College for Men, Kurnool were held through OAMDC (Online Admission Module for Degree Colleges) of APCFSS and Silver Jubilee Govt. College, Kurnool through APREI Society for the academic year 2021-2022 in the month of September, 2021 and followed by SILVERCET from

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2022-23 held under Cluster University. The PG admissions of the three constituent colleges were held under Cluster University, Kurnool, through APPGCET-2021 for the academic year 2021-2022. According to the NEP-2020 guidelines, the Cluster University is going to launch 7 new courses such as Virology, Chemical technology, Food Science and Technology & Dietetics and Nutrition, Hospital Management and Administration, Computer Science Applications-Artificial Intelligence, Blockchain Technology, Cloud Computing, Big Data, drone technology and social work. These courses are job oriented and related to skill development, social service and self-supporting subjects with multidisciplinary approach.

Infrastructure Development:

The Govt. of AP has developed infrastructural facilities in the three constituent colleges under RUSA Programme with the funding of Rs. 55 Crores for academic and administrative buildings, library, auditorium, hostel and canteen in the respective premises. It has given an Administrative Sanction of Rs. 88.50 Crores towards construction of new complex of Silver Jubilee Degree College and Administrative Buildings of Cluster University at Jagannatha Gattu, Kurnool in 55 acres, vide G.O.RT.No.42, dated 23-03-2021 and released Rs. 10.00 Crores on 21-09-2021.The Foundation Stone of the Cluster University was laid on 10-02-2022 by the Hon'ble Minister of Education and Hon'ble Minister of Finance of Andhra Pradesh at Jagannatha Gattu, Kurnool. The Govt of Andhra Pradesh has released 52 Crores according to BRO of the Finance department for the year 2023-24.

Role of NEP-2020 in Higher Education (HE) system:

Quality Universities and Colleges - A New and forward-looking Vision for India's HE System:

- Higher education plays an extremely important role in promoting human as well as societal well- being and in developing India as envisioned in its Constitution - a democratic, just, socially conscious, cultured, and humane nation upholding liberty, equality, fraternity, and justice for all. Higher education significantly contributes towards sustainable livelihoods and economic development of the nation. As India moves towards becoming a knowledge economy and society, more and more young Indians are likely to aspire for higher education.

Major problems currently faced by the HE system in India:

a) Severely fragmented higher educational ecosystem.

b) Less emphasis on the development of cognitive skills and learning outcomes.

c) Rigid separation of disciplines, with early specialization and streaming of students

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into narrow areas of study.

d) Limited access particularly in socio-economically disadvantaged areas, with a few HEIs that teach in local languages

e) Limited teacher and institutional autonomy.

f) Inadequate mechanisms for merit-based career management and progression of faculty and institutional leaders.

g) Lesser emphasis on research at most universities and colleges and lack of competitive peer- reviewed research funding across disciplines.

h) Sub-optimal governance and leadership of HEIs.

i) An ineffective regulatory system.

j) Large affiliating universities resulting in low standards of undergraduate education.

NEP-2020 policy vision in HE system:

This policy envisions a complete overhaul and re-energizing of the higher education system to overcome these challenges and thereby deliver high-quality higher education, with equity and inclusion. The policy's vision includes the following key changes to the current system.

a) Moving towards a higher educational system consisting of large, multidisciplinary universities and colleges, with at least one in or near every district, and with more HEIs across India that offer medium of instruction or Programmes in local/Indian languages.

b) Moving towards a more multidisciplinary undergraduate education.

c) Moving towards faculty and institutional autonomy.

d) Revamping curriculum, pedagogy, assessment, and student support for enhanced student experiences.

e) Reaffirming the integrity of faculty and institutional leadership positions through merit- appointments and career progression based on teaching, research and service.

f) Establishment of a National Research Foundation to fund outstanding peer-reviewed research and to actively seed research in universities and colleges.

g) Governance of HEIs by high qualified independent boards having academic and administrative autonomy.

h) "Light but tight" regulation by a single regulator for higher education.

i) Increased access, equity, and inclusion through a range of measures, including greater opportunities for outstanding public education.

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j) Scholarships by private / philanthropic universities for disadvantaged and underprivileged students.

k) Online education and Open Distance Learning (ODL) and all infrastructure and learning materials accessible and available to learners with disabilities.

Institutional Restructuring and Consolidation through Clusters and Knowledge Hubs:

- The main thrust of this policy regarding higher education is to end the fragmentation of higher education by transforming higher education institutions into large multidisciplinary universities, colleges, and **HEI Clusters /Knowledge Hubs**, each of which will aim to have 3,000 or more students. This would help build vibrant communities of scholars and peers, break down harmful silos, enable students to become well-rounded across disciplines including artistic, creative, and analytic subjects as well as sports, develop active research communities across disciplines including cross-disciplinary research, and increase resource efficiency, both material and human, across higher education.
- Moving to large multidisciplinary universities and HEI clusters is thus the highest recommendation of this policy regarding the structure of higher education. The ancient Indian universities Takshashila, Nalanda, Vallabhi, and Vikramshila, which had thousands of students from India and the world studying in vibrant multidisciplinary environments, amply demonstrated the type of great success that large multidisciplinary research and teaching universities could bring. India urgently needs to bring back this great Indian tradition to create well-rounded and innovative individuals, and which is already transforming other countries educationally and economically.
- This vision of higher education will require, in particular, a new conceptual perception/ understanding for what constitutes a higher education institution (HEI), i.e., a university or a college. A university will mean a multidisciplinary institution of higher learning that offers undergraduate and graduate Programmes, with high quality teaching, research, and community engagement. The definition of university will thus allow a spectrum of institutions that range from those that place equal emphasis on teaching and research i.e., Research-intensive Universities, those that place greater emphasis on teaching but still conduct significant research i.e. Teaching-intensive Universities. Meanwhile, an Autonomous degree-granting College (AC) will refer to a large multidisciplinary institution of higher learning that grants undergraduate degrees and is primarily focused on undergraduate teaching though it would not be restricted to that

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and it would generally be smaller than a typical university.

- A stage-wise mechanism for granting graded autonomy to colleges, through a transparent system of graded accreditation, will be established. Colleges will be encouraged, mentored, supported, and incentivized to gradually attain the minimum benchmarks required for each level of accreditation. Over a period of time, it is envisaged that every college would develop into either an autonomous degree-granting College, or a constituent college of a university - in the latter case, it would be fully a part of the university. With appropriate accreditations, Autonomous Degree-granting Colleges could evolve into Research-intensive or Teaching-intensive Universities, if they so aspire.

By 2040, all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) shall aim to become multidisciplinary institutions and to have larger student enrolments preferably in the thousands, for optimal use of infrastructure and resources, and for the creation of vibrant multidisciplinary communities. Since this process will take time, all HEIs will firstly plan to become multidisciplinary by 2030, and then gradually increase student strength to the desired levels.

MHRD-RUSA (*RASHTRIYA UCHCHATAR SHIKSHA ABHIYAN*) - Creation of Universities by conversion of colleges into a Cluster:

Cluster universities (public) would be created during the Current Plan Period with an average allocation of Rs.55 crore per university through the clustering of existing affiliated government colleges. These universities will be created by pooling the resources of 3 to 5 existing colleges (2 to 3 colleges for NER States) that have adequate academic, physical and technical infrastructural facilities.

Funding Priority of RUSA grant to create Cluster University:

- Colleges with a NAAC grade of 3.51 and above will be eligible. However, in case such a cluster is not possible, the Lead College has to have NAAC score of 3.51 and the participating colleges need to have NAAC score of at least 3.25.
- The purpose of such an intervention is to bring together 3-5 colleges which have the required academic and administrative autonomy (but do not have the power to award degree) and convert them into a university (which has the degree awarding power) through an Act of State Legislature.
- Colleges fulfilling conditions of autonomy under the UGC Autonomous College Regulations, 2018 of the UGC will be eligible.
- Colleges with high Teacher-Student Ratio, Post–Graduate Departments, and having

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filled 85% of their sanctioned faculty positions etc. are eligible to be considered.

- These selected colleges should offer inter and multi-disciplinary programs.
- Colleges joining the cluster must have the capacity to function as a university when coalesced. This would include, among other factors, the strength and experience of the administrative staff, the number of years that the individual colleges have been functioning, degree of autonomy they have enjoyed in the past etc.,
- The conversion plan for the creation of universities must include stage-wise planning with regard to expansion in infrastructure, number of students, schools and departments, administration, academic functions, research activities, etc. It must also cover the timelines and concrete steps that will be taken for the integration of all the concerned colleges as well as the expected end State of the new University.
- Agree to a Memorandum of Understanding which should clearly specify the nature and extent of relationship among partnering colleges and lay down the modalities for the functioning of the cluster.

Requirements to fulfil the creation of Cluster University:

a) Physical Infrastructure

- At least two of the participating colleges should have been in existence for 15 years.
- Should have an existing combined enrolment of 2000 student and the proposed total enrolment of students must be enough to sustain the institution as a university with a minimum enrolment requirement of 4000 students.
- As the university would be a multi-campus university, the physical proximity of the institutions should be such that they are able to share physical and human resources and would be able to facilitate student and faculty mobility (ideally within a maximum radius of 15-20 kms from the lead institution (to take into account the special condition of North East Region States). In exceptional cases with strong quality credentials, the circumference of such a cluster may extend up to 50 kms.
- The State government should identify a nucleus college or ensure the availability of necessary land required for the university in and around the nucleus college to build university super-structure. The combined land availability should be at least 15 acres in mega cities, 20 acres in metro cities and 25 acres in rest of the country.

b) Academic Quality

- The new cluster university may be a combination of colleges with autonomous status/ Colleges with Excellence/ College with Potential for Excellence status.

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- All participating colleges should have NAAC accreditation of 3.51 and above However, in case such a cluster is not possible, the Lead College has to have NAAC score of 3.51 and the participating colleges need to have NAAC score of at least 3.25.
- Should have teaching Programmes in undergraduate and postgraduate courses.
- Must have a few faculty members with excellent research performance through publications, undertaking research projects and guiding research students.
- Should have demonstrated high academic performance in inter-disciplinary teaching and research Programmes.
- Should have a student–teacher ratio (25:1) (combined based on sanctioned strength).
- The combined graduate and postgraduate departments proposed by the institutions must be able to lay the foundation for a multi-disciplinary institution and should have appropriate diversity in teaching and research.

c) Governance and related issues

The participating colleges should have:

- A robust internal governance structure as per the guidelines of the regulatory body. Also, it is advisable that such institutions should have an Academic Council/ Board of Studies/Research Councils and Finance Committees.
- Ability to raise /mobilize resources from sources other than public funding.

d) Equity and Inclusion

- Reservation as per State norms.
- Make all the buildings disabled friendly.

Commitments of Cluster University:

The proposed university should commit to the requirements and expectations listed below:

a) Physical Infrastructure

- Convert all the existing buildings into fully disabled friendly to improve access. Commit to hostels for boys and girls.
- Per student availability: adequate classrooms, lab and library space.

b) Academic Quality

- Agree to share existing facilities with partner colleges and undertake common ventures in promoting access, equity and quality of education.
- Agree to undertake academic reforms.

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c) **Governance and related issues**

- Agree to certain principles of governance like equal status to participating institutions, collective decision-making, autonomy and accountability, independence and interdependence, physical proximity, optimal size, partnership of publicly funded institutions, etc.
- Agree to a governance structure which should ensure equal and adequate representation of partnering institutions for democratic decision-making and effective implementation of academic Programmes, financial autonomy and social accountability.
- An appropriate governance structure for cluster universities shall be detailed by respective States through a new Act or amendments to the existing Act within a year from the date of establishment.

d) **Equity and Inclusion**

- Due preference for hostel accommodation should be given for socially and economically weaker sections.
- Convert existing buildings into fully disabled friendly ones.

Commitments of the State for proposal of Cluster University:

- Agree to a shared vision and principles of association.
- Agree to certain principles of governance like equal status to participating institutions, collective decision-making, autonomy and accountability, independence and interdependence, physical proximity, optimal size, partnership of publicly funded institutions, etc.
- Agree to a Memorandum of Understanding which should clearly specify the nature and extent of relationship among partnering colleges and lay down the modalities for the functioning of the cluster.
- Agree to a governance structure which should ensure equal and adequate representation of partnering institutions for democratic decision-making and effective implementation of academic Programmes, financial autonomy and social accountability.
- Agree to share existing facilities in partner colleges and undertake common ventures in promoting access, equity and quality of education.
- Adequate hostels and toilets for boys and girls.
- Inclusion of ICT in teaching-learning processes and provision of internet access to all students.

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- Implementation of all academic, examination and governance reforms.
- Aim to achieve the student teacher ratio of 15:1.
- Bear the recurring expenditures of the university.

