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Evaluate the implementation of research projects of Islamic Azad University of Yasouj

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Abstract

Doing researches at the Islamic Azad University administratively always faced obstacles and limitations that lead to the non-implementation of these projects. Some of these hindering factors have organizational aspects and due to organizational constraints and funding and costs will disrupt doing researches and in some cases, these factors refer to specific process and conditions of research, which stem in various stages of implementation including social and cultural and individual factors. In order to evaluate the implementation of these projects this study has been conducted for a period of five years. The aim of this study was to evaluate the implementation of research projects of Islamic Azad University of Yasouj. This study has been conducted by library method and in a descriptive way. In this study, 232 research projects in basic sciences, agriculture, psychology, culture, literature, management and social sciences were studied. The findings show that the main reasons for the implementation of these projects include professors achieve high grades and improve the academic standing of themselves and universities, new scientific findings, knowledge production, take advantage of financial benefits and the main reasons for not implementing research projects include economic factors, personal and expertise factors, social and cultural factors are structural and administrative factors.

Key words: Implementation, the Research Projects, Islamic Azad University of Yasouj

Introduction

In advanced industrial countries of the world, the Research is considered the golden key of success and economic, social, cultural and educational development of society requires the development of research centers and the training of efficient, expert and researcher manpower.

The first step in scientific and principled researches in every country is having specialist human resources, natural resources and other facilities on the one hand, and determining research priorities on the other hand. Research development of any country is based on the needs lies in the strategies and goals of the development programs of the country and increasing the power of research activities (zarghami: 21)

One of the objectives of educational and research organizations, in every society, is to educate people are able in conducting research. So that one of the indicators of development of each country, is its actual scientific capacity (Tabei and Mahmoudian: 52).

University as the most basic mechanism of society to continue the cultural, social, economic and political life, not only to fulfill its missions, including the transmission of culture (acculturation), Social Education (Sociability), political education, professional and specialized training, social unity, personality development, transformation of the class system, facilitating social mobility (Alagheband: 17) and achieve its most important goal in cognitive development, this means empowering students to understand the phenomena and systems in the world (Mirkamali : 41), requires continuous and up to date research. Academic centers by using the enormous potential of human (teachers), in addition to playing a role in the production cycle and knowledge management, can be responsible for important and extensive researches, especially in the applied fields and relief of the hardships of training and improving teaching methods (teaching and learning) and create a spirit of curiosity and research, creativity and research in the future builders of society, and direct the approach in the education towards focus on research and provide the causes of more dynamism in the educational system as well as the community. The objectives of organizing and conducting research projects are to change the status quo and achieve the favorable ideals and aspirations. Review the literature of the education field shows, many researchers and experts believe that researches have an important role in resolving the issues that various territories of education are facing at the beginning of the new millennium in all countries, (Ham, 1997; Gijsbers & Contant, 1996; Sperling and Ashby, 2001).

Today, it is accepted as a fact that we can make more use of valuable knowledge and findings produced by research circles. The results of the study show that there is a large gap between the information obtained from research and the real needs and one of the most important factors of this situation is lack of logical relation between orientation and research topics and the needs of decision-making (Mikaeli; Mehrmohammadi; Taifi; Shariatmadari; Maknoon, Ansari,).

Today, research is the most important indicator of development of the societies to achieve a knowledge based society. Research is the driving force of the comprehensive and sustainable development in dimensions of culture, economy, policy and society. Despite the high status of research, this area is facing many structural and functional difficulties and weakness of research and scientific backwardness is the most important concern and the main obstacle to progress in developing countries (Amiri: 52).

Sarmad believes that research is the essential component of progress and development of communities (Sarmad: 17).

Enhance the scientific power and capacity of the community depends on the improvement of scientific information production and scientific researches and investment in research field cause to achieve this important issue.

Since increasing and deepening research activities are considered the main factor to the development and progress of a society, now a significant part of facilities of the developed countries spend for Research Affairs (Tasviri Ghamsari and Jahan nama: 107) .

No doubt the achievements of today's life are the result of these studies and researches. Features of contemporary life, including increasingly rapid development of science and technology and international competitions in the field of science and technology production, requires training creative and innovative students with the study and research (Rezai et al.: 151).

The level of development has a direct proportion with the main indicators of research i.e. the amount of investment in research and the number of researchers. In 1990, equivalent to 96% of research funding in the world has spent in developed countries and only 4% has spent in developing countries that the share of Muslim countries has been just one percent. (Yahya: 24).

