




QUARTERLY **NEWSLETTER**

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PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

A photograph of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, a man with a beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit and a striped tie. He is standing at a wooden podium, speaking into a microphone. The background is dark and out of focus.

"Empowering Pakistan's Human Potential: The Urgent Need for Quality Education and Healthcare"

The Human Resource Development Index (HRDI) is a composite index that measures the level of development of human resources in a country based on indicators such as education, health, and income. A low HRDI indicates that a country needs to improve its human resource development to enhance its overall development. Unfortunately, Pakistan's Human Resource Development Index (HRDI) has been relatively low, ranking 154 out of 189 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI). This suggests that there is significant room for improvement in the country's human development.

One of the major factors contributing to Pakistan's low HRDI is the lack of access to quality education and healthcare. Additionally, the country faces significant economic challenges, such as high levels of poverty, unemployment, and income inequality.

To improve Pakistan's HRDI, it is crucial to focus on improving access to quality education and healthcare, promoting economic growth and job creation, and reducing poverty and inequality. This requires concerted efforts from the government, civil society organizations, and the private sector. By addressing these challenges, Pakistan can work towards a more equitable and prosperous future for all its citizens.

Higher education can play a crucial role in improving this situation. Improving the quality of higher education, ensuring accessibility, and preparing a skillful and employable youth are all essential factors for achieving this goal. In this regard the strategic planning by universities is vigorously required. Universities should develop plans to improve the quality of education, provide equal opportunities for all students, and enhance the employability of graduates. Such planning should also focus on research and innovation, which can contribute significantly to the economic development of the country.

For the purpose, good governance is a prerequisite for the effective implementation of such plans. Universities need to have transparent and accountable management, which involves all stakeholders, including students, faculty, staff, and the community. The leadership of universities should be capable of formulating and executing strategic plans, managing resources effectively, and ensuring quality education and research.

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) has taken a commendable initiative for capacity building of faculty first offices and vice-chancellors to face the 21st century challenges. This will help ensure that the leaders of universities have the necessary skills and knowledge to manage and govern effectively. This initiative can also help create a culture of good governance in universities, which can contribute to their overall development and, ultimately, the development of the country. PHEC is determined to promote higher education and uplift the standard of Higher Education in the province.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir
Chairperson- PHEC

EDITORIAL NOTE

"Empowering the Workforce: The Critical Role of Human Resource Development in Pakistan's Economic and Social Development"

Human resource development refers to the process of promoting the skills based, knowledge, and abilities of individuals to improve their efficiency, employability, and overall well-being within a society, organization, or country. It involves various activities, such as training, education, and development programs, aimed at improving the overall capacity and productivity of the workforce. In the context of higher education, human resource development involves providing students with the necessary knowledge and skills to succeed in their chosen careers. Given the economic meltdown of Pakistan, HRD is critical for the country's economic as well as social development.

Punjab Higher Education Commission focuses on various aspects of HRD, including improving the quality of education, enhancing research and innovation, promoting academic excellence, and ensuring equitable access to education for all. PHEC has also initiated several programs and policies to enhance the employability of graduates and to support entrepreneurship and innovation. In this perceptive the PHEC has launched several initiatives such as providing scholarships to students from low-income families, establishing new universities and colleges, and promoting research activities. By doing so, PHEC aims to increase the employability of graduates and improve the overall human resource development in Punjab.

Additionally, PHEC collaborates with universities and colleges to develop and implement policies and programs aimed at improving the quality of education in the province. This includes initiatives to enhance the teaching and research capabilities by providing funding for research projects, post-doctoral fellowship and supporting faculty development programs. This helps to ensure that graduates have the necessary skills and knowledge to contribute effectively to the workforce and society. which ultimately contributes to the overall human resource development of the region

Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja
Editor-in-Chief



ZAINAB AMIN:

Student from Sri Lanka studying Pharm D. at Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi says that the faculty at her university is knowledgeable and approachable. She enjoys the cultural diversity of Pakistan and has learned a lot about Pakistani culture through various events organized by the university. She has also participated in various extracurricular activities, such as sports and debate competitions, and has made many friends from different cultures. She finds the people in Pakistan to be warm and welcoming.



NAZIR ADEN:

Student from Somalia studying at the BZU, says that the faculty is top-notch. He appreciates the emphasis on practical, hands-on learning and feels that the professors are always willing to go the extra mile to help their students. He enjoys the cultural activities organized by the university and has made many friends from different parts of the country. Ahmed also finds the people of Pakistan to be friendly and hospitable.

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The Chancellor and Chairperson PHEC lead energy consortium to **solve energy problems through academia and industry linkage**

The honorable Governor Punjab / Chancellor Engr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, chaired a meeting of the Committee / Consortium on "Theme IV: Promotion of Technologies & Technology Intensive Solution-Research & Scholarship on Energy, Sub-Theme -I: Energy" on February 28, 2023 at Governor House Lahore. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Convener of the Consortium / Chairperson PHEC briefed the Honorable Governor / Chancellor about the progress of the committee. The main objective of the consortium was to generate research-based recommendations to address energy issues and present them to the government and other relevant organizations. At the meeting, all attendees stressed the significance of involving university students and professors in national policies and establishing a successful connection between academia and industry. The Governor instructed all Vice Chancellors to conduct public awareness campaigns on energy conservation through students and to initiate projects to build small power plants for resolving the energy crisis. He also emphasized the importance of collaborating with relevant institutions in policy-making by conducting university research on alternative energy sources such as solar power, wind energy, and electricity generated from waste.

Meeting was also attended by other members of committee / consortium include the Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector GIKI Swabi, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Bilal Khan, VC, University of Chakwal, Prof. Dr. M. Kamran, VC MNS UET Multan, Prof. Dr. M. Suleman Tahir, VC KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan, Prof. Dr. M. Inayatullah Khan, VC UET Taxila, Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, University of Education, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Waqar Mahmood, Director KICS Nominee of VC UET Lahore, Dr. Rizwan Haider, Assistant Professor, University of Punjab.



Pak-UK Education Gateway Program delegation visits Queen Mary University of London

On a visit to Queen Mary University of London, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was a part of a delegation from the Higher Education Commission (HEC) under the Pak-UK Education Gateway Program. The purpose of the visit was to gain insights into the successes achieved by universities in the UK and understand how they had achieved them. The group also aimed to observe how universities had succeeded internationally and to examine the role of governance and academic governance, financial strategies, enhancing the student experience, and developing research that would have a significant impact. Additionally, the delegation aimed to provide feedback and advice from the UK sector for universities in Pakistan and the policy framework, including TNE in Pakistan.



Chairperson PHEC, attended the training session on **UNIVERSITY-INDUSTRY LINKAGES & TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER** and had a meeting with CEO British Council Scot McDonald and Madlin in London at the British Council head office

Chairperson PHEC, meets with prominent figures during visit to Manchester to discuss **HIGHER EDUCATION AND POLICY**

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, along with his delegation, visited Manchester to attend several meetings. They met with the Mayor of Manchester, former Mayor, Mr. Afzal Khan MP, Mr. Tariq Wazir, Pakistan Counsel General in Manchester, Chancellor University of Manchester, Joanne Purves, Pro-Vice Chancellor of Salford University, Annie Brunt, Director International Office of Manchester Metropolitan University, and Prof. Zubair Hanslot, University Provost, University of Bolton. Additionally, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir attended a session on "Transnational Education Policy" at the University of Salford, along with Prof. Dr. Tariq Rafi, Chairman Sindh HEC, Prof. Dr. Iqrar Ahmad Khan, Chairman VC Committee, HEC, and several Vice Chancellors who were also present at the seminar.



TRAINING SESSION ON **QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM** IN HIGHER EDUCATION in London

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended a training session on quality assurance systems in higher education at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel London Kensington. The session was designed to provide insights and strategies for ensuring quality in higher education institutions, including best practices for curriculum development, teaching methodologies, and assessment processes. As a leading advocate for promoting higher education and research in Pakistan, Dr. Munir has been actively involved in supporting the development of quality assurance systems in universities and academic institutions. His participation in the training session is a testament to his commitment to promoting best practices and ensuring that Pakistani universities meet international standards of excellence. After the training session, Dr. Munir presented traditional Chitrali shawls and caps to the trainers as a gesture of appreciation for their valuable insights and guidance. The Chitrali shawl is a traditional garment from the Chitral district of Pakistan and is often worn to represent the region's unique culture and heritage.





