

IMPROVEMENT OF SYSTEM OF INDICATORS FOR ACCEPTANCE EVALUATION OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH RESULTS IN UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCES, THAI NGUYEN UNIVERSITY

MSc. Tran Thi Hong

University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

Abstract:

This study is focused on the actual situation of evaluation works of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University. The study shows also limitations and their reasons which lead to low quality of evaluation works of research results. Then the study proposes a new system of indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences for University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University with perspectives to enhance the quality of these works.

Keywords: *Social sciences; Evaluation of research results.*

1. Introduction

Social science research is based mainly on surveys and studies of practical activities to give global views, conclusions and identification of rules. On this basis they would lead to scientific arguments and conclusions. Research results in field of social sciences rarely gather elements to be inventions but only elements of findings and creations. Therefore, we need to develop a suitable system of indicators to produce acceptance evaluation in conformity to the nature of social sciences.

University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University is a newly established university with small scale of training and research activities, particularly the one of social sciences. The acceptance evaluation of research results of social sciences of the university is still based on commonly used systems of indicators applied for research results in general but not the one of specific indicators to fit the nature of research results of social sciences. Therefore, the acceptance evaluation works of research results of social sciences of University of Sciences do not reflect objectively the things and sometimes reflect the own visions and personal feeling of evaluating members. Therefore, the improvement of the system of indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences which would be consistent and suitable to specific particularities of University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University is highly needed.

2. Methodologies of study

This study uses the following study methods: analysis-synthesis, surveys (45 sheets of questions were sent to cadres, teachers, researchers and evaluating members of University of Sciences), in-depth interviews and observations.

3. Contents of study

3.1. Some related notions

3.1.1. Scientific research

According to Vu Cao Dam, scientific research is “a social activity oriented to search the things unknown to sciences or to discover the nature of things, to develop scientific knowledge about the world or to create new methods of technical means for improving the world. In terms of actions, scientific research is a process to shape and to prove scientific arguments on things or phenomena to be explored” [8, p.34].

From this notion for scientific research, we can see the activities of scientific research gather the following basic and specific characteristics:

- *Novelty*: it is the most important in scientific research because it does not accept the repeating of findings and creations previously made by other researchers. From this point, members participating in evaluation of research results would turn their attention to the novelty of scientific research;
- *Credibility*: this characteristic requires researchers to be careful when selecting and using research methods during realization of research projects to get credible results. At the same time, this helps to reject dishonest or manipulated research results;
- *Information*: Evaluation works should focus attention to information volume the research work produced. The information provided in scientific research should be assessed carefully and seriously;
- *Objectivity*: This characteristic reflects the stand quality of researchers. Observations gathered and conclusions made must be objective;
- *Risks*: Failures in scientific research should be assessed as research results. This stand of view would help evaluating members to have an objective and impartial assessment of failures;
- *Heredity*: Comprehension of this characteristic helps evaluating members to distinguish the nature of “copying” and “heredity” to avoid wrong evaluations which could hurt researchers;

- *Individuality*: Comprehension of this characteristic would help evaluating members to respect scientific proposals of researchers newly appearing or even not fully proven yet;
- *Delayed applicability*: It shows that a research results could not be applied immediately in practice of life and production due to many causes from economic, cultural and social nature. It concerns particularly research results in field of fundamental research which might be revealed after long years. This nature of research results called “delay” in scientific research. Therefore, evaluation works of research results should balance well the applicability, particularly when it concerns research works in field of social sciences.

The above notions reflect the specific nature of scientific research works. The right comprehension of this nature is very important for researchers as well as administrative managers and evaluating members.

3.1.2. Evaluation of research results

In Vietnamese “evaluation” is interpreted as “*Examination of a completed work, consideration of gained achievements in comparison to initially set up plans, consideration of a man according to selected norms, evaluation of a research project in term of quality and quantity of research results and its effectiveness. This would be platform for acceptance evaluation of a research work*”.

Vu Cao Dam also proposes a notion of “evaluation” which is “*a comparison based on certain norms and standards to make a conclusion of a thing to be better or worse than another thing selected as gauge where there exist indicators of norms*” [9, p.77].

