



A Research Plan for the Development of Undergraduate Education

¹Pavan Kumar Nowbattula, ²Venkata Suresh Tumma, ³Tulasi Nimmala,

¹Asst. Professor of English, Vishnu Institute of Technology, Bhimavaram, AP, India.

²Asst. Professor of English, DNR College of Engineering, Bhimavaram, AP, India.

³Asst. Professor of English, Vishnu Institute of Technology, Bhimavaram, AP, India

Abstract:

Research and Development plays a very crucial role in the current competitive era. Research is not confined only to science and technology but is opened to all spheres even to non-scientific fields. Research enhances various skills of the teachers as well as the students of undergraduate colleges. And, it also challenges the current technological world. Whatever might be the subject, research has to be a vigorous, painstaking and systematic process of inquest in order to discover, interpret or revise details or facts and theories. There are many ways to cross the threshold and start a research career. Whenever a scientific or a non-scientific problem is to be solved, there are various significant steps to pursue and there must be a particular plan. This paper mainly examines the importance of research, its objects and plan for the development of undergraduate level of education.

Key words: Research, development, competitive era, undergraduate, non-scientific fields.

Introduction

Research is a logical and systematic search for new and useful information on a particular topic. In the renowned nursery rhyme

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

How I Wonder What You Are

the use of the words 'how and what' essentially summarizes what research is. It is an investigation of finding solutions to scientific and social problems through main idea and methodical analysis. It is a search for knowledge, that is, a discovery of hidden truths. Here knowledge means information about matters. The information might be collected from different sources like experience, human

beings, books, journals, nature, etc. A research can lead to new contributions to the existing knowledge. Only through research is it possible to make progress in a field. Research is indeed civilization and determines the edifying economic and social development of the students. The results of scientific research very often force a change in the philosophical view of problems which extend far beyond the restricted domain of science itself.

Research and Development plays a very crucial role in the current competitive era. Research is not confined only to science and technology but is opened to all spheres even to non-scientific fields. Research enhances various skills of the teachers as well as the students of



undergraduate colleges. And, it also challenges the current technological world. Whatever might be the subject, research has to be a vigorous, painstaking and systematic process of inquest in order to discover, interpret or revise details or facts and theories.

Objectives of the Research

The major objectives of research are

- (1) to invent new facts
- (2) to authenticate and assess vital facts
- (3) to investigate an incident or route or phenomenon to recognize the cause and effect relationship
- (4) to progress new scientific tools, concepts and theories to answer and understand scientific and non-scientific problems
- (5) to find solutions to scientific, non-scientific and social problems and
- (6) to overwhelm or solve the problems occurring in our everyday lives.

Nature of Undergraduate Research

"Research is four things: brains with which to think, eyes with which to see, machines with which to measure and, fourth, money. Research is to see what everybody else has seen, and to think what nobody else has thought."

- Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

Research involves original work in answering a question or solving a problem. Formal academic research differs from experiential research and may be more investigative in nature. For example, it may require us to learn about an area in which we have little knowledge or inclination to learn. It may be library-oriented or field-oriented, depending on the nature of the research.

Academic research, like the everyday research we do, is associated with curiosity and intellectual discovery. The writing associated with academic research is demanding and challenging, with a methodology and discipline all its own. Although many of the concepts and processes of research are generic, academic research is discipline-specific and demands a more rigorous methodology.

Finally, to say, research not only involves the work written by various authors and books in the library but also involves the seminar presentations, attending workshops, etc. There must be a particular plan for every research work. The following is a probable plan of the research for the development of undergraduate education.

A Research Plan for Undergraduate Education

Research-based: undertaking research and inquiry:

Probably the most obvious way for undergraduate students to engage in research is to undertake final-year dissertation or capstone research and inquiry projects.

Introducing inquiry-based teaching methods in Literary Studies:

The traditional form of Literary Studies teaching in Higher Education is tutor-centred. In this study, a group of students studying Literature can be introduced to inquiry-based learning in the first week of the first semester. The course must consist of a weekly lecture and a weekly seminar. The latter consists of the students divided into three groups. During the seminars, the tutor acts as a task-giver and thereafter as both an



information resource, responding to student requests, and as a facilitator moving from subgroup to subgroup helping discussion to develop.

Undergraduate Research Begins with at Induction:

Induction programs in higher education institutions involve the students and the faculty working in small groups to collect information from the library and in the field, analyse it, present it to tutors in novel ways and receive formative feedback. It can also develop soft skills especially team work among the groups and between the students and the tutors.

Involve the Students to participate in the Research:

If we have a keen glance at the below figure, we can be aware of the plan to involve the undergraduate students in the research.

To illustrate the above figure, a plan of the research-oriented programs should be included in only the curriculum. The structure, learning methods, etc. must be involved in the design of the curriculum of the research. Only then, the students will engross themselves in the research as participants as well as the audience sometimes.

Some of the things Research Develops in Students

Research enhances various skills in the students during and after the work process. Some of the things are mentioned below. Research

1. improves IQ levels of the students
2. makes the passive learners to involve and develop their skills
3. moulds them into active participants

4. enhances creative and logical thinking
5. develops commitment and dedication towards work

Conclusion

Research expands all ways to inquire, to learn, to get knowledge and to share. It improves the ability of a learner as well as the teacher of higher educational institutions and it also challenges the technological world at present. If one concentrates on the research about one wants to do, will be efficient in work and will get good amount of knowledge. Finally, Research develops the intellectual ability and outer communicative ability of the undergraduate students. Institutions and government should also encourage the students by funding them for doing research.

References

1. Jain, Ravindra Kumar and Triandis. Harry C. *Managing Research, Development and Innovation: Managing the Unmanageable*. John Wiley & Sons, New Jersey. 2010.
2. Ahuja, Ram. *Research Methods*. Rawat Publications, New Delhi. 2001.
3. <http://ies.ed.gov/pdf/CommonGuidelines.pdf>
4. <http://web.mit.edu/ceepr/www/publications/workingpapers/2011-010.pdf>
5. file:///D:/Documents%20and%20Settings/user/My%20Documents/Downloads/op_rdi_2012_1.pdf