



ORIC NEWS

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialisation, UAF

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
Transforming Concepts into Impacts



HANDS ON TRAINING OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENTISTS FROM GOVT. OF SINDH COMPLETED



The Government of the Sindh Agriculture Department under an agreement sent a delegation of 10 agricultural scientists for capacity building in Tissue Culture, Plant Breeding and Genetics, and Soil & Environmental Sciences.

The scientists were engaged in hands-on training in the respective Department/Institute from June 21-30, 2021 supplemented by visits of some prominent research stations.



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Expressing concluding remarks, Mr. Sana Allah Solangi, on behalf of the participants appreciated the hospitality and facilitation for hands-on training. He emphasized the need to continue organizing such trainings and capacity-building initiatives for refreshing the existing knowledge and updating the expertise in the field of Science and Technology. In the closing session, Prof Dr. Anas Sarwar Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor, congratulated the successful trainees and suggested to cascade the training for other fellows as well as the farmer community. He desired that UAF scientists needed to revamp the research priorities under the arena of changing climate, water shortage, and energy deficit. He also decorated the trainees with certificates and shields. Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC/Focal Person presented the vote of thanks and appreciated the contribution of all the departments/Institutes directly or indirectly to make this event a success story.

AI-ACCESSIBILITY GRANTS

Applications are invited from developers, NGOs, academics, researchers, and inventors to accelerate their work for people with disabilities through AI (Artificial Intelligence). This is a global program. Grant applications from all countries are eligible.

Deadline: July 30, 2021

For more details please visit:
<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/ai/ai-for-accessibility-grants>

South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) - Regular Research Grants

The South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) is a regional network that provides research grants to the researchers, graduate, and Ph.D. students engaged in research work related to the economics of environment and development. Currently, grants are made in three thematic areas: Ecosystem Management, Economics of Climate Change, Policies, and Programs for Greener Development.

Deadline: April and October.

However, preproposals are accepted throughout the year.

For more details please visit:

http://www.sandeeonline.org/content_disp.php?id=12&cntid=54

THE MERCK RESEARCH GRANTS PROGRAM

The Merck research grants program is open to the scientists in all career stages who are affiliated with any research-based institution, university, or company.

The proposals are accepted in the following areas:

- Drug Discovery
- Real-time testing and sensors
- Nanoparticle for nucleic acid delivery
- Digital Innovation
- Bioelectronics
- Sustainability
- Media recycling for cultured meat
- Organoids

Deadline: August 31, 2021

For more details please visit:

<https://www.merckgroup.com/en/research/open-innovation/2021-research-grants.html>

12TH MEETING OF UAF INSTITUTIONAL BIOSAFETY/BIOETHICS COMMITTEE (IBC)



Prof. Dr. Anas Sarwar Qureshi, Vice-Chancellor/Chairman IBC presided over the 12th Meeting of UAF Institutional Biosafety/Bioethics Committee (IBC) held on June 24, 2021. A total of 203 cases were discussed and approved. Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Khan, Plant Pathology, Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Secretary, IBC, Prof. Dr. Sarfraz Hassan, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Prof. Dr. Sajjad ur Rehman, Director Institute of Microbiology, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan, CABB,

Prof. Dr. Amer Jamil, Director CABB and Dr. Abdul Rashid, UAF Biosafety Officer attended the meeting. The chair desired that the role of IBC should be vibrant with the involvement of the respective chairman of the department so that international standards of Biosafety and Bioethics may be adopted at UAF and quality of research should not be compromised at any cost in any case.

SUMMER RESEARCH INTERNSHIPS

The Center for Water Informatics and Technology (WIT), LUMS is looking for interested students to take part in 8-week internships (June – July 2021) in the following areas:

- Quantification of Microplastic in Environmental Samples (preferably a student from the Department of Biology for this Project for Collection of samples from the Field, Handling of various chemicals, and possible plastic biodegradation study)
- Magnetic Oxide/Graphene Oxide Nano-composite for Removal of Microplastic and other Water Pollutants (preferably a student from the Department of Chemistry having an understanding of graphene oxide preparation, ability to handle various chemicals)
- Establishment of a Microbial Fuel Cell for Application in Nature-Based Agriculture (preferably a student from the Department of Electrical Engineering having an understanding of fuel cells, storage, and transmission, etc.)
- Development of a Framework to Understand the Role of Women in Informal Waste Collection and Plastic Recycling (preferably a student from the field of humanity and Social Sciences)

Interested students can email their CV and statement of interest for the project (500-1000 words with the subject) "WIT Summer Research Internship" at fozia.parveen@lums.edu.pk

Students will be paid a nominal amount of PKR 10000 per month along with a certificate after successful completion of the internship.

9TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON AGRICULTURE & FOOD

The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Union of Scientists in Bulgaria, Science & Education Foundation and Institute of Hydrometeorology,

Georgian Technical University Burgas, Bulgaria are organizing the ninth International Conference on Agriculture & Food, to be held between **16th and 19th August 2021**.

