

JSS STU

Code of Ethics for Research -2021

STU/IQAC/ERP/2021/22

JSS Mahavidyapeetha
JSS Science and Technology University
JSS Technical Institutions' Campus
Mysuru- 570006

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Policy Details

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1.0 Preamble

In the pursuit of knowledge and the advancement of society, JSS STU is dedicated to fostering a research culture that upholds the highest ethical standards. This Code of Ethics for Research serves as a guiding framework for researchers associated with our institution, emphasizing the principles of integrity, transparency, and respect for all individuals involved in the research process.

Academic integrity requires that academic research follows elevated professional standards, including appropriate research design and frameworks, adheres to high levels of research ethics and abides by the requirements set out by professional and regulatory research guidance and research ethics frameworks issued in appropriate areas.

2.0 Policy Statement:

JSS STU aims to create a research community that upholds the highest ethical standards, thereby contributing to the responsible and impactful advancement of knowledge and innovation.

3.0 Definition:**Research:**

A systematic investigation or study that aims to contribute to knowledge, understanding, or the development of new methodologies, conducted with the highest standards of integrity, transparency, and ethical conduct.

Research Participant:

An individual or group who voluntarily takes part in a research study by providing data, information, or participating in any aspect of the research process.

Informed Consent:

The voluntary, informed, and ongoing agreement by an individual to participate in a research study, after being provided with relevant information about the study's purpose, procedures, risks, benefits, and their right to withdraw.

Confidentiality:

The protection of sensitive information obtained from research participants, ensuring that individual identities and data are kept secure and not disclosed without explicit consent.

Privacy:

The right of an individual to control access to their personal information, including protection from unauthorized collection, use, or disclosure during the research process.

Data Management:

The systematic organization, storage, analysis, and sharing of research data, including procedures to ensure data accuracy, security, and integrity.

Conflict of Interest:

A situation where personal, professional, financial, or other interests may compromise or have the appearance of compromising the objectivity, integrity, or ethical conduct of research.

Authorship:

The acknowledgment of an individual's substantial contribution to the conception, design, execution, or interpretation of research, leading to their inclusion as an author on a research publication.

Plagiarism:

The act of presenting someone else's ideas, words, or work as one's own without proper citation or acknowledgment.

Data Fabrication:

The creation, alteration, or falsification of research data with the intent to deceive or mislead.

Collaboration:

The act of working jointly with others in a cooperative and respectful manner to achieve shared research goals, with clear communication and attribution of contributions.

Ethical Oversight:

The process of reviewing and approving research protocols to ensure adherence to ethical principles, often conducted by Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) or ethics committees

4.0 Purpose:

The purpose of this Code of Ethics for research is to establish a set of principles and guidelines that promote ethical conduct in all aspects of research. It recognizes the importance of responsible and transparent research practices, ensuring the welfare of research participants, maintaining the public trust, and contributing to the global body of knowledge with integrity.

5.0 Objectives:

The Prime objectives of the policy are to

- To establish and maintain a culture of honesty, transparency, and integrity in all research endeavors conducted by individuals
- To safeguard the rights, autonomy, and well-being of research participants by enforcing strict adherence to informed consent procedures, privacy protection, and ethical treatment.
- To encourage researchers to adopt transparent research practices, ensuring clarity in study design, methodology, data collection, analysis, and reporting.
- To provide researchers with clear guidelines and expectations for complying with ethical standards, institutional policies, and relevant local and international regulations governing research.
- To establish criteria for authorship, discourage unethical publication practices, and ensure proper acknowledgment of contributions in research publications.

6.0 Scope:

This Code of Ethics for Research Policy applies to all individuals involved in research activities conducted under the auspices of JSS STU, including but not limited to Researchers, Research Projects, collaborators and partners, supervisors and mentors and Ethics Review Bodies.

The Code of Ethics for Research Policy is applicable throughout all stages of the research process, including the planning, design, conduct, dissemination, and publication of research findings. It encompasses research conducted within JSS STU's facilities, as well as external research activities where individuals are representing the institution.

