



# QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

VOL 06 - ISSUE 04 - OCT - DEC 2022



**PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION**





November 2022

AS  
CATION  
SSION

INN  
E

200-

for two

10+

FALETTI'S P  
LAHORE



The World Economic Forum emphasizes the integration of key trends such as socio-economic development, innovation, technology, and digitalization into educational curricula. This integration, along with the sustainable development goals defined by the United Nations, aims to create a skilled workforce capable of keeping up with global economic progress. To achieve this, a shift from theoretical research to applied research in universities is necessary.

Universities can promote applied research by collaborating closely with industry, government, and other stakeholders to identify and solve real-world problems. Interdisciplinary collaboration between researchers and practitioners is crucial to ensure the relevance of research to real-world situations. Holistic approaches should be adopted to tackle complex problems, and applied research should prioritize practical applications and develop implementable solutions.

To cultivate a culture of applied research, the PHEC has launched the Innovation Expo, which features regular research project exhibitions. This expo provides a platform for university teachers and students to showcase their research projects and start-ups, emphasizing innovation, product development, and commercialization. It encourages competition among faculty and graduates from different universities, promoting excellence and improving research and innovation in Pakistan. The expo also facilitates industry-academia collaborations, allowing experts from industry and academia to address real-life problems together.

To bridge the skills gap and empower the youth with necessary tools for success, market research should precede the design of curricula and training programs to ensure alignment with job market demands. Including industry experts on university boards of studies can help in designing curricula that meet local market needs and bridge the gap between industry and academia.

The 21st-century workforce requires a comprehensive skill set that balances cognitive skills, socio-economic skills, technical skills, and digital skills. Effective teaching techniques such as outcome-based learning, student-centered learning, and active learning should be adopted. Employing faculty members with industrial experience and exposure is crucial to provide practical knowledge.

Promoting the concept of "New Collar Workers" encourages individuals to update their skill-based qualifications across various fields, not just in the tech industry. Collaboration between higher education and IT skills is vital to embed IT in undergraduate programs, meeting evolving job market demands. Additionally, embracing the potential of artificial intelligence (AI) and robotics in education enhances personalized learning experiences.

International collaboration among higher education institutions is crucial for sharing resources, approaches, and best practices. This collaboration benefits both students and educators, equipping them for the global job market. Personalized education that offers a larger range of optional subjects is essential to meet the diverse needs of learners.

Internships should be integrated into undergraduate programs to enhance students' employability and bridge the gap between academia and industry. Apprenticeship programs have proven effective in combating youth unemployment and aiding in crisis recovery.

Establishing globally-recognized standards for higher education is necessary to create a flexible job market. This involves implementing transferable learner records and micro-credential standards to facilitate seamless skills transfer between institutions and employers. Accreditation from international certification agencies plays a vital role in achieving this goal.

Proficiency in cybersecurity, data science, and knowledge management is increasingly sought after in the digital age. Higher education must incorporate these skills into existing curricula to prepare youth for the data-driven world. Equipping learners with skills for operating in a borderless and multicultural environment is also essential, emphasizing e-commerce, freelancing opportunities, and collaboration in multicultural settings.

Investing in human resource development in mineral processing technologies is crucial for economic growth. By nurturing expertise and providing relevant training opportunities, we can unlock the potential of this sector and contribute to its sustainability. To empower the youth, stakeholders, including educational institutions, industry leaders, and policymakers, must work together. Prioritizing apprenticeships, global standardization of higher education, data-driven skills, borderless work environments, and human resource development in mineral processing technologies will pave the way for a skilled and employable youth population driving Pakistan's progress.

Let us unite to shape a brighter future for Pakistan, where our youth are skilled, employable, and ready to overcome any challenge.

**Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir**  
Chairperson-PHEC



## EDITORIAL NOTE

The PHEC (Punjab Higher Education Commission) Innovation Expo is a remarkable and thrilling initiative that serves as a platform for faculty and students to showcase their innovative efforts across various fields. It offers an excellent opportunity for students to present their research projects and innovative ideas they have been diligently working on.

One of the key advantages of this event is the generous platform it provides for students to interact with like-minded individuals, professionals, and industry experts in their respective fields. Such interactions can open up new doors of opportunity, expose students to fresh ideas and perspectives, and help them gain valuable insights into their chosen field. The exchange of ideas and knowledge during the expo contributes to the development of new skills and fosters a vibrant intellectual atmosphere.

Faculty members also benefit from the PHEC Innovation Expo as it allows them to showcase their research work and projects. This exposure can assist them in securing funding and collaborations for future endeavors. Additionally, this competition encourages faculty members to develop innovative teaching methods that enhance the learning experience for students. By sharing their innovative teaching practices, faculty members contribute to the overall growth and improvement of the academic community.

An essential aspect of the PHEC Innovation Expo is the healthy academic competition it fosters among both students and faculty members. Participants are motivated to push their boundaries and develop unique solutions to real-world problems. This competition nurtures creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills, which are crucial for success in the modern, competitive world.

Furthermore, the expo offers participants the opportunity to receive encouragement and recognition for their efforts. This recognition acts as a powerful catalyst, motivating individuals to further pursue their passions and continue their innovative work. It also helps build their confidence and self-esteem, which are essential factors in achieving personal and academic success.

Given that, promoting and supporting activities such as the Punjab Higher Education Commission Innovation Expo plays a vital role in fostering innovation and creativity within the academic community. By providing a platform for students and faculty members to showcase their innovative efforts, interact with experts, and receive recognition, this event stimulates intellectual growth, collaboration, and the development of valuable skills. Ultimately, it contributes to the advancement of society as a whole by encouraging the generation of new ideas and solutions to real-world challenges.

**Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja**  
Editor-in-Chief

## EDITORIAL BOARD

**PATRON-IN-CHIEF**  
Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF**  
Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja

Dr. M. Asif Munir  
Dr. Tanveer Qasim  
Mr. Kamran Saqi  
Mr. Shahid Imran  
Mr. Masum Ali  
Ms. Sadia Ahmad  
Mr. Umer Imtiaz





## All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022

Towards realization of its vision, the Punjab Higher Education Commission organized the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 on November 15th, 2022, at Faletti's Hotel in Lahore. This event, held in collaboration with ten provincial universities, aimed to foster creativity, entrepreneurship, and innovation among young students, faculty members, and researchers.

A total of 259 projects from 37 public and private sector universities across Punjab were showcased during the expo. The projects were placed in eight categories encompassing Social Sciences, Business, Economics, Engineering, Technology, Emerging Sciences, Computer and Information Technology, Agriculture, Health, and Medicine.

The opening ceremony was attended by Chairperson PHEC Dr. Shahid Munir, Secretary Higher Education Department (HED) Punjab Mr. Ahmad Raza Sarwar, President Lahore Chamber of Commerce (LCCI) Kashif Anwar, Chairman Chief Minister Task Force on Higher Education Mian Imran Masood, Chief Advisor on Research and Academic Excellence UMT Dr. Mujahid Kamran, former chairpersons PHEC Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, and Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, vice chancellors from public and private sector universities, faculty members and students.



While addressing the occasion, Chairperson PHEC Dr. Shahid Munir said that Pakistan is a country with 54 percent of its population under 30. Our youth is blessed with enormous potential; we need to tap into their creativity. Industry experts need to be taken on the boards of studies of our universities to design our curriculum congruent with the needs of the local market. This will minimize the gap between industry and academia.





He mentioned that the World Economic Forum had listed future trends for socio-economic development, innovation, technology, and digitalization as the top ones. "It is high time to integrate these trends into our curriculum to produce a skilled human resource that enables us to match the pace of global economic development," he stressed.

Chairperson PHEC further said that the All-Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 provided an opportunity for universities to showcase the talent, innovations, and research productivity of their students and faculty and harness their potential. He contended that a one-page synopsis of the displayed projects in the expo would be shared with the local industry to boost their commercialization potential.

He also mentioned that the PHEC was making exhibitions of research projects a permanent feature of its activity calendar. He elaborated that initially, PHEC received over 700 entries from universities; however, they shortlisted 259 quality projects for the expo. "This is a joint effort by PHEC and the universities, and we want the industry to be a part of it. We are determined to increase the number of projects to 500 for the next year," he added.

Speaking at the event, Secretary HED Punjab, Mr. Ahmad Raza Sarwar, emphasized the need to enhance the quality of higher education. He emphasized that universities should focus on knowledge creation rather than just job prospects, encouraging the acquisition of core technical skills and the exploration of opportunities for students to express their ideas.

Chairman of the Chief Minister's Task Force on Higher Education, Mian Imran Masood, former chairpersons Prof. Dr. Nizamuddin, and Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid also expressed their views on higher education during the event. Furthermore, the speakers highlighted the importance of taking immediate and substantial measures to enhance the quality of higher education. They also provided their recommendations and suggestions on the matter.



ALL PUNJAB UNIVERSITIES  
**INNOVATION  
EXPO**  
15 November 2022



# Projects Displayed by Universities

The committee received a total of over 700 projects. After careful consideration, they finalized 259 projects from 37 universities representing both the public and private sectors. These projects covered a wide range of categories:

1. Civil, Chemical, Environmental, Polymer Engineering
2. Mechanical, Mechatronics, Metallurgy, Automotive, Avionic & Industrial Engineering
3. Electrical & Electronics Engineering
4. Computer Science & Information Technology
5. Health, Medicine & Biomedical
6. Sciences
7. Agriculture & Veterinary Sciences
8. Social Sciences, Business, Economics and Arts





# Projects Evaluation

The All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 provided a platform for universities across Punjab to exhibit their outstanding projects and innovative ideas. Each project in every category underwent an evaluation process. Projects in each category were evaluated by a distinguished panel of experts, comprising professionals with extensive experience and specialization in their respective fields. They represented a wide range of disciplines, including civil, chemical, environmental, polymer, mechanical, mechatronics, metallurgy, automotive, avionics, industrial engineering, electrical, electronics, computer sciences, IT, health, medicine, biomedical sciences, agriculture, veterinary sciences, and social sciences, business, economics, and arts.

Group	Expert Name	Designation	Area of Specialization
Civil Chemical Environmental Polymer	Mr. Umer Iqbal	Technical Director, Nimir Chemicals	Chemicals
	Mr. Abdul Basit	GM, Nespak	Civil
	Prof. Dr. Irfan Sheikh	University of the Punjab	Environmental
	Mr. Salman Butt	R&D Manager, Siddiq Leather Works	Polymer
	Engr. Dr. Hafsa Jamshaid	Associate Professor, NTU, Faisalabad	Textile
Mechanical Mechatronics Metallurgy Automotive Avionics and Industrial Engineering	Mr. Abdur Razzaq Gauhar	Chairman, PAAPAM	Mechanical
	Mr. Salman Younus	Manager, Trade Dynamics	
	Dr. Muhammad Rafiq	Professor, PU	Metallurgy
Electrical and Electronics Engineering	Mr. Tariq Rehman	Chief Executive Officer, EMCO Industries Limited	Electrical
	Dr. Nadeem Khan	Associate Professor, LUMS	Electrical Engineering
Computer Sciences & IT	Mr. Sajjad Qureshi	Joint Director, PITB	Computer Science/IT
	Dr. Shahzad Sarfraz	Director, FAST NUCES	Computer Science/IT
	Dr. Muhammad Asif	Tenured Associate Professor, NTU, Faisalabad	Computer Science/IT
Health Medicine and Biomedical Sciences	Dr. Ali Saqlain Haider	Associate Professor Pak Red Crescent Medical College	Nephrologist
Sciences	Prof. Dr. Anjum Nasim Sabri	Director, Institute of Microbiology and Molecular Genetics, PU	Biology
	Prof. Dr. Jamil Anwar	Former Pro VC, PU	Chemistry
	Prof. Dr. Hassan Amir Shah	Former VC, GCUL	Physics
Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences	Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha	VC, University of Education	Veterinary
	Prof. Dr. Tehmina Anjum	Professor, PU	Agriculture
Social Sciences Business Economics and Arts	Prof. Dr. Shahida Manzoor	Former Principal College of Arts & Design PU	Fine Arts
	Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ehsan Malik	Former Director, IBA, PU	Business
	Mr. Babar Yaqoob Fateh	Former Chief Secretary, Balochistan	Business & Finance
	Prof. Dr. Saima Ghazal	Institute of Applied Psychology, PU	Psychology
	Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin	Former Chairman, PHEC	Sociology
	Prof. Dr. Mumtaz Akhter	Dean UMT	Education

The experts meticulously assessed the projects based on the following criteria:

**Level of Innovation:** This criterion gauged the extent to which the projects introduced novel concepts and inventive solutions to existing problems. The evaluation aimed to identify projects that showcased exceptional creativity and originality.

