

Yuan Ze University Regulations on the Establishment and Management of Research Centers

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Article 1 In accordance with the requirements for research and development, and pursuant to Articles 6 and 7 of the Organizational Regulations of the University, these Regulations are hereby established to govern matters pertaining to the application, establishment, modification, dissolution, and management of Research Centers.

Article 2 The Research Centers are categorized as follows:

1. Mission-Oriented Research Center: A center proactively established by the University in response to the needs of overall institutional development.
2. Initiative-Based Research Center: A center independently initiated by the University faculty members or academic units to facilitate integrative research activities or the application and promotion of specialized expertise.
3. Joint Research Center: A center established through a partnership between the University and an enterprise (legal entity) to conduct collaborative research and development activities.

Article 3 Review Procedures for the Establishment of Research Centers

1. For the establishment of a new Research Center, an establishment proposal and an application form shall be submitted. Such application shall first undergo review by a review committee established by the Office of Research and Development. Upon passage of the deliberation by the Research and Development Meeting, a formal proposal may be submitted, which shall be implemented only after being deliberated upon and approved by the Administrative Meeting.
2. The proposal shall incorporate the following items: the purpose and mission of the center, the designated category of the center, organizational structure, future positioning, spatial planning, funding sources, expected outcomes, self-evaluation mechanisms, and coordination measures of relevant units.

Article 4 Missions and Regulations of Research Centers

The missions of research centers include undertaking research projects, supporting the advancement of the University affairs, fulfilling social responsibilities in alignment with sustainable development goals, and executing tasks assigned by the Office of Research and Development.

1. **Mission-Oriented Centers:** Established by the University to implement policies or promote major institutional developments. The University shall provide space and administrative support in accordance with the assigned mission.
2. **Initiative-Based Centers:** Primarily undertake research projects as their mission. Required personnel, space, and funding shall be self-provided and self-sustaining. As a guideline, the annual funding scale shall be no less than NT\$3,000,000, with management fees amounting to no less than NT\$450,000.
3. **Joint Centers:** Aim to expand research and development capacity through industry–academia collaboration, thereby enhancing industry–academia competitiveness. Enterprises (legal entities) shall provide annual research funding of no less than NT\$6,000,000, with management fees amounting to no less than NT\$900,000. The minimum operational period shall be three (3) years.

Article 5 Appointment of Director and Personnel

1. Each Research Center shall be headed by one (1) Director, who shall be responsible for the overall management of the Center's affairs. The term of office for the Director shall be one (1) year. The Director of a Mission-Oriented Center shall be appointed by the President from among the University's faculty members in relevant fields. For Initiative-Based and Joint Centers, a list of proposed candidates shall be submitted by the Center; the Vice President for Research and Development shall then recommend candidates from said list to the President for approval and appointment.
2. Depending on operational requirements, the Center may appoint several Vice Directors or other functional positions. Such appointments shall be submitted to the President for approval.
3. The Center may, as necessary, recruit and hire relevant personnel in accordance with the regulations governing the employment of personnel funded by self-raised funds.

Article 6 Utilization of Space

A Research Center may submit a request for space based on its actual operational needs. Such requests shall be subject to the review and deliberation of the "Space Planning Committee." Upon approval, a lease agreement shall be executed with the Office of General Affairs. In principle, each lease period shall be based on the academic year. Costs associated with space utilization, including utilities (water and electricity), shall be defrayed by the Research Center's project funding or self-raised funds.

Article 7 Operations of Research Centers

1. Each Center shall establish an Operations Committee. The Director of the Center shall serve as the convener and shall preside over its meetings. The Operations Committee shall consist of five (5) to seven (7) members; as a general principle, at least two-fifths ($2/5$) of the members shall be from within the University. The Vice President for Research and Development and the Director of the Office of Accounting shall serve as ex-officio members.
2. Members of the Operations Committee shall be recommended by the Director of the Center and appointed upon the approval of the Vice President for Research and Development and the President. The functions and powers of the Operations Committee shall include the deliberation of the Center's internal regulations, operational plans, budgets, and the allocation of surpluses, as well as providing assistance with relevant affairs of the Center.

