



AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY, PESHAWAR - PAKISTAN

NEWSLETTER

Patron: Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadar Marwat, Vice Chancellor
Editor: Muhammad Riaz

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“Producing quality graduates having strong moral and ethical values deeply rooted in the culture of Pakistan”

VC AUP ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadar Marwat, Vice Chancellor AUP participated in the international workshop on “*Medicinal Plants: Conservation and Sustainable Use*” organized by the Department of Biotechnology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad during December 8-10, 2011.

About 100 national and international scientists participated in this workshop. Besides lectures and discussion, visit to Qarshi Industries (Pvt.) Ltd. was the main feature of the workshop.



PORTRAIT EXHIBITION HELD AT AUP



P&D Directorate of AUP organized Pencil Portrait Exhibition on October 15, 2011. Mian Iftikhar Hussain Khan, Minister for Information and Transport, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Numerous portraits were displayed. Students and faculty took keen interest in the exhibition.

CONFERENCE ON “INVESTMENT CLIMATE” HELD AT AUP

A conference on “*Investment Climate in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA*” was organized by the Regional Development Institute (RDI) with the collaboration of AUP in the Auditorium of the University. Syed Ahmed Hussain Shah, Ms. Sitara Ayaz, Provincial Ministers, Mr. Shahrukh Arbab, Chief Executive, FATA Development Authority were the guests of honour. The participants from Banks, Universities, FATA DA, Chamber of Commerce & Industry, Sarhad Development Authority attended the conference. Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Bugio of RDI was the chief organizer while Mr. Abdus Salam, Deputy Director P&D acted as focal person of the conference.

Prof. Dr. Subhan Qureshi, Dean, AHVS; Dr. Muhammad Zulfiqar, Registrar; Mr. Rizwan Ahmad, Additional



Director P&D, Agricultural University, Peshawar and other distinguished speakers from various organizations presented their papers on various areas of investment. The speakers highlighted the investment opportunity in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and FATA and mentioned the potential areas for investment.

PROF. HIMAYAT ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE



Prof. Dr. Himayatullah Khan, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), AUP participated in the International Conference on Management, Economics and Social Sciences (ICMESS'2011)

held during December 23-24, 2011 in Bangkok. He presented his research paper on “Measurement of Technical, Allocative and Economic Efficiency of Tomato Farms in Northern Pakistan”.

The main objectives of the conference were: To provide an interdisciplinary forum on Social Sciences; To foster dialogue among various stakeholders; To propose multi-disciplinary strategies in the courses of Management and Economics; To allow stakeholders to share their experiences and research results; To discuss the practical challenges encountered in promoting sustainable Economic development and their solutions and To find out global partners for future business and research collaborations.

DR. NAUMAN VISITED WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY, NETHERLANDS

Dr. Muhammad Nauman Ahmad, Assistant Professor, Department of Agricultural Chemistry completed two months visit to Wageningen University, Netherlands. The visit was funded by Environmental System Analysis Group to jointly prepare a research proposal on climate change effects on water quality in Peshawar Basin. The proposal, upon approval, will be able to sponsor five Ph.Ds and one Post Doc scholars. This will be a joint collaborated research project between Agricultural University Peshawar and Wageningen University, Netherlands.



PROF. KHAN COMPLETED POST DOC.



Prof. Dr. Amir Zaman Khan, Department of Agronomy, AUP successfully completed Post Doctoral Fellowship from the College of Agriculture and Biotechnology, Zhejiang University, China under HEC's sponsored Programme. He carried out his research work on “Enhancing Urea Efficiency through Urease and Nitrification Inhibitors”.

Dr. Khan also offered a course on “Plant Nutrition and Growth Regulators” to post graduate students and was actively involved in the outreach activities of the Department.

MR. RIZWAN ATTENDED WORKSHOP

Mr. Rizwan Ahmad, Additional Director P&D alongwith staff attended a three day workshop on “Resource Mobilization and Fund Raising” during December 21-23, 2011 organized by HEC. The HEC is undertaking measures for capacity building of the public sector universities/institutions for sustainability in view of the financial crisis being faced. The trainers shared certain strategies and models for identification, assessment and mobilization of the potential Resources for revenue generation.



