

SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE THE QUANTITY AND QUALITY OF STUDENT SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AT FACULTY OF ACCOUNTING, THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**Dr. Nguyen Thi Hong Yen**

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ABSTRACT

The article focuses on strategies to enhance both the quantity and quality of student scientific research at the Faculty of Accounting, Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration. It emphasizes the crucial role of scientific research in higher education and highlights the multifaceted benefits it brings to students. The article reflects on the current situation and proposes some solutions to improve the quantity and quality of student scientific research. These initiatives aim to create a conducive environment for students to engage in research, develop critical thinking skills, and contribute meaningfully to their field of study. Through collaboration between faculty members, administrators, and students, the Faculty of Accounting is striving to cultivate a vibrant research culture to prepare students for academic success and future endeavors.

Keywords:

quantity, quality, student, scientific research, Faculty of Accounting.

1. INTRODUCTION

Scientific research (SR) is an indispensable content of higher education, aimed at affirming the position of the university as well as improving the training quality of the university in the current competitive trend. On the other hand, SR helps students develop professional competence, research methods, and cultivate thinking, thereby fostering the qualities of a researcher, contributing to the comprehensive education of students. Therefore, universities are currently focused on promoting SR activities for students, including the Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration.

It can be affirmed that scientific research plays an extremely important role for Vietnamese students in general and students of the University of Economics and Business Administration in particular. For this reason, the scientific research of students has been concretized in Circular No. 19/2012/TT-BGDĐT dated June 1, 2012 of the Ministry of Education and Training Promulgating Regulations on scientific research activities of students in higher education institutions. At the Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration, Regulations on scientific research activities for students have also been issued in Decision No. 1217/QĐ-DHKT/QTKD-KHCN dated December 9, 2019. From the above Regulations, the scientific research of students plays an extremely important role, in order to "promote the development of human resources, especially high-quality human resources, meeting the requirements of the fourth industrial revolution and international integration".

Firstly, scientific research (SR) serves as a catalyst for students to not only deepen their existing knowledge but also expand their intellectual horizons. While a solid foundation of basic knowledge is essential for embarking on research endeavors, the research process itself demands a continuous quest for new information and insights. Thus, students are compelled to delve into additional supporting materials, thereby honing their research skills and broadening their understanding of their chosen topics. Moreover, the collaborative nature of SR allows students to engage with guiding lecturers, providing them with invaluable mentorship and guidance as they navigate the complexities of their research inquiries. This collaborative dynamic fosters a rich exchange of ideas and perspectives, further enriching students' research experiences and outcomes.

Secondly, SR cultivates a host of essential skills vital for students' academic and professional growth. By immersing themselves in the intricacies of research projects, students are challenged to think critically and

independently, devising innovative solutions to complex problems. The iterative nature of the research process encourages students to explore multiple avenues and perspectives, fostering a culture of intellectual curiosity and resilience. Moreover, collaborative research projects necessitate effective teamwork, with students learning to leverage their collective strengths and expertise to achieve common goals. Through these collaborative endeavors, students develop invaluable interpersonal skills, such as communication, negotiation, and conflict resolution, which are indispensable in both academic and professional settings.

Thirdly, SR provides students with a platform to develop and refine their soft skills, particularly in the realm of communication and presentation. The process of articulating research findings and defending scientific stances before a discerning audience enhances students' ability to express complex ideas clearly and persuasively. Moreover, the constructive feedback received during the presentation and defense process fosters a culture of continuous improvement, empowering students to refine their communication skills and enhance their confidence in public speaking.

Fourthly, engagement in SR projects offers students an opportunity to enhance their proficiency in specialized English, a skill crucial for academic and professional success in today's globalized world. Through the rigorous demands of reading, synthesizing, and analyzing scholarly literature, students sharpen their language abilities and gain fluency in technical jargon specific to their field of study. Moreover, the process of writing research reports and theses fosters precision and clarity in written communication, further augmenting students' linguistic competence and scholarly acumen.

Fifthly, SR serves as a nexus for forging new relationships and expanding students' professional networks. By collaborating with peers, mentors, and external stakeholders, students gain exposure to diverse perspectives and expertise, enriching their learning experiences and broadening their intellectual horizons. Moreover, the cultivation of strong interpersonal relationships within academic and professional circles provides students with invaluable support and mentorship, facilitating their personal and professional growth.

Lastly, SR lays the foundation for students to achieve academic and professional success beyond graduation. Through their engagement in research projects, students accrue a wealth of knowledge, skills, and accomplishments that bolster their credentials and enhance their marketability in the job market. Moreover, the recognition garnered through awards and accolades serves as a testament to students' academic prowess and research achievements, distinguishing them as high achievers poised for success in their chosen fields. Consequently, students who actively participate in SR are well-positioned to seize priority job opportunities and embark on fulfilling careers characterized by intellectual curiosity, innovation, and scholarly excellence.