The participants belonging to various sectors of Agriculture i.e. Plant Breeding and Genetics, Animal Breeding, and Food Production, Climate Change, Food Security and malnutrition, etc. to address recent research results and to present and discuss their ideas, theories, technologies, systems, tools, applications, work in progress and experiences. The papers presented will be published in an open-access journal indexed by AGRIS. The event will be held with both live and online sessions while observing all applicable safety measures.

Further information is available on <https://sci-edu.org/agriculture> OR Science & Education Foundation, Bulgaria, www.sci-edu.org

POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS

King Fahad University of Petroleum and Minerals (KFUPM) has announced Post-Doctoral Fellowship in the following areas:

- AI, Intelligent Secure System
- Membranes and Water Security
- Smart Mobility and Logistics
- Refining and Petrochemicals
- Nanotechnology
- Renewable Energy
- Macro/Micro-Economics
- Business Administration, Management and Finance

For more details, please visit: <https://postdoc.kfupm.edu.sa>

STATE-OF-THE-ART CHAMPIONS AWARD

Partnering for Green Growth and the Global Goals 2030 (P4G) is looking for the world's most innovative partnerships delivering measurable sustainable growth and climate action impact. An award of excellence will be presented to one partnership in each of five key SDG areas:

Priority Areas:

- 2: Zero Hunger
- 6: Clean Water and Sanitation
- 7: Affordable and Clean Energy
- 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities
- 12: Responsible Consumption and Production

Deadline: **31st July 2021**

For more details please visit:
<https://p4gpartnerships.org/state-art-partnership-awards>

HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT AND SCIENTIFIC EVENT (IGNITE NATIONAL TECHNOLOGY FUND)

This grant scheme launched by Ignite National Technology Fund is aimed to train manpower and strengthen R&D institutions working in the fields of science and technology relevant to the national needs

The purpose of this grant is two-fold:

- To support the candidates in obtaining essential training/certification and to fund reputable institutions that want to either strengthen existing or start another program.

Priority Areas:

- Funds should be provided to either completely or partially subsidize the training programs and to buy equipment/software that the institution cannot afford.
- From this grant, medium-sized scientific equipment can also be purchased with strong justification and cost-benefit analysis.
- Funds should not be spent on brick and mortar.
- The details of training and/or experiments that will be performed and the goals that will be achieved should be clearly stated.

For more details please visit:
<https://ignite.org.pk/human-resource-development>

ISDB-TWAS JOINT RESEARCH & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER GRANT 2021: QUICK-RESPONSE RESEARCH ON COVID-19

Keeping in view the COVID-19 disasters worldwide, the Third World Academy of Science (TWAS) and the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) are offering a competitive grant for research collaboration. Technologists and researchers from IsDB Member Countries are invited to submit research and innovation proposals that can help address challenges, directly and indirectly, related to COVID-19.

Priority Areas:

Examples of specific themes include, but are not limited to:

- Epidemiology of COVID-19
- Dealing with consequences of COVID-19
- Regional studies of COVID-19 infection
- Identification of possible sources of viruses:

prevention of new zoonotic diseases

- HIV, SARS, MERS, COVID-19: lessons to learn on infections arising through species jump
- Evolution of viral disease: from animal to human and mutations of human strains
- Developing an emergency R&D response to any emerging infectious disease
- Discovery and development of diagnostics and therapeutics in viral outbreaks
- Dealing with viral infections: real-time data collection of the spread and preparation for future outbreaks
- Remote diagnosis and treatment

Deadline: **5th July 2021**

For more detail please visit:

<https://twas.org/opportunity/isdb-twas-joint-research-technology-transfer-grant-2021-quick-response-research-covid-19>



ORIC UAF STEERING COMMITTEE

In line with Higher Education Commission's guidelines, UAF-ORIC Steering Committee has been notified vide No.A-3/272/11232, dated 23-06-2021. The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) felicitates the following honorable members of the Steering Committee. It is anticipated that on the basis of lifelong experiences, the members will provide policy guidelines to ORIC for its best functioning.

		
(Chairman-I)	(Chairman-II)	(Secretary)
Prof. Dr. Anas Sarwar Qureshi, Vice Chancellor UAF	Engr. Hafiz Ahtasham Javed, President Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry (FCCI)/Ex-Officio Member	Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC UAF
		
(Member)	(Member)	(Member)
Mr. Mohsin Raza, Deputy Secretary General Faisalabad Chamber of Commerce, and Industry (FCCI)	Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ayub, Institute of Horticultural Sciences, UAF	Prof. Dr. Farzana Rizvi, Department of Pathology, UAF
		
(Member)	(Member)	(Member)
Dr. Nadeem Tariq, Niha International Pvt. Ltd Lahore	Ch. Asif Ali, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Baba Farid Seed Corporation, 7km Multan Road, Vehari	Dean Faculty of Agri. Engr. & Technology or his Representative (nominated by the Vice Chancellor)
		
(Member)	(Member)	(Member)
Dean Faculty of Food Nutrition and Home Sciences or his Representative (nominated by the Vice Chancellor)	Tariq Mehmood Gill, Registrar, UAF (Ex Officio Member)	Umar Saeed, Treasurer, UAF(Ex Officio Member)



**Vice-Chancellor, UAF
(Patron in Chief)**

**Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir
Director, ORIC, (Chief Editor)**

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