Lack of positive attitude towards the role of researches in strengthening social and economic foundations, lack of investment in distribution of research culture, lack of modern equipment of informing, low volume of investment and research funding, lack of research motivation, investigators economic problems, difficulty in approving projects, lack of proper system to evaluate and monitor research projects are the challenges and concerns in the field of study and research.

Educational spaces also as one of the scientific - cultural and educational structures, despite having enormous human force, including sympathetic and educated teachers, and talented and creative students, somewhat involved with the mentioned problems and have no clear strategy for research, so educational and academic environment could determine the position of research and researchers, and sometimes scientific research is seen as a superstructural and superficial activity and there is no perfect atmosphere in the study and scientific research. This will not only keep away a large part of the training forces from research, but also reduces the motivation to study and leads to Job depression and duplication of teaching activities. To correct this problem, academic institutions should emphasize on the need to reform and change the research structure and mechanisms and research management practices and seek to increase research productivity. This important issue is because of the education is dealing with human thought that is the highest capital, and according to Mehr Mohammadi, university centers is one of the most difficult and most complex human art. Since the issue is educating human beings, so its comprehensive growth and development is crucial. In this regard, to achieve the research objectives of Education, investigating the inhibiting factors affecting research activities is inevitable. It is hoped that with aware of the Research obstacles and barriers and eliminate them, we be able to achieve the improvement of the quality and quantity of research and increase research efficiency.

Research Methodology

This study was conducted with library method and we do this research by studying various sources, this method is also called "study", in many studies it is needed to search in the library to find scientific resources. Considering that in the past, information sources were in libraries and researchers should identify, review and investigate them in this place, this type of research is known as library (Khaki: 93). The scope of the research is the records and documents related to research projects in the library of Islamic Azad University of Yasouj. During the specified period, research projects were received from the archive and we talked to research managers about that at least 50 research projects are checked, the quality of implementing projects is evaluated and analysis will be carried out.

The method of data collection was library and relevant documents in Islamic Azad University of Yasouj were studied, and observation and investigation were data collection tools.

Method of data analysis:

In this study, according to the definition, terminated project is a project that after approval of University Research Council has Executive notification and its implementation is stopped at a stage and it is terminated by University and terminated project is a project that with determined result and reporting end of work is terminated and archived.

In the present study, we studied 20 cases of research projects and designed questionnaire about them was completed; then according to the study of cases and extracting information, the questions of the questionnaire were modified and completed. Then all cases which had been archived as terminated projects were studied and questionnaire was completed for all these projects. In the next step according to the number of terminated projects (projects that according to the definition, were failed and archived, the case group), a number of projects that were terminated successfully were selected and like previous proposals questionnaires were completed for them.

About the way of selecting control group projects (terminated projects) it was tried as much as possible, the samples of the two groups be matched with each other in terms of approval time; But given the low number of approved projects in the early years of the formation of Research Department, so in some years the number of completed projects were not enough and to complement samples, the control project was selected from the nearest next or previous year. Then all obtained data, after entering the computer, was analyzed using SPSS software. First, all studied traits were descriptively investigated and then for analyzing the obtained items, the t-test was used for quantitative traits, and the x2 test was used for qualitative traits. In cases that the distribution of quantitative traits was not normal, non-parametric tests were used.

The descriptive findings

The aim of this study was to evaluate the implementation of the results of research projects in Islamic Azad University of Yasouj. The results by using descriptive findings are presented as follows.

Table 1: Projects implemented in Islamic Azad University of Yasouj

Total	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	Year of implementation Specialized Group
61	19	12	14	6	10	Basic Sciences
73	17	19	18	11	8	Agriculture
13	3	2	5	2	1	Psychology
14	5	3	3	1	2	Cultural
23	9	2	6	1	5	Literature
26	7	7	7	1	4	Management
22	10	5	4	1	2	Social Sciences
232	70	50	57	23	32	Total

According to the results of Table 1 from 232 projects surveyed, the highest number of 73 cases was related to agriculture and the minimum number of 13 cases was related to psychology.

