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The Women University Multan



University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore



PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Message from the Chairperson

The resounding success of the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo marks not only a significant event but also the establishment of a lasting legacy, catalyzing sustained progress in the culture of higher education, innovation, and collaborative initiatives spearheaded by the Punjab Higher Education Commission across the region. Our goal is to move beyond merely showcasing our capabilities and undergo a paradigm shift from theoretical research to applied research. This signifies our commitment to nurture practical application of knowledge, product development and research commercialization.

This Expo served as a dynamic platform, enabling universities to showcase pioneering projects and cultivate a culture of innovation, collaboration, and societal and industrial impact, transcending traditional measures like publication impact factors. This event not only acknowledged excellence but also stimulated meaningful discussions on the future of education, industry partnerships, and the evolving landscape of innovation in Punjab, aiming to bridge the gap that often separates academia and industry.

Looking forward, I discern untapped potential in the diverse academic landscape and am eager to harness these resources to further enhance the quality of education and innovation in the region. Our approach seeks to bridge the divide between academia and industry by urging universities to actively shape discourse and exhibit their innovative initiatives, fostering a harmonious relationship between educational institutions and industries that propels societal and economic progress.

I advocate for a proactive stance from universities as we prepare for the 3rd Innovation Expo. Envisioning a scenario where universities are not merely participants but active contributors to a rich tapestry of ideas and breakthroughs, this approach anticipates increased participation, heightened innovation, and even greater success. This forward-thinking strategy is imperative to ensure that future Expos consistently contribute to the ongoing evolution of education and innovation in Punjab.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.)
Chairperson Punjab Higher Education



EDITORIAL NOTE

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) has undertaken a significant initiative by designing and implementing a comprehensive set of Faculty Development Programs with the explicit aim of advancing teaching excellence across higher education institutions in Punjab. These programs are strategically formulated to not only elevate pedagogical strategies but also to foster continuous professional development and empower faculty members actively involved in delivering instruction at the higher education level.

These programs are meticulously curated to cover a diverse range of topics, embracing innovative teaching approaches, the seamless integration of technology within the classroom setting, and the adoption of effective assessment strategies. The overarching goal is to equip faculty members with the most up-to-date tools and techniques, enabling them to create dynamic, interactive, and engaging learning environments for their students.

The training sessions are dynamic and responsive to the evolving landscape of education. They provide faculty members with insights into novel teaching methodologies that go beyond traditional approaches. By incorporating discussions on innovative teaching approaches, educators are encouraged to explore and experiment with methods that can enhance the overall learning experience.

Furthermore, the emphasis on integrating technology into the classroom signifies PHEC's recognition of the transformative role technology plays in modern education. Faculty members are exposed to the latest educational technologies and are trained in their effective utilization to augment the teaching and learning process. This not only enhances the technological proficiency of educators but also enriches the educational experience for students, making it more interactive and aligned with contemporary learning trends.

PHEC's commitment to advancing teaching excellence is manifested through these carefully crafted Faculty Development Programs. By focusing on cutting-edge methodologies, technology integration, and effective assessment strategies, PHEC is fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in higher education across Punjab. The ultimate aim is to empower faculty members to deliver high-quality instruction that meets the evolving needs of students and prepares them for success in a rapidly changing world.

Dr. Bushra Inayat Raja
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THE 2ND ALL PUNJAB UNIVERSITIES INNOVATION EXPO-2023

Building on the success of the First Expo, the PHEC, in collaboration with 12 provincial universities, organized the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo-2023 on November 20, 2023, at the Expo Centre Lahore. This monumental gathering showcased the endeavors of 47 universities across Punjab, featuring a remarkable display of 432 projects.

University Collaborations: Twelve prestigious universities played pivotal roles as partners in the Expo, offering both financial and technical support. This collaborative effort underscores a shared commitment to fostering innovation and bridging the gap between academia and industry. The partner universities include UET Taxila, Grand Asian University Sialkot, The University of Faisalabad, Lahore College for Women University, Superior University, University of Lahore, University of Sialkot, Bahauddin Zakariya University Multan, University of Management and Technology, Lahore (UMT), Khawaja Fareed University of Engineering & Information Technology Rahim Yar Khan, University of Home Economics Lahore, and Govt. College University, Faisalabad.

Diverse Project Categories: The response from universities was overwhelming, with a total of 802 projects submitted across eight diverse categories:

- Civil Chemical Environmental Polymer
- Mechanical Mechatronics Metallurgy Automotive Avionics and Industrial Engineering
- Electrical, Electronics, and Technology
- Computer Science and IT
- Health Medicine and Biomedical Sciences
- Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences
- Social Sciences Business Economics and Arts

Expert Evaluation and Project Selection: A panel of experts and jury members rigorously screened and ranked the submitted projects based on their commercialization potential and relevance to specific disciplines. Out of the pool of submissions, the top 432 projects were selected for display during the Expo.

Winners and Runners-up Projects: The Expo culminated in the recognition of outstanding projects across the eight categories, with winners and runners-up making significant contributions to their respective fields. A snapshot of the victorious projects is as follows:

Civil Chemical Environmental Polymer:

Winner: Superior University - Reshaping Waste: Transforming Plastic Shopping Bags into Sustainable Camping Products

Runner-Up: UET Lahore - Towards a Greener Future: Process Engineering and Design for Biomass-to-Biofuels Conversion

Mechanical Mechatronics Metallurgy Automotive Avionics and Industrial Engineering:

Winner: University of the Punjab Lahore - In situ growth of nickel ammonium phosphate ribbons on nickel foam for supercapacitor applications

Runner-Up: UMT Lahore - To Design & Develop A 3D Game for the Course Air Cargo & Ground Handling Services

Electrical, Electronics, and Technology:

Winner: Information Technology University - Visionary Ventures: Smart Indoor Gardening where Green meets Tech

Runner-Up: LCWU - Women Safety Device

Computer Science and IT:

Winner: Beaconhouse National University, Lahore - Invest Wise (Social Sense)

Runner-Up: Kohsar University Murree - Murree. Com (Promoting Murree culture, Education and Tourism)

Health Medicine and Biomedical:

Winner: University of Health Sciences, Lahore - Crime Kit

Runner-Up: BZU Multan - Pharmacokinetic profile of Curcumin containing eye preparations in lab animals

Sciences:

Winner: KFUEIT, RY Khan - AI model: To Detect Cotton Diseases By Symptoms Analysis on the leaves

Runner-Up: Rawalpindi Women University - Heart Rate Monitoring System

Agriculture and Veterinary Sciences:

Winner: KFUEIT, RY Khan - IoT and sensor-Based Seed Sowing Machine

Runner-Up: PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi - Drone AG Solutions

Social Sciences Business Economics and Arts:

Winner: Women University Multan - Second-Life Treasures: Rehoming the Unneeded to Benefit Others

Runner-Up: University of Home Economics, Lahore - Calligraphy



Welcome Address: Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch Sets the Tone for the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2023

Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, the Chief Operating Officer of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, delivered the welcome address at the opening ceremony of the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2023. His welcoming remarks effectively established the atmosphere for the proceedings, expressing gratitude to the chief guest and acknowledging the presence of distinguished guests from both academic (rectors and vice-chancellors) and industrial circles. Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch warmly welcomed all participants. During his address, Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch highlighted the significance of the event, outlined its objectives, and emphasized the vital collaboration between academia and industry. He underscored the commission's commitment to fostering a conducive environment for higher education and promoting collaboration between educational institutions and industries in the region.



Inspiring Innovation: Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib and Distinguished Guests illuminate the All Punjab Universities Expo 2023

Dr. Muhammad Amjad Saqib, a distinguished philanthropist and the founder of Akhuwat, graced the Opening Session of the "All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo 2023" as the Chief Guest. In his role, he not only honored the event but also took the opportunity to share profound insights and articulate his vision for fostering an environment that uplifts applied research culture among the youth.

Dr. Saqib emphasized the crucial role this innovation expo plays in bridging the gap between academia and industry, highlighting the significance of applied research in practical contexts. His reflections underscored the importance of nurturing a culture where academic pursuits align with real-world challenges, paving the way for meaningful contributions to society.

Furthermore, Dr. Saqib extended heartfelt congratulations to the brilliant minds driving these visionary endeavors. His encouragement and warm wishes were not only a recognition of their current achievements but also a forward-looking gesture, expressing confidence in their potential for brilliant success in the future. His presence and words contributed to setting a positive tone for the expo, inspiring participants to pursue innovation and excellence in their academic and research pursuits.

The presence of notable figures such as Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Dr. Javed Akram, renowned poet Mr. Wasi Shah, and Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Youth Affairs, along with esteemed individuals from various industries, and respected Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of universities, significantly enhanced the significance and impact of the Innovation Expo.

Their participation not only added prestige to the event but also brought diverse perspectives and expertise to the table. Caretaker Provincial Health Minister Dr. Javed Akram contributed insights into health-related innovations and initiatives, particularly in the context of provincial health policies. Mr. Wasi Shah, being a prominent poet, have provided a cultural and artistic dimension to the expo, bridging the gap between innovation and creative expression.