This policy also covers the ethical conduct of research involving human participants, animals, or sensitive data, as well as research collaborations with external entities. It extends to all disciplines and fields of study, recognizing the diversity of research practices within JSS STU.

The provisions outlined in this Code of Ethics for Research Policy complement and do not replace any existing legal or regulatory requirements governing research. Researchers are expected to comply with relevant laws and regulations in addition to adhering to the ethical standards articulated in this policy.

7.0 Key Aspects:

1. The Academic Departments shall ensure that all researchers undertake appropriate training in research design, methodology, regulatory and ethics approvals and consents, equipment use, confidentiality, data management, record keeping, data protection and publication, the appropriate use of licensed research resources and respect for the intellectual property rights of third parties.
2. JSS STU shall be committed to preparing its administrative and support staff involved in record keeping and the implementation of Data Protection Policy and expects them to fully respect the principles and rules of the Code of Ethics in Academic Research.
3. JSS STU shall endorse a transparent academic environment conducive to the application of the high professional and ethical criteria of good practice for academic research.
4. JSS STU shall observe valid legal norms related to the conduct and publication of research particularly in relations to copyright, the intellectual property rights of third parties, the terms and conditions regulating access to research resources and the laws of libel.
5. JSS STU shall conduct sensitization seminars/ awareness programs every semester on responsible conduct of research, writing of thesis/ dissertation, promotion of academic integrity and ethics in education for students, faculty, researcher and staff.
6. JSS STU shall instruct students, faculty, researcher and staff about proper attribution, seeking permission of the author wherever necessary, acknowledgement of source compatible with the needs and specificities of disciplines and in accordance with rules, international conventions and regulations governing the source.
7. JSS STU shall create or adopt suitable procedures for Detection/Reporting/Handling of Plagiarism.
8. JSS STU shall Train students, faculty, researchers and staff for using plagiarism detection tools and reference management tools.
9. JSS STU shall Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics in Orientation and Refresher Courses organized for faculty and staff
10. JSS STU shall Include elements of responsible conduct of research and publication ethics as a compulsory course work/module in Master's and Research degree programmes.
11. JSS STU shall Include the cardinal principles of academic integrity in the curricula of Undergraduate (UG)/Postgraduate (PG)/Master's degree etc. as a compulsory course work/module.
12. Research supervisors should display the highest ethical standards when dealing with researchers and students. Potentially troublesome issues should be identified and dealt with as soon as possible with fairness and clarity. All individuals participating in a research project are responsible for their own actions and should make sure these are consistent with, and uphold, high ethical standards. Unethical behavior on their part cannot be justified by the claim that they were following a mentor's instructions.
13. Steps must be taken to retain all research materials gathered (including physical and visual data), in a safe and confidential space. Particularly with experimental work, defending the publication requires properly recorded raw data to be produced. Its absence will typically be treated as suspicious.
14. Efforts should be made to ensure reasonable and efficient use of resources following transparent and fair processes. Researchers must not use funding for purposes other than that specified in their grant award.
15. JSS STU shall review all funded projects, major and minor research proposals, and collaborative faculty led research proposals involving human participants.
16. Facilities are expected to be shared in a collegial spirit with colleagues who require access for their own research, as long as such access does not impede the original purpose for which the equipment was purchased. In such situations, the PI can decide on details such as who actually operates the equipment and at what times, as long as sharing is willingly facilitated and transparent procedures are in place.