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CHAPTER-II

APRCET GUIDELINES

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Chapter-II

APRCET Guidelines

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR APPEARING APRCET

Ph.D. can be pursued by candidates possessing the minimum qualifications as specified below either on Full-Time (FT)/ Part-Time (PT) basis in the Faculties of Science, Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Fine Arts, Education, Physical Education, Commerce and Management Studies, Engineering and Technology, Architecture & Planning, Law and Pharmaceutical Sciences etc., Admissions into Ph. D. Programme will be made within the framework of reservation rules in force prescribed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh from time to time. The details of faculty/specialization wise eligibility criteria will be notified in details along with the APRCET notification.

The APRCET Committee may include, combine, separate, or drop any of the disciplines as may be deemed necessary with proper reasoning.

Full-Time (FT)

a) Candidates for admission to Ph.D. Programme shall have a Master's Degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade 'B' in the UGC 7-Point scale (or an equivalent grade on a point scale wherever grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other state or in that country for the purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.

b) A relaxation of 5% of marks, from 55% to 50% or an equivalent relaxation of grade, may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/BC (non-creamy layer)/ Differently abled and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the University Grants Commission from time to time, or for those who had obtained their Master's degree prior to 19th September, 1991. The eligibility marks of 55% (or an equivalent grade on a point scale where the grading system is followed) and the relaxation of 5% to the categories mentioned above are permissible based only on the qualifying marks without including the grace mark procedures.

Part-time (PT)

Candidate satisfying the eligibility conditions noted above can be admitted as Part- Time candidate through an entrance test, as per the following order of priority. Admission into Part-

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Time category will be made on the basis of service seniority in the respective categories.

1. Regular Faculty working in the University or P.G. Centers.
2. a) Faculty working in Post Graduate and Professional colleges having completed at least two years of service. This provision is not applicable to Faculty teaching Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Humanities in professional colleges.

OR

b) Faculty/ Librarians/Assistant Librarians working in affiliated degree / PG colleges and Faculty teaching Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Humanities having completed at least two years of service.

OR

c) Faculty working in Polytechnic/Government or private aided junior Colleges/ Schools having completed at least four years of regular service.

OR

d) Working full time employees of any organization (Govt. recognized) with at least four years of continuous service.

Candidates satisfying the following requirements shall be eligible to appear for APRCET:

A. Candidate should be of Indian Nationality or persons of Indian Origin (PIO)/ Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) card holders.

B. Candidates should belong to the State of Andhra Pradesh. The candidate should satisfy local/ non-local status requirements laid down in the Andhra Pradesh Educational Institutions (Regulations of Admission) Order, 1974 as subsequently amended.

C. Ph.D can be pursued by candidates possessing the minimum qualifications as specified below either on Full-Time (FT) or Part-Time (PT) basis in the faculties of Sciences, Arts, Humanities, Social Sciences, Fine Arts, Education, Physical Education, Commerce and Management studies, Engineering & Technology, Architecture & Planning, Law, Pharmaceutical Sciences etc., Admissions into Ph.D programs will be made within the framework of reservation rules in force prescribed by the Government of Andhra Pradesh from time to time.

D. Candidates for admission into Ph.D Programmes shall have a Master's degree or a professional degree declared equivalent to the Master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body with at least 55% marks in the aggregate or its equivalent grade "B' in the UGC-7 point scale (or an equivalent grade in a point scale where grading system is followed) or an equivalent degree from a foreign educational

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institution accredited by an Assessment and Accreditation Agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any statutory in that country for the Purpose of assessing, accrediting or assuring quality and standards of educational institutions.

E. Ph.D. discipline and eligibility in respect of qualifying P.G. Degree shall be clearly notified by the APRCET Convener.

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APRCET - 2023-24 Test Subjects and Eligibility Criteria		
TEST CODE	**TEST SUBJECT**	**Ph. D Programme**
1	Commerce	Commerce
2	Economics	Econometrics
		Economics / Applied Economics
3	Education	Education / Special Education
4	English	English
5	Hindi	Hindi
6	History	History
7	Library & Information Science	Library & Information Science
8	Linguistics	Linguistics
		Dravidian & Computational Linguistics
9	Management	Business Administration
		Business Management
		Human Resource Management
		Management Studies
10	Physical Education	Physical Education
11	Political Science	Political Science
12	Psychology	Psychology and Para-Psychology
		Psychology
13	Public Administration	Public Administration
14	Rural Development	Rural Development
15	Telugu	Telugu
16	Tourism Management	Tourism and Hospitality Management
		Tourism Management
17	Women's Studies	Women's Studies
		Humanities & Social Sciences
18	Applied Life Sciences	Applied Microbiology
		Life Sciences / Applied Life Sciences
		Genetics and Genomics

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		Human Genetics
		Industrial Microbiology
		Microbiology
		Virology
19	Biochemistry	Biochemistry
20	Botany	Botany
		Plant Sciences
		Horticulture and Landscape Management
		Agricultural Biotechnology
21	Chemical Sciences	Chemistry
		Chemistry Inorganic & Analytical
		Engineering Chemistry
		Organic Chemistry & Chemistry of Foods, Drugs and Water Analysis
22	Computer Science and Applications	Computer Science
		Computer Applications
23	Electronics & Instrumentation	Electronics
		Electronics & Instrumentation
		Instrumentation
		Instrumentation Technology (Engineering)
24	Environmental Science	Environmental Science
		Botany
		Physics
		Chemistry
		Zoology
		Geography
		Geology
		Civil Engineering
25	Geology	Earth Sciences
		Geology

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		Geophysics
		Marine Geology
		Applied Geology
26	Home Science	Home Science
		Food Nutrition
27	Material Science and Nanotechnology	Nano-Technology
		Material Science and Nanotechnology
28	Mathematics	Applied Mathematics
		Engineering Mathematics
		Mathematics
29	Physics	Engineering Physics
		Nuclear Physics
		Physics
30	Zoology	Aquaculture
		Animal Biotechnology
		Marine Living Resources
		Marine Biology
		Zoology
31	Biotechnology	Biotechnology
		Biotechnology and Bio Informatics
32	Urdu	Urdu

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CHAPTER-III

Ph. D., ADMISSION GUIDELINES

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Chapter-III

Ph. D., ADMISSION GUIDELINES

CLUSTER UNIVERSITY, KURNOOL, A.P, INDIA. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE CANDIDATES OF ADMISSION INTO RESEARCH PROGRAMME Ph.D.

(Effective from the Academic Year-2025 Onwards)

The Research and Development Cell is established to promote research activities of Cluster University, Kurnool. The R & D Cell will monitor and administer Research Program of Ph.D., offered by the University. It will initiate the following specific activities for monitoring and evaluation of candidates admitted for Ph.D. by research Programmes in all Faculties of the University.

The Ph.D. admission guidelines for the

1. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme
2. Duration of the Programme
3. Procedure for admission
4. Allocation of Research Supervisor
5. Change of Guide

1. Eligibility criteria for admission to the Ph.D. Programme:

a. The following are eligible to seek admission to Ph.D. Programme (Full-time):

i. Candidates who have completed a 1-year/2-semester master's degree Programme after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree Programme or a 2-year/4- semester master's degree Programme after a 3-year bachelor's degreeProgramme or qualifications declared equivalent to the master's degree by the corresponding statutory regulatory body, with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a pointscale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification from a foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of the educational institution.

ii. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section

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(EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

iii. A candidate seeking admission after a 4-year/8-semester bachelor's degree Programme should have a minimum of 75% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade on a point scale wherever the grading system is followed. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

iv. Candidates who have completed the M.Phil. Programme with at least 55% marks in aggregate or its equivalent grade in a point scale wherever grading system is followed or equivalent qualification froma foreign educational institution accredited by an assessment and accreditation agency which is approved, recognized or authorized by an authority, established or incorporated under a law in its home country or any other statutory authority in that country to assess, accredit or assure quality and standards of educational institutions, shall be eligible for admission to the Ph.D. Programme. A relaxation of 5% marks or its equivalent grade may be allowed for those belonging to SC/ST/OBC (non-creamy layer)/Differently-Abled, Economically Weaker Section (EWS) and other categories of candidates as per the decision of the Commission from time to time.

b. Ph.D. through Part-time Mode:

Ph.D. Programmes through part-time mode will be permitted, provided all the conditions stipulated in these Regulations are fulfilled.

1. Regular faculty members/non-teaching staff of Cluster University, possessing the minimum academic qualifications and desiring Ph.D. selection shall be deemed as Part-time candidates of this University.
2. Candidate satisfying the eligibility conditions noted 1 above can be admitted as Part-Time candidate through, AP R-CET as per the following order of priority. Admission into Part-Time category will be made on the basis of service seniority in the respective categories.

- Faculty working in Post graduate and professional colleges having completed at least two years of regular service.
- Faculty / Librarians / Asst. Librarians working in affiliated/Constituent degree / PG colleges and Faculty teaching Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and Humanities in Professional colleges having completed at least two- y e a r

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regular service.

- Faculty working in Polytechnic / Government or P r i v a t e aided Junior colleges having completed at least four years of regular service. Seniority for candidates under each Category shall be calculated with the following weightage.
  - (i) Teaching at P.G level/Professional - five points for each completed year of service in colleges.
  - (ii) Teaching at graduate level/Professional - two points for each completed year of service in colleges. iii)Teaching at polytechnic/Junior college - one point for every completed year of service.

3. Technical employees working in research institutes having completed at least five years of regular service.
4. The Higher Educational Institution concerned shall obtain a "No Objection Certificate" through the candidate for a part-time Ph.D. Programme from the appropriate authority in the organization where the candidate is employed, clearly stating that:
   - i. The candidate is permitted to pursue studies on a part-time basis.
   - ii. His/her official duties permit him/her to devote sufficient time for research.
   - iii. If required, he/she will be relieved from the duty to complete the course work.
5. School Teachers (Govt. and Private aided) having completed five years of regular service.
6. Candidates who wish to carry on research Programmes under FIP / FDP have to register as part- time candidates. Later when they are selected for FIP / FDP by the UGC, Dean R& D may convert Part-time to Full-Time subject to the approval of URC. If there is no vacancy under Full Time at that point of time, the scholar may be converted into Full-Time as against Part Time. Further, if there is no vacancy in Part-Time, it may be treated as an extra seat.
7. Part-time students should report to the departments concerned during the summer vacation.

2. Duration of the Programme. –

(1) Ph.D. Programme shall be for a minimum duration of three years, including course work, and a maximum duration of six (6) years from the date of admission to the Ph.D.

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Programme.

(2) A maximum of an additional two (2) years can be given through a process of re-registration as per the Statute/Ordinance of the Higher Educational Institution concerned; provided, however, that the total period for completion of a Ph.D. Programme should not exceed eight (8) years from the date of admission in the Ph.D. Programme.Provided further that, female Ph.D. scholars and Persons with Disabilities (having more than 40% disability) may be allowed an additional relaxation of two (2) years; however, the total period for completion of a Ph.D. Programme in such cases should not exceed ten (10) years from the date of admissionin the Ph.D. Programme.

(3) Female Ph.D. Scholars may be provided Maternity Leave/Child Care Leave for up to 240 days in the entire duration of the Ph.D. Programme.

Conversion from Full-Time to Part-Time and Vice-Versa:

(a) Candidates pursuing full-time Ph.D. Programme may be permitted to convert into part-time Ph.D. Programme provided they satisfy the eligibility conditions for part- time notwithstanding the length of service. However, the candidate has to pay the prescribed fee for such conversion. This conversion of full time to part time will be permitted only if one gets a job (Academic/Scientific). Full Time to Part Time conversion is allowed only after 9 months of registration and with the permission of the Guide(s), RAC approval and with the permission of the principal.

(b) Conversion from Part-time to full-time is not allowed, except in case of candidates joining under Faculty Development Programme or getting a National /State Government/State Government undertaking body Fellowship.

3.Procedure for admission to the Ph.D. programme:

Admission shall be open to Full-Time and Part-Time Candidates who fulfil the following requirements:

3.1. Admissions for the Research Programme (Ph.D.) shall be made by Director, Directorate of Admissions, Cluster University Kurnool by conducting written test (CUK-RESET / APRCET) and interview. Ph.D. admission proceedings will be issued by Dean (R&D).

3.2. Minimum qualifying marks are 50% in the Entrance Examination (CUKCET / APRCET) conducted by the Director, Directorate of Admissions, Cluster University / APSCHE. Interviews will be conducted for the candidates qualified in the Entrance Examination by Cluster University. “Provided that a relaxation of 5 % of marks (from

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50% to 45%) shall be allowed for the candidates belonging to SC / ST / OBC (Non-Creamy layers)/Differently-abled/EWS category in the entrance examination conducted by the Universities / APSCHE.