The participation of respected Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of universities added an academic touch to the expo. Their presence signaled the importance of research and educational institutions in fostering innovation and contributing to the overall development of society. It also provided a platform for academia-industry collaboration, promoting the practical application of research findings.



Governor Punjab Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman's Commendation at the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo-2023 Closing Ceremony



The culminating moment of the All Punjab Universities' Innovation Expo 2023 was marked by the distinguished presence of Governor Punjab, Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman, who graced the Closing Ceremony as the Chief Guest, held on November 20, 2023, at the Expo Centre Lahore. This event, which brought together 47 universities from across Punjab, evolved into a platform where the intellectual prowess and dedication of our academic community were showcased through an impressive array of 432 projects.

Governor Punjab Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman's presence added a profound layer of significance to the occasion, as he delivered an inspiring speech that heightened the importance of the event. The pinnacle of the ceremony saw the Governor acknowledging and rewarding outstanding research, emphasizing the enduring impact these groundbreaking ideas and projects have had on the academic landscape. He conveyed his heartfelt congratulations to the brilliant minds behind these visionary endeavors. At the end of the ceremony, he bestowed prizes upon the winners and runners-up, spotlighting their exceptional contributions to the realm of innovation.

The distinguished figure, Prof. Dr. Chaudhry Abdul Rehman, Chairman of the Superior Group and APSUP (All Pakistan Services Universities Project), was also present at the event. In his address, he delivered a thought-provoking speech that highlighted the importance of nurturing a robust connection between the industry and academia. Prof. Dr. Chaudhry Abdul Rehman stressed that this collaboration plays a crucial role in shaping a more promising future for the youth. His speech examined the transformative potential of aligning educational institutions with the practical needs and dynamics of the industry, ultimately providing the younger generation with the skills and knowledge essential for success in their upcoming careers.

Mr. Kashif Randhawa, a renowned entrepreneur, attended the concluding ceremony as well. During his address, Mr. Randhawa highlighted the importance of fostering strong connections between academic institutions and industries. This collaboration is essential for various reasons, such as bridging the gap between theoretical knowledge and practical application, facilitating research and development, and preparing students for real-world challenges.



Speech delivered by the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) during the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo

The Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) conveyed his immense pleasure and extended a warm welcome to everyone attending the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo. He expressed delight in witnessing the convergence of brilliant minds and groundbreaking ideas from various corners of the esteemed province, supporting the transition from theoretical to applied research.

He emphasized that the Innovation Expo serves as a clear indication of the unwavering commitment of our universities to foster creativity, research, and development. It not only honors the intellectual prowess of our students and faculty but also showcases the transformative impact of innovation on shaping the future.

Highlighting that our universities have consistently been fertile ground for new ideas, he stressed the expo's goal of amplifying the spirit of innovation within the veins of our academic institutions.

The event, according to him, stands as a testament to the collaborative efforts of students, teachers, and researchers who dedicated countless hours to unravel the mysteries of science, push technological boundaries, and redefine the contours of social sciences. It celebrates their tireless pursuit of knowledge and their indomitable spirit to make a meaningful impact on society.

Encouraging active participation in navigating through the diverse array of projects, prototypes, and presentations, he urged attendees to engage, learn, and exchange ideas. He underscored that this gathering is not merely a showcase but a dynamic forum for dialogue, urging everyone to seize the opportunity to forge new connections, find common ground, and ignite the spark of innovation within each individual.

The Chairperson extended heartfelt congratulations to the participants for their dedication and passion invested in their projects. He expressed gratitude to guests and dignitaries for gracing the occasion with their presence, acknowledging their invaluable support in propelling the culture of innovation within our academic institutions.

Concluding his address, he expressed hope that the expo would serve as a melting pot of ideas, a catalyst for change, and a harbinger of a brighter, more innovative future for Punjab and beyond.





Envisioning the Future of Higher Education: Insights from the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo-2023 Panel Discussion

During the 2nd All Punjab Universities Innovation Expo-2023, an informative panel discussion took place, exploring the crucial aspects of higher education and its intersection with government, industry, and societal needs. This side event at the Expo offered a platform for distinguished individuals from academia, industry, and government to exchange perspectives.

The panel consisted of diverse individuals from academia, industry, and technology who engaged in a comprehensive discussion. The panelists included:

- Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali - Vice Chancellor, BZU, Multan
- Prof. Dr. Shagufta Naz - Vice Chancellor, LCWU, Lahore
- Mr. Abid Sherwani - DG, University of Management & Technology, Lahore
- Prof. Dr. Shahzad Murtaza - Vice Chancellor, KFUEIT, Rahim Yar Khan
- Prof. Dr. Faleeha Kazmi - Vice Chancellor, University of Home Economics, Lahore
- Prof. Dr. Sofia Anwer - Dean Management and Administrative Science, GCU Faisalabad
- Prof. Dr. Amir Gillani - Rector, The University of Faisalabad
- Prof. Dr. Ather Azim Khan - Dean Management and Administrative Science, University of Sialkot
- Mr. Meher Kashif Yonis - Chairman Model Steel

The moderator for the discussion was Mr. Naeem Masood, a Senior Journalist, and Chairman of the Federal Institute of Health Sciences. The discussion highlighted the imperative to adapt academic curricula to meet industry demands. There was a consensus on incorporating emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, block chain, and the Internet of Things into educational programs to equip students with relevant skills for the dynamic job market.

Another significant topic centered on the need for lifelong learning and continuous skill development, aligning with the paradigm shift demanded by the 5th Industrial Revolution. The panel emphasized fostering a culture of lifelong learning within higher education institutions.

Collaboration between academia and industry emerged as a recurring theme, stressing the importance of forming strong partnerships with businesses and technology leaders to keep academic programs in sync with industry trends, ultimately bridging the gap between education and the workforce.

The integration of technology into teaching methodologies was a focal point, exploring the potential of virtual reality, augmented reality, and online learning platforms to enhance the educational experience and make it adaptable and accessible to a diverse student population.

Ethical considerations related to technological advancements were thoroughly discussed, with panelists emphasizing the incorporation of ethical discussions into the curriculum. This ensures that students are well-versed in the ethical implications of the emerging technologies they will encounter in their careers.



Celebrating Excellence: Governor of the Punjab Unveils PHEC's Annual Report 2022-2023 at Innovation Expo

The unveiling of the Punjab Higher Education Commission's annual report for 2022-2023 by the Governor of Punjab, Muhammad Baligh Ur Rehman at the innovation expo amplifies the importance of the occasion. The Governor's congratulatory comments extended to Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, not only recognize the diligent efforts and commitment invested in crafting the annual report but also publicly express appreciation for the leadership and endeavors of the person entrusted with overseeing higher education in the region.

The admiration for the beautiful layout of the document speaks to the attention to detail and professionalism exhibited in presenting the information. A well-designed document not only enhances readability but also reflects a commitment to excellence and professionalism. The aesthetic appeal of the report can contribute to the effective communication of key findings and data to a diverse audience, making it more accessible and engaging.



Celebrating Success and Camaraderie: PHEC's Memorable Evening at the Post Expo Meet-Up

On the evening of November 28th, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) team came together to savor a delightful and memorable experience at the Post Expo Meet-Up. This event was specifically designed to celebrate the success of the 2nd Innovation Expo of 2023. The entire spectrum of the PHEC team, from seniors to juniors, dedicated themselves to ensuring the triumph of this event. Their collective efforts not only made the expo a success but also garnered admiration and appreciation from all those who attended.

After weeks of strenuous work and dedication, the team was ready to unwind and revel in their achievements. The Honorable Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the esteemed Chairperson of PHEC, played a pivotal role in enhancing this memorable occasion. He graciously hosted an enjoyable dinner at the Gymkhana in Lahore, adding to the overall positive atmosphere.

The Post Expo Meet-Up served as an informal yet meaningful gathering, providing the perfect setting for the exchange of memorable and beautiful moments from the expo. The charming ambiance and camaraderie among team members created a positive and uplifting atmosphere, fostering a shared appreciation for the collective efforts made in the realm of higher education.

Beyond strengthening professional relationships, the event offered a platform for the PHEC team to relax and celebrate their successes. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's gracious hosting infused warmth and camaraderie into the evening, making it a truly memorable occasion for Team PHEC. This gathering not only marked the success of the 2nd Innovation Expo but also highlighted the importance of collaboration and shared accomplishments in the field of higher education.





Strategic Initiatives: Honorable Chancellor/Governor Punjab Leads Consortium Meeting on Climate Change and Environment

On December 9th, the Honorable Chancellor/Governor Punjab, Engr. Muhammad Baligh-Ur-Rehman, took the initiative to convene a meeting of the Consortium focused on the theme "Climate Change, Environment & Pollution (Waste Management)." The meeting brought together key stakeholders, including the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, and Engr. Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Former Vice Chancellor, Islamia University Bahawalpur, along with other esteemed Consortium members.

