

ORIC Newsletter

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

March 01 to 15, 2023



HIGHLIGHTS

MEMENTO TO PROF. DR. ZAHIR AHMAD ZAHIR IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICES

In a bid to applaud the services and efforts of outgoing Director ORIC Prof. D. Zahir Ahmad Zahir in making Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) a vibrant and core office of the varsity, a ceremony was held at



Office of the Vice Chancellor. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI) flanked by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani Director ORIC paid tribute to the services of Prof. Zahir who spearheaded ORIC for more than 6 years. Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan expressed satisfaction over the recent ORIC ranking by Higher Education Commission wherein it was placed top among all ORICs established in the country. He emphasized the need to work on the areas where UAF can do more rigorous efforts thereby to remain at top. He asked the Director ORIC to pursue the faculty as well as the funding agencies to facilitate both ends. He offered his full support to ORIC in order to fetch more research funding for the varsity. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir paid his gratitude to the Vice Chancellor and termed his success an outcome of team work and unequivocal support of the management of the varsity particularly the Vice Chancellor. The meeting was concluded with a memento which was presented to outgoing Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir.

RECOGNITION OF SERVICES OF PROF. DR. ZAHIR AHMAD ZAHIR

RUSSIAN DELEGATION VISITS ORIC

PAKISTAN HINDU COUNCIL INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

TRAVEL GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MEMBERS OF PSF REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND PhD SCHOLARS

ICAC RESEARCH OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023

CALL FOR CONCEPT PROPOSALS (PSF)

PARTIAL RESEARCH SUPPORT BY ORIC TO POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

VICE CHANCELLOR ADDRESSES THE PARTICIPANTS OF TRAINING PROGRAM ORIENTATION DAY FOR 2ND COHORT AT NICF

REGIONAL PLAN 9 APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR FOURTH COHORT



RUSSIAN DELEGATION VISITS ORIC

A Russian delegation led by Head of International Project Division at Russian State Agrarian University, Moscow Timiryazev Agricultural Academy Mr. Konstantin A. Vinogradov paid a visit to ORIC and held a meeting with Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani. The delegation was briefed about the ongoing R&D activities and success stories of ORIC by the Director ORIC. Highlighting the significance of visit, Prof. Jaskani emphasized the need to collaborate with the Russian universities particularly the agricultural universities thereby to undergo with joint research projects, faculty and student exchange and potential of higher studies in Russian universities. There was commonality of views on the point that feeding the growing world population, agriculture scientists need to join hands to effectively meet the daunting challenge of food insecurity. Prof. Jaskani vowed to explore potential areas to work with Russian Agriculture Universities adding that there are huge opportunities to collaborate with Russian universities that would strengthen mutual ties as the governments of both countries are more eager to work closely on the research and education fronts. Konstantin A Vinogradov told that his university is offering 300 under and postgraduate degree programs and a wide range of short courses and skill development programs. He urged UAF management to visit his university to witness and explore the potential areas of mutual collaboration. Mr. Ziauddin Siddiqui Russian Center for Science & Cultural Administrator said that his office is vigorously working to introduce the Russian Universities to the Pakistani counterparts thereby to develop a blazing liaison benefitting both countries. Director External Linkages (DEL) Prof. Dr. Muhammad Saqib was also present in the meeting.



TWO DAYS BUSINESS IDEAS BOOT CAMP



In today's competitive business environment, entrepreneurship is a key driver of economic growth and development. Business Incubation Center, UAF in collaboration with The Entrepreneurship Club, UAF organized a 2-Days Business Ideas Bootcamp where participants attended various workshops and session including market research, product development, branding in and financial planning. Mr. Farhan Tufail CEO Invictus Solutions, Mr. Yasir Rasool CEO GRWU and Mr. Imran Munawar Incharge Business Incubation Center UAF mentored startups and helped them to refine their business pitches. The startups were also given the opportunity to pitch their business ideas to a panel of judges. Top three startups were awarded cash prizes and incubation space at Business Incubation Center, UAF.



