



University of
Agriculture
Faisalabad-Pakistan

June 01, 2016 to June 15, 2016

Volume 5

ORIC NEWS

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization, UAF

A Seminar on Cotton

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad organized an exclusive session on “Crises in Cotton Crops: Future Pathways” on May 23, 2016 at New Senate Hall. Dr. William Neil Forrester, an international cotton expert was the resource person. Dr. Forrester has a vast knowledge and experience about Pakistani cotton, its issues and challenges. Syed Fakhar-e-Imam, Ex-speaker National Assembly was the Guest of Honour for the occasion. Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan (SI), the Vice Chancellor, during his opening remarks shared his observations regarding cotton production, and highlighted the challenges, clearly identifying almost all the crucial pitfalls, malpractices and socio-political and economic factors that are undermining efforts for the rehabilitation of cotton crop in Pakistan. He declared cotton as the lifeline for Pakistan's economy. Dr. William Neil Forrester through a presentation reviewed the causes of low productivity of cotton and highlighted the persisting repercussions for cotton as a commodity in the international market in terms of double option and stressed the need for enhancing its production. The house was then opened for questions from the faculty members in attendance, and a lively, interactive, and elaborate discussion ensued regarding the revival of cotton crop in the country.

Syed Fakhar-e-Imam in his concluding remarks compared Agri. Policy in Pakistan to that in India and expressed his concerns about hike in the prices of agricultural inputs. He pointed out the frustrations of Pakistani farmers regarding the putrid marketing system for Agri. Commodities, and urged his listeners to take steps for uplifting agriculture in Pakistan, considering it a “Now or Never” undertaking. Captain (R) Arif Nadeem (CEO Pakistan Agri. Collation), Ex Vice Chancellors Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood Khan & Prof. Dr. Bashir Ahmad, Mr. Afaq Tawana (Chairman FAP), DG (Agri) Research, DG (Agri) Ext. & Adaptive Research, EDO Agri., Cotton Commissioner, Deans/Directors, President FCCI and Farmers participated in this national level event. Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Mirza, Director ORIC, thanked all the participants, specifically appreciated those who had to travel a long way to attend this seminar.



exceed Conference

The Excellence for Development Cooperation (Exceed), Germany is organizing a conference for higher education institutions on Forced Migration-Environment and Socioeconomic Dimensions-Prospectives on October 18, 2016 in Berlin, Germany. The conference will bring together researchers, politicians and the public to explore and discuss environmental and socioeconomic dimensions of forced migration.

Conference Topics

Brain Drain; Climate Change; Deforestation; Inadequate Health System; Land Grabbing; Market Liberalization; Monoculture Farming; Overfishing; Population Growth; Soil Erosion; Unemployment; Water Crime, Water Pollution, Water Scarcity as causes of forced migration.

The information has been sent to all faculty members through email. They can register through email. website: www.exceed.global

Social Incubator Training Programme

A Social Incubator Training Programme (SITP) was held at ORIC from May 31- June 01, 2016 for capacity building of the ORIC/ BIC management with focus on Student led Social Enterprises. Mr. Asama Bhadelia, Associate Manager Programs of Social, Entrepreneurship and Equity Development (SEED), a training delivery partner of British Council, conducted training on Incubation Center, Faculty Members and Students led Social Enterprises marking the pilot phase for the Social Entrepreneurship Programme.

Austrian Instrument Expert to Visit UAF

Mr Nicolas Azar (Austrian National), Area Manager, Bioprocess Separations Hvd Biotech of GE (a multinational company for advanced equipment) visited UAF on Tuesday May 31, 2016 to conduct an interactive session with Faculty Members of different Institutes, Departments/US-PCASA&FS regarding latest developments in the field of instrumentations. All Deans/Chairpersons of relevant departments/institutes or their representatives attended this training session. Prof. Dr. Amir Jamil coordinated the session.

UAF team participated in Development Innovation Lab

Forum of Young Global Leaders of the World Economic Forum (WEF) organized an event at Islamabad on May 31, 2016, titled 'Development Innovation Lab' focused on Ag-Innovation and Food Security. A team from UAF comprising of the following participated in this event.

