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PHEC Newsletter

Quarterly Newsletter of Punjab Higher Education Commission



Inauguration of Punjab Tianjin University of Technology Lahore



PHEC Hosts Roundtable Discussion of VCs



PHEC Launches "Capacity Building of Library Professionals" Project



PHEC and Pink Ribbon Pakistan Sign MoU



PHEC Pays Tribute to Munir Ahmad Qurashi (Munno Bhai)

Contents

*Capacity Building of
Library Professionals*

1

*Condolence Reference
on Munno Bhai*

3

*Vcs from 11 Universities
Attend Roundtable Discussion
Hosted by PHEC & USAID*

4

*PHEC and Pink Ribbon
Pakistan Sign MoU*

5

*PHEC Extends its Support
to ITU for #ThinkFest*

6

*PHEC Holds 9th Meeting of
Foreign Post-Doc Fellowship*

7

*PHEC Deliberates on
American Foreign Policy
in Trump Era*

8

*PHEC Oversees Various
Development Projects in
Higher Education Sector*

10

*PHEC Organizes 2nd Annual
Multan Literary Festival*

12

*PHEC Disburses 47
International Travel Grants*

13

*PHEC Funds 14 Conference
and Workshops in 1st Quarter*

14

*PHEC Foreign PhD Scholars
Outshine*

16

Convocations

17

Snippets

18

Media Coverage

20

Editorial

The Editorial Board is pleased to publish its 8th issue of the PHEC Quarterly Newsletter at a time when PHEC is flourishing as an autonomous regulatory authority in Punjab under the visionary leadership of the Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin. This issue highlights various activities as well as projects of PHEC and its meticulous team. It highlights how these practices have been synergized into robust educational excellence.

Promoting technological education as per the Chief Minister Punjab's vision, PHEC has collaborated with various stakeholders to materialize the vision of developing Pakistan's first technological university under the name of Punjab Tianjin University of Technology (PTUT).

PHEC launches the first-ever "Capacity Building of Library Professionals" flagship project in Punjab under which library professionals from public sector universities to inculcate in them various teambuilding, leadership and communication capabilities.

In order to promote collaborations, dialogue and understanding, PHEC jointly organized a roundtable conference with the USAID under its Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN) where Vice Chancellors from 11 universities attended the conference. USAID's HESN supports innovative, scientific and technological approaches to the world's most challenging development problems by building partnerships with local universities to identify solutions to these problems.

Under its goal to promote critical thinking and understanding among the students and academia, PHEC has sponsored around 15 conferences recently such as the ThinkFest Lahore, Multan Literary Festival and the commemoration ceremony of Munno Bhai.

At the end, we all require your cooperation to make PHEC successful in its endeavours for the greater cause of higher education in Punjab.

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PHEC Launches “Capacity Building of Library Professionals” Project

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) has launched the first ever “Capacity Building of Library Professionals” project in Punjab under which library professionals from public sector universities and institutes will be trained in various professional skills, related to communication, leadership, and ICTs. Workshops and specialized training sessions will be conducted in various districts under this flagship program of PHEC. The maiden two-day training workshop was organized at Main Library University of The Punjab on “Communication and Leadership Skills”, during March 30-31, 2018. Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin graced the inaugural ceremony as chief guest. Vice Chancellor PU, Prof. Dr. Zakriya Zakir, Vice Chancellor Govt. Sadiq College for Women University Bahawalpur, Prof. Dr. Talat Afza, Vice Chancellor MNS-UET, Multan Dr. Amir Ijaz, Ex-VC GCU Dr. Khaleeq ur Rehman, Secretary Archive Punjab Mr. Tahir Yousaf,

Director General PHEC Dr. Shahid Soroya, Chief Librarian PU Dr. Haroon Usmani and library heads of different public sector universities and organizations participated in the inaugural session.

The day-1 sessions focused, specifically, on honing the communication skills of the library professionals and imparted training on varied topics which included;

“
The primary role of libraries is not to lend books for reading but also to offer a forum for discussion on various academic and national issues

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin

art and culture of communication, decision making, presentation skills and innovative practices in the library profession. The day-2 was dedicated to developing the leadership competencies of the library professionals. Eminent professors of the field delivered lectures on various dimensions of leadership and management.

Addressing the inaugural session, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin urged on the roll of libraries and said that there should be focus on building an effective information management system in libraries.