TRAINING SESSION ON **INTERNATIONALIZATION & UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE** IN LONDON

On a professional development trip, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, attended a training session at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel in London. The training session covered a range of topics related to university governance, leadership, and internationalization.

The themes discussed during the training session included university strategic planning and governance, core leadership skills for senior academics to enhance their professional growth, the role of governing and academic bodies in strengthening university autonomy, performance, and advocacy, enhancing the internationalization of universities through a strategy for global engagement, enhancing the student experience, up-scaling alumni engagement programs, quality assurance and enhancement of university programs to bring them at par with international standards, research for impact and development, university-industry/community linkages, and transnational education.

The training session aimed to equip participants with valuable insights into the best practices adopted by universities worldwide to enhance their performance and impact. The training session also provided an opportunity for Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir to interact with international academic experts and learn from their experiences.



Chairperson PHEC visited the **UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW**

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), is actively working to strengthen academic collaboration between Pakistan and the UK. His visit to the University of Glasgow was a significant part of this effort. During his visit, he met with the university's senior management, including the Vice-Chancellor, to discuss ways to enhance the internationalization of universities through a strategy for global engagement.

The meeting focused on promoting academic collaboration, research partnerships, and student and faculty exchange programs between Pakistani and Scottish universities. The discussions aimed to develop strategies that could enhance the internationalization of universities, a crucial aspect of promoting academic excellence and innovation.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also interacted with the faculty and students at the University of Glasgow and learned about their academic programs and research initiatives. He praised the university's commitment to promoting excellence in teaching and research and expressed his desire to explore ways to enhance academic collaboration between the University of Glasgow and Pakistani universities.

This visit is a significant step towards promoting academic cooperation and partnership between Pakistan and the UK. Developing strategies to enhance the internationalization of universities is essential for promoting academic excellence and innovation. It is expected that this visit will pave the way for increased academic cooperation and exchange between the two countries, which will benefit both Pakistan and Scotland in the long run.

Overall, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's visit to the University of Glasgow demonstrates the PHEC's commitment to enhancing academic collaboration and partnership with Scottish universities. This effort is expected to open up new opportunities for Pakistani and Scottish universities to collaborate and learn from each other's experiences, contributing to the overall development of the academic sector in both countries.



Academic Exchange and Collaboration:

Pakistani Students and Faculty at University of Strathclyde Engage with Delegation from Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), led a delegation on a visit to the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland. During the visit, Prof. Dr. Munir had a productive meeting with Pakistani students and faculty members who are currently studying and working at the University of Strathclyde.

The meeting provided an opportunity for Prof. Dr. Munir and the delegation to engage with Pakistani students and faculty members and discuss various matters related to their academic and research pursuits. The delegation received valuable insights and feedback from the Pakistani students and faculty members, which will help inform and shape the future policies and initiatives of PHEC.

The University of Strathclyde is a leading institution in Scotland that has established a strong reputation for excellence in research, teaching and innovation. The meeting with Pakistani students and faculty members at the university underscores the importance of building and strengthening academic ties between Pakistan and the United Kingdom, and highlights the potential for collaboration in areas of mutual interest and benefit.



HEC delegation explores **academic collaboration opportunities** during visit to **University of Oxford**

On the third day of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) delegation's visit to the UK, The Chairman HEC advised the chairperson PHEC to lead the delegation to the University of Oxford. The visit aimed to explore new avenues for academic collaboration and partnership between Pakistani universities and the world-renowned University of Oxford.

During the visit, the delegation held productive discussions with senior officials from the University of Oxford, exploring various areas of mutual interest, including academic collaboration, student and faculty exchange programs, and joint research initiatives. The visit also provided an excellent opportunity to learn about the University's rich history and iconic landmarks.

The delegation's visit to the University of Oxford is a vital step in strengthening academic ties between Pakistan and the UK. It is expected to pave the way for increased academic cooperation and exchange between the two countries in the future.

Overall, the visit to the University of Oxford was a fruitful experience for the HEC delegation, and the Chairperson of PHEC played a crucial role in leading the delegation and facilitating productive discussions with officials from the University of Oxford. The visit highlights the importance of building strong partnerships between Pakistani higher education institutions and their international counterparts, which will lead to academic excellence and innovation in Pakistan.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Presents on 'Research for Impact and Development' to Engaged Delegation



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), gave a presentation on "Research for Impact and Development" to a delegation of interested participants.

The presentation covered a wide range of topics related to research and its impact on development. Prof. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of research in promoting economic and social development, and highlighted some of the key challenges and opportunities in this area.

He also discussed some of the current trends and best practices in research, including the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration, the use of data and analytics, and the need for effective dissemination of research findings. Overall, the presentation provided valuable insights into the role of research in promoting development, and highlighted some of the key strategies and approaches that researchers and policy makers can use to maximize their impact. The participants of the delegation found the presentation to be informative and engaging, and they were grateful for the opportunity to learn from an expert in the field.

Recognizing Leadership in Academic Collaboration: British Council Honors PHEC Chairperson for Pakistan-UK Education Gateway Visit



At the conclusion of the Pakistan-UK Education Gateway visit, the British Council presented a souvenir to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), in recognition of his leadership and contribution to promoting academic and research collaborations between Pakistan and the United Kingdom.

The visit, which took place in Glasgow at the Double Tree by Hilton Hotel, aimed to strengthen and deepen academic ties between Pakistan and the United Kingdom, particularly in the areas of research, innovation and knowledge exchange. It provided a platform for Pakistani and British academics to engage with each other and explore potential areas of collaboration.

During the visit, Prof. Dr. Munir played a key role in facilitating the delegation's engagement with British academic and research institutions, and in promoting Pakistani universities as potential partners for collaboration. The British Council's gesture of presenting a souvenir to Prof. Dr. Munir reflects the appreciation and recognition of his contributions to the success of the visit.

The souvenir is a symbolic reminder of the partnership and collaboration between Pakistan and the United Kingdom in the field of education and research. It is hoped that such initiatives will continue to foster greater understanding and collaboration between the academic communities of both countries, and promote excellence in education and research.

PHEC Hosts Two-Day Training on Procurement Management for Public Sector Universities

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) hosted a two-day (30-31 January 2023) Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training program on "Procurement Management" for Treasurers, Procurement heads, Directors Planning and Development, and Resident Auditors serving at public sector universities in Punjab. The training was attended by 85 participants and was conducted by noted trainer, Dr. Irfan Ahmad, Principal at the Institute of Tender Management in Lahore and Chairman of the Pakistan Procurement Association. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC graced the inaugural and concluding sessions of the training program.

The training aimed to provide participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively and efficiently manage the procurement process, with a focus on transparency, accountability, and compliance with the laws and regulations governing procurement in Pakistan. The training covered a range of topics including understanding legal and regulatory requirements, developing effective tender documents, advertising tenders, evaluating bids, and awarding contracts. Additionally, participants learned about the selection of suppliers, negotiation strategies, and contract management.

Addressing on this occasion, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC said, "for consistent performance, continued development of professional competencies are exigent. The aim of the PHEC is to improve governance and ease processes at universities. By providing training and development opportunities to Treasurers, Directors of Procurement, and Resident Auditors, the PHEC aims to ensure that these individuals have the knowledge and skills necessary to effectively manage the procurement process. The ultimate goal of the training was to ensure that the tendering process is conducted in a fair, transparent, and cost-effective manner that results in the best value for the organization. The PHEC hopes that the knowledge and skills acquired through this training will be put to good use by the participants, ultimately leading to an improvement in procurement management within the public sector universities of Punjab.

The PHEC's professional development efforts are focused on ensuring that universities in Punjab are well-governed, efficient, and able to provide the highest quality education to their students.



Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training program on "Outcome Based Education"



Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) organized a one-day Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training program on "Outcome Based Education" for Directors Quality Enhancement Cells (QECs) serving at public and private sector universities in Punjab. The training workshop held on Monday, March 20, 2023 at 3rd floor, Auditorium, Arfa Software Technology Park, Lahore. 40 Directors QECs from Public and Private Universities attended the training workshop.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Imran and Prof. Dr. Fahad Noor delivered the training sessions. The training was aimed at equipping participants with the necessary skills and understanding to design and implement OBE-based programs, create effective assessment strategies, enhance pedagogical practices, promote continuous improvement, ensure compliance with accreditation standards, and encourage collaboration and teamwork. The Director QECs were expected to understand the principles and practices of OBE and align the programs with the university's mission and goals.

Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir attended the concluding session of the training as chief guest. He emphasized the importance of OBE in higher education. He highlighted that OBE is a learner-centered approach that helps institutions align their programs with the needs of the industry and society. He explained that the purpose of OBE is to ensure that students acquire the necessary knowledge, skills, and attitudes required for success in their careers and personal lives.

Furthermore, the Chairperson emphasized that OBE is not just a teaching methodology but a comprehensive approach that involves curriculum development, instructional design, assessment strategies, and continuous quality improvement. He added that OBE helps institutions to focus on learning outcomes, which are the expected achievements of students at the end of a program. He also stressed the importance of aligning OBE with the mission and goals of the university and ensuring compliance with accreditation standards.

27th EXPERT REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING HELD TO FUND CONFERENCES AND SEMINARS UNDER PHEC



The 27th Expert Review Committee Meeting for Funding of Conferences and Seminars was held in the PHEC conference room under the Convenorship of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC. The meeting was attended by Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor of LCWU; Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor of IUB; Prof. Dr. Mahmmod Ayaz, Vice Chancellor of KWMU; Prof. Dr. Habib Ali Bokhari, Vice Chancellor of Kohsar University, Murree; Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice Chancellor of UOS, and Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director HRD of PHEC. Following conferences were funded:

1. Govt. College Women University, Sialkot Department: Institute of Arabic & Islamic Studies Title: **6th Three Days International Conference on "Contemporary Muslim Society & Western Thoughts: Challenges and Prospects"** on March 07-09, 2023
2. University of Gujrat, Gujrat Department: Department of English Title: **1st International Conference on Emerging Trends in Linguistics, Literature and Translation Studies (ICLLT) 2023** on March 1-2, 2023
3. Cholistan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Title: **Livestock Show and Kissan Conference 2023** on March 1-2, 2023
4. Mir Chakar Khan Rind University, DG Khan Department: Department of Civil Technology Title: **1st International Conference on Civil and Environmental Engineering & Technology ICCEET 2023**, on March 16, 2023
5. University of Education, Lahore Department: Department of Islamic Studies Title: **1st International Conference on Religious and World Peace**, on March 15-16, 2023
6. University of Education, Lahore Department: Department of Zoology Title: **Zoological Emerging Scientific Trends (ZEST) 2023** on March 1-2, 2023
7. University of Punjab, Lahore Department: Centre of Excellence Molecular Biology Title: **International Conference on trends and challenges in health sciences** on March 1-2, 2023
8. Lahore College for Women University, Lahore Department: Physics Department Title: **2nd International Conference on Emerging Trends in Physics** Date of Event: March 20-22, 2023
9. University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore Department: Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science Title: **6th International Conference on Energy Conservation and Efficiency 2023** on March 15-16, 2023
10. Information Technology University, Lahore Department: Title: **International Symposium on Novel Trends & Innovations in Meta-optics, Nano-photonics and Optoelectronics** Date of Event: March 8-9, 2023
11. University of Agriculture, Faisalabad Department: Title: **Two-day International Symposium on "Recent Advances in Life Sciences"** on March 17-18, 2023

These conferences and seminars cover various fields of study and provide platforms for knowledge exchange, research presentation, and academic networking. The approved funding from PHEC will support the successful organization and execution of these events.

PHEC committee holds meeting for International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV



The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) held a meeting for the Committee for the Award of International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV (IRSIF) in their conference room. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, chaired the meeting, and it was attended by distinguished individuals such as Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, Former Chairperson of PHEC; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, VC of BGNU; Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah, former VC of GCU, Lahore; Prof. Dr. Jamil Anwar, Director of the Institute of Chemistry at PU, Lahore; Prof. Dr. Malik Zawwar Hussain, Chairman of the Department of Mathematics at PU, Lahore; Prof. Dr. Anjum Nasim Sabri, Director of IMMG at PU, Lahore; Prof. Dr. Iqbal Chawla, Former Director of the Department of History at PU, Lahore; Dr. Aqil Inam, Associate Professor at IMME, PU, Lahore; Prof. Dr. Mansoor Ahmed Baluch, Chief Operating Officer, and Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director HRD of PHEC. The meeting aimed to discuss matters related to the award of International Research Support Fellowship-Phase IV (IRSIF).

Details of IRSF awardees and their respective local and foreign universities is as under:

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY:

- Adnan Asghar - University of Lahore, Lahore - University of Alberta
- Tayyaba Khalil - Lahore College for Women University, Lahore - McMaster University
- Asia Perveen - Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan - Macquarie University
- Maryam Iqbal - FJWU, Rawalpindi - Hanyang University

SOCIAL SCIENCES AND ARTS:

- Muhammad Ayaz Rafi - GCU, Faisalabad - Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg
- Dania Amjad - University of the Punjab, Lahore - The University of Edinburgh

PHEC HOSTS INTERNATIONAL POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLARSHIP (IPDS) AWARD DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY



The International Postdoctoral Scholarship (IPDS) award distribution ceremony was held by the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) at their conference room. The committee/expert review panel conducted interviews of 38 eligible scholars for the award of IPDS. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, welcomed the selected scholars, appreciated them for their research work, and wished them luck with their remaining research component abroad. The ceremony was attended by Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director of HRD of PHEC, and Qazi Muhammad Ali, Assistant Director of HRD. The detail of awardees is as under:

SN	Scholars	Current Institute	Foreign University	Subject
1	Farah Andread	Govt. Sadiq College Women University of Bahawalpur, Faisalabad	University of Toronto	Physics & Astronomy
2	Dr. Humera Razzaq	Government Alianza Iqbal Graduate College for Women, Sialkot	University of Birmingham, UK	Agriculture & Forestry
3	Syeda Noureen	Government College University, Faisalabad	University College London, UK	Physics & Astronomy
4	Dr. Ali Imran	University of Sargodha	The University of Melbourne	Agriculture & Forestry
5	Noor Us Sabah	University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore	The Ohio State University	Agriculture & Forestry
6	Iqbalashman Khan	Texas A&M University	Cornell University	Veterinary Sciences
7	Muhammad Shafiq	Govt. Graduate College, Sahiwal	Agriculture & Forestry	Agriculture & Forestry
8	Syeda Sughra Naqvi	University of the Punjab, Lahore	The University of Sydney	Arts and Humanities
9	Aneeta Saleem	Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan	University of Oxford, UK	Social Sciences and Management
10	Tayyaba Batool Tahir	University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences	University College London	Anthropology
11	Rana Muhammad Ayyub	Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan	The University of Auckland	Business and Management Sciences
12	Snohra Rizwan		Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen	Arts and Humanities

Bridging the Industry Academia Gap: Fostering Sustainable Development through Collaboration



While speaking as a guest of honour in the International Conference on Bridging the Industry Academia Gap for Sustainable Development in Pakistan, organized by the University of Chakwal, Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of developing strong partnerships between academia and industry to drive sustainable economic growth and adapt curricula to meet industry needs. Participants discussed initiatives to promote collaboration, including research partnerships and joint projects. The conference provided a platform for stakeholders to exchange ideas and discuss ways to foster sustainable development in Pakistan. The PHEC's participation demonstrates their commitment to promoting collaboration for sustainable economic growth and enhancing the quality of higher education.

PHEC facilitates research collaboration through Expert Review Committee for the Award of International Travel Grants



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), chaired the 40th Meeting of the Expert Review Committee for the Award of International Travel Grants at the PHEC conference room. The committee reviewed and evaluated applications submitted by researchers and scholars for international travel grants to attend conferences, workshops, and seminars related to their fields of study. The committee evaluated the research work's quality, potential impact on society, relevance to the applicant's field of study, and their potential to benefit from it. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of supporting researchers and scholars in their academic pursuits and promoting international collaboration in research and development. This meeting showcased PHEC's commitment to supporting research and development in the country.