Table 2: Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of economic factors

Percentage	Number	The items	Dimension Obstacles
25	10	1. shortage of funds projected and assigned to the research.	Economic factors

20	8	2. Lack of facilities and equipment in the field, experimental and laboratory studies.	
12/5	5	3. The low remuneration of researchers.	
30	12	4. The lack of proper support of researchers by institutions and organizations.	
7/5	3	5. High costs of the implementation of researches	
5	2	6. prolonged duration of some researches.	
100	40	Total	

According to the results of Table 2, among the barriers and limitations of doing research in terms of economic factors 10 samples (52%) shortage of funds projected and assigned to the research, 8 samples (20%) Lack of facilities and equipment in the field, experimental and laboratory studies, 5 samples (12/5%) low remuneration of researchers, 12 samples (30%) lack of proper support of researchers by institutions and organizations, 3 samples (7/5%) High costs of the implementation of researches and 2 samples (5%) prolonged duration of some researches are considered the most important economic inhibiting factors in doing researches.

Table 3: Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of structural and administrative factors

Percentage	Number	The items	Dimension Obstacles
10	4	1. distrust of the authorities to the research results.	structural and administrative factors
25	10	2. lack of apply the research results and proposal in decisions.	
15	6	3. Lack of appropriate and effective means of encouraging by the institutions and organizations.	
12/5	5	4. The long duration of approving proposals	

12/5	5	5. the cumbersome administrative regulations	
17/5	7	6. The lack of equity in the selection of proposals and research projects.	
17/5	7	7. mismanagement in relation to research.	
100	40	Total	

According to the results of Table 3, the most important barriers and limitations of doing research in terms of in terms of structural and administrative factors are 4 samples (10%) distrust of the authorities to the research results, 10 samples (25%) lack of apply the research results and proposal in decisions, 6 samples (15%) Lack of appropriate and effective means of encouraging by the institutions and organizations, 5 samples (12/5%) long duration of approving proposals, 5 samples (12/5%) the cumbersome administrative regulations, 7 sample (17/5%) lack of equity in the selection of proposals and research projects, 7 samples (17/5%) mismanagement in relation to research.

Table 4: Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of social and cultural factors

Percentage	Number	The items	Dimension Obstacles
15	3	1. inadequate knowledge of the community about the high position of research	Social and cultural factors
35	7	2. Absence and the lack of new and classy books, library and primary and important resources.	
15	3	3. teaching-oriented approach rather than research-oriented scientific centers and universities.	
20	4	4. lack of correlation of some research topics with the current needs and affairs of the community.	

5	1	5. politicization of scientific centers and universities.	
10	2	6. Apathy for research and study researches conducted.	
100	20	Total	

According to the results of Table 4, Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of social and cultural factors are 3 samples (15%) inadequate knowledge of the community about the high position of research, 7 samples (35%) Absence and the lack of new and classy books, library and primary and important resources, 3 samples (15%) teaching-oriented approach rather than research-oriented scientific centers and universities, 4 samples (20%) lack of correlation of some research topics with the current needs and affairs of the community, 1 samples (5%) politicization of scientific centers and universities, and 2 samples (10%) Apathy for research and study researches conducted.

Table 5: Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of Personal and specialized factors

Percentage	Number	The items	Dimension / Obstacles
20	10	1. Lack of motivation and interest in research.	Personal and specialized factors
20	10	2. Lack of complete skill and familiarity with research methodology and proposal writing.	
10	5	3. Lack of complete skill and familiarity with required computer programs such as Word, PowerPoint, as well as statistical applications such as spss.	
10	5	4. lack of time for research.	
20	10	5. Having family and social responsibilities that are annoying the research.	

20	10	6. The main activity expected of professors is the training, not research.	
100	50		

According to the results of Table 5, Obstacles and Limitations of doing research in terms of individual and specialized factors are 10 samples (20%) Lack of motivation and interest in the research, 10 samples (20%) Lack of complete skill and familiarity with research methodology and proposal writing, 5 samples (10%) Lack of complete skill and familiarity with required computer programs such as Word, PowerPoint, as well as statistical applications such as spss, 5 samples (10%) lack of time for research, 10 samples (20%) Having family and social responsibilities that are annoying the research, and 10 samples (20%) The main activity expected of professors is the training, not research.

How is the implementation of research projects in Islamic Azad University of Yasouj?

Doing research projects and achieving results requires a series of organizational, structural and individual factors. In the meantime, some social, economic and cultural factors are also among the factors that hinder the implementation of research projects. At the Islamic Azad University of Yasouj, within a period of 5 years, from 232 research projects 40 projects (16%) not implemented projects that at different stages and process of the research are faced with stagnation and impairment. There are a series of factors and obstacles that in individual and organizational aspects can prevent the implementation of researches. Basically, scientific-research studies are carried out with different objectives, and also the researchers do scientific researches with different goals and motivations that some of the most important of them are mentioned below.