The discussions during the meeting aimed to address critical issues related to climate change, environmental sustainability, and effective waste management. The collaboration between the Consortium members signifies a concerted effort to tackle pressing challenges and implement strategic initiatives for the betterment of the environment in the Punjab region.

The leadership demonstrated by the Honorable Chancellor/Governor Punjab in orchestrating this meeting highlights the commitment to proactive and collaborative measures in addressing environmental concerns. The gathering of notable Consortium members underscores the significance of collective efforts in devising comprehensive solutions to complex issues such as climate change and pollution.



8th International Conference on Banking, Insurance & Business Management

On December 7th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), graced the 8th International Conference on Banking, Insurance & Business Management as the Chief Guest. The distinguished conference, organized by Hailey College of Banking & Finance University of the Punjab Lahore, brought together experts, scholars, and practitioners in the fields of banking, insurance, and business management. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's attendance as the Chief Guest featured the significance of the conference and highlighted the PHEC's commitment to fostering academic collaboration and advancements in the realms of banking, insurance, and business management. His role as a key figure in the event further emphasized the importance of bridging academia with industry insights for the holistic development of these crucial sectors.





PHEC Chairperson Engages in 25th National Security Workshop: Insights on National Security Policy

On November 10, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.) the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), played an active role in the 25th National Security Workshop organized by the Institute for Strategic Studies, Research and Analysis (ISSRA) at the National Defence University (NDU). This workshop spanned from October 9 to November 10, 2023, and served as a significant platform for Dr. Munir to contribute his insights in line with the National Security Policy.

Participating in the event, Dr. Munir engaged with a diverse group of distinguished individuals, including experts, policymakers, politicians, members of the security forces, and officials from civil services. His involvement allowed him to share his perspectives on matters related to national security. Importantly, he took the opportunity to express his gratitude to the Director General ISSRA and the President of NDU for orchestrating an exceptional workshop that effectively addressed the prevailing challenges facing Pakistan.

The workshop, being an extended and comprehensive program, facilitated meaningful discussions and exchanges of ideas among participants from various sectors. Dr. Munir's active participation underscored the commitment of the Punjab Higher Education Commission to contribute to the discourse on national security. The collaboration between academia, policy experts, and practitioners in this setting aimed to enhance the understanding of the complex issues surrounding the security landscape in Pakistan. Overall, Dr. Munir's involvement in the 25th National Security Workshop highlights the significance of academic and institutional engagement in addressing critical national issues.



Congratulatory Meeting between Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), Chairperson PHEC, and Honorable Mr. Khalid Saleem, Secretary Higher Education

On November 24th, a significant meeting unfolded as Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), met with the Honorable Mr. Khalid Saleem, Secretary Higher Education Department (HED). The purpose of the meeting was to extend heartfelt congratulations to Secretary HED on assuming his new responsibilities, and to convey the best wishes for his tenure.

The meeting served as a platform for fostering collaboration and goodwill between PHEC and the Higher Education Department. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, in his capacity as Chairperson, took the opportunity to express the commission's optimism about the shared goals and objectives in advancing higher education in the region.

In a gesture of appreciation and camaraderie, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir presented a special souvenir to Secretary HED on behalf of PHEC. This thoughtful gesture symbolized the spirit of cooperation and marked the beginning of a positive and collaborative relationship between the two key entities dedicated to the advancement of higher education in the region.

The exchange of congratulations and well-wishes during the meeting underscored the commitment of both organizations to working together for the betterment of higher education. Such interactions play a crucial role in building bridges and fostering a conducive environment for meaningful collaboration, ultimately benefiting the academic community and the pursuit of knowledge.



Shaping the Future: PHEC Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Leads Meeting on Intellectual Property Policy for Punjab Universities

On December 7th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), convened a crucial meeting focused on the finalization of the Intellectual Property Policy. Which brought together the Honorable Vice Chancellors from both Public and Private Sector Universities across the Punjab province, emphasizing the collaborative effort to shape the future of intellectual property management in the academic landscape.

During the meeting the Vice Chancellors provided their valuable feedback, ensuring that the Intellectual Property Policy for Universities comprehensively addresses aspects such as IP ownership, licensing, commercialization, and the protection of research outcomes. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's leadership in orchestrating this meeting highlighted the commitment of PHEC to fostering a conducive environment for innovative research and knowledge creation within the academic community.

The Intellectual Property Policy, once finalized, is poised to play a pivotal role in guiding and regulating the management of intellectual assets across universities in the Punjab. This initiative reflects the forward-thinking approach of PHEC under Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's leadership, reinforcing the importance of strategic policy frameworks in advancing research, innovation, and knowledge dissemination in higher education.





Navigating Academic Frontiers: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's Insights at ACARI 2023

On December 18, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir represented the Punjab Higher Education Commission at the 1st Asia – Middle East – Africa Conference on Academic Research and Integrity (ACARI 2023), hosted at Middlesex University Dubai. This conference marked a momentous occasion, bringing together scholars and experts from diverse regions to engage in thoughtful discussions on academic research and integrity.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's active involvement included participation in a panel discussion titled "View from the Top," where he collaborated with global leaders in academia. The focal point of this dialogue was the exploration of the pivotal role that policy and governance play in fostering a culture of integrity within academic and research environments. Emphasis was placed on the significance of ethical standards and responsible conduct as essential elements in maintaining integrity in scholarly pursuits.

One noteworthy aspect of the panel discussion was the comprehensive examination of the era of Generative AI. The discourse underscored the transformative impact of artificial intelligence on academic research and integrity. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, alongside other esteemed leaders, delved into the complexities of navigating this technological landscape, emphasizing the importance of strong leadership and transparent decision-making in the face of evolving challenges posed by Generative AI.

The acknowledgment of the era of Generative AI as a key focus in the discussion highlighted the conference's commitment to addressing contemporary issues in academia. The dialogue underscored the necessity for academic leaders to adapt and make informed decisions in response to the rapid advancements in technology, particularly in the realm of generative models like GPT-3.5.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's participation in ACARI 2023 not only symbolized the dedication of the Punjab Higher Education Commission to academic integrity but also showcased the academic community's collective efforts to navigate the intricate intersections of Policy, governance, and technology



Collaborative Horizons: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's Insightful Meeting at Synergy University during ACARI 2023



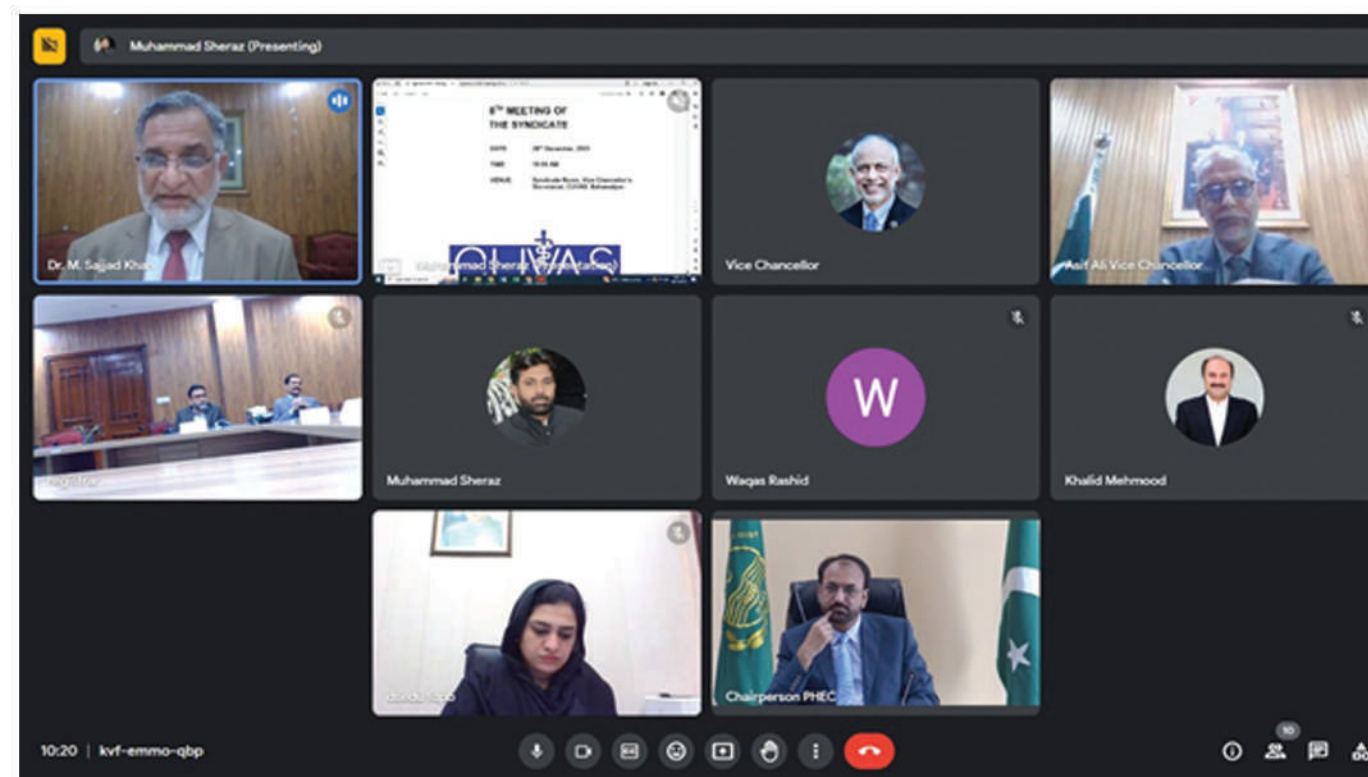
On December 19, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), added another dimension to his involvement in the 1st Asia – Middle East – Africa Conference on Academic Research and Integrity (ACARI 2023) by visiting the Synergy University campus in Dubai. This visit served as a valuable opportunity to extend academic collaboration and foster connections between institutions. During his visit, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir engaged in a productive meeting with the dynamic faculty members of Synergy University. The discussions focused on exploring and exchanging innovative approaches to academic research and integrity within the ever-evolving landscape of education. The meeting provided a platform for sharing best practices, insights, and experiences, contributing to the collective advancement of academic standards and ethical considerations.