EMPOWERING RESEARCH AND COLLABORATION: PHEC Chairperson Inaugurates the 6th International Research Conference



The Institute of Education and Research University of Punjab organized the 6th International Research Conference on Economics, Business, and Social Sciences 2022, which aimed to provide a platform for researchers and scholars to share their research and ideas. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, was invited as the chief guest to inaugurate the conference and emphasized the importance of research in promoting economic and social development. The conference featured keynote speeches, panel discussions, and paper presentations on various topics and participants from universities and research institutions worldwide. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir also highlighted the role of PHEC in promoting research and development in the country, showing the commission's commitment to supporting universities and research institutions in their academic pursuits.



PHEC Chairperson stresses commercialization of stem cells & indigenous production of medical testing products at health sciences

The International Conference on Trends and Challenges in Health Sciences was organized by the National Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology, University of Punjab. The Chairperson PHEC, in his address as a "Guest of honor," emphasized the significance of commercialization of stem cells and therapeutic proteins, which will reduce the economic burden while providing advanced and more effective therapies to patients in Pakistan. He also highlighted the need for indigenous production of medical testing products, which will not only increase their availability but also make them cost-effective, thus reducing the burden on Pakistan's economy. Furthermore, he stressed that the production of medical testing products locally will create job opportunities for young scientists in related fields.

Book launch ceremony for Hybrid Nanomaterials: Environmental and Energy Applications held at PHEC



On March 03, A book launch ceremony of "Hybrid Nanomaterials: Environmental and Energy Applications," edited by Komal Rizwan, Muhammad Bilal, Tahir Rasheed, and Tuan Anh Nguyen, was held today at the Punjab Higher Education Commission. In the ceremony, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, participated as the "Chief Guest" and congratulated the writers for this valuable contribution to the academic literature. Dr. Komal Rizwan, Assistant Professor, University of Sahiwal, and editor of the book, gave the introduction and briefed about the content of the book. Prof. Dr. Jameel Anwar, Former Vice Chancellor, GU, Dr. Madeeha Batool, Assistant Professor, School of Chemistry, PU; and Dr. Shaukat Ali, former DPI (C) Punjab, express their views about the book. Other participants of the ceremony include Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Vice Chancellor, BGUN, Prof. Dr. Shahzad Alam, Former Chairman, PCSIR, Engr Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, COO, PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahzad Maqsood Khan, PU, Dr. Waqar Ch, Joint Editor, Minute Mirror, Dr. Sakhwat Ali, EX DG, PCSIR, Dr Sumaira Kanwal, Assisatnt Professor, University of Narawal, Azka Abdur-Rehman, US & Dynamic Mill, Dr. M. Ejaz Sandhu, BIPP@Netsol, Dr. Osman Majeed, PU, Dr. Mudassar Azam, PU, Dr. Umme Habiba, University of Jhang, Dr Hassan Zeb, PU, Dr. Muhammad Sarfraz, PU, Mr, Azhar Ishaq, UVAS Jhang, Mr. Hassan Munir, DG PHEC, Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director, PHEC, and Mr, Murtaza Omer Bashir, Dy. Director, PHEC.

Federal Tax Ombudsman Coordinator and Chairman of Kyrgyzstan Trade House Visits PHEC



A delegation, led by Meher Kashif Younis, Coordinator to Federal Tax Ombudsman and Chairman of Kyrgyzstan Trade House, VP Gold Ring Economic Forum, and former SVP Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, visited the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and met with the Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir.

The meeting was aimed at exploring opportunities for collaboration between PHEC and the delegation on various projects related to higher education and economic development. During the meeting, Meher Kashif Younis briefed the Chairperson PHEC on the various projects and initiatives undertaken by his organization in promoting trade and economic development in Pakistan.

The Chairperson PHEC appreciated the efforts of the delegation and emphasized the importance of collaboration between various stakeholders in promoting economic development and higher education in the province. He discussed the various initiatives undertaken by PHEC in promoting quality education and research in higher education institutions across the province.

The delegation expressed their willingness to collaborate with PHEC on various projects related to higher education and economic development. They discussed the potential areas of collaboration and the strategies that can be implemented to achieve the common goals of promoting economic development and quality education in the province.

Dialogue on CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES OF 2% MINORITY QUOTA IN HIGHER EDUCATION

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), in collaboration with the Bargad Organization for Youth Development, organized a seminar entitled "Dialogue on Challenges and Opportunities of 2% Minority Quota in Higher Education" at the Arfa Software Technology Park in Lahore. The main objective of the seminar was to provide a platform for stakeholders to discuss and deliberate upon the challenges and opportunities associated with the implementation of the 2% minority quota in higher education institutions in Pakistan. The seminar was attended by Directors/In-charge of admission offices at both public and private sector universities in Punjab.



Promoting education and empowering women: Government APWA College Convocation 2023

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the Convocation 2023 of the Government APWA Graduate College for Women in Lahore as the chief guest. Dr. Munir highlighted the importance of education in empowering women and promoting gender equality in society. He encouraged the graduates to use their education to make a positive impact in their communities and society at large. Dr. Munir's participation in the Convocation 2023 of the Government APWA Graduate College for Women demonstrated PHEC's commitment to promoting education and empowering women in Pakistan. The convocation provided a platform to recognize the hard work and achievements of the graduating students and encouraged them to use their education to bring positive change in society.

2nd ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS OF DISCOVER PAKISTAN

Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, was the guest of honor at the second anniversary celebrations of Discover Pakistan. During the event, he presented appreciation shields to the channel's employees for their outstanding efforts in promoting Pakistan's rich culture and scenic beauty. He expressed his admiration for Dr. Kaiser Rafiq and his team for their remarkable contributions in advancing tourism within the country. Dr. Shahid Munir also reassured them of the Punjab Higher Education Commission's unwavering support in their future endeavors.



UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB OBSERVES INTERNATIONAL DAY OF EDUCATION



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, delivered a special lecture on "The Current State of Education in Pakistan and the Way Forward" to the students of the Department of Communication and Media Research at the University of the Punjab on the International Day of Education. During the lecture, he discussed the challenges faced by the education sector in Pakistan and emphasized the role of higher education institutions in addressing these challenges. Dr. Munir also highlighted the importance of innovation and research in higher education and encouraged students to develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills to succeed in their careers. The lecture inspired students to contribute to the development of the education sector in Pakistan.



PHEC committee to promote **ENERGY TECHNOLOGY SOLUTIONS**



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), chaired the 1st meeting of the committee on "Theme IV: Promotion of Technologies & Technology Intensive Solution-Research & Scholarship on Energy, Sub-Theme-I: Energy." The main objective of the committee is to prepare policy papers and recommendations for the government on the above themes. The meeting was attended by Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector of the Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology (GIKI), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khan, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Chakwal, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kamran, Vice-Chancellor of the Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Engineering and Technology (MNS-UET) in Multan, and a representative of the vice-chancellors from the University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Lahore, UET Taxila, and Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology).

PHEC Committee Meets to Discuss **Promotion of Energy Technologies and Solutions**



The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) held its second committee meeting under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the PHEC. The committee focused on "Theme IV: Promotion of Technologies & Technology Intensive Solution-Research & Scholarship on Energy, Sub-Theme-I: Energy," with the aim of developing policy papers and recommendations for the government in these areas. The meeting was attended by distinguished education professionals, including Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector of the Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences and Technology (GIKI); Prof. Dr. Muhammad Bilal Khan, Vice Chancellor of the University of Chakwal; Prof. Dr. Suleman Tahir, Vice Chancellor of the Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology (KFUEIT); Prof. Dr. Muhammad Inayatullah Khan, Vice Chancellor of the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Taxila; Prof. Dr. Waqar, Representative of the Vice Chancellor of UET Lahore; and Dr. Rizwan Haider, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Punjab University (PU), Lahore. Their contributions will help shape the committee's policy recommendations on the promotion of technologies and technology-intensive solution-research and scholarship in energy.

Efficient Administration in Higher Education: *PHEC and Punjab Universities Collaborate to Fill Vacant Statutory Positions*

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), chaired an online meeting with Vice Chancellors of public sector universities in Punjab. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the appointment of vacant statutory positions within the universities. The meeting was attended by over 30 Vice Chancellors representing the provincial public sector universities. During the meeting, the participants discussed various issues related to the appointment of statutory positions. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of filling these vacant positions in a timely and transparent manner to ensure the smooth functioning of the universities. The Vice Chancellors appreciated the efforts of the PHEC in ensuring the quality and standard of higher education in the province. They also shared their concerns and suggestions on how to ensure the appointment of these positions and enhance the quality of education in their respective universities. Overall, the meeting was a productive and collaborative effort to strengthen the higher education sector in Punjab. The PHEC and the Vice Chancellors agreed to continue to work together to achieve their common goals of providing quality education and producing skilled professionals for the development of the province and the country.