Dr. Nizamuddin said that networking of libraries could enhance the reader’s access to the shared resources and save their time. “We need to upgrade these centers of knowledge management to promote a reading and dialogue culture” he added. “There should be separate rooms for discussion in each library to encourage student-teacher interaction, debates and discussion on varied topics” he suggested.

Highlighting the prospects of the workshop, Dr. Nizam said that the training was more than a capacity building activity; it was also a platform for discussion to figure out the ways to make our libraries innovative, reader friendly and a center for excellence.



"We all are here to discuss how we can go ahead in this field", he said.

He also highlighted the various initiatives taken by PHEC to ameliorate the quality of higher education and research in the province. "We have launched first ever Indigenous Post-doctoral Scholarship program in the province to maximize the career opportunities for those who are unable to grab the opportunities abroad," Dr. Nizam said. "We are offering Split-PhD Scholarships; International Travel Grants; we are also launching international travel grants for students as well", he added.

Vice Chancellor PU Dr. Zakriya Zakir, stressing the role of library professionals in the production and dissemination of

scientific knowledge, opined that the scientific disciplines, in this globalized era, were being merged; professional boundaries across subjects were being diminished, we needed trained library professionals to cater the information needs of the different tiers of society. "We have the best scientists, but, due to poor communication mechanism, their scientific knowledge is not being disseminated properly; the role of a trained librarian is important in this context," he said.

Addressing the concluding session Chairperson PHEC Dr. Nizamuddin emphasized the innovative approach to cater the information needs of students. "The reading habits of the students are

rapidly changing due to the information and communication technologies (ICTs). The interest of our students is shifting towards e-braries; library professionals must abreast with these modern trends to best serve the knowledge-diggers and the concept of "cybraries" should be strengthened" he said. "Our libraries should serve as places for intellectual catharsis; discussions be encouraged for which dedicated rooms with multimedia facilities be there in each library" he added

Souvenirs and certificates were also distributed among the attendees of the training workshop.





PHEC in Collaboration with GCU, Organizes Condolence Reference on Munno Bhai

A condolence reference was organized on February 14th, 2018 at the Government College University Lahore under the auspices of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) to pay tribute to the services of eminent drama writer, columnist and poet Munir Ahmed Qureshi, popularly known as Munno Bhai.

Noted poet Amjad Islam Amjad, Art's Professor Ms. Salima Hashmi, playwright Asghar Nadeem Saeed, veteran human rights activist Mr. I.A. Rehman, columnist Tahir Sarwar Mir, GCU Lahore's Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, PHEC Chairperson Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, and close relatives and friends of Munno Bhai addressed the condolence reference held at the Bukhari Auditorium.

Highlighting unique qualities of Munno Bhai's life, I.A. Rehman described him as a person endowed with a rare knack to observe life and socio-political issues, which helped him write columns imbued with wisdom.

He pointed out that comprehending the literary and political writings of Munno Bhai in its true spirit requires decades of research and an unswerving quest for knowledge.

While cherishing his long friendship with Munno Bhai, famous drama writer Amjad Islam Amjad termed Munno Bhai's representation of art very inventive in its depiction of ideas. He presented harsh social realities in a humorous yet insightful way. "He was a master of soft-criticism and using this art he exposed different societal fissures of society," he added.

The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin paid a rich tribute to the philanthropic services

extended by Munno Bhai to mitigate the affliction of children suffering from Thalassemia and pledged to propagate his mission. "We will preserve his legacy and will continue his mission", he said.

Paying a tribute to Munno Bhai, Prof Hassan Amir Shah said that Munno Bhai must be a role model for the young journalists and writers. "He never tried to misuse his influence, rather used it for welfare of Thalassemia and Haemophilia in Pakistan," he concluded.

Asghar Nadeem Syed said that Munno Bhai was the most loved person in his contemporary literary circle. His dramas like "Sona Chandi" provided a window to the viewers to understand the sufferings a middle class family.



Salima Hashmi reminisced about Munno Bhai's friendship with her husband Shoaib Hashmi and father Faiz Ahmed Faiz. Paying tribute to him, Hashmi said that Munno Bhai was among a rare breed of humanists who had empathy for common man.



Vcs from 11 Universities Attend Roundtable Discussion Hosted by PHEC and USAID on Higher Education Solutions Network Program

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) jointly organized a roundtable conference of the vice chancellors. The discussion focused on USAID's Higher Education Solutions Network (HESN). Vice Chancellors and Rectors attended it from 11 leading public and private sector universities in Punjab. The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin chaired the session. The Provincial Director USAID Lea Swanson and Deputy Director Innovation & Partnership Unit Kanwal Bokharey represented USAID.

