

The logo of Green International University is a large, light green watermark in the background. It features a circular emblem with a shield in the center. The shield has a stylized 'G' and 'U' design. Above the shield is a yellow star, and below it is a laurel wreath. The text 'GREEN INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY' is written in a circular path around the emblem.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH INNOVATION & COMMERCIALIZATION (ORIC) POLICY

*Ch ZIA UR REHMAN
DEPUTY DIRECTOR ORIC*

GIU ORIC Policy

Introduction of Green International University (GIU)

Green International University (GIU), Lahore is degree-awarding institution established under The Green International University Act, 2020 by the Government of Punjab. Founded under the philanthropic umbrella of the Madinah Foundation, GIU is formally recognized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan.

The university operates a state-of-the-art campus in Lahore, offering undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate programs across diverse fields, including:

- Faculty of Fiqh-e-Islami and Shariah.
- Faculty of Languages and Humanities.
- Faculty of Law.
- Faculty of Medicine and Allied Health Sciences.
- Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences.
- Faculty of Professional Health Technologies.
- Faculty of Science and Technology.
- Faculty of Social Sciences and Management Studies.
- Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology.
- Faculty of Arts, Design and Architecture.

GIU is deeply committed to nurturing purpose-driven, ethically grounded leaders capable of driving transformative innovation and addressing complex national and global challenges through impactful research.

Vision

“To convert research outputs and innovative ideas into impactful startups, licensed technologies, and sustainable enterprises.”

Mission

“To support students, faculty, and researchers in commercializing research and innovation, facilitates startup creation based on university intellectual property, connect academia with industry and investors, promote technology-driven entrepreneurship, and contribute to employment generation and national economic growth.”

Context and Purpose of the ORIC Policy

In alignment with the structural guidelines mandated by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan, the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) at GIU serves as the central administrative pillar for advancing the university's research footprint.

As an institutional bridge between academic inquiry and industrial application, ORIC operates to transform theoretical breakthroughs particularly in biomedical sciences, healthcare technologies, computing, and social management into patentable and viable commercial products.

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This policy framework defines the governance, regulatory compliance, intellectual property parameters, and fiscal rules governing all research and entrepreneurial activity at GIU.

Core Mandate of GIU-ORIC

The operational mandate of the GIU-ORIC revolves around three primary execution pillars:

- 1. Research Management:** Enhancing the capacity of GIU faculty members to secure competitive national and international research grants, while ensuring strict compliance with ethical and academic integrity standards.
- 2. Innovation and Intellectual Property:** Managing the institutional portfolio for patent disclosures, filing protections, and licensing models to safeguard breakthroughs achieved in GIU laboratories.
- 3. Commercialization & Entrepreneurship:** Cultivating a rich startup culture through the university's Business Incubation Centre facilitating industrial linkages, corporate consultancies, and spin-off ventures to maximize real-world socio-economic impact.

Section A: Executive Summary

1. Strategic Vision of GIU

The primary objective of the **Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) at Green International University (GIU)** is to establish and sustain a dynamic, ethical, and impact-oriented research ecosystem that promotes high-quality research, scholarly publications, innovation, collaboration, and the effective translation of knowledge into societal and economic benefits. The Office is committed to strengthening GIU's research culture by integrating research into the University's academic environment and encouraging faculty and students to pursue meaningful, interdisciplinary, and solution-oriented research.

GIU recognizes that universities play a critical role in strengthening the national research and innovation ecosystem. In this context, the **Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)** serve as a central institutional mechanism for **research planning, coordination, quality assurance, research funding, publications, capacity building, collaboration, and dissemination of research outcomes**. The Office facilitates researchers in developing competitive research proposals, securing internal and external research grants, establishing national and international collaborations, and increasing the visibility and impact of GIU's scholarly contributions.

The **Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)** also aim to promote a culture of **research integrity, responsible conduct of research, academic excellence, and evidence-based knowledge creation**. Appropriate institutional mechanisms are established to support ethical research practices, protect academic freedom, ensure transparency, and maintain the quality and credibility of research outputs. Particular emphasis is placed on strengthening research methodologies, enhancing publication

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quality, improving citation impact, and encouraging researchers to publish in reputable national and international journals.