"Envisioning a Future of Innovative Higher Education: *PHEC's Efforts to Establish a Center of Excellence for IT in Punjab HEIs*"

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, presided over a meeting to discuss the establishment of a Center of Excellence in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Punjab that would enhance the use of IT in higher education in Punjab, and these center would serve as a hub for innovation and research in this field. The attendees of the meeting included Prof. Dr. Adnan Noor Mian, the Acting Vice Chancellor of the Information Technology University of Punjab, Prof. Dr. Waqar Mahmood, the Director of the Al-Khwarizmi Institute of Computer Science at the University of Engineering and Technology (UET) Lahore, Prof. Dr. Shahzad Sarwar, the Dean of the Faculty of Computing and Information Technology at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, and Mr. Nouman Maqbool Rao, the Director of Planning and Development at PHEC.



Exploring Industry-Academia Linkages: PHEC Chairperson Engages at ICSET-2023

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was invited as the chief guest at the 3rd International Conference on Science, Engineering, and Technology (ICSET-2023) organized by Mir Chakar Khan Rind University of Technology, DG Khan. During the conference, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir chaired the panel discussion on industry-academia linkages, where the panelists engaged in a dialogue on how institutions need to be aligned and stakeholders can work together to achieve mutual goals.

Addressing the participants, Chairperson PHEC urged the universities to develop curricula according to the future market demand. He also visited the showcase project by the students of the University and appreciated the efforts done by the students. The conference provided a platform for researchers, academicians, and industry professionals to discuss the latest trends, issues, and challenges in the fields of science, engineering, and technology.



Integration of Islamic finance courses into the academic curriculum: PHEC Meets with State Bank of Pakistan Officials to Discuss Introduction of Islamic Finance Courses in Curriculum



A meeting on "Introduction of Islamic Finance Courses in the Curriculum" with the officials of the State Bank of Pakistan was held today online. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson; Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer; Dr. Asif Munir, Director of Training, PHEC; and Prof. Dr. Mubbsher Munawar Khan, Principal, Haily College of Commerce, University of Punjab, were present in the meeting.

PHEC Chairperson stresses the role of **Sustainable Development Goals** in doctoral research at UMT Lahore conference

The HSM Doctoral Conference 2023: The Sustainable Development Goals and Doctoral Research organized by the University of Management and Technology Lahore. The Chairperson PHEC in his inaugural address highlighted the crucial role that Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) play in national development and stressed the need for SDGs-centered doctoral research. He encouraged young researchers to focus on pressing global issues and use their knowledge and skills to make a positive impact on society.



Investing in Education:
PHEC Chairperson Advocates for *Equal Access and Collaboration* at World Education Day Seminar

A seminar was organized by the University of Education in Lahore on World Education Day. The theme of the seminar was "Invest in People: Prioritize Education." During his keynote address, as the chief guest, the Chairperson PHEC emphasized the importance of investing in education and human capital development in Pakistan, and providing equal access to quality education for all. He also highlighted the commission's initiatives to promote the development of higher education and improve the quality of education and research in the country. Dr. Munir emphasized the need for collaboration between universities, the government, and the private sector to align education with the needs of the industry and the country's development goals. The seminar provided a platform to discuss the challenges facing the education sector in Pakistan and explore new ways to overcome them. Dr. Munir's participation as the chief guest underlines PHEC's commitment to promoting education and human capital development in Pakistan.



PHEC Chairperson emphasizes research and collaboration during **Qarshi University visit**

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), visited Qarshi University in Lahore where he met with the Dean of Social and Management Sciences, Prof. Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qureshi, and interacted with the faculty and senior management. During the visit, Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of research and innovation in higher education institutions and encouraged the faculty to focus on producing high-quality research that addresses the challenges faced by society. He also discussed the commission's ongoing initiatives to promote the development of higher education in Pakistan, including the need for collaboration between universities and the commission to align academic curricula with industry needs. Dr. Munir's visit demonstrates the PHEC's commitment to promoting higher education and research in Pakistan, and provides an opportunity to discuss challenges and explore new ways to overcome them.



2nd INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ZOOLOGY:
Chief Guest Highlights Collaboration and Interdisciplinary Research

The University of Education, Lahore held its 2nd International Conference on Zoology: Merging Scientific Trends 2023, bringing together researchers and professionals in the field to share insights on the latest developments. Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir was the Chief Guest and gave a keynote address emphasizing the importance of collaborative research and interdisciplinary approaches. Attendees appreciated the valuable insights shared by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, making the event a great success and paving the way for future collaborations and partnerships.



International Conference on Advances in Biological Sciences



The International Conference on Advances in Biological Sciences (ICABS-2023) was held by the School of Biological Sciences at the University of Punjab. Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir attended as the Chief Guest, delivering a keynote address on the latest trends and challenges in biological sciences, emphasizing the need for interdisciplinary research and collaboration. Attendees had the opportunity to present their research and interact with other professionals, making the conference a success and inspiring pursuit of excellence in the field.



Ms. Sabiha Shaheen, the Executive Director of BARGAD, a non-governmental organization working for the rights of marginalized communities, met with the Chairperson PHEC to discuss the implementation of the minority quota in higher education institutions in Punjab. The meeting aimed to explore ways to promote and enhance the participation of minority students in higher education.

During the meeting, Ms. Shaheen highlighted the challenges faced by minority students in accessing higher education and shared the initiatives taken by BARGAD to promote minority education. She also discussed the importance of the minority quota in ensuring equitable access to education for all students.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir appreciated the efforts of BARGAD and emphasized the importance of promoting diversity and inclusion in higher education. He discussed the role of PHEC in promoting access to education for all students, including those from marginalized communities.

PROMOTING INCLUSIVE EDUCATION: PHEC and BARGAD Collaborate for Minority Quota Implementation



Collaborating for Better Governance and Finance: A Productive Meeting of the Sub-committee under the PHEC Committee



A sub-committee meeting was held at the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), presided over by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC. The meeting was part of the Committee/Consortium on "Theme-I: Governance and Finance: Challenges and Sharing Good Practices". The sub-committee meeting aimed to discuss various issues related to governance and finance in the higher education sector in Punjab.

The meeting was attended by several prominent figures in the higher education sector, including Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, former Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Talat Naser Pasha, Vice Chancellor of the University of Education, Dr. Masnoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer of PHEC,

During the meeting, the attendees discussed various issues related to governance and finance in the higher education sector, including the challenges faced by universities in managing their finances, the role of governance in ensuring transparency and accountability, and sharing good practices in these areas.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of effective governance and financial management in ensuring the quality of higher education in the province. He emphasized the need for collaboration and knowledge sharing between universities to improve their governance and financial management practices.

The attendees agreed that the sub-committee meeting was a productive and collaborative effort towards improving governance and financial management in the higher education sector in Punjab. They discussed various strategies and approaches that can be implemented to address the challenges faced by the universities.

Mr. Shafqat Ullah Mushtaq, Secretary Board of Revenue, Visited PHEC and Meet with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC



PHEC committed to provide modern amenities and better access to higher education in rural Punjab, says Prof. Dr. Munir at GC Women University Convocation

GC Women University, Sialkot held its the 4th Convocation. At this occasion, during his address as the chief guest, the Chairperson PHEC emphasized the importance of giving back to society and contributing towards the national development of the country. He encouraged the graduates to use their degrees to make a positive impact on society and to reflect the values of their university education in their professional life. The chairperson also highlighted the commitment of PHEC to support universities and campuses with modern amenities and better access to higher education, particularly in rural areas of Punjab. He emphasized that this support would help address the problem of rural to urban migration and promote national harmony.



Chairperson, PHEC, attended the 2nd session of the 13th Convocation 2023 of the University of Lahore as a guest of honor and awarded gold medals and degrees to the graduates.



Chairperson PHEC Participates as Chief Guest at Launching Ceremony of Asian Federation of Biotechnology, Pakistan Chapter

The Launching Ceremony of the Asian Federation of Biotechnology, Pakistan Chapter, took place at Government College University Faisalabad. The event aimed to establish a platform for researchers, scholars, and students to exchange their ideas and knowledge on biotechnology and its applications in Pakistan.

