Operational Plan – Innovation and Research Unit 2025–2026

Mission

To strengthen scientific research and innovation activities in the College of Science and its academic departments (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Biology) by supporting researchers, developing a motivating research environment, and building effective partnerships that contribute to achieving the mission of the College and the University.

Objectives

1. Enhance the quality and outcomes of scientific research across departments through announcements and explanations of agreements concluded by the university with leading international and local publishers.
2. Support innovation and research-based entrepreneurship among faculty members and students.
3. Strengthen research partnerships with national and international centers and institutions through virtual meetings or field visits, aiming to build research networks between distinguished researchers in the college and those in other colleges at Imam University or beyond.
4. Increase external funding and sponsored research projects by announcing available funding opportunities within and outside the Kingdom.
5. Build research and innovation capacities through training programs and workshops.

Unit Responsibility

1. Develop operational plans to enhance the college's research, innovation, and entrepreneurship activities.
2. Measure and evaluate research, innovation, and entrepreneurship activities, and propose improvement plans based on results.
3. Raise awareness of the culture of research, innovation, entrepreneurship, and intellectual property protection within the college.
4. Coordinate with supporting deanships and administrative units at the university to provide support and incentive mechanisms.
5. Coordinate with relevant entities in the college and university in related activities and events.
6. Attract distinguished faculty members from across colleges for internal and external participation in research, innovation, and entrepreneurship activities.
7. Prepare guidelines to clarify steps and procedures related to research, innovation, and entrepreneurship.
8. Implement policies and procedures by supporting deanships, administrative units, and the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
9. Build and maintain a database of research activities, innovators, entrepreneurs, and patent holders within the college/institute, updated regularly.
10. Strengthen and develop the college's/institute's research, innovation, and entrepreneurship capacities.
11. Prepare periodic and annual reports on the unit's activities and performance levels, submitting them to the College Vice Dean.
12. Monitor implementation of policies and strategies related to intellectual property protection.

13. Update the unit's responsibilities to align with department needs and requirements of supporting deanships and administrative units.
14. Follow up on academic and administrative procedures related to theses and the quality of graduate program supervision in the college or institute.

Annual Operational Plan (2025-2026)

Operational Goal	Key Initiatives	Responsible Entities	Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)	Annual Target	Oct–Dec 2025	Jan–Mar 2026	Apr–Jun 2026	Jul–Sep 2026
Improve quality of scientific publishing	Publication incentive program in Q1/Q2 journals; Research paper writing workshops	Research Unit + Departments	Number of papers published in high-ranked journals	10 papers per faculty member	Launch program + workshops	Monitor progress + preliminary evaluation	Publish semi-annual reports	Final evaluation + reward best performance
Strengthen innovation and patents	Support patent filing; Student innovation competition	Innovation Unit + Intellectual Property Office	Number of patents filed / student innovation projects	3 patents + 5 student projects	Launch competition + IP awareness	Track research teams	Support patent registration	Announce winners in national/international competitions + document results
Develop research partnerships	Sign MoUs with research institutions; Create joint research teams	Deanship + Research Unit	Number of agreements / joint projects	3 partnerships	Identify potential partners	Sign agreements	Launch joint projects	Present preliminary outcomes
Increase research funding	Prepare proposals for funded projects; Train faculty on proposal writing	Research Unit + Departments	Number of funded proposals	5 proposals	Conduct proposal workshops	Submit funding applications	Monitor proposal status	Announce results + document achievements
Build research capacity	Training workshops (Statistics, Data Analysis, Research Tools); Graduate student mentoring programs	Research Unit + Graduate Studies	Number of workshops and participants	3–4 workshops; 100 participants	Workshop: Data Analysis	Workshop: Research Tools	Workshop: Experimental Design	Workshop: Thesis Writing