Hence it is possible to understand that the evaluation is activities to consider and to compare the things to be evaluated on basis of criteria and norms to define values of the things.

Also, according to Vu Cao Dam, research results are “*products created through activities of scientific research. The nature of research results is obtained information about the nature of things to be studied*” [9, p.89]. The nature of research results is the information and, therefore, we can have contact with research results through various carriers such as scientific reports, video and sonic records, description of procedures, formulas, skills, know-how, prototypes and etc.

On basis of introduced notions of evaluation and research results we can make a conclusion for evaluation of research results as *examination, in term of quality and quantity, of research results gained through activities of scientific research on basis of indicators of norms to define the values of the scientific*

research. This examination would provide a background for acceptance evaluation of these research results.

Also according to Vu Cao Dam, “*evaluation of research results is the fixation of values of scientific research works*” [9, p.93]. Therefore, evaluation of research results should be based on concerned characteristics of things which are here specific subjects including research results and indicators of norms. Particularly the evaluation of research results deals purely with the quality of gained research results themselves without talking about the effects from their application.

Briefly, the evaluation of research results has the targets to be:

- Background for evaluation of importance of research results in global scientific system;
- Background for evaluation of effectiveness of investment for scientific research;
- Background for payment for completed works by researchers and respects attributed to researchers.

However, evaluation works of research results face also difficulties, namely: (i) Information of research results is a characteristic difficult to be identified because this is a abstract feature in quantitative evaluation. Information can be assessed qualitatively through examination by individual members or panels of evaluating members; (ii) Novelty is a crucial characteristic for research results of a research work. The evaluation of novelty actually is based on points of view of individual members or a panel of members, (iii) Delayed applicability is a feature related to any research results and therefore needs a special consideration, (iv) Risks always exist in scientific research and they themselves should taken as research results. Therefore scientific research should be examined in objective manner.

3.1.3. Indicators for evaluation of scientific research

According to Wikipedia, “indicators” are norms for test or evaluation of a thing including requirements put towards quality, level, effects, capacities, conformity to regulations and rules, final results and sustainability of the results.

“Indicators” should be also interpreted as properties and signs to be used as background for recognition and classification of a thing or notion. Every indicator need to reflect a requirement of contents to be evaluated, concrete signs or properties of indicated things and phenomena.

Therefore, indicators for evaluation of research results are *factors used as background for recognition and classification of research results in conformity to required qualities*.

Indicators and evaluation remain in organic relations. Evaluation is made through indicators. No evaluation can be made without indicators. Inversely, objectives and properties of things to be evaluated will identify indicators. Therefore, indicators are not only tools and means for evaluation but have a decisive role for effectiveness of evaluation.

3.2. Actual situation of evaluation works of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

3.2.1. Actual situation of indicator of evaluation for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

(1) Indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results of ministerial research projects

Actually University of Sciences is applying an Evaluation Form for acceptance evaluation of research projects of ministerial level issued by Thai Nguyen University in Director's Decision No. 84/QĐ-ĐHTN dated 27th January 2011 for research projects in fields of both natural sciences and social sciences. The indicators have the following rate of scores.

- *Completed at the level initially registered for research projects: 50 points.* The criteria include objectives, contents, approach and research methods, scientific products, training products, application products;
- *Scientific and application values of research projects: 20 points.* The criteria include novelty and applicability;
- *Research effects: 15 points.* The criteria include socio-economic effects, science-technology effects, information, training of human resources, enhancement of research capacities of participants, additional equipment and books and etc...;
- *Outstanding results, values and effects (as bonus): 10 points;*
- *Quality of final report and summary report of research projects: 5 points.*

The above noted indicators when applied for research projects in field of social sciences exhibit themselves unsuitable in some terms of creativity and novelty in scientific research. For example, "novelty" is quantified as rate of new contributions of scientific research but not the three important components to set up the logic structure of research results, namely scientific event, scientific matter and scientific concept. Therefore, the new contributions do not reflect fully the global nature of "novelty. Another example is related to "research

effects” which are assessed as practical meanings of research results in every area with the number of assigned points. However, the main values of research products in field of social sciences are findings. From another side, actual effects of research works can be assessed only after being accepted and applied in practice. Therefore, it is not proper to consider “research effects” as hard indicators for acceptance evaluation for research results in field of social sciences.

