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Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro

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Partnering Universities:





International Workshop on Entrepreneurship Technology, and Institutional Sustainability in Higher Academia

Mehran University of Engineering & Technology and University of Utah USA, in collaboration with Pakistan Science Foundation organized a daylong International Workshop on "Entrepreneurship, Technology, and Institutional Sustainability in Higher Academia" under the auspices of U.S.-Pakistan Center for Advanced Studies in Water, on December 19, 2015 at P.C. Hotel Karachi.

The workshop was aimed at to facilitate the faculty from the leading Pakistani universities, research entities and industry in formulating the way forward about entrepreneurship, research, technology transfer and venture commercialization. It builds upon a collaborative framework established under the aegis of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funded project to build U.S.-Pakistan Centers for Advanced Studies in Water. One of the goals of this collaboration is to enable the adoption of the best practices in university operations from U.S. universities to their Pakistani counterparts.

Senator Nisar A. Memon - Chairman Pakistan's Water Environment Forum (WEF) and former Federal Minister for Information & Broadcasting, inaugurated the event while Dr. Ishrat Hussain - Dean and Director Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Karachi and Former Governor State Bank

of Pakistan, Mr. M.A. Jabbar -former Vice President Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce & Industry, Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Uqaili - Vice Chancellor Mehran UET, Prof. Dr. Steve Burian Director USPCAS-W on the part of University of Utah (UoU), Dr. M.Akram Shaikh - Member Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF) were key speakers in the inaugural session, which was followed by two technical sessions. The first session was "Challenges of Entrepreneurship" chaired by Dr. Tariq Hassan, former Chairman Securities Exchange Commission of Pakistan, while Prof. Dr. Mukhtar Ahmed - Chairman Higher Education Commission Pakistan chaired second session which was panel discussion on "Supporting Entrepreneurship" through video link whereas Prof. Dr. Tariq Banuri - Associate Director USPCAS-W UoU facilitated the discussion and Question/ Answer session. Mr. James Thompson - Director UoU's Technology & Venture Commercialization office delivered his key note speech on "Commercialization Strategy". Mr. Thompson emphasized that universities shall have their own IP policy and shall provide conducive environment to the researchers/faculty to disclose their patents. ORIC Offices can play a significant role in commercialization of research produced at the universities and this can be a viable source for not only to generate revenue but build a positive impact in society.



Dr. Arabella Bhutto, Co-Director Mehran University Institute of Science, Technology and Development (MUISTD) spoke on "Innovation Ecosystem", Dr. Shahid Qureshi - Program Director IBA Center for Entrepreneurial Development delivered his presentation on "Entrepreneurship", Barrister Mr. Haroon Dugal - Partner RIAA Barker Gillette Pakistan Lahore spoke on "Patenting Law", Dr. Rashid Aftab Ahmed - Director Riphah Institute of Public Policy, Riphah International University delivered his speech on "Trends in Science-Industry Linkage", while Mr. Muhammad Waseem Vohra - Vice President The Federation of Pakistan Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FPCCI) spoke on "Expectations of Business Community from Academia in relation to Supporting Entrepreneurship", in the panel discussion. In this workshop, experts from higher academia, industry, research and development organizations, corporate sector, civil society organizations and government officials realized that *success and sustainability of higher educational institutes in Pakistan are unified with entrepreneurship, technology transfer and venture commercialization.*

Prof. Dr. Asadullah Kazi - Chancellor ISRA University Hyderabad, Prof. Dr. Faizullah Abbasi- Vice Chancellor Dawood University of Engineering & Technology (DUET) Karachi, Prof. Dr. Mohammad Ali Shaikh- Vice Chancellor Sindh Madressatul Islam University Karachi Prof. Dr. Abdul Kareem Baloch- Vice Chancellor Quaid-e-Awam University of Engineering, Science & Technology (QUEST) Nawabshah, Prof. Dr. Abdul Rehman Memon - former VC MUET, Dr. Mohammad Aslam Chaudhry -University of Utah, USA, Dr. Sajjad Ahmed- University of Nevada Las Vegas, USA, Prof. Dr. Fatah Muhammad Burfat - University of Karachi, Dr. Fateh Mari -Water Sector Improvement Project, Mr. Hafeez Samo - USAID, Prof. Dr. Ismail Kumbhar- Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam, Dr. Sono Khangharani-Hisaar Foundation, other civil society activists, government officials, professors, and PhD students of USPCAS-W, MUET Jamshoro attended this international workshop.

