

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS UNIVERSITY (IBU)

Policy Control

Policy Number	3033
Policy Title	IBU Research Policy
Policy Owner / Responsible Offices	Executive Dean and Vice President
Approval Authority	Academic Council
Applies To	All funded and unfunded research and scholarly activities conducted under the University's auspices, including those involving faculty, staff, students, researchers, and external collaborators.
Approval Date	July 17, 2026
Effective Date	July 17, 2026
Review Date/s	Every three years, or earlier if required
Revision Date/s	-
Revision Implementation Date/s	-

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

International Business University recognizes research as an important contributor to academic quality, student success, institutional development, innovation, professional practice, and societal impact. The purpose of this policy is to establish the institutional framework governing research conducted under the auspices of the University and to articulate the principles, expectations, and responsibilities that guide research activity across the institution. The policy supports the development of a sustainable and mission-aligned research culture while promoting research integrity, responsible conduct, accountability, collaboration, and appropriate stewardship of institutional resources. It also provides a framework for aligning research initiatives with the University's strategic priorities, academic mission, external partnerships, and long-term institutional aspirations.

2. PURPOSE

The policy is intended to serve as the umbrella governance framework for research at IBU and should be read in conjunction with other institutional policies governing ethics, intellectual property, data management, and related matters.

3. POLICY STATEMENT

International Business University is committed to supporting research that is rigorous, ethical, student-engaged, institutionally relevant, externally connected, and aligned with the University's mission as a professionally oriented institution of higher education. The University recognizes research as an important mechanism through which faculty, students, staff, and external collaborators contribute to knowledge creation, innovation, educational enhancement, evidence-informed decision-making, economic development, and societal advancement. Research activity at IBU should support academic excellence, enrich teaching and learning, strengthen graduate outcomes, inform institutional practice, support responsible business and sustainability, contribute to innovation and entrepreneurship, and generate value for communities, employers, and society. Research should also strengthen the University's academic reputation, support the development of faculty expertise, enhance student learning opportunities, and contribute to the University's broader mission of preparing graduates for meaningful participation in a rapidly changing world.

4. APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all research and scholarly activity conducted under the name, authority, resources, systems, facilities, partnerships, centres, institutes, programs, or administrative structures of International Business University. It applies to faculty members, adjunct faculty members, staff, students, visiting scholars, fellows, research associates, affiliates, and external collaborators participating in research activities sponsored, supported, administered, or publicly represented as being conducted under the auspices of the University. The policy applies to both funded and unfunded research and to research undertaken independently or in collaboration with external organizations, institutions, governments, community partners, professional bodies, or industry stakeholders.

5. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this policy, the following definitions apply:

Applied Research: Research intended to address practical challenges, opportunities, or questions relevant to organizations, professions, industries, governments, communities, or society.

Knowledge Mobilization: Activities intended to communicate, translate, disseminate, or apply research findings to relevant audiences, including students, employers, policymakers, professional communities, industry partners, and the broader public.

Research: A systematic investigation, scholarly inquiry, creative activity, or applied initiative undertaken to generate, develop, test, interpret, apply, or mobilize knowledge.

Research Centre or Institute: An institutionally recognized entity established by the University to advance approved areas of research focus, support research activities, facilitate partnerships, promote knowledge mobilization, and contribute to institutional research priorities.

Research Security: Risk-based measures intended to protect research activities, assets, information, infrastructure, partnerships, intellectual assets, and institutional interests from misuse, misappropriation, unauthorized disclosure, interference, or other security-related threats.

Researcher: Any individual conducting research under the auspices of International Business University, including faculty members, adjunct faculty members, staff, students, visiting scholars, fellows, research associates, affiliates, and approved external collaborators.

Responsible Conduct of Research: Research behaviour characterized by honesty, rigour, accountability, transparency, fairness, appropriate attribution, responsible stewardship of resources, and compliance with applicable institutional, legal, ethical, contractual, professional, and regulatory obligations.

6. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The Academic Council is responsible for approving this policy and providing governance oversight of the University's research framework.
- The Executive Dean and Vice-President Academic is responsible for the interpretation, implementation, administration, and continuous improvement of the institutional research environment and associated governance processes.
- The Research Advisory and Ethics Committee shall exercise those responsibilities assigned to it under its governing policy and approved terms of reference.
- Research centres and institutes are responsible for advancing approved institutional priorities within their respective mandates.
- Finally, researchers are responsible for conducting research in accordance with this policy and all other applicable institutional, ethical, legal, contractual, and regulatory requirements.

7. PRINCIPLES

7.1 INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH PRIORITIES

The University may establish and periodically revise institutional research priorities to guide strategic investments, partnership development, centre and institute activities, research support initiatives, and institutional planning. Such priorities shall be determined through appropriate governance processes and shall be intended to focus

institutional resources and opportunities rather than restrict scholarly inquiry. Researchers remain free to pursue legitimate scholarly work beyond identified institutional priorities, provided such activities comply with applicable institutional requirements and obligations. Institutional priorities may evolve over time in response to changes in the University's strategic plan, academic offerings, societal needs, emerging opportunities, faculty expertise, student interests, and external developments.

7.2 RESEARCH CENTRES AND INSTITUTES

International Business University may establish research centres, institutes, observatories, laboratories, or other research entities to advance approved areas of focus and institutional priorities. Such entities shall operate under approved mandates and governance structures that define their purpose, leadership, reporting relationships, planning expectations, accountability requirements, and review mechanisms. Research centres and institutes shall support the University's research mission while operating in accordance with applicable institutional policies and procedures. These entities are intended to facilitate collaboration, promote knowledge mobilization, strengthen external engagement, support student participation in research, and contribute to the development of sustainable research capacity across the institution.

7.3 RESPONSIBLE CONDUCT OF RESEARCH

The University expects all research to be conducted in a manner consistent with the highest standards of academic and professional integrity. Researchers are expected to demonstrate scholarly rigour, maintain appropriate records, accurately represent research methods and findings, acknowledge contributions and sources appropriately, responsibly manage institutional and external resources, disclose conflicts of interest where required, and comply with applicable laws, regulations, policies, agreements, and funding requirements. Researchers are also expected to contribute to a culture of honesty, accountability, collegiality, transparency, and respect in all aspects of research activity. The University is committed to fostering an environment that supports responsible conduct of research through education, guidance, oversight, mentorship, and appropriate accountability mechanisms.

7.4 RESEARCH ETHICS

Research involving human participants shall be governed by the University's Policy on Ethical Research, the Policy on the Research Advisory and Ethics Committee (RAEC), applicable RAEC procedures and guidance documents, and the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2), as amended. Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted as superseding or replacing the authority, role, responsibilities, procedures, review requirements, or approval processes

established under those documents. All researchers are expected to comply with the requirements established by those policies and procedures before commencing any research activity that requires ethics review or approval.

7.5 RESEARCH SECURITY AND RISK MANAGEMENT

The University recognizes that research security is an increasingly important component of responsible research governance. Research activities should be conducted using a risk-based approach that appropriately considers partnership arrangements, funding sources, sensitive technologies, confidential information, intellectual assets, cybersecurity considerations, legal obligations, contractual commitments, and reputational risks. Measures adopted to safeguard research shall be proportionate to identified risks and implemented in a manner consistent with academic freedom, legitimate collaboration, equity, inclusion, fairness, and non-discrimination. Researchers are expected to cooperate with institutional processes intended to protect research activities and associated assets while maintaining the openness and collaboration that are fundamental to scholarship and innovation.