**Social and Economic Impact of Innovation/Idea:** Projects were evaluated based on their potential to create a positive impact on society and contribute to economic development. The experts assessed how the projects addressed social challenges, improved lives, and offered sustainable solutions with tangible benefits.

**Sustainability:** This criterion evaluated the projects' long-term viability and environmental impact. The experts considered factors such as resource management, ecological consciousness, and the potential for scalability and replication.



# Projects Standings

Each project was scored out of 60, reflecting its performance across these evaluation criteria. The projects that stood out and demonstrated exceptional innovation were recognized and rewarded accordingly:

**Winner Project: Rs. 100,000**

**Runner-up Project: Rs. 50,000**

## Winners Projects



Plastic Pyrolysis  
KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan



Open burning vs efficient management of  
agriculture residues Mitigation of winter SMOG  
(carbon emission) due to open burning of rice straw  
University of Jhang



Development of Austempered Ductile Iron (ADI)  
University of the Punjab



Celestial Objects' Seeker and Tracker  
University of Engineering & Technology Taxila



Free Guy Computer Science  
KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan



Cloning, Expression and Characterization of  
Bacterial L-Asparaginases for Applications  
in Cancer Treatment and Food Industry  
Islamia University, Bahawalpur



Organic cosmetics Chemical free organic  
skin products Eco Pads Biodegradable sanitary  
pads Shampoo pods Biodegradable pods  
(replacement for plastic)  
GC University Lahore



Development and Assessment of  
Automatic Irrigation System  
KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan



TALEEM Consultancy  
GC University Lahore



# Projects Standings

## Runner-ups Projects



Organic Crocks Ragrant Bio Refinery  
Bahaudin Zakriya Univresity Multan



Effect of Heat Treatment on  
Microstructure and Properties of  
Nickel Based Superalloys  
University of the Punjab



Sign Language Interpreter  
University of Central Punjab



Ugo: An Audio-Visual Signal Processing  
Tool to Improve the Communication and  
Presentation Skills  
University of Engineering & Technology Taxila



Fetus Heart Rate Monitoring  
University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore



Bio Keratin powder extraction  
Lahore Garrison University, Lahore



Portable Water Monitoring System  
University of Agriculture, Faisalabad



Community-based Solid Waste Management  
through Active and Effective Participation  
Fatima Jinnah Women University, Rawalpindi





# Panel Discussions at Innovation Expo

## Panel Discussion on Industry Academia Linkages

The All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 featured a thought-provoking panel discussion on "Industry Academia Linkages." The discussion aimed to explore the crucial connection between academia and industry and foster collaboration for mutual growth and development. The seminar witnessed the participation of esteemed panelists from renowned organizations and academic institutions. Here are the details of the participants:

**Moderator:** Syed Qasim Ali Shah, Chairman, Qasim Ali Shah Foundation

**Panelists:**

1. Mr. Omar Farooq, CEO, Interwood Mobel (Pvt) Ltd
2. Sh. Muhammad Ibrahim, CEO, Cannon Foam (Pvt) Ltd
3. Mr. Muhammad Arshad, Manager, Human Resources, PEL
4. Ms. Saba Chaudhry, Supply Chain Professional, Nestle
5. Mr. Khurram Khan, General Manager, HR & Admin, Shahkam Industries, Lahore
6. Dr. Nassar Ikram, Pro-Rector, University of Central Punjab
7. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Inayat Ullah Khan, Vice Chancellor, UET, Taxila
8. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Suleman Tahir, Vice Chancellor, KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan
9. Prof. Dr. Saima Hamid, Vice Chancellor, Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi

The panelists engaged in insightful discussions, sharing their expertise and perspectives on bridging the gap between academia and industry. They emphasized the importance of collaborative efforts to align academic curricula with the needs and demands of the industry. The discussions also highlighted the significance of industry-academia partnerships in promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and economic growth.

The panelists' diverse backgrounds and extensive experience brought depth to the discussions, offering valuable insights into industry trends, skill requirements, and effective strategies for fostering stronger linkages between academia and the corporate sector. The seminar provided an ideal platform for fruitful exchanges, paving the way for future collaborations and a more integrated approach to education and industry engagement.





# Panel Discussions at Innovation Expo

## Panel Discussion on Paradigm Shift in Higher Education: From Theory to Practice

Another engaging seminar held during the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 focused on the theme of "Paradigm Shift in Higher Education: From Theory to Practice." The session aimed to explore the evolving landscape of higher education and the need to bridge the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application. The seminar featured a distinguished panel of experts representing esteemed academic institutions. Here are the details of the participants:

**Moderator:** Prof. Naeem Masood, Journalist/Columnist, Daily Jang Lahore

**Panelists:**

1. Prof. Dr. Mohammad Nizamuddin, Former Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission
2. Syed Muhammad Junaid Zaidi, Former Rector, COMSATS University, Islamabad
3. Prof. Dr. Fazal Ahmad Khalid, Rector, GIK Institute Topi
4. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Rector, University of Lahore
5. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Khaliq ur Rehman, Rector, The University of Faisalabad
6. Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor, Lahore College for Women University
7. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice Chancellor, Islamia University Bahawalpur

The panelists engaged in a thought-provoking discussion, shedding light on the challenges and opportunities associated with the transformation of higher education. They emphasized the need for a paradigm shift, where academic institutions focus on practical application, experiential learning, and industry-relevant skills.





# Wrapping-up the Innovation Expo



The All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 concluded with a grand ceremony, attended by esteemed dignitaries, prominent educationists, industry leaders, and participants from universities across Punjab.

Addressing the audience, Chairperson PHEC Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the immense potential of Pakistan's youth and the need to harness their creativity. He highlighted the importance of aligning academic curricula with the needs of the local industry to bridge the gap between academia and the corporate sector. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir stressed the integration of emerging trends in innovation, technology, and digitalization into the curriculum to produce a skilled workforce that can keep pace with global economic development.

The closing ceremony also recognized the outstanding projects and their contributors. The winners were awarded with cash awards and certificates for their exceptional innovation and research endeavors. These rewards aimed to encourage and motivate the participants to continue their pursuit of excellence and contribute to the advancement of society through their groundbreaking ideas.


Furthermore, the displayed projects not only demonstrated innovation but also held immense potential for commercialization, which would contribute to the growth and development of the local industry.

The closing ceremony also acknowledged the valuable insights shared during the panel discussions held as part of the expo. The thought-provoking discussions on industry-academia linkages and the paradigm shift in higher education provided a platform for experts to exchange ideas, highlight challenges, and explore innovative solutions for strengthening educational systems and nurturing industry-relevant skills.

Overall, the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo served as a platform to showcase the immense talent, creativity, and research productivity of students and faculty, fostering a culture of innovation and academic excellence in Punjab's universities.







## Punjab Universities Vice Chancellors' Conference on Paradigm Shift in Higher Education-Hackathon Planning for Future

On September 29, 2022, the Governor / Chancellor of Punjab, Engr. Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, inaugurated a unique and groundbreaking conference titled "Paradigm Shift in Higher Education-Hackathon Planning for Future", jointly organized by Kohsar University Murree and University of Education Lahore in collaboration with Punjab Higher Education Commission. The conference took place at the Kashmir Point campus of Kohsar University in Murree. Distinguished attendees included the Chairman, Higher Education Commission (HEC), the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), the Coordinator General of the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South (COMSTECH), the Chairman of the Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC), Vice Chancellors from various Federal Universities, a Private University representative, Vice Chancellors from 45 Punjab Public Universities, as well as notable educationists, scientists, researchers, entrepreneurs, and representatives from other organizations. Their presence added prestige and significance to the event.







At the vice-chancellor's conference, as the chief guest Engr Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, the Chancellor/Governor of Punjab, conveyed his appreciation for the organizers' efforts and acknowledged the presence of experienced individuals. He emphasized that the conference should transcend being a mere gathering and should instead provide fresh directions for a promising future. The Chancellor stressed the urgent need to address the challenges faced by flood victims and called for innovative ideas to aid in their reconstruction.

As the Chancellor, he outlined his expectations from the universities, with a particular focus on environmental and climate change issues that necessitate collaborative efforts among universities and various stakeholders. He proposed the establishment of a consortium centered around the seven themes, encompassing areas such as educational governance, character building, women empowerment, combating drug abuse, promoting diversity, enhancing educational platforms, ensuring food security, improving health, energy, climate change, environment, STEM development, and entrepreneurship. The Chancellor underscored the importance of adopting pragmatic approaches to tackle political instability, as well as the crucial role of universities in providing guidance to industries. He emphasized the value of collaboration, resource sharing, and best practices, aiming to enhance educational standards and develop demand-driven courses.

Furthermore, the Chancellor highlighted the objective of making educational institutions relevant by fostering partnerships between industry and government. He expressed his eagerness to receive valuable suggestions from think tanks, in order to bridge the trust deficit between universities and society. The Chancellor envisioned the consortium as a platform for implementable and sustainable collective wisdom. He extended gratitude to the Vice Chancellors for their presence and expressed his anticipation for their proposals.

The Chancellor pledged technical, moral, administrative, and financial support for promoting and implementing the productive projects agreed upon during the conference. He further advised that the collaborative consortia should also meet at the governor house at least once, if not twice, a year. He proposed various initiatives, including shared bus services, credit hour transfers, the freedom to launch marketed courses, and a strong commitment to maintaining education quality.



The Chairman HEC, Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed expressed appreciation for the universities' commendable work and urged them to seize the opportunity to come together and reflect on their achievements, current standing, and identify areas of improvement. Recognizing the rapidly advancing global community, he emphasized the need to enhance our capacity to address major national and international challenges. He encouraged universities to develop their vision for 2050 and establish sustainable plans to facilitate the achievement of their goals.

The Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir underscored the conference's primary objective of addressing critical challenges and expressing appreciation to the attendees. He said that the global economic recession and widespread unemployment were consequences of COVID-19, escalating oil prices, climate change, and a scarcity of skilled human resources. A cautionary message was given about the potential 10% economic value decline by 2050, with Asian economies being particularly vulnerable. The chairperson recognized the difficulties faced by the education system in generating graduates well-equipped for the job market, resulting in underemployment and posing challenges for universities. However, he highlighted the transformative potential of technologies, digital investments, and virtual communities in offering solutions to various issues. In his speech the significance of adopting innovative approaches to education and youth training, focusing on real-world skill development, was strongly emphasized. The high rate of youth unemployment in Pakistan was acknowledged, emphasizing the necessity for technological transformation and skill enhancement. Recommendations included the integration of relevance and quality into education, involving industries in curriculum design, and promoting entrepreneurship and internships. The Chairperson concluded by stating that by addressing economic challenges and capitalizing on available resources, Pakistan had the potential to emerge as one of the world's wealthiest nations. At the end, he announced the formation of a steering committee to periodically review and chair meetings to ensure efficiency among collaborative consortia.

