

ORIC Newsletter

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

July 16 to 31, 2025



UAF AND FOUR BROTHERS GROUP LAUNCH STRATEGIC RESEARCH COLLABORATION

The University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and Four Brothers Group will initiate joint ventures for agricultural research and capacity building to propagate new technologies and products for the farmer community that will help to ensure food security and address challenges of climate change.

It was agreed upon in a meeting of UAF Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Zulfiqar Ali with Four Brothers Chairman Engineer Jawed Salim Qureshi. He was flanked with Director External Linkages Dr Tehseen Azhar, Director ORIC Prof. Dr Muhammad Imran Arshad, Dr. Muhammad Aslam and Dr. Muhammad Ahsan Khan. The meeting discussed the areas of joint efforts for advancement in cotton, soybean, maize, rice, wheat. The Four Brothers Group agreed to offer research grants, internships and student assistantships for product development projects.

Prof Dr Zulfiqar Ali said that academia-industry linkages are vital to uplift the agriculture productivity. He added the university is open for working with public and private sector to develop tangible solutions for the farmers and



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industry. The university will provide expertise in pre-breeding program and support the induction of human resources.

Engineer Jawed Salim Qureshi praised the leading role of university in agricultural research and training. Talking about climate changes, he said that Pakistan was among those countries which are worst hit by climate changes. He said we have to opt the modern trends and climate smart agriculture.

They also visited the agricultural field trials and laboratories of Four Brothers and lauded the steps being taken on the part of said organization.



BIC HOSTS A THREE DAY TRAINING PROGRAM ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

The Business Incubation Center (BIC), hosted a three-day training program as part of the Women Leadership Program, titled “Women Empowerment through Leadership Skills in the Textile Industry.” This initiative is led by the LUMS Center for Entrepreneurship under the WL Project supported by BMZ and GIZ. The training was exclusively organized in collaboration with BIC, UAF for women professionals from the textile sector of Faisalabad. Trainers from LCE, LUMS had valuable interactive sessions tailored to the participants industry context. Participants from different textile backgrounds shared their workplace challenges and actively participated in the sessions. At the end participants shared positive feedback regarding the content, relevance, and delivery of sessions.



MEETING OF STZA AGRI-TECH PARK COMMITTEE WITH DIGIKHATA

A meeting of STZA committee of the varsity with DigiKhata was held in the office of Director ORIC to further fine tune the mutual collaboration and business opportunities with UAF. Executive Director EFS Prof. Dr. Abdul Wakeel, Director BIC Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Director Internal Audit Mr. Zaheer Ahmad, and Manager Innovation & Commercialization Dr. Khurram Zia attended the meeting. After thorough deliberations DigiKhata and STZA Committee UAF agreed to work together for fostering commercialization and startup Ecosystem at University of Agriculture, Faisalabad.





Higher Education
Commission, Pakistan

Call for Research Proposals

PERIDOT Mobility Grant Programme Phase-XII

HEC invites applications from Pakistan's faculty members of public & private universities, for funding under the Pak-France PERIDOT Mobility Grant Programme.

PRIORITY AREAS



Health Sciences



Sustainable Energy,
Agriculture & Food
Security



Economics of
Climate Change

Deadline to apply
September 23, 2025 (4:00 pm)

Detailed info
hec.gov.pk/site/PERIDOT



Higher Education
Commission, Pakistan

PhD SCHOLARSHIPS in USA

in top 300 QS World Ranked
US universities

Only for PhD Program (MS Leading to PhD not included)

Specific Eligibility Criteria:

1. **Category I** - Scholarship (Top 50 QS World Ranked US Universities – Overall / Subject Ranking)

- ✓ Tuition fee as per university invoice
- ✓ Stipend & health insurance

2. **Category II** - Scholarship (51-300 QS World Ranked US Universities – Overall):

- ✓ A tuition fee up to USD 12,000/- per annum
- ✓ Stipend & health insurance

For more details & application:
shorturl.at/LiGm2

SIX FACULTY MEMBERS JOIN BACK AFTER TRAINING FROM CHINESE UNIVERSITIES

Under the Prime Minister's initiative to enhance agricultural capacity in Pakistan, six faculty members from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad have successfully completed short-term training programs at leading Chinese universities. This initiative is part of a broader plan to send 1,000 agricultural professionals to Chinese institutions for skill development aimed at promoting innovation, increasing productivity, and advancing sustainable growth in Pakistan's agriculture sector. The program specifically targets agricultural graduates, academicians, and researchers with at least two years of relevant professional experience. It is structured in three phases, with the first batch of 292 trainees dispatched to the province of Shanxi in April 2025. Among them were Dr. Fareeha Shireen (Assistant Professor, Institute of Horticultural Sciences), Dr. Faisal Masoud (Lecturer, Institute of Microbiology), Mr. Muhammad Rehan (Lecturer, Institute of Animal & Dairy Sciences), Mr. Kashif Iqbal (Lecturer, Institute of Physiology & Pharmacology), Rao Husnain Arshad (Lecturer, Department of Irrigation and Drainage), and Ms. Muneeba (Lecturer, Department of Agronomy). Dr. Fareeha Shireen and Mr. Rao Husnain Arshad received training at Shaanxi Agriculture and Forestry Technology University, specializing in seed production and processing technologies and high-efficiency irrigation systems, respectively. Meanwhile, Dr. Faisal Masoud, Mr. Muhammad Rehan, Mr. Kashif Iqbal, and Ms. Muneeba attended programs at Northwest A&F University, focusing on livestock disease monitoring and prevention, livestock surveillance, and seed production and processing technologies. This collaborative effort was sparked by the Prime Minister of Pakistan's visit to agricultural universities and research institutes in China last year, aiming to foster closer ties in agricultural education, research, and trade. Acting on the directive, the Ministry of National Food



Security and Research (MNFSR) invited applications from young professionals in both public and private sectors to take part in the initiative, which is being rolled out in phases. The second batch of trainees has recently departed for China and has been encouraged to uphold discipline and actively contribute to the strengthening of China-Pakistan cooperation, particularly in science and technology. The training program aligns with the broader objectives of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC), incorporating climate-smart agricultural practices to support sustainable farming. The inaugural cohort completed its three-month training at institutions in Shaanxi from April 16 to July 17, 2025, marking a significant milestone in Pakistan's efforts to modernize its agricultural sector through international collaboration.

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