



Pir Mehr Ali Shah

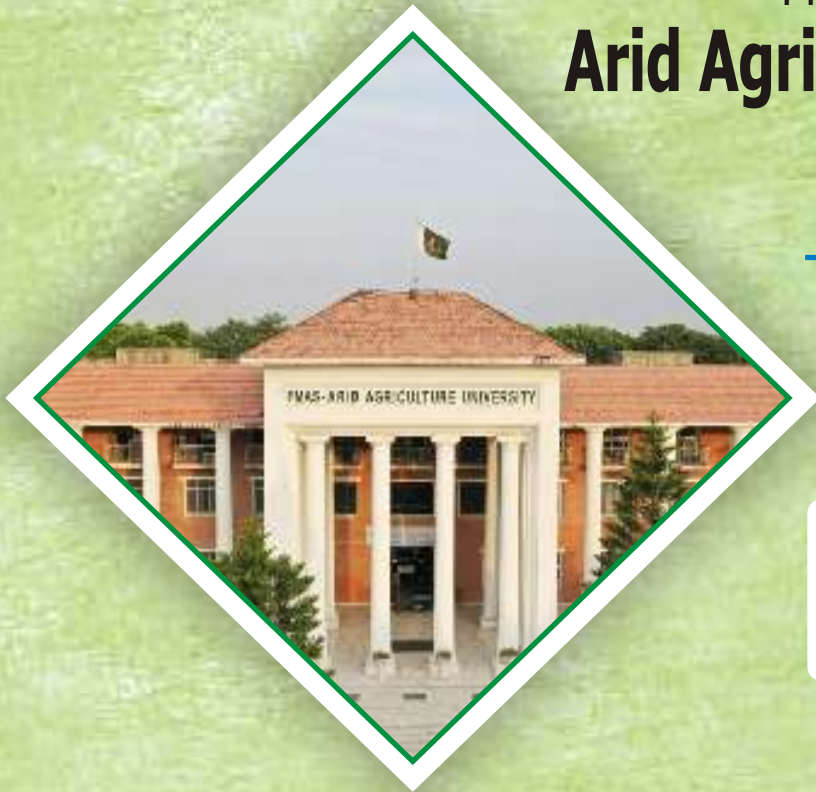
Arid Agriculture University

Rawalpindi

NEWS LETTER

Apr - Dec 2019

**Directorate of
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NewsLetter

Apr-Dec, 2019

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Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman assumed the Charge of PMAS-AAUR as Vice Chancellor



Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Professor and Precision Agriculture Research Chair, Engineering Department Faculty of Agriculture Dalhousie University Canada has assumed the charge as the 4th Vice Chancellor of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) for the tenure of 2019-2023.

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman carries a remarkable academic career throughout his education. He got JSPS-NSERC Research Fellow in Precision Agriculture (PA) from Tokyo University of Agri and Tech. Japan in 2005-2006, Post-Doctoral Fellow in PA University of Florida USA in 2002-2005, Doctorate Degree in PA University of Newcastle upon Tyne UK in 1995-1999 and got BSC (1980-1984) and MSC (1987- 1990) degree in Agri. Engineering from University of Agriculture Faisalabad.

Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman joined Dalhousie University Canada as Associate Professor in 2010 and appointed as professor in 2014. He also served Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro Canada as Machinery Systems Research Chair/Assistant Professor, University of Agricultural and Technology Japan as JSPS-NSERC Research Fellow, University of Florida USA as Post-Doctoral Fellow and University of Agriculture Faisalabad as Assistant Professor, lecturer and Research Officer.

Dr. Qamar is also recipient of the prestigious Glenn Downing Award in 2014 by the Canadian Society for Bio-Engineering (CSBE/SCGAB) in recognition of outstanding work in industry, teaching, research and extension in the area of machinery systems. He also received award in 2015 from University of Florida in recognition of outstanding contributions in the development of variable rate sprayer system and method of variably applying agrochemicals.

He is author of two chapters of two different books and also has a credit of two patent Zaman, Q. U., Y. K. Chang, A. W. Schumann. 2013. "Variable rate sprayer system and method of variably applying agrochemicals". US Patent Publication No. 8488874 B2 and Zaman, Q. U., Y. K. Chang, A. W. Schumann. 2014. "Variable rate sprayer system and method of variably applying agrochemicals". Canadian Patent No. 2,740,503 C.

He is also author of more than 180 research publications including research papers, review & popular articles, extension bulletins and technical reports.

He also served as referee to review research projects, books, articles, research papers, for various journals/organizations.

Workshop on ICT Role for Disaster Prediction and Management



A three-day Regional Workshop on Information & Communication Technologies (ICT) Role for Disaster Prediction & Management was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on May 2-4, 2019.

President, Islamic Republic of Pakistan Dr. Arif Alvi was the chief guest at the inaugural session while Prof. Dr. Khalid Mahmood Khan, Secretary General, Network of Academies of Sciences of Islamic Countries was the guest of honor.

The workshop was organized by the PMAS-AAUR University Institute of Information Technology (UIIT) in collaboration with the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (ISESCO). The objectives of organizing the workshop was to raise awareness about ICT role for disaster prediction & management among academicians, researchers, professionals and policy makers.

Speaking on the occasion, President Alvi urged the need to develop, test and scale up ICT applications in areas of disaster prevention, preparedness and governance. He emphasized upon creation of mass awareness about the impacts of climatic changes and said that ICT could play a significant role by making people conscious about environmental hazards. He stressed on water resources management, sound agriculture practices and enhanced forestation across Pakistan to ensure disaster risk reduction. The President emphasized upon creation of mass awareness about impacts of climatic change, adding that ICT could play a significant role by

making people conscious about the environmental hazards. "Every person should plant at least one sapling because it is a collective responsibility to tackle issues of environmental and climatic changes", he said.

University's Vice Chancellor Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said, this workshop is aimed to discuss modern day tools and technologies especially information technology apparatus for proactive approach through prediction & post-facto mitigation of such incidences. He appreciated the efforts of organizers and hoped the efforts being made by ISESCO would bear fruit. He said that we will be having more trained and skillful individuals who would be having command on use of ICT in disaster management and mitigation.

Dr. Nabeel Anwar, Director Science, ISESCO said that frequency of disasters are increasing worldwide and they have become more violent so it is necessary to take stern measures to reduce disaster risks through incorporation of disaster reduction strategies into international and national sustainable development policies.

The experts recommended to strengthen regional research & development activities related to use of ICT and comprehensive communication system in disaster risk reduction. They suggested that there is a dire need of management information system for strategy, planning and rehabilitation. They were of the view that lack of awareness is a major problem for disaster management and recommended use of many open-resource tools and software applications.

Korean Parliament Members Visited PMAS-AAUR

A four-member South Korean Parliament members delegation led by Mr. Soo Hyuck Lee, visited PMAS-AAUR, on April 25, 2019.

The purpose of their visit was to share the performance/achievements of Pak-Korea Capacity Building Centre for Agriculture & Livestock Technology (PKCBC) which was established in 2016 at PMAS-AAUR with the financial help of Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) to improve socio-economic conditions and livelihoods of farming communities.

The other parliament members were included Mr. Seok Hyun Lee, Mr. Jung Bae Chun, Mr. Jae Kyung Lee, Mr. Kwak Sung Kyu, the Ambassador, Republic of Korea, Mr. Chung Jong Hyok, The Director General KOICA Office Islamabad Mr. Chung Jong Hyok, Mr. Ki Won Kwon, Chief of Committee Staff Officers from Korean Parliament, and officers from Embassy of Korea and KOICA office Islamabad.

A proposal of Agriculture Technology Incubation & Transfer Center was also shared with the Korean Parliament's members to enhance the agricultural production through developing and indigenizing efficient, environment friendly technologies and its promotion to farming communities of rain-fed areas of Pakistan. The parliament's members hoped that this project will be helpful to improve the livelihood of rural community of the Potohar Region and uplifting their socio-economic status on sustainable basis.

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR said that PKCBC helped a lot to our scientists

about modern techniques in agriculture and livestock, from the exchange program of Experts we need to continue this sort of joint initiatives focusing technology development and its promotion. Vice Chancellor also expressed gratitude for the support of Peoples Republic of Korea in establishing this Center & the hard work of the management, faculty members, trainers and the support staff of the university in achieving the objectives of this Center.