Professors and faculty members of universities and centers of excellence, to enhance their scientific degrees and increase academic and legal status and also preserve their scientific and cultural reputation, commit themselves to do research within their field. For this reason, over the years, alongside the work of learning and teaching, pay attention to research and for academic and research journals, as well as various international and national conferences, in the guise of research work, extract and send the articles. And if the research paper be accepted, they use its issued certificate. Doing research is valuable for several reasons: First, the researcher by doing the research, and studying new theoretical foundations of thinkers of the world, becomes familiar with most new threads and scientific achievements of the world and make them available to the scientific community of the country in the form of papers and researches. Second, gain acceptance certificate of scientific and research articles promotes the cultural status and science ranking and economic class of researcher. These factors along with material and spiritual encouragements of researcher by administrative institutions and units lead to create motivation. Society is always influenced by rapid scientific and industrial changes of world. Gain these continuous scientific changes is one of the main tasks of higher education system and universities. Universities to avoid falling behind the science and new developments of science and technology have to find a solution. One of these solutions is that by doing research projects and call for papers, scientific experts and professors are asked to run their researches in all areas of science, such as behavioral sciences, social sciences, medical

sciences, technical and engineering sciences, and so on. Therefore, the results of elite researches, in various scientific journals and in seminars and conferences, are collected and discussed. Since the thoughts and opinions of scientific elite impact on society, executive institutions and agencies of the country use the obtained opportunity to use theories and researches by these elite and in return grant spiritual and material privileges to the researchers. Pay for research projects, is an important economic factor that can motivate researchers to conduct research. Approve the proposal and stepwise implementation of research, along with paying the research costs from the relevant organizations causes to grow the research works. Authorities' trust and the use of theories and results and suggestions of the researchers is another important factor in doing researches.

What are the causes of non-implementation of research projects in Islamic Azad University of Yasouj?

Economic dimension: executive agencies and research institutions sign agreement with the researchers and the research stages are controlled and checked by the Executive Committee of that institution, but the related research institution, for various reasons shirk the timely payment of fees to researcher. While accurate execution of a research work is very hard, time-consuming and costly. Implementation of research projects, in any manner that is run, needs a lot of preliminaries and resources and equipment; resources such as books, magazines, internet, computer, printer, paper, vehicles, questionnaire, laboratory equipment, skilled interviewers, and data analysis and so on that the researcher cannot prepare them, and its absence causes the problem to conduct research. Therefore, due to the lack of capital the research work stops in the middle.

Individual and Motivational dimension: Another important factor affecting the lack of implementation of researches is individual factors. Since doing the research needs skills and specific theoretical and technical knowledge, such as proposal writing skills, different research methods, computer skills, such as the Internet, Word, Excel as well as skill of software for data analysis and so on, most people do not see the ability to do research in themselves and avoid the investigation. Also, as it was suggested in the economic debate, high costs of doing research and lack of strong financial and administrative support and lack of timely payment of costs eliminate the incentive to conduct research in researchers. Since the structure of our higher education system do not communicate with research works in an organized manner, and do not continuously want scientific theory of researchers, and do not consider material motivation, the interest and motivation are not created in academic researcher and the elite.

Social and cultural dimension: social and cultural dimension is also of the most important factors in non-implementation of researches. Implementation of a strong and reliable research needs first-hand and rich scientific resources. Scientific and professional books and magazines, equipped libraries with cultural and scientific facilities, high-speed Internet and other cultural factors, are considered among them. Researchers in most cases have no access to these facilities and thus, it is difficult to carry out a research. Researcher instead of being concerned about conduct a thorough and classy investigation, and spend his time and energy on scientific and technical research, should think about preparing facilities, tools and costs of his affairs. In such a case it is natural that the research is abandoned unfinished, or a correct and complete research is not achieved and does not have scientific load and reliable results, and on the other hand the existence of such problems, causing frustration and lack of enthusiasm for the researchers. Another thing is that our society as it is necessary and appropriate, do not know

the value and importance of research and are not aware, As a result about the participation of researchers, such as doing interviews, filling the questionnaires or participating in the tests, do not participate and do not wholeheartedly serve to the science and research. The next item is that on the basis of macro structure and program of the country, the main task of master and student and university system of the country, in the first place, is teaching-oriented and is based on topics determined by the higher education system, teaching books and examination of the contents of the book and the introduced sources. Research work in second grade has importance and application. Sometimes students are asked to do practical and research works, but because of their involvement in the university or lack of interest or lack of ability, and given that the score-oriented is the goal and have no result for him and is an interrupted work and perhaps only once, he avoids doing research and by visiting the Internet cafes and vendors of prepared researches, doing his research work as superficial and naturally the result of such method is the backsliding of research affairs.