DR. JAN PRESENTED PROJECT IN INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

Dr. Inayatullah Jan, Assistant Professor (TTS), Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Agricultural University, Peshawar participated in the 23rd Research and Training (R&T) Workshop, organized by South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE), held during December 6-10, 2011 in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Dr. Jan's project “*barriers to adopting improved cooking technology in rural Northwest Pakistan*” was selected for the grant. After making the required amendments, he will hopefully get the grant from SANDEE.



DR. KHAN SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED PH.D



Dr. Nazir Ahmad Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Animal Nutrition, Agricultural University, Peshawar has successfully completed his Ph.D in Animal Nutrition with distinction from Wageningen University, The Netherlands. During his Ph.D, he published four research papers in the top peer-reviewed International Journals in the field of Animal Sciences. Due to the high quality of his thesis research and publications, Dr. Khan was ranked among the top 10% of Ph.D researchers in the Animal Nutrition group of Wageningen University. His Ph.D was funded by HEC. He also got gold medals in B.Sc (Hons) and M.Sc (Hons) Animal Nutrition from Agricultural University, Peshawar.

DR. AMANULLAH ATTENDED TRAINING COURSE

Dr. Amanullah Jr., Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy, Agricultural University, Peshawar attended one week training course on “Natural Resource Management through Community Participation” held at Pakistan Academy for Rural Development (PARD), Peshawar during September 2011. In 2011, he has published 14 research papers in impact factor journals.



DR. SULTAN COMPLETED PH.D



Dr. Asad Sultan, Lecturer in Poultry Science, Agricultural University, Peshawar has successfully completed his Ph.D degree from the University of Queensland, Australia. During his studies he worked on amino acid utilization by broiler. He presented his findings in 12 different scientific meetings in France, Australia and New Zealand. Dr. Sultan was declared as best presenter consecutively for two years by winning “3 minutes Thesis Competition”.

AUP PARTICIPATED IN THE EXHIBITION

Department of Poultry Science, Agricultural University, Peshawar participated in the Exhibition organized by Jinnah College for Women, University of Peshawar during December 2011. Various poultry products were displayed in the Agricultural University, Peshawar stall. Mr. Arshad Abdullah, Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa was the chief guest on the occasion, who appreciated the Agricultural University, Peshawar stall.



WORKSHOP ON “HIGHER EDUCATION QUALITY ASSESSMENT” ORGANIZED



A one day training workshop on “Higher Education Quality Assessment” was organized by the Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), AUP on December 13, 2011 in the University which was attended by the Programme/Assessment team members of all the Departments of the University.

The objective of the workshop was to technically update the Programme/Assessment teams and other relevant stakeholders with an introduction to the Self-Assessment Process. The workshop was mainly focused on the role of Assessment Team and its report. Ms. Mahwish Asmatullah of Shaheed Benazir Bhutto

Women University, Peshawar was the resource person. During workshop, Introduction to the Self-Assessment Process and information about Self-Assessment report was focused. Group activity was also conducted by forming eight groups. Each group was provided with the Self-Assessment Report for evaluation. The participants took keen interest and raised many related questions.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naeem, Senior Dean was the Chief Guest on the occasion who distributed certificates among the participants.

MR. FAIQ COMPLETED TRAINING AT NIFA

Mr. Muhammad Faiq, Lecturer, Department of Food Science & Technology, AUP successfully completed two weeks training course on the “Use of Nuclear and Other Techniques in Food and Agricultural Research” at NIFA, Peshawar.

Main features of the course were Extrusion Technology, Food Irradiation, HPLC, GLC, AAS and Tissue Culture. The course was mainly focused on the Food preservation by irradiation.



DR. HIMAYAT CONTRIBUTED CHAPTER



Prof. Dr. Himayatullah Khan, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), Agricultural University, Peshawar contributed a chapter in the international book titled “Environmental Valuation in South Asia” published by Cambridge University Press. The book contains 18 chapters based on research studies from various countries in South Asia. The chapter written by Prof. Himayatullah is based on “Valuation of Recreational Amenities from Environmental Resources: The case of two National Parks in Northern Pakistan”.

This book provides an overview of different environmental problems in South Asia and examines how economic valuation techniques can be used to assess these problems.

ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE VISITED AUP

The Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC) of National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) visited AUP for accreditation of degree programmes offered by the Departments of Agricultural Economics and Agricultural Extension Education & Communication.

Mr. Naseer Alam Khan, Secretary NAEAC appreciated the cooperation extended by the Quality Enhancement Cell of Agricultural University, Peshawar during the whole process.



