

ORIC University of Agriculture, Faisalabad Newsletter

November 15 to 30, 2024



BIC SHINES AT LAUNCHING OF FIVE-YEAR CLIMATE-SMART AGRI. PROGRAM

Business Incubation Center UAF, participated in the launch of a groundbreaking five-year Climate-Smart Agriculture program inaugurated by U.S. Ambassador Donald Blome. This U.S.-funded initiative aims to equip Pakistani farmers with innovative tools and practices to address the impacts of climate change, benefitting communities across Pakistan.

The launch event was attended by esteemed guests, including U.S. Consul General Kristin Hawkins, USAID Pakistan Mission Director Kate Somvongsiri, and UAF Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan. Representatives from Pakistani government, academia, and agribusiness sectors also joined to witness this remarkable collaboration, reinforcing the commitment to sustainable agricultural development.

The event featured an exhibition where Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Director BIC, along with Imran Munawar and Mr. Farooq Hassan, showcased the latest University of Agriculture innovations. Director BIC provided a detailed overview of UAF's technological advancements in agriculture, focusing on innovations that align with



climate-smart practices.

The Climate-Smart Agriculture program builds on past collaborations between the United States and UAF, including the establishment of the Center for Advanced Studies in Agriculture. The launch of this initiative is a step forward in empowering Pakistan's agricultural sector with resilience and sustainability to meet future challenges.

Inside NEWS

- BIC shines at Launching of Five-year Climate-Smart Agri. Program
- ENGRO delegation felicitates VC Prof Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan
- Singapore International Graduate Award (SINGA)
- Partial Research Support by ORIC for PhD students
- ENGRO Fertilizers and UAF: pioneering innovation together
- Chinese Government Scholarships (Bachelors, Masters & PhD)
- HEC Scholarship Program (The Stipendium Hungaricum)
- BIC participates in Pak Agro Show 2024
- ORIC holds Training Workshop for Lab Staff

ENGRO DELEGATION FELICITATES VC PROF DR. MUHAMMAD SARWAR KHAN

A delegation from Engro Fertilizer Limited comprising of Shauzab Gardezi, Head of Agronomy Dept; Amir Ghafoor, Manager GRR; Syed Shahid Hussain Shah, Deputy Manager Research and development; and Imran Ahmad, Research Officer recently met with UAF Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan to discuss shared priorities and collaborative opportunities in the agricultural sector. Together, they explored key challenges and strategies for advancing agriculture. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan highlighted the university's commitment to tackle critical agricultural challenges, stressing the need for collaborative efforts to secure food resources and address emerging issues. The Engro Fertilizer Ltd delegation appreciated UAF's contributions to productivity gains through the development of innovative crop varieties.



BIC GIVES AWAY SEED MONEY TO SEVEN STUDENTS STARTUPS

Seven students with innovative thinking were provided funds to launch startup companies under the Student Startup Business Center by Business Incubation Center (BIC) to promote a knowledge-based economy and provide opportunities for business.

Presiding over the meeting, Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Muhammad Sarwar Khan said that all possible steps were being taken to develop business skills among students so that they become job providers instead of job seekers. He said that knowledge-based economy would open new avenue of development and we have to conduct solid research to align our economic system with modern requirements. He said that agriculture is facing immense challenges for which modern methods will have to be adopted.

Director ORIC Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad, Director Business Incubation Center Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Treasurer Syed Zeeshan Ashfaq Bukhary, Dr. Khurram Zia, Dr. Muhammad Naveed, Dr. Saira Akhtar, Farooq Ahmed, Imran Munawar, Muhammad Hanif Chaudhry and others also attended the event. In the meeting, startup companies cheques were given to Emaad Ahmed for remote irrigation, Muniba Javed for baby food, Maham



Gul for Interior Design, Zain Abbas for PureSense, Ali Hasnain for Agri Connect, Hamza Ali for Flora Artisan and Shayaan Arshad for Infosmash.

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. A copy of approved synopsis is mandatory along with Application Form. A committee will finalize the cases on the basis of merit or indispensability of need on quarterly basis. Only PhD students can apply to avail this opportunity. Last date for receiving applications is December 06, 2024.



Transforming Concepts into Impacts

For more information, please contact ORIC
041-9200183, 9200997, Ext. # 3606

ENGRO FERTILIZERS AND UAF: PIONEERING INNOVATION TOGETHER



Engro Fertilizers Ltd. Agronomy Dept. hosted an exciting pitching session in collaboration with ORIC UAF, where UAF scientists from various departments presented their latest research on innovative products and advanced agricultural technologies. This interactive event was designed to foster collaboration between Engro Fertilizers and UAF's talented researchers, paving the way for groundbreaking projects that will drive sustainable agriculture. UAF scientists showcased potential products and technologies aimed at improving crop yield, enhancing fertilizer efficiency, and promoting environmentally friendly practices. This session marks a significant step towards building strong, impactful partnerships for a prosperous agricultural future.