Prof. Dr. Ata ul Mohsin, Director PKCBC briefed the members about the center, the future strategy and plan of PKCBC in years to come.

He expressed that the centre is performing its role in very effective way and have successfully completed

various short trainings, workshops and various vocational trainings (Diploma Courses) for 3-6 months duration.

The team also visited all sections of the PKCBC, Training Hall & Laboratories. They shared information with the faculty members/Incharge of the Laboratories and training course.

The team appreciated the working of PKCBC and expressed its views as this centre will play a pivotal role in capacity building & socio-economic development of farming communities.

At the end, Prof. Dr. Fayyaz-ul-Hassan Sahi Dean Faculty of Crop & Food Sciences thanked the Korean parliament members for their visit and Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman presented shields to the South Korean Parliament members delegation.

Canadian Delegation Visited PMAS-AAUR



A delegation from Canadian Industry and University of Prince Edward Island, Canada and PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi had agreed to initiate collaboration on research projects, academic programmes and stressed the need for strong academia-industry linkages through developing human resources, technologies and policy formulations.

It was decided in a meeting chaired by PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman with Canadian delegation including Allan Dale, Mr. Alan Dale, Canadian Perspective for Academia Government-Industry Linkages, Dr. Aitazaz Farooque Associate Professor of the University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, Andrew Hall and Blake Doyle, Co-Founder A2B Design Engineering, Canada along with Deans/Directors of PMAS-AAUR, on October 15, 2019.

The visiting delegation exchanged views with PMAS-AAUR academic leadership and applauded its numerous steps to develop the institutional relations with leading institutions and corporate entities. Both parties shared views for joint efforts that are important for potential expansion of future academic-industry linkages and collaborations. Both parties agreed to cooperate in education and research in areas of mutual

interest and to establish scientific, educational and cultural programmes in order to assert and consolidate relationships between both countries. On the occasion, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman briefed the delegation about mandate, functions, programmes, achievements and future plans of the university. He said that PMAS-AAUR is rapidly expanding its academic and research avenues, while its research output had significantly increased in the international journals. The University had very active research and academic collaboration agreements with other institutes and is looking forward for active foreign collaboration and funding for its faculty development programme and research projects. He was of the view that collaboration with Canadian university and industry will open new directions of academic and research exchange.

Allan Dale stressed the need for engaging universities to find solutions to the issues and challenges facing local industries. He said that industry, academia and government institutions should join hands to play role for development of country's economy and society.

The delegation appreciated the efforts of PMAS-AAUR in the development of higher education and research, especially in the field of agriculture.

International Conference on Academia, Industry and Government linkages for Sustainable Agriculture



An International Workshop on 'Strategies for Government, Industry and Academia linkages for Sustainable Agriculture' held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on October 17, 2019.

Federal Minister for Science and Technology Fawad Hussain Chaudhry was the chief guest while Canadian High Commissioner Wendy Gilmour was the guest of honor. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR, Mr. Alan Dale, Canadian Perspective for Academia-Government-Industry Linkages, Mr. Andrew Hall & Mr. Blake Doyle, Co-Founder, A2B Design Engineering, Canada Dr. Aitazaz Farooque, Associate Professor, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada, Dr. Iqbal Ahmad Khan, Former Vice Chancellor UAF, Dr. Faiz Kakar Consultant, Dr. Abid Qayyum Suleri, Executive Director SDPI, Engr. Azhar Noor, GM Marketing, Millate Tractors, Mr. Afaq Tiwana, Progressive Farmer also addressed the participant while representatives from Industry, farmers, scientists, students and faculty members were also present on the occasion.

Federal Minister for Science and Technology Chaudhry Fawad Hussain stressed for linkages between academia, industry & government and said it is vital for the country's development. He said that equipping the farmers with latest technology is the greatest need of the hour as through traditional farming, the country's economy cannot flourish. The farmers will have to

use the latest technologies to get more crop yield. Minister said, the government has the responsibility to provide conducive environment to private sector for business. The Minister further said, the private sector provides jobs not the government as the government creates an environment conducive for employment. The government was trying to create an environment where jobs are available. The government wanted to create job opportunities in the private sector in order to boost trade and industrial sector which would bring employment, he said.

Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman that said that PMAS-AAUR is focusing on innovation to discover and create new sight through teaching, research and services. He said that the University is committed to develop modern facilities to support quality education and collaborative research, particularly in the areas of clean technology related to agricultural industries.

Speakers said that industry, academia and government should join hands to play role for development of country's economy and society. They emphasized to give preference to applied research which could have a positive impact on the society and government should devise good policies to facilitate industrialists. They emphasized that the youth particularly females should be empowered and made more independent. New technologies were providing opportunities to women to set up their businesses independently, they added.

Seminar on Combating Desertification in Pakistan

A seminar on "Combating Desertification in Pakistan" was held at Pir Meher Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) in collaboration with Sustainable Land Management Programme (SLMP), on July 31, 2019.



Chief guest, Malik Amin Aslam, Adviser to Prime Minister on Climate Change said that desertification is a major challenge to sustainable development in the country. He said "challenges posed by changing climatic conditions have infiltrated the entire spectrum of human survival and progress. Out of 79.6 million hectares of Pakistan's total land, 62 million hectares are vulnerable due to desertification."

He said combating desertification requires concerted efforts at wider scale and Ministry of Climate Change is approaching this with a climate smart approach. He highlighted different steps the Ministry is undertaking to tackle climate change in the country. He said that the government has decided to plant at least 10 billion trees across the country through the media awareness campaigns by highlighting the significance of planting trees. The government banned plastic bags in the federal capital to make it a plastic-free zone which will later be expended to other parts of the country, he added.

The advisor on Climate Change appreciated the contributions of SLMP and commended the joint efforts by the UNDP Pakistan and GEF for their valuable support. He also thanked PMAS-Arid

Agriculture University, Rawalpindi for facilitating this important event which was held to mark World Day to Combat Desertification. The theme of the day was "Lets grow the future together."

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor PMAS AAUR, highlighted the University role for better climate in the country. He emphasized that such collaborative activities must be strengthened and taken forward for fighting desertification in Pakistan. He also appreciated UNDP Pakistan and Ministry of Climate Change for taking the lead in sustainable land management through their joint programme, SLMP. Mr. Hamid Marwat, National Programme Coordinator (SLMP-II) briefed the audience about World Desertification Day and SLMP approaches with interventions for better land management in Pakistan. He said, "The implementation of the programme will bring considerable financial benefits for the poor dry land communities through the sustainable management of their land resources."

Prof. Dr. Sarwat N. Mirza, Former Dean of Forestry & Range Management Faculty, PMAS Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi discussed desertification in detail and highlighted threats, challenges and opportunities in Pakistan's context. Dr. Irfan Ashraf Coordinator of the seminar delivered technical speech on combating desertification and focused on practical moves to deal with the burning issue.



Arid Varsity Ranked at 8th among All Pakistani Universities in Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) ranked at 8th among all Pakistani Universities (1001+ among the world universities) as per latest Times Higher Education (THE) World Universities Ranking 2020. The THE is a renowned and the most recognized world universities ranking agency. The ranking included 1396 universities from 92 countries that qualified THE ranking criteria which included teaching, research, citations, industry income and international outlook. This year 14 universities of Pakistan qualified and appeared in the ranking.

To celebrate THE ranking 2020, the first International Seminar on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings was arranged by the THE at the University of Lahore. The Federal Minister for Education and Professional Training Mr. Shafqat Mahmood was the chief guest, the Minister for Higher Education Punjab, Raja Yasir Humayun Sarfraz, the Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission and Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, were the guests of honor.

On this auspicious occasion, the Federal Minister, Shafqat Mahmood and Provincial Minister, Raja

Yasir Humayun Sarfraz, presented certificates (issued formally by THE) to Prof. Dr Riaz Ahmad, Director Quality Enhancement Cell, PMAS-AAUR and the other universities. The Minister congratulated the Arid Varsity for its international ranking and appreciated the Director QEC-AAUR and his staff for their continuous efforts for quality enhancement, quality assurance and establishing the quality culture at the varsity. He also hoped that the varsity will further excel its rankings in future. Earlier this year, the Arid Varsity also made it to the THE Young Universities Rankings 2019 (330th) and Asia University Rankings 2019 (380th).