Furthermore, GIU acknowledges the importance of **interdisciplinary and collaborative research**, particularly in areas addressing complex societal challenges such as healthcare, public health, environmental sustainability, food security, technology, and allied health sciences. The Office of Research therefore promotes collaboration among academic departments, research centers, industry, government organizations, healthcare institutions, and national and international research partners. Such partnerships are intended to facilitate the sharing of expertise and infrastructure while increasing the practical relevance and societal impact of GIU's research.

The Office of Research also supports the development of an enabling environment for **research commercialization, intellectual property protection, technology transfer, and knowledge exchange** in coordination with the relevant institutional offices. Research outcomes with potential for innovation and commercialization are encouraged to progress from academic discovery toward practical application while maintaining the fundamental principles of academic integrity and scholarly research.

GIU further recognizes that research priorities should reflect the University's institutional strengths and national development needs rather than follow a uniform approach. Accordingly, the **Office of Research develops and implements customized research strategies, policies, priorities, and support mechanisms** aligned with GIU's academic disciplines, institutional vision, Higher Education Commission (HEC) requirements, and emerging national and global research priorities. Through these initiatives, the Office of Research seeks to position GIU as a productive, collaborative, and impactful contributor to Pakistan's higher education and research landscape.

2. R&D as Primary Engine for Prosperity

Academic disciplines, professional expertise, and rapid technological innovation serve as the primary engines of global economic development and societal well-being. In the twenty-first century, the generation of productive ideas correlates directly with wealth creation, operating as abundant and inexhaustible resources for limitless economic growth. To capitalize on these intangible assets, institutions like Green International University is investing heavily in R&D infrastructure and cultivate localized micro-climates that stimulate creativity. The profound, transformative impact of these bold investments is readily observed in fields like smart cities, Industry 4.0, autonomous transport, mixed realities, and synthetic biology.

3. Challenges

Pakistani HEIs currently face severe operational challenges regarding the registration, assignment, and commercial exploitation of their intellectual property. Foremost among these barriers is an acute lack of institutional awareness concerning the

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specific rights, responsibilities, and systemic benefits of engaging with the Research & Publication, Innovation & Commercialization and Intellectual Property (IP) policies.

This widespread ambiguity imposes substantial opportunity costs on both individual researchers and their respective universities. Furthermore, public and private sector institutions face significant administrative and financial challenges in preparing and filing patent applications. The limited availability of specialized intellectual property (IP) expertise, coupled with the high costs associated with obtaining domestic and international patent protection, can significantly constrain effective technology transfer and commercialization.