The dynamic nature of the faculty members at Synergy University suggests a vibrant academic community committed to staying at the forefront of innovative practices in education. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's active participation in this meeting further emphasized the collaborative spirit and shared commitment to excellence in academic research and integrity.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir at the 8th Syndicate Meeting of CUVAS Bahawalpur

On December 26, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, participated in the 8th Meeting of the Syndicate of Cholistan University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences (CUVAS) in Bahawalpur.



PHEC Hosts Ceremony for International Research Support Fellowship Award Distribution



On November 14, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) organized a ceremony for the distribution of International Research Support Fellowship awards (F.Y. 2023-24) in the Conference Room of PHEC. During the event, provisional award letters were handed out to the selected candidates. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, extended a warm welcome to the selected scholars and offered congratulations on their selection. The International Research Support Fellowship (IRSF) is a six-month program designed to provide hands-on research experience to highly motivated students currently pursuing full-time PhD programs in provincially chartered universities in Punjab. The ceremony was attended by Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Tanveer Qasim, Director Coordination, Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director, HRD, and Mr. Qazi Muhammad Ali, Assistant Director HRD.



Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Adds Prestige to the 1st Inter-university Theater Festival at the University of Home Economics

On November 15, as the chief guest of this cultural celebration, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir brought an air of prestige to the event. His attendance not only highlighted the significance of the festival but also underscored the importance of promoting cultural and artistic endeavors within the academic community.

In his address, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir commended the University of Home Economics for organizing the festival, emphasizing the role of such events in nurturing creativity, expression, and teamwork among students. He acknowledged the importance of the performing arts in enhancing the overall educational experience and fostering a vibrant campus culture.



PHEC Hosts Ceremony for International Postdoctoral Scholarship Award Distribution



On November 14, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) organized a ceremony for the distribution of International Postdoctoral Scholarship (IPDS) awards in the Conference Room of PHEC. During the event, provisional award letters were presented to the selected candidates.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson of PHEC, extended a warm welcome to the scholars and expressed appreciation for their research work. He also wished them success in their remaining research endeavors abroad. The ceremony was attended by Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, Chief Operating Officer, Dr. Tanveer Qasim, Director Coordination, Dr. Mumtaz Ali Khan, Director HRD, and Mr. Qazi Muhammad Ali, Assistant Director HRD.



PHEC Chairperson Addresses International Conference on Advances in Drug

On November 15, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, the chief guest at the 2nd International Conference on Recent Advances in Drug Discovery and Development, organized by the University of Lahore, underscored the transformative influence of technology, specifically highlighting the pivotal role of AI, machine learning, and big data analytics in advancing drug discovery.

Acknowledging the remarkable technological progress in recent years, the Chairperson PHEC emphasized the positive impact on drug discovery and the innovative solutions devised to meet challenges. He discussed the paradigm shift towards personalized medicine, focusing on tailoring treatments based on individual patient characteristics for a more effective and targeted approach to medical care.

Reflecting on the regulatory landscape, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the crucial collaboration between industry, academia, and regulatory bodies. This collaborative synergy ensures that groundbreaking discoveries seamlessly translate into approved treatments while maintaining safety and efficacy standards.



PHEC Honors Lahore Press Club's PhD Achievers: A Celebration of Academic Excellence



On November 27th, a ceremony was organized at the Press Club Nisar Usmani Auditorium in collaboration with the Lahore Press Club and the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The event aimed to recognize members of the Lahore Press Club who have obtained PhDs from various universities. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairman, Punjab Higher Education Commission, was the special guest. The ceremony, attended by Punjab University Vice Chancellor Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Lahore Press Club President Azam Chaudhry, Secretary Abdul Majeed Sajid, officials, and students, witnessed the distribution of honorary shields and certificates to the distinguished PhD club members.

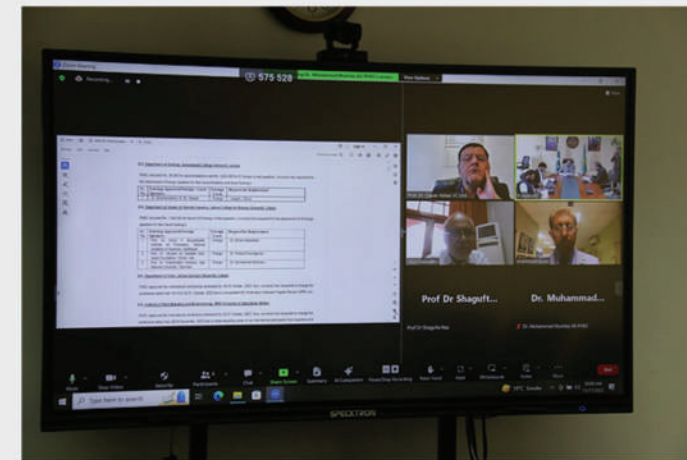
Among the recipients of these honors were individuals such as Dr. Tanvir Qasim, Dr. Arshad Ali, Dr. Shabir Sarwar, Dr. Akmal Soomro, Dr. Khurram Shahzad, Dr. Barira Bakhtawar, Dr. Naveed Iqbal, Dr. Shahnwaz Tarar, Dr. Shahid Rao, Dr. Zeeshan, Dr. Arshad Bhatti, Dr. Rabia Noor, Dr. Qaiser Sharif, Dr. Mustafa Kamal, Dr. Mian Javed, Dr. Saeed, and Dr. Waqar Chaudhry.

Dr. Shahid Munir expressed his pleasure with the passion for higher education and research displayed by the Lahore Press Club members. He congratulated all the PhD club members and emphasized the importance of scholars and intellectuals in the field of media. Assuring continued support for higher education and research, he pledged to leverage the expertise of journalist-doctors. Dr. Khalid Mehmood, the Vice Chancellor Punjab University, commended the event's organization and expressed his appreciation for the significant number of club members attaining PhDs. President Azam Chaudhry and Secretary Abdul Majeed Sajid extended special thanks to the Chairman of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, acknowledging the fruitful collaboration and the encouragement extended to journalists.



Milestones in Academic Support: 30th Expert Review Committee Meeting for Conference and Seminar Funding

On November 17th, the 30th Expert Review Committee Meeting for Funding of Conferences and Seminars was chaired by Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, at the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) conference room. Which marked a continued commitment to fostering intellectual growth and collaboration within the academic community. The Expert Review Committee, comprised of distinguished scholars and professionals, diligently evaluated proposals for conferences and seminars seeking financial support. The discussions during this meeting not only reflected the committee's dedication to ensuring the highest standards in academic events but also showcased the ongoing efforts to advance education and research in the region.



Collaborative Meeting between Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission and Additional Secretary HED

On November 24th, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission, convened a meeting with Mr. Kamran Khan, the Additional Secretary (Universities) of the Higher Education Department, in his office. During this encounter, the Chairperson engaged in a meaningful discussion with the Additional Secretary regarding the promotion of education in the province of Punjab and also bestowed upon him a commemorative shield.



PHEC Chairperson Addresses Erasmus+ Funded B-International Project: Empowering University Staff for Global Strategies

On November 27th, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), participated as a Guest Speaker in the B-International project, which is co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus+ Program. The event took place at the Pakistan Institute of Fashion and Design in Lahore.

The project's primary objective is to equip university staff in Pakistan with a comprehensive framework to effectively implement international strategies. This initiative supports the broader goals of universities by providing staff with the necessary knowledge and practical tools for executing international activities. These activities are designed to align with the strategic aims of both the individual university and the broader higher education sector.



Strategic Dialogue on IT Progression: Chairperson of Punjab Higher Education Commission Meets with CEO of NETSOL and HospitALL



On November 27th, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, held a meeting with Mr. Ayub Ghauri, the Executive Director of NETSOL and CEO of HospitALL (App CareALL). The Chairperson engaged in a significant discussion with the CEO regarding the advancement of Information Technology in the province of Punjab and, during the meeting, presented him with a commemorative shield.