"The Arid Varsity has started to make rapid progress in the academic, industry linkages, international collaborations and research profile due to aggressive reforms as new initiatives being taken under the leadership of its new Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, which will take this institution further up in the upcoming global ranking of the universities", Prof. Ahmad said. The Vice Chancellor has congratulated the Director QEC, his staff and the university community for earning a place for Arid Varsity on the global map of the higher education.



Session on "Achieving Food Security in Digitalized World"



Pakistan has moved from 7th to 5th position among ranking of the countries that are vulnerable to climate change. This was expressed by Ms Androulla Kaminara, Ambassador The European Union (EU) to Pakistan.

The Ambassador was talking to the Session of "Achieving Food Security in Digitalized World" organized by Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) in collaboration with Sustainable development Policy Institute (SDPI), on December 5, 2019.

EU Ambassador said that EU use Integrated Phase Food Security Classification to determine the food insecurity in a country/region. According to IPC Global Report 2018, Pakistan is facing challenges in growth in agriculture due to Climate Change.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR said that digitalization can help inform farmers not only about the markets but also to guide them on improved farming practices, issuing of early warning to avoid any crisis and enhance their productivity. He further added its time to consider profitability of farmers and not limit research only to their income.

Dr Abid Suleri Executive Director SDPI while addressing the session said government under the BISP program is planning to issue mobile phones to 9million BISP beneficiary women which is great opportunity to engage women farmers through this new platform to disseminate market information and early warning as well as messages on improved practices to avoid losses from swing to harvest and post-harvest.

Dr Babar Shahbaz from University of Agriculture Faisalabad said that process of formally transferring new agricultural discoveries, improved practices or innovations to the farmers with ultimate aim to increase productivity. This technology transfer can help to improve the



capacity productivity of the farmers and crops yield as well.

Dr Arnold Elepano from University of Philippine recommended that we need to develop roadmap for Smart Farm Development to include research agenda, pilot testing, information advocacy and government should provide enabling environment to promote the use of digital technology to increase farm productivity.

During the session Prof. Dr. Allah Bakhsh, Dean Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Technology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, said that It is an established fact that adoption of appropriate technology enables farmers to modernize their management practices for increasing crop yields, reducing crop failure, and ultimately increasing farmer's income i.e. leading towards profitable farming. Application of Digital Technologies include RS, GIS, land use mapping, monitoring crop soil health, identifying potential farming zones, weather advisories, crop stress/disease detection, assessing domestic and export marketing potential leading towards providing real time data to make Smart Farming

Decisions for enhancing farmer's profitability. Dr. Muhammad Jehanzeb Cheema, Associate Prof. University of Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi suggested that Introduction of precision agriculture technologies is the need of the hour and this can increase the productivity of crops yield.

Dr Malik Jahan Khan, Associate Professor (Computer Science) from Namal University Mianwali, Dr. Muhammad Saeed of PMAS-AAUR said that some developed systems are commercial and a common farmer has to pay for subscription which is not possible for poor farmers.

Researchers, faculty members and students from different institutes/universities also shared their knowledge and how block chain, IoT and digitization can help increase production and support in improving livelihoods of the farming communities in particular and food security of masses in general.

The session was moderated by Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor University of Arid Agriculture Rawalpindi.



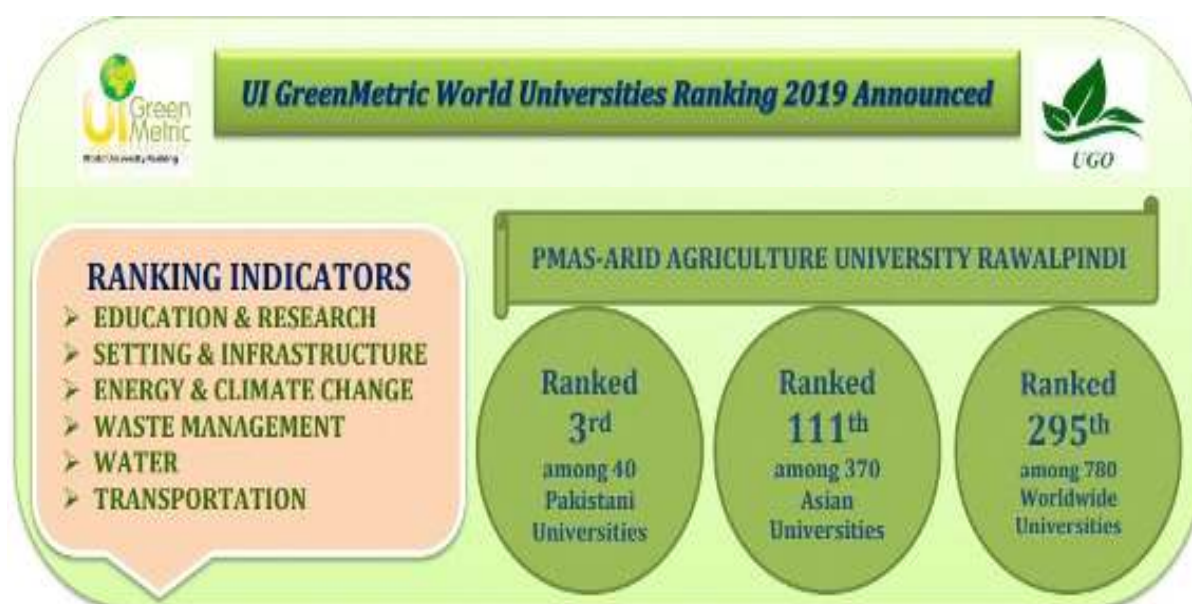
PMAS-AAUR Secured 3rd Position in the country by UI Green Metric World Universities Ranking 2019

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi has been ranked 3rd in all over the Pakistan, 111th in Asia and 295 among 780 participating Universities of the world as per latest UI Green Metric World Universities ranking 2019. UI Green Metric University Sustainability Ranking is a world university ranking to assess and compare campus sustainability efforts. The criteria for the ranking of Universities includes campus setting & infrastructure, energy & climate change, waste, water, transportation and education & Research. The Arid Varsity has been ranked as 295th among the top 780 universities of the world with the total score of 5475 as per UI GreenMetric World Universities ranking.

The Vice Chancellor especially appreciated the efforts and contribution by the Mr. Shahid Ali

Khan, Director, University Green Office of the University. He also appreciated the vigorous role played by the University Green Office team to sensitize the students regarding environment.

Mr. Shahid Ali Khan, Director, University Green Office informed that this is a great honor for me and my team that we have improved the University Ranking as compared to the previous year 2018 i.e. 302 out of 719 to 295 out of 780. He further expressed that the improvement in the ranking is due to the steps taken by the University Green Office like reduce single use plastic bags in the University Campus, tree plantation and establishment of Plant Nursery at the University. PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi is also actively participating in Clean & Green Pakistan Movement.



PMAS-AAUR and China University Signed MoU

PMAS-AAUR and Shihezi University of China (SUC) signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) to extend the scientific cooperation between both universities, on December 19, 2019. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR and Prof. Dr. Fenghua Zhang of SUC signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Under the MoU both institutes will conduct research on arid oasis and water



resource management in the different areas. Both institutes also addressed the issues of water conservation, salinity, technology for sustainable agriculture, integrated river basin management from high mountain to bottom desert zone, remote sensing based monitoring of agricultural land salinization & degradation and through improved management transboundary protection of soil, water and biodiversity. On the occasion, Chinese delegations members Dr. Jiaping Wang, and Dr. Haichang Yang, PMAS-AAUR Director External Linkages Dr. Atta Ul Mohsin, seniors faculty members, were also present. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that land & water management detail be highlighting threats, challenges and opportunities in Pakistan's context. He further said that due to increasing population, land use is increasing and water resources are decreasing. There is dire need for future planning to provide alternate solution for water scare areas to aware the people about the importance of water and land. He expressed the hope that both institutes will work together to achieve targets.

China Huazhong Agriculture University Delegation Visited PMAS-AAUR

A seven-member delegation headed by Prof. Kuang Hanhui of Huazhong Agriculture University, Wuhan, China visited PMAS-AAUR on April 23, 2019. The delegation met with PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Dr Qama-uz-Zaman. A meeting was also held with deans, directors and faculty members of different departments/institutes for collaboration in research and development program keeping in view the One Belt One Road initiative. The participants discussed areas of potential collaboration between the HZAU and the PMAS-AAUR. They said that collaboration among two institutes would provide opportunity for development of technologies in the field of agriculture and for scientists of both countries to interact positively to contribute towards the advancement of scientific culture. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that after CPEC initiation, relationship between China and Pakistan has entered into a new era. He expressed that issues to be resolved to enhance mutual cooperation between the two countries in different academic areas. Chinese delegation also conducted interview of PMAS-AAUR students for their further studies in HZAU University China.