Among the participants were, Government College University Faisalabad, Government College University Lahore, Fatima Jinnah Medical University Lahore, Khawaja Farid University of Engineering and IT RYK, Lahore College for Women

University, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, University of Central Punjab, University of Education, University of Management and Technology, University of the Punjab, and University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences.

Participants learned about the USAID HESN program, a partnership between USAID and seven top U.S. universities, designed to channel the ingenuity of university students, researchers, and faculty towards global development. HESN has supported Development Labs at these U.S. universities to engage students, researchers and faculty in innovating scientific and technological approaches to the world's most

challenging development problems. "Through this program we hope to build partnerships with local universities to identify solutions to development challenges faced by Punjab that are efficient, cost-effective, accessible, and sustainable," said Ms. Swanson.

The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin emphasized the importance of research on development issues in order to address the challenges faced by Punjab. He added, "I hope that collaborations between universities in Punjab and the USAID would be further explored as a result of this roundtable."

The Vice Chancellors and Rectors shared ideas of how their institutions could collaborate through HESN and suggested new areas that can be explored via this program.





Punjab HEC and Pink Ribbon Pakistan Sign MoU to Spread Breast Cancer Awareness

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and Pink Ribbon, Pakistan (PRC) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Breast Cancer Awareness Campaign in the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) of the Punjab. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin Chairperson, PHEC and Mr. Omer Aftab, CEO, Pink Ribbon Pakistan signed the agreement. Senior PHEC and PRC officials attended the ceremony.

Through this MoU, PHEC will facilitate PRC in reaching out to its recognized public and private sector HEIs for creating widespread awareness on breast cancer incidence among Pakistani women, its impact on the life of the sufferer, and the detection of warning signs for an early diagnosis. PHEC will extend R&D, academic and technical support to PRC for breast cancer awareness through the provision of

human resource, facilities and outreach in partnership with HEIs in Punjab. Informational workshops and training sessions would be conducted, joint research projects on different aspects of cancer would be encouraged and institutions will be engaged to include breast cancer awareness section in relevant courses to support PRC.

Speaking on the occasion Chairperson PHEC remarked, "Breast cancer is a big social issue which needs immediate action. HEIs can play a critical role in spreading awareness about this disease and PHEC is committed to providing meaningful support to the success of this campaign by helping build these partnerships".

CEO Pink Ribbon, Mr. Aftab appreciated PHEC's efforts in supporting the cause of breast cancer awareness. He said that PRC is a self-

sustained organization, creating awareness among people about breast cancer in Pakistan since past 14 years. "Almost 40,000 women die each year in Pakistan due to breast cancer.

We strive to significantly reduce breast cancer mortality in the country by creating widespread awareness through community engagement on prevention, early detection and increased access to treatment. Currently, Pink Ribbon is in the process of setting up Pakistan's 1st Dedicated Breast Cancer Hospital to provide the best of facilities and environment to the patients" he added.

PHEC and Pink Ribbon will form a working group for assessment and formulation of an action plan for next five years.



PHEC Extends its Support to ITU for #ThinkFest

Under its goal to support collaborative efforts towards promoting a critical thinking and deliberations over the implications of important issues at both local and global levels, PHEC extended its support to Information Technology University (ITU) to jointly organize a two-day literary festival the “Afkar-e-Taza ThinkFest” which highlighted history, culture and the current global political debate.

#ThinkFest featured more than 35 talks as well as an art exhibition,

another exhibition focused on the 1947 Partition, screenings of documentaries and a few discussions in a smaller, more intimate setting. Day 1 started with Dr. Umar Saif (ITU) and Dr. Nizamuddin (PHEC) giving opening remarks. The festival brought together distinguished academics, writers, poets, artists, analysts, and performers from all over the world. The keynotes speakers

included Nobel Peace laureate, Tawakkol Karman and former Chairman of the Conservative Party, UK, Rt. Hon. Baroness Sayeeda Warsi.

Speaking about an urgent need to uphold human rights in the face of increasing inequality, racism and hatred, Tawakkol Karman Yemini, a Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, likened all dictators to

terrorists, she said that dictatorships hindered the way of peaceful change. “In the Muslim world, there is

no bigger terrorist than a dictator as they always block the means of peaceful change and create misunderstandings about Islam,” she said. “There is a need to demonstrate the true spirit of Islam, a nonviolent and peaceful religion, through tolerance, rule of law and love,” she remarked.