Dr. Amir Maqsood, IS & ES

Dr. Rizwana Maqbool, PBG

Dr. Shoaib Ur Rehman, IHS

The event consisted of several parallel brainstorming sessions to identify and discuss potential Ag-Innovation opportunities. The participants specifically deliberated following domains:

1. Improvements in existing inputs such as seeds and fertilizer, etc. (making these more productive, effective, and less wasteful)
2. Innovation in Soil, Irrigation, and Energy
3. Innovations regarding other non-food produce such as olives, fuels, fortified crops through vertical farming, aquaponics, etc.

National Internship Program (NIP), 2016

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad received a big chunk of intern(s) under NIP Internship Program, 2016. The intern(s) have been placed in different departments/Institutes/Directorates. They are engaged in respective tasks as assigned by the internship supervisor(s) at UAF.

Extension in Project Submission for EFS-UAF


Endowment Fund Secretariat, UAF has requested the public sector organizations/universities, having an established administrative and finance system, to submit research proposals for funding in the following domains:

- Technology Transfer
- Research & Development
- Product Commercialization

With the kind permission of Chairman BoD/Vice Chancellor, the date of submission of proposals to Endowment Fund Secretariat, UAF has been extended up to June 30, 2016. Faculty members are requested to submit research proposals to ORIC till June 21, 2016, positively along with following documents.

1. Six hard copies of research proposals (4 copies for EFS, 1 for ORIC and 1 for PI)
2. CVs of PI & Co-PI
3. Consent letter of Co-PI
4. List of research publications of PI
5. Budget in million rupees

In case of any query, please contact Dr. Abdul Naveed (ranaveed@gmail.com) or Ms. Raima Babar (raima87@uaf.edu.pk)



U.S.-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Agriculture and Food Security
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

Scholarships
Under USPCAS-AFS Research Projects

USPCAS-AFS is offering M.Phil./M.S./M.Sc. (Hons.) and Ph.D. scholarships to academically brilliant students to work in the following research projects funded by USPCAS-AFS:

1. Climate Smart Wheat: Development of heat and drought tolerant wheat for Pakistan (Dr. Bushra Sadia)
2. CRISPR/Cas9 based virus resistance in cotton (Dr. Altam Ahmad)
3. Genomics-based understanding of *Carotycystis manginecans* to formulate control measures of Mango Quick Wilt Disease (Prof. Dr. Iqar Ahmad Khan S.I.)
4. Genetic improvement of sorghum as biofuel feedstock using high throughput phenomics and genomic approaches (Dr. Bushra Sadia)
5. Variable Rate Agro-chemical Application System in Citrus Orchards using on-the-go Sensors (Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Masud Cheema)
6. Development of real-time weed detection system for spot application of herbicides in Maize (Dr. Rizwan Maqbool)
7. Role of various characteristics in price determination of goat: Implications for production and marketing decisions (Dr. Wasem Ahmad)
8. Agricultural Input Marketing in Pakistan: Implications for Food Security (Dr. Hamad Bader)
9. Use of ICT in Marginal and Disadvantaged Regions as an Alternate Strategy for Agricultural Technology Transfer: Challenges and Opportunities (Dr. Babar Shahbaz)
10. Sensor Based Precision Irrigation Systems for Improving Water Productivity of Cereal Crops (Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Masud Cheema)
11. Onics approaches for improving chickpea drought tolerance and nodulation (two components) (Dr. Kashif Rizaz)

Composition of Scholarships:
The Scholarship Covers:

- Tuition Fee
- Bench Fee (for PhD scholars only)
- Stipend
- Boarding Charges
- Book Allowance
- Thesis Charges

Eligibility:-

1. The applicant must be an enrolled student in M.Phil./M.S./M.Sc (Hons.) or PhD at UAF
2. The applicant must have secured at least 3 CGPA (out of 4) in the last degree.
3. The applicant, if selected will have to withdraw any other scholarship / funding.

How to Apply:
The Application Form for "Scholarships under Research Projects" available at: <http://uaf.edu.pk/USPCAS-AFS/scholarships.html> must be submitted online by June 07, 2016. A copy of the online Application Form completed in all respects along with supporting documents (as mentioned in the form) must also be submitted by June 09, 2016 at the below-mentioned address. Note: Incomplete Applications or those received after due date will not be entertained. Only shortlisted candidates will be called for interview.

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