International Conference on Medicinal Importance of Hemp

An international seminar on 'Medicinal Importance of Hemp' was held at PMAS-AAUR on October 16, 2010. The purpose of the seminar was to create awareness among the public regarding many potential benefits of the hemp plant that is usually considered a source of addiction in the society.

Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Fellow and Council Member of Pakistan Academy of Sciences, was the chief guest while Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, former Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Mr. Andrew Hall, Co-Founder A2B Design Engineering, Canada, Dr. Mubashir Riaz Khan and Dr. Rehmatullah Qureshi of PMAS-AAUR, Ms Helga Ahmad, Mr. Faiz Kakar addressed the participants while the faculty members and students of the university also attended the event. Hemp seeds contain plenty of protein, healthful fatty acids, omega3 oil and fiber. Medical hemp helps remove chronic pain and muscle spasms besides improving appetite in HIV/AIDS. It is also recommended for anorexia, arthritis, glaucoma and migraine.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari said that world is moving from chemical medicine to herbal treatment to avoid health complications during the medical treatment. "There is a dire need to conduct research and development in herbal medicine and organic medicine. PMAS-AAUR should pay special attention towards the use of herbal medicine for health challenges," he said. He pointed out that Pakistan has the potential to export herbal medicine and products but it needs coordinated efforts on the part of the relevant quarters.

Mr. Andrew Hall informed the participants that hemp cultivation is allowed in Canada and it is mostly used for medicinal purposes. He said: "Some 25 to 30 countries have so far given

permission for the cultivation of hemp while Netherland is the biggest producer and Germany is the biggest user for medicinal hemp."

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman and Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan were of the view that there is a need for the academia-industry linkages. Dr. Qamar Zaman also informed that PMAS-AAUR and Prince Edward Island University Canada are going to develop linkages that would yield results in the coming years.

Dr. Rehmatullah Qureshi of PMAS-AAUR delivered lecture on history of hemp and its uses and benefits in the context of the local culture of Pakistan.

The hemp is also being used in most of the countries for construction purposes as it has non-toxic natural resistance to mold, insects and fire. Around 1,200 square feet area of hemp absorbs more carbon dioxide than 10 acres of forest land.

Others speakers who also spoke on the occasion termed hemp as environmental friendly product, which grows wildly in most parts of Pakistan, adding "If it is cultivated on commercial basis then it can help meet energy requirements by producing various kinds of biofuels."



Conference on Commercialization of Academic Research



Pakistani economy has great potential and has shown resilience in the face of an unconventional war. There is a need that Government should play a strong role in creating a conducive environment for local industrial development as well as the development of Higher Education Sector in Pakistan.

This was resolved by industrialists and academicians who met in a One-Day Stakeholders Round Table Conference (RTC) on Industry-Academia Collaboration: Commercialization of Academic Research conducted at PMAS-AAUR on October 10, 2019.

Participants of this conference included Prof. Dr. Asad Zaman, Member, Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Team & Ex-Vice Chancellor, Pakistan Institute of Development Economics, Prof. Kashifur Rehman, Vice-Chancellor, City University of Science and Information Technology, Mr. Muhammad Ahmed, President, Islamabad Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Mian Shaukat Masud Ex-President, Islamabad Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Mr. Faheem Sardar Investment Banker & Managing Director of TANGENT Consulting, Dr. Farida Faisal Associate Professor, UIMS -PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, Prof. Dr. Abdul Waheed Administrator, UIMS -PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi & Prof. Dr. Mobushir Riaz Khan Director, UIIT-PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi met to discuss the challenges and opportunities with regard to

industry-academia collaboration and commercialization of academic research.

Prof. Dr. Asad Zaman, member Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Team stressed the universities and industries develop graduates as human beings rather than just human resources who work for their material objectives. He stressed that sensitivity to social issues and service orientation is the need for an hour to be adopted by universities and industries alike.

Prof. Dr. Kashifur Rehman suggested the outcome of PhD theses which are placed in HEC repository should channelize with relevant stakeholders and Industries, so that they may benefit from academic research. Industrialists remarked that although the economy is facing greater challenges, by adoption of new technologies they can enhance national income.

The conference resolved to suggest and recommend that there is a need to conduct research, is applied in nature, sector-specific and contextualized given local conditions in Pakistan. For this purpose, they recommended curriculum revision, teacher training and program redesign. Participants also agreed to suggest that country needs to develop institutes who carry out quality certification, patenting and branding of their research output. Major focus should be given to the development of the IT sector which is growing rapidly and have the potential to compete with India as well.

International Seminar on Innovative Technologies in Agriculture

A one day international seminar on Innovative Technologies in Agriculture was organized by Faculty of Agricultural Engineering of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on July 23, 2019.



PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman was the chief guest with Director General Agricultural Engineering Division PARC Liaqat Ali Shahid as the guest of Honor.

The Vice Chancellor Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman highlighted the issues in agricultural development and stressed on the use of modern technology/ machinery to enhance the agriculture production. He exclaimed the role of academia for bringing change in agriculture sector and stressed for the dire need of strong link between academia and agriculture industry to address the problems &

challenges of agriculture sector to boost the economy of Pakistan. He suggested to improve agricultural production system on scientific lines to enhance sustainable food production and urged the scientists of the university to play their role to create awareness among farming community about the latest techniques in the agriculture to make Pakistan a food sufficient country in order to feed the increasing population.

Keynote speaker, Dr. Aitizaz Farooque, Associate Professor, School of Sustainable Design Engineering, University of Prince Edward Island, Canada said that agriculture is a key resource to ensure food security at the planet. The increasing world's population demands more food for survival; as agricultural land is shrinking due to urbanization and industrialization. He said that Agriculture production typically involves uniform applications of crop growing inputs, ignoring spatial, temporal variations in soil/ crop/ yield/ weather and topographic attributes which exist within fields. Uniform application not only increases the production cost but also adversely affects our environment, he added. He was of the view that sustainable agriculture production requires discoveries, innovations and technical skill which needs to be integrated into traditional farming to achieve targeted applications of crop



growing inputs on an as-needed basis. He said that precision agriculture technologies are meant to increase production efficiency, profitability and environmental efficiency.

Dr Muhammad Azam Post-doctoral Research Associate, Chungbuk National University, South Korea talked about the hardware and software-based smart technologies for early flood warning system directly connected with the mobiles of the people.

Dr Muhammad Hasan Ali Baig incharge, Institute of Geo Information and Earth Observation of PMAS-AAUR discussed the challenges in adoption of precision agriculture practices in Pakistan and provided the way forward in the context of remote sensing with special focus on hyper spectral remote sensing.

Dr Naveed Tahir delivered lecture on the use of

innovative UAV based spraying technology application in Pakistan. He said that PMAS-AAUR is going to establish precision drone spraying technology center with the joint support of National center for International Collaboration Research on Precision Agriculture Aviation pesticides spraying technology, South China Agricultural University Guangzhou, China. The use of this innovation technology will improve the efficiency of pesticides and fertilizer spraying application which will resulted in reduction of human & environmental hazards. This step will ultimately increase the yield of many crops by better controlling the pests or diseases at farm level.

Dr. Atta-UI-Mohsin Director External Linkages of PMAS-AAUR gave welcome address and elaborated the aims with the objectives of the seminar while at the end Dr. Tahir Iqbal presented vote of thanks.

PMAS-AAUR and ABM Pakistan Signed MoU

Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, The Vice Chancellor of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) and Dr. Asghar Ali Executive Director Association for Biorisk Management (ABM) Pakistan signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU), on August 26, 2019. The main purpose of this MoU was to implement Pakistan Biorisk Management (PBMP) Program activities through mutual coordination of stakeholders to control zoonotic pathogens through the introduction and strengthening of bio-safety & bio-



security practices in Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences of PMAS-AAUR. Under the MoU, bio-safety & bio-security practices will be strengthened in the PMAS-AAUR and the ABM will provide technical support to the laboratories of the University on a regular basis. Under the MoU, the association will provide technical support to the engaged laboratories and will assist in constituting a bio-safety committee for regular review of bio-safety & security status in the laboratory. The ABM will also strengthen the laboratory through the provision of essential equipment and reagents. It will also provide bio safety kits to the training participants. While, PMAS-AAUR will provide a focal person for effective coordination of project activities. It will implement mitigation measures and BRM protocols in the laboratories to ensure bio safety & bio security. The university will constitute a bio safety committee to look after the bio safety & bio security issues in the laboratory while dealing with high-risk pathogens/chemicals.