The Chairperson of PHEC while attending the ceremony as the chief guest, praised the organizers for their efforts in establishing the Asian Federation of Biotechnology, Pakistan Chapter, and co-chaired a panel discussion on practical steps toward government-industry-academia linkages to establish a circular bio-economy in Pakistan. The event provided an excellent opportunity for researchers, scholars, and students to exchange their ideas and knowledge.

FCCU hosts INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON SCIENCE JOURNALISM

The Faculty of Humanities and Kauser Abdullah Malik School of Life Science (FCCU), in collaboration with Pakistan Academy of Science, has organised a two-day workshop on science journalism.

The concluding session of the workshop, aimed at bridging the gap between science and journalism through capacity building of scientists, educators and journalists, was held at FCCU.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Rector FCCU, Dr. Jonathan S. Addleton, Dean of Humanities, Dr. Altaf Ullah Khan, Director ORIC and Dean Postgraduate Studies, Dr. Kauser A. Mvalik, and Secretary General of Pakiatan Academy of Sciences Dr. Tawasar Hayat gave welcome remarks. They also distributed the certificates among participants.



**41st Pakistan Congress of
Zoology International, hosted by
the Institute of Zoology,
University of the Punjab Lahore**

On March 16-18, The Institute of Zoology at the University of the Punjab Lahore hosted the 41st Pakistan Congress of Zoology (International), which was attended by numerous zoologists, researchers, and students from various universities and research institutions in Pakistan and other countries. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), participated in the event as the chief guest. The congress aimed to provide a platform for scientists to share knowledge, ideas, and experiences related to various aspects of zoology, including animal behavior, ecology, evolution, genetics, and conservation. During the event, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir delivered a keynote speech, highlighting the importance of zoology in promoting sustainable development and biodiversity conservation. The attendees had the opportunity to participate in various sessions, including plenary lectures, oral presentations, and poster sessions, where they shared their research findings and discussed various topics related to zoology. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's participation as the chief guest added great value to the event and inspired the attendees to continue their pursuit of excellence in the field of zoology. Overall, the congress was a success, promoting collaboration and cooperation between universities and research institutions in Pakistan and other countries.



**7th
CONVOCATION
OF UNIVERSITY OF
GUJRAT**

At the 7th convocation of the University of Gujrat During his keynote speech, Dr. Munir emphasized the role of higher education in driving economic growth and development in Pakistan and stressed the need for universities to focus on research and innovation. He encouraged the graduates to use their skills and knowledge to make meaningful contributions to society and the economy. The convocation celebrated the achievements of the graduates and acknowledged the contributions of the university towards the development of higher education in Pakistan. Dr. Munir's attendance highlights the PHEC's commitment to promoting quality education and innovation in higher education



Chairman Allah Walay
Trust met with
Chairperson PHEC, to
discuss the launch of the
**TRUST'S
SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM**

Mr. Shahid Lone, Chairman of Allah Walay Trust, and his team met with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, to discuss the launch of a scholarship program for needy medical and engineering students in Punjab. The meeting was attended by Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, and Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, the Director of Human Resource Development. During the meeting, Mr. Shahid Lone shared details of the scholarship program and its eligibility criteria. He expressed his desire to collaborate with PHEC to identify deserving students and ensure that they benefit from the scholarship. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir appreciated the efforts of Allah Walay Trust and emphasized the importance of providing financial assistance to needy students to help them pursue their education. He assured Mr. Shahid Lone of PHEC's support in identifying and recommending deserving students for the scholarship program. The meeting ended on a positive note, with both parties expressing their commitment to promoting access to quality education for all students, particularly those from underprivileged backgrounds. The launch of the scholarship program is expected to provide much-needed financial assistance to deserving students in Punjab and help them realize their academic aspirations.



*Strengthening Ties
for Global Research:*
**University of
Cambridge and
PHEC Discuss
Collaboration**

Dr. Jagjit Singh Srai, Director of Research and Head of the Centre for International Manufacturing at the University of Cambridge visited PHEC and met with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson. The meeting was focused on exploring opportunities for collaboration and cooperation. The meeting was attended by Dr. Kalyan Singh Kalyan, Assistant Professor in Punjabi Department at the Government College University, Lahore, Prof. Dr. Syed Tauseef Ahmad, UET, and Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer, PHEC



Networking Dinner Hosted by University of Sargodha, Facilitating Collaboration and Exchange of Ideas in Higher Education

The Vice Chancellor of the University of Sargodha, Prof. Dr. Qaisar Abbas, hosted a dinner in honor of Chairman HEC and Chairperson PHEC. The dinner was attended by faculty members of the University of Sargodha and Vice Chancellors from other universities in the region. The purpose of the dinner was to provide an opportunity for the attendees to interact and exchange ideas and knowledge in a relaxed and informal setting. During the dinner, important issues and challenges facing higher education in the region were discussed, and the need for collaboration and cooperation between universities was emphasized. The event was considered a success, promoting interaction, and cooperation between universities and higher education institutions in the region.



OATH-TAKING CEREMONY at Gulab Devi Educational Complex Welcomes First-year Healthcare Students

The oath-taking ceremony was held at Gulab Devi Educational Complex, Lahore, to welcome the first-year students of healthcare-related disciplines. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, was the chief guest and administered oaths to the students. He emphasized the importance of dedication and hard work, and the crucial role of the healthcare sector in society. Attendees included faculty members, students, and their parents. The ceremony was a success and provided a platform for the students to commit themselves to ethical and professional standards in their respective fields.



"Exploring the Future of Physics: PHEC Chairperson Participates in International Conference on Emerging Trends in Physics"

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, participated as Chief Guest in the closing ceremony of the 2nd International Conference on "Emerging Trends in Physics" organized by the Department of Physics, Lahore College for Women University, Lahore.



Inauguration of Tree Plantation Drive: Promoting Environmental Sustainability and Combating Climate Change

Punjab Higher Education Commission Chairperson, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, and Punjab University Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Niaz Ahmad Akhtar, inaugurated a tree plantation drive at the university campus to promote environmental sustainability and combat climate change. During the inauguration ceremony, both speakers emphasized the importance of tree plantation drives in promoting a healthy environment and praised the efforts of Punjab University in organizing the drive. The drive aimed to plant around 2000 trees in the university campus and was a massive success with active participation from students, faculty members, and staff members. Overall, the initiative demonstrated the commitment of the educational sector in promoting environmental sustainability in the country.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Inspires at Seminar on 'Economic Problem of Pakistan and its Solution'

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, attended a seminar titled "Economic Problem of Pakistan and its Solution" organized by Eilaf Club, Lahore, as the Chief Guest. During the seminar, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the need for a comprehensive approach to economic development, which includes investment in human capital, infrastructure, and innovation. He also highlighted the role of education in promoting economic growth and development. The seminar was attended by a large number of students and faculty members from different universities and colleges in Lahore who appreciated the valuable insights shared by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir. The seminar provided a platform for attendees to learn from one of the country's leading experts on higher education and economic development.



Recognizing Excellence in Research: PHEC Chairperson Attends Launch of BIPP's Annual Report and Scholarship Award Ceremony

As a chief guest, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, participated in the launching ceremony of BIPP's 15th Annual Report 2022 and the Shahid Javed Burki Scholarship Award ceremony at Lahore College for Women University, Lahore.



PHEC Chairperson highlights the significance of nutrition and food safety at International Conference & Expo



Speaking as the chief guest at the International Conference & Expo with the theme "Recent Trends in Clinical Nutrition & Food Sciences," organized by the Department of Nutrition and Health, University of Home Economics., the Chairperson PHEC, highlighted the significance of nutrition as a critical aspect of health and development. He emphasized that better nutrition is linked to improved infant, child, and maternal health, stronger immune systems, reduced risk of non-communicable diseases such as diabetes and cardiovascular disease, and increased life expectancy. He also stressed the importance of food safety, which has not received the political attention it deserves. Unsafe food is responsible for thousands of deaths every year, and many people are affected by diarrhea and food poisoning, with cases linked to contaminated food remaining unreported. The chairperson called for reforms to repurpose support for food and agriculture while promoting shifts in consumer behaviors and safety net policies to mitigate the unintended consequences of reforms for vulnerable populations. He also emphasized the need for strong regulations, better laboratories, stronger surveillance, and better training and education to overcome the losses caused by foodborne diseases resulting from chemicals, viruses, bacteria, and parasites. He concluded by stressing the need for universities and higher education institutions to include courses on nutrition and food sciences in their curricula to create awareness among the students and the masses about the importance of nutrition, health, and food safety.



