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Notification

The Industry – Academia Collaboration Policy

Pursuant to the resolutions of the 1st meeting of the Executive Council vide **No. 3(A)** dated 30/09/2026, the undersigned is pleased to notify **the Industry – Academia Collaboration Policy.**

The said **Policy** shall come into effect immediately.

Registrar
North Lakhimpur University
REGISTRAR
North Lakhimpur University
Lakhimpur, Assam

Memo No: NLU/Ind-aca/2026/1253(A) Date: 16/10/2026

Copy to-

1) Dean, Research and Development
2) Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
3) Dean (i/c), Faculty of Science and Technology
4) Dean, Student Welfare
5) Head, All Departments
6) PA to the Vice-Chancellor
7) Website Administrator with a request to upload to the website
8) Office file

Registrar
North Lakhimpur University

The Industry- Academia Collaboration Policy

North Lakhimpur University

Lakhimpur, Assam- 787031

Approved by

The Executive Council, North Lakhimpur University

Date: - 30-09-2026.

Resolution No. 3(A)

REGISTRAR
North Lakhimpur University
Lakhimpur, Assam

1. Preamble

The industry-Academia Collaboration Policy of North Lakhimpur University is a strategic initiative aimed at fostering a robust partnership between the academic community and industrial sectors. This policy envisions a dynamic framework where the strengths of both academia and industry are leveraged to drive research, innovation, skill development, problem-solving and employment. By bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical industrial applications, the University aspires to contribute to technological advancements and economic development at regional, state and national levels.

The collaboration is built on the principles of mutual benefit and shared growth. Industries gain access to innovative research outputs, technological solutions, and a highly skilled talent pool, while the University benefits from exposure to real-world challenges, resource sharing, funding opportunities, and enhanced learning experiences for its students and faculty. This partnership supports the co-creation of industry-relevant curricula, joint research projects, knowledge-sharing events, and the establishment of innovation ecosystems.

Furthermore, the policy underscores the importance of fostering a culture of entrepreneurship, innovation, and employability by facilitating internships, industry visits, and mentorship programs. Through a structured, transparent, and result-oriented approach, North Lakhimpur University aims to establish itself as a hub for collaborative research and innovation, contributing meaningfully to both academia and industry while promoting societal progress.

2. Objectives

The industry-Academia Collaboration Policy of North Lakhimpur University is designed to achieve the following objectives, aligned with the overarching vision outlined in the preamble:

1. **Bridge the Gap Between Academia and Industry:** Establish strong partnerships to connect academic research and industrial practices, ensuring students and faculty participation by exposing to the latest advancements, tools, and technologies used in real-world applications.

2. **Foster Research and Innovation:** Encourage collaborative research projects focused on solving complex industrial problems and addressing societal challenges. The goal is to co-create innovative solutions that benefit both the University and industrial sectors.
3. **Promote Skill Development and Student Employability:** Provide students with opportunities for internships, industrial training, and hands-on projects to enhance their employability. Enable faculty to gain industry exposure and integrate practical insights into teaching.
4. **Enhance Curriculum Relevance:** Collaborate with industry partners to co-develop and update the curriculum to align with evolving industrial trends and technological advancements.
5. **Encourage Entrepreneurship and Startups:** Support entrepreneurial ventures by establishing innovation hubs and incubators, where students and faculty can work on product development with industry mentors.
6. **Resource Sharing and Capacity Building:** Facilitate mutual sharing of infrastructure, research facilities, and knowledge resources to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of research and educational activities.
7. **Regional and National Development:**Contribute to the socio-economic development of the region by addressing local industry challenges, promoting job creation, and fostering technological advancements beneficial to the community.
8. **Create a Knowledge Exchange Platform:** Organize workshops, seminars, and expert lectures to promote knowledge transfer and collaborative learning between industry professionals, students, and faculty.

This comprehensive set of objectives ensures a balanced and mutually beneficial relationship between North Lakhimpur University and its industry partners.

3. Scope of the Collaboration

The industry-Academia Collaboration at North Lakhimpur University encompasses a broad range of activities designed to foster innovation, research, skill development and employability while providing mutual benefits to both the University and industry partners. The scope includes but is not limited to the following areas:

3.1. Joint Research Projects

- Promote collaborative research initiatives where faculty, students, and industry experts work together to address technological and societal challenges.
- Focus on applied research for developing innovative products, technologies, and solutions.
- Encourage co-publication of research findings and co-creation of intellectual property.

