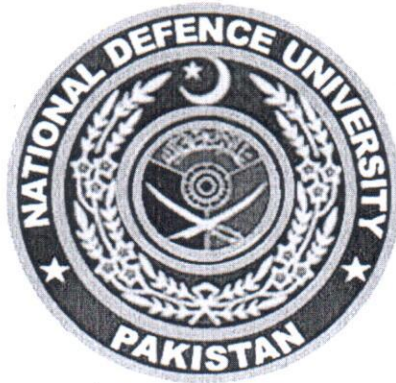


NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY
ISLAMABAD



SOP – For Evaluation Committee

Best Research Article(S) and Book of the Year Award(s)

03 Sep, 2015

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR EVALUATION COMMITTEE
BEST RESEARCH ARTICLE(S) AND BOOK OF THE YEAR AWARD(S)
NATIONAL DEFENCE UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD

1. **Introduction** The HEC guidelines about the research articles, published in the recognized journals of different categories (cat), are available on-line. This provides a basis for the assessment of research quality of the published articles, its degree of impact on the research paradigm and its extent of pushing the frontiers of knowledge. The category of journals and hence, the research publication appearing in these journals, ranges from 'W' to 'Z' cats, 'W' being the highest. All journals of cat 'W' for social sciences are international journals. These have further been graded according to their Impact Factor (IF). A journal with greater IF, signifies higher degree of originality in the research work, being more widely quoted/cited in contemporary research as an authority. Articles published in cat 'Z' of HEC recognized journal, barely conform to the minimum (min) standards of quality research and hence do not qualify for the 'Best Research Article of the Year' awards, because it will reflect very poorly on the NDU standards for quality research. In order to make accurate assessment on the quality of research articles, submitted for the "Best Research Article of the Year Award", "Young Researcher of the Year Award" and "Best Book of the Year Award", following procedure will be adopted by the evaluation committee.

2. **NDU "Best Research Article of the Year", NDU "Young Researcher of the Year Award"**

Following procedure may be adopted for selection of the best research articles published in different categories:-

a. **General Requirement:**

- (1) Min number of competing articles for any category has to be equal to or more than 03, for either category. Honorarium for the best article will be equal for both cats.
- (2) Competitors for the young researcher must be less than 40 years of age on the last date of the academic year (1st September – 31st August next year).
- (3) Young researchers can join open competition for the 'Best Research Article' of the year award also, but same article will receive only one award.
- (4) In case a book is selected for the subject award, any research article published using the same concept, data and other related material from the book, will not qualify for the research article awards.
- (5) Research articles from solo author will be given preference over joint publication in research awards in case of a tie.

b. **Articles Published in Impact Factor Journals (Cat 'W'):**

- (1) If there is only one IF foreign publication submitted in the competition, it should be preferred over those research articles published in lower cats 'X' and 'Y'.
- (2) If there are more than one IF foreign publications, then the research article with IF higher than the other(s), should be the winner.
- (3) If two or more articles have same Impact Factor (IF), then committee members will grade each article on Performa attached and break the contention.

c. **Articles Published in HEC Recognized Local Journals (Cat 'X' & 'Y')**

- (1) In case there are no research articles in cat 'W' then articles published in cat 'X' journal should be considered of higher quality than the others.
- (2) If there is no research article in cat 'W' and 'X', then articles published in cat 'Y' will be preferred for the said award.

- (3) In case top two or more competing articles are in category 'X' or in category, committee members will grade each article on the the attached Performa.

3. **Best Book Award For the Year:** In order to promote excellence in the publication of quality book(s) by the Faculty Members/RAs/Students/Staff of NDU, following procedure for the '**Best Book of the Year Award**' may be adopted:-

- a. The definition of the book with regards to the numbers of pages etc, will be same as given in NDU "Incentive Based Research Policy" (http://10.10.10.120/ndu_google/sops.html).
- b. A book clearly marked as an MPhil / PhD thesis, for which respective degree has been awarded already, is not eligible for the competition. This criteria is also followed by HEC for its annual best book award.
- c. Ideally the book should be on a topic of contemporary research or an anthology on a similar topic highlighting progression of research developments taking place over the years in the focused area.
- d. The decision of the committee shall be final. In case more than one book qualify for the competition, the members of the committee will evaluate the books on the attached Performa and take considered decision.



Director QEC
(Prof Dr. Muhammad Riaz)

03 Sep, 2015