Baroness Sayeeda Warsi called for

There is a need to demonstrate the true spirit of Islam, a nonviolent and peaceful religion, through tolerance, rule of law and love,

Rt. Hon. Baroness Sayeeda Warsi



upholding principles in politics and other spheres of life to eliminate the current trend of hypocrisy in Muslim societies. Lamenting that the Muslims in Western societies were demanding rights, which in their countries of origin were being denied to the minorities, she said this hypocritical attitude would not serve any purpose. Stressing that the people should learn to agree to disagree, Ms Warsi, the chairperson of the Conservative Party of England, said, "My faith is about who I'm and not about who you are".

ITU Vice Chancellor Dr. Umar Saif, in his opening remarks highlighted the role

of democracy for a country. "We must question where we are going and what we can do in our personal capacity to put our country on the path of democracy for establishing an enlightened and



We need to promote culture, research and dialogue to talk more about history, politics and arts.

Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin



progressive society through profound, deep and delicate exercise to contribute to narrative and counter narrative. Thinkers and intellectuals should determine and articulate during the

discourse to set the goals for the country."

The Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin urged upon all the universities of the province to develop a culture of discussion and debate as initiated by the Information Technology University. "We needed to promote culture, research and dialogue and to talk more about history, politics and arts. No research is complete without academic linkages with other institutions across the globe," Dr. Nizamuddin maintained.

PHEC Holds 9th Meeting of Foreign Post-doc Fellowship Committee



In order to keep abreast its scholars with the latest global trends in their academic fields and sharpen their research skills, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) is offering various foreign scholarships and fellowship opportunities to the faculty members of public sector colleges and universities. Foreign Post-doctoral fellowship is one such capacity building initiative by the PHEC, through which the eligible aspirants undergo a rigorous selection process

and successful ones are offered 9-12 months fellowship in top 300 universities according to the QS World University Rankings 2018. The fellowships are fully funded which include university bench fee, return airfare, living stipend, research allowance and health insurance.

The 9th meeting of the Post-doc Committee held on March 14, 2018, to select the fellows for the second phase. The meeting was chaired by

Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin. More than a hundred applications were scrutinized to fill the 40 slots.

The selection process has been completed and the award letters are being issued after fulfilling all formalities. In the first phase, a total of 55 faculty members were awarded post-doc fellowships to pursue their research activities in the top-ranked universities of the world.



PHEC Deliberates on American Foreign Policy in Trump Era

The Punjab Higher Education Commission organized a lecture and panel discussion on “American Foreign Policy in the Age of Trump and its implications for Pakistan” to encourage dialogue among the academia and students.

Pakistan needs to make rational decisions regarding its foreign policy after the Trump statement about Pakistan. Pakistan and United States’ interests are interdependent so there should not be any hasty decisions. This was said by Chairperson PHEC) Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin.

Renowned Professor and President of American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS) Dr. Farhat Haq, VC GCU Lahore Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, VC UoE Lahore Dr. Rauf-e-Azam, VC Govt Sadiq College for Women University, Bahawalpur, Dr. Talat Afzal, political analyst Salman Abid, and Dr. Kamran Asdar Ali were among the panellists. Mr. Ajmal Jami, renowned journalist was the moderator.

Delivering the keynote speech, Dr.

Farhat Haq while commenting on the Trump policy for South Asia, especially Pakistan, said, “Trump’s policy is reflective of his obsession coupled with his notions of ethnocentrism”. She added that Trump’s behaviour is proving to be dysfunctional for US relations with its allies.

Ms. Haq further said that there were voices within the US policy makers and common masses that regarded his policy infantile and against the interests of United States.

She urged to create a pool of social scientists and humanists to discuss the wider implications of Trump’s policy for the world.

The Vice Chancellor GCU Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah said that there were many voices within the United States, which considered Trump’s statement against Pakistan as inappropriate. “People in US’ policy corridors, as we hear from the media, are criticizing Trump policy and recognizing the role of Pakistan in the war against terrorism,” Dr Shah said.

Addressing the event, the Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin urged that a rational approach should be adopted while reacting to the statement of the US President. “The interests of the two countries have long been associated with each other, they have huge strategic stakes, trade relations, and are allies on war against terrorism,” Dr. Nizamuddin emphasized.