Training on Climate Change



Two days (September 4-5, 2019) Hands-on training on "Climate Change Impact Assessment and Adaptation Strategies for Wheat with Groundnut Production using Decision Support System" was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR). The training was organized by the PMAS-AAUR Department of Agronomy, with an aim to develop capacity building of young scientists, researchers, post-graduate students in climate change impact assessment and adaptation strategies for wheat & groundnut production. This training will also provide an opportunity to develop consortium of researchers across the country for crop production under changing climate using Decision Support System.

Prof. Dr. Iqar Ahmad Khan, Former Vice Chancellor University of Agriculture Faisalabad (UAF) was the chief guest while Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the guest of honor.

Agronomists, agricultural researchers, soil scientists, agro-meteorologists, nutrient management specialists, resource management specialists, agricultural extension agents, policy makers, economists, planners and other agricultural professionals striving to reduce risks in increasing agricultural productivity participated in this two days training.

Prof. Dr Iqar Ahmad Khan, highlighted the impacts changing climate on future crop yields

and said that Pakistan agriculture sector is the victim of rapid climate change in the country. He said that there is a research gap about climate change impacts and adaptation to agricultural development in Pakistan. He was of the view that due to climate change patterns are causing irregular devastating events in the country including floods, heat-waves, droughts, deforestation, storms, de-gradation of air quality and worsening situation of food.

He urged to adopt measures on war-footing to create awareness among the farming community about the impact of climate change. He said that there is dire need to take steps to cope with the impact of climate change, particularly the agriculture and livestock sectors. He suggested to create awareness among farming community for the use of modern methods of cultivation in the areas which were prone to climate change.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman said that a large population in the country is associated with the agriculture sector and there is dire need to adopt the modern technology which will not only help in reduction of poverty but insurance food for the ever-increasing population.

The Vice Chancellor emphasized linkages between academia, industry and end users by equipping them with modern technology. He said PMAS-AAUR will provide all support for the capacity building of the agriculture extension system in the province particularly in Potohar region.

PEC TEAM VISITED PMAS-AAUR



The Two members' team of Pakistan Engineering Council (PEC) including Engr. Prof. Dr. Daulat Khan and Engineer Jahanzaib Khan visited Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) on July 25, 2019, to assess the facilities and infrastructure for confirmatory visit of B.Sc Agricultural Engineering programme in the University.



The team met with the University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman and elaborated about the objectives and future plans of the Faculty of Agricultural Engineering. The Vice Chancellor Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman informed the team that curriculum of programme is designed in such a way to provide quality education to the students to meet future requirements especially Pothwar region's farmers and industry both. "Our program is designed to provide theoretical as well as practical knowledge in field of agricultural engineering so that students can successfully face the fast growing challenges in the country" he

added. He further said that number of specializations have been launched to provide enough flexibility to the students for their career as per their interest.



Dr Tahir Iqbal, welcomed the team and Dr. Muhammad Umair briefed the team about the programme. During this visit the team showed their satisfaction over the available equipments & infrastructure after visiting the class rooms, Laboratories and library including the meetings with the students.



Seminar on Dengue Control and Prevention

A seminar on dengue control and prevention was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University on August 27, 2019 with an aim to raise awareness among the citizens against the disease.



Speakers recommended preventive measures against the dengue mosquitoes and stressed the importance of collective preventive measures. They also urged the university employees and students to ensure cleanliness of the campus and their homes on regular basis.

University Vice Chancellor Prof Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman chaired the seminar, which was organized by the Department of Entomology and Botany.

The Vice Chancellor said awareness played a key role in the fight against dengue as the prevention is far better than cure. He stressed the need for collective as well as individual efforts along with collaboration of all stakeholders of the state for the awareness, implementation and control of any epidemic. He urged the faculty members and students to study the behavior of species for diagnosing and formulating the policies regarding its control & management.

Dr Mohammad Tariq from the Department of Entomology gave presentation on various aspects of dengue fever, stages, prevention and control. He also highlighted ways to control various developmental stages of dengue from its eggs to larva and full grown mosquitoes.

Tree Plantation Campaign at PMAS-AAUR

The tree plantation campaign was held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on August 18, 2019, with an aim to plant trees as part of the Greener Pakistan Initiative to celebrate the Independence Day of Pakistan.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest who formally inaugurated the campaign by planting a tree at University Research Farm Koont. Speaking at the ceremony, Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that Pakistan is facing impacts of environmental changes and it is our national duty to plant a sapling to cope with climate change. Vice Chancellor said that the university would plant maximum trees as part of prime minister's plantation drive. He urged the faculty members and students to actively take part in the campaign and for more research on this

topic to mitigate the loss due to climate change. He stressed faculty members and students should come forward to create awareness among the masses regarding importance of trees plantation in their respective areas by educating all segments of society regarding the benefits of planting saplings.



Basic Life Support Training

Two days (July 19-20, 2019) Basic Life Support Training was held in Agriculture Seminar Room at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR). The aim of this training was to provide the expertise to the university's staff to handle serious and life-threatening situations during emergency while proper medical response would be on the way. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman participated in the training as the chief guest while Mubeen-ur-Rasheed from Rescue 1122 as a master trainer with more than 100 University staff.



Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that Basic Life Support training is essential for everyone in Pakistan so that the precious life of the masses can be saved. He also suggested that first aid training must be declared mandatory for all students of schools/colleges & universities to handle the emergency situations. He thanked and appreciated the efforts of rescue 1122 team for organizing such training in the university with hope for more in future as well. The participants were imparted critical skills like placing an unconscious casualty into the recovery position, performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation, stopping bleeding, elevation bandaging injuries, preventing the worsening of the patient's condition and promoting recovery.

NCLBG&G and JLLFGR China Signed MoU

National Center for Livestock Breeding, Genetics & Genomics (NCLBG&G) of Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) CAAS-ILRI Joint Laboratory on Livestock and Forage Genetic Resources (JLLFGR) Beijing China signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), on April 10, 2019. The main Objective of the MoU was to enhance the genetic potential of local livestock for attaining food security and poverty alleviation. This MoU will also be helpful to establish a long-term relationship



for purposes of exploring complementary research, institutional development and capacity building skills of both organizations. Prof. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi Pro- Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, Deans, Directors were also present while Dr. Muhammad Moaen-ud-Din Director NCLBG&G and Dr. Jian-Lin HAN Chief Manager/Senior Scientist JLLFGR signed the MoU on behalf of their respective organizations. Prof. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi said that this MoU will be helpful to reduce the poverty in the country through research in terms of improved genetic potential of indigenous livestock through discovery, development, and dissemination of knowledge related to animal breeding & genetics in genomics era. Under the MoU both organizations agreed to conduct collaborative research, capacity building programs and will conduct short and long term training for scientists/students through joint research to promote economically viable, socially acceptable, and environmentally sustainable systems of breeding and genetic improvement for local livestock species.

Vice Chancellor Visited Attock Campus

On 26th June, 2019 the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman visited the Attock Campus of PMAS-Arid Agriculture University along with Director Planning and Development Mr. Shahid Ali Khan, PD Works Mr. Sohail Bhatti and Project Director Attock Campus Dr. Zuhair Hasnain. The Vice Chancellor was briefed about all under construction projects including the administrative block, academic block, library, Mosque, boys hostel building, girls hostel building and works department office.



Defense Day observed at PMAS-AAUR

Defense Day was observed as Kashmir Solidarity Day at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on September 6, 2019.

A rally was held in which participants paid tributes to the heroes of the nation and expressed complete solidarity with the people of occupied Jammu and Kashmir. Deans of various faculties, principals' officers, faculty members and a large number of students participated in the event with holding national flags, banners & play cards of Pakistan and Azad Jammu Kashmir.

Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR highlighted the significance of the day and

paid rich tribute to martyrs who sacrificed their lives to protect their motherland. Vice-Chancellor said that during the 1965 war, Pakistani nation stood beside their military which resulted in winning the war.

He further said that we must remember the sacrifices of our army who sacrificed their future for our present and due to them we are living peacefully in an independent state. He asked the students to recognize their role in this regard and refrain from doing anything that brought a bad name to the nation. At the end, Prayers were also offered for martyrs of armed forces and also for the people of Indian held Kashmir for the blessing of independence.



2nd National Training Workshop on Dairy Farming

Two-day (November 18-19) 2nd National Training workshop on Profitable Dairy Farming held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR).

The workshop was organized by the department of Livestock Production & Management in collaboration with the National Rural Support Programme (NRSP), with an aim to enhance participants' practical knowledge/skills about modern techniques of dairy farm management with special emphasis on breeding, health and feed quality management.

More than 30 commercial farmers, farm managers, faculty, postgraduate students and especially women who are mainly involved in management operation of dairy animals in rural life participated in the workshop.

PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman, while addressing the participants, said that the livestock sector plays a key role in national economy. He said that the mostly farmers are dependent on livestock and still the main source of their livelihood. He encouraged the participants to actively take part in the current opportunity. He emphasized that the farmers can bring real change in the economy of Pakistan. He said that such types of workshops are necessary for knowledge sharing and skills development of dairy professionals. The Vice Chancellor also

encouraged the team of event organizers for their well-managed timely efforts.

Dean Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Dr. Arfan Yousaf chaired the workshop and emphasized the importance of the dairy farming he said that this workshop aimed to build the capacity of dairy farmers to manage large commercial farms.

NRSP Regional Program Manager Dr. Muhammad Tariq told the audience about NRSP program and its commitment about training of the farmers. He also promised for further collaboration for the future training programs.

Dr. Tanveer Ahmad Chairman, Department of Livestock Production & Management enlighten the aims and objectives of the workshop. He also thanked the guests and participating farmers.

The module of the training workshop covered different topics including selection & reproduction in dairy animals, dairy farm animal breeding & genetics on modern lines, assisted reproductive technologies for profitable farming, concern of animal welfare, quantitative parameters, modern dairy farming, management of transition cow, innovative feeding approaches, mastitis and economics of dairy farm, dairy farm mechanization, and requirements for successful commercial dairy farms etc.



Graduate Research Day

The PMAS-AAUR organized first ever three days Graduate Research Day on August 06-08, 2019. The event was arranged by Directorate of Advanced Studies (DAS) with an aim to provide them an excellent, multidisciplinary venue for PhD students in all disciplines to present their current research as poster presentations.

In addition to providing an opportunity for students to present their research, this event also provided a chance for students to learn about other research happening in their community and to develop research collaborations with others outside their fields of expertise.

More than 300 PhD students presented their ongoing research activities and poster presentations which were adjudicated by experienced researchers, in the spirit of helping

students further develop their presentation and research skills.

PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman said that Higher education plays a vital role in knowledge creation and dissemination to develop individuals, institutions, societies and nations. He said that this is one of the largest research showcases at campus and will be helpful to promote the importance and presence of the excellent research happening here.

The Vice Chancellor urged faculty to adopt new technologies, promote teamwork and train the country's youth in lines with its social norms and its value. He said that PMAS-AAUR is taking tangible steps to ensure quality research and encourages research based on solution to prevailing problems of society.



Orientation Ceremony for Newly Admitted Students

An orientation ceremony for the newly admitted students was held at the PMAS-AAUR on October 23, 2019.

The ceremony is a regular activity of the University, arranged for the newly-enrolled students to familiarize them with the University's environment, its rules and regulations, that the students can sail smoothly while earning their degree and harvest optimal benefits out of available facilities.

Highlighting the University's efforts for quality education, he said PMAS-AAUR has been striving to provide access to quality literature by facilitating the students with modern technologies.

Vice Chancellor stressed, the post-graduate students to work hard and focus on research activities with an aim to lead the country towards progress with innovative ideas which can later turn into businesses.



Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman congratulated the new entrants for becoming the part of this prestigious institution. He said that the University provides an environment that enables its students to develop their academic skills excellence and this institution endeavored professionalism and demand a sense of responsibility from its students.

On the occasion, the, Director Advanced Studies Dr. Muhammad Azam, Director Quality Enhancement Cell Dr. Riaz Amad, Director Student Affairs Dr. Ghulam Hussain Babar, Dean Faculty of Crop & Food Sciences, Dr. Fayyaz ul Hassan Sahi, Senior Tutor, Deans/ Directors of the Institutes / Divisions, Controller of Examination also addressed the students.

82nd Syndicate Meeting

The Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman presiding the 82nd meeting of the University Syndicate held on 25th June, 2019.



National Honey Festival 2019



Federal Minister for National Food Security and Research Sahibzada Mohammad Mehboob Sultan said Pakistan produced more than 12,000 tons honey annually. Addressing as a chief guest at a ceremony held on June 18, 2019 in connection with honey festival at PMAS-AAUR the minister called for enhancing the capacity of the professionals and beekeepers to produce good quality honey.

The festival was organised by the Department of Entomology in collaboration with Agri Tourism Development Corporation of Pakistan (ATDCP) with an aim to promote honey, honey bees, their products and beekeeping through this unique educational platform to the public.

The event had provided a platform to the scientists, beekeepers, bee product marketing companies, growers, potential stakeholders in government, NGOs & students to share their views and ideas regarding uplift of beekeeping sector in Pakistan.

The Minister recommended that to identify the favorable situations and suitable areas, regional survey must be conducted within country to help the beekeepers. He asked the private sector to come forward and develop joint initiatives for promotion of bees in the agricultural system. He appreciated that the university was playing a vital role in boosting beekeeping sector in Pakistan. The chief guest and participants also visited the stalls.

PMAS-AAUR Students Participated in 7th National Environment Mela

7th National Environment Mela organized by the National Cleaner Production Centre, with theme of 'Your Planet Needs You- Unite to Combat Climate Change' was held at the Ayub National Park on Saturday, April 13, 2019. This Mela was attended by students from different schools, colleges and universities. The traditional natural colors of Mela were portrayed by performances and activities on the stage such as singing competitions, debate competitions, tableaus etc. Students of BS Environmental Sciences accompanied by their teacher Ms. Anika Batool, represented PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi displayed working models and recycling projects and won 2nd position-Best Stall (out of 48 stalls). They have been awarded with silver cup and certificates.



International Conference on Recent Advances for Crop Productivity Enhancement



A two-day International Conference on Recent Advances for Crop Productivity Enhancement was held at PMAS-AAUR on April, 3-4, 2019.

The conference was organised by the PMAS-AAUR Faculty of Crop of & Food Sciences with an aim to suggest modern techniques for enhancing crop production and farmers income in Pakistan.

Dr Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi, Pro-Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR, was the chief guest at the inaugural session while foreign delegates from Canada, Japan, Saudi Arabia including policy makers, agriculture stakeholders, researchers, faculty members, progressive farmers, extension workers and students also participant in the conference.

Dr Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi said that agricultural sector was the backbone of our economy and about 70% of Pakistan's population lived in rural

areas who were directly involved in agricultural activities. He said that agriculture growth was facing a lot of problems and the main challenge to agriculture sector are now improving and sustain crop productivity and farmers income.

Dr Fayyaz-ul-Hassan, Dean Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences, explained aims and objectives of the conference he said that the conference was expected to develop a shared vision on recent advancement to enhance crop productivity on the globe.

Dr Imtiaz Rashid, Assistant Professor of King Abdul Aziz University, Saudi Arabia; Dr Harpinder Singh, agriculture and agriculture food expert from Canada, Dr Saeed, Director Asian Productivity Organisation, Japan and Dr Anjum Ali, DG Agriculture Extension Punjab, also delivered lectures on the occasion.

Students' News

- ◆ Intra-Faculty Tug of War Championship was organized by the Veterinary Sports and Dramatic club on April –May, 2019. Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi witnessed the event as Chief guest and distributed the prizes among events.
- ◆ First Intra Faculty virtual games competition was organized by Veterinary Sports & Dramatic Club during May 18-25, 2019. Dr. Arif Zafar, Senior Tutor, AAUR was guest of honour.
- ◆ Intra Faculty Qirrat and Naat Competition were organized by Veterinary Art & Literary society on May 23, 2019.
- ◆ Oath Taking Ceremony of 2nd Cabinet of Aridian Veterinary Scholar forum and its allied clubs was held on May 23, 2019
- ◆ World Milk Day was celebrated by Dairy Science Club on May 29, 2019. Prof Dr. Arfan Yousaf, Dean, FV&AS was guest of honour at the event.