TRAVEL GRANT OPPORTUNITY FOR THE MEMBERS OF PSF REGISTERED SCIENTIFIC SOCIETIES AND PhD SCHOLARS

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) has announced “Financial support to scientific societies in Pakistan” through its registered members and PhD scholars by providing travel grants for participation in international science conferences, Seminars, Workshops, Symposia and hands on foreign trainings. Financial assistance and allied expenses will cover airfare and registration fee only.



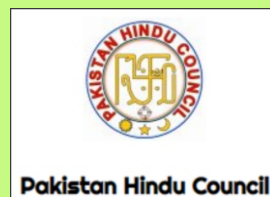
- For PSF registered society members
- Travel grant will be provided for oral presentation of original research work in the top international conferences as invited speaker
- For PhD scholars
- PhD students enrolled with a HEC recognized public sector universities only with present PhD research based work in Pakistan

For further detail please visit: www.psf.gov.pk

Deadline: At least 30 days prior to the commencement of Conference/Seminar/Workshop/Symposia

PAKISTAN HINDU COUNCIL INTERSHIP PROGRAM

Pakistan Hindu Council (PHC) is offering a comprehensive 03 months Internship Program for students enrolled in HEC accredited undergraduate degree program in public, private universities/HEIs and recent graduates from diverse backgrounds. The eligible students will gain hand on professional experience and exposure in order to enhance their competencies for academic, professional and personal development. Students are encouraged to avail this internship opportunity.



For more details visit official website

<http://pakistanhinducouncil.org.pk/internship> or Incharge PHC Internship Program through

Email ID: internship@pakistanhinducouncil.org

CALL FOR CONCEPT PROPOSALS (PAKISTAN SCIENCE FOUNDATION)

Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) has invited concept Proposals from the Researcher for providing financial Supports of their research outcomes

Priority Area: Nanotechnology, Materials, Artificial Intelligence,

In addition, the “lone” innovators/ startups/ SMEs have launched a new product/ technology/ technique/ process and want to bring value addition/improvement alone or in partnership with scientists, technologists and academia R&D institutes and HEC recognized universities are also encouraged to apply.

Deadline: 25th March, 2023, For submission of Concept Proposals

Proforma and guidelines are available on <http://www.psf.gov.pk/crp.aspx>

PARTIAL RESEARCH SUPPORT BY ORIC TO POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

The Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) is ensuring quality in research by supporting partial funding for consumables only. Prescribed form is available at ORIC website where copy of approved synopsis is mandatory. A committee will finalize the cases on the basis of merit or indispensability of need on quarterly basis. Postgraduate students can apply to avail this opportunity.



REGIONAL PLAN 9 APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR FOURTH COHORT

LAUNCHPAD

Regional Plan9 UAF in collaboration with Business Incubation Center, UAF presents fourth cohort of Launchpad Faisalabad. The following facilities will be provided to startups

- Monthly stipend
- Free Office Space
- Networking Opportunities
- Free Legal Assistance
- Mentorship
- Business Dev. Guidance

This is a great opportunity for aspiring entrepreneurs, final year students, fresh graduates, and even experienced individuals / professionals to turn their business idea into commercially viable business. As a part of inducting startups, the applications will be processed through an evaluation process where ten startups will get a chance to be a part of the upcoming cohort. Interested startups and founders are encouraged to apply using the following link:

<https://tinyurl.com/RP9StartupLaunchpad>

Tentative closing date is:
31 March 2023.



GEAR UP FAISALABAD COHORT 4



Launchpad aims to scout promising entrepreneurs from Faisalabad and provide them a platform through which they can pursue their entrepreneurial aspirations.

S E R V I C E S



MONTHLY
STIPEND



FREE OFFICE
SPACE



LEGAL
ASSISTANCE



NETWORKING
OPPORTUNITIES



MENTORSHIP



BUSINESS MODEL
DEVELOPMENT

SCAN TO
APPLY



#PUNJAB
STARTUP
MOVE
MENT

Regional
Plan9



ICAC RESERCH OF THE YEAR AWARD 2023

The International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) nominations from cotton researchers working in Universities and Public Sector Research Organizations in any discipline of cotton production and processing research.