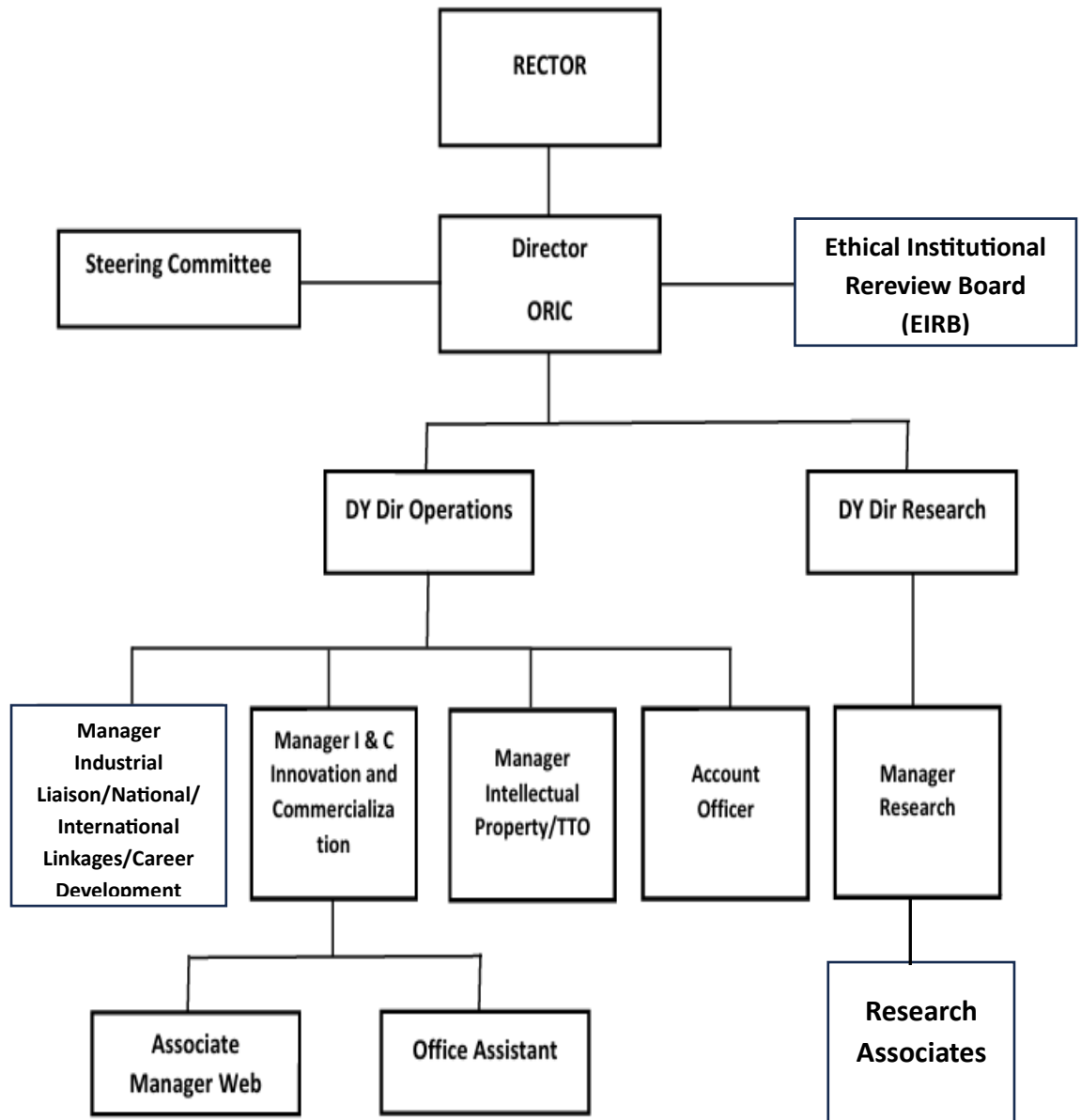
These difficulties are compounded by entrenched bureaucratic structures, administrative red tape, and non-responsive local patent authorities. Sluggish timelines for prior art searches, background examinations, and final awards mean that local registration is frequently more cumbersome than securing an international patent. Moreover, a fragmented landscape of restrictive or non-existent institutional guidelines fuels deep confusion over ownership rights between universities and external commercial partners. Ultimately, these structural inefficiencies lead to weak management regimes within ORICs. This prevents sponsored research from successfully passing market tests or effectively diffusing innovative products into the country's social sector a challenge that Green International University is actively working to dismantle through institutional reforms.

4. Scope

This document defines the operational boundaries, strategic interventions, and policy parameters governing the academic Research & Publication, Innovation & Commercialization and Intellectual Property (IP) lifecycle across the GIU. It delineates the roles of university research units, regulatory bodies like the Higher Education Commission (HEC), and legal frameworks established by the Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan (IPO-Pakistan) to bridge the gap between academic discovery and market-ready commercialization.

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5. Structure of ORIC: ORIC at GIU holds the following organogram:



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i. Intellectual Property Office (IPO)/TTO

At GIU the Intellectual Property Office determines the patentability of university-developed technologies and provides comprehensive assistance with the protection of intellectual property. A robust intellectual property system contributes directly to a strong university economy, encourages strategic investment in innovation, and fosters an entrepreneurial spirit. This leads to the creation of new products, pharmaceutical breakthroughs, and services tailored for a competitive global market.

The Technology Transfer Office is responsible for moving research results and laboratory breakthroughs into the commercial marketplace. It evaluates and manages the university's invention portfolios, coordinates directly with the IPO for patent prosecution, negotiates licensing agreements, and periodically reviews cooperative research agreements already in place with corporate partners.

ii. Industrial Liaison Office (ILO)

The GIU-ILO develops and maintains strategic industry-academic linkages to make GIU graduates the premium choice for employers while identifying specific industry partners for ongoing university research. It gauges market needs and processes exact matchmaking with GIU faculties to solve real-world industrial and clinical problems. This office has a direct bearing on the university's commercialization success and currently oversees three primary areas:

a. Career Development Centre

The center (CDC) provides targeted programs and services to help GIU students and alumni explore career choices, foster professional networks, and achieve their career goals through personal and professional development avenues. Acting as a primary mediating office, the centre assists corporations in meeting recruitment needs by helping them select premium human resources from our graduating batches to fill job vacancies, while the Industrial Liaison Office operates as a specialized division facilitating connections through annual job fairs and corporate networking sessions.

