

**DEPARTMENT OF LIFE SCIENCES**  
**CHRIST (Deemed to be University)**  
**Code of Research and Ethics**

The Department of Life Sciences, CHRIST (Deemed to be University) follows international recognized code of research and ethics applicable to UG/PG/MPhil/PhD research works carried out in the department with special emphasis on the following aspects:

- **Data collection** - While conducting research, whether independently or jointly, it is necessary to ensure that data collected (including raw data) are reliable, properly recorded and dated, and carefully stored. **Fabrication and falsification of data, even data that may be perceived to be of relatively lower importance to the research outcome, clearly constitute scientific misconduct.** The procedure followed should be described in sufficient detail to permit independent verification. Selective use of data without scientifically valid reasons is unacceptable.
- **Sharing of facilities** - Transparent and fair procedures will be followed for the sharing of equipment and facilities. All the details of equipment usage should be recorded in the instrument log book. **Usage of sophisticated instrumentation facilities for research project will be entertained only with the consent of respective guides and HOD.**
- **Publication Ethics** - All listed authors of a publication should have contributed significantly to it. It is inappropriate to offer 'guest authorship' to anyone who has not made a significant contribution and will be treated as scientific misconduct. Likewise, it is wrong to exclude from authorship anyone who deserves to be an author. It is unethical to include anyone as an author of a paper without their knowledge and clear consent. **For student projects/PhD research work publication it is mandatory that the student who has done the original work will be credited with first authorship and corresponding authorship is addressed to the respective guides.**
- **Plagiarism Policy** – Any deliberate or unintentional incorporation of some ideas or results of other researchers, without proper attribution, within one's own research publication/project report/dissertation, though the degree of severity can vary, amounts to ethical misconduct and is considered as plagiarism. **The acceptable level of plagiarism in dissertations will be in**

tune with Christ University code of research and ethics. Any misconduct in this domain will lead to the rejection of dissertation or report.

- **Experiments involving humans, animals, plants or microorganisms** - Guidelines and protocols announced by the various national agencies for experiments involving humans or animals should be scrupulously followed. All the plant species used for the study should be properly authenticated and a herbarium of the same (with proper consent of research supervisor) should be submitted to the Department. While procuring/storing/working clinical pathogens prior permission from respective guides should be obtained and any violation in this policy may be treated as scientific misconduct.
- **Safety and the environment** - Researchers are expected to incorporate safety and environmental concerns into their research practices. Environmental guidelines, regulations and laws must be followed and appropriate prescribed licenses/permits and clearances obtained for the handling, storage and disposal of hazardous material.
- **Selection and assessment of RA/Project Fellow** - Recruitment, selection and assessment of RA/Project Fellow should always involve a just and fair procedure that is explicitly spelt out in advance. The dignity of the laboratory environment should be maintained at all times.
- **Research supervision** - The training and mentoring of students in a research program is expected to inculcate sound ethical values in them. The process must communicate the virtues of honest, professional and fair scientific practice. The research supervisor should ensure supervision and appropriate mentoring of young researchers, including students and postdoctoral fellows.
- **Formatting/Referencing/Citations** - The submission of dissertation/project report should be in the standard format followed by the department. The referencing should be clearly in IEEE format.



**Head of the Department**  
**(Fr. Jobi Xavier)**