Prof. Dr. Baseera Ambreen, Director, Iqbal Academy Pakistan, visited PHEC and presented the publication of the Iqbal Academy to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC. Chairperson PHEC expressed his deep appreciation and said that the Iqbal Academy Pakistan is a renowned institution that has made significant contributions to the promotion and study of the works of the great poet and philosopher, Allama Iqbal. It's important to acknowledge the efforts of organizations like the Iqbal Academy Pakistan as they play a crucial role in preserving and promoting our cultural and intellectual heritage. Dr. Shahid's appreciation is a testament to the Academy's valuable work and its impact on society.



Closing session of the International Conference on Remote Sensing, GIS, and Climate Change

On March 27, 2023, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), participated in the closing session of the International Conference on Remote Sensing, GIS, and Climate Change as the Chief Guest. The conference was organized by the Remote Sensing, GIS, and Climatic Research Lab (RSGCRL) and the National Center of GIS and Space Applications (NCGSA) in collaboration with the Centre for Remote Sensing at the University of the Punjab, Lahore.

During the closing session, Prof. Dr. Munir emphasized the significance of remote sensing and GIS in studying climate change and environmental issues. He applauded the organizers for their efforts to promote research in these critical areas and urged young researchers to make use of these technologies to contribute to the development of sustainable solutions for the challenges facing society. Prof. Dr. Munir also appreciated the conference's international participation and emphasized the importance of international collaboration in scientific research.

ANNUAL FUNCTION OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF THE PUNJAB



The Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering at the University of the Punjab held its annual function on March 10, 2023, with the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, as the chief guest.

As the founding father of the Energy and Environmental Engineering department, Prof. Dr. Munir initiated their work with the Center of Coal Technology and subsequently converted it into the Institute of Energy and Environmental Engineering. Today, the Energy Engineering department has grown into an important part of the University.

During his speech, Prof. Dr. Munir expressed hope that the first batch of energy engineers would play a pivotal role in the progress of Pakistan. He emphasized the importance of research and innovation in the field of energy engineering and encouraged the students to continue their pursuit of knowledge in this area.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, attended the 7th Meeting of Syndicate of the University of Mianwali, at BISE, Lahore





10th CONVOCATION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF EDUCATION

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the 10th convocation of the University of Education as the Chief Guest. The ceremony conferred degrees and awards to the graduating students who completed their programs in various disciplines. In his keynote address, Prof. Dr. Munir highlighted the importance of education and research in the progress of any society and appreciated the university's efforts in providing quality education and producing competent and skilled graduates. He urged the students to utilize their knowledge to serve the nation and adopt lifelong learning. The ceremony also included the distribution of medals and certificates to the top-performing students.



Dr. Kalyan Singh, Assistant Professor, GC University, and Dr. Ayra Indrias Patras, Assistant Professor, Forman Christian College University, Lahore, visited PHEC and had a meeting with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson. Dr. Ayra presented her book titled "Swept Aside" to the chairperson PHEC.



PHEC's Plagiarism Standing Committee meets to discuss progress in preventing academic misconduct in Punjab's higher education institutions

The Plagiarism Standing Committee of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) met with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, at his office. The meeting aimed to discuss the progress made by the committee in its efforts to prevent plagiarism in higher education institutions in Punjab.

The Plagiarism Standing Committee is responsible for monitoring and evaluating plagiarism policies and procedures in higher education institutions across the province. The committee also develops guidelines and recommendations to promote academic integrity and prevent plagiarism.

During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir reviewed the progress made by the committee and emphasized the importance of ensuring academic integrity in the higher education sector. He discussed the role of PHEC in promoting academic integrity and preventing plagiarism in universities and colleges across the province.

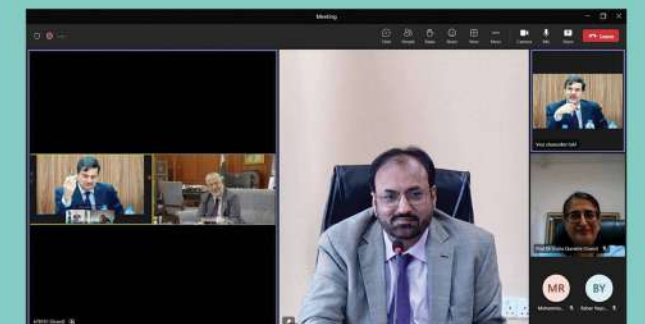
The committee members shared their experiences and observations related to the implementation of plagiarism policies and procedures in various institutions. They also discussed the challenges faced by institutions in preventing plagiarism and the strategies that can be implemented to address these challenges.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir appreciated the efforts of the committee and emphasized the need for continuous improvement in the prevention of plagiarism. He encouraged the committee members to continue their efforts towards promoting academic integrity and ensuring quality education in the province.



SYNDICATE MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KAMALIA

Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the second Syndicate meeting of the University of Kamalia online. The meeting focused on discussing various issues related to the university such as academic programs, infrastructure, and funding. Dr. Munir provided valuable recommendations on how to improve the academic standards and infrastructure of the university. He emphasized the importance of modern, relevant academic programs and the need for research and innovation to remain competitive. As a strong advocate for promoting higher education and research in Pakistan, Dr. Munir's attendance at the Syndicate meeting highlights his commitment to ensuring high-quality education and meeting the needs of the students and the job market.



پاکستان میں نظام تعلیم کی خرابیاں اور ہمارا مستقبل کے موضوع پر خصوصی نشست کا اہتمام



مولانا ظفر علی خاں ٹرسٹ کی طرف سے
"پاکستان میں نظام تعلیم کی خرابیاں اور ہمارا مستقبل"
کے موضوع پر آج خصوصی نشست کا اہتمام کیا گیا جس میں
پروفیسر ڈاکٹر شاہد منیر، چیئر پرسن، پنجاب ایجوکیشن
سی نے اظہار خیال کیا۔ نشست میں مختلف شعبہ ہائے
زندگی سے ممتاز ارباب منکر و دانش نے شرکت
کی۔ پروفیسر ڈاکٹر شاہد منیر نے شرکاء سے اس
وقت دنیا کو درپیش مسائل اور ان کا حل میں
جامعات کے کردار کے پر بات کی اور 2050 میں
دنیا میں کیا رجحانات ہوں اور اس پر دنیا بھر کی
جامعات میں ان رجحانات پر ہونے والی تحقیق اور
ان کا پاکستانی جامعات کے ساتھ موازنہ پیش
کیا۔ چیئر پرسن نے شرکاء سے خطاب کرتے ہوئے
کہا کہ ہماری جامعات کو مقامی مسائل پر
صنعتوں کے ساتھ میل کر تحقیقات کرنی چاہئے اور
جامعات کو اپنی تحقیق کو کمرشلایزڈ کرنے کے لئے
جامعات میں قائم خصوصی دفاتر کو مضبوط کرنے
کی ضرورت ہے تاکہ تحقیق سے معاشرے اور ملک
کی معیشت کو بہتر کرنے میں کردار ادا کیا جائے۔ ان کا
مزید کہنا تھا کہ ہمارے نوجوان نسل کو نوکریوں سے
زیادہ کاروبار کے رجحانات کی طرف مائل کرنے کی
ضرورت ہے تاکہ ملک میں بے روزگاری کی مسائل
سے نمٹا جاسکے۔

انا اللہ وانا الیہ راجعون

We are deeply saddened by the news of the untimely passing of Prof. Dr. Shahid Kamal, Vice Chancellor of Government College University Faisalabad. His sudden demise in a road accident has left us all in shock and grief.

Prof. Kamal was a highly respected academic leader. This is a great loss for the entire academic community.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Prof. Kamal's family, colleagues, and students. Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time. May his soul rest in eternal peace, and may we all strive to carry forward his legacy of excellence and service to society. PHEC is planning to hold a condolence reference in his memory. The date will be announced after consultation with family and friends.