3.3. Candidates who qualified JRF-NET, NET and Ph.D. tests conducted by UGC/CSIR-UGC/DBT/ICMR/ICAR/any other Govt. competent authority are exempted from written test for Ph.D. admissions; however, they should appear for the interview. The admission for such candidates will be held as per the notification of the University. Universities shall admit students who qualify for fellowship/scholarship in UGC NET/UGC CSIR NET/GATE/CEED and similar National level tests based on an interview.

3.4. Candidates awarded with RGNF Scheme will be admitted into the Ph.D. Program only if they qualify CUKRCET / APRCET / UGC NET / CSIR NET / any UGC accredited examination or any other national entrance exam equivalent to NET examination. Candidates with RGNF shall be admitted irrespective of the stipulated number of vacancies available with the Supervisor (a minimum of one RGNF candidate will be allotted to any supervisor at a given point of time) in the subject concerned by rotation.

3.5 Candidates who secure DST INSPIRE / Moulana Azad National Fellowship will be given admission to Ph.D. only if they qualify CUKRCET / APRCET / UGC NET / CSIR NET / any UGC accredited examination or any other national entrance exam equivalent to NET examination subject to the availability of a vacancy with the guide.

3.6 Foreign student/NRI(Full-time): Foreign students will be provisionally admitted into Ph.D. program (Full-time) as per the guidelines in vogue after examining the request of the candidate for registration through a personal interview. One extra seat shall be provided to the guide under this category.

3.7 Ph.D. admission through Executive Quota without CUKRCET/APRCET.

1. Candidate should have 10 or more years of experience working in Govt organizations/private sector/Industry in the executive cadre drawing a salary in Academic level 11/equivalent level and above in Govt organizations; Rs.1,50,000 salary per month in private sector whose turn over should be Rs.10 crores and above and should provide annual audited reports.
2. The candidates should submit last two years of IT returns.
3. The candidate should have published two publications in peer reviewed journals or one national/ international patent published for private/Industry persons.
4. The candidate should present a seminar before a committee as and when called for.

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The decision of the committee is final for the admission of the candidate.

3.8 While pursuing research in Cluster University, Kurnool the candidate shall not register for any other course either full time/part time at any other University or Institution, leading to the award of a degree / diploma / certificate. In case of any such violation, the admission/registration stands cancelled.

4. Allocation of Research Supervisor:

1. The registration of a candidate can be done either at university department or any Institution recognized by the university as a center of research.
2. The allocation of Research Supervisor for a selected research scholar shall be decided by the RAC concerned depending on the number of scholars per Research Supervisor, the available specialization among the Supervisors and research interests of the scholars as indicated by them at the time of interview/viva voce.
3. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/College/University may be appointed.

5. Change of Guide:

If a candidate wishes to change a Guide or include a co-guide for valid reasons, the request may be considered as per the merits of the case. However, such cases where the candidate is permitted, he/she can submit the thesis only after one year from the date of change of Guide or inclusion of additional guide.

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CHAPTER-IV

Ph.D GUIDANCE

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Chapter-IV

Ph. D. GUIDANCE ELIGIBILITY

Guideship eligibility:

UGC GUIDELINES

1. Permanent faculty members working as Professor/Associate Professor of Universities with a Ph.D., and at least five research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals and Permanent faculty members working as Assistant Professors in Universities with a Ph.D., and at least three research publications in peer-reviewed or refereed journals may be recognized as a Research Supervisor in the university.
2. Recognized research supervisors cannot supervise research scholars in other institutions, where they can only act as co-supervisors. Ph.D. awarded by a university under the supervision of a faculty member who is not an employee of the University would be in violation of these Regulations.
3. Any permanent teacher, having put in two years of service after obtaining Ph.D and possessing two publications as mentioned above, working in a P.G department of an affiliated College and recruited through a duly constituted selection Committee is eligible to be recognized as a Research Guide on application.
4. Provided that in areas/disciplines where there is no, or only a limited number of peer-reviewed or refereed journals, the Higher Educational Institution may relax the above condition for recognition of a person as Research Supervisor with reasons recorded in writing.
5. Co-Supervisors from within the same department or other departments of the same institution or other Research institutions may be permitted with the approval of the Research Advisory Committee.
6. Adjunct Faculty members shall not act as Research Supervisors and can only act as co-supervisors.
7. In case of interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary research work, if required, a co-Supervisor from outside the Department/School/Centre/Govt. College/Universities/Allied Industries/Research Institutions may be appointed.
8. An eligible Professor/Associate Professor/Assistant Professor can guide upto eight (8)/ six (6) / four (4) Ph.D. scholars, respectively, at any given time.
9. Each supervisor can guide up to two international research scholars on a supernumerary basis over and above the permitted number of Ph.D. scholars as specified in clause (8) stated above.

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10. One Additional research scholar can be allotted to each supervisor over and above the allotted number provided the Research supervisor/Co-Supervisor can guide two international students on a supernumerary basis.
11. At any point of time the total number of candidates under a research supervisor shall not exceed the number as prescribed above including the candidates under co-supervision.

Note: The Research Supervisor should declare the number of Ph.D. Scholars registered with him/her periodically to the University/College. He/she cannot increase the number by using recognition from multiple Universities/Colleges.

12. In case of relocation of a female Ph.D. scholar due to marriage or otherwise, the research data shall be allowed to be transferred to the Higher Educational Institution to which the scholar intends to relocate, provided all the other conditions in these Regulations are followed, and the research work does not pertain to a project sanctioned to the parent Institution/Supervisor by any funding agency. Such scholar shall, however, give due credit to the parent institution and the supervisor for the part of research already undertaken.
13. Faculty members with less than three years of service before superannuation shall not be allowed to take new research scholars under their supervision. However, such faculty members can continue to supervise Ph.D. scholars who are already registered until superannuation and as a co-supervisor after superannuation, but not after attaining the age of 70 years.
14. **FRAME OF RESEARCH ADVISORY COMMITTEE & DEPARTMENTAL RESEARCH COMMITTEE**
15. The RAC of the relevant Department processes the application for recognition as research guide and forward it to the Director, R&D cell of the concerned University College. The principal shall give necessary orders for recognition based on the recommendation of RAC and approval of Vice-Chancellor.
16. A retired teacher may act as Research Guide for full-time, if he/she is appointed as Emeritus Professor and or if he/she has a Major Research Project with Junior Research Fellowship/Senior Research Fellowship. Those faculty having Emeritus position or a Research Project beyond their retirement can act as guides for two years.
17. Any retired teacher will continue to guide his/her already registered Ph.D candidates for two years and should include a Co-Guide for each of his/her research scholar soon after his/her retirement.

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18. Faculty who resigned/retired voluntarily from service shall include an eligible teacher from their departments as co-guide for every research student working under their guidance. However, their guide ship will be terminated in two years from the date of resignation/voluntary retirement, while the co-guide will become the Principal Guide.
19. Notwithstanding anything stated above, recognition may be bestowed on persons with exceptional merit by the Vice Chancellor.

GUIDELINES AT CLUSTER UNIVERSITY FOR Ph.D. Guideship

20. Any of the faculty from three Constituent degree Colleges from Sciences / Arts/ Languages departments are eligible to be recognized as Ph.D. Guide if he/she satisfies above guideship eligibility conditions.
21. The Number of Students for each guide is two for each faculty i.e., one part-time and one full-time student.
22. The vacancy under the Guide arises only after submission of Ph.D. Thesis by the allotted student.
23. Ph.D. guideship will be given to those Teaching faculty members who are regular and must be reported to the University.
24. The research work with regard to Ph.D. may be completed with the utilization of facilities at three constituent Colleges of Cluster University.
25. Students allowed to work outside of university with the permission of university authorities.
26. Guideship will be given to the faculty with or without PG experience
27. No. of Publications to the faculty for the eligibility of Ph.D. Guideship may be two publications in Scopus indexed/SCI/SCIE/Web of Science or three - UGC Care List Journals as an independent researcher.
28. A minimum of two years working experience for the faculty in teaching the P.G. course in the college after obtaining Ph.D. having at least two research articles in journals having 4 science citation index/journals having impact factor given by Thomson Reuters/UGC listed journals.
29. If the Guide has transferred to other College's, decision will be at mother University and student will have same guide and the student has to work with the same Guide, and a Co-Guide may be appointed at the same department in the College from where Guide has transferred and the Ph.D. thesis must be submitted to the mother University.
30. If the teacher is retired or leaves the Institution the research student may be transferred

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to any other eligible guide or to any other research canter recognized by university. For any reason, if that is not possible the teacher may have to suggest any person from any of the recognized research institutes.

31. Under the condition when a Co-guide was not appointed in time, Rs.10,000/- penalty fee should be paid by the candidate at the time of submission of his/her thesis, if there is no eligible faculty to act as Co-Guide from the concerned Department.

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CHAPTER-V

Ph.D. REGULATIONS

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Chapter-V

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE Ph.D. CANDIDATES

(EFFECTIVE FROM THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2025-2026 onwards)

The Research and Development Cell is established to promote research activities of Cluster University, Kurnool. The R & D Unit will monitor and administer Research Program of Ph.D., offered by the University. It will initiate the following specific activities for monitoring and evaluation of candidates admitted for Ph.D. by Research Programmes in all Faculties of the University.

The Academic Regulations and guidelines mentioned for performing the activities for monitoring and evaluation of the candidates cover the following aspects:

1. Course work and Pre-Ph.D. Examination
2. Duration of the research Programme
3. Constitution of Department Research Committee and Issues relating to Change of Title/Topic/Supervisor/Co-Supervisor and Research Review.
4. Review of Progress of Research Work
5. Compulsory Seminar before Thesis submission
6. Submission of the Thesis/Dissertation
7. Evaluation of the Thesis
8. Viva-Voce Examination

1.COURSE WORK AND PRE-Ph.D. EXAMINATION:

1.1. Research Programmes are aimed at giving a broad-based training in the concerned field in addition to specialization in a particular area. The course work shall be prescribed in the relevant field of research for the Pre-Ph.D. examinations from the Cluster University approved list of subjects as recommended by the Supervisor and Co-supervisor, and to be forwarded to the Controller of Examinations. The area/field of research once selected for Pre-Ph.D. exams cannot be changed. The Pre-Ph.D. exam dates and schedule will be notified by Controller of Examinations (Examination Branch) in Cluster University website. No individual letters will be sent to research scholars. Both full time and part-time candidates have to take the Ph.D. written examination after one year for full time and two summers for part-time from the date of registration and after completion of the course work. The panel of Examiners/paper setters for Paper-I (research Methodology-4 credits) will be submitted by the BoS of the department concerned and paper-II (Area of specialization- 4 credits) shall be furnished by the research supervisor of the

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candidate concerned in consultation with DRC of the department.

1.2 The candidates are required to pass the above course; the minimum marks required for a pass shall be 55%. In case a candidate fails to pass in three attempts (attempt means appearance) and within 4 years from the date of registration, the admission shall be cancelled.

1.3 Generally, the Pre-Ph.D. examination shall be held once in a year. The conduct of these examinations, declaration of results, and preparation of mark lists will be carried out by the Office of the Controller of Examinations (Exam. Branch) of Cluster University.

1.4 As per UGC guidelines, Research and Publication Ethics (R&E) 30 hours course is compulsory.

1.5 As per the UGC Guidelines, a Course Work of one Semester is compulsory. The Course work for the Ph.D. Programme, therefore, shall also include:

i) One Course (Theory) on "Research Methodology" **(Paper-I),** with compulsory attendance and a final external examination with 4 credits.

ii) One Subject **(Theory- Paper-II))** with compulsory attendance and an external examination with 4 credits, and

iii) **Paper –III**: Seminar on work done within One year 50 marks – 2 credits.

iv) **Paper- IV**: Seminar on published Research work in the second year 50 marks – 2 credits

v) **Paper –V:** Pre-Ph.D. open Seminar / colloquium meeting at the time of synopsis submission. 50 marks -2 credits.

1.5.1. The theory Subject (Paper-II) will have to be chosen from the concerned field of specialization (or the nearest specialization). The choice and selection of the Subject must be approved by the candidate's Supervisor and Co-Supervisor, if any and the same must be communicated to the Controller of Examinations in soft / hard copy form, with appropriate signatures and seals of – Supervisor, Co-supervisor.

1.5.2. All the Scholars shall have to be physically present and maintain the required minimum attendance criterion (75%) in this course. The external end examination is of three hours duration with a maximum of 100 marks. The Ph.D. written papers shall be subjected to double valuation by internal and external examiners. Internally Paper-I will be evaluated by the Chairperson, BoS or any other senior faculty member suggested by the Dean, Faculty concerned and Paper-II will be evaluated by the research supervisor of the candidate. If the candidates fail in the subject, they have to reappear for the examination of the failed subject, as and when offered, as per the

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Academic Regulations; they need not attend class-work again, provided they maintain the minimum attendance requirements earlier. However, if the candidates do not have the required minimum 75% of attendance in the subject, they will be detained in those subjects, and shall have to reappear for class- works in those subjects again, as and when they are offered, shall maintain the attendances required and then appear for the examination.