b. Industrial Relations (IR)

The role of IR is to build and maintain strong academia-industry linkages, focusing on promoting GIU graduates as top-tier talent for the corporate and healthcare sectors. Because IR already fosters deep professional networks, it supports the TTO by leveraging these corporate contacts to find potential industrial partners for the technologies and research being developed at GIU for commercialization purposes.

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c. Alumni Affairs

The role of this department is to build and maintain lifelong relationships with GIU alumni through a unified platform. It aims to stimulate lasting institutional interest, build brand loyalty, increase graduate involvement, and generate continuous support for the growth and advancement of Green International University.

6. GIU ORIC Policies

In order to provide comprehensive services to its stakeholders, ORIC has revised its existing policies and developed a set of policies for newly created entities. Significant effort has been made to make these policies fair, efficient, effective, transparent and self-consistent. These policies include:

- i. Research and Publication & Development Policy
- ii. Technology Commercialization Policy
- iii. Intellectual Property Rights Policy/TTO
- iv. Business Incubation Centre (Business Incubation policy)

7. Objectives of ORIC

The Directorate of Research has been established with a special focus on the following objective frameworks:

- a. To foster a vibrant culture of research, innovation, and academic excellence at GIU, ensuring that scientific inquiry and research are embedded as integral components of teaching, learning, and academic activities across all disciplines.
- b. To ensure that high-quality, impactful research of direct relevance to Pakistan's medical, technological, and corporate needs is actively pursued across all university departments.
- c. To facilitate the establishment of sustainable linkages between GIU faculties and corporate or industrial sectors, directing research to effectively cater to local market and healthcare requirements.
- d. To monitor and coordinate joint research activities undertaken between GIU, government agencies, healthcare networks, and the private sector.
- e. To proactively identify and disseminate information regarding national and international research funding opportunities to faculty members and researchers.
- f. To encourage, train, and assist GIU researchers in obtaining external research grants from public, private, and global funding agencies.
- g. To facilitate institutional compliance for the smooth and timely completion of all funded research and development projects.

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- h. To maintain efficient, transparent, and productive communication channels with key national and international funding bodies.
- i. To provide administrative and financial support to GIU researchers for the publication and presentation of their scientific findings in high-impact national and international forums.

8. GIU ORIC Steering Committee

In order to devise and implement strategies with a view to enhance the scope and pace of commercialization of GIU R&D output, ORIC Steering Committee will be formed. The committee will meet as and when required but at least once every 03 months. The composition of committee is as follows:

Sr No	ORIC STEERING COMMITTEE	POSITION
1	Rector GIU	Chair
2	Director ORIC	Member
3	Dy Dir ORIC Research	Member
4	Dean Faculty of Allied Health Sciences	Member
5	Dean Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences	Member
6	Dean Faculty of Law	Member
7	Industry Expert Hospitals	Member
8	Expert Banking sector	Member
9	Industry Expert	Member
10	Venture Capital Financing	Member
11	Expert IPO-Pakistan	Member
12	Industry Expert	Member
13	Industry Expert	Member
14	Dy Dir ORIC Operation	Member
15	Additional Registrar GIU	Member/Secretary

The Committee may co-opt additional member(s) with the approval of Chair and shall report to the Worthy Rector GIU.

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9. GIU ORIC ETHICAL INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (EIRB)

Sr No	ETHICAL INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD (EIRB)	POSITION
1	Director ORIC	Chairman
2	Executive Director A&IP	Member
3	Deputy Director Research ORIC	Member
4	Head, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences	Member
5	Head, Faculty of Law	Member
6	Head, Medical & Allied Health Sciences	Member
7	Head, Green Business School	Member
8	Head, Department of Computer Science	Member
9	External Legal Expert Sr Advocate	Member
10	External Expert Academic Evaluator	Member
11	Deputy Director Operation ORIC	Member/Sectary

The Committee may co-opt additional member(s) with the approval of Chair and shall report to the Worthy Rector GIU.