## **The VCs conference was structured around several themes and sub-themes, each addressing significant topics of concern**

**Theme I: Governance and Finance:** Challenges & Sharing Good Practices focused on the challenges related to governance and finance, aiming to facilitate discussions on effective governance practices and financial management. Experts and Participants shared their experiences and insights into overcoming governance-related obstacles and implementing sound financial strategies.

**Theme II: Climate Change, Environment, and Pollution (Waste Management)** centered around the pressing issues of climate change, environmental preservation, and pollution, with a specific emphasis on waste management. Discussions revolved around sustainable practices, waste reduction, recycling initiatives, and the importance of preserving and restoring the environment.

**Theme III: Entrepreneurship** explored the principles, strategies, and challenges of entrepreneurship, providing a platform for aspiring entrepreneurs to learn from experienced professionals. Experts and Participants discussed innovative business models, funding opportunities, and the role of entrepreneurship in driving economic growth.

**Theme IV: Character Building** dived into the concept of character building, focusing on personal development, ethical values, and social responsibility. Discussions revolved around fostering positive traits, promoting integrity and empathy, and cultivating a strong moral foundation in individuals and communities.

**Theme V: Drugs and Narcotics** aimed to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of drug abuse and discuss preventive measures, rehabilitation programs, and policy frameworks to combat this global problem. Experts and Participants shared insights on effective strategies and initiatives to address drug-related challenges in youth.

**Theme VI: Women Empowerment** revolved around promoting gender equality, empowering women in various sectors, and addressing gender-based discrimination and violence. The theme aimed to inspire and facilitate the exchange of ideas and success stories that promote women's rights and opportunities.

**Theme VII: titled "Promotion of Technologies & technology-intensive Solutions-Research & Scholarship on Energy"** and was a comprehensive theme that explored the intersection of technology, research, scholarship, and energy. It delved into various sub-themes to shed light on different aspects of this field.



# Formation of Consortiums and the Steering Committee

In line with the approval of the competent authority and pursuance of the decision taken during vice-chancellors' conference 2022 for all Public sector universities held at Kohsar university Murree regarding paradigm shift in higher education-hackathon planning for future dated Sep 29th –Oct 01st 2022, several Consortiums and a Steering Committee were established.

The purpose of forming the consortiums was to tackle essential topics necessary for the progress of education. Here are the designated themes and the names of the Conveners associated with each theme:

**Theme I: Governance and Finance: Challenges & Sharing Good Practices:** Convener, Prof. Dr. Talat Naseer Pasha, Vice-Chancellor, University of Education Lahore

**Theme II: Climate Change, Environment, and Pollution (Waste Management)** Convener, Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Vice-Chancellor, Islamia University Bahawalpur

**Theme III: Entrepreneurship;** Convener, Prof. Dr. Sumaira Rehman, Rector Superior University Lahore

**Theme IV: Character Building** Convener Prof. Dr. Rukhsana Kausar Vice-Chancellor, GC university Sialkot

**Theme V: Drugs and Narcotics** Convener, Prof. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Kundi, Vice-Chancellor, BUZ, Multan

**Theme VI: Women Empowerment** Convener, Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice-Chancellor, Lahore College for Women University Lahore

**Theme VII: titled "Promotion of Technologies & technology-intensive Solutions-Research & Scholarship on Energy", Sub-Theme-1:** Energy, Convener, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission

**Theme VII: titled "Promotion of Technologies & technology-intensive Solutions-Research & Scholarship on Energy sub-theme II,** Food Security, Convener Prof. Dr. Nasim Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, university of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore

**Theme VII: titled "Promotion of Technologies & technology-intensive Solutions-Research & Scholarship on Energy sub-theme III, Current Trends in Health Education,** Convener, Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal, Vice-Chancellor, FJMU Lahore

**Theme VII: titled "Promotion of Technologies & technology-intensive Solutions-Research & Scholarship on Energy sub-theme IV: STEM Education and Science Diplomacy** Convener, Prof. Dr. Habib Bokhari, Vice-Chancellor, Kohsar University, Murree

To ensure progress on these themes, each consortium is led by a designated convener who assumes the responsibility of guiding the efforts. The consortiums are tasked with developing recommendations and policies for the government based on their respective themes. Regular meetings are scheduled for the consortiums on a monthly basis, providing a platform for discussions and collaboration. These meetings can be conducted either in person or through online means, facilitating efficient communication and participation among the members.

After a period of three months, the consortiums are required to present their findings and progress reports to the steering committee. This committee, headed by Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, consists of the conveners from all the consortiums. The steering committee plays a vital role in overseeing the overall progress of each theme, ensuring that the objectives are being met effectively. They conduct monthly progress review meetings, providing a forum for evaluation, feedback, and further guidance. Ultimately, the steering committee is responsible for consolidating the work done by the consortiums and finalizing a comprehensive report encompassing all the themes addressed during the conference.

The constitution of consortiums and the establishment of a Steering Committee are strategic steps taken to drive transformative change in higher education. The consortiums, led by their conveners, focus on specific themes to develop recommendations and policies for the government. The steering committee, comprised of the conveners, assumes the responsibility of monitoring progress, conducting review meetings, and ultimately producing a comprehensive report that encompasses the various themes addressed. These efforts aim to shape the future of higher education and drive positive advancements in the field.



## Session on Energy Challenge in 21st Century at Vice Chancellors' Conference on "Paradigm Shift in Higher Education-Hackathon planning for future"



During the concluding session of a 3-day Vice Chancellors' conference on "Paradigm Shift in Higher Education-Hackathon planning for future" jointly organized by Kohsar University Murree and University of Education Lahore in collaboration with Punjab Higher Education Commission, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, stated that Pakistan possesses 187 billion tonnes of coal reserves valued at US\$30 trillion, which can produce 100,000 MW power for over 500 years by employing clean coal technologies. He emphasized the need for Pakistan to develop its own energy resources to meet the increasing power demands rather than relying on costly imported oil and gas. Dr. Shahid Munir, an internationally acclaimed expert, explained during his presentation on "Meeting Energy Crisis Challenges in 21st Century" that Pakistan's total fuel import bill is US\$21.43 billion, which consumes 66% of its total foreign exchange. He suggested that if Pakistan fully utilizes its natural resources, the energy crisis can be overcome while saving a significant amount of foreign exchange. He pointed out that the challenge in the 21st century is to provide cheap energy in an environmentally friendly manner, as 61% of Pakistan's oil and gas is consumed in power generation. Dr. Shahid Munir stressed the need to redesign Pakistan's energy mix, as the country's total recoverable oil reserves are 233 million barrels, and only 44 million barrels are produced annually. According to him, electricity demand in Pakistan will increase to 49078 MW in 2030, while natural gas production is expected to decline by less than 1% bcf/d (billion cubic feet per day) by 2025 due to depletion, while demand is likely to increase to 8% in the coming days. He highlighted that depletion of indigenous natural resources is one of the significant causes of industrial and domestic load shedding, which has adversely affected export targets. Dr. Shahid Munir urged the immediate exploitation of coal, gas, solar, shale oil and gas, and wind energy potentials to meet the growing demand for low-cost power. He also suggested promoting and encouraging the use of solar water pumps, tube wells, heaters, geysers, cookers, and desalination. Regarding nuclear power, he pointed out that the economies of nuclear energy are characterized by high investment and maintenance costs and low fuel expenses. He also mentioned that 43,000 MW of power could be generated through available wind energy potentials. Dr. Shahid Munir also highlighted that Pakistan is the 5th largest sugarcane producer globally and could produce power from sugarcane and cotton stalk waste. He further suggested that South Asian countries could use biogas, while hydroelectricity is the cheapest source of energy that can bring millions of barren lands under cultivation.



## Role of Higher Education Institutions in Socio-Economic Development in the Country



The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission chaired a panel discussion on the "Role of Higher Education Institutions in Socio-Economic Development in the Country." The discussion took place during the 3rd Rectors' Conference, which was organized by the Association of Private Sector Universities of Pakistan (APSUP) and Superior University, in collaboration with COMSTECH in Islamabad.

The panel discussion featured distinguished panelists, including Prof. Dr. Muhammad Nizamuddin, former Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Shah, Chairperson of the Accreditation Committee at PHEC, Mian Imran Masood, Chairman of the CM task force on Education, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sargodha, and Prof. Dr. Suleman Tahir, Vice Chancellor of KFUEIT in Rahim Yar Khan.

The session focused on the vital role that higher education institutions play in contributing to the socio-economic development of the country. The panelists discussed various ways in which higher education institutions could help drive social and economic development, such as through research and innovation, entrepreneurial activities, and community engagement.

The participation of such eminent professionals in the panel discussion highlights the importance that the Pakistani higher education community places on the role of higher education institutions in contributing to the country's socio-economic development. The discussion provided a platform for sharing ideas and perspectives, which could help inform the development of policies and initiatives aimed at promoting socio-economic growth in the country. The PHEC's continued support for such events is a evidence to its commitment to promoting academic excellence and fostering the development of the higher education sector in Pakistan. The 3rd Rectors' Conference is an excellent example of how collaboration between various institutions can help drive positive change and contribute to the growth and development of the country.





## Chairperson of PHEC Concludes 3rd Rectors' Conference, Emphasizing Collaboration and Cooperation in Higher Education



At the closing ceremony of the 3rd Rectors' Conference. The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission was the Chief Guest. The conference was organized by the Association of Private Sector Universities of Pakistan (APSUP) in collaboration with PHEC, COMSTECH, the Higher Education Commission, The Superior University, and other partner institutions.

The event was attended by more than 80 Vice Chancellors/Rectors of public and private universities from Pakistan, as well as Islamic Universities from Uganda, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania, and Kazakhstan. The occasion was also graced by the presence of the Ambassador of Kazakhstan and diplomats from various OIC member states.

At the closing ceremony, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir distributed certificates to the participants. In his address, he highlighted the importance of collaboration and cooperation between institutions in driving positive change in the higher education sector. He emphasized the role that higher education institutions could play in contributing to the socio-economic development of the country, and urged the participants to work towards this common goal.

The 3rd Rectors' Conference provided an excellent platform for sharing ideas and perspectives, as well as for networking and building relationships between institutions. The participation of Vice Chancellors/Rectors from several countries also helped to promote cross-border collaboration and knowledge exchange, which could have a positive impact on the development of the higher education sector in Pakistan and beyond.





# PHEC 's initiative to promote professional development among the teaching faculty



The Punjab Higher Education Commission organized a certificate distribution ceremony to recognize the efforts of assistant professors from public sector colleges in Punjab. The ceremony was held in the presence of Honorable Raja Yassir Humayun Sarfraz, Minister for Higher Education, Punjab, and Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC.

The certificate distribution ceremony was held to acknowledge the assistant professors' completion of the Promotion-Linked Training Program, which lasted for four weeks. The program was designed to enhance the skills and knowledge of assistant professors and provide them with an opportunity to improve their teaching practices.

It is commendable that the PHEC took this initiative to promote professional development among the teaching faculty. By providing this training program, the PHEC is helping to improve the quality of education in Punjab and ensure that the faculty members are equipped with the necessary skills to help their students succeed.

The presence of Honorable Raja Yassir Humayun Sarfraz, Minister for Higher Education, Punjab, and Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, at the ceremony reflects the government's commitment to promoting quality education and capacity building of faculty members. This initiative is an important step towards achieving the government's goal of providing quality education to all citizens of Punjab.

