



Gujarat National Law University
Administrative Directive
GNLU/AD/08/10

GNLU Gold Medal and the Best Researcher Award – Rules and Guidelines

1.0 Purpose

Gujarat National Law University is planning to initiate an award Programme comprising of award of Gold Medals to the best student for overall excellence in a particular subject and the Best Researcher Award. This Award Program aims to acknowledge, recognize and promote the academic, research and overall excellence of GNLU students in a particular subject, whose collective efforts and commitment contribute enormously to the overall aim of the GNLU to emerge as a role model law university in India and the world at large. GNLU students bring laurels to University by exhibiting their knowledge, skills and abilities in every spheres of Learning. They embed their mark in extracurricular, co-curricular and sports activities and programs. The achievements of GNLU students in various national and international moot court competitions and their accomplishments in the field of research and publication can enormously contribute to the overall reputation of the University.

2.0 Eligibility criteria

2.1 Selection of the best student for overall excellence in a particular subject for gold medal to graduating student with L.L.B. (Hons)/L.L.M. degree

- a) 50% weightage for the academic results.
- b) 15% weightage for publications and paper presentation.
- c) 15% weightage for moot.
- d) 10% weightage for sports & extra-curricular activities
- e) 10% weightage for discipline, attendance, ethics and value-based participation in all academic and non-academic activities.

2.2 Selection of the best research paper award in a particular subject for L.L.B. /L.L.M. /Ph.D. students

Element	Professional (5)- Very good (4)	Good (3) – Average (2)	Poor (1) – Not suitable (0)
1	Title		
	Title clear & informative. Hints at scope, approach, argument	Contains elements of scope or purpose	Title tells little about content, argument or scope of work
2	Introduction & Thesis		
	Establishes purpose, thesis clearly, explicitly. Objective.	Less clear. States significance but thesis	Some or no indication: social,

	Captures reader's attention	buried.	temporal & geographic limits
3	Body Content		
<i>Communication</i>	Paper effectively captures reader's attention and communicates purpose, tone and topic.	Paper is generally well written; lacking in purpose or topic	Paper poorly related purpose. Reader distracted.
<i>Organization</i>	Excellent use of language, ordered and clear links to thesis statement	Some connection to thesis statement. Some lack of clarity	Lack of care, time and effort
<i>Development and analysis</i>	Impressive depth of insight/analysis. Well developed process where author presents ideas and uses other's ideas for support. Offers opposing viewpoint.	Adequate depth. Recitation of other's ideas coherently. Issues overlooked. No opposing viewpoint.	Little or no depth or insight. Lack of understanding of material read.
4	Referencing		
	Wide variety of well-researched, quality sources. Few if any non-reviewed internet sources. Clear consistent use of chosen referencing system. Few formatting errors. No missing sources.	Reliance on non-academic sources. Fairly consistent use of referencing system, several errors in usage. Lacks integration	Serious problems with referencing system or several systems being used. Plagiarism material not checked for validity
5	Conclusion		
	Effectively closes the paper. Ties together all elements = Effectively integrated	Adequate integration and conclusion	Weak conclusion and integration
6	Overall cohesion		
	Clear, readable, coherent & mature. Avoids empty & pretentious language. Avoids ambiguities-abstractions.	Readable; somewhat coherent. Uses empty language; at times ambiguous.	Poorly constructed, unreadable, very ambiguous or pretentious
7	Format & style		
<i>Grammar/spelling</i>	Grammatically and typographically superior. (No errors or 1 per page)	Grammatical and typographical error (2-3 errors per page)	Significant grammatical and typographical errors (4+ per page)
<i>Structure and transitions</i>	Clear sentences. Variety of paragraph and sentence length. Strong clear leads. Smooth transitions	Sentences somewhat muddled with little variety in length.	Poor grammar in sentence and paragraph structure. Awkward
8	Graphics & tables, charts...format & structure		
	Properly placed and supplementary, Skill fully and attractively done with clear labels & descriptions	Lacking labels or descriptions. Not placed proper. Format not clear	Poorly placed. No labels or descriptions. Structure lacking
9	Overview & Presentation		
	Attractive and neatly presented. Effective, insightful document. Original approach and energetic	Average presentation. Interest but lacks insight.	Poorly presented. Lacks interest and not effective.
10	Total Points		

3.0 Terms and conditions

GNLU Scholarships & Awards Committee (“the Committee”) shall be responsible to select the students for the purposes of gold medal and research award in accordance with the prescribed criteria as provided in paragraph 2 above.

