



RRU Gold Medal and Best Research Paper Award Guidelines

Regulation 1

Purpose

RRU aims to honour students with Gold Medals for overall excellence in a particular programme and the Best Research Paper Award in each of the paper taught in the undergraduate and post-graduate degree program. This Award Program aims to acknowledge, recognize and promote the academic, research and overall excellence of RRU students in a particular programme, whose collective efforts and commitment contribute to the overall prestige of the University. RRU students bring laurels to University by exhibiting their knowledge, skills and abilities in every spheres of Learning. They embed their mark in extracurricular, co-curricular and sports, NCC, NSS activities and programs. The achievements of RRU students in various national and international competitions and their accomplishments in the field of research and publication can enormously contribute to the overall reputation of the University.

Regulation 2

Evaluation Criteria for Gold Medal

Selection of the best student for overall excellence in a particular programme for gold medal.

- i. 50% weightage for the academic results.
- ii. 15% weightage for publications and paper presentation.
- iii. 15% weightage for NCC/NSS.
- iv. 10% weightage for sports & extra-curricular activities
- v. 10% weightage for discipline, attendance, ethics and value-based participation in all academic and non-academic activities.

Regulation 3
Evaluation Criteria for the Best Research Paper

Selection of the best research paper award in a particular programme.

Element	Excellent (5) Very Good (4)	Good (3) Average (2)	Poor (1)
Title	Clear and informative. Hints at scope, approach and central argument.	Contains elements of scope or purpose	Title tells little about content, argument or scope
Introduction and thesis	Establishes purpose of thesis clearly, explicitly, objective captures readers' attention	Less clear. States significance but thesis ambiguous.	Some or no indication: social, temporal and geographic limits
Communication	Effectively captures readers' attention and communicates purpose, tone and topic	Generally well written; lack in purpose or topic	Poorly related to purpose, reader distracted.
Organization	Excellent use of language, ordered and clear links to the thesis statement	Some connection to thesis statement. Some lack of clarity	Lack of care, time and effort
Development and analysis	Impressive depth of insight and analysis. Well developed process where author presents ideas and use other's ideas for support. Offers opposing viewpoint	Adequate depth. Recitation of other's ideas coherently. Issued overlooked. No opposing viewpoint	Little or no depth or insight. Lack of understanding of material read.
Referencing	Wide variety of well-researched, quality sources. Few if any non-reviewed internet sources. Clear consistent use of chosen referencing system. Few formatting errors. No missing sources.	Reliance on non-academic sources. Fairly consistent use of referencing system, several errors in usage. Lacks integration	Serious problems with referencing system or several systems being used. Plagiarism material not checked for validity.
Conclusion	Effectively closes the paper. Ties together all elements and effectively integrated.	Adequate integration and conclusion	Weak conclusion and integration
Language	Clear, readable, coherent and mature. Avoids empty and pretentious language. Avoids ambiguities and abstractions.	Readable; somewhat coherent. Uses empty language; at times ambiguous	Poorly constructed, unreadable, very ambiguous or pretentious.
Grammar / spelling	Grammatically and typographically superior. No errors or 1 per page.	Grammatical and typographical error 2-3 per page	Significant grammatical and typographical errors 4 or more per page

Structure and transition	Clear sentences. Variety of paragraph and sentence length. Strong clear leads. Smooth transitions.	Sentences somewhat muddled with little variety in length	Poor grammar and sentences in paragraph. Structure awkward.
Labels and headings	Properly placed and supplementary, skillfully and attractively done with clear labels and descriptions	Lacking labels or descriptions. Not placed proper. Formatting not clear	Poorly placed. No labels or descriptions. Structure lacking.
Overall presentation	Attractive and neatly presented. Effective, insightful document. Original approach and energetic.	Average presentation. Interest but lacks insight.	Poorly presented and lack interest and not effective.
TOTAL			

Regulation 4

Role and Responsibilities of Scholarships and Awards Committee

4.1 RRU Scholarships & Awards Committee (“the Committee”) shall be responsible to select the students for the purposes of gold medal and research award. The Committee shall consist of the Dean of Academic Affairs, as the Chairperson, Director of the respective School and one faculty member from the respective School, to be nominated by the Vice-Chancellor in consultation with the teaching and administrative staff of the School, Assistant Registrar (Academics) of the University and Administrative Officer of the School as the Secretary.

