



Policy Name	Research Authorship Policy
Proposed By	Director ORIC
Reviewed By	Registrar and Pro-VC
Approved By	ORIC Steering Committee
Effective From	01-07-2026
Next Review Date	30-06-2028



1. Preamble

Research is fundamentally a collective intellectual enterprise built on trust, integrity, and accountability. Authorship is not merely a matter of academic recognition, it represents responsibility for the originality, validity, reliability, and ethical conduct of scholarly work. This policy establishes institutional standards for determining authorship, documenting contributions, resolving disputes, and ensuring that every scholarly publication reflects the highest standards of responsible research conduct.

2. Objectives

The objectives of this policy are to:

- Establish transparent authorship standards
- Recognize genuine intellectual contributions
- Eliminate unethical publication practices
- Protect students and early-career researchers
- Ensure accountability for published work
- Strengthen the University's research reputation

3. Guiding Principles

Integrity	Every publication must honestly represent the contributions of every listed author.
Transparency	Authorship decisions should be discussed openly from the beginning of every research project.
Accountability	Every author shares responsibility for the scientific integrity of the publication.
Fair Recognition	Recognition should reflect intellectual contribution rather than academic rank, administrative authority, or personal relationships.
Inclusivity	Researchers from all disciplines, career stages, and collaborating institutions shall receive equitable treatment.
Respect	Disagreements regarding authorship shall be managed professionally and respectfully.
Academic Freedom	Researchers remain free to pursue independent scholarships while complying with institutional ethical standards.
Responsible Mentorship	Senior academics should mentor junior researchers in publication ethics rather than exploit hierarchical relationships.

4. Legal and Ethical Framework

This policy is informed by internationally recognized standards, including:

- International Committee of Medical Journal Editors (ICMJE)
- Committee on Publication Ethics (COPE)
- CRediT (Contributor Roles Taxonomy)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan
- Relevant publisher and funding agency guidelines

Where differences exist, the more rigorous ethical standard shall apply.

5. Contributor Role Taxonomy

The University adopts the internationally recognized taxonomy, requiring each publication to identify contributions across roles such as:

Role	Description
Conceptualization	Research idea and objectives
Methodology	Design of methods
Software	Programming and code development
Validation	Verification of results
Formal Analysis	Statistical and analytical work
Investigation	Data collection
Resources	Provision of study materials
Data Curation	Data management
Writing – Original Draft	Initial manuscript preparation
Writing – Review & Editing	Critical revisions
Visualization	Figures and graphical outputs
Supervision	Scientific oversight
Project Administration	Project coordination
Funding Acquisition	Grant procurement

Every publication should include a contributor statement permitted by the publisher.

6. Student Authorship

This section should explicitly protect student rights.

- The student should normally be first author when the publication is substantially derived from their research work/thesis
- Supervisor(s) should be listed as second author
- Students should not be excluded from publications based on their research.

This provision is particularly important for promoting ethical supervision and safeguarding emerging researchers.

7. Authorship Agreements

For every collaborative project, particularly those involving multiple departments or institutions, an Authorship Agreement should be completed before manuscript preparation. The agreement should document anticipated contributions, proposed author order, dispute resolution procedures, and conditions for revising authorship if contributions change.

8. Standard Affiliation Format

All the researchers are required to use a standard affiliation format to ensure consistency and to strengthen institutional visibility.

Author Name

Department (if applicable)

Faculty

Institution Name (i.e., Islam College, Teaching Hospital, New Life hospital)

University Name (everyone must write university name in their affiliation)

9. Policy Review and Amendments

This policy should be reviewed every two years, or earlier if required, to ensure alignment with the University's strategic priorities, HEC regulations, emerging technologies, and best international practices. Amendments shall be approved by the appropriate statutory bodies of the University.

Proposed By:



Director ORIC
Grand Asian University Sialkot

Approved By:



Vice Chancellor/ Chairman ORIC-SC
Grand Asian University Sialkot