The bonus points (though making only 10% of the total scores) remain impossible to be quantified by concrete terms and therefore they are marked, in many cases, by subjective view of evaluating members.

(2) *Indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results of grass-root level*

The indicators are to reflect:

- Science-technological nature of research projects;
- Applicability and implementation in practice;
- Socio-economic effects;
- Others.

These indicators remain as global assessment without being quantified by concrete terms. There is not also a rule for maximal scores of every indicator which leads to subjective views of evaluating members. *35 persons of the total 45 persons surveyed (77.8%) think the set of indicators used for evaluation of scientific research results is not suitable and needs to be amended. Namely, 16/35 think to add new indicators, 10/35 think to make it more detailed and to quantify accordingly, 4/35 think to set up a new set of indicators, 5/35 think to remove unsuitable indicators.*

3.2.2. *Evaluating members*

We have conducted surveys for quality of evaluating members for various aspects, namely: frequency of participation, expertise and qualification level, level of research projects. The obtained survey results are:

- For level of participation in evaluation works:

Table 1. Participation of members from University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

No.	Frequency of participation	Number of members	Rate (%)
1	From 1 to 3 times	23	51.1%
2	From 3 to 5 times	12	26.7%
3	Over 5 times	10	22.2%
Total		45	100%

Source: Survey results

The frequency is mainly from 1 to 3 times (making 51.1%). Over 5 times there are only 10/45 members (making 22.2%). These results show that the evaluation works requires high qualified and experienced members.

- Level of evaluated research projects

Table 2: Level of research projects evaluated by members from University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

No.	Level	Number of members	Rate (%)
1	University level	38	84.4%
2.	Higher education level	03	6.6%
3.	Ministerial level	04	8.8%
4.	National level	01	2.2%
Total		45	100%

Source: Survey results

The main level of participation is the University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University - 38 members (making 84.4%). The other levels make only a minor part (see Table 2). These results show that the expertise and qualification level of evaluating members of University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University remain limited.

- Expertise and qualification level of evaluating members from University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

Table 3. Expertise and qualification level of evaluating members and level of evaluated research projects

No.	Expertise and qualification of evaluating members	Level of research projects			
		University	Higher education	Ministerial	National
1	Post-graduate students: 17	X			
2	Masters of Science, doctorship students: 22	X	X	X	
3	Doctors: 06	X	X	X	X

Source: Survey results

The survey results show the evaluating members of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences have not equal expertise and qualification level, in fact 17 among 45 evaluating members are teachers doing post-graduate studies (to get Master of Science degree). For those who have

already Master of Science degree or are doing Doctor degree research participate mainly in evaluation of research results of University and Ministerial level. Teachers having Doctor Degree participate in evaluation of research results in all the levels. This analysis table gives the full picture the evaluation works of research projects in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University.

Therefore the unequal expertise and qualification level of evaluating members reflect their limited capacities and experiences of evaluation works which cause impacts too the final acceptance evaluation of research results.

(3) Evaluation methods

Actually the acceptance evaluation methods for research projects of various levels (particularly the one of University and Ministerial levels) in University of Sciences are realized by an acceptance evaluation council.

For research projects of ministerial level in field of social sciences the acceptance evaluation is conducted through two stages, namely “grass-root” stage in University of Sciences and ministerial stage in Thai Nguyen University, the later would evaluate only those which get “Pass” at “grass-root” stage.

For research projects of University level the acceptance evaluation is made only in University of Sciences.

Since the quality evaluation of research results in field of social sciences is conducted by an acceptance evaluation council then the quality of works depends on condition, working procedure, member structure, expertise, qualification and responsibility of evaluating members. From another side, it is possible that there are, among the evaluating members of the evaluation council, some ones close to the chief of research teams then the type of these relations could affect the objectivities of evaluation which could lead to un exact conclusions of the quality of research projects.