DR. HUSSAIN ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Prof. Dr. Zahid Hussain, Chairman, Department of Mathematics, Statistics & Computer Science, AUP participated in the 11th Islamic Countries Conference on Statistical Sciences held at Lahore during December 19-22, 2011. The programme was jointly organized by the Islamic Countries Society of Statistical Sciences (ISSOS) and University of Management & Technology, Lahore. The theme of the conference was “Statistics for Strategies in Development”. Dr. Hussain presented his paper on “Modeling the Daily Rainfall Amount of D.I. Khan and Dir, Pakistan for Agricultural Planning”.

Mr. Iftikhar-ud-Din, Assistant Professor of the same department also presented his paper on “Sample Size Estimation for Multi-level Modeling” which is recent development in the field of statistical modeling.

QEC MEETING HELD AT HEC RC



16th meeting of Phase I-II Quality Enhancement Cells (QEC) was held during November 15-16, 2011 at HEC Regional Center, Peshawar. During the meeting brief presentations were given by the representatives of each University on Quality Enhancement Cells progress. Mr. Bilal, Assistant Director QEC, represented Agricultural University, Peshawar.

WORKSHOP ON “CLIMATE CHANGE SENSITIZATION” HELD AT AUP

A training workshop on “Climate Change Sensitization” jointly organized by Inter Corporation (IC) in collaboration with AUP, PFI and Provincial P&D Department was held at Agricultural University, Peshawar.

The main objective of the workshop was to sensitize senior level Researchers/Officials in Natural Resource Management (NRM) sector on Climate Change impacts (both positive and negative) and initiate efforts to mainstream climate change adoption in NRM sectors.



DR. BASHIR APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN



Prof. Dr. Bashir Ahmad a renowned Seed Technologist has been appointed as 11th Chairman, Department of Agronomy, AUP for three years. He got Presidential Award in B.Sc (Hons) and Gold Medal in M.Sc (Hons). He did his Ph.D in Seed Science and Technology from Mississippi State University, USA and Post Doc from Zhejiang University, China.

Dr. Ahmad was honored with Research Gratitude 2004, Research Deed 2005 and Research Diploma 2006 award based on his academic excellence from the President of the National Academy of Sciences, Ukraine.

He has successfully completed four research projects and authored more than 30 research papers in the national and international journals. He has also supervised several Ph.D, M.Sc. (Hons) and B.Sc. (Hons) students.

FACULTY LEARNED PROJECTS

Dr. Muhammad Azim Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Weed Science, AUP got Agricultural Linkage Project from Pakistan Agricultural Research Council on “Predictions of grain yield losses and implication for economic weed managements in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa” with total funding of Rs.5.70 million.

Dr. Muhammad Saeed, Assistant Professor of the same Department got Higher Education Commission’s project on “Integrated management of *Trianthema portulacastrum* in maize grown for grain and forage purposes in rainfed and irrigated areas of KPK” with a total funding of Rs.1.5 million.

DR. KHAN COMPLETED POST DOC

Dr. Ahmad Khan, Assistant Professor, Department of Agronomy, Agricultural University, Peshawar has successfully completed post doctorate from the University of Western Australia as a beneficiary of Endeavour Award of Government of Australia. He worked with the research group of Prof. Mark Tibbett and quantified the interactive effects of soil biota in changing soil ecology with compost addition for enhancing soil biology and nutrients mineralization.

Dr. Khan conducted both glass house as well as incubation experiments and published two papers in Australian Journal of Crop Sciences.



GIZ TEAM VISITED AUP



The German Society for International Cooperation officials visited AUP and held meeting with Deans and P&D officials for joint collaboration in their TVET

Reforms Support Programme for Pakistan in vocational trainings for the FR Peshawar.

The purpose of the programme is to improve access, relevance, quality and equal opportunities of TVET in Pakistan. The potential areas are: Survey of biophysical characteristics of the area; Soil types; Water availability; Identification of feasible farming technologies; Execution of training measures; Recommendations regarding integration of Livestock, Vegetables & fruits and Agro- economic analysis.

TRAINING ON “QUAILS HUSBANDRY” CONDUCTED

The Department of Poultry Science, Agricultural University, Peshawar conducted training on “Quails' Husbandry” for the male and female participants belonging to Distracts Peshawar, Nowshera and Charsada sponsored by Sarhad Rural Support Programme (SRSP) during December 2011. Quails and feed were distributed among the participants. Total 25 males and 45 females were trained.