Evaluation of Ph.D. Course Work:

- The panel of paper setters and examiners for Paper-I, II & III should be provided by the Chairperson, Board of Studies from the list approved by Board of Studies.
- Evaluation of the Paper-I, II & III of Part-I Course work shall be double valuation with TWO External Examiners.
- A Ph.D. scholar has to obtain a minimum of 55% of marks or its equivalent grade in the UGC 7-point scale (or an equivalent grade/CGPA in a point scale wherever grading system is followed) in the course work in order to be eligible to continue in the Programme and submit the dissertation/thesis.
- Candidates who final in first attempt will be given only one another chance to qualify in the examination. Registration for appearing the examination shall be considered as an attempt.

2.DURATION OF THE RESEARCH PROGRAMME:

Research Scholars registered for Ph.D. (Full-Time) & Ph.D. External (Part-time) can submit the thesis after completion of a minimum of three years (3) (full-time) & four years (4) (part-time) from the date of admission (date of admission means the date of joining date), subject to passing of the prescribed, Theory Subject, Research Methodology Course, seminars and Research publications as stipulated.

2.1 For the candidate to submit the Thesis for Ph.D., atleast two published research paper in a refereed Journal before the submission of the thesis for adjudication. In addition, two paper presentations in conferences/ seminars before the submission of the dissertation/thesis for adjudication and produce evidence for the same in the form of presentation certificates and/or reprints. The journal publications must be in journals having impact factor given by Thomson Reuters/Science Citation Index Journals/UGC listed journals.

2.2 Candidate should submit a thesis based on the research work carried out under the supervision of one or more recognized research guides as per the University norms.

2.3 After receipt of positive recommendations on the presentation of the thesis from

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adjudicators, the candidate should defend the thesis in a viva-voice examination successfully before a committee appointed by the Vice-Chancellor.

2.4 Candidates should complete the research work within a maximum period of Five (5) years (full- time) and Seven (7) years (part-time). They should pay tuition fee until the end of the year in which the thesis is submitted. If the tuition fee is not paid as per rules, the penalty may be levied by the Dean, R&D Unit. If tuition fee is not paid continuously for two years, the registration will be cancelled.

2.5 Late Submission: If the candidate fails to submit a thesis within the stipulated period, his/her registration will be cancelled. However, depending on the progress of the work and as per the recommendation of the Sub Committee of URC, permission for submission of Thesis may be given with a penalty and approval from Vice Chancellor based on the merits of the case.

2.6 No hostel accommodation will be provided beyond 5 years for full-time research scholars.

3. CONSTITUTION OF THE DEPARTMENT RESEARCH COMMITTEE (DRC):

The Department Research Committee (DRC) for each Department shall consists of the Chairperson-Board of Studies (BoS) of the Department, Head of the Department or Coordinator of the Centre, two Senior Faculty Members (having Ph.D.). Supervisor/Co-supervisor of the candidate will also be present during the review meetings. The HoD shall constitute the DRC as the convener.

In the case of departments, where a minimum number of staff are not available to form the DRC, The Vice-Chancellor will constitute the DRC involving external (other than CUK staff) or internal staff members of the CUK Colleges.

3.1 Issues relating to Change of Supervisor / Change of Title:

a) If a candidate wants to change the title of the research work, it should be done with the approval of the DRC and Dean R&D. Change of the title is allowed only once within 2 years (full-time) and 3 years (part-time) of the research Programme.

b) If the candidate wants to change the supervisor the candidate should apply in the prescribed format and submit to Dean, R&D Unit. The application from the candidate for change supervisor/s shall be endorsed by the supervisor and co-supervisor with letters of No Objection from both, old and proposed supervisor/s should be submitted. Bio-data of the New Supervisor / Co-Supervisor should also be attached with the application, with relevant documents as prescribed at the time of application. The URC will examine on a case-by-case basis and give its recommendations. (For Applications

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of Change of Supervisor / Co-supervisor see website)

3.2. The University may permit modification in the area / subject of research, provided it is done before the pre-Ph.D. exam of the doctoral work with the approval of URC. If the resubmitted topic of work is different from the originally proposed topic, it constitutes a change of subject and represents a major change. For such cases, the thesis submission date will be one calendar year after the change is affected.

4.REVIEW OF PROGRESS OF RESEARCH WORK:

For the purpose of monitoring the progress of research works, all the research candidates including those who are on the current rolls of Cluster University, Kurnool for Ph.D. are required to attend Research Review Meetings (RRM) before the DRC, and present three seminars

(i) Before fixing of the Ph.D. title within six months.

(ii) Seminar on Research work carried within 1 year for 50 marks.

(iii) Seminar on published research work in the second year for 50 marks with power point presentations/oral presentations. At the time of RRM, research scholars should submit hard copies of their research progress in duplicate, in prescribed format with signatures of Supervisor and Co- supervisor. Additionally, tangible output if any, such as: Journal Publications / Presentations in a Conference / Poster Presentation in a Seminar / Conference or a Patent, etc. may be submitted. If the research scholar does not attend the meetings or if the reports are not satisfactory, the admission is liable to be cancelled. The fellowships of the Ph.D. candidates will be forwarded / extended only after the satisfactory performance in the RRMs. The seminars should be open to all other faculty members and research scholars of the concerned department. After the seminar presentation, the Head of the department should send the report, recommendations of the DRC to the controller of examinations.

Quorum: Chairperson, BoS, one senior faculty member, head of the department and Research supervisor (or) Co-supervisor.

In case of exigency, the BOS can nominate a senior faculty from the concerned department. In case the BOS is unable to nominate or attend the meeting, The Head of the department will act in his place to fulfil the quorum. In case of exigency, the head of the department is unable to attend, the Vice-chancellor can nominate faculty member to fulfil the quorum.

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5.COMPULSORY SEMINAR BEFORE THESIS SUBMISSION (COLLOQUIUM):

Each candidate must attend the colloquium meeting. The seminar should be at least two months before submission of the thesis in the concerned Department on the research work, carried out by him/her. The Vice-chancellor shall appoint external subject expert(s) to the colloquium if required. The scholar should submit two copies of synopsis to DRC and to the external expert(s), if any highlighting original/significant contributions made in the research work. The colloquium committee is empowered to accept or reject the research work of scholar for submission or may advise to revise/reappear with the modification made. The seminar will be open to all Faculty members and Research Scholars of the department concerned.

The Dean of the faculty concerned shall be the chairperson of the colloquium.

Quorum: Dean, faculty of studies, Chairperson, BoS, head of the department and guide or co-guide of the candidate.

The Dean faculty or the Chairperson, BOS can nominate a senior faculty member from the concerned department in case of any exigency. In case the Dean Faculty and Chairperson, BoS are unable to Nominate or attend the colloquium, the Head of the Department concerned will act in their place to fulfil the quorum.

In case of exigency, the head of the department is unable to attend, the Vice-chancellor can nominate faculty member to fulfil the quorum.

5.1 Submission of the Synopsis:

A candidate can submit the Ph.D. Synopsis only when he/she has completed the Ph.D. course work of 14 credits. Each candidate has to submit TEN (10) copies of the synopsis, one week after the colloquium, through the proper channel to the Controller of Examination at least one month prior to the submission of thesis but not later than Six Months failing which a penal fee as prescribed should be paid by the candidate for a maximum of three more months extension to submit the thesis. The synopsis should be written in English only, except in the case of vernacular languages.

The following should be enclosed along with the synopsis:

1. One soft copy of the synopsis
2. Certificates from DRC stating he/she has attended the RRMs in the department.
3. Recommendations of the Colloquium Committee.

5.2 Submission of Panel of examiners:

The supervisor of the candidate and the Chairperson, BoS concerned shall send a panel of nine (9) examiners each in a sealed cover to the Controller of Examinations within

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15 days from the date of synopsis submission. In the panel of nine (9) examiners, six should be from India and three (3) should be from abroad.

5.2.1 Out of six (6) Indian Examiners, for science subjects, 3 should be from the national institutes/Universities outside the state and three (3) should be within the state from reputed Universities / Institutions.

5.2.2 Out of six (6) Indian Examiners, for Arts subjects, three should be from premier Institutions / central universities / universities from outside the state and three (3) should be from other reputed Universities within the state.

5.2.3 The University may revise the panel of Examiners if necessary. Persons of Indian origin and persons of SAARC countries should not be given as foreign examiners.

5.2.4 Examiner suggested for the adjudication of the thesis should not be below the rank of a Professor / Scientist E & F / Assoc. Prof (with a minimum 10 years of total experience) who are in service.

NOTE:

- Subject experts from the organization where the supervisor / co-supervisor belongs, and persons related to a candidate shall not be included in the panel of the examiners.
- In case the candidate does not submit the thesis within six months from the date of submission of the synopsis, the panel lapses and a new panel has to be suggested.

6. SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS / DISSERTATION:

6.1. After completion of Colloquium, a soft copy of thesis in word format should be brought along in person to R & D Unit and have it checked before binding and sending it to the evaluation section. For ensuring originality of submitted content, the thesis will be checked by anti- plagiarism software.

Plagiarism Test:

Plagiarism test "Plagiarism" includes an act of academic dishonesty and a breach of ethics. It involves using someone else's work as one's own. It also includes data plagiarism and self-plagiarism. Plagiarism would be quantified into following levels in ascending order of severity for the purpose of its definition:

i. Similarities up to 30% including publications is allowed for submission.

ii. Level 1: Similarities above 30% to 40%

iii. Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%

iv. Level 3: Similarities above 60% Penalties for faculty and researchers:

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(i) Level 1: Similarities above 30% to 40%

Such Scholar shall not be allowed for submission of the Thesis and shall be asked to submit a revised thesis within a stipulated time period of not exceeding 6 months.

(ii) Level 2: Similarities above 40% to 60%

Such Scholar shall not be allowed for submission of the Thesis and shall be asked to submit a revised thesis after a time period of one year but not exceeding eighteen months. New research scholars shall not be allocated to such Research Supervisor for a period of two years.

(iii) Level 3: Similarities above 60%

Such Scholar shall not be allowed for submission of the Thesis and shall be asked to submit a revised thesis after a time period of three years. New research scholars shall not be allocated to such Research Supervisor for a period of five years.

6.2**. Submission and Adjudication of a Thesis:**

A candidate may submit the thesis any time during one month before or within one month after the expiry of the stipulated period of research. Each Candidate, after completing the due formalities, is required to submit the specified number of copies of his/her thesis, along with the prescribed application form and with the documents to the Controller of Examinations.

6.3. A candidate has to submit four (4) hard copies and ONE (1) soft copy of thesis, an application enclosed with an online challan for Rs.5000/- towards adjudication fee (which will be revised from time to time) in favor of Registrar, Cluster University, Kurnool. Copy of Ph.D. admission letter, details of fees paid from time of admission to till the time of submission, S.S.C. Marks sheet (proof of name and age), Copy of Pre-Ph.D. Marks Memo, Qualified lower degree certificate to the Controller of Examinations, Cluster University, Kurnool.

6.4. Four copies of the thesis incorporating a certificate from the supervisor to the effect that the thesis is an original work of the candidate and a declaration by the candidate to the effect that the thesis either in part or full does not constitute any part of any thesis / dissertation / monograph submitted by him/her or any other person to any University/Institute. The thesis should also contain the signature of the Head of the Institution/ Organization (from place of work) in addition to the supervisor's signature. The candidate shall be held responsible for the genuineness of his/her work and any false statement shall lead to cancellation of his/her registration/degree at any stage even after the declaration of results.

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6.5 The candidate shall enclose to his/her thesis, the printed contribution(s) to the advancement of the subject which he/she has published independently or jointly with others. The thesis in all subjects shall be written and submitted only in English except in language subjects where the candidate shall have the option of writing the same either in English or in the language concerned. Where the thesis is submitted in a Language other than English, a detailed summary in English version of the thesis shall also be submitted.

7. EVALUATION OF Ph.D. THESIS:

7.1. The Ph.D. thesis submitted by a Ph.D. scholar shall be evaluated by his/her Research Supervisor and at least two external examiners who are experts in the field and not in employment of the Higher Educational Institution concerned. Wherever possible, one of the external examiners should be chosen from outside India. The examiner(s) should be academics with a good record of scholarly publications in the same field or allied areas of research. The maximum time given for the examiner to evaluate the thesis is 60 days. The first reminder should be sent after 30 days and second reminder after 45 days. If the examiner doesn't respond within 60 days the next examiner should be contacted. Consent given by the examiners by email can be considered for processing the thesis. Soft copy of the thesis through email be sent to foreign and Indian examiner(s) and reports and evaluation forms can be obtained through emails/postal mails.

