

# DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH CULTURE TO FACE DYNAMIC GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT

RGN De S Munasinghe  
University of Moratuwa

As per the main theme, to face the dynamic global environmental challenges innovative engineering solutions are required and certainly, to find those solutions it is necessary to have new knowledge created through high-end research. For that a powerful research culture should be created within a particular industry, institution or university. Development of a powerful research culture enhances the research potential of an institution. In case of universities it is well known fact that it has mainly three areas to serve the society. I.e. teaching, creation and dissemination of scientific & engineering knowledge as well as contribution to the national policy making process. Out of the above-mentioned areas creation of knowledge has a vital role to play in sustainable development of a university. Intensive research work is an essential element to create new knowledge. Hence, any university which needs to achieve an international recognition should give utmost priority to promote research. Building a unique research culture in a university should be done in many stages and in timely manner. Since performing effective research is similar to composing music, creating an art work or choreographing a dance item, it should be initiated in the mind of a particular person. Therefore, it should be created freely but not forcibly generated. For such a creation, certainly one needs 'peace in mind' and obviously, unlimited time. As Einstein has quoted "creativity is the residue of time wasted" one needs to spend time in intensive 'thinking'. Therefore, it is essential that to promote research a 'Research Atmosphere' should be created within the university. In addition to that availability of adequate funding, equipment, testing facilities, adequate infrastructure, less administrative restrictions etc. are other essential requirements for the development of an attractive research culture in a university.