On basis of these analyses the actual set of indicators for evaluation of research results and the applied evaluation method used in University of Sciences lead to the following problems:

- Evaluation works of research results in field of social sciences do not reflect necessary requirements for novelty, logic and scientific nature, and objectivity of research projects. Evaluation remains impacted by partiality of evaluating members;
- Research results of different quality may get the same evaluation;
- Professional skills of evaluation works are still limited, particularly in the two stages: evaluation of the plans of research projects at the beginning and evaluation of research results at the end of research projects.

Reasons of the limitations

- The shortages of the actually applied set of indicators lead to incorrect evaluations of research results. Some indicators are not clear then lead to eventual partiality of evaluating members.
- The lack of unified norms for indicators for specific research themes could not focus attention on the quality of research works then the evaluation works may become simply formal. The less attention focused on the quality of research projects may not also require the chiefs of research projects to select qualified co-researchers and to make efforts in organization and coordination for good results of research projects. Instead some formal co-researchers may appear.
- There are also limitations in organization of evaluation works. For research projects of ministerial level, the scientific council of University of Sciences is the hosting unit for evaluation works then the chiefs of research projects are allowed to propose the members of evaluating councils then the conclusions may not reflect the real quality of completed research projects.
- There are also limitations in expertise qualification of evaluating members which do not have equal levels. Post-graduate students participate also in evaluation works.
- Some evaluating members do not keep serious stands for evaluation works. Some of them do the evaluation works as a formality procedure and keep a “live and let live” position. They do not see particular values of individual research projects and efforts by researchers. Some of them do not want to raise personal conflicts which become a socially popular behavior psychology. Many evaluating members make their conclusions mainly based on the conclusions made by researchers for their own research projects. These evaluating members do not make efforts to consider, analysis and understand the particularities of research projects the give incorrect evaluations. They hesitate also to exhibit their stands when evaluating scientific practical and other values of research projects. This shortages lead to incomplete evaluation of limitations or shortages of research projects.
- There exists, oppositely, another absolute trends of evaluation which requires the immediate application or implementation of research projects. They don't see, in fact, the nature of “risks” and “delays” of scientific research. This trend may lead to under-estimation of research results in field of social sciences and efforts of researchers.

The above analyzed reasons lead to unsatisfied quality of evaluation works of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University.

Social sciences study movement and development laws of the society. They reflect inter-human relations and human-society relations. These relations are different from the ones in natural sciences. But natural sciences and social sciences have inter-active links. Natural sciences provide tools for globalization in social sciences. Social sciences such as politics, sociology, management sciences orient and promote development of natural sciences. Above of all, the dialectics provide perception tolls for both natural and social sciences.

Even social sciences find themselves as components of activities of science-technology sciences then they cover natural sciences and some other different components, namely:

- *Social science research is based on creative minds and research results bear mainly findings and creative elements.* Differently from natural and technological sciences, the social research is not conducted on basis of experiments made in laboratories but on basis of surveys and studies of practical processes for conclusion of laws. Therefore research results in field of social sciences have less discovery and invention elements but finding and creative elements. The mindset of social science research is reflected also in processes of document studies, practical surveys, proper approach determination, academic exchanges, arguments presentation, concepts analysis and, finally, presentation of research results. Social science research is not purely based on book readings but is to be linked to reality analysis to identify the nature of phenomena, subjects and situations, to apply theories, knowledge and experiences for analysis-synthesis works which are background for creative reasoning;
- *Social sciences are difficult to be quantified in terms of work products and research results.* Products in field of social sciences are typically pages where authors present their ideas, interpretations and proposals for theories and practice. Requirements toward products are not found similar. They may be a summary reports, synthesized reports, specific reports and recommendation reports. There are reports which contain many pages with low investment of costs, time and work intensities (brainstorming efforts). The inverse picture exists also. Therefore, it is necessary to be very flexible when evaluating the quality of research results based on numbers of pages, particularly for the case of payment of completed works;
- *Social sciences are difficult to be evaluated in term of quality but they are possible to be evaluated. Basically, the quality evaluation of a research work in field of social sciences is quite different from the one of science-technology work. Research results in field of social sciences are products of a brainstorming process for proposal of matters accepted by society, particularly highly appreciated by professional community.* In practice

there were proposal not highly appreciated today (because they were not applied yet) but highly valued in future development periods. Therefore, at the moment of evaluation it is difficult to state about the quality of a research work in field of social sciences. The evaluation of quality of a research work in field of social sciences at certain time moment is quite of relative nature and we need to wait application results;