7.2. (a) In cases where a foreign examiner is not fixed within 15 days from the date of giving e- mail or has not sent the report within three months from the date of dispatch of the thesis (by airmail), the Vice-Chancellor may consider the change of the foreign examiner with another foreign examiner.

(b) In cases where an Indian examiner is not fixed within 15 days from the date of giving e- mail or has not sent the report within two months from the date of dispatch of the thesis (by airmail), the Vice-Chancellor may consider the change of the Indian examiners with another Indian examiner.

7.3. The Ph.D. thesis shall be adjudicated by two examiners selected by the Vice Chancellor one from Panel I and one from Panel II described below.

Panel I - List of at least six Foreign Adjudicators

Panel II - List of at least six Indian Adjudicators outside the State of AP and other States shall be from the national institutes/laboratories

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7.4. The examiners are required to:

(i) Outline the main features of the thesis.

(ii) Critically evaluate the thesis and send a report on the thesis in not less than 500 words.

(iii) Make one of the four following definite recommendations.

a) The thesis attains the standard required for the award of the Ph.D. degree

b) The thesis requires revision and re-submission to the Department Research Committee (DRC).

c) The thesis requires revision and re-submission for re-evaluation by the same examiner

d) The thesis is rejected

7.5. If a thesis is approved by two examiners and suggested for revision by the third examiner or the thesis is approved by one examiner and suggested for revision by two examiners or all three examiners ask for revision, the candidate will be permitted to resubmit and it will be referred to the same examiners(s), who have suggested for revision and resubmission. At the time of resubmission, the guide has to certify that all the suggestions made by the examiner(s) have been incorporated. A minimum time limit of one month shall be enforced for resubmission in all such cases.

7.6. If two of the examiners approve the thesis and one rejects, or vice-versa or if one of the examiners approves the thesis, one rejects and the other asks for revision, the candidate may be permitted for resubmission. However, in such cases, the examiner(s) who have rejected the thesis shall have to be replaced by new examiner(s) while keeping the other examiner(s) the same. A minimum time limit of one month shall be enforced for resubmission in all such cases.

7.7. If two of the examiners ask for revision and one examiner rejects the thesis or one examiner asks for revision of the thesis and the remaining two reject the thesis, the thesis shall be rejected.

7.8. The following are the guidelines for taking further course of action in recommending the thesis for the award of Ph.D. degree.

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S. No	Recommendation of the adjudicator(s)	Action on the further processing of the thesis
1	Two adjudicators have recommended for the award of the degree	To constitute Viva-Voce committee
2	One/Two of the two adjudicators has/have recommended for revision of the thesis	To revise the thesis by the scholar on the suggestions of the adjudicator(s) and submit the revised thesis through proper channel certified by Research Guide. The thesis will be sent to the same adjudicator to evaluate the revised version
3	One of the two adjudicators has recommended for rejection of the thesis	To send it to another foreign/out of state/state adjudicator, as the case may be.
4	One examiner asks for revision of the thesis and the remaining two reject the thesis	To reject the thesis
5	Two adjudicators recommended for rejection of the thesis	To reject the thesis

7.9 If all the examiners reject the thesis, the registration of the candidate stands cancelled.

8.VIVA-VOCÉ EXAMINATION:

8.1 Once the thesis is accepted, by all the three examiners a comprehensive Viva-Voce examination shall be arranged by the Controller of Examinations, Cluster University.

8.2 The viva-voce relating to Ph.D. thesis shall be conducted by a viva-voce committee to be appointed by the Vice-Chancellor. The viva-voce committee shall consist of

1. Dean of the Faculty
2. Research Guide cum Convener
3. The Head of the Department (all the concerned Heads, in the case of interdisciplinary).
4. The Chairperson of the RAC (all the concerned chairpersons, in the case of inter-disciplinary)
5. One of the Indian examiners who adjudicated the thesis (to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor)

8.3. The Chairperson of the committee, the research supervisor, BoS chairperson, and the Head of the Department are must for the viva-voce examination.

8.4. Research guide shall be the Convener for viva-voce committee. In case of Extramural

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candidate, the External Guide and for Part Time candidate the Guide from the University will be the Convener of the Viva-Voce Committee. Further wherever there is a co-guide, he will also be a Member of the Committee.

8.5. In case if the guide superannuates from the University service or is on long leave/ deputation or cannot attend on any other valid reasons the co-guide/ Chairperson will be the convener.

8.6. The Chairperson, BOS can nominate a senior faculty member from the concerned departments in case of any exigency. In case the BoS is unable to nominate or attend the Viva-voce, the Head of the Department may act in his place to fulfil the quorum.

8.7. The Viva is open to all members of the department and allied departments. The candidate shall have to successfully defend his/her work to the satisfaction of majority members of the Viva-Voce committee.

8.8. In case the Examiners who accepted the Thesis are not available for the Conduct of the Viva – Voce Examination, the Vice-Chancellor may nominate another examiner from the list of adjudicators approved.

8.9. (i) The reports of the external examiners and the recommendations of the colloquium committee shall be made available to the Board for the Viva- Voce Examination.

(ii) The viva-voce examination should primarily be designed to test the understanding of the candidate on the subject matter of the thesis, including methodology employed and the candidate's competence in the general field of study.

(iii) The candidate should also be asked to clarify any of the points raised by the adjudicators in their reports.

(iv) The viva-voce Board may on the basis of the unanimous opinion recommend either

a) That the candidate be awarded the Ph.D. Degree or

b) That the candidate may appear for the viva-voce examination again after a stipulated time.

c) Any candidate who does not satisfy will not be considered for the award of degree.

8.10. A candidate who is not successful at the Viva-Voce may be permitted to take the viva voce a second time within a period of three months. No candidate shall be permitted to take the viva-voce more than twice. If the candidate fails for the second time, the case shall be disposed of by the Vice- Chancellor on its merits.

8.11. Upon successful completion of the Viva-Voce examination, the Convener of the Viva-Voce Committee will submit the recommendations and on consideration of the reports

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of the individual examiners, the Vice-Chancellor may approve the announcement of the award of the provisional Ph.D. Degree to the candidate and provisional certificate will be issued. The award of the Degree shall be confirmed by the Executive Council of the University.

8.12. After the completion of the Viva-Voce examination, the Corrected final copy of the thesis in Hard Bound and two soft copies in DVD form must be submitted for placing them in the University library and on INFLIBNET through UGC, respectively.

Depository with INFLIBNET. Following the successful completion of the evaluation process and before the announcement of the award of the Ph.D. degree(s), the examination section of cluster university concerned shall submit an electronic copy of the Ph.D. thesis to INFLIBNET, for hosting the same so as to make it accessible to all the Higher Educational Institutions and research institutions.

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CHAPTER-VI

SUBMISSION OF PROJECT PROPOSAL

AND

RESEARCH FUNDING AGENCIES

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Submission of the project proposals:

The Principal Investigator (PI) will complete the project submission form as per the prescribed format and as per the guidelines of the funding agency.

- All proposals for submission of research projects to the various funding agencies should be forwarded through the head of the concerned department, the Registrar of Cluster University, or the director of the centre or institute, who will certify the possibility to accommodate the research project work and staff within the existing laboratory space.
- Similarity index of the Project Proposal must not exceed 25%.
- The PI of the proposed project shall clearly state the extra space that would be needed, if any, and the HOD or Director of the Institute shall certify the availability of the same.
- The proposal must be cleared by the head of the department or director of the centre or institute within three working days.
- The project proposal with complete details of the financial requirement for capital expenditure (mentioning the name of the equipment and other infrastructure requirements along with the estimated cost), as well as details of the recurring expenditure and the total duration of the project, must be submitted to the office of the Dean of Research Studies and shall be processed within seven working days.
- The project proposals submitted to different funding agencies must ask for overhead charges as per the norms and guidelines of the funding agencies. If there are no guidelines prescribed by the funding agency regarding overhead charges, in that case, 10% overhead charges shall be considered while submitting the project proposal.
- Project assistant/s, field assistant/s, project fellow/s, or JRF/s may be included in the proposal as per the norms of funding agencies.
- If the project is with a non-government agency, a statement on the terms and conditions of the project, including the rights to patents and royalties, must be clearly spelled out.
- If a memorandum of understanding is to be signed at a later stage, the exact terms and conditions of the MOU, including the summary of the finalised project, shall be submitted to the office of the Dean of Research Studies.

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Sanction of the projects:

- The sanction letter and details of the amount sanctioned under different budget heads, the duration of the project, and other terms and conditions shall be communicated immediately to the office of Dean Research Studies and Grants Section as and when the sanction letter is received by the Principal Investigator.
- Further, a copy of every sanction letter as well as revisions to the sanction letter or release of funds must be communicated to the office of Dean Research Studies and Grants Section immediately by the PI upon receipt from the funding agency.

Operation of projects:

- A Departmental Purchase Committee of the relevant department must recommend all purchases after following the proper procedures in accordance with the Cluster University financial norms.
- All purchases regarding the project shall be made according to the notified financial codes.
- After carefully examining the tenders and quotations, the Principal Investigator (PI)/Competent Authority, as the case may be, will sign the purchase order.
- Payment of all the bills will be made through the Online Digital Mode (PFMS) by the Grant Section in favour of the concerned vendor. In the event that payment is to be made by PI, the same shall be made online in digital mode as per the guidelines of the Government of India.
- TA/DA in the project for field work and visits outside the Kurnool for attending conferences, seminars, and symposia can be paid as per the guidelines of the funding agency and/or Cluster University norms applicable to PI/Co-PI/Research Scholars working in the project upon approval and justification by the PI.
- On the recommendation of the concerned Head of the Department and Dean of Research Studies, the PI/Co-PI and staff will need the approval of the competent authority for the time spent conducting project-related fieldwork or working collaboratively in another laboratory.
- Re-appropriation of funds under various budget heads of a project shall be allowed only if the concerned funding agency permits.
- Annual Statement of Expenditure and Utilisation Certificate Principal Investigator shall prepare a statement of expenditure and Utilisation Certificate within the stipulated time period prescribed by the funding agency.
- The Utilisation Certificate and Statement of Expenditure must be submitted to the

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Grants Section for confirmation, cross-checking, and onward transmission to the funding agency.

Management of Overheads:

- From overall funding, excluding the cost of equipment, 10% of the overhead shall be shared with the University and shall be deposited from the Account to University Research Funds, and 10% shall be retained by the PI.
- Depending Sanctioning agencies – over heads will be changed.
- The overhead charges shall be kept at the disposal of the PI to meet his or her contingency requirements.
- Funds under this head can be utilised by PI up to nine months beyond the tenure of the project.
- Any unspent amount from the PI share will be transferred to university funds after the closing date.
- The PI can use his or her share of the overhead charges to pay for the following expenses:
- Infrastructure.
- Repair and upgradation of scientific equipment; maintenance of services; purchase of minor accessories, etc.
- Cost of advertisements in newspapers for project positions.
- Hiring manpower, including secretarial assistance, is subject to approval by competent authority as per university norms.
- Expenses to meet travel, registration fees for participation in conferences and symposia, and visits to another laboratory for collaborative work.
- Publication charges for research articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Research Project Funded by an Agency other than the Government

- The proposal for research projects funded by non-government agencies will be submitted with a minimum cost of 20% as overhead charges, or as prescribed by the agency.

Appointments and Engagements:

- For appointments/engagements to the position under Project, applications shall be invited after giving wide publicity regarding the vacancies.
- In cases where vacancies are for a period of up to six months, such posts need not be advertised but shall be circulated in the departments of the University and on the University's website.

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- In cases where vacancies are for more than six months, such vacancies need to be advertised in the local newspaper and on the University's website.
- In case where vacancies are for more than one year, such vacancies need to be advertised in at least one national newspaper. The same vacancy shall be advertised on the University website for at least three weeks.
- The Principal Investigator will seek the applications. The office of RDC (shall conduct selection process for the eligible shortlisted candidates.
- The Appointment Committee consists of the following members:
- Dean of Research Studies (Chairperson)
- Dean of the concerned Faculty
- Head of the Department of the concerned Faculty
- External Expert
- Principal Investigator
- Registrar
- The appointment/engagement letters shall be issued to candidates by the office of the Dean of Research Studies.
- A copy of the appointment letter shall also be sent to the Registrar/Gants Section. All appointment letters shall clearly indicate the terms and conditions of appointments.
- Appointment/engagement of staff in the project is on a purely temporary basis for the duration of the project only, and the appointed staff will have no claim for regular appointments in the University on the termination of the project.
- An undertaking shall be taken by the PI from the staff being appointed to the project.
- The staff employment/engagement in the projects will be governed by the same rules and conditions of service as applicable to temporary employees at the University from University time-to-time, except in those projects where the conditions have been laid down by the sponsoring body.
- The leave or leave given to the staff under projects will be admissible to the same extent as it is admissible to other employees of the University, unless sponsors specify otherwise.
- The Principal Investigator will be competent to sanction leave to the extent admissible.
- The copy of the joining letter of the selected candidate should be countersigned by the Principal Investigator and sent to the office of Dean Research Studies/Grants Section.
- A copy of the joining letter may be retained by the Principal Investigator.