3.1.1 Governing Policies for Joint Research Projects

To ensure the smooth execution and mutual benefit of joint research projects, the following governing policies shall be adopted. Both the University and the industry partner shall sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** before initiating any joint research project. The MoU should include the policies outlined below to govern the collaboration effectively:

3.1.1.1. Objectives and Scope Definition

- The MoU should clearly define the research project's objectives, expected outcomes, and scope, ensuring alignment with the strategic goals of both parties.
- Specific roles and responsibilities of faculty members, students, and industry representatives shall be detailed to prevent any ambiguity.

3.1.1.2. Research Proposal and Approval Process

- A detailed research proposal, including objectives, methodology, timeline, budget, and expected deliverables, shall be submitted by both parties before the commencement of the project.
- The proposal shall be reviewed and approved by both the University's Industry-Academia Collaboration Committee (IACC) and the industry partner's designated team.

3.1.1.3. Funding and Resource Allocation

- The MoU should specify funding responsibilities and contributions from both the University and the industry partner, including a clear budget breakdown for the research project.
- Both parties should share research resources, including financial, technical, and infrastructural support, as agreed upon in the MoU.

3.1.1.4. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR)

- The MoU shall include a clear clause on Intellectual Property (IP) rights, adhering to the **IPR Policy of North Lakhimpur University.**

3.1.1.5. Project Management and Monitoring

- A project coordinator shall be designated from both the University and industry to oversee the project and maintain constant communication.
- The MoU should outline the frequency and format of progress reviews to ensure alignment with project milestones and deadlines.
- Both parties should agree to maintain comprehensive documentation and regular progress reports.

3.1.1.6. Confidentiality and Data Security

- Confidentiality clauses shall be incorporated into the MoU to ensure the protection of sensitive research data and intellectual property.
- Both parties should sign non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) if necessary, as specified in the MoU, to prevent unauthorized disclosure of proprietary information.

3.1.1.7. Research Ethics and Compliance

- The MoU should emphasize the need for adherence to ethical research guidelines and regulatory compliance throughout the project.
- Both parties shall commit to ensuring transparency, fairness, and integrity in the research process.

3.1.1.8. Contribution and Recognition

- The MoU should stipulate how each party's contributions will be recognized in publications, research findings, presentations, and patents.
- Opportunities for co-authorship in research papers and joint publications shall be explicitly outlined.

3.1.1.9. Conflict Resolution Mechanism

- The MoU should include a clear conflict resolution mechanism for addressing disputes related to funding, intellectual property, project direction, or any other issues that may arise.
- An independent mediator or committee may be designated to handle conflicts if necessary.

3.1.1.10. Duration and Termination of Projects

- The MoU should specify the agreed-upon project duration, with clear terms for extensions if needed.
- The MoU shall also outline the conditions under which the project may be terminated early, including provisions for handling assets, data, and any intellectual property generated.

3.1.1.11. Performance Evaluation and Reporting

- The MoU should include performance evaluation criteria to assess the project's success, such as the number of publications, patents, or prototype developments.
- Upon completion, both parties should submit a final report that outlines the research outcomes, impact, and any recommendations for future collaboration.

This comprehensive MoU will serve as a binding agreement that ensures both the University and industry partners are aligned, protect their interests, and work towards achieving the shared goals of the research project.

3.2. Consultancy Services

- Provide consultancy services to industries in areas of expertise, including scientific problem-solving, product development, and process optimization.
- Establish clear terms for consultancy agreements, ensuring fair remuneration and recognition for faculty expertise.
- Foster long-term partnerships with industries seeking continuous technical advice.

3.2.1 Governing Policies for Consultancy Services

Consultancy services are a key component of the Industry-Academia Collaboration Policy at North Lakhimpur University. To ensure clarity, transparency, and mutual benefit, the following policies should govern all consultancy engagements between the University and industry partners. These policies shall be included in a **Consultancy Agreement** signed by both parties before commencing any consultancy project.

3.2.1.1. Consultancy Agreement and MoU

- Prior to initiating any consultancy project, both parties shall sign a formal **Consultancy Agreement** or **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**.
- The agreement should clearly outline the terms, scope, deliverables, timelines, fees, and the roles and responsibilities of each party involved.

3.2.1.2. Scope of Consultancy Services

- Define the specific consultancy services to be provided, including technical expertise, problem-solving, product development, process optimization, training, and other industry-specific needs.
- Both the University and industry partner should agree on the expected outcomes and measurable results from the consultancy service.

3.2.1.3. Fee Structure and Payment Terms

- The MoU should specify the agreed-upon fee for consultancy services, including payment schedules (e.g., upfront, milestone payments, or upon completion).
- Clearly define any additional expenses, such as travel, materials, or equipment costs, and how they will be handled.