## International Conference on Present Climatic Challenges and Sustainable Business Practices

The Hailey College of Banking & Finance organized an International conference on "Present Climatic Challenges and Sustainable Business Practices", with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), serving as the Chief Guest for the inaugural session. During his speech, Dr. Munir shed light on the adverse impact of industries on the environment and emphasized the need to implement laws related to burning fields and trees, as well as the use of zigzag technology to reduce the climatic effects in Pakistan. He also highlighted the importance of promoting environmentally-friendly businesses and shared insights on ongoing research to make seawater suitable for farming and drinking purposes. Dr. Munir expressed deep concern over the melting glaciers and resulting floods in Pakistan, and urged immediate action to address the issue.





# Funding for Seminar & Conferences



The 26th meeting of the Expert Review Committee took place on December 05, 2022. During the meeting, the committee approved funding for a total of 08 conference/seminar cases in 2022. Here is the list of the approved cases that received funding from PHEC:

- 1. University of Home Economics, Lahore: The Department of Nutrition and Health Promotion organized the "1st International Conference and Expo on Recent Trends in Clinical Nutrition and Food Sciences" on February 24-25, 2023.
- 2. University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore: The Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science held the "16th International Conference on Open Source Systems and Technologies 2022" on Dec 14-15, 2022.
- 3. Muhammad Nawaz Sharif University of Agriculture, Multan: The Department of Agri Business & Applied Economics hosted the "International Conference on Food Security and Value Chain Improvement under Belt & Road Initiative" on December 06-07, 2022.
- 4. University of the Punjab, Lahore: The Department of Journalism, School of Communication Studies organized the "AMCAP-PU International Media Conference: Revisiting Relationship between Journalism and Society in the Digital Age for Common Good" on February 08-09, 2023.
- 5. Islamia University of Bahawalpur: The Institute of Business Management & Administrative Sciences conducted the "3rd International Conference on Business and Entrepreneurship Research" on December 14-16, 2022.
- 6. Superior University, Lahore: The "Rectors Conference 2022" took place from December 09-11, 2022.
- 7. The Women University Multan: The Department of Education held the "2nd International Conference on Smart Learning Chapter 4: Revival of Education in Era of Post Covid-19 Smart Education for Smart Nations" on October 5-7, 2022.
- 8. University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore: The College of Veterinary & Animal Sciences (CVAS), Jhang Campus organized the "One Health International Conference – 2022" on March 23-24, 2023.
- 9. University of the Punjab, Lahore: The Institute of Islamic Studies conducted the "4th International Conference: Social Responsibilities of Women and Seerat e Tayyiba" on December 07-08, 2022.

# Food Security through Sustainable Vegetation Management



The Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was invited as the chief guest to the 17th National Weed Science Conference held at the University of Punjab Lahore. The theme of the conference was "Food Security through Sustainable Vegetation Management." The conference was organized by the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences and was attended by researchers, scholars, and experts in the field of weed science.

As the chief guest, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir delivered a keynote address, highlighting the importance of sustainable vegetation management in ensuring food security in the country. He appreciated the efforts of the organizers and the participants for their contributions to the field of weed science and emphasized the need for continued research and development in this area.



# Celebration of Best Women University of the Year 2022 and Research Productivity at GCWUF



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended an event to celebrate the achievement of the Best Women University of the Year 2022 (QS Asia Ranking) and Research Productivity Award Ceremony, organized by the Government College Women University Faisalabad (GCWUF).

As the chief guest of the event, Prof. Dr. Munir acknowledged the remarkable achievements of the university and the efforts of the sixty-two faculty members who received the research productivity award. He stressed the importance of promoting research in market-driven topics that can contribute to positive change in various economic and social domains of life.

During the event, Prof. Dr. Munir also inaugurated an Art Exhibition at GCWUF and visited research labs on the campus. The exhibition showcased the artistic talents of the students and faculty members and provided a platform for them to display their creative work.

The ceremony reflects the dedication and hard work of the faculty members and students of GCWUF. The university's commitment to promoting research and fostering an environment of creativity and innovation was evident through the award ceremony and the Art Exhibition.





## Launching Ceremony for **POST-GRADUATE DIPLOMA IN CHEMISTRY AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP** at the University of the Punjab



The Centre for Research in Ionic Liquids (CRIL), School of Chemistry at the University of the Punjab, Lahore, organized a launching ceremony for the Post-Graduate Diploma in Chemistry and Entrepreneurship. The event was graced by the presence of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission as the chief guest.

The Post-Graduate Diploma in Chemistry and Entrepreneurship aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills required to become successful entrepreneurs in the field of chemistry. The course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of chemical principles and their practical applications in the business world.

During the launching ceremony, Prof. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of entrepreneurship in today's world and the need for higher education institutions to promote entrepreneurship among their students. He also acknowledged the efforts of the CRIL in organizing the course and providing students with an opportunity to learn and apply chemical principles in an entrepreneurial setting.

## 1st International Conference on Contemporary World: Challenges and Transformation

Rawalpindi Women University organized the 1st International Conference on Contemporary World: Challenges and Transformation, which was inaugurated by the Chairperson of PHEC, as the chief guest. The conference focused on various issues faced by the contemporary world, including challenges and transformations in the fields of science, technology, literature, and social sciences. The event provided a platform for researchers, scholars, and academics from different countries to share their research, exchange ideas, and discuss solutions to address the challenges faced by the world. As the chief guest, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence at the conference emphasized the importance of such events in promoting research and knowledge-sharing in the academic community.





## The report of the 2nd Vice Chancellors' Conference on "The Challenges of Academic Governance"



Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen, the Vice Chancellor of the University of Home Economics in Lahore, visited the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and met with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC. During the meeting, she presented him with the report of the 2nd Vice Chancellors' Conference on "The Challenges of Academic Governance: Achieving Excellence and Equity in Higher Education."

By presenting the report to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Prof. Dr. Kanwal Ameen sought to share the insights and recommendations generated by the conference with the PHEC. This was the part of a broader effort to collaborate and coordinate efforts to address the challenges facing higher education in Punjab and across the country.

As the Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir welcomed the report and discussed the PHEC's ongoing efforts to support and promote higher education in the region. He also highlighted the various initiatives and programs launched by the PHEC to improve the quality and accessibility of higher education in Punjab.

## Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission Recognizes Academic Excellence at Lahore Garrison University's 5th Convocation

The Chairperson of PHEC, attended the 5th Convocation of Lahore Garrison University, highlighting the Commission's support for promoting higher education in Punjab. The university is known for its academic excellence and the Chairperson's attendance signifies the Commission's recognition of the institution's contribution to the higher education sector. The event also provided an opportunity for the Chairperson to interact with the university's faculty, staff, and students to gain insights into the challenges faced by the sector.





## Syndicate Meetings of Various Universities



The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, participated in the 15th Syndicate meeting of the University of Jhang, the 23rd Syndicate meeting of the University of Okara, the 7th and 8th meeting Syndicate meetings of the University of Narowal and the 17th Syndicate meeting of Government College Women University Faisalabad. All meetings were held at the Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education (BISE) Lahore. The syndicate meetings are the important gathering of university officials and stakeholders where key decisions related to the institution's management and policies are made. As a representative of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's presence at the meetings highlighted the significance that the Commission places on the management and development of higher education institutions in the province.

## Punjab Minister for Higher Education Wraps Up Professional Development Program for ORIC Directors



The Punjab Minister for Higher Education, Raja Yassir Humayun Sarfraz, recently wrapped up a day-long Professional Development Program for Directors of ORIC (Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization) at various universities in Punjab. This initiative was organized by the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and held at the University of Punjab. During the event, the Minister commended PHEC for prioritizing the capacity building of ORIC departments across universities and emphasized the need to enhance research and development practices and commercialize research products both domestically and internationally. He also encouraged PHEC to continue promoting quality education throughout the province by taking additional measures.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, expressed his gratitude to the Honorable Minister for his presence at the event. He explained that the one-day Professional Development Program was designed to enhance the knowledge and skills of ORIC Directors with regards to innovation, technology transfer, industrial collaboration, and commercialization of new ideas and technology output at both national and international levels. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of implementing the learned tools and improving research and development to meet market and industrial needs. Despite limited resources, PHEC has taken various initiatives to strengthen the higher education sector in the province, such as launching programs like the PHEC Innovation Expo, International Students' Cultural Day, Faculty Development Programs, and recognizing university rankings.

At the conclusion of the event, certificates were awarded to the training participants. The closing ceremony was attended by Mr. Naeem Ghaus, the Special Secretary of the Higher Education Department, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the COO of PHEC, as well as officials and officers from PHEC.



## The two Expert Review Committee Meetings for the Award of International Travel Grants



The 38th and 39th meetings of the Expert Review Committee for the Award of International Travel Grants were held on 7th October 2022 and 25th November respectively at the conference room of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC). Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, presided over both meetings. The main objective of the meetings was to review applications submitted by faculty members and researchers from various universities and research institutions in Punjab for international travel grants. The committee, comprising experts from different fields, evaluated the applications based on their merit, relevance to the field of research, financial resources available, and the overall impact of the research on the academic and scientific communities. Prof. Dr. Shahid provided guidance and support to the committee in the decision-making process. The committee awarded grants to 18 eligible applicants to support their international travel for research and academic purposes. A ceremony was subsequently held in the conference room of PHEC to distribute International Travel Grants, where selected candidates were presented with letters of award. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, and Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan, the Director of HRD at PHEC, were in attendance. The Award of International Travel Grants is a significant event that demonstrates the Commission's commitment to promoting research and innovation in Punjab. This initiative can foster collaboration between scholars and researchers from Punjab and their counterparts abroad, which can have a positive impact on the quality of research in the province.



The following text contains the details of the International Travel Grants awarded during the 38th and 39th Meetings:

Dr. Robina Shoeb Yasmin, specializing in Social Sciences & Humanities, will be visiting the UK and is currently working at IUB, Bahawalpur. Dr. Muhammad Arshad, from Natural Sciences will be in Italy and is affiliated with UVAS, Lahore. Dr. Muhammad Zeeshan Majeed, also in Natural Sciences, is heading to Canada while working at the University of Sargodha. Dr. Muhammad Riaz, from Natural Sciences field will be in Spain, affiliated with GCU, Faisalabad. Dr. Fatima Syeda, focusing on Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in the USA and is associated with FC College, Lahore. Dr. Aneela Sabir, from Engineering & Technology, is visiting Australia and currently working at PU, Lahore. Dr. Khalid Mehmood, a Natural Sciences scholar, will be in Korea and is affiliated with IUB, Bahawalpur. Dr. Rukhsana Bibi, specializing in Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in Turkey while working at GCU, Faisalabad. Dr. Khurshaid Alam, also in Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in the UK and is affiliated with PU, Lahore. Dr. Maryam Liaqat, from Engineering & Technology, will be visiting Canada and is associated with the University of Okara. Dr. Salman Ahmad, from Natural Sciences will be in Tunisia, affiliated with the University of Sargodha. Dr. Mubbsher Munawar Khan, focusing on Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in the USA while working at PU, Lahore. Ateeq Abdul Rauf, in the field of Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in the USA and is associated with ITU, Lahore. Dr. Muhammad Shafique, from Natural Sciences will be in Oman and is affiliated with PU, Lahore. Dr. Rizwan Akhtar, specializing in Social Sciences & Humanities, will be in the UK and is affiliated with PU, Lahore. Dr. Muhammad Amjad Bashir, another Natural Sciences scholar, will be in Oman while working at Ghazi University, DG Khan. Dr. Syed Salman Shafqat, in the field of Natural Sciences, will be in Malaysia and is affiliated with the University of Education, Lahore. Lastly, Dr. Misbah Sultan, from Natural Sciences will be in Saudi Arabia and is affiliated with PU, Lahore.