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Settlement of Bills:

- The payment of bills and clearance of accounts is one of the most important aspects of the smooth running of the project.
- If the Grants Section has a procedural objection to the bill, it will be sent back to PI in a week's time. Bills that are in order will be cleared, and payment shall be released through online or digital mode within three weeks of the submission of bills.
- If the bill is not settled within three weeks' time from the date of submission, PI shall report to the branch head.
- If any note-sheets or bills of purchase are sent to the Grant Section, the concerned branch shall acknowledge receipt of the note-sheets or bills.

Maintenance of Stock Registers:

- Each project shall have a separate stock register for assets, consumables, and non-consumable articles.
- A separate account shall be opened with full details for each article.
- All entries in the stock register shall be signed by the Principal Investigator.
- Physical verification of stock shall be conducted at least once a year, and a report shall be sent to the Registrar.
- Equipment purchased specifically will be the property of the University on the termination of the project, and stock shall be entered in the departmental stock register, clearly showing that the item or equipment has been purchased from the project.
- After the closure of the project, a copy of the handover or takeover, duly signed by the PI and Head of the Department, shall be submitted to the Registrar for record and verification by the Audit.

Interim Progress and Accounts Reports for the Project:

- The PI shall prepare the progress report along with the settlement of accounts, which should be submitted to the Grants Section, who would verify it within a week of submission of accounts.
- The reports and accounts on verification shall be returned to the PI for onward transmission to the funding agency.
- Any minor discrepancy can be solved after going through the accounts again and solving it mutually.
- The reports and accounts shall be audited by an approved auditor of the University, and the same will be allocated by the internal audit section of the University.

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Closure of the project:

- The closure of the project shall be done within six months of its completion.
- The final and technical report shall be prepared by the PI in accordance with the requirements of the funding agency and submitted to the Finance Branch for verification of financial aspects and the signature of the registrar before being forwarded to the funding agency.

Statement of Final Accounts:

- The statement of final accounts showing year-wise expenditure and a list of articles (consumables and non-consumables) left over from the time of termination of the project and purchased out of the project funds shall be sent in triplicate to the Finance Officer in the prescribed Performa and verified by the Internal Audit Officer of the University.
- These articles may be transferred to the stock register. In the event that the department does not want these articles, they will be auctioned following due procedure.
- The list of articles will be given to the Head of the Department for entering permanent assets in the stock register within four weeks of their submission.
- After making entries at respective pages in the stock register, these must be provided to the Finance Branch for an internal audit for further verification.
- It is mandatory for the department to enter all the entries on the proper pages and hand them over to the concerned person for research.
- If PI does not want to use them further, they are taken back to the stores.
- The PI and Head of the Department shall ensure that all pieces of equipment that are beyond repair are written off following due procedure.
- In the event of any missing item under this category, the cost to be recovered from PI (before issuing the No Dues Certificate) will be decided by the competent authority in consultation with the Head of the Department and Finance Officer.

SELECTED RESEARCH FUNDING AGENCIES IN INDIA

BARC - http://www.barc.gov.in/

CSIR - http://www.csir.res.in/

DRDO - http://www.drdo.nic.in/

Department of Atomic Energy - http://www.dae.gov.in/

Department of Ayush - http://indianmedicine.nic.in/

DBT - http://dbtindia.nic.in/

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Department of Chemicals & Petrochemicals, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers - http://chemicals.nic.in/

DST - http://dst.gov.in/

ICMR - http://www.icmr.nic.in/

Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) - https://moes.gov.in/

Science and Engineering Research Board - http://www.serb.gov.in/

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) - https://www.aicte-india.org/

Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers - http://fert.nic.in/

Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) - http://www.icssr.org/

ICAR - http://www.icar.org.in/

ICMR - http://www.icmr.nic.in/

INSA - http://insaindia.org/

ISRO - http://www.isro.org/

Indo French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR) - http://www.cefipra.org/

Indo-US Science & Technology Forum - http://www.indousstf.org/

UGC - http://www.ugc.ac.in/

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CHAPTER-VII

RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS GUIDELINES

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CHAPTER-VII

RESEARCH PUBLICATION GUIDELINES

Identification of the Quality Journals: Do's and Don'ts by Universities

1. Check the publisher's antecedents and check the citation analysis of the journal. You will also notice all kinds of fake impact factors these days, so be careful about how the impact factors are derived. The most reliable impact factors are the ones given by Thomson Reuters' Journal Citation Reports Impact Factor. It also goes by the name Clarivate Analytics. Another trusted citation index is Cite Score given by Scopus. Be careful with other metrics, as some of journals claim fake impact factors and are of no use in any academic activity.
2. Check the Editorial Board of the journal to see who all are associated with the journal. If sizable number of good researchers are there from reputed institutions, it is expected that the journal has the required credibility.
3. Check if the journal is indexed in any major bibliographic databases in the field and whether the articles are discoverable in those databases where the journal claims. Any reputable journal will be indexed in one of major indexing or abstracting services like Thomson Reuters', PubMed, Med Line, INSPEC, SCOPUS, Web of Science...
4. Check how much time the peer review process takes. Journals that claim to accept papers in a few days' time are often quite inferior in nature. Good journals require a minimum of two independent positive reviews for publication.
5. Check if any of your peers working in similar areas from reputed and highly ranked institutions in their research are published in that journal, which is expected to enhance the visibility of your work and may lead to better citation of the articles.
6. If you are publishing a paper in the conference, check the history and who are all involved in the Technical Programme committees.
7. Conferences which are not peer reviewed (with minimum two reviews) and where papers are accepted based on a short one paragraph abstract aren't considered high quality.

For large cross-section of researchers, the following specific recommendation in identifying quality journals and conferences may suffice:

1. Look for journals indexed in Scopus, Web of Science, Thomson Reuters', PubMed, Medline, INSPEC databases. Use Thomson Reuters' Journal Citation Reports or the Cite Score given by Scopus for judging the quality of the journal. As a final check,

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please also ensure that your peers in reputed institutions are publishing in that journal.

2. For management, use the journals categorized as ABDC, with higher weightage given to A and B categories.
3. For Humanities and Social Sciences publications/books, use Scopus, SAGE, Wiley, Springer, Taylor & Francis, & Orient Blackswan.
4. For Mathematics, use journals in JCR by Thomson Reuters' having an impact factor above 0.4; SJR Scimago JR Q1 or Q2 categories: MCQ by American Mathematical Society having above 0.2 impact factors.
5. For CSE, recommended journals and conferences include Scopus, Web of Science indexed journals and A, A* and B ranked conferences in CORE CS Ranking.

The objective is to promote high quality research at the global standards. This is an initiative of internationalization of Higher Education:

1) Identifying the thrust areas for joint research programs.
2) Exploring the funding opportunities from the industry and international organizations.
3) Identification of experienced researchers from across the institutions of each RCG.
4) To collaborate with the researchers from the University of Melbourne.
5) Policy for the execution of the projects.
6) Policy for the publication of the research output.

Choosing the Right Journal for Publication:

Submitting a manuscript to an unsuitable journal is one of the most common mistakes that authors make and one of the major reasons for the rejection of a manuscript. First-time authors or those who are branching out into diverse research areas may be unfamiliar with the journals in the field. On the other hand, seasoned authors, too, tend to publish in the same journals, although new publication opportunities are constantly arising in the form of online- and open access (OA) publications. As per the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), "Open access journals are journals that use a funding model that does not charge readers or their institutions for access." (Directory of Open Access Journals, 2020).

Checklist for selecting an appropriate journal:

- Do the aims and scope of the journal match that of the research?
- Has the journal published articles of similar nature?
- What is the journal peer review process?
- Does the journal reach the relevant audience?

Criteria for journal selection:

Authors should keep the following criteria in mind when choosing a journal as an outlet for

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their research.

- **Do the aims and scope of the journal match those of the research work?**

  Authors can readily find relevant information on a journal's homepage under sections such as "About the Journal", or "Aims and Scope". Careful review of this information can help determine whether their research might be a good fit for the journal. Scholarly journals are diverse in terms of their content and audience. Their variety can come from several sources, for example, journals vary by their level of specialization, disciplinary focus, and relative emphasis on contributions to theory versus applications of theory. In the natural and physical sciences a distinction is made between a focus on theory versus experiments; in the social sciences a distinction is often made in whether the target audience is academia or practitioners or some combination. It is up to the author to decide on the outlet that best meets the current scholarly requirements.

- **Has the journal published articles of similar nature?**

  After short listing journals based on their broad aims and scope, authors should consider a more in-depth search within the journal with keywords from their manuscript to determine whether the journal has published similar work. An indicator of where a manuscript might be submitted is to be found among its own cited references. Journals that are most frequently cited might be good outlets for the work.

- **What are the journal's submission requirements?**

  In preparing a manuscript for submission, it is important to review the "Information for Authors". Journals often specify the type of research they publish. Submissions outside the journal's scope are often rejected without review. Journals also provide guidance regarding the length of the article and the limits, if any, on the number of tables and figures. Most OA journals also charge article-processing fees, which might play a role in determining where to submit an article.

- **What is the journal's intended audience?**

  International peer-reviewed journals typically tend to have broader readership than regional journals. The latter may tend to publish articles with geographic or local significance (for example, endemic disease research) and may lack international readership. Similarly, details of a niche research topic are more likely to be accepted for publication in specialized journals. On the other hand, OA journals might be accessed by wider audience, leading to increased discoverability since there are no subscription fees associated with accessing them. Recently, several OA journals have been on the receiving end of increasing criticism over the lack of proper peer review

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and poor-quality control. A quick check to assess journal quality might be to determine whether a journal is indexed in reputed citation databases. Although, potentially subject to manipulation, the presence of respected scholars on the journal's editorial board is another indicator of journal quality.

- **What is the journal's impact factor and rank?**

  The Journal Impact Factor (JIF) is the ratio of the number of citations to the journal's articles to the number of total citable articles published in that journal over a fixed period of time. One should also look at the relative standing of a journal in a given subject category based on JIF. The JIF is a journal-level indicator that is one of the many criteria that can be used to determine aspects of journal quality. While there are several journal metrics, the journal "impact factor" invented by Clarivate Analytics in the 1960s, has been one of the oldest reputed publisher-neutral metric trusted by researchers and research organizations worldwide (Clarivate Analytics, 2018).

- **What is the journal's peer review process?**

  Peer review process should be independent, rigorous, and unbiased. Authors should assess whether the journal provides: timely and comprehensive review of the manuscript; constructive and valuable comments that enhance quality; information on the number of reviewers involved; an understanding of how closely the editor is involved in the process.

- **Are there red flags in journal issues?**

  Diversity of authorship is often a good indicator of journal quality. For instance, the dominance of a small set of authors, or institutions in the journal is a potential red flag. Similarly, an implied promise of publication before submission, immediate acceptance of the articles upon submission or a lack of proper peer review could suggest lack of due diligence and/or improper publication practice. The ORI can develop special training focused on the topic of research publication and dissemination for young scholars and students. Grey, et al. (2020) provide a checklist to promote publication integrity to pre-empt misconduct. The authors write, "the Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE) advises publishers to retract articles when there is 'clear evidence that the findings are unreliable,' but does not advise on how to determine whether that is the case. Their 'REAPPRAISED' checklist consists of the following items: Research governance, Ethics, Authorship, Productivity, Plagiarism, Research Conduct, Analysis and Methods, Image manipulation, Statistics and data, Errors and data duplication and reporting. The use of this checklist, can help to speed up the identification and

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correction of flawed papers, preventing wasted resources ...." All the items in this checklist are not relevant for a researcher who is seeking to publish or attempting to assess the quality of a journal. However, it is a comprehensive list and a good place to start. Vigilance to ensure that such practices are not rewarded has to be an important aspect of research integrity and ethical practice. Reference management software offer journal match features that can be used to get suggestions on a journal's potential outlets. However, researchers should validate that manually to weed out low-quality journals.