AGRONOMY DEPARTMENT FACULTY ATTENDED TRAININGS

Prof. Dr. Bashir Ahmad, Prof. Dr. M. Akmal, Dr. Shahen Shah and Ms Shazma Anwar attended a workshop on “Sensitization Climate Change Adaptation” during November, 2011 at AUP, organized by Inter Corporation (IC) in collaboration with AUP, PFI and Provincial Government.

“Higher Education Quality Assessment” at Agricultural University, Peshawar organized by the Quality Enhancement Cell of the University.

Dr. Shahen Shah, Dr. Amanullah Jr. and Ms Shazma Anwar attended a one day training workshop on

Prof. Dr. Bashir Ahmad and Dr. Inamullah attended a three day training course on “Problems and Prospects of Education in Pakistan” held at Pakistan Academy for Rural Development (PARAD), Peshawar during December 27-29, 2011.

WEED SCIENCE STUDENTS GOT SCHOLARSHIPS

On the basis of merit, HEC has awarded Ph.D Indigenous Scholarships to Ms Shahida Bibi, Ms

Tamanna Bakht and Mr. Riaz Ahmad Afridi of the Department of Weed Science.

DR. HAMAYUN ELECTED AS PRESIDENT AUTA



Dr. Hamayun Khan, Associate Professor and Prof. Dr. M. Shafi, Department of Agronomy have been elected as President and General Secretary of the Agricultural University Teachers' Association (AUTA).

The President has pledged to work for the development of teaching & research and provision of better services to the farming community. He has demanded from the federal government for allocation of more funds for promotion of education in the country.

ToT CONDUCTED AT SWAT

Training of Trainers under Government of Italy sponsored project was conducted by the AUP team comprising of Prof. Dr. Munir Khan, Dean, Faculty of Rural Social Science; Dr. Muhammad Zulfiqar and Mr. Rizwan Ahmad, Additional Director P&D, AUP at Swat. The project aims to help improve the socio-economic condition of the farming community of District Swat. The IAO initiated a project on “Technical assistance and support to fruit and vegetables growers in the Swat Valley (Pakistan) for the improvement of production and marketing in the horticultural value chain”. The

survey was completed while the last ToT on the “Cooperative Agriculture Marketing” for the Field staff, Researchers and Farmers Representatives of District Swat was organized during November, 2011.

The participants were briefed in detail on the concept of Adoption of Good Agricultural Practices and Framers' Cooperative Approach to Benefit from Global Market Opportunities, Role of Farm Services in Cooperative Marketing and Understanding the Nature of Cooperatives.

“NATURAL PRODUCTS RESEARCH GROUP” FORMED

Dr. Zafar Iqbal and Dr. Mudassar Iqbal, Department of Agricultural Chemistry, AUP jointly established "Natural Products Research Group (NPRG)". Main focus of the NPRG is to isolate natural products from the potential fungal species for screening against notorious disease causing microbes in plants including wilt pathogens. The NPRG aims to develop novel agro-chemicals from natural sources to combat resistant plant pathogens. The group comprised of 17 members with two faculty and 15 students.



CRANES BREEDING LAUNCHED

Due to its size and beauty, Cranes have long been maintained and propagated in captivity. The Department of Poultry science, Agricultural University, Peshawar has started its breeding in captivity for the first time in Pakistan. The Department is also involved in poultry production on commercial basis.

DEGREE PROGRAMME STARTED IN STATISTICS

The Department of Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science, AUP has started classes in M.Sc (Statistics) from fall semester, 2011. Moreover,

under the future vision of the department, B.Sc (4 years), M. Phil/Ph.D degree programmes in Statistics and Mathematics may be started shortly.

MODEL COMPETITION ARRANGED

The Department of Agricultural Mechanization organized Model Competition among the students on December 23, 2011. The students took keen interest in the competition. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Naeem, Senior Dean was the chief guest on the occasion. He gave away cash prizes and certificates

among the participation and winners. He appreciated the efforts for organizing such a useful competition which will ultimately encourage the students.

Mr. Umair Rehman and Faiz Rehman got first position, Ms. Aymen Saeed got second position while Mr. Muhammad Aamir got Commendation Letter.



FOR COMMENTS PLEASE CONTACT:

Information Office, Agricultural University, Peshawar - Pakistan
Ph: +92-91-9216518 E-mail: riazadil@aup.edu.pk Website: www.aup.edu.pk