Abstract

The world, especially developed economy, is quite abrupt when it comes to Intellectual Property (IP) and its protection. The developed nations, U.S in particular, have made quite an impact by introducing the Bayh-Dole Act in 1980 and also introducing Trade Related aspects of Intellectual Properties (TRIPS) world-wide. All these measures taken, are greatly benefitting developed economies but a little is being fortuned by the developing countries and one of the reason contributing to it, is a lack of attention to the protection of IP. It is now not a need but a necessity for developing nations, like Pakistan to lay foundations of IP within every sector for economic growth. Similarly educational sector is also being influenced by IP and Mehran University of Engineering & Technology (MUET) is no exception. Progress of MUET is now compelling it to adopt IP characteristics, nonetheless MUET has made an outstanding advancement by building Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization to tackle IP related functions and also constructing a Centre for Innovation & entrepreneurship for future IP prospects, but a policy document in hand is of great importance at better refining IP activities within MUET.

Therefore this research has produced an IP policy of MUET. The study is based on benchmarking technique covering top Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) ranked foreign universities (Harvard University & Stanford University) and have also covered indigenous universities (National University of Sciences & Technology, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad). Benchmarking revealed some basic factors that were common to IP policies of the aforementioned universities. Then IP policy guidelines and policy making literature aided in the preparation of questionnaires which were included in the focus group activity, where all the relevant university stakeholders participated & produced data for developing the IP draft policy for MUET. The outcome of this research work is the IP policy of MUET which will assist the institution at improved IP management performances.