4.2 The Committee shall obtain the record of the top five candidates from the Examination and Evaluation Branch, who have secured the maximum marks in the particular program along with their discipline and attendance marks. The records containing the publication, sports, NCC, NSS and extra-curricular activities shall be obtained from students and shall be verified from the concerned university / institutions.

4.3 A student obtaining higher score in the discipline, attendance etc. shall be given the gold medal in case if more than one student achieves equal scores in other factors.

4.4 The above criteria shall apply for the award of Gold Medal to the Best Student for Overall Excellence in a particular programme, e.g. B.Tech in Information Technology.

4.5 Once the student is selected by the Committee for the award of Gold Medal instituted by the University from its budget or the donor, the Assistant Registrar (Academics) shall communicate name of the candidate to the donor.

4.6 The Committee shall also select one student for the purposes of awarding a best research paper award in a particular subject. The School shall give best research paper award in each paper constituting a particular degree programme.

4.7 The Committee shall use the criteria as mentioned above as well as any other additional criteria it deems fit for judging the best research paper award in a particular subject.

4.8 In case of two or more students scoring equal marks, the student's performance in attendance, exam, NCC, NSS, Sports, extra-curricular activities shall be considered in the descending order for resolving the tie.

4.9 The Committee shall announce the nomination for the best research paper award latest by first March every year and entries shall reach the Committee latest by 1 July. The entries shall contain three copies of the paper, authentication certificate (if already published or accepted for publication, by the publisher), CV mentioning all achievements of the candidate in the particular subject. The Committee shall evaluate the paper and invite comments of the publisher and the achievement records from the Exam Committee.

4.10 **Subject Sub-Committee:** The subject faculty member of the University shall chair the selection process for evaluating and judging the best research paper. Two additional faculty members from any of the schools, depending upon the subject of the research paper, shall be chosen by the Chair as members. The decision on the award shall be based on unanimity. The decision of the Subject Sub-Committee shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal. Each of the Sub-Committees shall inform their decision to the Scholarship and Award Committee latest by 1 September.

4.11 The Committee shall place the recommendation to the Vice-Chancellor latest by 15 September every year for his approval and communication to the Executive Council, Academic Council and the donor.

Regulation 5 Endowment of Funds

5.1 RRU Gold Medal and Best Research Paper Award can be instituted by institutions or individuals upon donation of an any amount above INR 5,00,000, subject to the approval by the Executive Council. The University shall allocate INR 3000 per subject for the best research paper for each of the programme offered by the University Schools at the under-graduate and post-graduate level in each financial year.

5.2 The endowment amount shall be invested in fixed deposits which earn the maximum possible interest.

5.3 The interest so derived shall be utilized for the award of the Gold Medal. The gold

medal shall be given to the graduating student while the research award shall be given to any student who has published an outstanding research paper in Indian or any foreign journals in the given subject in the given year.

5.4 The gold medal shall be awarded on the convocation while the research award shall be awarded on the RRU Foundation Day or any other day as the University may determine.

5.5 The donor can institute the Gold Medal in the name of an institute or individual.

5.6 The Medal and Research Award to be awarded shall have inscribed on it the name of the medal and name of the recipient.

5.7 RRU Scholarships & Awards Committee, consisting of the Dean of Academic Affairs, as the Chairperson and each School Director and Assistant Registrar (Academics) shall initiate the process of selection latest by First July every year and the results shall be placed before the Vice-Chancellor for his endorsement and information to the Executive Council and the donor.

5.8 RRU shall inform the name of the student(s) selected for the award to the donor at least 15 days in advance of the conferment of the medal.

Regulation 11
Implementation and removal of difficulty

The decision of the Vice-Chancellor shall remove any difficulty in the interpretation and implementation of these guidelines and his decision shall be final and binding on all concerned parties. In case, if a difficulty persists, the Vice-Chancellor shall bring the matter before the competent authority of the University for its guidance and direction.

Regulation 13
Review

The University shall review these guidelines every three years with the first review of these guidelines to be conducted latest by 1 June 2024.

Regulation 14
Entry into Force

These interim guidelines come into force from 1 May 2021 and shall be implemented as such in good faith subject to the ratification by the University Academic Council and the Executive Council.

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Vice-Chancellor