Some of the research projects do not have proportion and affinity with the needs of the community, because at the time of presents the theme and proposal, scientific work and technical review has not been done on the proposal and naturally investment on such projects has no results but losses and thus makes the scholar to abandon his research.

Administrative and structural dimension: researchers to conduct their researches, from the beginning to the end of his work, deal with strict, cumbersome and complex rules and bureaucratic is very time-consuming, which in practice has no benefit. At this stage, the researcher must waste his time and energy to do the hard and long-term administrative works in a maze of administrative laws. On the other hand, achieve the results and provide practical suggestions in study are not much used by the authorities, and the authorities do not trust the results and do not pay attention. This issue and due to the fact that a scientific study is carried out with great effort and high costs and virtually has no proper output causes to lack of motivation of researchers and leads to discouragement and discontent of researchers.

Discussion and conclusion

Perhaps it can be said that, today the quality of life and existence of any country depends on its Comprehensive scientific system, which mainly covers two fields of education and research. From everyday life and how to live and people's personal and private issues to fundamental and macro issues of growth and development of the society and the country come back to knowledge and wisdom and subsequently to the ability of it. Accordingly, one of the roots of the problems, backwardness and issues of any society should be searched in the efficiency or inefficiency of knowledge, education and research of that community. Now in Iran we have a higher and research education system that its main task is to train scientific and educational force of the country. Professor and student form the basic pillars of our country's education system. The scientific and elite forces, in addition to their theoretical and training courses, for awareness of new achievements of the world in various scientific aspects, need to study and research. The existence and the ability of higher education system depends on the amount of applied researches and the ranking achievement of our universities among universities of the world, subject to the quantity and quality of research activities of that systems. Moreover, one of the main factors for the growth and development of any countries depends on the scientific and academic researches of it. The study of research rate of the world also reveals this issue. Study of scientific researches of universities and scientific institutions show that the research situation of the country is not desirable. For example, in a short comparison, in 1997 in the

United States of America per 1,000 people, in South Korea per 6,000 people, and in Iran per 120,000 people, an International article has been published. In the Higher education system in our country, more time and energy of professors and students is spent on educational issues and pay attention to research less. This issue is disturbing to realize the visions of development of the country, and is considered a serious obstacle to the growth and progress of the country. Therefore, investigating the various factors, obstacles and restrictions of research in the scientific and academic community as well as providing proper solutions to achieve the research global average, seems necessary.

Suggestions

Create and develop motivation and creativity in higher education system to foster the researcher professor and student.

Form the specialized and counseling teams to guide and counsel the researchers in the fields of humanities and basic sciences.

Need assessment and decision-making based on the objective and real needs of the community.

Strengthen the spirit of collectivism, collaboration and teamwork and create healthy competition among professors and students, which leads to group dynamism and growth among them.

Continuous and extensive communication with scientific research centers and institutes at home and abroad.

Allocate sufficient funds for scientific research.

Build trust and attention of official to the results of research.

Build research and proposal writing workshops and classes in universities with experienced and international professors.

Research limitations

- Research Costs which were resolved with the assistance of family.

- Specific legal limits which were removed with the assistance and cooperation of competent authorities and obtaining a license.

- Library officials refused to give that information that these limitations were removed with their guidance and reassurance.

- Lack of access to reliable sources that by going to the library, reliable sites and students' theses, magazines and journals theoretical foundations were set.

- Research time and accompanying the duration of the project with curriculum that the problem was removed with planning.

- Lack of Library officials' accountability and lack of information of some researchers that the problem is resolved by explaining the preservation of individuals' personal information.

- Time consuming to do research and collect them is another limitation of this study.

- The lack of scientific sources including academic books related to the topic.

- The cost problems to do thesis in various stages of questioning to binding.

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