3.2.1.4. Resource Allocation

- Both the University and the industry partner should allocate the necessary resources for the successful completion of the consultancy project.
- The University may provide faculty, research staff, and students for support, and the industry partner shall provide access to data, infrastructure, and any other resources needed.

3.2.1.5. Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) and Confidentiality

- The MoU shall include a clear clause on Intellectual Property (IP) rights, adhering to the **IPR Policy 2024 of North Lakhimpur University.**

3.2.1.6. Reporting and Communication

- Establish a regular reporting mechanism, including progress updates and any interim findings or recommendations.
- Define how communications between the University and the industry partner will be managed (e.g., periodic meetings, emails, reports).
- Ensure that the consultancy team, including University faculty and students, maintains regular contact with the industry partner to address questions or issues as they arise.

3.2.1.7. Timelines and Milestones

- Set clear project timelines, with defined milestones and deadlines for the completion of various phases of the consultancy.

- The MoU should include provisions for adjusting timelines, if necessary, with mutual consent.
- Delays or deviations from the agreed schedule shall be communicated and addressed promptly.

3.2.1.8. Roles and Responsibilities

- Clearly delineate the roles and responsibilities of all parties involved in the consultancy.
- The University may assign faculty members, researchers, or students with relevant expertise, while the industry partner is expected to provide access to necessary data, facilities, and resources.

3.2.1.9. Performance Evaluation

- Set specific key performance indicators (KPIs) to assess the success of the consultancy project.
- Define measurable outcomes, such as improved processes, product designs, or technological solutions that result from the consultancy.
- A final evaluation report shall be submitted, detailing the consultancy's success, challenges, and any areas for future improvement.

3.2.1.10. Conflict Resolution

- Include a dispute resolution mechanism in the Consultancy Agreement, addressing any potential conflicts between the University and the industry partner.
- The mechanism could include mediation or arbitration processes to resolve disagreements in a timely and fair manner.

3.2.1.11. Termination Clause

- Clearly define the conditions under which either party may terminate the consultancy project.
- Address what happens to any intellectual property, payments, or materials if the agreement is terminated prematurely.

3.2.1.12. Post-Consultancy Engagement

- Consider provisions for post-consultancy collaboration, such as follow-up support or future consultancy opportunities.

- The consultancy agreement should leave room for future engagement or ongoing collaboration based on the success of the project.

These policies ensure that the consultancy services are mutually beneficial, professionally managed, and conducted with clarity, integrity, and respect for intellectual property. They help both the University and industry partner achieve their objectives while maintaining transparency and fostering long-term relationships.

3.3. Lectures and Workshops

- Organize knowledge-sharing sessions where industry professionals deliver expert talks and workshops for students and faculty.
- Conduct joint training sessions on emerging technologies and industry trends.
- Facilitate interactive forums for idea exchange and networking between academia and industry representatives.

3.3.1. Governing Policies for Lectures and Workshops

Lectures and workshops serve as an essential aspect of the Industry-Academia Collaboration at North Lakhimpur University, facilitating knowledge exchange and professional development. The following governing policies should guide the organization and execution of lectures and workshops conducted as part of the collaboration between the University and industry partners:

3.3.1.1. Agreement and MoU

- Prior to the commencement of any lecture or workshop, both the University and industry partner should sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** or agreement that defines the terms of the collaboration.
- The MoU should outline the purpose, objectives, scope, target audience, duration, and expected outcomes of the lecture/workshop.
- The MoU should outline expectations regarding speaker fees, honorariums, travel expenses, and other related logistics.

3.3.1.2. Planning and Coordination

- Both parties shall jointly plan the content and schedule of lectures and workshops to ensure alignment with the needs of both the industry and academic community.
- A coordination team shall be designated, consisting of representatives from both the University and the industry partner, to manage logistics, communication, and resource allocation.
- The date, time, and venue for the lecture/workshop shall be agreed upon well in advance and shall be convenient for the participants.

3.3.1.3. Content Development and Delivery

- The content of lectures and workshops shall be relevant, up-to-date, and aligned with current trends and advancements in the industry.
- Industry experts, faculty members, and other professionals should contribute to content creation and delivery.
- The MoU should specify the key topics to be covered, the format (e.g., keynote presentations, interactive sessions, panel discussions), and the expected duration of each session.

3.3.1.4. Selection of Speakers and Trainers

- Industry professionals, subject matter experts, and University faculty members shall be selected as speakers or trainers based on their expertise in the relevant field.
- Both parties should agree on the selection process, ensuring that speakers or trainers are well-qualified and experienced.