- *Effects of research results in field of social sciences are synthesis of numerous components where the most important one is socio-political effects.* The impacts of a research work in field of social sciences are large, long-lasting and global, particularly when they are used for dressing plans, policies and principles of social development. Every research work in field of social sciences produces certain effects in various aspects including socio-economic, political-ideological and scientific. Among them those effects which cannot be quantified turn out to be very large and important. These effects are not easy to be exploded in immediate effects or to be assessed on term of investment economic effects. The global effects should be considered on basis of integrated, long-lasting and global effects;
- *Activities in field of social sciences are close linked to political activities.* Social sciences have duties to provide scientific background to plan policies of national construction and development, to serve political policies of the Party. Aspects of mindset and theory, including the fundamental political theories, are to serve the doctrine and policies of the Party. Every sector in field of social sciences contributes its parts to set up valued scientific works. Many research topics are closely linked to political and guiding requirements and they should be kept well instructed by the Party;
- *Social sciences include fundamental research and applied research.* Social sciences study globally covering links and development of human relations in numerous aspects of economics, politics, culture and society. Final objectives of research activities in field of social sciences are to help humans and the society to develop in all aspects, to adapt to changes of surrounding environment. Therefore social sciences include fundamental research such as history, economics, sociology and etc. as well as applied research such as survey, appraisal, evaluation of development programs and projects, etc.

These specific natures of social sciences show the necessity of attention during evaluation of research results in field of social sciences. We don't need to be rigid but flexible in evaluation due their specific particularities. Evaluating members and managers need to keep in mind these particularities to provide right evaluation remarks and suitable administrative decisions.

Actually, the evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in general is based on the set of indicators issued by Ministry of Science-Technology which are considered as legal background for better effects of evaluating works of social science research. However, some of indicators used for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences, namely theoretical and practical meanings, new theoretical and practical contribution, feasible proposals and recommendations of research works to plan economic, social and cultural development policies remain suggestive. They depend on the vision of evaluating members and historical context of socio-political conditions. For evaluation scores the evaluating councils usually use 4 levels: excellent, good, pass and not-pass. In all the cases, the evaluation remains perceptive because of lack of concrete indicators for evaluating and ranking.

From another side, in the set of indicators issued by Ministry of Science-Technology in connection to Decision No. 96/QD-BKHHCN dated 23 January 2006 Indicators 5 for “novelty and creativity” gathers in maximum 10 points of the total 100 points. Therefore, a research work, if assessed as non-pass, in this indicator would lose only 10 points and then accepted while having no scientific value. However, Circular No. 07/2009/TT-BKHHCN dated 3 April 2009 by Ministry of Science-Technology guiding the evaluation of national level research projects had defined the maximum of 25 points for *Scientific values of research projects* including: a) Novelty and creativity of research works, b) Integrated system of logic arguments and clear analysis. This is a new and important addition to underline the novelty of research results in field of social sciences.

In practice, there were universities themselves issue their own regulations for evaluation of quality of research results to fit their specific conditions. For example, Decision No. 144/KH-TB dated 21 January 2005 by Director of Vinh University provided concrete indicators for acceptance evaluation of research works from Department level to University level including a research paper in the University Proceedings at least as eligible condition for consideration. This clear instruction for evaluating indicators at every level surely contributes to effective evaluation of research works in general and in field of social sciences in particular in Vinh University. The initiatives of Director of Vinh University serves as typical example to be good to issue the own regulations in conformity to actual conditions of every university.

In addition, many universities and colleges do not have their own rules for S&T management in conformity to their training conditions. They apply the common rules of evaluation issued by Ministry of Science-Technology or Ministry of Education and Training which lead to formal and partial evaluation of quality of research works. Particularly in multi-discipline universities and colleges the problem gets harder since every discipline requires a special

approach for evaluation. Social sciences are not exclusive case and we need to have a set of indicators to meet the specific nature of social sciences..

