

ORIC Newsletter

University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

SPECIAL BULLETIN

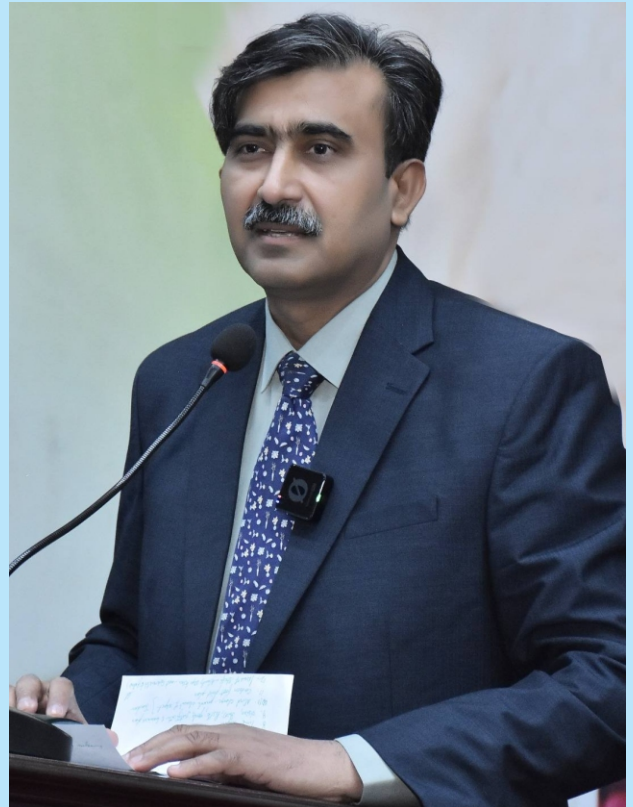


PROF. DR. ZULFIQAR ALI TOOK REINS AS VICE CHANCELLOR, UAF

Consequent upon notification, issued by the Govt. of the Punjab, Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali took the reins as Vice Chancellor of the varsity.

Short Biography

- Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali, a Professor of Plant Breeding and Genetics, had previously worked as Director Programs and Projects at IOC's specialized entity on Food Security, the Islamic Organization for Food Security (IOFS) at Astana, Kazakhstan. He rose through the ranks and earned his PhD degree from UAF, and further honed his expertise with postdoctoral studies at the University of Sydney, Australia, and Jiangsu Academy of Agricultural Sciences, Nanjing, China.
- His academic excellence went from strength to strength. The President of Pakistan recognized his contributions by conferring upon him "HEC-Best University Teacher Award 2020". His research excellence spoke volumes when the Pakistan Academy of Sciences awarded him the Gold Medal in Biotechnology in 2017. He has consistently hit the mark by winning research productivity awards.
- Acknowledging his significant contributions, IOFS went the extra mile by sending requisition of his service to the Government of Pakistan, paving the way for him to work as Director Programs and Projects at IOFS.
- Since February 2023, he had been engaged in revamping IOFS strategy, turning over a new leaf by shifting its focus from activities to impactful projects. He spearheaded specialized projects like Wheat Development for Mauritania and MENA, Food Hubs in OIC geography, SAZs etc, leaving no stone unturned to drive meaningful change. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali has made significant research contributions in Impact Factor journals. In a bid to shape the next generation of agricultural scientists, he has also taken under his wing 20 PhD and over 100 MS students.
- He introduced wheat variety Chenab PASTA-24. He developed groundbreaking technologies, including Pakistani hybrid wheat for seed replacement and yield gain, and architected multi-floret wheat plant to break yield stagnation. While



serving at MNSUA, Multan, he demonstrating his ability to pull strings, he secured over 3.0 Billion PKR extramural funding.

- At UAF, he also worked in the capacity of Director Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC) and at MNSUA-Multan as Director ORIC which reflect his priority in quality for education & Research.

His Vision for the University

Addressing the participants of his inaugural address to the faculty and admin staff and shedding light on his vision, he emphasized the need to work for research excellence being galvanized with innovation, and academia industry linkages. He urged to faculty to make professional networking at national and international level and sell research ideas addressing the needs of domestic, regional and global challenges. He envisioned the faculty to explore ADP funding from federal or provincial governments by putting forth proposals addressing the challenges faced by the industry or farmer's community.



He underscored the need to promote an entrepreneurial ecosystem, flourishing innovations and commercialization thereby to enable the faculty swell their earnings by selling their ideas and skills at national and international level. He urged the admin staff to give due respect to the faculty, that will, he anticipated enable them to put their focus on teaching and research.

He reassured the faculty that he would leave no stone unturned in establishing an efficient digital system that ensures transparency, traceability, and prompt professional responses from all university offices. He mentioned that during a meeting with the Director ORIC, they discussed new ideas, research funding and challenges in smooth running of Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). He added that Director ORIC would soon engage with the faculty to inform them about new opportunities for research funding and collaborations.

MR. BEN WARRINGTON VISITS UAF TO ENHANCE R&D COLLABORATIONS

Mr. Ben Warrington, Head of Lahore Office/ Foreign Commonwealth Development Office, British High Commission Lahore visited the University of Agriculture Faisalabad. He met faculty members and discussed the areas of cooperation in technology, climate change, and council-university-industry linkages. He congratulated Prof. Dr. Zulfiqar Ali on assuming the charge of Vice Chancellor and extended his best wishes.



Patron in Chief:
PROF. DR. ZULFIQAR ALI
Vice Chancellor

Chief Editor:
Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imran Arshad
Director, ORIC

Editorial Board:
Dr. Abdul Rashid, Associate Prof (Editor)
Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, (Director BIC)
Dr. Khuram Zia, Assistant Prof.
Ms. Aisha Arshad, Assistant Prof.
Muhammad Hanif Ch., Admin Officer

THE
EDITORIAL
PANEL



**University of Agriculture
Faisalabad - Pakistan**

Sustainable Agriculture Through
Learning | Discovery | Outreach
<http://www.uaf.edu.pk>

ORIC OFFICE OF RESEARCH,
INNOVATION
& COMMERCIALIZATION

Transforming Concepts into Impacts

+92419200183, +92419200997

oric@uaf.edu.pk

www.facebook.com/oric