- Researchers from all disciplines of cotton production research and value chain including ginning, fibre quality and textile research are eligible for the award.
- Researchers can apply directly or through heads of their institutions.
- The application form titled 'Nomination Package' is available [HERE](#)
- Applications received in any other format and/or incomplete in any respect shall not be considered.
- Only researchers from ICAC members are qualified to apply.
- The list of ICAC members (countries including EU nations) can be soliciting from this website.

Deadline: 30 April 2023

Please send your completed form to Nominations@icac.org with the subject 'ICAC RESEARCHER AWARD APPLICATION'

For further detail please website:

<https://icac.org/TechnicalInformation/Details?Id=68&MenuId=68>

VICE CHANCELLOR PROF. DR. IQRAR AHMAD KHAN (SI) ADDRESSES THE PARTICIPANTS OF TRAINING PROGRAM



The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI) held an exclusive session with the participants of 4-Week Training Program, Government of the Punjab, Agriculture Department. Flanked by Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani, the Vice Chancellor emphasized the participants to expand their professional network and raise questions on the daunting issues which agriculture is facing today. He was of the view if the government come out of wheat support price mechanism, this will help the technology to come forward and prove its metal as it did in the case of maize. He said doubling the per acre wheat yield would release 5 to 7 million acre land for other alternative crops. This way, he anticipated a second green revolution within three years by assuring the transfer and application of available technology in the field. This will not only make the country self-sufficient in wheat but also create space for competing crops as import substitutions, he added. He revealed that UAF in collaboration with the Washington State University, Pullman-USA, had acquired more than 40 new genetic lines of wheat containing a new set of genes that would, he hoped will break the yield gap. Referring towards a recent survey by UAF team during wheat sowing campaign, he said nearly all wheat harvesting is

currently being done using obsolete machines imported as scrap, this causes more than 15 percent losses in the field. He urged to ensure time of operations, sowing, balanced fertilizer, irrigation, weedicide and marketing/ support price put significant impact on production and should be taken care of. Talking about cotton, he said today, cotton is a crop of only 4 months with only 1-2 mechanical picking whereas we used to keep the crops and residues in field for around 7 months that invite pests to invade and destroy the whole crop cycle and production at large. He urged to promote soyabean as an alternative crop to uplift the agriculture sector. He lamented that due to limited existence of leguminous crop, the country left with no option to import the commodity by spending a huge foreign exchange. He said that we, as an academia owe to bring forth the truth with empirical evidence and propagate the same at every policy level. Answering a question, he said our citrus is gradually losing its market against Spain and Morocco due to various factors that include citrus greening, limited grading, more seeds, and plant diseases etc adding that UAF in last decade had raised its voice to put in place the Nursery Act but various flaws at federal and provincial level remain hindering the targets.



Orientation Day for 2nd cohort at NICF

The orientation of second cohort of National Incubation Center, UAF held on March 09, 2023. Murtaza Zaidi, CEO, Cybervision welcomed the distinguished and guests and startups. Mr. Sayyed Ahmad Masud, CEO, Change Mechanics introduced participants about Founder Institute. The event featured keynote session by Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI) Vice Chancellor, UAF. Followed by a fireside chat with Zibber Mohiuddin, CEO, Panasian Group the session was moderated by Atifa Asghar, Public Policy Consultant, Tencent Games. The event was graced by Prof. Dr. M. Jaffer Jaskani, Director ORIC, M. Bilal Abbasi, GM Ignite, M. Umer Akram, Project Manager Ignite, Abdul Hameed Lodhi, Head of Agri Services FFC and Qamar Uz Zaman, HOSR, FFC, Muhammad Imran Munawar, Incharge BIC and Dr. Khurram Zia, Manager Academia Industry Linkages. After, a rigorous desk review, pitching to the panel of judges, and interviews, 15 startups have been selected for the NICF incubation program, while 05 ideas have been selected for the hatchery program. The orientation session provided startups an opportunity to ask questions and gain insights into the startup ecosystem



Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI)
Vice Chancellor
UAF (Patron in Chief)

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani
Director, ORIC (Chief Editor)

Editorial Board
Dr. Abdul Rashid Associate Prof (Editor)
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Mr. Imran Munawar, Incharge BIC