He added that ground realities must be considered, an irresponsible move could cost us economically. Dr. Nizam proposed, in collaboration with American Institute of Pakistan Studies (AIPS), a Centre for Research and Policy Development in Pakistan to address socio-political issues.



Discussing the options to counter the Trump policy against Pakistan, political analyst Salman Abid emphasized on the adoption of policies to ensure economic stability curtailing civil-military trust deficit, sustained foreign policy rather than a reactionary approach, and strengthening of diplomacy and think

tanks. “We need to strengthen our ties with our neighbours, instead of an outrageous policy, we should think on pragmatic and symbiotic lines”, he added.

Vice Chancellor GSCWU, Dr Talat Afzal also spoke at the event. This event was

organized by the Media & Publications Department of the Punjab Higher Education Commission. Deans attended it and faculty members of Lahore based universities, DGs and senior PHEC officers, about 200 students from 7 universities and a large number of public.





PHEC Oversees Various Development Projects in Higher Education Sector

Planning and Development (P&D) department of PHEC is responsible for providing guidance for the planning process and to ensure the development needs of the PHEC as well as public sector universities of the Punjab. It also oversees the development projects of higher education sector funded through Annual Development Program (ADP) and Government of the Punjab. The P&D department is also maintaining the key statistics of public and private sector HEIs in Punjab.

Major P&D Activities Performed by PHEC

Expansion of Community Colleges Project in Punjab

Punjab Higher Education Commission, (PHEC) in collaboration with Higher Education Department (HED), launched a pilot Community Colleges Pilot Program (CCPP) in Pakistan's Punjab province. A development scheme has been reflected in ADP 2017-18 with an allocation of Rs. 20.00 million. P&D Department successfully prepared a PC-I of the scheme amounting Rs. 96.228 million and submitted to HED. The scheme was approved by DDSC in its meeting held on December 26, 2017 at a total cost of Rs. 96.228 million. The administrative approval was issued on February 02, 2018 for 36 months implementation period. P&D Department has initiated the release process of the scheme and requested HED for release of allocated amount.

Preparation and Submission of PC-II Regarding Promotion of Science Education

To address the problems of Science education and cope with the global challenges in this field, a development scheme has been reflected in ADP 2017-18 with an allocation of Rs. 50.00 million to conduct the feasibility study for promotion of Science education in

the Province. P&D Department has successfully prepared a PC-II of the scheme amounting Rs. 50.000 million and submitted to HED in November, 2017. Approval process of the scheme has been started and Pre-PDWP meeting of the scheme was held on January 04, 2018.

Inauguration of Punjab Tianjin University of Technology Lahore

As per the directions of Chief Minister Punjab, Planning & Development Department of PHEC has worked closely with TEVTA for establishment of Technical University in Lahore in collaboration with Tianjin University of Technology, China. The inauguration ceremony was held on 23rd day of March 2018. The Chief Minister of

Punjab was the chief guest of the ceremony. He appreciated the efforts of all the stakeholders to materialize the vision of developing Pakistan's first ever Technology university.





PHEC Envisages for Up-gradation of GCT Rasul College into Technology University

Planning and Development department of PHEC is working as the focal point for up-gradation of Government College of Technology (GCT), Rasul into “Technology University, Rasul” at Mandi Bahauddin. Summary of the university has already been approved by the Chief Minister, Punjab.

P&D department of PHEC is closely collaborating with TEVTA, Industries

Department, UET Lahore and with GCT Rasul in preparation of Act of the university, proposed disciplines of the university and other documents. In this regard P&D Department arranged various meetings with all the stakeholders of the university.

P&D Department has prepared an Act of the University and forwarded to Industries, Commerce & Investment

Department for further processing and approval.

A development scheme (PC-I) of the University amounting to Rs. 2,165.192 million has also been prepared and forwarded to TEVTA, Punjab for approval of the scheme in February 2018.

PHEC Conducts Meetings and Onsite Visits to Proposed New Varsities

Besides provision of quality education at par with global standards, PHEC has also a focus on maximizing the learning avenues and easing access to higher education in the province. For this purpose, PHEC envisages establishing various new universities:

i. The University of Khushab by up-grading the University of Education sub-campus at Jauharabad and PMAS-Arid Agriculture University sub-campus at Khushab.

ii. Sub-Campus of the University of Gujrat at Lalamusa by merging the Government Degree College, Lalamusa and Government I.D. Janjua College for Women, Lalamusa.

