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GNLU Works towards becoming the Research-Based Teaching University

Research scholarship culture is deeply embedded into the GNLU academic environment. Faculty and students have been engaged in undertaking research on contemporary as well as historical research subjects.

Beginning from academic year 2012, GNLU has adopted a work plan to become the **Research Based Teaching University**. The concept was conceived last year and necessary preparations, including presentations by faculty members were made in the first part of this year.

Under the RbTU, each faculty of GNLU prepared the course outline, devised syllabus based on their first in-house research and consultation with subject experts across the country and the world. Teaching of each subject now includes leading judgments, legislations, and pending bills at national and state level in their syllabus for reference purposes. Even the non-law subject faculty will refer the legal instruments in their teaching. To include and equip students with the latest knowledge, the faculty included at least 50 books and articles of relevance in the reverse chronology order starting from 2012. Subject teachers included their major research observations and recommendations of five latest or most relevant books or research manuscripts published. Syllabus or modules, as appropriate and relevant, of various universities such as Harvard, Yale, New York University, Cornell, Princeton, Oxford, Cambridge, National University of Singapore and Tokyo Law School were studied with a view to understand the research



Gujarat National Law University (GNLU)

Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

interests, pedagogy, examination methods, reference material, of these leading law schools. Similarly, the faculty undertook efforts to consult the faculty members and researchers of the selected law schools to learn the research projects pursued by them. To appreciate and incorporate news and stories having relevance for legal studies, faculty members have consulted 50 relevant articles in national and international journals, magazines, including electronic media. Extension of knowledge remains one of the primary concerns; therefore, the study preparations included learning about the national and international conferences, workshops and seminars, their speakers, organisers and subjects. Each faculty has identified their expectations from the students in terms of acquisition of knowledge, conduct of research, exposure to training and dissemination of knowledge at the end of Semester. Faculty and students will engage into conducting online survey on contemporary topics related to the subjects so that the needs, concerns and interests of stakeholders can be studied, analysed and incorporated into teaching. Experiential learning remains another goal and to achieve this, daily or alternate day seminars, round-tables, interactions with practitioners from grassroot to top level – police inspectors to senior advocates, have been identified and the responses from the selected practitioners have been overwhelming so far. To inculcate research culture into students, a database of their research and conference papers published till date and planned is being created. This will be a further source of motivation to students for pursuing research.

Nobel laureates, winners of prestigious national and international awards, such as Magsasy, Padma Shree, Padma Bhusan, Padma Vibhusan, Bharat Ratna, Pulitzer, Booker, etc., as appropriate, have been approached and requested to contribute their vision for a particular subject study. Although the successes in getting their comments currently elude us, faculty will continue to approach them till their vision and ideas are incorporated into GNLU teaching. As GNLU offers integrated law degrees in five streams – arts, commerce, science and technology, business administration and social welfare, the



Gujarat National Law University (GNLU) Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India

research centres and institutions of excellence from the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), Delhi University, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Social Science Research (TISS), Centre for Policy Studies and Research (CPR), were consulted to understand their syllabus, teaching and examination methods, for non-law subjects. Similarly, leading national and international institutions and research tanks were consulted for the same purpose. To promote integrated research, i.e. studying and researching one issue from various disciplines, faculty will minimize the number of projects and enable students to pursue quality inter-disciplinary research as part of their continuous internal evaluation. Most importantly, learning and understanding students' interests and career aspirations is very important, therefore, students will be encouraged throughout the semester to discussing with fellow students and faculty, their career goals, career motivation and challenges, experts and networking in the career domain, among others. In other words, students will be doing research to uncover their goals, strategies and plan of action to achieve the same.

In nutshell, the GNLU aims to excel in all four aspects of academics – teaching, research, extension and training and the Research Based Teaching University approach will boost the efforts of the faculty, students and the management alike.

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