ENGRO LEARNING CENTRE UAF: A MODEL OF EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, SETTING NEW STANDARDS FOR AGRICULTURAL INNOVATION

Director ORIC UAF Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad, along with his team including Dr. Abdul Rashid (Assoc. Prof., ORIC), and Dr. Khurram Zia (Asstt. Prof., ORIC), visited the Engro Learning Centre (ELC) UAF and apprised team's dedication and hard work. He commended their achievements and highlighted the centre as a shining example of effective public-private collaboration. He emphasized that the ELC model should be replicated across other institutions, positioning it as an exemplary role model for fostering innovation and excellence in agricultural education and practice.



BIC PARTICIPATES IN PAKISTAN AGRO SHOW 2024

On the directions of Vice Chancellor the Business Incubation Center BIC UAF participated in the Pakistan Agro Show 2024 at the Expo Center Lahore. The event was a fantastic opportunity for UAF to showcase its cutting-edge agricultural technologies, developed to transform Pakistan's agricultural landscape and empower our farming community. During the show, UAF displayed latest innovations, aimed at tackling real-world challenges in agriculture and paving the

way for a more sustainable future. The event was visited by people from all walks of life particularly there were an enormous participation of industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and agricultural experts dedicated to advancing the sector.





Higher Education Commission

THE STIPENDIUM HUNGARICUM

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMME 2025-2026



Applications for Stipendium Hungaricum Scholarship Programme (2025-26) are open for

★ BACHELOR'S ★ ONE-TIER MASTER'S ★ MASTER'S AND PHD

Detailed instructions are available on HEC webpage
www.hec.gov.pk/site/ARL

Important Note

- Detailed instructions must be read thoroughly before applying for the scholarship. Please visit above mentioned link and go through all the information/FAQs before opening the application portal of HEC or Hungary.
- HEC may conduct written test (HAT/USAT) of candidates in mid-January to mid-February, 2025 (tentatively).
- Applicants must confirm accreditation from the respective Council before applying for any professional degree.

Deadline: January 15, 2025 4 PM
Pakistan Standard Time

* HEC reserves the right to modify/accept/reject/withdraw any or all of the conditions.

HEC Helpline i) UAN: 051- 111-119-432 & 0334-1119432
ii) Website: <https://onlinehelp.hec.gov.pk>

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Higher Education Commission

Chinese Government SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Bachelors, Masters & PhD

Deadline to apply: **December 9, 2024 (4:00 PM)**

For details & online applications:
www.hec.gov.pk/site/cgsp

NOTE: Valid HAT or USAT test score is mandatory

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ORIC HOLDS ONE-DAY HANDS ON TRAINING WORKSHOP FOR LAB STAFF

The Office of Research Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) in collaboration with Central Hi-Tech Lab. (CHTL) organized one day hands on training workshop for newly inducted Lab. Staff (Lab. Assistants, Lab. Supervisors and Lab. Technicians) to equip them with innovative approaches of modern analytical science. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad, Director, ORIC in his inaugural address welcomed the participants and emphasized to follow standard Lab. safety protocols and workplace ethics. He urged that leaning is endless process and there is not shortcut or alternate of a skilled or a capacitated Lab. Staff. Dr. Abdul Rashid, Manager Research Management, ORIC highlighted basic SOPs being implemented at UAF and apprised the trainees to follow best analytical practices to facilitate the researchers who are engaged to boost up the research portfolio of the university.

Mr. Muneeb Ullah, UAF Biosafety Officer talked about biosafety and bioethics standards being followed nationally and internationally. Afterwards, Biosafety Level-III Lab was demonstrated by Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad Dr. Rao Sohail Ahmad Khan CABB told about ongoing experiments at CABB-UAF. Dr. Raja Adil Sarfraz, Officer Incharge, Central Hi-Tech Lab., Syed Fazil Bin Farrukh, Dr. Razia Riaz and Dr. Abdul Qadoos explained various analysis protocols practiced at CHTL. Prof. Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ISES and his research team demonstrated various equipment at Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences while Dr. Kashif Jilani, Dept. of Biochemistry Dr. M. Mubashar Omar, Energy System Engineering and Dr. Saeed Ahmad, National Institute of Food Science and Technology (NIFSAT) also briefed about on-going experimentations in the labs. In the concluding session, the participants appreciated the efforts made by ORIC and CHTL to capacitate newly inducted Lab. Staff and



proposed that such training sessions may continue from time to time comprising of 3-5 days' schedule for their comprehensiveness. They also suggested that short hand on training arranged by CHTL on specific equipment during summer session may be exempted from the training fee for the Lab. Assistants/ Junior Lab. Assistants so that capacity building process may achieve its real time objectives. Training workshop ended with a vote of thanks by Dr. Abdul Rashid, Manager Research Management, ORIC/Training Coordinator.

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Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sarwar Khan
Vice Chancellor

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