Planning & Development department of PHEC has drafted the Charter / Act of the proposed “University of Khushab” as per the Provincial Government criteria and forwarded it to Secretary HED in February 2018.

Similarly, for Sub-Campus of the University of Gujrat, a team comprising of PHEC and HED officials conducted an onsite visit of Government Degree College, Lalamusa and

Government I.D. Janjua College for Women, Lalamusa on March 28, 2018, to ascertain the present situation of both the colleges.





PHEC Organizes 2nd Annual Multan Literary Festival at Multan

Punjab Higher Education Commission with the collaboration of Inter University Consortium for the Promotion of Social Sciences, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, National Book Foundation Pakistan, Radio Pakistan, Multan Tea House, Multan Arts Council, Academy of Letters Islamabad, Multan Chamber of Commerce, Muhammad Nawaz Sharif Agriculture University Multan, University of Education Multan campus, and other leading literary organizations organized a two-day annual festival named "Second Multan Literary Festival" on 21-22nd February, 2018.

Inaugurating the literary festival Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin urged the need of organizing such festivals on monthly basis. He added that if the education

institutions were unable in providing literary festival activities to youth, they could get involved in negative activities. He assured that the PHEC would continue its support to higher education institutions in holding such activities in future to promote curricular activities in universities. He congratulated the organizers for successful holding of this annual mega event.

Speaking on the occasion BZU vice chancellor Prof. Dr. Tahir Amin said there was a need to strengthen culture on strong footings, "The prime objective of holding the second consecutive Literary Festival is transferring Multan's ancient history, culture and traditions to the next generations" he added. He said the second MLF provided an opportunity to local writers, poets, intellectuals, calligraphers to introduce their work among youth.

The second Multan Literary Festival attracted the youth with rich centuries' old art, culture and literature of Multan, one of the oldest city of world. Session with the young women writers

of South Punjab and Role of Women in Promotion of Arts, Culture and Literature was highly appreciated and other segments like Wasebi Aman Mushaira, Book Launching Ceremony, Dialogue with the Minorities of South Punjab and Role of Business Community for the Promotion of Arts, Culture & Literature was the center of attraction for the youth.

Moreover, Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin also inaugurated an exhibition. The exhibition was the attraction for the students due to the display of rich and ancient culture and embroidery of Multan like the handmade art of Naqasshi, traditional pottery work, calligraphy, traditional foods and books stalls.





PHEC Disburses 47 International Travel Grants (ITGs) from Jan-March

PHEC is striving to enhance quality of higher education in Punjab. Various initiatives have been taken by PHEC in last 2 years. One of the major initiatives is the launch of International Travel Grant (ITG) Program.

ITGs provide opportunities to our students, faculty members and other academic staff to present their research work at various international forums all around the world. These grants are not just about academics, it is much more than presenting research findings in a conference. ITGs foster collaborations and encourage the applicants for indulging in research activities.

The International Travel Grant is an acknowledgement of the research work done by our faculty members/PhD scholars and it provides more avenues and further opportunities for expanding the area of research in new directions. These grants are also hugely important for promoting the healthy competition among our researchers. Researchers visit other countries and get to know

different culture, language, food etc. This international exposure also provides networking opportunities with like-minded people.

Punjab HEC awards ITGs every month. ITG program has been successfully running since 2016. Till date PHEC has

Till date PHEC has granted over 300 ITGs

granted over 300 ITGs. The application for ITG is evaluated by an International Travel Grant Reviewing Committee. Each application is thoroughly reviewed before a decision is made on that application.

Various parameter are considered including scope of the conference, repute of the organizers, professional standing of invited resource persons and keynote speakers, relevance of the conference with the applicant's professional career, relevance of the

paper with current job description of the applicant, previous presentations in foreign conferences/seminars and research/publication track of the applicant in peer reviewed journals. ITGs are fully funded. These include airfare, registration fee, accommodation charges and daily allowance as per PHEC rules and policies. PHEC has also taken the initiative of granting 70% of the awarded money in advance so that the scholar can have all pre-departure arrangements smoothly.

PHEC has conducted three meetings of the International Travel Grant Reviewing Committee from Jan to March 2018. A total 47 travel grants have been awarded in this period. The awardees have presented their research work in different countries including Malaysia, Turkey, South Africa, England, Scotland, Spain, France, USA, Canada and Australia, Austria, Canada, Singapore, France, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ireland, Russia, Spain, Croatia, Sweden, Italy, Germany, South Africa, Morocco.