10. GIU RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE

Constitution of RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE of Green International University comprising following members:

Sr. No	RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE	POSITION
1	Director ORIC	Chairman
2	Deputy Director Operation	Member
3	Deputy Director Research	Member
4	Head, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences	Member
5	Head, Department of Pathology	Member
6	Head, Department of Pharmacy	Member
7	Head, Department of Law	Member
8	Head, Green Business School	Member
9	Head, Department of Computer Science	Member
10	Head, Department of Health Technology	Member
11	Manager (Research)	Secretary

The Committee may co-opt additional member(s) with the approval of Convener and shall report to the Worthy Rector GIU.

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Section: B: RESEARCH & PUBLICATION POLICY

The Green International University (GIU) Research and Publication Policy serve as the definitive institutional framework designed to catalyze high-impact academic inquiry, protect creative efforts, and translate scholarly discoveries into tangible economic and societal assets. Operating under the executive stewardship of the GIU Syndicate and aligned with the Higher Education Commission (HEC) guidelines, this policy actively transitions the university from traditional, isolated citation metrics toward a progressive, dual-track evaluation system. By integrating robust intellectual property protections with clear parameters for autonomous technology transfer, the university ensures that pioneering research specifically across its dominant faculties of medicine, pharmacy, allied health sciences, and engineering is systematically nurtured, legally safeguarded, and pushed outwards into the global marketplace. Fundamentally, this document anchors GIU's commitment to academic freedom, open scientific dissemination, and institutional self-sustainability, positioning Green International University at the forefront of Pakistan's emerging knowledge economy.

Evaluation & Categorization: Publications are judged through the Higher Education Commission Journals and Publications Policy using the HEC Journal Recognition System (HJRS), categorizing journals into W, X, and Y tiers based on indexing (such as Web of Science or Scopus).

Academic Credit & Awards: Research papers in recognized W-category journals count directly toward faculty tenure, promotions, and eligibility for HEC Outstanding Research Awards.

1. Policy Directive for Faculty: Research Article Publication & Incentive Scheme

A. Direct Cash Prizes for Faculty: GIU Outstanding Research Awards

HEC hosts a competitive National Awards for Outstanding Researchers program to directly honor top-tier academic work with large financial payouts.

Best Publication Award: Winners receive a cash prize of **PKR 50,000**.

***(Strict Eligibility Threshold for Publication Reward)** To win the Best Publication reward, the paper must be published in a top-tier **HEC W-Category journal** (indexed in Web of Science). It must have accumulated a minimum of **100 citations**, feature **no more than 3 co-authors**, and all contributors must be residents of Pakistan).*

B. Publishing Fee Grants & Operational Support for Faculty

Rather than paying a direct bonus to every single author, GIU minimizes out-of-pocket academic expenses through targeted financial relief:

- a) **Article Processing Charges (APC):** Under standard HEC research grant guidelines, researchers can allocate a maximum of **Rs. 50,000** from their research project budget to cover international journal publication fees upon acceptance in "W" category.

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- b) **HEC Research Travel Grants:** If a paper is accepted for oral presentation at a major international conference, GIU will forward the to HEC for provision of a travel grant GIU ORIC. This covers the registration fee, economy airfare, and a daily living allowance. This is capped at **one travel grant per financial year** per researcher.

C. Institutional Cash Incentives (Via GIU ORIC) for Faculty

GIU ORIC design internal reward scales tied directly to the HEC Journal Recognition System (HJRS).

- a) **W-Category / High Impact Factor Paper:** Rs:40,000

Note:

General Eligibility

- i. *Clean Record: Original Recognition, Academic Integrity*
- ii. *Journal Class: Must be published in an HEC-recognized W-Category journal (X/Y categories, conference papers, and these are excluded).*
- iii. *Citation Threshold: Must have a minimum of 200 citations at the time of application.*
- iv. *Timeline: Must be published within three years prior to the award announcement closing date.*
- v. *Content Type: Review articles and Clinical trials are strictly excluded.*
- vi. *Author Requirements*
- vii. *Author Limit: Written by a maximum of three authors.*
- viii. *Residency: All authors must have resided in Pakistan for at least three years before the closing date.*
- ix. *Reward Split: The cash prize is divided equally among all Pakistani co-authors.*
- x. *For selection process GIU rules and regulations will be followed.*

2. Policy Directive for Graduate Students: Research Submission & Incentive Scheme

A. Introduction & Purpose

This policy establishes a structured framework to maximize high-impact research article output at Green International University (GIU), Lahore. This directive specifically targets the students of MS and MPhil & PhD students across all academic departments. The objective is to transition student theses into peer-reviewed publications recognized by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan.