PHEC Chairperson Addresses International Conference on Advances in Drug

On November 15, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, PHEC, the chief guest at the 2nd International Conference on Recent Advances in Drug Discovery and Development, organized by the University of Lahore, underscored the transformative influence of technology, specifically highlighting the pivotal role of AI, machine learning, and big data analytics in advancing drug discovery.

Acknowledging the remarkable technological progress in recent years, the Chairperson PHEC emphasized the positive impact on drug discovery and the innovative solutions devised to meet challenges. He discussed the paradigm shift towards personalized medicine, focusing on tailoring treatments based on individual patient characteristics for a more effective and targeted approach to medical care.

Reflecting on the regulatory landscape, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir emphasized the crucial collaboration between industry, academia, and regulatory bodies. This collaborative synergy ensures that groundbreaking discoveries seamlessly translate into approved treatments while maintaining safety and efficacy standards.





Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir Addresses Graduates at UOS 10th Convocation

On December 22, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), added distinction to the 10th Convocation of the University of Sargodha (UOS) as the Chief Guest. This significant event, hosted at UOS, specifically recognized the exceptional achievements of graduates from the Faculty of Arts & Humanities and the Faculty of Computing & Information Technology.

In his address, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir encouraged the graduates to persevere in their pursuit of excellence and embrace the opportunities that await them. He commended their dedication and hard work, acknowledging their pivotal role as future leaders in their respective fields.

Chairperson PHEC highlighted the crucial role of higher education in shaping both individual destinies and the nation as a whole. He emphasized the importance of continuous learning and innovation, especially in the dynamic and ever-evolving global landscape.

"The journey of education does not conclude with this convocation; it is a lifelong commitment to learning, growth, and contribution to society. As you embark on your professional journeys, remember that higher education equips you not only with knowledge but also with the skills and mindset necessary to navigate the challenges of the future," remarked Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir.

The convocation ceremony also featured the conferring of degrees upon the graduates, symbolizing their successful completion and marking the beginning of their promising professional journeys.

The Postgraduate Researchers Symposium and Exhibition in Art and Design 2023

On December 7th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), was honored as the Chief Guest at the Postgraduate Researchers (Art and Design 2023) Symposium and Exhibition. This distinguished event, focusing on the intersection of Creative Arts, Research, and Society, was thoughtfully organized by the College of Art and Design at the University of the Punjab Lahore.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence as the Chief Guest added prestige to the symposium and exhibition, highlighting the significance of fostering creativity and research in the realm of art and design. This event provided a platform for postgraduate researchers to exhibit their innovative work and contribute to the discourse on the intersection of art, design, and societal impact. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence highlighted the commitment of PHEC to support and recognize the endeavors of researchers in the creative arts, promoting a culture of innovation and exploration within the academic community.





Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's Insightful Lecture at the Punjab Institute of Management and Professional Development

On December 21, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, delivered a thought-provoking lecture on "The Challenges of Education System in Pakistan." The venue for this enlightening session was the Punjab Institute of Management and Professional Development. The lecture was specifically organized for the participants of the 25th Public Policy and Governance Course, a cohort comprising officers of Grade 18 serving in roles such as Additional Deputy Commissioners, Deputy Secretaries, and Deputy Directors.

During the lecture, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir shared insights and perspectives on the challenges inherent in the education system of Pakistan. This engagement provided a platform for valuable discourse and exchange of ideas, offering the participating officers a deeper understanding of the complex landscape of education in the country. Prof. Dr. Munir's expertise and leadership in the field added significant value to the discussion, contributing to the ongoing efforts to address and overcome challenges within the education system. The session at the Punjab Institute of Management and Professional Development underscored the importance of informed leadership and collaborative efforts in navigating and enhancing the educational landscape in Pakistan.

Fostering Academic Innovation: PHEC's Workshop on Generative AI for Faculty Empowerment

The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) orchestrated a one-day training workshop tailored for faculty members from various universities in Punjab. The workshop, held on December 20, 2023, centered around familiarizing participants with the application of Generative Artificial Intelligence tools in higher education. The objective of this training program was to equip attendees with a profound understanding of generative artificial intelligence and to impart practical skills that can enhance teaching, learning, and research through the integration of AI.

The primary focus of the workshop was to cultivate an environment conducive to creative content generation, personalized learning experiences, and the ethical utilization of AI tools within the dynamic landscape of education. Dr. Muhammad Akhyar Farrukh, a distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of Central Punjab (UCP) in Lahore, was the resource person for this enlightening session. The workshop aimed to empower faculty members with the knowledge and tools necessary to leverage Generative AI effectively in their academic pursuits, fostering a technologically advanced and ethically sound educational ecosystem.





Collaborative Endeavors: SCO Universities Consortium Delegation Meets PHEC Leadership

On December 7th, a delegation from the SCO Universities Consortium Secretariat at RUDN University, Moscow, visited the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) for a constructive meeting with the Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I). The delegation was warmly welcomed by the Chairperson and the Chief Operating Officer (COO) PHEC.

The discussions during the meeting aimed to explore opportunities for collaboration and exchange between the SCO Universities Consortium and PHEC.

As a gesture of appreciation and collaboration, Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, presented a souvenir to the visiting team members. This visit and meeting signify the commitment of both organizations to fostering international partnerships and advancing educational cooperation for mutual benefit.



Catalyzing Innovation: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir as Chief Guest at the 8th MDSRIC – 2023 by University of Wah

Empowering Tomorrow: PHEC Chairperson Guest of Honour at International Conference on Higher Education and Women Empowerment



On November 29th, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), took part in the inaugural ceremony of a two-day international conference themed "Exploring the Transformative Nexus: Higher Education and Women Empowerment." The ceremony, held at Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU) Rawalpindi and jointly organized by PHEC and FJWU, marked a significant step in the discourse on higher education and women empowerment.

Dr. Shahid Munir graced the event as the Guest of Honour, emphasizing the pivotal role of education in transforming and empowering women. The chief guest, Ms. Mushaal Hussein Mullick, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister of Pakistan and Minister of State for Human Rights and Women Empowerment, added a distinguished perspective to the occasion.

The event was attended by the numerous dignitaries, vice-chancellors, faculty members, and students from various universities. The diverse representation underscored the importance of collaboration and shared insights in addressing the intersection of higher education and women empowerment.

The international conference provided a platform for leaders, educators, and advocates to explore and discuss the transformative potential of higher education in advancing women's empowerment. As a Guest of Honour, the Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence added weight to the discourse, aligning with the commitment of PHEC to foster positive change through education.

This event not only showcased the collaborative efforts of PHEC and FJWU but also highlighted the collective dedication to fostering a future where education becomes a catalyst for empowering women and transforming societies.



The Chairperson Punjab Higher Education (PHEC), graced the concluding session of International Conference on Higher Education and Women's Empowerment

On December 1st, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), Chairperson Punjab Higher Education (PHEC), graced the concluding session of a significant two-day international conference. The conference, titled 'Exploring the Transformative Nexus: Higher Education and Women Empowerment,' was a collaborative effort between the Punjab Higher Education Commission and Fatima Jinnah Women University (FJWU) Rawalpindi, hosted at the premises of FJWU.

This event, dedicated to exploring the transformative relationship between higher education and women's empowerment, held great significance in addressing key issues and fostering discussions on the pivotal role of education in empowering women. Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's presence as the Chief Guest added prestige to the occasion, underscoring PHEC's commitment and support for initiatives promoting education and women's empowerment.

The partnership between PHEC and FJWU in organizing this conference showcased a dedication to fostering collaborations between educational institutions and regulatory bodies. This collaboration ensured the seamless execution of the conference, guaranteeing success in terms of content, organization, and overall impact.

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir's participation as the Chief Guest, coupled with the collaboration between PHEC and FJWU, significantly contributed to the success of the two-day international conference. Beyond providing a platform for scholarly discussions, the event underscored the crucial role of higher education in empowering women, thereby contributing to broader societal transformation.



Inspiring Change: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir as Chief Guest at International Volunteer Day 2023



On December 5th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), graced the International Volunteer Day 2023 event as the Chief Guest. This significant occasion was organized by Bargad and VSO in collaboration with the Youth Affairs Department, held at the E-Library, Gaddafi Stadium Lahore.

During the event, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir offered valuable insights on the pivotal role of volunteerism in shaping the future of education and community development. His presence underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in fostering positive change and social impact. His address resonated with the audience, emphasizing the transformative power of volunteerism in contributing to both educational advancements and broader community well-being. His participation and inspirational message added a distinguished touch to the occasion, highlighting the link between volunteerism, education, and community development for a brighter future.



Engaging Discussions: Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir at Minhaj University's Board of Governors Meeting



On December 4th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.), the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), participated in the Board of Governors (BOG) meeting at Minhaj University, Lahore. The meeting, hosted at Minhaj University, Lahore, involved discussions on diverse agenda items related to the academic and administrative aspects of the university.