7.6 RESEARCH APPROVAL AND INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT

Institutional approval shall be required where research is conducted under the University's name, uses institutional resources, involves institutional funding, engages students as researchers, utilizes institutional data, establishes formal external partnerships, creates obligations for the University, or is submitted on behalf of the institution. The Executive Dean and Vice-President Academic shall establish procedures governing the review, approval, support, and administration of such activities in order to ensure appropriate institutional oversight, risk management, accountability, and alignment with institutional priorities.

7.7 STUDENT PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH

The University encourages meaningful student participation in research as an important component of academic development, experiential learning, skills acquisition, and professional preparation. Student research may include course-based projects, capstone activities, research assistantships, applied research initiatives, centre and institute activities, conference participation, publications, and other scholarly dissemination opportunities. Student research activities shall normally occur under appropriate academic supervision and shall comply with applicable institutional expectations relating to ethics, academic integrity, confidentiality, professionalism, and responsible conduct. All students proposing research involving human participants shall follow the expectations of the University's Policy on Ethical Research, the Policy on the Research Advisory and Ethics Committee (RAEC), applicable RAEC procedures and guidance

documents, and the Tri-Council Policy Statement: Ethical Conduct for Research Involving Humans (TCPS 2), as amended.

7.8 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Ownership, use, protection, commercialization, licensing, revenue sharing, and other matters relating to intellectual property shall be governed by the University's Intellectual Property Policy and any applicable agreements. Nothing in this policy alters or supersedes the rights, obligations, responsibilities, or procedures established under those documents.

7.9 RESEARCH DATA AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

The governance, collection, storage, retention, protection, classification, access, sharing, security, and disposal of institutional data and information shall be governed by the University's Institutional Data and Information Management Policy and related procedures. Research activities involving institutional data are expected to comply with all applicable requirements established under those documents. Nothing in this policy supersedes the authority of those policies with respect to data governance, privacy, security, records management, or information stewardship.

7.10 EQUITY, DIVERSITY, INCLUSION AND ACCESSIBILITY

International Business University is committed to fostering an inclusive research environment in which individuals have equitable opportunities to participate in research activities and contribute to scholarly inquiry. Research-related decisions and activities should be conducted in a manner that respects human dignity, promotes accessibility, values diverse perspectives and experiences, supports meaningful participation, and aligns with applicable legal and institutional requirements concerning equity, diversity, inclusion, and accessibility. The University further recognizes that diverse perspectives contribute to stronger scholarship, broader innovation, and more meaningful research outcomes.

8. REVIEW

This policy shall be reviewed every three years, or earlier if required by changes in legislation, regulatory requirements, strategic priorities, research funding expectations, institutional governance needs, or developments in the broader research environment.

9. COMPLIANCE PROCEDURES

Compliance with this policy is the responsibility of all individuals conducting research under the auspices of the University. Alleged breaches relating to responsible conduct of research, research integrity, research security, institutional requirements, funding

obligations, contractual commitments, or other applicable standards may be reviewed by appropriate institutional authorities in accordance with applicable policies and procedures. Where warranted, the University may undertake review, investigation, corrective action, reporting, or other measures consistent with its governance obligations and applicable legal, regulatory, contractual, and policy requirements. The University is committed to ensuring that such processes are fair, appropriate, proportionate, and consistent with principles of procedural fairness and institutional accountability.

10. RELATED DOCUMENTS

IBU Intellectual Property Policy

IBU Institutional Data and Information Management Policy

[TCPS 2: CORE-2022](#)

[Policy on the Research Advisory and Ethics Committee](#)

[Research Advisory and Ethics Committee Terms of Reference](#)

Research Ethics Application Form (for projects involving human participants)

[IBU Research Ethics Amendment Application Form](#)

[Quick Guide to Research Ethics](#)

[Research Ethics Review Process \(Human Participants Research\) Flowchart](#)

[Research Ethics Review Checklist \(Human Participants Research\)](#)

[Research Advisory and Ethics Committee Decision Notification Form](#)

[Conflict of Interest Statement](#)

[Informed Consent Form](#)