B. Statutory Graduation Requirements

Governance & Statutory Realignment: To align GIU with top-tier research institutions, the ORIC hereby propose to amend the graduation criteria:

- i. **Synopsis Milestone Check:** It is encouraged for all MS/MPhil research students to submit their synopsis in 3rd Semester with a clear **Publication Timeline Annexure** signed by the student and supervisor.

C. Submission Rule for MS/MPhil Students:

MS/MPhil graduate will be encouraged to provide official proof of **“ONE” manuscript submission** to an HEC-recognized journal (minimum 'Y' category or Scopus-indexed).

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i. **Co-Authorship:**

The primary supervisor should be listed as a co-author on all student-led manuscripts to ensure academic rigor and quality control.

- ii. **Alternative "Paper-Based" Thesis for MS/MPhil Students:** In lieu of a traditional thesis monograph, BASR permits postgraduate students to submit a thesis compiled by publication, subject to the fulfillment of the ***prescribed publication requirements and approval*** of the relevant Departmental/Faculty Graduate Studies Committee and BASR. (Minimum ONE paper in "X" category or Scopus Indexed).



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D. Thesis Submission Rule for PhD Scholars:

Research Publication For award of PhD degree, a PhD researcher shall be required to publish 1 research articles meeting the following criteria:

- i. At least:
 - a. One research article in W category² journal or two research articles in X category journals, for Science disciplines.
 - b. One research article in X category journal or two research articles in Y category journals, for Social Science disciplines.
- ii. The PhD researcher shall be the first author of these publications.
- iii. The research article shall be relevant to the PhD research work of the PhD researcher.
- iv. The article shall be published after approval of the research synopsis.
- v. The article shall be published in a relevant research journal.

¹ A research article appearing online with valid DOI on website of an HEC's recognized research journal shall be considered published w.e.f. the date it appeared online with DOI.

² As categorized in HJRS at the time of acceptance of the research article.

E. Operational Conditions:

- i. **Authorship:** The student must be the Principal/First Author of the submitted publications.
- ii. **Structural Compilation for Alternative "Paper-Based" Thesis for MS/MPhil Students:** The final submission must include a comprehensive
 - iii. Introduction/Literature Review Chapter, followed by the published papers (in original journal layout), and a concluding Summary/Future Recommendations Chapter to tie the body of work together.
 - iv. **Plagiarism Exemption:** In accordance with HEC anti-plagiarism protocols, matching text generated solely from the student's own underlying peer-reviewed journal publications shall be excluded from the final Turnitin similarity index calculation.

F. Institutional Support & Capacity Building

ORIC will jointly provide systemic infrastructure to eliminate roadblocks to student publishing:

- i. **Core Curriculum Integration:** A mandatory 0+1 credit hour course titled **Scientific Writing, Journal Selection, and Research Ethics** will be introduced across all departments.

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- ii. **Turnitin Plagiarism Clearance:** ORIC will issue institutional Turnitin accounts. All manuscripts must achieve a similarity index & AI scoring report less than or equal to 19% (with individual source less than equal to 5%) before final submission.
- iii. **Bi-Annual Writing Bootcamps:** ORIC will host mandatory, 3-day writing bootcamps during semester breaks to assist students in converting raw data into submission-ready drafts.

G. Departmental Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

Accountability is distributed across GIU's departments via specific annual targets:

- a) **Departmental Quota:** Each Head of Department will be assigned an annual target **submitted manuscripts per year**.
- b) **Review Report:** ORIC will present a quarterly progress report to the BASR highlighting active, delayed, and non-compliant student-supervisor pairs.