3.3. Improvement of the system of indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

3.3.1. Scientific background for improvement of the system of indicators for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

Basically, the nature of sciences and activities of scientific research is to explore new things of scientific and practical values and to provide objective and trusted information. The objects are approached in a logic and systematic manner with suitable methods for proposal of a system of indicators for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences which would be of standards and in conformity to specific particularities of University of Sciences.

a. Novelty of research results

Novelty is a top priority of research works. The novelty is also a gauge to measure the value of intellectual works of researchers. Therefore, when considering a research result, first of all it is necessary to explore its novelty. A research works would not have values if it itself cannot provide new things. The novelty is reflected through scientific events, scientific topics and scientific arguments. These indicators are the most important to assess the novelty.

- (1) Scientific events: they must exhibit clearly the ideas and concept of researchers and their interests.
- (2) Scientific topics need to give solutions to practical problems.
- (3) Scientific arguments have to present the contribution, theoretic or practical, of the authors for richer knowledge.

b. Values of research results

The values of research results can be interpreted as the importance level on usefulness of information, in terms of quality and quantity, contained in the research works. The values would be in center of evaluation. The values are assessed through two aspects: contribution for sciences and contribution for practice.

Scientific values of research results are reflected in new findings, new databases, new research methods and new contributions for scientific theories.

Practical values of research results are reflected in applicability for fields of technologies, economics, education and training, socio-culture and environment.

c. Logic and systematic nature and conformity of research methods

The logic nature of research results is reflected through the logic links of five components: scientific events, scientific topics, scientific concepts, scientific arguments and research methods. A really valued research work would combine these components in a logic and systematic way in the whole research work. The miss of one component would reduce the credibility of research works. These five components should be listed among indicators.

Evaluations of research results require also the conformity of used research methods for subjects and contents of research works. They include the level of clear and detail description of used research methods, the conformity of approach methods to get the objectives of research projects.

Also, the evaluation should deal with commitments noted in scientific research contracts such as quantity, volume and types of products of research projects.

3.3.2. Proposal of a system of indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

On basis of objectives and nature of scientific research, the author proposes a system of indicators for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University as follows.

Table 4. System of indicators for acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University

No.	Contents of evaluation	Score	Max.
1	Novelty		20
	- Scientific events: <i>Objective existence without fabrication.</i>		5
	- Scientific topics: <i>Scientific actuality.</i>		7
	- Scientific concept and arguments: <i>Researcher's contribution, theoretical or practical.</i>		8
	No further evaluation if no novelty found .		0
2.	Logic and systematic nature of the five components: scientific events, scientific topics, scientific concepts, scientific arguments and research methods. They are well linked in the whole research works.		10
3.	Conformity of research methods to research subjects and contents.		15

No.	Contents of evaluation	Score	Max.
	- Level of clear and detail description of used research methods.		7
	- Conformity of approach methods, used research methods in implementation of research works .		8
4	Scientific and practical values of research results		25
	4.1. Scientific values		15
	- New findings, new database of scientific and practical values.		6
	- Improvement of existing research methods for solution of problems put in research projects.		3
	- New contributions for development of existing theories.		6
	4.2. Practical values (*)		10
	- Economic fields (creation of new products with economic values, potentials to restructure a economic sector, potential to develop a new economic sector, concrete options as scientific background for planning socio-economic development projects).		10
	- Education and training fields (new knowledge in lectures, new content in training programs, new methods in educational technologies, new tools in teaching, etc).		10
	- Socio-cultural fields (positive impacts towards traditions and culture, enhancement of public intellectual level, reduction of poverty, removal of social inequalities, good impacts towards public health, etc.).		10
	- Environment (improvement of environment by newly created technologies).		10
5.	Level of achievement of objectives and tasks of research projects as committed in research project contracts as presented in summary reports of research results, brief reports and proposals/recommendations of research projects.		25
6.	Remarkable values of research results (**)		5
	- Scientific paper(s) in well known international magazines of the fields.		5
	- Research results of important value for practice which were transferred and applied (certified by documents).		5
	- Accompanied by a doctor thesis successfully protected in the same directions of research.		5
	- Published works much more than committed initially (at least two works or monograph).		5
	Total		100

Note: (*) Total scores of 4.2 item do not exceed 10 points.

(**) Total scores of this item do not exceed 5 points.