3.3.1.5. Target Audience

- The target audience for lectures and workshops shall be jointly determined by the University and the concerned industry. This audience may include students, faculty, industry professionals, and other relevant stakeholders.

- Special consideration shall be given to the needs of students and faculty for knowledge enhancement; while also ensuring industry professionals gain value from the sessions.
- Audience participation shall be encouraged through interactive formats, Q&A sessions, and hands-on activities.

3.3.1.6. Funding and Resource Allocation

- The MoU should outline funding responsibilities for both the University and the industry partner, including the allocation of resources for materials, venues, technical equipment, refreshments, and speaker honorariums.
- Both parties should work together to ensure that necessary logistics, such as venue arrangements, audiovisual equipment, and presentation materials, are provided.

3.3.1.7. Intellectual Property and Materials

- Any materials created for the lecture or workshop, including presentations, handouts, and other intellectual content, shall be clearly defined in the MoU regarding ownership and usage rights.
- The MoU should specify whether the content will be shared publicly, published, or restricted to specific audiences.
- Both parties shall respect intellectual property rights and ensure proper attribution for any shared content.

3.3.1.8. Evaluation and Feedback

- Both parties should establish a system for collecting feedback from participants to assess the effectiveness and impact of the lecture or workshop.
- Feedback shall be used to improve future events and address any areas for improvement.
- A post-event evaluation report shall be shared with all stakeholders, highlighting key learnings, participant engagement, and recommendations for future sessions.

3.3.1.9. Certification and Recognition

- Certificates of participation shall be provided to attendees, especially students and professionals, as a means of recognizing their engagement and learning.
- The MoU should outline the criteria for receiving certificates and ensure that both parties' logos and branding are included on official documentation.

3.3.1.10. Promotion and Outreach

- Both the University and industry partner should jointly promote the training session/workshop through various channels, including social media, websites, posters, and emails.
- Promotional material should clearly indicate the objectives of the session, the speakers, and the registration process.

- Ensure outreach to the target audience, especially students, faculty, and relevant industry professionals.

3.3.1.11. Follow-Up Activities

- After the lecture/workshop, both parties should consider follow-up activities to reinforce the key takeaways.
- These may include additional workshops, webinars, study groups, or networking events.
- Follow-up communications shall be sent to participants, offering further resources or opportunities to continue the conversation.

3.3.1.12. Termination or Modification of Events

- The MoU should specify conditions under which the lecture/workshop may be canceled or rescheduled, including force majeure circumstances (e.g., natural disasters, unforeseen events).
- Both parties should agree on a process for informing participants and rescheduling or refunding fees if necessary.

3.3.1.13. Liability and Insurance

- The MoU should include provisions for liability in case of accidents or damages during the event.
- Both parties should ensure appropriate insurance coverage for event-related risks, including accidents, property damage, and participant safety.

These policies ensure that the lectures and workshops organized under the Industry-Academia Collaboration Policy are well-structured, impactful, and mutually beneficial for both the University and its industry partners. The focus on planning, content quality, and clear expectations helps foster a productive and engaging learning environment for all participants.

3.4. Internships, Industrial Exposure, and Employment

- Facilitate internship opportunities for students to gain hands-on training session for University students in industrial environments.
- Encourage faculty members to undertake industrial training to stay updated on practical advancements.
- Develop structured internship programs with well-defined learning outcomes.

3.4.1. Governing Policies for Internships and Industrial Exposure

All internships and industrial exposure programs will be governed by the **North Lakhimpur University Internship/ Research Internship Policy**.

3.5. Research Commercialization and IPR Sharing

- Promote the commercialization of research outcomes developed through collaboration.
- Establish transparent policies for Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) ownership, protection, and revenue sharing as per **IPR Policy of North Lakhimpur University.**
- Encourage the formation of spin-off companies and technology transfer initiatives.

3.5.1 Governing Policies for Research Commercialization and IPR Sharing

Research commercialization and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) sharing are essential aspects of the industry-Academia Collaboration Policy. These policies ensure that both the University and industry partners benefit from the outcomes of research, protect intellectual property, and support innovation. The following governing policies shall be adopted to effectively manage the commercialization of research findings and the sharing of IPR between the parties involved.

3.5.1.1. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) or Agreement

- Before initiating any research commercialization activities, both parties (the University and the industry partner) shall sign a **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)** or formal agreement outlining the terms of collaboration regarding IPR sharing and commercialization.
- The MoU should specify the roles, responsibilities, and contributions of both parties in the research and commercialization process.

3.5.1.2. Definition of Intellectual Property (IP)

- The MoU should clearly define what constitutes Intellectual Property (IP) in the context of the research collaboration as well as the ownership and sharing of IPR as per **IPR Policy 2024 of North Lakhimpur University (A)**.