- 3.1 The Committee shall obtain the record of the top five candidates from the Head of Examination Department, who have secured the maximum marks in the particular subject along with their discipline and attendance marks. The records containing the publication, moot participation and sports and extra-curricular activities shall be obtained from students and shall be verified from the concerned institutions.
- 3.2 A student obtaining higher score in the discipline, attendance etc. shall be given the gold medal in case if more than one student achieves equal scores in other factors.
- 3.3 The above criteria shall apply for the award of Gold Medal to the Best Student for Overall Excellence.
- 3.4 Once the student is selected by the Committee for the award of Gold Medal instituted by the donor, the name of the candidate will be communicated to the donor.
- 3.5 The Committee shall also select one student who is pursuing either L.L.B./L.L.M./Ph.D. for the purposes of awarding a best research paper award in a particular subject.
- 3.6 The Committee shall use the criteria mentioned in paragraph 2 for judging the best research paper award in a particular subject.
- 3.7 In case of two or more students scoring equal marks, the student’s performance in attendance, exam, moot, extra-curricular activities shall be considered in the descending order for resolving the tie.
- 3.8 The Committee shall announce the nomination for the best research paper award latest by first October every year and entries shall reach the Committee latest by 15 October. The entries shall contain three copies of the paper, authentication certificate (if already published or accepted for publication, by the publisher), CV mentioning all achievements of the candidate in the particular subject. The Committee shall evaluate the paper and invite comments of the publisher and the achievement records from the Exam Committee.
- 3.9 Subject Sub-Committee: The subject faculty member of the University shall chair the selection process for evaluating and judging the best research paper. Two additional faculty members from any of the departments, depending upon the subject of the research paper, shall be chosen by the Chair as members. The decision on the award shall be based on unanimity. The decision of the Subject Sub-Committee shall be final and shall not be subject to appeal. Each of the Sub-Committees shall inform their decision to the Scholarship and Award Committee latest by 25 November.
- 3.10 The Committee shall place the recommendation to the Director latest by first December every year for his approval and communication to the Executive Council, Academic Council and the donor.

40 Funding

- 4.1 GNLU Gold Medal and Best Research Paper Award can be instituted by institutions or individuals upon donation of an any amount above Rs. 3,00,000.
- 4.2 The endowment amount shall be invested in fixed deposits which earn the maximum possible interest.
- 4.3 The interest so derived shall be utilized for the award of the Gold Medal and Research Paper in the ratio of 75:25. The gold medal shall be given to the graduating student while the research award shall be given to any student (LLB/LLM/PhD) who has published an outstanding research paper in Indian or any foreign journals in the given subject in the given year. The gold medal shall be awarded on the convocation while the research award shall be awarded on the GNLU Foundation Day.
- 4.4 The donor can institute the Gold Medal in the name of an institute or individual.
- 4.5 The Medal and Research Award to be awarded shall have inscribed on it the name of the medal and name of the recipient.
- 4.6 GNLU Scholarships & Awards Committee shall initiate the process of selection latest by First October every year and the results shall be placed before the Director for his endorsement and information to the Executive Council and the donor.
- 4.7 GNLU shall inform the name of the student(s) selected for the award to the donor at least 15 days in advance of the conferment of the medal.
- 4.8 In case of any difficulty in interpretation or application of the rules, the Director shall consult the Academic Council whose decision shall be binding and shall not be subject to appeal.

5.0 This administrative directive is effective from Wednesday, 1 December 2010.

Bimal N. Patel
Director