Upholding Human Rights: PHEC Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir as Chief Guest at PU's International Human Rights Day Event

On December 12th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), participated as the Chief Guest in an event commemorating International Human Rights Day. The event, thoughtfully organized by the University of the Punjab, provided a platform to reflect on the significance of human rights and promote awareness on this important day.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's attendance as Chief Guest highlighted the commitment of PHEC to championing human rights within the educational community. The event aimed at fostering a deeper understanding of human rights issues and promoting a culture of inclusivity and respect within academic institutions.

By participating in this event, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir demonstrated the leadership and commitment of PHEC to supporting initiatives that contribute to the broader promotion of human rights awareness and advocacy.



PHEC Chairperson Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir as Chief Guest at UMT's 1st Life Sciences Conference: Exploring Frontiers in Biological Research

On December 13th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), graced the 1st UMT Conference on Life Sciences as the Chief Guest. This significant event, themed "Exploring the Frontiers in Biological Research," was thoughtfully organized by the University of Management & Technology (UMT) Lahore.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's participation as Chief Guest highlighted the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration and advancements in life sciences within the academic landscape. The conference provided a dynamic platform for researchers, scholars, and students to delve into cutting-edge biological research, fostering discussions and sharing insights on the latest developments in the field.

By attending the conference, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir showcased the support of PHEC for initiatives that promote scientific exploration and research within the higher education sector. The collaboration between PHEC and UMT in organizing this conference signifies a shared commitment to advancing knowledge and innovation in the field of life sciences.



1st International Biennial Conference on Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences

On December 12th, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), the Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), graced the 1st International Biennial Conference on Pharmaceutical and Life Sciences as the Chief Guest. The noteworthy conference, organized by Gulab Devi Educational Complex in Lahore, worked as a dynamic platform for experts and scholars in the pharmaceutical and life sciences fields to converge and share their insights. Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir's presence as the Chief Guest underlined the significance of the conference, highlighting PHEC's commitment to fostering advancements in pharmaceutical and life sciences education. The hybrid format of the conference allowed for both in-person and virtual participation, facilitating a global exchange of ideas and knowledge in these critical fields.

The event, with Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir at its forefront, emphasized the collaborative efforts needed to drive progress and innovation in pharmaceutical and life sciences. As Chief Guest, he not only acknowledged the importance of the conference but also recognized the vital role it plays in shaping the future of these crucial sectors.





PHEC Committee Conducts On-Site Evaluation of PIRCA Research Projects: A Step towards Advancing Research Excellence in Punjab

On December 15, a team of experts from the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), conducted an on-site evaluation of the Punjab Innovation and Research Challenge Award (PIRCA) Research Projects. The evaluation encompassed projects located at the University of Health Sciences (UHS), Kala Shah Kaku Campus, and the University of Engineering and Technology (UET), Taxila.

The committee, members including Prof. Dr. Nadir Hussain, Prof. Dr. Kamran Asharaf, Prof. Dr. Tayyab Hussain, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Imtiaz Shafiq, Dr. Zaigham Abbas, Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Ali Khan, and Mr. Waqas Ahmad, embarked on this mission to thoroughly assess the overall performance and impact of the PIRCA projects.

This visit not only features the commitment of PHEC but also highlights its dedication to fostering innovation and research excellence within Punjab's higher education institutions. The meticulous evaluation process is strategically designed to ensure that PIRCA projects continue to serve as influential contributors to the academic and research landscape of the region.



Promoting Academic Endeavors: 47th Meeting of Expert Review Committee for International Travel Grants at PHEC

On December 11th, the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) hosted the 47th Meeting of the Expert Review Committee for the Award of International Travel Grants. The meeting, convened under the leadership of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson of PHEC, took place in the conference room and played a crucial role in evaluating and awarding international travel grants to the selected candidates.

The Expert Review Committee, consisting of esteemed individuals in academia and administration, included Prof. Dr. Muhammad Afzal, Vice Chancellor, Bab Guru Nanak University; Dr. Mansoor Ahmad Baluch, COO PHEC; Prof. Dr. Athar Mahboob, Former Vice Chancellor, IUB; Dr. Muhammad Shahid Soroya, Director General Pakistan Institute of Education; Prof. Dr. Lubna Zaheer, Chairperson, Department of Film and Broadcasting School of Communication Studies, PU; Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Chawla, Former Dean University of Punjab; and Dr. Muhammad Mumtaz Khan, Director HRD PHEC.

Constitutional Presentation: Punjab HEC Chairperson Gifts to Renowned Author Dr. Muhammad Akmal Soomro



An Expression of Appreciation: Acknowledging the Contributions of Chairperson PHEC Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir

On November 22nd, a comprehensive discussion occurred in the office of the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, featuring Dr. Hafiz Muhammad Abrar Awan, an esteemed scholar. This dialogue included valuable conversations, during which Dr. Shahid Munir shared insights drawn from his academic and global experiences to elevate Pakistan's international standing. He highlighted academic initiatives, research pursuits, and collaborations with scholars worldwide, emphasizing the potential for future opportunities.

We express our appreciation for this enlightening academic exchange, shedding light on the substantial contributions of Chairperson Dr. Shahid Munir to the field of Higher Education. He possesses commendable academic, administrative, and personal qualities, having served in various high-ranking roles over the years. Notable positions include Director of the Center for Coal Technology and Controller of Examinations at Punjab University, where he played a prominent role in several high-level committees. Previously, Dr. Shahid Munir demonstrated extraordinary administrative capabilities as the Vice-Chancellor at the University of Jhang, the University of Sargodha, and the University of Mianwali. Currently serving as the Chairperson of PHEC, he continues to fulfill his responsibilities with dedication. Dr. Shahid Munir is known for his dynamic and innovative approach, evident in his continuous work on new ideas and initiatives.

In his role as the Chairperson of PHEC, Dr. Shahid Munir consistently exhibits a commitment to progress. His proactive and forward-thinking attitude aligns with the poetic spirit of Allama Iqbal, as encapsulated in the verse:

“Jahan-e-Taza Ki Afkar-e-Taza Se Hai Namood
Ke Sang-o-Khisht Se Hote Nahin Jahan Paida “

During the concluding part of the meeting, Raqam Al-Huroof presented his recent book, "Montgomery Watt Ka Mutalea Seerat," as a token of appreciation for Dr. Shahid Munir's services.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Shahbaz Manj
Professor/Chairperson,
Department of Islamic Studies, University of Education, Lahore



Advancing Higher Education in Punjab - A Collaborative Vision for Quality Assurance, Innovation, and Growth

On December 27, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), convened a meeting with his team at the office of the Respected Mr. Khalid Saleem, Secretary Higher Education. The purpose of this meeting was to engage in a comprehensive discussion on a myriad of crucial matters concerning the higher education sector in the province of Punjab.

The topics under consideration encompassed a broad spectrum of issues pivotal to the advancement of higher education. Among these were quality assurance measures, strategies for fostering innovation, initiatives for faculty development, the establishment and strengthening of international linkages, and the promotion of robust connections between academia and industry in universities and colleges.

The deliberations during the meeting were characterized by a thoughtful exchange of ideas and insights, reflecting the collective commitment to elevating the standards and expanding the opportunities within the higher education landscape of Punjab. Both Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir and Respected Khalid Saleem recognized the significance of collaborative efforts in addressing these matters and enhancing the overall educational environment in the province.

The outcome of the meeting was deemed highly fruitful and productive, with a shared consensus on the imperative to improve standards and create more avenues for higher education in Punjab. The collaborative spirit demonstrated during this encounter laid the groundwork for future initiatives and collaborations aimed at advancing the educational landscape and opportunities available to students and scholars in the region.



Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I) Engages in 9th University of Chakwal Syndicate Meeting

Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, participated in the 9th Syndicate meeting of the University of Chakwal Syndicate. The meeting took place at the S&GAD Committee Room in the Civil Secretariat, Lahore.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I) Attends the 18th Syndicate Meeting of Punjab Tianjin University of Technology (PTUT)

The involvement of the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission in the Syndicate meeting emphasizes the importance of collaboration and coordination between regional higher education authorities and individual universities. It suggests a concerted effort to ensure that decisions made at the university level align with the broader educational goals and standards set by the regulatory body. This collaborative approach aims to enhance the overall quality and effectiveness of education within the Punjab region, emphasizing the need for cohesive and well-coordinated governance in the field of higher education.



Presentation of Innovative Book on Culture and Communication by Dr. Muhammad Yousaf at PHEC

On November 16, Dr. Muhammad Yousaf, Assistant Professor at the Centre for Media and Communication Studies, University of Gujrat, paid a visit to the Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC). During his visit, he presented his groundbreaking book, titled "Deconstructing Culture and Communication in the Global South," to the Chairperson PHEC, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir.

Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I) Joins 3rd Syndicate Meeting of Thal University Bhakkar

On December 27, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I), the Chairperson of the Punjab Higher Education Commission, participated in the 3rd Syndicate meeting of Thal University Bhakkar. The meeting took place at the S&GAD Committee Room, Civil Secretariat Lahore.



