

SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

RE – 16

REGULATIONS ON INTERNATIONALIZATION OF SIKKIM UNIVERSITY

[Based on National Education Policy 2020]

{Approved by the Executive Council in its 44th meeting held on 27.12.2023
vide resolution No. EC 44.5.1}

(Under section 31 of SU Act & Statute 41)

I. Introduction:

Internationalization of Sikkim University means showcasing the academic environment of Sikkim University including teaching-learning process and research to the universities across the world and facilitate students and faculty mobility. The relationship, of course, is symbiotic and helpful to each other in many ways. Sikkim University is already a role model in the field of research and is already working in many collaborative research studies with premier universities / institutions abroad.

II. Objective:

The objective is to achieve the desired outcome of making Sikkim University globally competitive and vibrant in the field of research and quality higher education.

1. To make Sikkim University an attractive and reliable study destination for foreign students
2. To foster international competencies in our faculty and students.
3. To develop a global mindset of the learners and shape them as global citizens with deep rooted pride in being Indian.
4. To promote active linkage between Sikkim University and foreign Universities and institutions.
5. To improve global ranking in internationalization indicators.

In order to internationalize Sikkim University, the following steps need to be taken up on priority basis.

III. Office of International Affairs - Sikkim University (OIA-SU)

There shall be an Office of International Affairs - Sikkim University (OIA-SU). It shall function under a Director who is appointed by the Vice-Chancellor from among the faculty members (Professors / Associate Professors) and four other members from the teaching staff supported by one/two, as may be required, permanent staff to carry out day to day activities of OIA-SU. The Director and other members of OIA-SU shall remain in office for five years with a provision for renewal. The quorum of the meeting shall be four including the Director. University will allocate certain funds to OIA-SU.

IV. Functions of OIA-SU

1. The OIA-SU shall coordinate all matters relating to admission, welcoming and extending support to foreign students.

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2. The OIA-SU shall also manage the admission and maintain details including logistics of the foreign students sponsored by Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Govt. of India.
3. The OIA-SU acts as a liaison body between the foreign students and the sponsoring agency.
4. OIA-SU addresses the grievance of foreign students in all matters including students' registration with FRRO/e-FRRO
5. OIA-SU provides support services for integration of foreign students into institution's academic and social activities.
6. OIA-SU maintains database of all foreign students including alumni and all completed projects/MoUs/research fellows/visiting scholars/events / lectures etc. .
7. OIA-SU may have and maintain a separate webpage for foreign students with a facility of uploading the latest publications, organization of national and international conferences and seminars for more visibility of the University to international audiences.
8. OIA-SU may work for the establishment of a hostel separately for girls and boys for international students.
9. OIA-SU shall develop a convenient process / system so that students/teachers shall face no / minimum difficulties while collaborating / visiting foreign institutions for research/teaching/study purposes.
10. It facilitates Communication between domestic and foreign students so that both are benefited in terms of learning languages and knowing their culture.
11. It helps in the preparation of syllabi to provide an international dimension to it and tie up other curricula like Science, technology, engineering, mathematics, computer science with provisions for internship and apprenticeship.
12. It helps in creating a safe, positive and holistic environment in the campus.
13. The OIA-SU shall prepare a SOP in line with ABC of NEP-2020 for recognition, transfer and quantification of credits earned by a student in foreign institution under twinning arrangement.
14. It shall work for collaboration of SU with other foreign universities / institutes of higher learning and enter into Agreements / Understanding for recognition / transfer of credits earned by a student while studying in other institutions/universities under twinning arrangements.
15. In case of affiliated colleges / Institutions of the University, it shall provide a NOC and may enter into a formal tripartite agreement / understanding with the foreign institution and affiliated colleges for recognition and transfer of credits under twinning arrangement.

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16. It shall work in consultation with the Examination Department for awarding a degree to a student studied under a twinning programme and the credits earned at the foreign institution / university shall be reflected in the transcript.
17. It shall ensure that credit earned by a student in foreign institutions / universities are not overlapping contents / curriculum.
18. It shall, in consultation with the Examination Department, ensure that any degree to be awarded under a twinning programme must be in conformity with the provisions of section 22 (3) of the UGC Act, 1956 and also be in conformity with the norms, standards and requirements for award of such degree of the University.
19. It should not allow students to offer subjects / programmes which are against the National Interest of India.
20. It shall make provision for exit pathways for students who are unable to complete the twinning programme and shall make provision for allowing students to complete the programme in the University who fail to secure VISA.
21. It shall maintain records of the details of the number of foreign students admitted, programmes conducted, number of students awarded degree or any other relevant information for onward submission to the University / any other body as and when asked for.
22. It shall encourage ICT based academic programmes, including MOOC's, create e-content, virtual partnership with foreign universities, virtual mobility of students through e-conferences & workshops etc.
23. It shall work for popularizing the language programmes, bridge course and short-term non-degree niche courses in Yoga, Ayurveda, Buddhism etc.
24. It shall maintain a strong online presence through social media platforms such as LinkedIn, Twitter and Facebook and engage with potential researchers, students and institutions globally.
25. It shall establish an International Alumni Network, connecting students and scholars who have studied or worked in Sikkim University.
26. It shall organize mentorship / orientation programmes for academic and career guidance and also address their challenges while in Sikkim University. It may also include topics like academic policies, health services, safety measures, transportation, cultural events etc.

V. Removal of Difficulties

Notwithstanding anything contained above, the Vice-Chancellor shall have the power to remove any difficulty faced in the implementation of the above regulations.

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