3.5.1.4. Patent Filing and Protection

- The MoU should specify the process for patent filing, including who is responsible for filing, the timeline for filing, and the jurisdiction in which patents will be filed.
- Both parties should agree to work together to protect and defend the patents in relevant markets.

- Any decision related to patentability, protection, or commercialization shall be made jointly, with clear guidelines on how to proceed with patent filing.

3.5.1.5. Commercialization Strategy

- A commercialization plan shall be developed jointly by the University and the industry partner, outlining the steps to bring research outcomes to market.
- The plan should include the identification of target markets, potential customers, product development, and the commercialization timeline.
- Both parties should work collaboratively to establish a strategy for licensing, manufacturing, marketing, or selling the product or service resulting from the research.

3.5.1.6. Revenue Sharing and Financial Terms

- The MoU should include a clear and mutually agreed-upon revenue-sharing model for any commercialized research outcomes.
- This includes the distribution of royalties, licensing fees, sales revenue, or any other income generated from the commercialization of the IP.
- The MoU should also specify how costs associated with the commercialization (e.g., patent filing fees, marketing expenses, development costs) will be shared between the University and industry partner.

3.5.1.7. Confidentiality and Non-Disclosure

- Both parties shall agree to confidentiality clauses to protect proprietary information during the research and commercialization process.
- Non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) shall be signed by all individuals involved in the research and commercialization process to prevent the unauthorized sharing of sensitive information.
- The MoU should outline the duration of the confidentiality obligation, even after the termination of the collaboration.

3.5.1.8. Licensing and Collaboration Agreements

- The MoU should include provisions for licensing agreements, specifying the terms under which the IP may be licensed to third parties or other entities.
- The licensing agreement should define whether the license is exclusive or non-exclusive, the duration of the license, geographical areas covered, and any sublicensing rights.

- The parties should also agree on the terms for collaboration with external organizations or other industry partners to expand the commercialization efforts.

3.5.1.9. Publication and Dissemination of Research Findings

- Both parties should agree on the process for publishing and disseminating research findings, ensuring that commercial interests are protected while allowing academic freedom.
- The MoU should specify the timing and manner of publications to prevent premature disclosure of information that could affect patent rights.
- Both parties should mutually agree on the order of publication and give due credit to contributors, ensuring that IP rights are not compromised by early publication.

3.5.1.10. Monitoring and Reporting

- Both parties should establish a regular reporting mechanism to monitor the progress of commercialization efforts.
- The MoU should specify the frequency of reporting, the format of reports, and the content (e.g., progress on patent filings, licensing agreements, product development).
- Regular updates shall be shared with both parties to ensure transparency and alignment of goals.

3.5.1.11. Dispute Resolution and Conflict Management

- The MoU should include a dispute resolution mechanism to address conflicts related to IP ownership, commercialization decisions, or revenue sharing.
- The mechanism may include negotiation, mediation, or arbitration processes to ensure that conflicts are resolved in a fair and timely manner.

3.5.1.12. Duration and Termination of Commercialization Agreement

- The MoU should specify the duration of the commercialization collaboration and the terms under which the agreement can be terminated.
- Termination clauses should include provisions for handling the IP, including whether ownership reverts to the University or industry partner upon termination.
- If either party breaches the terms of the agreement, the other party may terminate the collaboration, with provisions for resolving any outstanding issues related to IP or commercialization activities.

These policies ensure that both the University and industry partner benefit from the outcomes of collaborative research while maintaining the protection and fair distribution of intellectual property. By establishing clear guidelines on IP ownership, commercialization strategies, revenue sharing, and dispute resolution, these policies foster a mutually beneficial relationship that supports innovation and contributes to the advancement of both academia and industry.

3.6. Infrastructure and Resource Sharing

- Enable mutual access to research facilities, laboratories, and technical resources.
- Establish industry-sponsored research labs and innovation centers on campus.

3.8. Entrepreneurship and Startup Support

- Facilitate the establishment of innovation hubs and incubators where students and faculty can develop entrepreneurial ideas.
- Provide mentorship and funding support in collaboration with industry partners.

3.9. Sustainability and Community Development

- Collaborate on projects focused on regional development and sustainable technologies.
- Address local challenges and provide solutions benefiting both the community and industries.

This comprehensive scope ensures a robust and impactful partnership between North Lakhimpur University and its industry collaborators, contributing to academic excellence, technological innovation, and societal progress.

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REGISTRAR
North Lakhimpur University
Lakhimpur, Assam