2. The current situation of scientific research activities of students in the Faculty of Accounting

Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration has always been concerned with the SR activities of students. Among them, the Faculty of Accounting has always been the leading unit in the University in terms of scientific research in general and student scientific research in particular. The results of scientific research of students in the Faculty of Accounting in the recent years are as follows:

Table 1: Results of scientific research of students in the Faculty of Accounting from 2020 to 2023

	2020	2021	2022	2023
Total number of projects	13	37	26	28
Projects rated Excellent	8	31	20	6
Projects rated Good	3	6	3	0
Projects Not Achieved	2			
Ongoing projects			3	22

(Source: Synthesized from the scientific research reports of the Faculty of Accounting in the period 2020 - 2023)

The number of student research projects in the Accounting Faculty saw a significant increase from 13 projects in 2020 to 37 projects in 2021. However, there was a decrease in quantity in 2022 compared to 2021, with a total of 26 projects. In 2023, the number of projects increased to 28. Additionally, there has been a continuous improvement

in the quality of projects. In 2020, there were 2 projects rated as Not Achieved. However, in both 2021 and 2022, there were no projects that received this rating.

The results show that the scientific research work of the Faculty of Accounting has achieved certain results. However, although the quantity and quality of the projects tend to increase, the proportion of students participating in scientific research is still very low. Many students have not yet realized the importance of scientific research and have not actively participated in this activity.

To promote the scientific research activities of students, the university has had many policies to encourage students. For each student research project, they will receive a budget of 3-4 million VND provided by the university. The results of student scientific research are one of the criteria for considering 5-good students, adding to their practice points, and receiving scholarships. The Faculty of Accounting also regularly pays attention to the scientific research work of students. Lecturers in the Department are always actively propagating, mobilizing students to do scientific research. The teachers are always ready and enthusiastic in guiding students in the process of scientific research. The Department also organizes an annual student scientific research conference to exchange, share experiences, and research methods for students.

However, in addition to some students who have actively participated in scientific research, there are still many students in the university in general and accounting students in particular who have not realized the importance of scientific research, so they have not really had enthusiasm, passion and invest properly in this activity for the following reasons: Many students feel that doing research projects is a waste of time and effort. A not-so-small number of students see scientific research as quite remote, only for outstanding students, not for them. Scientific research in students is currently seen as a campaign activity, so the research topics are often not highly practical. There are not many connections between the research environment and businesses. There is no close connection between students doing scientific research and businesses that need to apply science. Therefore, student research works tend to be more theoretical and not really attached to and effective in practice. The facilities are still lacking, there is no separate practice room for students. This also greatly limits the research capacity of students and the ability to implement in-depth topics. There are not many scientific research competitions for students organized annually, so the scientific research movement has not been strongly promoted among students.

3. Some measures to improve the quantity and quality of student scientific research at the Faculty of Accounting

To enhance both the quantity and quality of student scientific research at the Faculty of Accounting, a multifaceted approach is imperative. Firstly, fostering a deep understanding of the significance and benefits of scientific research among students is paramount. This entails elucidating the intrinsic value of research activities and the myriad opportunities they afford for personal and professional growth. Faculty members and academic advisors must undertake proactive measures to disseminate this knowledge effectively, ensuring that students grasp the profound impact of their involvement in scientific inquiry. Moreover, increasing student participation necessitates concerted efforts to mobilize and engage students in research endeavors. Faculty members, alongside academic advisors, should adopt innovative strategies to ignite students' curiosity and enthusiasm for research. By leveraging various platforms and channels, such as workshops, seminars, and informational sessions, educators can effectively communicate the tangible benefits and rewards of scientific research participation. Additionally, personalized mentorship and guidance play a pivotal role in nurturing students' interest and confidence in undertaking research projects. Through individualized support and encouragement, faculty members can empower students to overcome barriers and actively embrace research opportunities. Furthermore, creating a conducive environment that fosters a culture of research excellence is essential. Faculty members and academic advisors should strive to cultivate an atmosphere of collaboration, creativity, and intellectual curiosity within the academic community. By providing students with access to resources, mentorship, and collaborative opportunities, educators can inspire and empower the next generation of researchers to make meaningful contributions to their field.