# Advanced Research Facilities in Bioinformatics & Biotechnology at GCUF



The Department of Bioinformatics & Bio-Technology at Government College University Faisalabad (GCUF) has taken significant strides towards the development of their research infrastructure. The department has established a new Directorate of Training & Development, two state-of-the-art Bioinformatics Labs, and an Algal Culture Bank to support their research efforts. These new facilities were inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), in a ceremony held at the university.

The establishment of the Directorate of Training & Development is a significant step towards providing the students and researchers at GCUF with access to the latest knowledge, training, and development opportunities. The two Bioinformatics Labs are equipped with cutting-edge technologies, such as next-generation sequencing and high-performance computing, which will enable the researchers to conduct high-quality research in the field of bioinformatics. Moreover, the Algal Culture Bank is expected to support research efforts in the field of biotechnology and help to discover new species of algae that can be used for different purposes, including biofuel production.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, in his inaugural speech, appreciated the efforts of the University for establishing these new facilities and stressed the importance of research infrastructure in advancing the field of bioinformatics and biotechnology. He also highlighted the role of the Punjab Higher Education Commission in supporting and promoting research in the province of Punjab. The establishment of these new facilities at GCUF is expected to create new opportunities for research and innovation in the field of bioinformatics and biotechnology and contribute to the growth of the higher education sector in Punjab.

## Meeting with University of Punjab Representatives

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, received a visit from Prof. Dr. Saleem Haider, Dean of the Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, and Dr. Shahbaz Ahmad, Chairman of the Department of Entomology, Faculty of Agricultural Sciences, University of Punjab, at his office in PHEC. Dr. Haider updated the Chairperson about the developments at faculty of Agricultural Sciences University of the Punjab Lahore.





## International Conference on South Asia at Past, Present, and Future

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the International Conference on South Asia at Past, Present, and Future. The conference was organized by the Department of History & Pakistan Studies at the University of Punjab, and aimed to bring together scholars and researchers from around the world to discuss the history, culture, and contemporary issues facing South Asia.

The conference featured several keynote speakers and presentations by scholars from diverse disciplines, including history, political science, anthropology, and literature. Discussions covered a wide range of topics, including the history of South Asian civilizations, colonialism and decolonization, political movements and conflicts, and social and cultural change.

As a prominent academic and researcher himself, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's attendance at the conference demonstrates his commitment to promoting and supporting research in higher education institutions across Punjab.



## Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission, Emphasizes Role of Universities in National Development at Education Research Conference

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission, was invited as a special guest to the closing ceremony of the "National Conference on Education Research and the Role of Universities in National Development and Stability" organized by the Punjab University Institute of Education and Research. During his address at the concluding session of the conference, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of conducting research at universities that takes into account the current problems, future challenges, and needs of society. He highlighted that such research can contribute significantly to the country's socio-economic development. The event also included a walk in connection with International Teachers' Day.





# INAUGURATION OF 6TH SCIENTIFIC EXHIBITION at Government Islamia College Civil Lines



The Government Islamia College Civil Lines hosted an event to inaugurate two new initiatives: the 6th Scientific Exhibition and the Pakistan Journal of Emerging Sciences and Technologies (PJECT). The event was graced by the presence of Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), who was there to formally open the two new initiatives.

The inauguration of the 6th Scientific Exhibition and the Pakistan Journal of Emerging Sciences and Technologies (PJECT) marks an important milestone for Government Islamia College Civil Lines. The initiatives provide a platform for young researchers and students to showcase their talent, promote scientific research and innovation, and contribute to the development of the country's scientific and technological landscape.

During the event, Dr. Shahid Munir praised the efforts and dedication of the college leadership and administration for both initiatives. He appreciated the college's commitment to promoting scientific research and innovation and encouraged the students and researchers to continue their work and contribute to the field of science and technology.

## Chairperson of PHEC Recognizes Research Excellence at University of Lahore's Annual Research Productivity Award Ceremony

The University of Lahore (UOL) held its annual UOL Research Productivity Award Ceremony in 2022, an event that celebrates the achievements of faculty members who have contributed significantly to research and scholarly productivity in the academic year. The ceremony was presided over by the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission. His presence at the ceremony indicates the Commission's support for the University of Lahore's efforts to promote and recognize research excellence among its faculty members.

The UOL Research Productivity Award Ceremony provides a platform for the university to acknowledge and appreciate the outstanding research contributions of its faculty members. It also serves as an opportunity for the university to encourage other faculty members to engage in research and scholarly activities.





## 9th Meeting of the Board of Governors of HITECH University Taxila



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the 9th Meeting of the Board of Governors of HITECH University Taxila. The meeting was held to discuss various matters related to the university, including academic programs, research, and infrastructure development. As a member of the Board of Governors, Prof. Munir shared his insights and recommendations to further improve the quality of education and research at the university. The meeting was attended by other members of the Board of Governors, university officials, and representatives from industry and government. The discussions were productive, and the participants agreed to work together to enhance the role of the university in promoting higher education and research in the region.

**Critical role that mental health plays in achieving global development goals**



Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission, attended the "World Mental Health Day" event as the Chief Guest at Fatima Jinnah Medical University in Lahore. During his address to the participants, Dr. Shahid stressed the critical role that mental health plays in achieving global development goals. He highlighted the need for a shift in attitudes, behaviors, and approaches to better support and protect mental health, as well as to help those in need. Dr. Shahid emphasized the importance of creating community-based mental health services and making changes to our environments that can positively impact mental health. He also called for joint efforts to integrate mental health into primary healthcare.





## Discussion on important matters pertaining to the development and progress of standing Committee on Higher Education in the National Assembly

Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed, Chairman of Higher Education Commission (HEC), and Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended an important meeting in Islamabad. It is likely that the meeting focused on important matters related to higher education in Pakistan, as both leaders are key figures in the field. The meeting is expected to have a positive impact on the development and progress of higher education in the country.

## Discussion on the ongoing human rights abuses, political repression, and the need for international attention and support

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission met with Ms. Mushaal Hussein Mullick to discuss the ongoing human rights violations and state terrorism by India in Indian Occupied Kashmir. Ms. Mullick is the wife of Yasin Malik, a prominent revolutionary liberation leader fighting for the freedom of Kashmir from Indian occupation.

During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Ms. Mushaal discussed various issues related to the situation in Kashmir, including the ongoing human rights abuses, political repression, and the need for international attention and support. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir paid tribute to Yasin Malik for his tireless efforts and struggle for the people of Kashmir.

The meeting highlighted the importance of raising awareness about the Kashmir issue and the need for the international community to take concrete steps to address the human rights violations and political repression in the region. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's meeting with Ms. Mushaal Hussein Mullick was a significant step in this direction, demonstrating the commitment of the Punjab Higher Education Commission to human rights and social justice issues.





# CLIMBING UP THE LADDER



Fifteen universities in Punjab, both public and private, have been recognized among the top 1,200 universities in the world according to the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2023. These universities include Government College University Faisalabad, University of Management and Technology Lahore, University of Engineering and Technology Taxila, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, University of Lahore, University of the Punjab Lahore, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, University of Engineering & Technology Lahore, University of Gujrat, PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, University of Sargodha, University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore, Government College University Lahore and Lahore College for Women University.

To celebrate their accomplishments, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) held an award ceremony at Arfa Software Technology Park, Lahore, which was attended by various important figures in the field of education, including the Secretary of the Higher Education Commission (HED), and the Chairman of the Chief Minister's Taskforce for Education. The Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, praised the universities for their remarkable performance despite limited resources, and emphasized the importance of universities in driving socio-economic transition. The ceremony also included discussions on ways to further improve the performance of universities, including providing consultancy services to the government and equipping graduates with moral values.

It is certainly commendable that the universities in Punjab have performed well on the Times Higher Education World University Rankings despite limited resources. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's remarks about the role of universities in creating and disseminating knowledge and driving socio-economic transition are insightful and highlight the importance of investing in higher education. It is also encouraging to hear his emphasis on improving performance by focusing on individual indicators. Overall, the recognition of the universities' achievements is well-deserved and highlights the potential for growth and development in the higher education sector in Punjab.

In honor of the occasion, Mr. Ahmad Raza Sarwar, Secretary Higher Education Department, emphasized the importance of universities providing their expertise to the government in the form of consultancy services, feasibility studies, and design and supervision for government projects. With billions of funds allocated to these initiatives, Mr. Sarwar encouraged universities to step forward and seize this opportunity to generate significant funding for themselves. Additionally, he recommended that universities work alongside government finance personnel to handle budgetary issues and prevent inquiries. Finally, Mr. Sarwar stressed the importance of instilling moral values in graduates to promote a civilized society.

Mian Imran Masood, Chairman of the Chief Minister's Taskforce for Education, also addressed the audience and praised the achievements of universities. As the chairman of the task force, he promised to consider any suggestions from vice chancellors regarding improvements to the higher education sector. These suggestions would be discussed with the Chairperson PHEC and presented to the Chief Minister for a decision.



PHEC Chairperson emphasizes the **INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS AND LIFELONG LEARNING IN MEDICAL EDUCATION** at FMH College's convocation ceremony



The FMH College of Medicine and Dentistry held its convocation ceremony, where Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was present as a distinguished guest. During his address to the attendees, Prof. Munir highlighted the significant impact that advancements in medical, informational, and educational technologies have had on medical education. He emphasized the need for physicians to be equipped with the latest tools and technologies to provide high-quality care to their patients. Prof. Munir also discussed the implications of recent developments in genetics, immunology, imaging, and molecular, cellular, and nanotechnology on the medical education curriculum, which necessitates the development of lifelong learning skills.



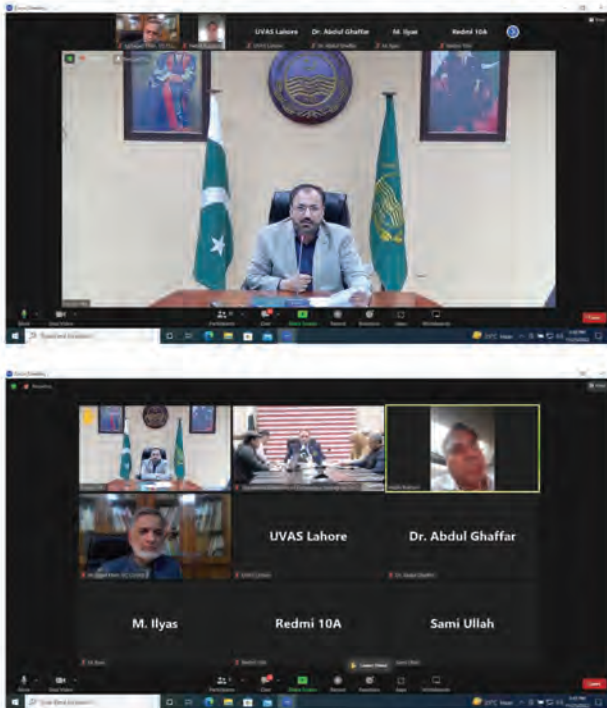
**International Educational Expo Empowers Students' Career Choices at Lahore College for Women University**

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, inaugurated an International Educational Expo organized by Lahore College for Women University as the Chief Guest. The event aimed to provide students with an opportunity to explore various educational institutions and programs both nationally and internationally. The Chairperson of PHEC emphasized the importance of such events in facilitating students in making informed decisions about their future academic and professional careers. The expo was attended by students from various educational institutions and representatives from different universities, colleges, and educational consultancies.





## Consortium to discuss "Theme II: **CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENT & POLLUTION**"



The Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission took part in the first online meeting of the Committee/Consortium for Vice Chancellor Conference 2022. The meeting was held to discuss "Theme II: Climate Change, Environment & Pollution (Waste Management)" and to plan for a Hackathon for the future of higher education. Dr. Shahid Munir was part of the committee responsible for discussing climate change, environment, and pollution, with a particular focus on waste management.

