



## St. PETER'S INSTITUTE OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

(Deemed to be University U/S 3 of the UGC Act,1956)

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### SPIHER – Social Outreach and Community Engagement Policy

#### Introduction

The Social Outreach and Community Engagement Policy aims to institutionalize the commitment of the Institute towards social responsibility by promoting meaningful interaction with communities and contributing to societal development through education, research, and service. It establishes a structured framework for planning, executing, and evaluating all outreach and community-based initiatives of the Institute.

#### Objectives of the Policy

- To promote a sense of social responsibility and civic engagement among students, faculty, and staff.
- To foster sustainable community development through collaborative projects, awareness programmes, and capacity-building initiatives.
- To integrate social outreach and extension activities with academic curricula and research.
- To strengthen partnerships with government bodies, NGOs, industries, and local communities for social upliftment.
- To align outreach initiatives with national and global priorities, including *Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)*.

#### Scope

This policy applies to:

- All students, faculty, and staff of the university.
- All university-led outreach, extension, and community engagement programmes.
- Activities organized under NSS, NCC, UBA, Rotaract Club, YRC, and other community-oriented bodies.
- Collaborations with external agencies for social and community development.

## **Implementation of the Policy**

The Institute recognizes community engagement as a core function alongside teaching and research and encourage all departments to integrate social responsibility and outreach components into their academic plans. The Institute facilitates active participation in projects addressing community needs such as education, environment, health, sanitation, and rural development and ensures inclusivity, sustainability, and ethical conduct in all outreach activities. To ensure systematic implementation and monitoring, the NSS Officer shall operate under the supervision of the Institute administration.

## **Departmental Extension Activity Coordinators**

- Each department shall nominate a faculty member as Extension Activity Coordinator to plan and execute departmental outreach programmes.
- Responsible for linking academic content with social impact activities.

The Institute has identified the key areas of Social Outreach which are listed as follows:

### **Education and Literacy**

- Conduct community-based learning programs, literacy drives, and school adoption initiatives.
- Organize awareness sessions on higher education, digital literacy, and skill development.

### **Health, Hygiene, and Nutrition**

- Conduct health camps, blood donation drives, and wellness awareness programmes.
- Promote menstrual hygiene, sanitation practices, and preventive healthcare education.

### **Environmental Sustainability**

- Organize tree plantation, waste management, water conservation, and clean campus–green campus campaigns.
- Participate in national initiatives like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan and World Environment Day observances.

### **Rural and Community Development**

- Undertake projects for rural infrastructure, women empowerment, livelihood enhancement, and digital inclusion.

- Collaborate with Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) and State Institute of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SIRD&PR) for village adoption and sustainable development activities.

### **Disaster Relief and Emergency Response**

- Mobilize volunteers and resources during natural calamities and emergencies.
- Conduct training on disaster preparedness and community resilience.

### **Gender Equity and Social Justice**

- Organize programmes on gender sensitization, child protection, inclusion, and human rights awareness.
- Support marginalized and differently-abled communities through targeted initiatives.

The Departments and clubs propose annual outreach plans which are aligned with the strategic objectives of the Institute. Activities are implemented by students and faculty under the supervision of coordinators in collaboration with local authorities, NGOs, or industries where possible. The activities shall include pre-event planning, attendance, photographic evidence, feedback, and post-event reports and submits an Annual Outreach Report to the Registrar / IQAC for inclusion in institutional reviews and NAAC submissions.

### **Roles and Responsibilities of various stakeholders**

<b>Stakeholder</b>	<b>Key Responsibilities</b>
<b>Institute Administration</b>	Provide leadership, approve policies, and allocate budgetary support for outreach initiatives.
<b>Centre for Community Engagement</b>	Coordinate and monitor all outreach activities and maintain documentation.
<b>Deans / HoDs</b>	Encourage faculty and students to participate in community programs.
<b>Faculty Coordinators</b>	Plan, guide, and supervise departmental and student outreach projects.
<b>Students</b>	Actively participate in social outreach, maintain discipline, and contribute responsibly to community welfare.

The Institute shall collaborate with government organizations, NGOs, industries, local bodies, and international agencies to implement community projects and the partnerships will focus on skill development, environmental protection, healthcare, and sustainable rural development. Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) may be signed for long-term engagement and mutual benefit.

All outreach activities shall adhere to ethical standards, respecting community dignity, privacy, and cultural sensitivities. No activity shall involve political affiliation, coercion, or exploitation of beneficiaries. All participants must follow safety and institutional guidelines during fieldwork or community visits.



**01.09.2025**

**REGISTRAR**



Registrar  
St. Peter's Institute of Higher Education and Research  
(Deemed to be University U/S 3 of the UGC Act. 1956)  
Avadi, Chennai-600 054.