



Reference documents:

Higher Education Act no.199/2023

Charter of „George Emil Palade” University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș

Law No. 206/2004 regarding good conduct in scientific research, technological development and innovation, with subsequent amendments and completions

Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct for „George Emil Palade” University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș

Code of Students’ Rights and Responsibilities of „George Emil Palade” University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș

REGULATION OF THE ORGANISATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE JUNIOR RESEARCHER ACADEMY – JRA

Regulation Code: UMFST-REG-104 Edition 02

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Chapter I. General provisions

Art. 1. This regulation establishes the organising and functioning of the Junior Researcher Academy (hereinafter JRA) within the Department of Scientific Research and Technological Development (hereinafter UCSDT) of the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș (hereinafter UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș).

Art. 2. The main objective of JRA is to create an institutional framework in order to support excellence in research/innovation among young researchers – bachelor's and master's degree students within the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș (hereinafter **Junior Researcher – JR**), by establishing and operationalizing a dedicated administrative structure and by drafting procedural documentation that would offer a stimulating and attractive environment for developing a career in research/innovation.

Art. 3. The operational objectives of the JRA are:

- 1) Establishing and operationalizing a structure
- 2) support for research/innovation – **Junior Researcher Academy** with a role in: inclusion of JR in the university's research/innovation collectives and projects, ensuring access to the university research infrastructure, advanced training in methodology of scientific research, offering internal grants for research, financial support of the mobility and dissemination of the scientific research results;
- 3) Strengthening the interdisciplinary collaboration within the JRA community, creating collectives of young researchers to be able to approach current research topics and of international interest;
- 4) Developing soft skills needed for building a research career. These are going to facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration in order to tackle current scientific and technological challenges and are going to support JR in obtaining results recognized by the international scientific community;
- 5) Integration of JR in the international networks of research/innovation in order to give them the chance to follow examples of best practices in competitive teams, oriented towards research-innovation activities of excellence.

Art. 4. The activity of the JRA involves:

- 1) To facilitate bachelor and master degree students' access to the university's research/innovation collectives and projects;
- 2) ensuring JRA members' to access the university research infrastructure;
- 3) organising training sessions regarding the methodology of scientific research, writing scientific articles, writing research projects/grants, sessions of „design thinking”;
- 4) granting within Initiation into research grants proposed by JRA according to its own methodology;
- 5) administration of young researchers' mobility – students with bachelor's and master's degrees, based on its own methodology;
- 6) granting financial support in order to disseminate the results of a scientific activity based on its own methodology;
- 7) granting scholarships for scientific performance based on its own methodology;
- 8) organising social, informal meetings, „meet-up” type events, including online events;
- 9) organising „hackathon” type events, including online events;



- 10) organising work sessions (workshop activities) with acknowledged international researchers as guests, including online events;
- 11) facilitating interdisciplinary interactions;
- 12) supporting the JR's collaboration with teams from research centers in Europe and around the world;
- 13) the annual monitoring and evaluation of the scientific research activity carried out within the student scientific circles.

Art. 5. The JRA activity addresses:

- 1) bachelor students;
- 2) master students.

Chapter II. Organisation and functioning of JRA

Art. 6. The structure and members of JRA:

- 1) JRA is coordinated by a coordinator appointed by a decision of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș's Administrative Board;
- 2) Members of JRA can be bachelor's and master's degree students of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș;
- 3) JRA has its own budget and research staff;
- 4) JRA has ties of collaboration with the deans' offices, IOSUD, Vice-rector's office for students' affairs;
- 5) The JRA is administrative subordinated to UCSDT and to the Vice-rector responsible for research, development and technology transfer;
- 6) The activity of bachelor and master students within the JRA is structured on 3 access levels:
 - I. **Entry level** – in this phase all bachelor and master students of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș who are interested in developing a career in scientific research are invited to participate. The members of **JRA – Entry level** have access to all formal and informal meetings, to all information events organised by the JRA, as well as to all training courses organised within the JRA. These courses shall focus on gaining knowledge and developing the ability that facilitates building a future career in research.
 - II. **Involved level** – starting with this level only JR are accepted, they can join the research teams of doctoral students or teams of teachers/researchers of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș. **Junior Researcher – Involved level** shall have free access to the University's research infrastructure and to the training courses organised by the JRA. Furthermore, at this level, JR are eligible for mobility financing and for submitting “Research Initiation Grants” at the JRA's internal competitions, financed from the university's own income.
 - III. **Dedicated level** – JR at this level are going to be involved in the university research teams with potential, including those headed by international Principal Investigators. Starting with this level support is more substantial: JR will continue to have free access to the University's research infrastructure, to mobility financing and to the training courses organised by the JRA. Furthermore, **JR – Dedicated level** are going to have access to international internships and shall have the possibility to be co-authors of the research team's articles. Likewise, JR – Dedicated level become eligible to apply for financing for



“Research Grants”, financed from the University’s own income, with sums higher than at the previous level.

- 7) The enrolment of bachelor’s and master’s degree students, as well as the advancement from one level to another within the JRA are going to be done according to JRA own methodology.
- 8) Each member of students’ scientific circle which will prepare during a calendar year 3 original research presentations (respecting the structure: introduction, material and method, results, conclusions), may enroll at the JRA Involved level without the need to go through the JRA Entry level, if there are met the other conditions set out in the methodology for access and promotion within the JRA.
- 9) The activities of bachelor’s and master’s degree students within the JRA can be taken into consideration when they apply for Doctoral School within UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, according to the provisions of the regulation regarding the admission to Doctoral School.
- 10) UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș, who will coordinate research core within the JRA, will be able to benefit from a similar score as the coordinator of a student scientific circle in the annual evaluation of individual professional performance.

Art. 7. The JRA strategy for informing bachelor/master students takes into consideration:

- 1) addressing the promotional actions of UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș together with the academic staff and participation in events involving direct contact with bachelor/master students;
- 2) JRA’s participation at student’s congresses and scientific conferences, in dedicated sessions;
- 3) the organisation of periodic information sessions and activities within the Junior Researcher Academy;
- 4) organising „meet-up” events, including on-line;
- 5) facilitating interdisciplinary

Art. 8. Location organisation

The activity of JRA is going to take place space dedicated to scientific research activities (training courses, seminars, meetings), located in research and innovation centers and laboratories of the Scientific Research and Technological Development Unit (UCSDT), as well as in other spaces of the University, according to the needs.

Art. 9. The JRA develops working relationships and collaborates with the following structures of the University:

- 1) the Deans of the faculties;
- 2) IOSUD;
- 3) Commission for Quality Evaluation and Assurance (CEAC)/Department for quality assurance;
- 4) Vice-rector’s office for students’ activities;
- 5) Students’ associations, ALUMNI;
- 6) Other departments: Financial and Accounting Service, Human Resources, Acquisitions-Investments Department, Legal Department, Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), Emergency Situations, Occupational Medicine and Data Protection, Information and Public Relations Department etc.

Chapter III. Other provisions

Art. 10. JRA membership ceases in the following situations:



- 1) when the JR loses the quality of student in the bachelor's or master's degree cycle of George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Tg. Mureș. If, after finishing the bachelor's degree, a student continues his studies at the master's degree, the JRA membership is going to be restored to the level the student was in when finishing the bachelor's degree;
- 2) in case of the violation of the Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct of the UMFST G.E. Palade Tg. Mureș;
- 3) in case a study year is repeated due to the accumulation of an insufficient number of ECTS for promotion.

Art. 11. Sources for funding the JRA's activities

Sources for funding the activities of scientific research within the JRA are:

- the University's own resources;
- sources from external public or private funding;
- sponsorships and other sources of funding.

Art. 12. UCSDT/JRA can make revisions of the present regulation in accordance with newly identified needs or as a result of modifications in the legal framework.

The present regulation was approved by the Senate of the George Emil Palade University of Medicine, Pharmacy, Science, and Technology of Târgu Mureș on the 4th July, 2024 and comes into force on 5th July, 2024.