17. All experiments that involve use of animal and human research subjects require ethical permission and approval. Experiments involving animals come under the purview of the competent committee which functions based on the guidelines of CPCSEA (Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiments on Animals, <http://cpcsea.nic.in>).
18. When conducting research on human subjects, minimize harms and risks and maximize benefits; respect human dignity, privacy, and autonomy; take special precautions with vulnerable populations; and strive to distribute the benefits and burdens of research fairly.
19. Research activity must not endanger other people or the environment in any way. Environmental guidelines, regulations and laws must be followed and appropriate licenses/permits and clearances obtained for the handling, storage or disposal of hazardous material. Within experimental laboratories the University and PIs have joint responsibility for ensuring that the work area is safe, and that research practices of the group do not endanger the research team, visitors or the public. JSS STU expects all its members to incorporate safety and environmental concerns into their research practices.
20. Researchers must share all research findings with appropriate parties, unless major confidentiality issues arise and subject to the guidelines mentioned above or contractual provisions. When publishing research all reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that published reports, statistics and public statements about research activities and performance are complete, accurate and unambiguous. Researchers are responsible and accountable for the accuracy and completeness of their reports.
21. The nature of financial support must be acknowledged in all reports of research outcomes, both to acknowledge the support and ensure transparency.
22. The University is committed to adhering to the expectations of regulatory bodies relating to open access data of publicly funded research and expects all researchers to duly comply.
23. All researchers who have contributed to the development of results and dissemination should be appropriately acknowledged in accordance with the particular publication's definition of authorship.
24. JSS STU shall create or adopt suitable ethics documents and impart direct ethical training to its staff through lectures and interactive workshops on a regular basis, so that the community is fully aware of these issues
25. Non-compliance with the code of ethics for research, whether deliberate, reckless or negligent, will usually be deemed as research misconduct. Research Misconduct includes (and is not limited to) the following acts:
 - **Plagiarism:** The deliberate copying of ideas, text, data or other work (or any combination thereof) without proper permission and acknowledgement.
 - Paraphrasing, or putting into one's own words, the text of a source without providing proper acknowledgment of the source or providing a proper citation. Paraphrasing extensive portions of another source, even with citation.
 - Presenting any work or part of a work or assignment that has been prepared by someone else as one's own.
 - Reproducing, without proper citation, any other form of work of another person such as a graph, experimental data or results, laboratory reports, a proof, or a problem solution, in full or in part.
 - **Privacy:** The deliberate exploitation of ideas from others without proper acknowledgement
 - **Abuse of Intellectual Property Rights:** Failure to observe legal norms of copyright and the moral rights of authors.
 - **Abuse of Research Resources:** Failure to observe the terms and conditions of institutionally licensed research resources.
 - **Defamation:** Failure to observe relevant legal norms governing libel and slander.
 - **Misinterpretation:** The deliberate attempt to represent falsely or failed to understand or interpret something correctly.

- **Personation:** The situation where someone other than the person who has submitted any academic work has prepared (parts of) the work;
 - **Fabrication and Fraud:** The falsification or invention of qualifications, data, information or citations in any formal academic exercise.
 - **Sabotage:** Acting to prevent others from completing their work. This includes stealing or cutting pages out of library books or otherwise damaging them; or willfully disrupting the experiments of others; or endangering institutional access to licensed research resources by willfully failing to observe their terms and conditions.
 - **Professorial misconduct:** Professorial acts those are arbitrary, biased or exploitative.
 - **Denying access to information or material:** To deny others access arbitrarily to scholarly resources or to deliberately and groundlessly impede their progress.
 - **Misconduct in formal examinations:** Includes having access, or attempting to gain access during an examination, to any books, memoranda, notes, unauthorized electronic devices or any other material, except such as may have been supplied by the invigilator or authorized by the Academic Department.
26. Code of Ethics for Research committee shall be responsible to promote the best practices in research and also oversee the proceedings of any research misconduct incidences.
27. Sanctions for Misconducts viz warning, fines, restitution, suspension, dismissal etc, shall be imposed based on the level of misconduct

Appellate Authority:

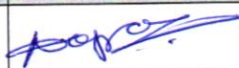
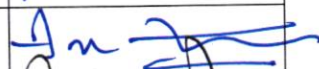
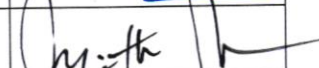
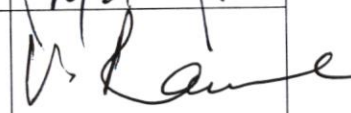
- For all difficulties pertaining to this policy, the power to remove difficulties rests with the Vice Chancellor.

Disclaimer:

Contact Us

- If you have any queries in relation to this policy, please contact:

Policy Framework and Development Committee Details

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