With deepest sympathies,

Punjab Higher Education Commission

MEDIA COVERAGE

پنجاب ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن اور کوالٹی ایجوکیشن

غور و فکر کرنا اور پھر باقاعدہ معاملات کو بہتر بنانے کے لئے منصوبہ بندی کی اشد ضرورت ہے۔

گذشتہ دنوں پروفیسر ڈاکٹر شاہد منیر چیئرمین پنجاب ہائر ایجوکیشن کمیشن سے ملاقات ہوئی۔ ویسے پہلے بھی ان سے متعدد بار ملاقاتیں رہیں لیکن کبھی خالصتاً مذکورہ کمیشن پر کھل کر بات نہ ہوئی تھی۔ اس وقت اٹھارہویں ترمیم



تحریک شفق اللہ مشتاق

کے نتیجے میں معرض وجود میں آنے والے اداروں پر توجہ دینے کی بہت ضرورت ہے۔ ہمارے ہاں جامعات بہت بن چکی ہیں اور مزید بننے جاری ہیں۔ عدوی لحاظ سے اداروں کی کثرت ضروری ہے لیکن ان کا ہماری ملکی زندگی میں فعال کردار کا ہونا بھی ضروری ہے۔ یقیناً جوں جوں تعلیم عام ہوگی ہماری بحیثیت قوم سوچ میں تبدیلی آئے گی۔ یہ امر بھی ملحوظ خاطر رکھنا چاہیے کہ آج سب سے بڑا مسئلہ بے روزگاری کا ہے۔ ہمارا زیادہ تر انحصار جنرل ایجوکیشن پر ہے اور بدقسمتی سے ہمارے ہاں اپلائڈ ریسرچ کا رجحان نہیں پیدا ہو سکا ہے اور پالیسی ساز بھی محض ترقی ترقی کا ساز جانتے رہے اور انہوں نے جدت سے کام لینے کی بجائے ادارے بنا کر ان اداروں پر اپنے پیارے بھٹانے میں ہی ترقی کا راز سمجھا ہے۔ یونیورسٹی دو لحاظ سے بڑا ہی اہم ادارہ ہوتا ہے۔ اول نوجوان نسل کی تعلیم و تربیت اور دوم تحقیق کی بدولت ملک و قوم کو جدت کی راہوں پر ڈالنا۔ ان دونوں کاموں کے لئے کوآپٹی ایجوکیشن کے علاوہ کوئی چارہ کار نہیں ہے۔ ہائر ایجوکیشن ڈیپارٹمنٹ اس سلسلے میں کوئی خاطر خواہ کام نہیں کر سکا ہے اور

کرنے والے والدین کا کہنا تھا "ہڈیاں ہماری اور گوشت استاد کا"۔ ایسے ماحول میں ذرہ ذرہ ہور ہا تھا اور سونا کنڈن بن رہا تھا۔ قوم کے مستقبل کے نگران اعصابی طور پر مضبوط ہو رہے تھے۔ اف اللہ ہم اعصابی طور پر آج کتنے مضبوط ہو گئے ہیں ہمیں کچھ محسوس ہی نہیں ہو رہا ہے۔ پتھر کھڑے ہر شے ہضم اور ہم نہ ہاتے جھوٹے۔



پھر زمانے نے کروت بدلی۔ مار نہیں پیار کا دور آیا۔ استادوں کی انکوائریاں کھلیں، پیشیاں ہوئیں بلکہ استاد پہلے حوالات میں اور پھر عدالت میں اور پھر عدالتوں کی پیشیاں بجھت بجھت کر استاد تھک گیا اور تھک ہار کر کاروباری دنیا میں چلا گیا۔ مہیے کی بات کرنے لگا۔ نیشن وقت کی اہم ضرورت بن گئی۔ چپے چپے پرسکون محل گئے کالج بن گئے بلکہ یونیورسٹیاں بھی بیویوں کی طرح پھوٹ پڑیں۔ ہر طرف تعلیمی اداروں کے بورڈ ہی بورڈ آویزاں کر دیئے گئے۔ مفت تعلیم والے ادارے بند اور علم کی دنیا میں کمرشلائزیشن متعارف ہو گئی۔ دھڑا دھڑا ڈگریاں اور اوپر سے بیرونگاری اور مہنگائی کا طوفان بدلتی۔ ایسی صورتحال میں دماغ جواب دے جاتا ہے اور مایوسی، غیر یقینی اور افراتفری جنم لیتی ہے۔ بچے اور ان پر کتابوں کا بوجھ، فیسیوں کا بوجھ، مہنگائی کا بوجھ اور پھر مخدوش مستقبل کے بارے میں غیر ضروری خوف کا احساس۔ نتیجہ ڈپریشن اور متعدی امراض۔ ہم سب کو کیا ہو گیا ہے۔ ہم کو استاد کو جیل بھجوانے کی سزا تو نہیں مل رہی ہے۔ رد عمل تو ہر عمل کا ہوتا ہی ہے۔ استاد جب ڈنڈے سے محروم ہوگا تو وہ بھی آپ کو کوآپٹی ایجوکیشن سے محروم کر دے گا۔ لمبی بحث ہے اور اس سارے منظر نامے کے پیشار عوامل ہیں۔ ان کے بارے میں

ایک وقت تھا جب پاکستان میں تعلیم حاصل کرنا بہت ہی مشکل کام تھا۔ اکثر دیہاتوں میں صرف ایک ایک پرائمری سکول تھا، چار پانچ دیہاتوں کے لئے ایک مڈل سکول، دس میل کے فاصلے پر ایک ہائی سکول اور ڈیڑھ میل ہیڈ کوارٹر پر ڈگری کالج اور یونیورسٹی تو صرف لاہور میں تھی اور اس کا نام تھا پنجاب یونیورسٹی۔ اس یونیورسٹی کا معیار تعلیم اتنا بلند تھا کہ طالب علم بی اے پاس کرنے کے لئے درباروں پر نہیں مانتے تھے اور پاس ہونے کی صورت میں ان کے والدین مسجدوں کے دیوں میں سروسوں کا تیل ڈال کر خدا کا شکر ادا کرتے تھے۔ تاہم کچھ طالب علموں کو امتحان پاس کرنے کے لئے سختی کو کچھ دیر کے لئے یا تو انہوں نے پڑھنا تھا یا پھر گئے، گزر اور شکروے کر بھی کام چلایا جاسکتا تھا بہر حال پاس ہونے والے واقعی چند بچے ہوئے دانے ہوتے تھے۔ یہ وہ دن تھے جب نہانے کے لئے کیز رو دور کی بات بھی صابن کے کچی پیسے نہ ہوتے تھے۔ واشنگ مشین ابھی انگریزوں کے ذہنوں میں گھوم پھر رہی تھی روزانہ کپڑے کہاں سے دھووانے تھے "فیریاں دیئے منہ" دھونے کی کوئی ضرورت نہیں ہوتی تھی۔ ویسے بھی بی بی آئی ماسٹر سکول کے گیت پڑھنا لے کر چوس کھڑا ہوتا تھا اور ہر آنے والے کو پانچ سات لگا کر کپڑے چھانڈ دیتا تھا۔ استادوں کی بھی کئی اقسام تھیں کچھ تو بچوں کی حالت پر رحم کھاتے تھے اور سگریٹ کے لمبے کش لگا کر گہری سوچ میں گم ہو جاتے تھے۔ کچھ چوہدری قسم کے استاد بھی ہوتے تھے جو اپنی چوہدری پر قرار رکھنے کے لئے شوشاں رکھتے تھے کبھی کبھی غصہ کھا جاتے اور شرارتی قسم کے بچوں کی پھتھر پر پڑ وقت کی اہم ضرورت سمجھتے تھے۔ ایسے استاد بھی تھے جو اپنے کام میں مصروف ہوتے تھے ہر وقت کتاب وہ اور طالب علم۔ ان کے پاس کوئی وقت نہیں تھا اور وہ نااہل اور نالائق بچوں پر وقت ضائع نہیں کرتے تھے۔ ذہین اور لائق بچوں کے پاس غلطی کی گنجائش نہ ہوتی تھی۔ دوسری صورت میں تشدد اور وہ بھی اپنی نوعیت کا منفرد تشدد۔ تعلیم سے محبت



PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CONVENTION





INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CONVENTION

For International Students of different countries studying in
public and private sector universities of Punjab

Wednesday, 17th May, 2023

Faletti's Hotel, Lahore



PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

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