Secondly, enhancing the guidance provided by lecturers is pivotal in elevating the caliber and efficacy of student scientific research endeavors. The pivotal role that lecturers play in shaping the research capabilities of students cannot be overstated, as their guidance profoundly influences the outcomes of students' research activities. Effective guidance is contingent upon lecturers' ability to impart comprehensive knowledge of research methodology, techniques, and essential skills in a manner that is not only engaging and informative but also captivating and stimulating. When lecturers adeptly translate abstract theoretical concepts into tangible, practical applications,

students are more likely to be captivated and motivated to delve deeper into their research pursuits. Furthermore, the guidance provided by lecturers extends beyond theoretical instruction to encompass hands-on support throughout the research process. Lecturers should strive to create an environment that fosters collaboration and open communication, wherein students feel empowered to seek guidance and assistance as they navigate the complexities of their research projects. By offering thoughtful and insightful guidance, lecturers can alleviate students' anxieties and insecurities, thereby empowering them to overcome challenges and persevere in their research endeavors. Moreover, lecturers have a vital role to play in instilling a sense of confidence and self-assurance in students as they embark on their research journeys. By providing ongoing support and encouragement, lecturers can help students develop the resilience and tenacity needed to navigate the inevitable obstacles and setbacks encountered in the research process. Additionally, by fostering a culture of inclusivity and collaboration, lecturers can create opportunities for students to work collaboratively with their peers, thereby enriching their research experiences and broadening their perspectives.

Thirdly, expanding the array of scientific research activities available to students is essential for fostering a robust culture of inquiry and innovation. Scientific exploration can commence through various avenues, ranging from traditional assignments and essays to more comprehensive research projects such as theses. Particularly, selecting topics that address pressing societal issues ensures that students are not only intellectually engaged but also actively contributing to the discourse surrounding real-world challenges. By immersing students in topics of contemporary relevance, educators can bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical application, thereby preparing students for the complexities of their future professions. To further diversify research opportunities, both the university and the Department must orchestrate a myriad of initiatives aimed at captivating student interest and participation. These may include hosting Student Scientific Research Competitions, facilitating collaborative endeavors through the "Lecturer-Student Cooperative Scientific Research" movement, and encouraging students to contribute articles to reputable newspapers and academic journals. Such initiatives not only provide platforms for students to showcase their research findings but also nurture a sense of ownership and pride in their scholarly pursuits. In tandem with organizing research-focused events, it is imperative to host a plethora of experience-sharing workshops designed to cultivate students' research acumen and foster a conducive learning environment. These workshops serve as invaluable forums where students can glean insights from seasoned scientists and educators, thereby gaining practical knowledge and refining their research methodologies. By inviting esteemed professionals to share their expertise and facilitating peer-to-peer exchange among students, these workshops empower participants to develop a holistic understanding of the research process while nurturing a collaborative and supportive research community.

Fourthly, the establishment of a "Scientific Research Club" represents a pivotal step towards fostering a vibrant and enduring culture of scientific inquiry among students. By providing a dedicated space for students to immerse themselves in the intricacies of research and innovation, such clubs serve as incubators for intellectual curiosity and academic exploration. Within these clubs, students are afforded the opportunity to indulge their passion for research and creativity, engaging in robust discussions and knowledge exchange on a myriad of academic topics. Moreover, Scientific Research Clubs function as hubs of collaboration, where students can pool their collective expertise and resources to tackle complex research projects. Through regular meetings and workshops, members have the chance to explore various research methods and processes, refining their skills and honing their analytical abilities under the guidance of experienced mentors. Additionally, the club serves as a repository of valuable equipment and techniques, providing students with access to the tools necessary for conducting high-quality research. Furthermore, the club acts as a central hub for disseminating information and facilitating communication among members. By establishing online forums and platforms, such as discussion boards and newsletters, the club can effectively disseminate updates on scientific research activities, introduce new research topics, and share relevant information and resources among its members. This not only fosters a sense of community and camaraderie but also ensures that members remain informed and engaged in ongoing research endeavors.

However, for the Scientific Research Club to truly thrive and attract a diverse range of participants, it must be supported by a dedicated team of enthusiastic and dynamic administrators. These individuals play a crucial role in shaping the club's vision and goals, developing a robust framework of regulations and activities, and fostering an inclusive and welcoming environment for all members. Additionally, the club must garner the attention and support of the faculty and scientists within the department, who can provide valuable guidance, mentorship, and resources to ensure the club's success. In essence, the establishment of a Scientific Research Club represents a cornerstone in

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cultivating a culture of scientific inquiry and innovation among students. Through collaboration, mentorship, and engagement, these clubs empower students to become active participants in the research community, driving forward the boundaries of knowledge and discovery.

4. Conclusion

Scientific research is a specific activity in university education. In scientific research activities, when students have an interest, they will research passionately, enthusiastically, actively, and more creatively, thereby also helping them develop their professional capacity to meet the requirements of future jobs. In the coming time, Thai Nguyen University of Economics and Business Administration in general and the Faculty of Accounting in particular need to pay more attention to the scientific research movement among students to promote student scientific research, increase both the quantity and quality of student scientific research.

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