PHEC Funds 14 Conferences and Workshops in 1st Quarter

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) is determined to promote a culture of research in the province through patronizing seminars, workshops and conference by higher education institutions (HEIs) of Punjab. For this purpose, it is funding generously: for international conference

a funding of up to 1.000 million is granted whereas a support of upto Rs. .02 million is provided for national events.

PHEC has funded 14 national and international level conferences and workshops during January-March,

2018. These events provide students with opportunities to interact with the local and international experts, academicians and scholars of their fields, share the knowledge, and improve their understanding about the latest research methodologies and theoretical boundaries of their fields.

Sr. No.	Event	Organized by	Duration	Conference Title
1	International Conference	Sargodha Medical College	January 05-07, 2018	Future Medication 2018; Challenges to Health for all; Medical Updates & Innovations
2	International Conference	University of the Punjab	January 17-18, 2018	Changing Regional Political Dynamics in South Asia
3	Workshop	Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi	January 22-26, 2018	Workshop on Women in Leadership & Management Opportunities and Challenges
4	International Conference	Government College University, Lahore	January 29-31, 2018	15th National Symposium on Frontiers in Physics
5	International Conference	University of the Lahore	February 19-21, 2018	International Conference on Advancements in Computational Sciences
6	International Conference	Lahore College for Women University	February 21-23, 2018	The Role of Mysticism in Establishing Harmony and Peaceful Coexistence
7	International Conference	Superior University, Lahore	February 22-23, 2018	2018 International Conference on Engineering and Emerging Technologies

Sr. No.	Event	Organized by	Duration	Conference Title
8	International Conference	Lahore Garrison University	March 13-15, 2018	1st International Conference on English Language, Literature, Education and Society
9	International Conference	University of Education, Lahore	March 15-16, 2018	6th International Conference on Education, Science beyond classroom
10	National Conference	University of Management and Technology, Lahore	March 16-17, 2018	Promoting Mental Health in Schools: A way forward
11	International Conference	University of Management and Technology	March 19-20, 2018	International Conference on Action Research in Multidisciplinary Perspectives of IT, Social and Business Sciences (ICARMP-2018)
12	International Conference	University of the Punjab	March 20-21, 2018	Governance, Management & HR: Strategic Directions
13	International Conference	GCU Faisalabad	March 21-22, 2018	1st Pakistan Halal Assembly-2018 & Pak China Agriculture Forum and Nutrition Expo
14	International Conference	MNS University of Agriculture, Multan	March 22-23, 2018	Sino-Pakistan Horticultural Conference

Glimpses from International Conferences



University of the Punjab

Governance, Management & HR Strategic Directions



University of the Punjab

Changing Regional Political Dynamics in South Asia



University of Management and Technology

Promoting Mental Health in Schools: A Way Forward



Lahore Garrison University

Conference on English Language, Literature, Education and Society

PHEC Foreign Phd Scholars Outshine in their Foreign Universities



A paper titled 'Understanding the variation in MBA student's experiences of using Learning Technology' by Ahmad Timsal, PHEC Scholar at Lancaster University UK got accepted for the 11th International Conference on Networked Learning. The conference is scheduled to be held on 14-16 May 2018 at Zagreb, Croatia. Research is being conducted under the supervision of Professor Vivien Hodgson and Dr. Uzair Shah.



Mustabsar Awais, PHEC Scholar at University of Sheffield, UK presented a paper titled 'Understanding the pulse of the Market, during Mergers & Acquisitions - Investigating how Social Media affects financial markets' at the 31st Annual Conference of British Academy of Management, held at Warwick Business School UK.



A paper titled "The Role of Researcher's Positionality in the Creation of Knowledge" by Faiza Tayyab, PHEC Scholar at University of Leeds, UK got accepted for the 4th World Conference on Women's Studies (WCWS 2018), scheduled to be held on 03rd- 05th May 2018 at Colombo, Sri Lanka. WCWS 2018 is being hosted by the Bridgewater State University, United States and is organized by The International Institute of Knowledge Management (TIKM), Sri Lanka in collaboration with Nepal Center for Contemporary Research, Nepal and Rikkyo University, Japan as the academic partners of the conference.