Meeting of the Academic Council

The Academic Council Meeting was held on April 29, 2019 under the chairmanship of University's Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman. The Council discussed the agendas of meeting and took various decisions for the improvement of the academic programs at the campus.



Alumni Reunion Held at PMAS-AAUR

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) organised the alumni reunion 2019 on May 3, 2019 for students who graduated from the University with an aim to reconnect the graduates with their alma mater to commemorate their wonderful past, To celebrate their present achievements and to strengthen professional networking for bright future.

Prof. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi, Pro-Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was the Chief Guest while Deans, Directors, Faculty Members, a large number of alumni, government officials, staff and students of the university attended the ceremony. Dr Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi also presented shield to Dr. Ikram Ali Malik, Chairman Federal Board of

Intermediate and Secondary Education (FBISE) also an alumni of the university and was awarded Tamgha-i-Imtiaz by government of Pakistan for his extraordinary contribution in his respective field.

The event was fascinated with Sofiana Kalam, Cultural Show, Poetry, Drama Regarding Alumni Life & Activities, and views by ex-Alumni, followed by dinner, in which participants actively gathered to recall unforgettable memories.

On the occasion, alumnus congratulated the faculty and lauded the efforts of the organisers and support staff for organising the successful event. They hoped that PMAS-AAUR management should organise such events on regular basis.



Seminar on Effect of Herbal Products on Inflammation & Immunity

Department of Clinical studies organized a seminar on Effect of Herbal Products on Inflammation & Immunity on December 18, 2019. Prof Dr. Man Hee Rhee and Dr. Tae Hwan Kim from Korea delivered lecture and said that Herbal medicine are a cure for many of the diseases without having any side effects. They said that Herbal medicines are used worldwide for cure of many diseases in humans as well as animals. Dr. Man Hee Rhee also reported that Ginseng is use for growth of immune cells as well as for treatment of inflammation. Different kinds of Ginseng and their differential qualities were also elaborated. Ginseng is a herb found in the Asian countries especially in Korea, Japan and China. Red Ginseng is a type which is more popular in Korea. Due to hundreds of benefits of Ginseng in health, scientist and researchers are showing great interest in its artificial cultivation techniques. In the Republic of Korea, Dr Man Hee Rhee is running a lot of research programs on Ginseng and he has shared his experience in this seminar.



National Training Workshop on Commercial Meat Production

A Two-day (June 13-14) 2nd national training workshop on commercial meat production held at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, with an aim to train the farmers, especially women, who are not aware of profit with modern dairy practices, enable them to harvest maximum profit at commercial levels. Prof. Dr Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi Pro-Vice Chancellor PMAS-AAUR was chief guest while Deans, Directors and over 30 farmers from all over the Pakistan were also participated. Dr. Nadeem Akhtar Abbasi said that live-stock sector played key role in national economy, adding that farmers could bring real change in the economy of the country. He encouraged the participants to actively take part in the training and also encouraged the team of event organizers from department of Livestock Production and Management for their efforts. Earlier, Dr Arfan Yousaf, Dean Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences and Dr Tanveer Ahmad, Chairman Department of Livestock Production and Management highlighted the aims and objectives of the workshop.



Vice Chancellor's Welcome Party

A Welcome Party was organized by the Faculty and University Administration of PMAS-AAUR on July 3, 2019 to welcome the newly appointed Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman.



Radical Criminology and Violent Extremism In Pakistan

A seminar was organized by the Criminology Department of PMAS-AAUR on the topic of Radical Criminology and Violent Extremism on 19 June, 2019.

Prof Dr Muhammad Zia Ul Haq DG Islamic Research Institute, IIU Islamabad, Dr Raheem Secretary Law and Justice Commission of Pakistan and Ms. Naila Chauhan, Ex Ambassador to Australia, Malaysia and Social Activist were the guest speakers.

Dr Zia Ul Haq elaborated the word Existing Confusion in our general society regarding radicalization and presented its cure through Paigham-e-Pakistan analogy, which promotes positivity, constructive approach in order to reform the overall attitudes and behaviors of the community.

Ms. Naila Chauhan enlightened the house regarding the role of the media in promoting the alternative narrative to violent extremism and focus on the rights of the women provided and protected in Islam in comparison to the other religions. She further thrown light on the issues of domestic violence in developed countries.

Dr Raheem enlighten the house that there is dire need to address the issues regarding changing general mindset of the community towards violent attitudes and their acceptance in the society. "The act itself doesn't constitute guilt unless done with a guilty mind". he added.

Dr. Abdul Saboor, Dean Faculty of Social Sciences PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, in his concluding remarks thanked the guest speakers for sparing their precious time and guaranteed full support and guidance for the students from his end regarding research activities.

In opening remarks, Dr Mazhar Hussain Bhutta, HOD Criminology Department, thanked the guest speakers for sparing their precious time for enlightening the audience and the students of the department about the topic.

He further emphasized on the importance of criminology its role in eradicating the violent extremism in the society and the behaviours of the community and further elaborated the authenticity in reforming the legal reform process regarding Pakistan.

Farmers' Gathering for Awareness about E-Agriculture at URF, Koont

A farmers' gathering was organized by University Research Farm, Koont in collaboration with Bakhbar Kissan (Pvt) Ltd on 12 November, 2019. The main objective of the gathering was to create awareness among the farmers about E-Agricultural Services available through mobile phones such as latest market rates, weather update & forecasts, agricultural advisory, agricultural news, best practices tips, advisory videos and online farm to home platform etc.



Prof. Dr. Fayyaz ul Hassan, Dean Faculty of Crop & Food Sciences, PMAS-AAUR was the Chief Guest. Mr. Khizer Khan the CEO of Bakhbar Kissan (Pvt) Ltd was also present at the occasion. A large number of local farmers, faculty members, and students attended the gathering. Dr. Shahzada Sohail Ijaz, Director University Research Farm, explained the purpose of the gathering and introduced the facilities available at the farm for researchers and farming community. Mr. Khizer Khan, CEO Bakhbar Kissan (Pvt) Ltd gave a detailed talk about the benefits of E-Agriculture. He enlightened the farmers to how e-agricultural platforms can increase productivity, profitability & innovation in the agriculture sector by providing timely and accurate information. Prof. Fayyaz ul Hassan pointed out that most of the private companies are operating in irrigated areas therefore farmers of rainfed areas are deprived of such services. He thanked Bakhbar Kissan (Pvt) Ltd to extend their e-agricultural services for the farmers of the rainfed areas. He also reiterated the full support of PMAS-AAUR for the common cause of farmers' welfare. At the end, Chief Guest inaugurated the automated weather station installed by Bakhbar Kissan (Pvt) Ltd for providing hyper local weather information benefiting the farmers of the surrounding area.

Finance & Planning Committee Meeting

The meeting of the Finance and Planning Committee was held on June 24, 2019 which was chaired by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman. In the meeting, financial matters concerning the University were discussed and various decisions were taken by the committee.



Seminar on the Role of Youth for Peace Building in Pakistan



A seminar on “Role of Youth for Peace Building in Pakistan” organized by Directorate of Students Affairs Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on December 17, 2019.

Muhammad Zia ul Haq Director Paigham-e-Pakistan Centre for Peace was the chief guest while Mr. Zamarud Khan Chairman Pakistan Sweet Homes, Abrar Ul Haq Social Activist/Singer, Dr. Ahsan Naveed Expert Mental Health, Dr. Aftab Ahmad Expert Interfaith Harmony, Dr. Abdul Saboor Dean Faculty of Social Sciences PMAS-

AAUR and Dr. Ghulam Hussain Baber Director Students Affairs PMAS-AAUR also addressed the participants.

Speakers said that there is dire need not only to involve youth in decision making process but also in extracurricular and sports activities. They were of the view that various students societies i.e. music, dramatic, debating, literary, art etc societies should be revived and strengthened. These can be good alternative platforms to engage educated youth in positive activities and avenue to train them as future leaders of the country.

