

The Research Agenda

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Any organization needs an agenda to set the beat and give direction to where the organization is going to. It allows the heads of the institution's to allocate resources to projects that will put the institution's name on the map or in the world wide web, in cyberspeak. It should be parallel with the mission and vision of an institution; but what sets it apart from the mission and vision is that it has a timeline and a deadline.

Our institution has meager resources and can only allocate a portion of these resources to fund research. Thus, it is ideal to consider creating an agenda that will cater to the needs of the center. Each department, division or section should come up with their own "platform" for a particular period of time and they should pool their resources to be able to achieve their research agenda. This agenda seals a plan of action with corresponding commitment from the stakeholders. Moreover, the research output should find its way to clinical practice and improvement of overall health care for its people.

One may see that coming up with a research agenda is like a martial rule wherein we dictate what research outputs our trainees should come up with. To some, this may hamper creativity and hinder independent thinking. But this should not be the case. Our trainees should ***work within the box but should think outside the box.***