The meeting was conducted virtually, and representatives from various universities and educational institutions participated in the discussion. The aim of the meeting was to bring together experts in the field of climate change and waste management to discuss and propose ideas for the future of higher education in Pakistan.

Dr. Shahid Munir actively participated in the meeting and shared his views on the importance of environmental sustainability and waste management in higher education. He emphasized the need to incorporate these topics into the curricula of universities and to promote research in these areas. Dr. Munir also highlighted the role of technology in waste management and proposed the use of innovative solutions to tackle environmental challenges.

## THE ROLE OF LIBRARIES IN PROMOTING LEARNING AND RESEARCH

The Pakistan Librarians Welfare Organization (PLWO) organized its 9th Annual Dinner and Mushaira event at Faletti's Hotel, Lahore. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission graced the occasion with his presence.

The event provided an opportunity for members of the PLWO to come together and celebrate their achievements over the past year. The annual dinner and mushaira event also serves as a platform to showcase the talent of poets and writers from across the country.

As a guest of honor, Dr. Shahid Munir was invited to address the audience and share his thoughts on the importance of education and the role of libraries in promoting learning and research. He emphasized the crucial role that libraries play in the academic and research pursuits of students and faculty, and how the government is committed to supporting the development of libraries across Punjab.

Dr. Shahid Munir also praised the efforts of the PLWO and its members for their dedication to promoting education and research in the country. He acknowledged the challenges that librarians face in keeping up with the rapidly changing technological landscape and assured them of the government's support in their efforts to enhance the quality of library services in the province.





## PHEC Chairperson Reviews Progress of Rehnumai Markaz, Stresses Importance of Quality Career Counseling for Students



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), chaired a meeting to review the progress of the Rehnumai Markaz at the PHEC Conference Room.

The Rehnumai Markaz is an initiative of PHEC aimed at providing career counseling and guidance to students across Punjab. The center was established to assist students in making informed decisions about their future careers, including selecting the appropriate field of study, choosing the right educational institution, and planning their professional careers.

During the meeting, Dr. Shahid Munir reviewed the progress of the Rehnumai Markaz and emphasized the importance of providing quality career counseling and guidance services to students. He urged the officials to ensure that the center is fully equipped to provide comprehensive and up-to-date information about the various career options available to students.

Dr. Shahid Munir also stressed the need to expand the reach of the Rehnumai Markaz and make its services available to students in remote areas of Punjab. He encouraged the officials to explore new and innovative ways to provide career counseling and guidance services to students, including the use of technology and social media.

## RedMarker Systems CEO Meets PHEC Chairperson to Discuss Standardization and Digitization of Assessment Sector

Ms. Gull Zeba, CEO of Redmarker Systems, had a meeting with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission in his office. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the standardization and digitization of the assessment sector, particularly with regards to online onscreen marking of descriptive papers.

Redmarker Systems is a company that provides software or technology solutions related to assessment and grading. The goal of standardization and digitization in the assessment sector is to improve the efficiency and accuracy of the evaluation process, and online onscreen marking of descriptive papers may be a step towards achieving this goal.

As Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir suggests that he is open to exploring innovative solutions to improve the quality of education and assessment in the region.





## PROMOTING CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND DIVERSITY AMONG STUDENTS



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), inaugurated the International Students Culture Day at the University of Lahore, which was held with the aim of promoting cultural exchange and diversity among students. The event provided an opportunity for Pakistani students to interact with foreign students from various countries and learn about their diverse cultures and ethnicities. This initiative not only fosters cultural understanding but also promotes foreign exchange and attracts international students to study at Pakistani universities.

## Event Honoring French Educationists

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, was in attendance at a dinner event organized by the Honorable Chief Minister of Punjab. The purpose of this dinner was to pay tribute to a delegation of French educationists, who were led by the Deputy Head of the French Mission. The dinner was likely an opportunity for these individuals to exchange ideas and discuss potential collaborations in the field of education between France and Punjab.





## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH organized by the University of Jhang



The "International Conference on Multidisciplinary Research" was organized by the University of Jhang. The conference brought together scholars and researchers from various academic disciplines to share their research findings and ideas, with the aim of fostering interdisciplinary collaboration and advancing knowledge in their respective fields. As a distinguished academic leader and scholar, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, Dr. Munir's presence at the conference as the chief guest added great value to the proceedings. His insights and expertise were highly appreciated by the attendees, who were eager to learn from his vast experience and knowledge in the field of higher education.

## DELEGATION FROM EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY EXPLORES COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITIES WITH PHEC

A delegation from Edith Cowan University, Australia, visited the PHEC office to discuss the foreign PhD and postdoctoral scholarship program, as well as explore potential areas of collaboration. During the meeting, the delegation provided a comprehensive briefing to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, regarding the scholarship program and discussed the eligibility criteria and application process. The delegation also highlighted several areas of mutual interest where collaboration could be explored between PHEC and Edith Cowan University. The meeting was productive and informative, and both parties expressed their willingness to explore further collaboration opportunities.





# 14TH BOG MEETING OF THE UNIVERSITY OF WAH

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the 14th BOG (Board of Governors) meeting of the University of Wah online. The BOG meeting of the University of Wah was an important opportunity for the university and its stakeholders to review progress, identify challenges, and plan a course for the future.

As a member of the BOG, the chairperson PHEC provided valuable insights and perspectives on issues related to higher education, research, and innovation. He demonstrated his full support for the University of Wah and its mission to provide high-quality education and research opportunities to students. He also highlighted the efforts of the Punjab Higher Education Commission to support universities and colleges in the region, and shared his vision for the future of higher education in Pakistan.



## An International Conference on Health Professions Education

The University of Lahore recently organized an International Conference on Health Professions Education, which brought together scholars and experts from various countries to discuss the latest trends and best practices in the field of health education. The conference was a great success and helped in promoting knowledge sharing and collaboration among the participants.

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Dr. Munir was invited to participate as a guest of honor and delivered a keynote speech at the ceremony. In his speech, Dr. Munir highlighted the importance of health professions education and how it plays a critical role in shaping the future of healthcare. He praised the efforts of the University of Lahore for organizing the conference and emphasized the need for promoting research and innovation in the field of health education.

The conference provided a platform for researchers, educators, and practitioners to exchange ideas and share their experiences on various topics related to health professions education. The participants discussed various issues, including curriculum development, teaching methods, assessment, and accreditation.





## Need for creating a safe and nurturing environment for children



The Institute of Education and Research (IER) University of the Punjab hosted the 1st Summit on Child Protection Education. The summit was organized to address the critical issue of child protection and to raise awareness about the importance of educating children about their rights and safety.

The summit was attended by several prominent figures, including Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), who participated as the chief guest. Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of child protection and how it can help in building a strong and prosperous society. He appreciated the efforts of IER for organizing the summit and hoped that such initiatives would continue to be taken in the future.

During the summit, several distinguished speakers discussed various aspects of child protection, including child rights, safety, and education. The speakers highlighted the need for creating a safe and nurturing environment for children, where they can grow and develop into responsible citizens.



## IMPORTANCE OF SUSTAINABLE GROWTH AND ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE ECONOMY

The Superior University, Lahore recently organized the 10th National Research Symposium-2022 on the theme of "Sustainable Growth: A Knowledge Economy Perspective." The event brought together researchers and experts from various fields to discuss and share their research on sustainable growth from a knowledge economy perspective. The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), as the Chief Guest, delivered a keynote speech at the symposium where he highlighted the importance of sustainable growth and the role of knowledge economy in achieving it. He praised the efforts of Superior University in organizing the event and emphasized the need for promoting research and innovation in various fields. The symposium provided a platform for researchers to present their research on various topics related to sustainable growth, including economic, social, and environmental aspects. The participants discussed various issues, including the role of education, technology, and innovation in achieving sustainable growth.





## Human Capital, Innovation, and Disruptive Digital Technologies

The book launching ceremony for "Human Capital, Innovation, and Disruptive Digital Technologies" A Multidimensional Perspective Book by Muhammad Shahbaz, Muhammad Shujaat Mubarik, and Qaisar Abbas, held at the PC Hotel, Lahore, was a notable event that witnessed the presence of renowned scholars and experts in the field of technology and innovation. The event was graced by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, who delivered an insightful speech on the significance of human capital, innovation, and disruptive digital technologies in shaping the future of our economy and society.

In his speech, Dr. Munir highlighted the importance of innovation and the role it plays in enhancing the competitiveness of businesses and economies. He emphasized the need for investing in human capital and promoting research and development to drive innovation and technological advancements. Dr. Munir also emphasized the role of disruptive digital technologies in transforming various sectors, including education, healthcare, and finance. The event was attended by a diverse audience comprising of researchers, educators, policymakers, and technology enthusiasts. The book "Human Capital, Innovation, and Disruptive Digital Technologies" was well-received by the audience and praised for its insights into the latest trends and best practices in the field of technology and innovation.

## 5th International Conference on Punjabi Language, Literature, Art, and Culture



The 5th International Conference on "Punjabi Zuban, Adab, Fnn ty Saqafat Conference" was organized by the Department of Punjabi at Lahore College for Women University Lahore in collaboration with Baba Guru Nanak University, Nankana Sahib. The conference aimed to promote Punjabi language, literature, art, and culture. It was attended by scholars, researchers, and experts from different countries who discussed various topics related to Punjabi language and culture. The closing ceremony, held in Nankana Sahib, was graced by the presence of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), who attended as the chief guest. In his speech, Dr. Munir praised the efforts of the organizers for promoting the rich and diverse culture of Punjab. He emphasized the importance of preserving and promoting regional languages and cultures for the development of the country. The conference provided a platform for participants to exchange ideas and share their experiences on various topics related to Punjabi language, literature, art, and culture. The participants discussed the challenges faced by regional languages and cultures in the modern era and emphasized the need for their preservation and promotion.



## NUCES Chiniot-Faisalabad Campus 17th Convocation Ceremony

The National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences (NUCES) Chiniot, Faisalabad Campus held its 17th Convocation ceremony, where the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was invited as the Chief Guest. During the ceremony, Dr. Shahid Munir distributed degrees and medals to the graduates and congratulated them on their achievements. In his speech, he emphasized the importance of quality education and its impact on the development of the country. He also highlighted the significant role that NUCES has played in providing quality education in the field of computer science and emerging technologies. He also recognized the efforts of the faculty members and administration in ensuring the quality of education at NUCES and praised the students for their dedication and hard work. He encouraged the graduates to use their skills and knowledge to contribute to the country's progress and to make a positive impact on society.



## The importance of medical education and the role of graduates in the development of the healthcare sector in Pakistan

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the 12th Convocation of the King Edward Medical University (KEMU). The convocation was held at the university's auditorium, where hundreds of graduates, parents, faculty members, and distinguished guests were in attendance. During the ceremony, The Honorable Chancellor delivered a keynote address in which he emphasized the importance of medical education and the role of graduates in the development of the healthcare sector in Pakistan. He encouraged the graduates to use their skills and knowledge to make a positive impact on society and contribute to the country's progress.

Dr. Shahid Munir also congratulated the graduates on their academic achievements and recognized the efforts of the faculty members and administration in ensuring the quality of education at KEMU. He praised the university's commitment to producing competent and skilled professionals who are equipped to meet the challenges of the healthcare sector in Pakistan and beyond.





## The importance of research in education and its impact on the development of the education sector in Pakistan



At the International Conference on Research in Education (ICORE-2022), organized by the Institute of Education and Research (IER) at the University of Punjab. The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission was invited as the Chief Guest for the closing ceremony. The conference aimed to provide a platform for researchers, practitioners, and educators to share their insights and discuss the latest developments in the field of education research. During the closing ceremony, Dr. Munir delivered a speech in which he highlighted the importance of research in education and its impact on the development of the education sector in Pakistan. He appreciated the efforts of IER in organizing such a significant event and praised the quality of research papers presented by the participants. The conference featured keynote speeches, panel discussions, and research paper presentations on various topics related to education research, including curriculum development, teacher education, and educational policies. The participants shared their research findings and discussed ways to enhance the quality of education in Pakistan.



