



Guidelines for

Vice Chancellor's Award for Research Excellence

Introduction

University of Vavuniya introduced an award named 'Vice Chancellor's award for Research Excellence' in 2023 to be awarded once in two years to recognize, appreciate and honor the permanent staff who made outstanding contributions and accomplishments in research, creative work and dissemination of knowledge by the permanent staff members of the University of Vavuniya.

Three types of award

- Most outstanding young researcher award (age below 35 years on the closing date of applications)
- Most outstanding senior researcher award (age 35 years or above on the closing date of applications)
- Most outstanding Inventor award

Objective

This award is introduced to recognize and appreciate the research contribution of academics with the intention of promoting and strengthening research within the University.

Eligibility

To be eligible for this award, a candidate must hold a permanent position at University of Vavuniya.

Application Procedure

- The University Research Committee (URC) shall call for applications in January every year.
- The eligible permanent staff may apply for the award by submitting duly filled application form together with the supporting evidences and checklist before deadline.
- The application should reach the Academic Affairs and Publication Branch on or before the deadline.
- The application form, guidelines and selection criteria can be downloaded from the URC website.

Evaluation: Applications shall be evaluated by the senate appointed panel which consists of 5 members including three senate members representing all three faculties and one member from Senate Standing Committee on Quality Assurance, and one senior academic staff.

Awarding Criteria and description of the Award

Applicant who scores the minimum required marks shall be entitled for the Vice Chancellor's award for Research Excellence. The Research Excellence award will consist of a cash prize (LKR 50,000), trophy and a certificate. The name of the winner will be announced every April of the following year.

1. Most outstanding senior researcher award – 30 marks
2. Most outstanding young researcher award – 20 marks
3. Most outstanding Inventor award – 5 marks

The awards are offered in the following nine fields of study.

- Allied Health Sciences and Indigenous Medicine
- Agriculture
- Engineering, Architecture, and Technology
- Humanities
- Life Sciences
- Management Studies
- Medical and Dental Sciences
- Natural Sciences
- Social Sciences and Legal Studies

Number of Awards:

The most outstanding one eligible staff will be selected from the University for the Vice Chancellor award for research excellence. In case of scoring equal points by two applicants, both will be considered as winners. The cash prize will be divided equally among them.

General guidelines for the application

The general guidelines/instructions for applications for the Vice Chancellor Research Excellence Award are as follows:

1. The articles used to claim for this award should have been published during the two-year period just before the closing date of the award and the place of affiliation of the applicant in such article/s should appear as 'University of Vavuniya'.
2. All claims should be supported by documentary evidences. No marks/awards shall be given in instances where documentary proof is not submitted.
3. Copies of the originals should be certified by Head of the Department/Division/branch.
4. All the Applicant must forward the hard copy of the duly filled application form with supporting documentary evidences through the official channels - Head of the Department/Division/Section and Dean of the Faculty/Registrar, respectively on or before the application deadline.
5. Predatory publications will not be considered.

6. Applicant should possess one of the following researcher profiles: Thomson Reuters Researcher ID, Scopus ID, Google Scholar Profile or SSRN ID.
7. Incomplete applications, applications with false information, and those received after the deadline shall not be entertained.
8. Final selection of awards will be made based on the recommendations of panel of judges/evaluators who were nominated by the University Senate.

Selection Criteria

- i. Young researcher award and senior researcher award is as follows.

Component	Marking Scheme	Marks claimed by the applicant	Marks given by the evaluators
1. Publications			
a. Journal Publications i. Publications in Indexed Journals <i>(Index should be clearly identified)</i> Note: The minimum of 6 points will be allocated for an indexed journal. Depending on the Appropriate Journal ranking, the points may go up to 10.	Up to 10 points each* (No limit)		
ii. Publications in peer-reviewed Non-indexed Journals	Up to 3 points each# (No Limit)		
b. Presentations at conferences i. Published as an abstract	Up to 0.5 point each# (Maximum of 5 points)		
ii. Published as a full paper	Up to 1 point each# (No Limit)		
c. Chapters in books published by i. Reputed publishers	Up to 4 points each# (No Limit)		

ii. Other publishers	Up to 2 points each# (No Limit)		
2. Books/textbooks published in the area of expertise by reputed publishers	Up to 5 points each* (No limit)		
3. Citation of applicant's work in referred journals and scholarly publications during the eligible award period of 2 years. (excluding self-citations)	0.5 each (Maximum of 10 points for repeated citations per paper) (No Limit)		
4. Recognized international/national awards for research activities during the eligible award period of 2 years.	3 points each (No Limit)		
5. Editing of journals/books 1. Editor-in-Chief of journals	1 point for each (Maximum of 04 points)		
2. Editorial Board Member/Reviewer of journals	0.75 point/journal/year (Maximum of 02 points)		
3. Editorial Board Member/Reviewer of conferences	0.5 point/Conference/year (Maximum of 02 points)		
6. Research Supervision: Number of graduate students supervised and graduated during the eligible award period of 2 years.	Up to 4 points per PhD Up to 2 points per MPhil or Masters by research of 2 or more years duration		

	Up to 1/0.5 point per Masters of 1 year/6 month duration with a research component. (Maximum of 20 points)		
7. Patents obtained by Research during the eligible award period of 2 years.	Up to 5 points each (No Limit)		
i. Research Grants obtained during the eligible award period of 2 years. Funds received from international sources	5 points per each grant (No Limit)		
ii. Funds received from national sources	3 points per each grant (No Limit)		
iii. Funds received from University research grant	2 points per each grant (No Limit)		
Total			

ii. Inventor award:

Component	Marking scheme	Proposed marking scheme	Marks claimed by the applicant
National and international patents	Up to 3 points each (national) (No limit)		

	Up to 5 points each (international) (No limit)		
National and international certificates for inventions	Up to 1 point each (national) (No limit) Up to 2 points each (international) (No limit)		
Commercialized patents	Up to 5 points each (No limit)		

Note:

1. For publications, recognized index journals should be one of the following categories in Web of Science.
 - i. Science Citation Index (SCI)
 - ii. Science citation indexed Expanded (SCIE)
 - iii. Social Sciences Citation Index (SSCI)
 - iv. Arts and humanities citation Index (AHCI)

2. In the case of papers/publications with joint authorship, applicants should indicate their actual contribution to the work published and marks should be allocated proportionately.
 - For single-authored papers, the author will receive 100%
 - Publications with one additional author will receive 60% for the first author and 40% marks for the second author
 - Publications by more than two authors will receive 40% for the first author and equal balance share for other authors.