

# Central University of Punjab

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## **Policy for Laboratory Rotation/Faculty Interactionfor allotment of PhD Supervisor**

### **Preamble**

A well-structured system of lab rotations/faculty interactions during the PhD coursework at the Central University of Punjab can provide significant academic and professional benefits to both newly inducted scholars and the institution. By allowing students to interact with faculty of the department before finalizing their PhD host lab/supervisor enables them to gain first-hand exposure to diverse research areas, experimental techniques, and faculty expertise. This helps scholars make informed decisions about selecting a lab/supervisor aligned with their research interests, skillsets, and long-term career goals, thereby reducing the risk of mismatches or dissatisfaction later in their doctoral journey.

### **Objectives**

- 1) to gain experience with the methods, important scientific questions and research environment of the faculty/lab.
- 2) to learn essential techniques and conduct independent research towards socially relevant and high impact doctoral research.

### **Benefits for PhD Scholars**

- **Exploration:** Explore different research areas and methods, giving a chance to discover topics of interest which can broaden the perspectiveof a scholar.
- **Informed Lab Selection** – Exposure to multiple labs allows scholars to align their interests with the right research environment.
- **Skill Development** – Hands-on training in diverse techniques and methodologies broadens technical competence.
- **Interdisciplinary Exposure** – Interaction with faculty from various specializations fosters a broader academic outlook.
- **Confidence Building** – Familiarity with different research groups helps students adapt better and start their PhD with clarity and motivation.

### **Benefits for the University**

- **Enhanced Research Quality** – Scholars begin with well-defined objectives, reducing delays and improving outputs.

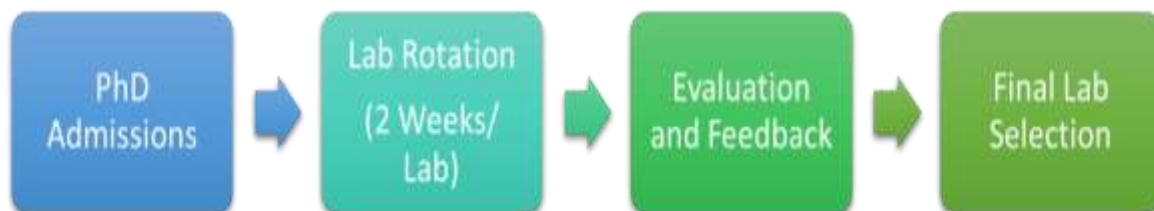
- **Resource Optimization** – Rotations/interactions ensure efficient use of facilities.
- **Collaborative Culture** – Promotes cross-lab and interdisciplinary collaborations within the university.

### **Program Timeline and Duration**

1. Every newly admitted PhD scholar has to complete two-week rotations in at least three labs of the concerned department or interact with at least three faculty during first semester of the doctoral year.
2. The lab/faculty to be chosen from the list of faculty having vacancy in that particular session.

### **Procedure**

- Upon PhD admission, the students will choose three laboratories/faculty from the list of faculty having vacancy.
- During the rotation the scholars will interact with faculty/research scholars to know about the area of research, possibilities of translational research, publications and facilities available for research.
- After completing all the rotations, the scholars will submit the preference list (along with justification) to the department. The PhD admission committee will facilitate the matching of students with a faculty mentor.
- The department will match the students with their top three preferences as much as possible.



### **Interaction with faculty in Social Sciences and Humanities**

1. Students will contact the faculty and have in-person meetings to learn about faculty research areas, publications and extramural grants available.
2. The students will interact with other scholars under the same supervisor and will attend the progress seminars etc.

### **General Guidelines**

1. Students cannot choose a supervisor until completed all three lab rotation/faculty interactions.
2. The rotation/faculty interactions have to be completed during the first semester of PhD admission.

3. The list of preferred supervisors along with justification has to be submitted not later than 10 days after completing rotation.
4. During the PhD admission the faculty will provide the detailed information about the number of students they can accommodate the types of projects available, and any specific preferences they might have.

**Rotation Waiver**

Scholars admitted in PhD through PI specific extramural projects may be exempted from the lab rotation or faculty interaction.