## Accreditation Committee Meeting at Punjab Higher Education Commission



On December 20, 2022, the Accreditation Committee meeting was held at the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), with Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali, Vice Chancellor of Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, serving as the convener. The meeting was attended by members of the Accreditation Committee, including representatives from universities, HEC, and PHEC. During the meeting, the committee reviewed and evaluated the accreditation reports of various universities and degree-awarding institutions. The members discussed the accreditation criteria, including academic standards, quality of faculty, research output, facilities, and student services. They also reviewed the progress of universities in meeting the criteria set by the committee. The members of the committee provided valuable feedback and suggestions to the universities to improve their performance and meet the required standards for accreditation. The committee emphasized the importance of maintaining academic quality and standards in higher education institutions.



## 36th Meeting of the Syndicate of the Women University Multan



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir participated in the 36th Meeting of the Syndicate of the Women University Multan. The meeting was held online, indicating that the participants attended remotely using digital communication tools. The Syndicate is a governing body responsible for overseeing the management and administration of the Women University Multan. As the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir attended the meeting in this capacity to provide guidance, input, and support related to higher education policy in Punjab.

## The standardization of the formation of a panel of foreign and local referees

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), chaired an online meeting to discuss the standardization of the formation of a panel of foreign and local referees. The panel will be responsible for evaluating the application dossiers of candidates for the posts of Associate Professor and Professors in Public Sector Universities in Punjab. The meeting was attended by Vice Chancellors from various universities, including the University of Sargodha, Government College Women University Sialkot, Rawalpindi Women University, Mir Chakar Khan Rind University of Technology, Emerson University Multan, University of Mianwali, and Punjab Technology University Rasul. Representatives from King Edward Medical University, Ghazi University DG Khan, and Faisalabad Medical University were also present at the meeting.



## Meeting between Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Mr. Qasim Ali Shah to Promote Personal Development in Education

Renowned motivational speaker Mr. Qasim Ali Shah met with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), at the PHEC office. Given Mr. Qasim's background in motivational speaking and personal development, they discussed ways to promote these areas within the education sector. Dr. Shahid Munir has been a strong advocate for the development of human capital in Punjab and has supported various initiatives aimed at improving the quality of education and promoting personal growth among students. The meeting with Mr. Qasim Ali Shah was the part of these efforts to bring new perspectives and ideas to the education sector in Punjab.







## Launching ceremony of the **15th Annual Report 2022 of the Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy at NetSol**

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended the launching ceremony of the 15th Annual Report 2022 of the Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy at NetSol (BIPP). The report was titled "The State of the Economy: Frontline Stakeholders Reaping the Gender Dividend" and was launched at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Lahore. During the ceremony, the chairperson addressed the participants and highlighted the importance of gender equality in promoting economic growth and development. He emphasized the need for policies and initiatives that promote gender equality and provide equal opportunities for women in all sectors of society. The annual report presented a comprehensive analysis of the state of the economy and the role of gender in economic growth and development. It highlighted the challenges and opportunities for promoting gender equality in Pakistan and provided recommendations for policymakers, stakeholders, and civil society organizations.

Dr. Munir appreciated the efforts of the Shahid Javed Burki Institute of Public Policy at NetSol in conducting research and analysis on critical issues related to economic growth and development. He emphasized the importance of evidence-based policy-making and the need for research and analysis to inform policy decisions.



## Standardization of Referee Panels for Faculty Evaluation in Punjab Universities

The two online meetings were held in different dates and timings, to discuss the standardization of the formation of a panel of foreign and local referees for evaluating the application dossiers of candidates for the posts of associate professors and professors in public sector universities in Punjab. Both of the meetings were chaired by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC. These meeting were attended by several esteemed academic figures, including Prof. Dr. Mansoor Akhbar Kundi (Vice Chancellor of BZU), Prof. Dr. Rubina Farooq (VC of GCWUF), Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza (VC of LCWU), Prof. Dr. Asif Ali (VC of MNS Agriculture Multan), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Kamran (VC of MNS-UET Multan), Prof. Dr. Saiqa Imtiaz Asif (VC of GSCWU Bahawalpur), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sajjad Khan (VC of CUVAS), and Prof. Dr. Javed Akhtar (VC of University of Sahiwal). UET Taxila, University of Okara, UVAS, and University of Gujrat, as well as representatives from GCU Lahore, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Information Technology University Lahore, Fatima Jinnah Women University Rawalpindi, Fatima Jinnah Medical University Lahore, and Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering and Information Technology Rahim Yar Khan. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and develop a standardized process for forming a panel of referees that will evaluate the applications of candidates for the posts of associate professors and professors in public sector universities in Punjab. The panel will consist of both foreign and local referees. The meeting was held to ensure that the process is fair and consistent for all candidates, regardless of their background or the university they are applying to.



# The importance of education and skill development for women empowerment



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), attended a meeting at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The meeting was focused on women empowerment and personal development, aiming to establish a roadmap for empowering women in entrepreneurship by fostering collaboration between industry and academia.

The event was attended by prominent figures from academia, industry, and government, including Dr. Munir, who shared his valuable insights on the importance of education and skill development for women's empowerment. He emphasized the need to bridge the gap between academia and industry by promoting research and innovation that could be used to develop entrepreneurial skills among women.

The participants discussed the challenges faced by women in the business world, such as access to finance, networking opportunities, and mentorship. The meeting highlighted the role of universities and research institutions in promoting entrepreneurship and creating an enabling environment for women to start and grow their businesses.

Dr. Munir stressed the importance of promoting women's leadership and entrepreneurship by providing them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and resources. He emphasized that women's empowerment is not only essential for their personal development but also for the economic growth of the country.

The meeting concluded with the development of a roadmap that will guide industry and academia to work together to empower women in entrepreneurship. The roadmap will focus on providing access to finance, mentoring, networking, and training programs to women entrepreneurs. It will also aim to promote research and innovation that could help overcome the barriers faced by women in the business world.

Prof. Dr. Noshina Saleem, Director of the School of Communication Studies at Punjab University, Lahore, paid a visit to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, at his office, and updated him about the progress made by school of communication studies under her leadership.







# 16th IEEE International Conference on Open-Source Systems and Technologies at UET, Lahore

(December 21 -23/ 2022)



The Al-Khawarizmi Institute of Computer Science at the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Lahore, organized the 16th IEEE International Conference on Open-Source Systems and Technologies (ICOSST 2022) from December 21-23, 2022. The conference aimed to provide a platform for researchers, practitioners, and educators to exchange ideas, present research results, and share experiences in the area of open-source systems and technologies. The conference was inaugurated by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), as the Chief Guest. In his address, Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of open-source systems and technologies in promoting innovation, collaboration, and knowledge sharing. He also highlighted the role of academia in fostering research and development in this field. During the conference, the Chairperson also visited the exhibition, where he interacted with the participants and learned about their research projects and innovations. He appreciated the efforts of the organizers in organizing the conference and providing a platform for researchers and practitioners to share their knowledge and experiences. In his address to the participants, Dr. Munir emphasized the importance of research and innovation in addressing the challenges faced by society. He encouraged the participants to collaborate and share their knowledge and experiences to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in Pakistan.







## Health Professionals Education Course at Fatima Jinnah Medical University

The Department of Medical Education at Fatima Jinnah Medical University organized the second contact session for the 6th batch of the Certificate in Health Professionals Education (CHPE) course from December 12 to 14, 2022. The course aims to enhance the teaching skills of healthcare professionals and is designed to meet the needs of medical educators in Pakistan. The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission was the Chief Guest at the event. During his speech, he appreciated the efforts of the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Khalid Masud Gondal, in promoting excellence in medical education. He also highlighted the importance of quality medical education in the country and the role of PHEC in facilitating it. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, was also present at the event. He emphasized the need for continuous professional development and training in the field of medical education, and commended the Department of Medical Education for providing this opportunity to healthcare professionals through the CHPE course. The three-day contact session included lectures, workshops, and interactive sessions conducted by experienced medical educators. The participants had the opportunity to enhance their teaching skills, learn about new teaching methodologies, and share their experiences with fellow healthcare professionals.



## The 22nd UROCON 2022

The 22nd UROCON 2022, the Annual PAUS Urology Conference organized by the Pakistan Association of Urological Surgeons (PAUS). The conference was held at the PC Hotel in Lahore and was attended by a large number of urological surgeons, medical professionals, and researchers inaugurated by the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission. During the inauguration, Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the importance of the conference in bringing together medical professionals and researchers to share their knowledge and experiences in the field of urology. He praised the efforts of the PAUS in organizing the conference and recognized their contribution to the development of the healthcare sector in Pakistan. He emphasized the need for continuous medical education and research to address the challenges faced by the healthcare sector in Pakistan. He encouraged the participants to use the conference as a platform to learn from each other, collaborate, and contribute to the development of the field of urology.





## 29th Meeting of the Punjab Higher Education Commission

The 29th commission meeting of Punjab Higher Education Commission was held on December 19, 2022, at the PHEC Conference Room in Arfa Software Technology Park, Lahore. The meeting was chaired by the Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, and attended by the worthy members, including Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob (VC IUB Bahawalpur), Mian Imran Masood (VC University of South Asia, Lahore), Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali (Chairman, Accreditation Committee), Mr. Nazeer Hussain, DG Coordination (HEC Nominee), Prof. Dr. Arif Nazeer Butt (Professor, LUMS Lahore), Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal, VC of Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Dr. Sumaira Rehman (Rector, Superior University, Lahore), Mr. Muhammad Haider Amin (CEO, RUH group), Prof. Naazish Ata-Ullah (Former Principal NCA), Mr. Shahid Zaman Lak (Additional Secretary, HED Govt. of Punjab), Prof. Dr. Naima Khurshid (Principal, Govt. APWA Graduate College for Women, Lahore), representatives of the Secretary Health, Finance, and Agriculture Departments of the Govt. of Punjab, and Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer/Secretary of the Commission.





## Recognizing women's leadership in academia to create a more diverse and inclusive environment for higher education

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), recently attended a reception held in honor of Prof. Dr. Sumaira Rehman, the Rector of Superior University. The reception, held at PC Lahore, celebrated Prof. Dr. Rehman's appointment as a Member of the Higher Education Commission. As the chief guest of the event, Dr. Munir expressed his appreciation for Dr. Rehman's achievements and emphasized the importance of promoting and recognizing women's leadership in academia.

## A post-event meeting of the steering committee to gather feedback and suggestions

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, chaired a post-event meeting of the steering committee for the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022. The meeting aimed to gather feedback and suggestions from co-host partners regarding the expo. The event was held successfully with the participation of various universities and organizations from across Punjab.

The All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022 was a successful event that showcased innovative ideas and projects from students across Punjab. The steering committee, which included officials from PHEC and representatives from various educational institutions, worked together to ensure the event's success.

During the meeting, the attendees discussed the expo's strengths and weaknesses. The co-host partners provided their feedback and suggestions to improve the event's organization, planning, and execution.

Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the importance of continuing to support innovation and creativity in the educational sector, especially among students. He praised the efforts of the co-host partners and the steering committee for their hard work and dedication in making the expo a success.

The post-event meeting was essential in ensuring that the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo continues to evolve and grow, and its success encourages students to innovate and contribute to the development of the country.