Jawad Kadir, PHEC Scholar at Lancaster University, UK has published his first article in "Pakistan Horizon", a journal of The Pakistan Institute of International Affairs (PIIA). Jawad wrote his second article in the same journal with the title "Trump's Tweet: The Denial Factor". Jawad has now published his third article in PIIA Library Blog titled "Raymond Davis's New Book: An Old Device for Defamation".



Syed Muhammad Ahmad Hassan Gillani, PHEC Scholar at Universiti Teknologi Malaysia presented his paper titled "Review of Corporate Governance Practices and Financial Distress Prediction" at 3rd ASIA International Conference held in Kuala Lumpur Malaysia. He also participated and successfully completed "3 Minute Thesis Competition" held in UTM Malaysia. Three Minute Thesis (3MT®) celebrates the exciting research conducted by PhD students around the world. Developed by The University of Queensland (UQ), the competition cultivates students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills.



Muhammad Danyal Khan is pursuing his PhD degree in Brunel University, UK became finalist in 3 Minutes Thesis Competition held at Brunel University London. His thesis title is "Human Rights Treatment For Paradox Between Right To Health (Access To Lifesaving Medicines) And Globalization Of Pharmaceutical Patents". Danyal also presented his paper titled "regime under trips agreement 1994 and its impacts on health in pakistan; a case study of pharmaceutical industry" at 7th Academic International Conference on Interdisciplinary Legal Studies held at Harvard University on 20-21 November 2018.



Muhammad Saeed Nasir is pursuing his PhD degree in University of Aberdeen, UK presented his paper titled "Reshaping Distorted Identity of Saraiki Region in Intersections" at University of Glasgow College of Arts International PG Conference, UK. Saeed Nasir presented his second paper titled "Teaching Samuel Beckett and the Other" in College English Association 49th Annual Conference St. Petersburg, Florida. Saeed then presented his third paper titled "Watt seeking Ultima Thule: Mysticism in Work in Samuel Beckett: Literature and Translation" in conference at University of Extremadura — Cáceres (Spain).

CONVOCATIONS



Govt. College Township, Lahore



University of Education, Lahore



Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore



Lahore College for Women University, Lahore



Hailey College of Commerce, Punjab University, Lahore

SNIPPETS



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin Chairing the 12th Commission Meeting, held at PHEC Secretariat



Chairperson PHEC met with Nobel Peace laureate, Ms. Tawakkol Karman



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin chairing a meeting on admission of Balochistan students in HEIs of Punjab



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin met with Rear Admiral of Pakistan Navy Naveed Ahmed Rizvi



The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin met with Punjab Minister for Schools Rana Mashood Ahmad Khan regarding curriculum development of Punjab Tianjin University of Technology

SNIPPETS



International Conference on "Changing Regional Political Dynamics in South Asia" at the University of the Punjab.



The Minister for Higher Education Punjab Syed Raza Ali Gillani chaired the second syndicate meeting of Ghazi University, DG Khan on video link at PHEC secretariat



A convention of Focal Persons on drugs "International Standards on Drugs use Prevention", organized by Drug Advisory Training Hub and Youth Council for Anti Narcotics in collaboration with PHEC was held at Lahore College for Women University



Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin inaugurated the first annual book fair of University of Education at Township Lahore.



The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin chairing a meeting at Government College Township, Lahore.



The Chairperson PHEC met with a delegation from University of Lahore



The Chairperson PHEC participated in the traffic awareness campaign of City Traffic Police Lahore



The Chairperson PHEC meets with Federal Minister for Maritime Affairs Chaudhry Jaffar Iqbal



PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

STUDENTS / PARENTS ALERT

All the Private Sector Universities/Institutes chartered by Government of the Punjab are directed to stop the receipt of any **hidden charges** in the name of various activities. Otherwise legal action will be taken against them as per Government rules and regulations.

پنجاب ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن



طلبہ اور والدین متوجہ ہوں!

حکومت پنجاب سے چارٹرڈ تمام پرائیویٹ یونیورسٹیوں / اعلیٰ تعلیمی اداروں کو ہدایت کی جاتی ہے کہ وہ طلبہ و طالبات سے مختلف قسم کی سرگرمیوں کے نام پر پوشیدہ واجبات کی وصولی فی الفور روک دیں۔ بصورت دیگر حکومت پنجاب کے قوانین و ضوابط کے تحت ان کے خلاف قانونی کارروائی عمل میں لائی جائے گی۔

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