Ranking of research results (*marking √ in suitable cases, compulsorily*):

Excellent (Total scores 95 - 100 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Good (Total scores 85 - 94 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pretty good (Total scores 70 - 84 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Medium (Total scores 60 - 69 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Not-pass (Less than 60 points)	<input type="checkbox"/>

The six above proposed indicators are used for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences in University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University. Among these indicators the “Novelty” is taken as decisive one for eligibility of further consideration. These six indicators are useful tools to identify the quality of research results in field of social sciences and to evaluate for acceptance of research projects of various levels conducted by teaching staffs of University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University. These indicators may be applied and exchanged with other universities and research institutes in field of social sciences. We would like to give the following recommendations to put these indicators in practice.

- *For the Directorate of University of Sciences*

First of all, the Directorate of the University should note that activities of scientific research of the University have specific natures in both natural sciences and social sciences. Research results in these fields of sciences are evaluated in different ways then it is necessary to set up the system of indicators specifically targeted for every field of sciences.

In order to put this system of indicators in practice of evaluation works of research results of University of Sciences the Directorate need gradually to set up the institutional scheme for these indicators by issuing documents to guide the acceptance evaluation of research results in field of social sciences. For starting the proposed system of indicators can be used for research projects of University level as for trial purpose. Then it will be improved to become the system of indicators officially used for acceptance evaluation of research results in University of Sciences.

Also, the Directorate needs to develop links in scientific research activities, to organize scientific workshops for information exchanges to improve the system. In addition, we could go further for additional indicators used for specific disciplines. This work can enhance the scientific position of University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University domestically and abroad.

- *For evaluating members*

It is necessary to have the unified stands in evaluation of research results then they would have a consensus for evaluation of a research result. They should keep the objective vision to give the most exact remarks for research results.

Conclusion:

Evaluation of research results is to consider them in terms of quality and quantity. Therefore, the indicators need to be capable to measure and evaluate the novelty, scientific values and practical values of the research results.

“The system of indicators for evaluation of research results” as proposed above could be taken as tools to identify the quality of research results in field of social sciences and for acceptance evaluation of research projects of various levels conducted by teachers of University of Sciences, Thai Nguyen University. Also the system of indicators can be applied through exchanges with other universities and research institutes in field of social sciences.

This system is proposed for evaluation of research results in field of social sciences and then the question remains open for every disciplines which require further studies and surveys./.

REFERENCES

1. National Congress. (2000) *Science-Technology Law. Code number 21/2000/QH10 dated 9 June /2000.*
2. Ministry of Science & Technology. (2007) *Decision No. 19/2007/QD-BKHHCN dated 18 September 2007 Rules for acceptance evaluation of fundamental research projects in natural sciences.*
3. Ministry of Science & Technology. (2009) *Circular No. 07/2009/TT-BKHHCN dated 3 April 2009 Guidelines for acceptance evaluation of research projects of national level.*
4. Ministry of Education and Training. (2010) *Circular No. 10/TT-BGDT dated 29 March 2010 Rules of management of Science-Technology research projects of Ministerial level.*
5. Thai Nguyen University. (2011) *Decision No. 84/QD-DHTN dated 27 January 2011 Issue of rules of Science-Technology management of Thai Nguyen University.*
6. Thai Nguyen University. (2011) *Rules of Science-Technology management of Thai Nguyen University* issued as attachment to Decision No. 84/QD-DHTN dated 27 January 2011 by Director of Thai Nguyen University.
7. Vinh University. (2005) *Decision No. 144/KH-TB dated 21 January 2005 by Director of Vinh University for temporary rules of Science-Technology management.*
8. Vu Cao Dam. (1999) *Methodologies for scientific research.* Lectures. Hanoi. Education Publishing House.
9. Vu Cao Dam. (2007) *Evaluation of scientific research results.* Hanoi. Science-Technics Publication House.

10. Nguyen Van An. (2005) *Some problems in evaluation and acceptance of scientific research results*. Scientific Activities Magazine, No. 4/2005, p.52.
11. Ho Tu Bao. (2010) *Quantitative evaluation of scientific research results*. Scientific Activities Magazine, No. 7/2010, p.16.