## Evaluation of funding proposals for conferences and seminars



The 26th meeting of the Expert Review Committee was held at the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) conference room, with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, as the convenor. The meeting was attended by Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, Vice Chancellor of Lahore College for Women University, Prof. Dr. Mahmmod Ayaz, Vice Chancellor of Khawaja Muhammad Safdar Medical College, Prof. Dr. Habib Ali Bokhari, Vice Chancellor of Kohsar University, Murree, Prof. Dr. Qaiser Abbas, Vice Chancellor of the University of Sargodha, and Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director of HRD at PHEC.

During the meeting, the committee reviewed funding proposals for conferences and seminars. The committee members assessed the proposals and made recommendations based on the proposals' quality, relevance, and expected outcomes. The goal of the committee is to ensure that the conferences and seminars organized with PHEC funding promote higher education, advance knowledge, and benefit the academic community. The attendance of these distinguished professionals at the Expert Review Committee meeting reflects their commitment to promoting quality education in Punjab. Their expertise and experience in their respective fields are invaluable in making informed decisions regarding funding proposals for conferences and seminars.

The PHEC's commitment to promoting higher education through funding such events is a step towards achieving the government's goal of providing quality education to all citizens of Punjab. The Expert Review Committee's efforts to review these proposals and ensure their relevance and quality are critical in promoting academic excellence and facilitating knowledge sharing in the province.

## PHEC Evaluates Research Projects for Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award (2022)



The Punjab Higher Education Commission conducted a meeting to evaluate research projects submitted for the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award (2022). The meeting was chaired by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC. During the meeting, a committee was constituted with the primary objective of evaluating the research projects submitted by various researchers and institutions. This committee will be responsible for assessing and evaluating the submitted projects on the basis of their relevance, feasibility, originality, and potential impact.

The Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award is an initiative launched by PHEC to encourage and promote research and innovation in Punjab. This award aims to recognize and reward innovative research projects that can contribute to the development and progress of the province.

The evaluation process will be rigorous and transparent to ensure that only the most deserving projects receive the award. The committee will evaluate the projects based on their scientific merit, practicality, and potential impact on society. They will also consider the feasibility of the project and the capacity of the research team to complete it successfully.





## Continuing Professional Development Program for ORIC Directors in Punjab



The Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, inaugurated the One-Day Continuing Professional Development Program for Directors of ORIC from various universities in Punjab. The program was organized by the Punjab Higher Education Commission and held at the University of Punjab. Its objective was to enhance the essential knowledge and skills of the participants in areas such as innovation and technology transfer, industrial collaboration, and commercialization of novel ideas and technology output, with a focus on national and international platforms.



## LAUNCH OF NEW SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS sponsored by the Burki Institute of Public Policy

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, recently chaired a meeting to discuss the launch of new scholarship programs sponsored by the Burki Institute of Public Policy (BIPP) in multiple disciplines at various universities. The meeting was attended by Dr. Bushra Mirza, VC LCWU, Dr. Muhammad Ashraf, Rector UoL, Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director PHEC, Baquee Bin Haneef, Treasurer UHS, Dr. Muniza Qayyum, Dean FJMU, Muhammad Ali Qazi, and representatives from BIPP, including Mr. Babar Yaqoob Fateh Muhammad, Dr. Muhammad Ijaz Sandhu, Mr. Samiullah, Farzana Shahid, Ms. Samra Naz, and Ms. Aiman Adban. The participants discussed the details and modalities of the new scholarship programs during the meeting.







## Educational Leadership for Sustainable Development

The Department of Education at the University of Management & Technology, Lahore, organized the International Conference on Research in Educational Leadership (ICOREL'22). The conference focused on the theme of Educational Leadership for Sustainable Development and was held on November 24-25, 2022. The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was the chief guest at the occasion.

During the conference, the chairperson addressed the participants and emphasized the role of educational leadership in promoting sustainable development. He highlighted the importance of quality education in shaping the future of Pakistan and the need for effective leadership in the education sector.

The conference provided a platform for researchers, educators, and practitioners to share their knowledge and experiences in the field of educational leadership. The participants presented their research papers and discussed their findings and recommendations for improving educational leadership and promoting sustainable development. Dr. Munir appreciated the efforts of the organizers in organizing the conference and providing a platform for researchers and practitioners to exchange ideas and share their experiences. He emphasized the need for collaboration between academia, industry, and government to promote sustainable development through education.

## Talent Hunt Recruitment Drive organized by the Career Counseling & Placement Centre at the Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology, University of the Punjab Lahore, chaired by the Chairperson of PHEC



The chairperson PHEC chaired the Talent Hunt Recruitment Drive organized by the Career Counseling & Placement Centre at the Institute of Chemical Engineering & Technology, University of the Punjab Lahore. That was designed to identify and recruit talented individuals for various positions.

As the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir had been invited to participate in the event to offer guidance and support related to higher education and career development in Punjab. He played a key role in the event's success, delivering a keynote address, providing insights and guidance, and encouraging participants to pursue their career goals. The involvement of the Career Counseling & Placement Centre highlights the importance of career development and job placement services in higher education institutions.



## Evaluation of research projects for the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award at PHEC



A meeting was held at the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) to evaluate research projects submitted for the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award for the year 2022. The meeting was presided over by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC.

The committee, which was constituted specifically for this purpose, was tasked with reviewing the research projects submitted for the award and evaluating their potential for innovation and impact. The evaluation process involved a detailed assessment of the proposals, which have included factors such as the feasibility of the research, its relevance to societal or economic needs, the potential for commercialization, and the qualifications of the researchers involved.

The Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award is a prestigious award that recognizes outstanding research projects and aims to encourage innovative and impactful research in Punjab, Pakistan. By evaluating and selecting the most promising projects, the award aims to support research that can contribute to the development of the province and the country as a whole.

## Lessons & Legacies of the Pandemic in Education

On October 14, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, delivered a keynote address at Forman Christian College University's conference on "Lessons & Legacies of the Pandemic in Education: The Future of Research Trends, Pedagogical Approaches, and Leadership Challenges." The conference aimed to explore the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education, research trends, pedagogical approaches, and leadership challenges, while also identifying potential solutions to address the challenges posed by the pandemic. The chairperson PHEC provided valuable insights into the key issues and challenges facing the education sector during the pandemic. His keynote address has focused on the importance of innovation, collaboration, and technology in adapting to the new normal in education, while also highlighting the role of leadership in navigating through these uncertain times.





# TWO CENTURIES OF URDU JOURNALISM: A Journey of Opportunities and Challenges

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission addressed the 1st International Media and Communication Conference organized by the University of Management and Technology (UMT) in Lahore. The conference was themed "Two Centuries of Urdu Journalism: A Journey of Opportunities and Challenges."

The event aimed to explore the history and current state of Urdu journalism, as well as the challenges and opportunities facing the field. The involvement of UMT and its efforts to promote academic and intellectual discussions on important topics highlight the university's commitment to advancing knowledge and research in the field of media and communication.



## Chairperson of PHEC interviewed by TUM World on improving higher education in Punjab



The Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), recorded an interview with TUM World, a UK-based satellite TV network. During the interview, he discussed PHEC's vision, mission, achievements, and future roadmap for improving the quality and standard of higher education in Punjab. His interview with TUM World offered a platform to showcase PHEC's efforts to improve the quality of education in Punjab and raise awareness about the commission's vision and mission.

The interview provided insights into how PHEC is working to achieve its goals and offered a glimpse into its future plans. By sharing PHEC's achievements and future roadmap, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir highlighted the importance of promoting higher education in Punjab and how PHEC is addressing the challenges faced by the region's education sector.

The interview with TUM World underscores the importance of public communication and outreach in promoting higher education and academic excellence. It also highlights the role of media outlets in fostering discussions and sharing information about important issues related to education and development.



# All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022



On November 11, an online meeting of the steering committee was held to discuss the organization of the "All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022," under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, and PHEC. The meeting was an important step towards ensuring a successful event, which aimed to promote innovation, research, and collaboration between academia and industry, while also driving economic growth and development in the region.

During the meeting, the steering committee discussed several important matters related to the event, such as progress on event planning and logistics, participant selection, scheduling of activities, and coordination with various stakeholders. They have also discussed the promotion and marketing strategies to ensure maximum participation and engagement from students, faculty members, and researchers.

As the Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir played a crucial role in guiding and directing the steering committee towards achieving the goals of the All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2022. His leadership and expertise in the higher education sector contributed significantly to shaping the objectives and direction of the event.



## Health Professionals Education Course at Fatima Jinnah Medical University

The Department of Medical Education at Fatima Jinnah Medical University organized the second contact session for the 6th batch of the Certificate in Health Professionals Education (CHPE) course from December 12 to 14, 2022. The course aims to enhance the teaching skills of healthcare professionals and is designed to meet the needs of medical educators in Pakistan.

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission was the Chief Guest at the event. During his speech, he appreciated the efforts of the Vice-Chancellor of the university, Prof. Khalid Masud Gondal, in promoting excellence in medical education. He also highlighted the importance of quality medical education in the country and the role of PHEC in facilitating it.

Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of PHEC, was also present at the event. He emphasized the need for continuous professional development and training in the field of medical education, and commended the Department of Medical Education for providing this opportunity to healthcare professionals through the CHPE course.

The three-day contact session included lectures, workshops, and interactive sessions conducted by experienced medical educators. The participants had the opportunity to enhance their teaching skills, learn about new teaching methodologies, and share their experiences with fellow healthcare professionals.



## The Student Facilitation Center, an important step towards promoting student welfare and success

Meeting between  
PHEC Chairperson  
and Lahore Chamber  
of Commerce &  
Industry explores  
collaboration for  
promoting higher  
education and  
research



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), held a meeting with Mr. Kashif Anwar, President of The Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The meeting focused on the areas of collaboration between the two organizations to promote higher education, research, and strengthen the linkages between industry and academia.

During the meeting, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Mr. Kashif Anwar discussed the ways in which the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and PHEC can work together to support research and innovation in various industries. They may have also explored ways to promote entrepreneurship and innovation among students and researchers in universities and educational institutions.



The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission inaugurated the "Student Facilitation Center" at FAST-National University of Computer & Emerging Sciences Chiniot, Faisalabad. The Student Facilitation Center is a dedicated facility that provides a range of services and resources to students to support their academic and personal development. These include academic counseling, career guidance, job placement support, extracurricular activities, and other support services to enhance the overall student experience.

By inaugurating the Student Facilitation Center, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir demonstrated his support for the university's efforts to provide a high-quality education and support services to its students. He also delivered a speech, highlighting the importance of providing such facilities and services to students to help them succeed in their academic and professional lives.





## PHEC Chairperson delivers keynote address at 4th International Conference on Computer Science and Applied Technologies



The 4th International Conference on Computer Science and Applied Technologies (ICCSAT) was organized by Lahore Garrison University. Attending the conference as the Chief Guest, the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission delivered a keynote address, sharing his insights and perspectives on the latest developments and trends in computer science and applied technologies. He also highlighted the efforts of the Punjab Higher Education Commission to promote research and innovation in these fields. The ICCSAT is an important platform for researchers, academicians, and industry professionals to share their latest findings, exchange ideas, and explore opportunities for collaboration. The conference covered a wide range of topics, including artificial intelligence, big data, cybersecurity, software engineering, and other emerging fields of computer science and technology.

## The 5th Syndicate meeting of KOHSAR UNIVERSITY MURREE

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, attended the 5th Syndicate meeting of Kohsar University Murree online. The Syndicate meeting was an important forum for university officials to collaborate and make decisions that will help shape the future of the institution. As the Chairperson of PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir played an important role in the meeting, providing guidance and expertise on higher education issues and policies. He also discussed the PHEC's ongoing efforts to support and promote higher education in Punjab, and how these efforts could be extended to benefit Kohsar University Murree.











## PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION



[www.punjabhec.gov.pk](http://www.punjabhec.gov.pk)



/PHEC\_official



/punjabhec



/punjabhec