

From the DVC's Desk

Research, Innovation and Partnerships

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Dear NUST Research Community,

I am pleased to welcome you to 2026 and to thank every researcher, research administrator, student, partner, and stakeholder who forms part of NUST's growing research ecosystem. This year, we are guided by our institutional theme: **"Advancing Knowledge and Technological Innovations for Sustainable Development."** This theme calls on us to deepen scientific inquiry, grow intellectual capacity across disciplines, and deliver solutions that are evidence-based.

To help us achieve this vision, NUST has strengthened key support "vehicles" that every researcher should actively use in 2026.

IRPC Funding:
Fuel for Research and Innovation

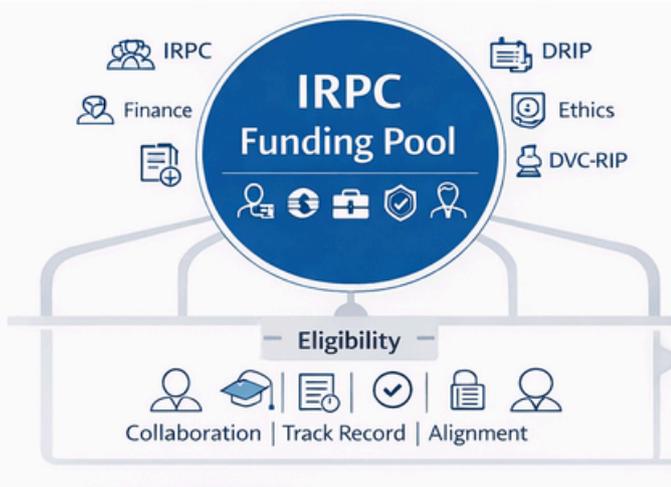
NUST, through the Institutional Research and Publications Committee (IRPC), continues to provide structured funding to boost research productivity and innovation. The Research and Innovation Funding Framework (RIFF) prioritises support for postgraduate scholarships, publication costs (including open access), conference attendance, and seed funding for internal projects.

Researchers are encouraged to apply, use funds responsibly, report progress, and acknowledge IRPC support in all publications and presentations.

Researcher Development Framework:
Growing Competence and Confidence

Excellence is built through deliberate development. The Researcher Development Framework (RDF) provides a clear pathway from postgraduate level to academic leadership, strengthening core competencies and creating a shared language for growth across disciplines.

Engage in training, writing support, and mentorship opportunities coordinated through your Faculty and DRIP. Your development is a personal investment that strengthens supervision, improves research outputs, and increases institutional impact



Professorial Pathways:
Advancing Academic Leadership

A thriving research university needs clear pathways for academic advancement. NUST has revised its policy for appointing professors to provide a structured, transparent, merit-based framework that upholds academic integrity, innovation and global competitiveness.

It recognises categories such as Associate Professor,

Professor, Visiting, Adjunct, Emeritus and Honorary. The policy also clarifies key requirements, including strong publication records, postgraduate supervision, research funding, partnerships, institutional contributions and community service. Eligible staff are encouraged to prepare early, build evidence portfolios and participate in career-progression workshops.