



Martin Luther Christian University

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MLCU Seed Grant for Faculty 2022

In terms of Section 22, sub section (2) of the Martin Luther Christian University Act 2005, read with Statute 6.3.1 of the Martin Luther Christian University Statutes and Rules 2016, and as recommended and approved by the Academic Council meetings held on July 18, 2022 and Board of Governors meeting held on November 24, 2022, the MLCU Seed Grant for Faculty 2022, is hereby notified:

The North Eastern Region including Meghalaya has a myriad of problems but there is a lack of research studies that have been conducted. This leaves a gap in the knowledge of our region. Therefore, the university can take on research studies, not just to contribute to the body of knowledge but rather that are action oriented which will benefit the communities. MLCU has already made its mark in traditional medicine and community mental health, but there are other areas that the university can prioritize on research pertaining to sustainable development such as traditional diets, community health, livelihoods, community projects, public health, mental health, eco-tourism, and traditional knowledge, indigenous health, music and others.

The research cell encourages the faculty to conduct research studies. This will not only enhance the faculty's position and academic excellence but more importantly, it will help students to understand how knowledge is created through their participation in these experiences.

Financial resources is a constraint especially when one has to conduct research in communities or research labs. This sometimes hinders faculty to take up research studies. The University is therefore proposing for a Seed Grant of Rupees One Lakh Twenty-Five Thousand only. Faculty can apply within the amount of Rs. 125000.00

A seed grant is a small amount of money meant to provide a platform for faculty to conduct pilot/small scale research studies that would enable them to gain access to larger funding from other research agencies

The objectives of the Seed Grant are:

- a. To encourage the faculty to take up research activities /projects that would benefit the communities
- b. To enhance the research expertise of the faculty
- c. To enhance the research data available for Meghalaya and North Eastern India
- d. To enhance the number of publications of the faculty
- e. To enhance the research standards of the University

Themes for 2018:

- a. Traditional Knowledge in various field of Arts, Music, Health, Livelihoods, Psychology etc.
- b. Community / Public Health
- c. Eco Tourism/Sustainable Tourism /Sustainable development
- d. Innovations in computer science
- e. Psychology/ Pedagogy in teaching and learning
- f. Entrepreneurship/ sustainable livelihoods
- g. Vulnerable groups such as children, women, adolescent youth etc...

Terms and conditions:

Eligibility

- a. All faculty can apply for the seed grant. Faculty on contractual appointment have to co-apply with confirmed/regularised faculty member.
- b. Faculty registered for PhD will be eligible to apply. However, the seed grant cannot be used for the purpose of PhD.
- c. Two or more faculty members can co-apply for one seed grant, irrespective of the fact that they belong to the same department or two different departments.
- d. Weightage will be given to projects which are interdisciplinary in nature.

Administrative procedure

- a. A Committee comprising of Chancellor, Vice Chancellor, Registrar, Finance Officer, Dean, Research & Dean Academics shall be constituted for the purpose
- b. Faculty has to apply in the prescribed format and submit to the Research Office. The faculty has to submit the complete proposal along with budget estimates

- c. The research project can be up to a period of 2 years or 24 months.
- d. The Seed Grant has to be used within the financial year
- e. A statement of expenses has to be submitted to the Accounts section for the amount received.
- f. The faculty has to submit an Executive Summary/ Abstract after completion of the research project to the Research Office
- g. The grant will be disbursed in 50:40:10 installments
- h. These installments shall be disbursed after satisfactorily completion of the milestones which is indicated by the faculty themselves
- i. The last installment will be given after the submission of the report
- j. Six monthly reports has to be submitted to the research office.
- k. The faculty on publishing the research project has to acknowledge the full or partial financial assistance received from the university
- l. On publishing the research project, the affiliation to MLCU has to be mentioned even if the faculty leaves the university before the end of the period.
- m. The research project will not be included in the credits of the faculty



**Dr Larilin Kharpuri,
Dean, Research**