**Evaluation Criteria for Wayamba University Research Grants – 2024**

We propose the following criteria for evaluating research proposals submitted for Wayamba University Research Grants, 2024. The proposed criteria comprise three sub-sections: track record of principal investigator (PI), accuracy and feasibility of the research proposal, and relevance and importance of the research proposal for consideration in the evaluation process.

**1. Track Record of the Principal Investigator: 10 Marks**

*This sub-section will focus on assessing the research capacity and experience of the principal investigator under the following three criteria.*

1. Publication History (Web of Science Indexed Journals): 0**5 Marks**

(01 marks per publication \* maximum 05 publications)

1. Number of Completed Research Grants (Outside WUSL): 0**3 Marks**

(01 mark per grant \* maximum 03 research grants)

1. Number of Completed WUSL Research Grants: 0**2 Marks**

(01 mark per grant \* maximum 02 WUSL grants)

**2. Assessing Research Proposal Effectiveness: A Comprehensive Evaluation of Content and Feasibility as Presented in the Application: 40 Marks**

*This subsection aims to evaluate the clarity, coherence, and feasibility of research proposals across various dimensions, as indicated by the application content.*

1. Executive Summary: 0**7 Marks**

*The clarity and conciseness of the research summary and focus on how well it presents the proposed research project, including objectives, methodology, expected outcomes, and significance.*

1. Title, Introduction, Background, and Justification: 0**5 Marks**

*The briefness, representativeness, and conciseness of the title, adequacy of the introduction in covering the main elements of the proposed research, clarity of the specified research problem, the rationale for the research, and the depth of the literature review.*

1. Aims and Objectives: 0**5 Marks**

*Clarity of aims and objectives and cohesiveness with the needs identified in the background and justification.*

1. Methodology (Feasibility and Soundness): **10 Marks**

*The extent to which the proposed methodology is acceptable and scientifically sound, and the methodology described for collecting and analyzing data to achieve the specific objectives proposed in the study.*

1. Expected outcome: 0**3 Marks**

*The precision of the output and outcome statements in the research proposal is in line with national development, contribution to science, knowledge, and innovativeness.*

1. Budget Justification: 0**5 Marks**

*The extent to which the detailed budget provided in the application is reasonable and justifiable and aligns with the proposed research activities.*

1. Time Plan and Feasibility: 0**5 Marks**

*The level of realism and achievability of the proposed timeline for completing the project milestones within the two-year duration.*

1. **Evaluating Research Proposal Defense: Assessing Impact on National Development, WUSL Recognition, and Innovation as Presented by the Applicant: 50 Marks**

*This sub-section will involve a critical examination of research proposal defenses, focusing on their potential impact on national development, recognition of the university, and innovation, as articulated by the applicants.*

1. Contribution to National Development: 0**5 Marks**

*Potential contribution of research outcome on national development, addressing societal challenges, and advancing knowledge in relevant fields.*

1. Contribution to WUSL Recognition: **10 Marks**

*The extent to which the potential outcome of the research elevates the recognition of the WUSL, in terms of publications, awards, discoveries, key inventions, etc.*

1. Human Capacity Development in WUSL: 0**5 Marks**

*The proposed research offers the chance for WUSL staff members to supervise postgraduate degrees (M.Phil./Ph.D.). Additionally, it should facilitate the training of junior staff at WUSL through various initiatives such as training programs, workshops, mentorship, and other activities.*

1. Feasibility of Completion: 0**7 Marks**

*The likelihood of completing the milestones of the proposed research project successfully with the available facilities and resources within the stipulated time.*

1. Investment Value of the Research: **10 Marks**

*The potential return on investment (ROI) is derived from funding and resources allocated to the research project. This encompasses both tangible and intangible benefits that may accrue from the research outcomes.*

1. Collaborative Efforts: 0**3 Marks**

*The degree of collaborative efforts and contributions of Co-PIs from WUSL or other institutions in enhancing the research project's quality and outcomes.*

1. Overall Quality and Innovation: **10 Marks**

*The proposal's overall quality, including its novelty, innovation, and potential contribution to advancing knowledge in the respective field.*