Haldia Institute of Technology
(An Institute of Indian Centre for Advancement of Research and Education (ICARE), Haldia)

AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Approved by All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)
Affiliated to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad University of Technology, West Bengal
NAAC Accredited Technical Institute with “A” Grade [CGPA-3.31 out of 4]
B.Tech. Programs [AEIE, BT, CE, CHE, CSE, ECE, EE, FT, IT and ME] Accredited by
National Board of Accreditation (NBA).

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Research Ethics
Professional and Research Ethics

Research integrity and responsible conduct are cornerstones of HIT's research activities. Building a trusting relationship between HIT researchers and the wider society is essential. Therefore, it is a fundamental requirement of all concerned within the research community of HIT, be they undergraduate, postgraduate or higher-level students and faculty. All involved in the research community at HIT must take this pledge. It is mandatory that students/faculty of HIT sign a declaration of commitment to uphold the highest standards of research integrity. Researchers, at any level, are expected to adhere to HIT's code of ethics.

1 Academic Honesty
   The faculty and staff are required to follow the principles of academic honesty at all times.

2 Scientific Misconduct
   i. Any person, either faculty, staff, student, or a stakeholder from society can bring to notice Research Ethics Committee any case of scientific misconduct.
   ii. The committee, can constitute an inquiry if scientific misconduct is deemed serious. The relevant faculty, staff or student can be asked to defend himself in the inquiry and should be given a prior notice (three weeks).
   iii. A disciplinary action could be recommended by the committee to head of the institution, which will take the final disciplinary action.

3 Academic Freedom, Equality and Benevolence
   The faculty, research scholars and the students have academic freedom to select research topics, research methodology, and will be provided institute resources within limits as the scope of research may permit.

4 Code of Ethics for Paper Publication / PG Thesis
   The Code of Ethics in Research is common to all members of the institution to ensure the integrity and reliability of the research work.
   i. Academic institutions are known for protecting the integrity of research. This should be clearly followed by the researcher, and any suspicious behaviour and misconduct should be brought to the notice of higher authorities. Misconduct may include plagiarism, perjury, and falsification of information and all such irresponsible practices that may bring the institution into disrepute.
   ii. The Code of Ethical Practice in Research Ethics sets out the necessary standards of integrity that are expected of all our researchers. It covers the research policy review process and the areas of research to which they apply.
   iii. Honesty and Integrity in all aspects of research.
   iv. Accountability in conducting research.
   v. Researchers taking responsibility for the fidelity of their research.
vi. All researchers are expected to adopt approved research methods and then make decisions based only on the level of supporting evidence. He must then report all findings honestly and explain them fully.

vii. All significant contributions must be acknowledged by the researcher and may include sponsors, funding agencies and commentators.

viii. Researchers are often asked to conduct academic peer reviews and should provide review reports that are fair, prompt and rigorous.

ix. Head of Research/PI who acts as the point of contact for questions about research ethics and integrity. He provides necessary advice and guidance on an individual basis, which may include training workshops and/or seminars.

x. Ensuring that research is conducted in accordance with appropriate ethical, legal and professional frameworks, obligations and standards.

  a. The institution level Research Development Cell regulates and monitors the work of Research. This committee assesses the faculty / PG / UG student research work in the form of Research Publication / Research Proposal / Thesis Work (PG)/ Project Report.

xi. To support the development of researchers, opportunities for learning, training and observation are provided.

xii. The Research Development Cell provides training for scholars in the Research Ethics Review process as and where required.

xiii. In addition to this, the Committee takes additional measures to ensure that work is carried out in accordance with national/international standards.

5 Plagiarism Checking Rules and Policy

i. Knowledge infringement and plagiarism are some of the unhealthy practices in research around the world. In particular, plagiarism is a major problem in the academic community.

  • To ensure high level of ethical standards in research and other academic activities, HIT has practiced code of ethics for research work, projects and other academic activities.

ii. It is mandatory that all PG students of HIT maintain the highest standards of ethics, truthfulness and professionalism in their research or projects.

iii. The research community is encouraged to submit their original work in the form of papers, projects and theses. Any compromise on plagiarism and claiming as one's own work is absolutely not allowed.

iv. Plagiarism involves ideas, figures, code, data and written material without proper acknowledgment or permission from the source. Plagiarism includes: (i) lifting whole sentences or parts of sentences from a book or thesis. It may involve an internet source. (ii) Previously published data from own records can also be called self-reporting. (iii) Material from class-notes, downloaded material in reports, presentations, and manuscripts also contribute to plagiarism.

  • The Plagiarism Checking Committee (PCC) at the Department Level comprises of HOD of Respective Department and one Senior Faculty.
  • Faculty, staff and PG student's research work in the form of journal paper/project should go through plagiarism process and maintain high academic standards.

v. All PG students should submit their published papers, abstracts and theses for plagiarism check through plagiarism check software.
vi. After approval from the department, the soft copy of the thesis should be submitted for plagiarism checking (equity index) for quality verification and plagiarism report should be made available. If the similarity index is less than 30%, only the thesis will be accepted for submission.

vii. Complaints related to violation of rules and other issues, plagiarism attract disciplinary action imposed by the committee within one month from the date of complaint. Depending on the severity of the plagiarism, the committee will submit the report and recommend the disciplinary measures to be imposed.

viii. For PG students, two chances will be given. In either case, the similarity index is greater than 30%, the thesis will be summarily rejected. Those students will have to carry the new title.