Empowering Academia: PHEC's Journey of Advancing Teaching Excellence and Professional Development in Punjab Universities



The Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) executed a series of Faculty Development Programs (FDPs) at the Veterinary Academy, University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences Lahore, emphasizing "Advancing Teaching Excellence: Strategies for Effective Higher Education Instruction and Professional Development." Batches 5 to 13 participated in these programs, aimed at enhancing the skills and knowledge of faculty members from various universities in Punjab.

The FDP for Batches 5 and 6 commenced on October 10th, followed by Batches 7 and 8 on October 17th and 24th, respectively. Batch 9 followed suit, and Batch 10 commenced on November 7th. Each three-day program focused on empowering faculty members with essential skills for effective teaching and fostering professional growth in higher education.

The FDP, Batch 11, took place from December 5th to 7th, concluding with a focus on equipping participants with comprehensive abilities to create positive learning environments, enhance student engagement, and manage professional responsibilities effectively. The commitment to continuous improvement in higher education is evident in PHEC's investment in developing educators who play a pivotal role in shaping the academic landscape.

On December 14, Professor Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson PHEC, presided over the concluding ceremony for Batch 13, where certificates were distributed to approximately 40 lecturers and assistant professors. The training underscored the importance of continuous professional development, with Dr. Munir emphasizing the close link between the quality of education and the quality of teachers. PHEC's consistent efforts in organizing training programs aim to keep educators updated on the latest teaching trends, preparing them to meet international standards and contribute to the progress of the country. Dr. Munir highlighted the crucial role of teachers in preparing students to face global challenges, emphasizing the need for educators to enhance their capabilities effectively.



Fostering Peace and Tolerance through Interfaith Dialogues in Pakistani Universities



In October, Emerson University Multan organized a one-day seminar on "Islam, Peace, and Tolerance" under the leadership of Vice-Chancellor Professor Dr. Muhammad Ramazan. Dr. Tanveer Qasim and Professor Dr. Akmal Wains were notable speakers, emphasizing the importance of tolerance and peace. The event highlighted the Treaty of Hudaibiyyah as an exemplary illustration of Islamic principles. Key academic figures, including Dr. Adnan Tahir and Professor Maqsood Rizvi, ensured the success of the seminar.

Another one-day seminar on "The Impact of Interfaith Programs in Pakistani Universities on Religious Tolerance and Understanding" was held at Abbasia Campus. Dr. Tanveer Qasim stressed the importance of interfaith harmony for societal development and cautioned against extremist behavior. Dr. Akmal Soomro emphasized research on peace and tolerance, while Prof. Dr. Sheikh Shafiq ur Rehman urged the promotion of interfaith and inter-religious harmony.

The University of Gujrat documented a similar seminar on religious tolerance, organized by the Hayatian Islamic Forum and SSC in collaboration with PHEC.

On November 23rd, Women University Multan organized a seminar on "Interfaith Dialogue" in collaboration with PHEC. Dr. Tanveer Qasim highlighted the role of interfaith dialogue in fostering global peace and eliminating hatred. Additional speakers included Mr. Atif Jameel Ragan, Mr. Rasheed Ahmed, Ms. Sumaira Shafeeq, and Mr. Kalyan Singh. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Kalsoom Pracha called for the promotion of interfaith and inter-religious harmony, expressing gratitude to PHEC for organizing the event. On December 7, the University of Sargodha organized a seminar on "The Impact of Interfaith Programs in Pakistani Universities on Religious Tolerance and Understanding" in collaboration with PHEC. Dr. Tanveer Qasim emphasized the role of universities as catalysts for creating environments promoting religious moderation and tolerance. The Chairman Seerat Chair, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, highlighted the importance of interfaith harmony in the context of modern globalization. Prof. Dr. Farhat Naseem Alvi expressed gratitude and presented a precious book to Dr. Tanveer Qasim, symbolizing collaborative efforts to promote religious tolerance.

These seminars, organized by various universities, underscore the significance of interfaith programs in cultivating religious tolerance and understanding among students, with support from the Punjab Higher Education Commission. The events featured prominent speakers, interactive sessions, and discussions, contributing to the broader goal of fostering peace and harmony in society.



Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir (T.I.) Chairs as Guest of Honor at the 14th Convocation of the University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore

On November 23rd, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, Chairperson (T.I.) Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), graced the 14th Convocation (2023) of University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore. The Convocation became a memorable occasion, blending academic achievements with the distinguished presence of Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir, reinforcing the collaborative spirit between PHEC and institutions dedicated to the advancement of knowledge in specialized domains. As a distinguished guest of honor, Prof. Dr. Shahid Munir played a vital role in conferring degrees and accolades to the graduating cohort, symbolizing the recognition of their hard work and academic excellence. His address to the graduating students served as an inspiration, emphasizing the importance of their contributions to the fields of veterinary and animal sciences.



Empowering Higher Education: Insights, Challenges, and Collaborative Solutions from the 4th Rector's Conference



On December 2nd, the Chairperson Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) actively participated in the 4th Rector's Conference, a significant gathering scheduled from December 1st to 3rd, 2023, in Islamabad. This conference served as a crucial platform for leaders and authorities in the higher education sector to convene, deliberate, and address pressing issues pertinent to the field.

During the conference, the Chairperson PHEC played a central role by shedding light on the challenges currently confronting the higher education sector. These issues encompassed a range of concerns. The Chairperson aimed to bring attention to the critical areas that require collective focus and strategic planning for the betterment of higher education.

In addition to highlighting challenges, the Chairperson PHEC took a proactive stance by proposing possible solutions to address the identified issues. This strategic approach not only demonstrated a comprehensive understanding of the problems at hand but also showcased a commitment to actively contributing to the development and improvement of the higher education landscape.

Furthermore, the Chairperson expressed gratitude and appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the organizers, specifically acknowledging the APSUP for orchestrating such a noteworthy event. This acknowledgment not only recognized the logistical and organizational excellence that went into planning the conference but also underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in fostering meaningful discussions and initiatives within the higher education community.



THE 2ND ALL PUNJAB UNIVERSITIES INNOVATION EXPO-2023







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Punjab Higher Education Commission Announces Second Annual Innovation Expo 2023.



Islamabad: Steering Committee meeting held at the Arfa Kareem Tower and chaired by PHC Chairperson, Dr. Shahid Munir.-PUNA

By our correspondent Lahore: According to the sources of Daily Notable, The Punjab Higher Education Commission is thrilled to announce

the second annual Innovation Expo 2023, set to take place at the Expo Center Lahore on November 20th. The decision was made during a

Steering Committee meeting held at the Arfa Kareem Tower and chaired by PHC Chairperson, Dr. Shahid Munir. During the meeting, Dr. Shahid Munir shared the objectives of Innovation Expo 2023, emphasizing its role in boosting research spirit across universities. The event will feature as many as 500 research projects and innovative ideas, with a focus on encouraging students who excel in research project models by rewarding them.

All universities in Punjab are encouraged to participate in the Expo, while 11 universities in Punjab have been chosen as partners for Expo 2023. Various administrative committees have been established to oversee the organization of Expo 2023, with Dr. Mansoor Baloch leading the organizing committee. In addition to Dr. Mansoor Baloch, the Steering Committee meeting was attended by Dr. Asif Munir, Dr. Tanveer Qasim, Nauman Rao, Vice Chan-

مشرق

ارفع کریم، نادر میں سرکار شپ ایوارڈ کے اجرا کی تقریب

اہل تعلیم، گفتگو کا فروغ، نئی نئی ایوان کی اور ایوان کی ترقی سے، ڈاکٹر پنا



پنا کی ایوان کی اور ایوان کی ترقی سے، ڈاکٹر پنا

دائیں

روزنامہ مشرق

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پاکستان

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پنا کی ایوان کی اور ایوان کی ترقی سے، ڈاکٹر پنا

THE "PHEC" Lahore.

10 DEC 2023

Governor asks varsities to play role in resolving smog issue

Our correspondent Lahore: Punjab Governor Balighur Rehman has chaired a meeting of consortium on climate change and environment level at Governor's House on Saturday.

During the meeting, proposals and measures to solve the issue of smog were discussed in detail. Chairman Punjab Higher Education Commission, Dr. Shahid Munir, along with vice chairpersons and experts from various universities participated in the meeting. On the occasion, former Vice-Chancellor of Islamia University, Islamabad, Prof. Dr. Mubeen Mehmood and Wajid Naveen Jafar, Director, International Centre for Climate Change, Food Security and Nutrition, spoke on the occasion. Speaking on this occasion, Governor Punjab said that smog was a grave issue, adding that smog has many adverse effects on human health. He said that extraordinary measures need to be taken to combat this serious challenge. Governor Punjab said that universities should play a role in solving the problem of smog and environmental pollution in the light of the research done on the environment and the experiences of House, President Pakistan.