Section C: Intellectual Property (IP) & Commercialization

1. Defining Intellectual Property in the Context of GIU

Intellectual Property (IP) encompasses legal rights resulting from intellectual activity in the industrial, scientific, literary, and artistic fields. In alignment with global standards and Section 2(g) of the Intellectual Property Organization (**IPO**) **Pakistan Act 2012**, Green International University (GIU) recognizes IP as an umbrella term encompassing:

- a) Patents and industrial designs
- b) Trademarks, service marks, and geographical indications
- c) Copyrights, related ancillary rights, and literary or artistic works
- d) Layout-designs (topographies) of integrated circuits
- e) Plant breeders' rights and emerging digital assets

At GIU, the intellectual output subject to Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) includes all designs, works of authorship, works of art, literary works, research writings, student theses, software, algorithms, and biological discoveries. These outputs are classified by GIU based on the nature of employment and the funding mechanism utilized.

2. Legal and Regulatory Compliance Framework

GIU operates its IP governance in strict conformity with the statutory landscape of Pakistan. The national legislative framework is robust and comprehensive, meaning that operational bottlenecks typically stem from localized institutional unawareness and enforcement delays rather than legislative deficits.

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Primary Pakistan's IP Legislation

Intellectual Property Organization of Pakistan Act, 2012, The Patents Ordinance, 2000 (Amended in 2016), The Trademarks Ordinance, 2001, The Copyright Ordinance, 1962 (Amended in 2000), The Registered Designs Ordinance, 2000, The Registered Layout-Designs of Integrated Circuits Ordinance, 2000, The Geographical Indications Registration and Protection Act, 2020, The Plant Breeders' Rights Act, 2016 (Ministry of National Food Security & Research).

Section D: Strategic Utilization and Development of IP at GIU

1. The GIU Net Revenue Allocation Scale After Paying 60% to Financer

To directly incentivize faculty innovation and reward research excellence, GIU implements a structured, transparent distribution scale for all income generated through technology licensing, royalties, and commercial corporate spin-offs:

Stakeholder / Entity	Revenue Share Allocation	Purpose and Utilization Strategy
The Primary Creator(s)	45%	Direct personal incentive for the faculty, staff, or student inventor(s).
The Originating Department / Lab	15%	Reinvested into specialized lab equipment, materials, and internal project scaling.
The GIU ORIC Hub	15%	Retained as a flat administrative and legal fee to cover patent filing, renewals, and legal counsel.
The Sponsoring School / Faculty	15%	Allocated by the Dean to support regional research grants and student competitive symposiums.
The Rector's Research Fund	10%	Reserved for university-wide infrastructure updates and strategic seed-funding investments.

Section E: GIU Patent/Article Equivalence Policy

GIU follows the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan policy that treats patents and research publications as distinct outputs with separate criteria for academic credit, evaluation, and financial or promotional support. Instead of choosing between a patent and an article, GIU treats HEC granted patent as a multiplier of journal publications based on its origin and commercial impact:

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HEC Equivalence Conversion Formula

Patent Status & Jurisdiction	Equivalent Journal Value
International Patent (<i>Granted by advanced tech countries like US, EU, UK, Japan</i>)	Max 2 Impact Factor Publications
International Patent + Commercialized (<i>Evidence of market licensing or sale</i>)	Up to 5 Impact Factor Publications
Local/National Patent (<i>Granted by IPO Pakistan</i>)	Max 2 Impact Factor Publications
Local/National Patent + Commercialized (<i>Led to physical industrial production</i>)	Up to 5 Impact Factor Publications

Strategic Rules and Core Limitations

While the conversion policy looks highly favorable on paper, HEC enforces strict quality control parameters to prevent systemic exploitation:

- a) **Final Board Review Required:** Universities cannot grant this equivalence independently. Every single case must be submitted directly to the HEC Quality Assurance Division. An independent **Expert Committee of acclaimed researchers** reviews the technology before certifying the publication conversion.
- b) **No Double Dipping:** Applicant cannot obtain multiple publication credits for the exact same invention by filing it across different global patent offices. HEC explicitly checks and restricts points to a single geographical filing per invention.
- c) **The Grant Requirement:** HEC strictly rejects "Patent Pending" status or initial applications for academic equivalence. The patent status must officially read **Awarded/Granted** by the respective state office before any journal equivalence conversion is triggered.
- d) **The Co-Author Dilution Contrast:** Under HEC's strict Weighted-Authorship Model, a standard journal article with more than 3 co-authors faces severe point dilution (splitting credit down to 30% or less per author). A commercialized patent bypasses this fractional paper system by transforming directly into up to 5 full-value impact factor slots through institutional validation.