

Doctoral Research Conclave 2020 - “Ethical Research and Publication Practices”

Amity Business School, Amity University Uttar Pradesh (AUUP) organized its first Doctoral Research Conclave on “*Ethical Research and Publication Practices*” using Zoom platform on 22nd August, 2020. The conclave intended to be a forum for the exchange of Management thoughts and research ideas, as well as for collaboration and learning. Distinguished speakers and panelists discussed significant dimensions of research and publications and the audience of research scholars benefitted immensely from the same. This was a prelude to the second phase of the conclave where management research scholars are to be invited to share their work in progress in front of experts to receive feedback on methodology, research ideas and research outcomes. Built on the premise that Management research is meaningful when it has practical applications and can benefit the world of business and society at large, this conclave has served as an opportunity for all associated stakeholders to come together and find solutions to significant business and social issues.

Objectives of the Conclave:

- To provide a platform where eminent academicians and researchers can emphasise issues pertaining to the relevance of research practices and methodologies.
- To provide a platform for research scholars for sharing their research ideas in front of a panel of distinguished experts.
- To provide a platform for researchers, experts, organizational members and consultants for networking and learning from each other.
- To enable researchers to seek guidance pertaining to the major challenges faced by them, viz. relevance of research topics and appropriateness of research tools and methodologies.

Learning Outcomes:

- Create research models which will be useful to business and society at large.
- Incorporation of constructive feedback received from the expert panels to enhance the quality of their research work.
- Learn to publish their research work in high quality journals and publications.

Conclave Conveners: Dr. Sanjeev Bansal, Dean FMS & Director, ABS was the Conclave Convener, Dr. T.V. Raman, Professor, ABS and Dr. Vandana Ahuja, Professor, ABS were the Co-Conveners.

Participation: PhD. Research Scholars were invited to participate in the conclave and 125 research scholars registered for the event.

Following Panelists were engaged in the deliberations across the different sessions:

- Dr. Neerja Pande, Professor, IIM Lucknow
- Mr. Ron Scott, Director-Stellaris, New Zealand

- Dr. A.V. Surya, CEO, Kantar
- Dr. Mamta Mohapatra, Dean-Executive Education and International Relations, IMI, Delhi
- Dr. Naseemabidi, Professor and Head-International Relations, Quality Assurance, Outreach and Accreditation, Skyline University College, Sharjah
- Dr. R. S. Rai, Professor, Decision Sciences and Director, Research Planning and Statistical Services at Amity University Uttar Pradesh
- Dr. Sonia Singh, Director, Toss Global Management, Dubai
- Dr. Bhavna Ranjan Ahuja, Freelance Researcher

Event Details: The event comprised of 4 sessions where discussions and deliberations were successfully completed.

Dr. Sanjeev Bansal, Dean FMS & Director, ABS talked about his vision of conducting conclaves and colloquiums like these for knowledge exchange and active discussion. He said that researchers should reach out to not only experts for advice, but also have active discussions with people in society to find out the real challenges being faced by organisations as well as individuals. He welcomed the participants and panelists and invited Vice Chancellor, AUUP to inaugurate the conclave.

Dr. Balvinder Shukla, Vice Chancellor, AUUP lauded Dr. Bansal's initiative and stressed upon the need for research scholars to work under the guidance of their supervisors in an active manner. She reiterated the need for research to be in sync with the needs of Industry 4.0 and motivated research scholars to work harder and be more dedicated.

The conclave commenced with the first session : Panel Discussion on "*Relevance of academic research to industry and society*". The panelists were Dr. Neerja Pande, Professor, IIM Lucknow, Mr. Ron Scott, Director, Stellaris-New Zealand and Dr. A.V. Surya, CEO, Kantar Public. The session was moderated by Dr. Vandana Ahuja, Professor, Amity Business School. The discussion started with Mr. Ron Scott emphasizing on the functional benefits of research and the economic value associated with it. Dr. A. V. Surya discussed the need for research scholars to choose their research domains and themes wisely so as to provide answers to specific corporate issues. Dr. Neerja Pande focused on the need for scholars to become change agents and the importance of scholarly writing to communicate research findings effectively within the community.

The second session on "*Opportunities for Management Research in contemporary times*" emphasised on the need for doctoral research to focus on choosing goals and objectives with practical implications. The speaker was Dr. Mamta Mohapatra, Dean-Executive Education and International Relations, IMI, Delhi and she reiterated the need

for developing institutional capabilities and capacities to support knowledge mobilization by developing and sharing best practices.

The third session on “*Identification of specific Quantitative and Qualitative methods for research*” was conducted by Dr. Naseem Abidi, Professor and Head-International Relations, Quality Assurance, Outreach and Accreditation, Skyline University College, Sharjah. He focused on deductive and inductive theories and focused on the philosophical dimensions of research. He focused on management research assumptions viz. ontological, epistemological and axiological. He discussed the various qualitative methods of research including ethnography, artefact analysis, naturalistic inquiry, narrative studies, case studies, content analysis, assessment and evaluative studies, interview studies, focus group studies, educational criticism, and biographical studies. He also discussed the logic of triangulation, facilitation, and complementarity, to decide the perfect statistical technique for specific research problems.

The fourth session was a panel discussion on “*Good quality publications in refereed journals*”. The panelists were Dr. R. S. Rai, Professor, Decision Sciences and Director, Research Planning and Statistical Services at Amity University Uttar Pradesh, Dr. Sonia Singh, Director, Toss Global Management and Dr. Bhavna Ranjan Ahuja, a freelance researcher. The session was moderated by Dr. T.V. Raman, Professor, ABS. The session commenced with Dr. Sonia Singh sharing details about the review process of journals and Dr. Bhavna focusing on writing good quality research papers. The highlight of the session was the presentation by Dr. Rai who focused on Indexing, searching articles on Scopus and Web of Sciences, Web of Sciences Manuscript Matcher, Mendeley and Open Access research papers. He informed the participants about various indexing Databases like Web of Sciences, Scopus, EBSCO, PubMed, MEDLINE. He also discussed important subjects pertaining to ORCID and Kopernio.

The doctoral research conclave presented a good starting point for future discussions and research colloquiums. It was very well received by all the participants. This set of sessions will be followed by a Doctoral Colloquium where research scholars will present their work-in-progress in front of panels of experts to garner feedback on future research directions as well as for securing validation for their work.