He asked the vice chairpersons to engage university students in developing social media campaigns to spread awareness among the public about environmental pollution and smog. He requested that universities should take steps to improve the environment. Governor Punjab said that universities should start on short-term solutions immediately. Governor said that final recommendations to various stakeholders, including government departments, would have to be worked out in the coming days to control smog and environmental pollution. Prof. Dr. Wajid Naveen Jafar, Director, International Centre for Climate Change, Food Security and Nutrition, designated as the focal person for Consortium on Climate Change for Punjab. He said that he has the progress of the Consortium. Speaking on this occasion, Governor Punjab said that smog was a grave issue, adding that smog has many adverse effects on human health. He said that extraordinary measures need to be taken to combat this serious challenge. Governor Punjab said that universities should play a role in solving the problem of smog and environmental pollution in the light of the research done on the environment and the experiences of House, President Pakistan.

At the end of the meeting, Punjab Governor and Punjab Governor Balighur Rehman distributed certificates to the participants of the Consortium. The participants of the Consortium were thanked for their role in solving the problem of smog and environmental pollution in the light of the research done on the environment and the experiences of House, President Pakistan.



سچ اور سچ کے سوا کچھ نہیں!

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Lahorites face health risks as smog crisis continues

Govt urged to adopt American programme to improve air quality

By Our Staff Reporter

LAHORE: The Lahorites are facing severe health risks as the city is covered by a thick layer of smog that has reduced visibility and worsened air quality to the alarming levels on Tuesday.

The air quality index (AQI) level of the city remained hazardous with a maximum AQI of 348. Lahore was at the first position in the most polluted cities list in the world as Bhopal, followed by Delhi at 308, according to IQAir.

The AQI levels in different areas of the city were even higher than the average. The worst affected areas were East University (486), CERF Office (484), Syed Masrabi Ali Road (448), Zucky Farms (428) and NETSOL (420).

The AQI is a measure of the concentration of fine particles (PM2.5) in the air, which can cause respiratory



VEHICLES stopped from entering the motorway at Babu Babu due to poor visibility. —White Star

and cardiovascular diseases as well as premature deaths. The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends an annual average of 10 for PM2.5, while Lahore's average was 269 on Dec 12. Lahore's air pollution was 26.9 times higher than the WHO guideline value.

The smog crisis in Lahore has affected the lives of millions of people, who have been experiencing cough, breathing difficulties, eye irritation and headaches. The causes of the smog are complex and multifaceted, involving both natural and human factors.

Some of the natural factors include low wind speed, high humidity, and temperature inversion, which trap the pollutants near the ground. Some of the human factors include vehicle emissions, industrial activities, crop burning, brick kilns, and garbage burning, which contribute to the high levels of PM2.5 in the air.

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) Chairperson Dr. Shahid Munir told Dawn the government should start the regional clean air incentives market (RECLAIM) programme to clean air in the country like

adopted the RECLAIM programme in 1993 and set an emissions cap and declining balance for many of the largest facilities emitting nitrogen oxides (NOx) and sulfur oxides (SOx). According to him, RECLAIM has the longest history and practical experience of any locally designed and implemented air emissions cap and trade (CAT) programme as it allows participating facilities to trade air pollution while meeting clean air goals.

He said the programme was designed to provide industry with flexibility to decide how to reduce emissions and advance pollution control technologies. NOx and SOx allocations were issued to RECLAIM facilities based on their historical activity levels and applicable emission control levels specified in the rules.

He said facilities within the RECLAIM programme had the option of complying with their allocation allowance by either reducing emissions or purchasing RECLAIM trading credits from other facilities. He said the air pollution had ended in America after following the RECLAIM programme, which was still going on.



پنا کی ایوان کی اور ایوان کی ترقی سے، ڈاکٹر پنا



"Inspiring Innovation and Excellence"**PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION****Best Research Article and Best Book Award**

Punjab Higher Education Commission, Lahore invites applications for the Best Research Article, and Book Award which aims to recognize and reward the researchers for their research contribution judged to be of the highest quality.

SCOPE

The potential awardees under this category will be the researchers from Punjab who have contributed the most to intellectual and social development through their writings. As such, while this is an award for a lifetime achievement rather than a single publication or contribution, it does not preclude recognizing a single publication with a huge impact. On the other hand, the lifetime of achievement should be characterized by outstanding publications with demonstrated major impact.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR AWARD

- The applicant / publication has not received such an award for the same publication.
- Applicant / Author's credit is not plagiarized as per HEC plagiarism policy.
- The publication must be a scholarly book or journal article.
- For the award of 2024, only the research output of 2021, 2022 and 2023 will be considered.
- The publication must be as a main author or corresponding author.
- The only research output with Pakistani affiliation will be considered for this award.
- The publication must be written by no more than three authors.
- Books must be published by a recognized academic publisher listed in the SENSE list of academic publishers and other leading publishers.
- Research articles only published in a W-category journal or above in the HEC Journal Recognition System (HJRS) are eligible.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION
www.punjabhec.gov.pk

The prescribed application Proforma and Instructions are available on the PHEC website.

DEADLINE

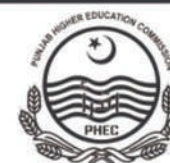
The duly filled proforma endorsed by the Vice Chancellor / Head of the Institution of the Principal Investigator must reach up to **February 06, 2024** through registered post to the address listed below. Application submitted by hand will not be accepted.

DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)

Punjab Higher Education Commission

10th Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore

042-99231903

"Inspiring Innovation and Excellence"**PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION****INVENTION AND INNOVATION AWARD**

Punjab Higher Education Commission, Lahore invites applications for the Invention and Innovation Award in the field of research and development. Invention and innovation awards are aimed to acknowledge those researchers who have turned their research work into cutting-edge solutions in the relevant fields.

SCOPE

Applications are invited from researchers to acknowledge their contribution and services for conducting impactful research across various fields contributing to economic development, fostering economic sustainability. The award recognizes outstanding inventors/innovators from the Punjab province in the universities, who have made an exceptional contribution to social development, technological progress, and economic growth. At the same time, the awards encourage the spirit of invention, innovative thinking, and progress for young researchers in the universities and R&D organizations.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR AWARD

The Principal Investigator (PI) and Co-PI (if any) must be PhD holders. The PI must be a full-time regular faculty member in a public or private sector university chartered by the Government of Punjab. The Co-PI can be a member of academia or R&D organization or industry. Academia-industry joint proposals shall be preferred to strengthen linkages with industry and R&D organizations.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION

The prescribed application Proforma and Instructions are available on the PHEC website.
www.punjabhec.gov.pk

DEADLINE

The duly filled proforma endorsed by the Vice Chancellor / Head of the Institution of the Principal Investigator must reach up to **February 07, 2024**, through registered post to the address listed below. Application submitted by hand will not be accepted.

DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)

Punjab Higher Education Commission

10th Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore

042-99231903



PUNJAB HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

Funding Opportunity for Indigenous PhD Scholarship (IPHD) Phase -1 (2024)

Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) is inviting applications from eligible candidates for the Indigenous PhD Scholarship (IPHD). This scholarship is available to pursue PhD study in any public or private sector university chartered by Government of the Punjab, covering various disciplines such as Science & Technology, Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities, and Business & Management Sciences etc.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The eligible candidate must:

1. Hold domicile from any district of the Punjab.
2. Hold an MS/Mphil degree from foreign/local university with no 3rd division or grade D in entire academic career.
3. Candidate applying for PhD scholarship must have minimum CGPA 3.0 (out of 4.0 in the semester system), CGPA 3.75 (out of 5) or first division (in the annual system) in MS/MPhil/Equivalent degree.
4. Have NOC and approved study leave from parent department, if employed
5. Be maximum 40 years of age (45-year age limit for female) on the closing date.
6. Scholarship is meant only for three years, and during the continuance of PhD the awardee shall not do/join any other job.
7. The awardee shall seek admission in any public/private sector university of the Punjab within 9-months after award of scholarship letter.
8. Candidates in the Science & Technology category are required to submit a financial support letter from the industry, demonstrating financial support of minimum of Rs. 10,000 per month.

Applicants Not Eligible:

- a) The candidates who are already availing any other HEC/Government scholarship for PhD are not eligible to apply.
- b) The candidates who are already doing PhD.

FINANCIAL COVERAGE

PHEC will provide funds for 36 months as per follows:

- 1) Rs. 50,000/- per month (all inclusive) for the Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities, Business & Management Sciences etc. and;
- 2) Rs. 100,000/- per month (all inclusive) for the Sciences & Technology.

HOW TO APPLY

Apply online at PHEC website till January 28, 2024 and hard copy of application complete in all respects must reach at the address given below on or before January 31, 2024 till 05:00 PM through registered post only. Application submitted by hand will not be accepted. Application form, SOPs of the program and related details are available at PHEC website: www.punjabhec.gov.pk.

DR. MUHAMMAD MUMTAZ ALI KHAN
DIRECTOR (HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT)

Punjab Higher Education Commission, Lahore
10th Floor, Arfa Software Technology Park, 346-B, Ferozepur Road, Lahore
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