University Institute of Biochemistry and Biotechnology News

- ◆ Noman Shoaib, BS (Biochemistry student) Selected for Scholarship Studies in “Sichuan Agriculture University Chengdu, China” in the Discipline of: MS Biochemistry & Molecular Biology.
- ◆ Umama Hani, BS (Biochemistry) got selected for Erasmus Mundus joint Masters degree Program (France & Finland) by European Union.
- ◆ 2-days training session on "ENTREPRENEURSHIP IN LIFE SCIENCES" (17 AND 18TH of June, 2019). Key note speaker were Mr. Tahir Khan and Faculty in-charge: Dr. Tayyaba Zainab.
- ◆ One- day hands-on training workshop on CRISPR-Cas9 on 17th of June, 2019 were held under the supervision of Dr. Sadia Saeed.

International Seminar on "Sustainable Management of Land and Water Resources in Pakistan"

An International Seminar on "Sustainable Management of Land and Water Resources in Pakistan" also held for students and faculty members on December 19, 2019.

Chinese delegation including Prof. Dr. Fenghua Zhang, Dr. Jiaping Wang, and Dr. Haichang Yang from Shihezi from University of China delivered lecture and share their experiences about Base for Oasis Crops Efficient Production and Agricultural Environment Protection



Dr Jehanzeb Masud Cheema Associate Prof. Agri. Engineering, Additional Director Industrial Linkage, Dr. Khalid Saif Ullah Director of the Institute of Soil Science & Director ORIC,

Dr Shahzada Sohail Associate Professor and Dr. Naveed Anjum Assistant Professor from PMAS-AAUR also delivered lectures on soil, land, water management issues in Pakistan.

Speakers stressed on the need for addressing the issue of water resources and action plans to promote water cooperation for sustainable water & land management in Pakistan. They were of the view that "It is the need of the hour to augment new water sources to overcome the upcoming shortage of water in Pakistan.

Delegation visited different research station and departments of university for future research and development of projects.



Pink Ribbon Day Observed at PMAS-AAUR on 22-10-2019



Dog Show held at PMAS-AAUR on 17-11-2019



Inter-Faculty Basketball Championship

The Barani Institute of Management Sciences (BIMS) became the winner of Inter-faculty Basketball Championship after beating Faculty of Crop and Food Sciences (FC&FS) by the score of 41-24 in the final match, at Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR), on January 2, 2020. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest on the occasion he congratulated the winner of the championship and distributed prizes/certificates among the players. The three days Championship was organized by Directorate of Sports. Eight teams including Faculty of Crop &



Food Sciences, Faculty of Sciences, Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, University Institute of Information Technology, University Institute of Management Sciences, Barani Institute of Management Sciences, Faculty of Agricultural Engineering and Faculty of forestry & Wildlife Management participated in the championship. A large number of students and faculty members were also present on their respective faculty teams matches and enjoyed the game. The event ended with hope that such events would be organized in future as well.

Christmas Cake Cutting Ceremony

Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi (PMAS-AAUR) Christian staff organized a cake cutting ceremony in connection with the celebration of Christmas, on December 19, 2019. Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman, Vice Chancellor, PMAS-AAUR was the chief guest while Mr. Aqeel Sultan, Registrar PMAS-AAUR and a large number of Christian employees attended the ceremony. PMAS-AAUR Vice Chancellor said that the Christian community is an important part of our society and who extending significant services in the sectors of education, health and other fields of life. He said that Islam teaches the lesson of peace, friendship and the promotion of inter faith harmony which is dire need of the hour. He said that we must forget our all differences for the prosperity of the country. He congratulated the organizers for organizing a good ceremony. Vice Chancellor Dr Qamar-uz-Zaman cut the Christmas cake with a special prayers were also offered for the peace and prosperity of the country.



News in Pictures

Korean Delegation Visited PMAS-AAUR (18-11-2019)



PMAS-AAUR and Foster Learning Pakistan Signed MoU (18-11-2019)



85th Syndicate Meeting (21-10-2019)



49th Advanced Studies and Research Board Meeting (11-11-2019)



Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Qamar-uz-Zaman Visited University of Prince Edward Island Canada



Inauguration of Library at Women Development Studies Center



Seminar on Advances in Plant, Soil and Microbe Interaction



Orientation Session for Newly Selected Faculty Members



Kashmir Solidarity Walk (30-08-2019)



Tree Plantation Ceremony under University Green Office (04-09-2019)

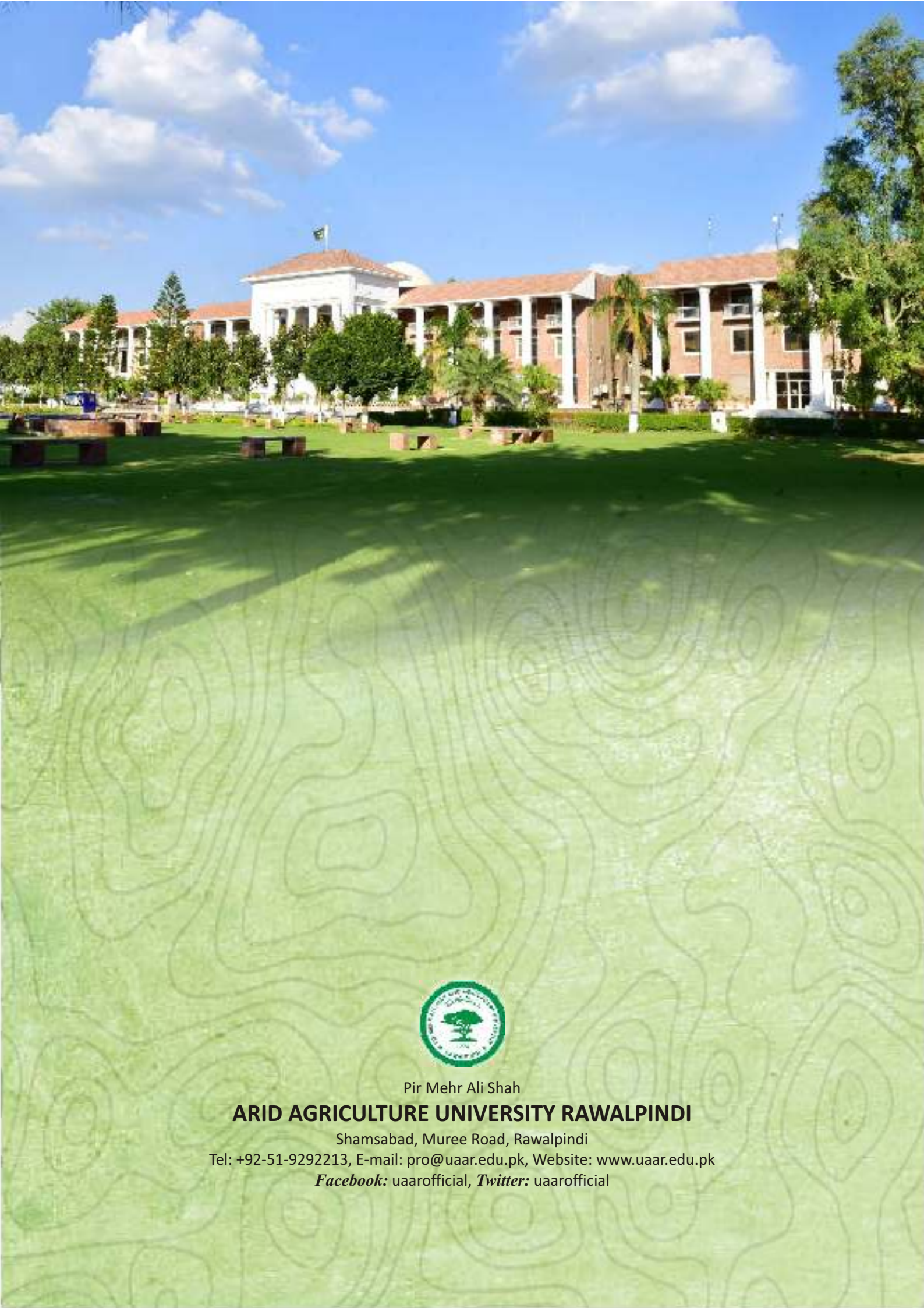


1st Annual Dinner of IFNS (20-06-2019)



Annual Dinner of FAE&T and FSS (21-06-2019)





Pir Mehr Ali Shah

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