Article 8 Evaluation Procedures for Research Centers

1. The "Research Center Evaluation and Incentive Committee" (hereinafter referred to as the "Committee") is hereby established to be responsible for the deliberation of annual performance, proposal of incentive levels, and other relevant evaluation and incentive matters. All resolutions of the Committee shall be submitted to the President for final approval prior to implementation. The Committee shall consist of five (5) members; the Vice President for Research and Development shall serve as the convener and shall recommend senior faculty members or incumbent administrators to the President for approval and appointment.
2. A Research Center shall undergo its first evaluation two (2) years after its establishment and shall be subject to annual evaluations thereafter. By the end of March each year, each Center shall submit an annual work report and a performance result evaluation form. Upon deliberation by the Center's Operations Committee and a preliminary review by the Office of Research and Development, these documents shall be submitted to the Committee for review.

3. The evaluation of a Center shall encompass the following dimensions:
 - (1) Consistency between operational direction and established objectives.
 - (2) Achievement rate of Key Performance Indicators (KPIs).
 - (3) Soundness of organizational operations and self-management.
 - (4) Alignment with University development, promotion of sustainable activities and international collaboration, and enhancement of the University's image and reputation.
4. Evaluation results shall be categorized into three levels: "Excellent," "Pass," and "Needs Improvement." A Center designated as "Needs Improvement" shall submit an improvement plan and a revised establishment proposal within two (2) months following the evaluation. Upon submission to the Committee for recordation, the plan shall be implemented accordingly, and the Center shall undergo a follow-up evaluation after one (1) year.

Article 9 Research Center Incentive Mechanisms

1. Reduction of Teaching Load: Directors of research centers may receive a reduction in teaching hours in accordance with the University's Regulations on the Reduction of Teaching Hours for Supervisors, and the teaching load may be reduced at the University's discretion.
2. Project Awards for Faculty: Faculty members of research centers who undertake research projects shall receive awards in accordance with Article 8, Paragraph 7 of the Yuan Ze University Implementation Regulations for Annual Faculty Performance Incentives.
3. Incentives for Outstanding Research Centers: Research centers receiving an "Outstanding" evaluation may be granted incentive funding up to a maximum of twenty percent (20%) of the management fees derived from the project closure funds of university-level research projects completed in the previous academic year (excluding individually undertaken faculty projects).

Research centers undertaking university-level tasks that enhance the University's prestige may, upon review by the Committee, be awarded a maximum incentive of NT\$50,000. Allocation of incentive funds shall be subject to the annual budget, calculated by the Office of Research and Development, distributed according to the Committee's guidelines, and disbursed upon approval by the President.

Article 10 Dissolution of Research Centers

1. Mission-Oriented Centers: May apply for dissolution upon completion of their designated tasks.
2. Initiative-Based and Joint Centers: May apply for dissolution upon completion of their designated tasks; or, if the center receives two consecutive unsatisfactory evaluations (including follow-up evaluations), or if, upon review by the Research Center Evaluation and Incentive Committee, the center's operations are found to be inconsistent with its founding purpose and exhibit significant operational deficiencies, the center shall be dissolved.
3. Dissolution Procedure: The Office of Research and Development shall submit the dissolution proposal to the Research and Development Committee, and implementation shall occur upon approval by the Administrative Committee. The effective date of dissolution shall be the day following the final completion date of all ongoing contractual projects of the center. Upon receipt of a dissolution notice, the center shall not undertake any new commissioned projects in its name.
4. Handling of Assets and Personnel: Matters relating to dissolution, including the disposition of the center's equipment and facilities, and the reassignment or termination of personnel, shall be coordinated by the center together with the Office of Research and Development and relevant units, and implemented upon approval by the University.

Article 11 These Regulations, as well as all subsequent revisions therewith, shall be duly adopted by the Administrative Council prior to implementation.

The English translation is for reference only. In case of any discrepancy between Chinese and English versions, the Chinese version shall prevail.