Some of the common factors for rejecting a manuscript include: Manuscript content does not conform to scope of the journal or the overarching theme of a special issue or is not interesting to the target audience. Manuscript style does not conform with the journal style, format, or guidelines. Duplication or significant overlap with existing work (plagiarism) 4Insignificant results or incremental research. Improper rationale of the study. Superficial treatment of the subject matter. Poorly designed study in terms of statistical tests, controls, etc. Preliminary results that lend to speculative interpretation. Lack of clarity in writing.

Journals rely on the peer review process to ensure quality and identify plagiarism or other forms of misconduct. Unfortunately, identifying research misconduct is difficult, especially when the authors and reviewers belong to a small community where it is to everyone's mutual benefit to increase the number of publications and citations to those publications. This problem is further compounded when journal publishers and editors also have an interest in increasing the number of citations to articles published in their journals, which result in subtle and not so subtle efforts at encouraging authors to cite specific articles or journals. Authors, reviewers, and journal editors are not the only ones with a stake in enhancing the prestige of a journal via the number of publications and citations. Publishers want to maintain a portfolio of highly regarded journals; authors and their employers want publications in prestigious journals to burnish their individual and institutional reputations; and funders are similarly motivated to support researchers who have published and will continue to publish highly cited research in such journals. An extreme case of corruption has been noticed in journal publications where it is now possible to buy and sell coauthor ships of articles that have been accepted for publication even in some of the most reputable academic outlets. The number of citations a journal receives in a given year, taken against the total citable items it published over the preceding two-year period, determines its Journal Impact TM Factor (JIF). The JIF provides an important and objective measure of a journal's contribution to scholarly communication. A confluence of motivation can result in various forms of malpractice ranging from biased reviews arising from

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conflicts of interest between reviewers and authors, citation coercion, and inflated author and journal self-citations. Building a strong culture of research integrity along with constant vigilance is necessary to curtail such misconduct. However, that is not enough. Here again, the ORI has an important role to play in educating and training researchers at all stages of their career. Education and training can be built upon guidance from COPE, the REAPPRAISED checklist, and the Johnson Report on scholarly and scientific publishing, among others. The ORI can also organize regular discussion groups and workshops to reinforce an understanding and practice of publication ethics.

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CHAPTER-VIII

RESEARCH COLLOBORATIONS

&

MEMORANDUM OF

UNDERSTADING (MoU)

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CHAPTER-VIII

RESEARCH COLLOBORATIONS & MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTADING (MoU)

Introduction:

Research collaboration that emphasizes cooperation between different researchers and research centres to achieve common aims and improve scientific production is the need of the hour. In order to create a vibrant and sustainable research ecosystem in HEI, it is suggested that collaboration be developed and strengthened at three levels:

- Intra-University Collaborations
- Inter-University Collaborations
- Community-Level Collaborations

Intra-University Collaborations: Intra-University research collaboration may provide opportunities for investigators to learn how approaches from complementary disciplines may be applied to existing problems and lead to the development of innovative solutions. In order to accomplish this, the following guidelines shall be applicable:

- Creating a flexible research ecosystem with ample focus on multi- and transdisciplinary research studies. Across faculties, research boards shall be formulated to reflect appreciation of changing research paradigms.
- More emphasis is placed on the joint supervision of research candidates. Supervisors who can offer different yet complementary perspectives, knowledge, experience, and skills shall be motivated to work as joint supervisors.
- Enhanced ability to share and exchange resources. A mutually beneficial arrangement of sharing resources (humans, equipment, data, databases, research labs and sites, etc.) shall be focused upon. Inter-University Collaborations

There is an urgent need for research collaborations among university departments and between universities and other research institutions and organizations, with a specific focus on facilitating and supporting the development of new research partnerships across disciplines with a vision of promoting the element of interdisciplinary/ transdisciplinary/ multidisciplinary research.

- More MOUs shall be in place among universities and research institutions. Researchers and faculty exchange programmes shall be emphasised. Resource sharing among institutions shall also be promoted.
- Joint research proposals among collaborating institutions shall be submitted to funding

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agencies.

- The colleges affiliated with a University or in proximity to the University shall be provided strategic support for developing research.

Community-Level Collaborations Researchers can integrate community partnership, equity, and respect into their research practices. Community engagement leads to more equitable and applicable research. Suggested measures for community-level collaboration include:

- Inclusion of social and community representatives (NGOs, community-based organizations, representatives of PRIs, social activists, industry representatives, etc.) at different levels of HEI/ research bodies.
- Provision of allocating fixed credits for community-oriented practical work for coursework scholars.
- Seeking and acknowledging the inputs of community stakeholders at the time of designing and formulating a research proposal.

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CHAPTER-IX

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

(IPR) –LEGAL & ETHICAL ISSUES

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CHAPTER-IX

INTELLECTURAL PROPERTY RIGHTS: LEGAL AND ETHICAL ISSUES

The Research Ethics Committee, under the aegis of Research and Development Cell (RDC) of Cluster University, Kurnool, ensures the promotion and continual sustenance of the research culture on the campus in conformity with the policy document and stipulated norms of the RDC. It monitors the research activities at UG, PG and Doctoral levels with due focus on the matters related to the Intellectual Property Rights and the legal issues that will arise there upon consequent on the infringement, breaches, and misconduct of research. The Research Ethics Committee (REC) ensures the implementation of all the probable measures to make the stakeholders adhere to the following ethical guidelines for the conduct of innovative research practices.

1. The research scholars as well as the Supervisors/Investigators should aim at the original research in strict observance of the contemporary research methodologies.
2. The conduct of research should be professional to the core in consideration with the diversity and cultural differences in the research environment and be carried out in a conducive atmosphere free from all prejudices, personal likes and dislikes, gender insensitivity, and other factors detrimental to research.
3. The research data and the output should be made available at any stage of the research work for the benefit of the community and the nation by and large. The data and the records in the form of rich contributions to the domain knowledge of the subjects concerned should be made accessible to the HODs/Deans of the University Departments for multidisciplinary approaches and further explorations if any.
4. The terms and conditions should be transparent and clear with regard to research collaborations and sharing of the resources within the departments, schools or centers of the host University as well with outside organizations. The disclosure of all sorts of forms of financial research support, actual, perceived or potential conflicts of interest, processes and requirements of the RDC of the University is obligatory.
5. The agreements with the funding agencies, research partners, and collaborators should be unambiguous.
6. The informed consent should be obtained with regard to research involving the human subjects/populations. The strict protocols of privacy need to be given importance. The Animal Ethics Committee should be constituted to look into the matters of the research

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involving the laboratory animals.

7. With respect to women, transgender, and gender related issues, if the proposed research exposes the participants to risk, the researchers shall be allowed to own the ethical responsibility of considering the risks though the participants have consented to be the part of the study. The access to the data should be restricted in view of the privacy and sensitivity of the issues on ethical obligations.
8. Ethical issues concerning the disposal of the Waste: Careful disposal of toxic and non-biodegradable waste should be carried out without causing any damage to the environment. The chemicals and the microorganisms of various kinds while in use or accumulated during the course of research should be consummated with the spirit of safe environment and sustainable practices.
9. The researchers should be provided training in safety measures and the use of First Aid during emergencies such as fire, chemical burns, etc.
10. Bio-safety committees should be constituted in order to create awareness regarding bio-risk management among the researchers who work with the regulated biological materials (RBM).
11. Stem Cell Research Therapy and any other specific research studies (IC-SCRT).
12. Publication of the research output: Peer Review should be encouraged to publication activities. Anonymity, objective evaluation and adherence to the widely accepted principles of research shall be the essential components for peer Review.
13. Thorough search for existing patents should be encouraged to avoid infringing on the current patents.
14. The researchers should adapt to anti-plagiarism policies and use the University approved software only for plagiarism checks.
15. Intellectual Property Rights: Creating awareness regarding the following should be made mandatory.
    - IPR and understanding the ownership rights of the research
    - Disclosure of all the sources and forms of funding
    - Consequences of resorting to plagiarism and other unfair means such as distortion and falsification of data
    - Use of approved software for plagiarism checks
    - Citations and acknowledgements to copyrights, attributions, and other licensing agreements
    - Technicalities of publishing the research output

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16. A clear policy should be formulated for the protection and management of IP created by the University and also for the commercialization of patents, copyrights etc. Provision of legal and administrative support in patent filing, ownership of the inventions, and technology transfers etc. should be encouraged.
17. Misconduct of research: The REC shall receive the signed or anonymous complaints of misconduct. But the complainants who wish to remain anonymous will not be provided the information of investigation of the complaint. The Committee will review and approve of the suitable punitive measures for the violation of code of conduct of research.
18. The Committee should keep on monitoring and evaluating the research involving human participants and animals through annual reports, final reports, site visits etc.
19. Regular training/awareness/refresher programmes on IPR and Ethics should be organized.
20. The committee should review periodically whether the ethics are met and consider the inclusion of amendments as and when necessary in augmentation with the recent trends in research, information and technology transfers.

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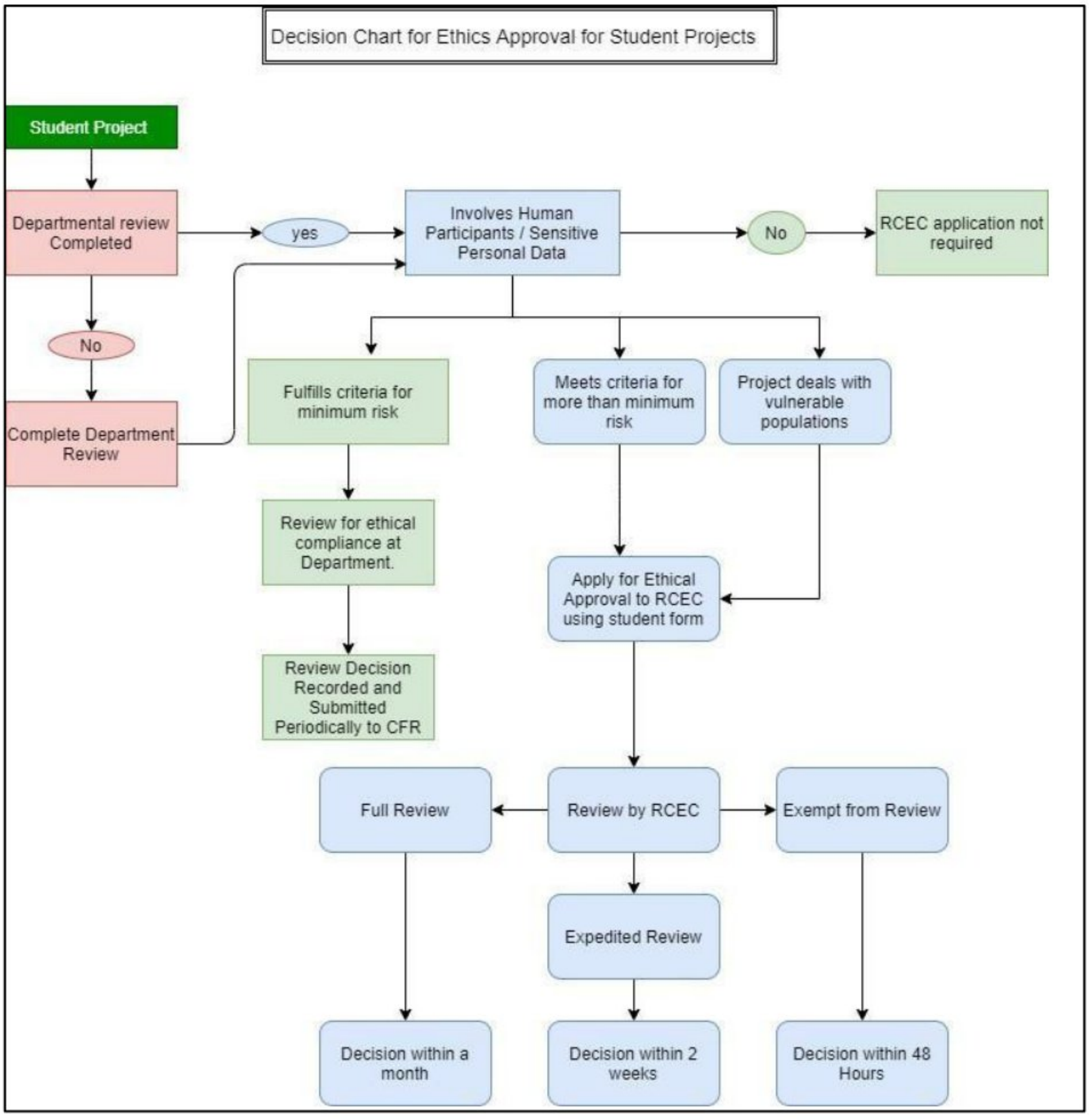
DECISION TREES:

1.Decision tree for student projects



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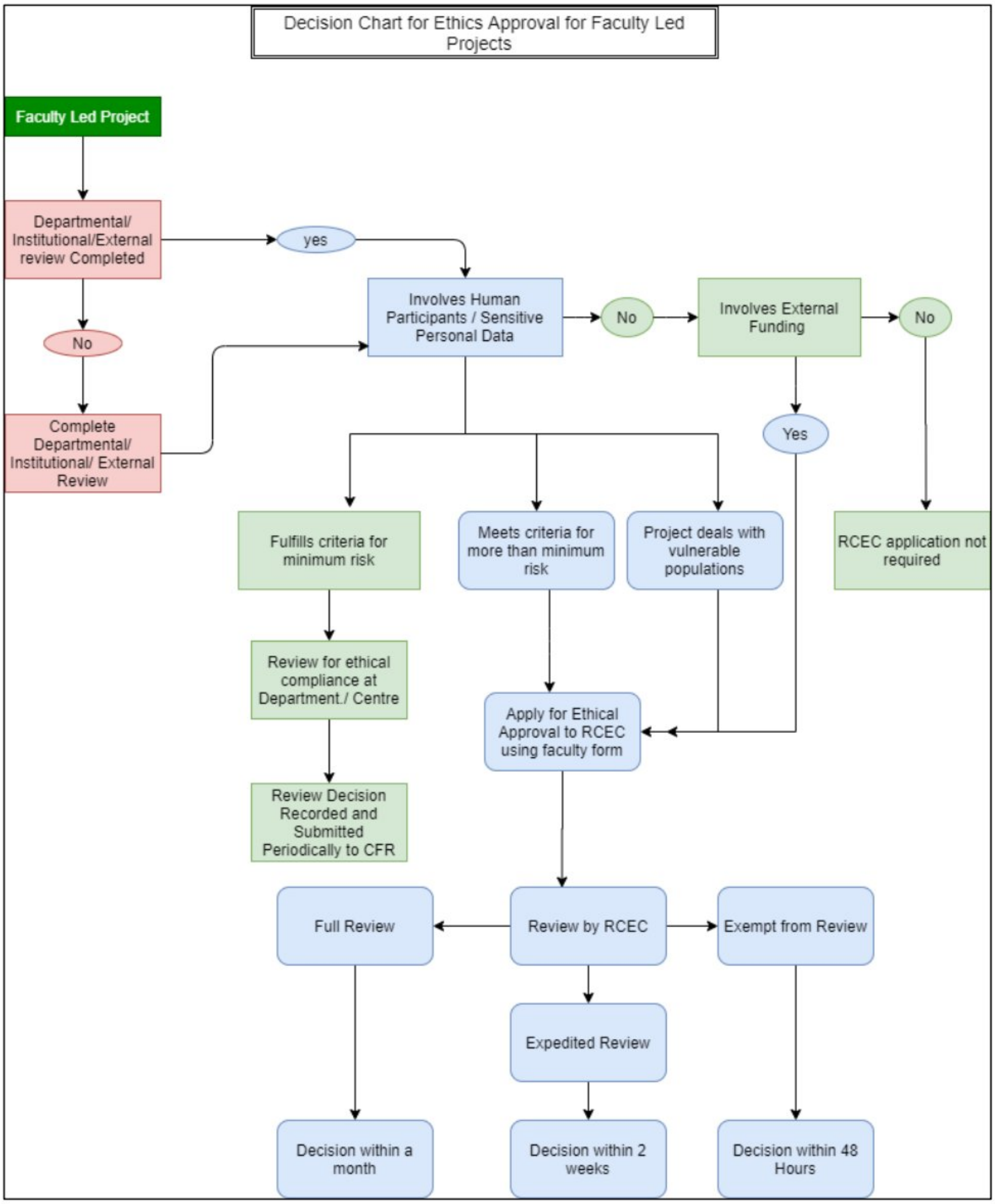
2.Decision tree for faculty Led Projects



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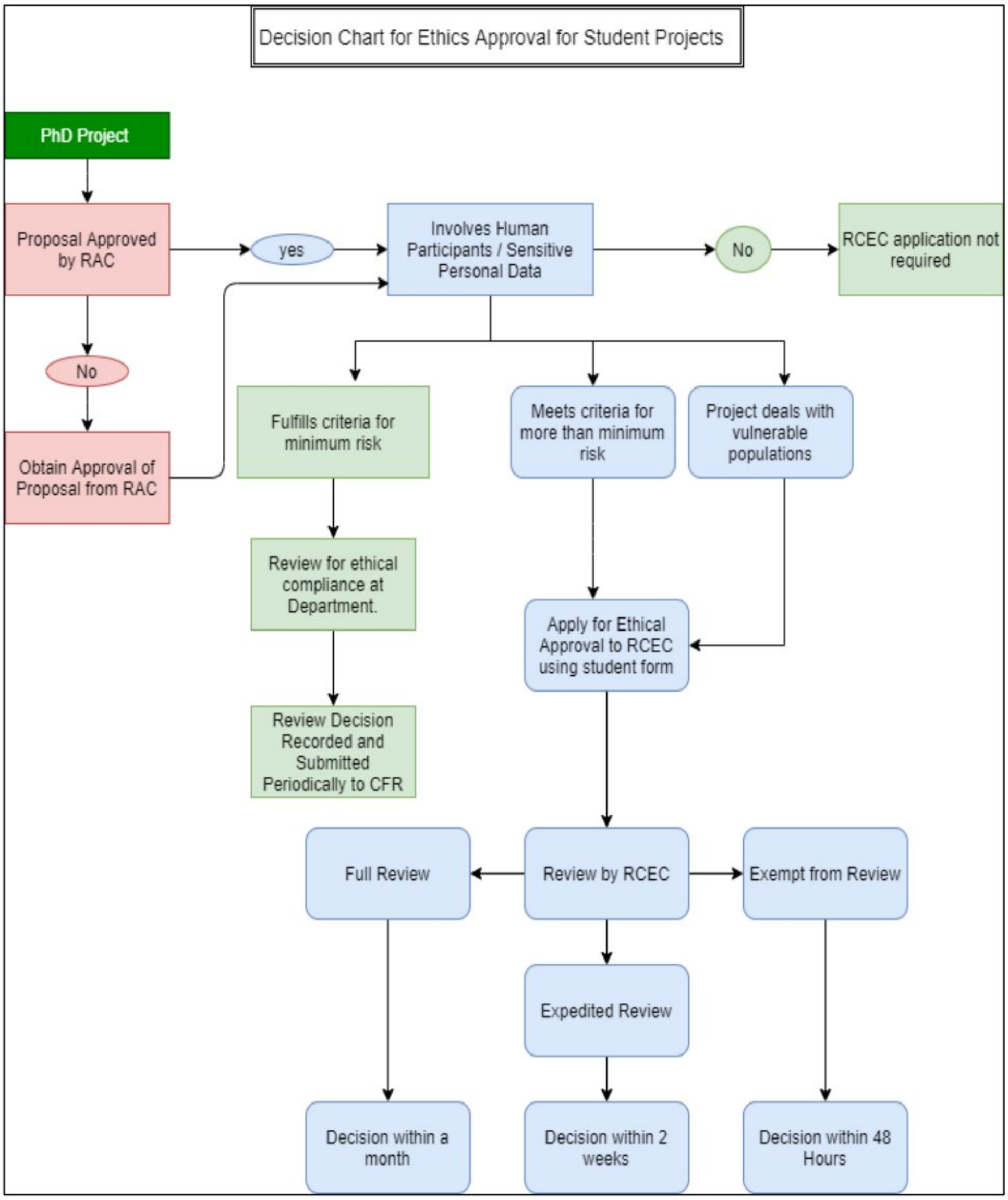
3.Decision tree for PhD Projects



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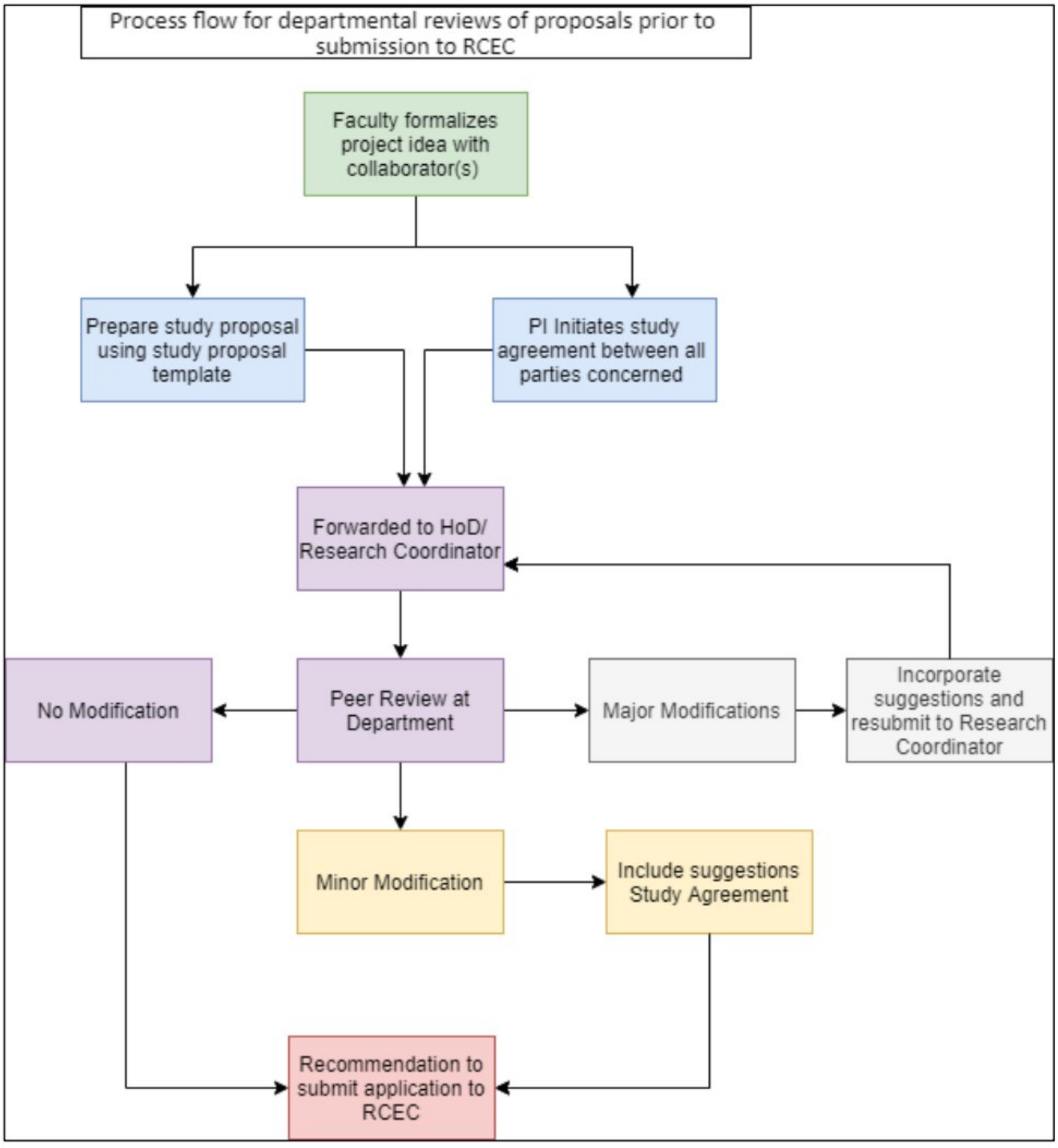
4.Process flow for departmental reviews of proposals prior to submission to RCEC



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CHAPTER-X

RESEARCH AWARDS FOR FACULTY & STUDENTS

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CHAPTER-X
Faculty-Student Research Award (FSRA):

Cluster University, Kurnool is pleased to provide support for faculty projects through the Faculty- Student Research Award (FSRA) Program. The wide variety of faculty research, scholarship, and creative projects on campus provide unique opportunities to mentor and support graduate students. The University will provide financial support of Rs. to support a faculty project that directly involves graduate students.

Faculty seeking support for a project that does not directly involve graduate students should apply for the Independent Scholarship, Research, and Creativity Award (ISRCA) which is offered through the Office of the Cluster University, Kurnool. Students looking for support for their dissertation research can apply for student fellowships and awards.

Eligibility:

- Faculty eligible to apply for the FSRA must be full-time tenured Faculty and serve on graduate student thesis committees at the Cluster University.
- The proposed project must be a faculty project that involves and benefits one or more graduate students.

Distinguished Faculty Award:

This award from Cluster University recognizes individuals who have brought recognition to themselves and the university through their contributions to applied research.

Outstanding Student Researcher Award:

This award from the Cluster University recognizes a Ph.D student for their contributions to research in their field.

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CLUSTER UNIVERSITY ACADEMIC AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDINGS AT JAGANNADHAGATTU, KUNROOL

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