Four-Day Boot Camp for Faculty

Four-Day Boot Camp on Research, Effective Teaching and Writing was organized for USPCAS-W Faculty by MUET Jamshoro in collaboration with University of Utah, United States, under the auspices of USPCAS-W from December 14-17, 2015, at Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) building Conference Hall of MUET Jamshoro. Highly academic and technical experts from University of Utah, Colorado State University and City University of New York led the four-day boot camp, to enhance learning and research capacity development of the faculty and students of USPCAS-W - recently established



world class national water research center at MUET supported by USAID and technically assisted by University of Utah, USA. American professors including Dr. Tariq Banuri, Prof. Steve Burain, Prof. Tim Gates, Prof. Sajjad Ahmed, Dr. Shundana Yousaf, Mr. James Thompson, Dr. Jim VanDerslice delivered lectures on different topics includes:

- Water and Sustainable Development in Pakistan
- Gender and Governance
- Water Infrastructure System
- Irrigation and Drainage Efficiency
- Decision Support for Water Resources Planning and Management
- Students Exchange Program
- Time Management
- Enhancing Research Skill
- Water Resource Planning and Management
- Urban Water Supply and Resources

On this occasion, Project Director USPCAS-W Prof. Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari briefed the foreign delegation regarding the performance and achievements of USPCAS-W and also highlighted the role of USPCAS-W in enhancing future research opportunities in collaboration with other stakeholders.



Workshop on Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship

MUET Jamshoro in collaboration with University of Utah organized One-Day Workshop on "Technology, Innovation and Entrepreneurship" under the auspices of USPCAS-W, on December 18, 2015 at Makhdoom Dawood Hall – Old Administration Building MUET Jamshoro. Dr. Shahid Qureshi, Program Director Center for Entrepreneurial Development-IBA Karachi facilitated the session while Mr. James Thompson, Director TVC – UoU was keynote speaker and delivered his presentation on "Technology Commercialization: An Overview of Models and Approaches". Mr. Thompson



suggested MUET, to develop Intellectual Property Policy (IPP), encourage faculty to submit disclosures, and execute the process for evaluating disclosures. Dr. Arabella Bhutto - Co-Director MUISTD – MUET Jamshoro spoke on "University-Industry-Government Linkages-Where do we stand?" Mr. Javid Akhtar - Manager University Industrial Linkages and Technology Transfer at University of Karachi talked on "Entrepreneurial Practices in Academia and Research", while Mr. Parvaiz Ahmed Memon, Director ORIC – IBA Sukkur delivered lecture on "Technology, Innovative and Entrepreneurship -Key trends in Pakistan and Institutional sustainability". Large number of students, faculty, and other relevant stakeholders participated in the workshop.

Utah Team Mentors USPCAS-W Students

University of Utah team conducted a day-long extensive workshop for mentoring Masters and PhD students of USPCAS-W and delivered sessions on following topics;

1. Irrigation and Drainage Efficiency - Prof. Tim Gates
2. Decision Support for Water Resources Planning and Management - Dr. Sajjad Ahmad
3. Water Infrastructure Systems - Prof. Steve Burian
4. Urban Water Supply and Resource Management - Dr. Jim VanDerslice
5. Water and Sustainable Development in Pakistan - Dr. Tariq Banuri
6. Gender & Governance - Dr. Tariq Banuri
7. Capacity Building Needs & Infrastructure Assessment - Dr. Mohammad Aslam Chaudhry
8. Overview of USPCAS-W Exchange Program - Prof. Steve Burian
9. Research Skills - Dr. Tim Gates
10. Time Management, Study & Writing Skills - Dr. Shundana Yousaf

All the presentations/lectures were followed by a questions and answer session which was facilitated by respective resource person.



Graduate Seminars

One of the permanent features of USPCAS-W is organizing weekly Graduate Seminar, in this quarter two key following graduate seminars were held:

1. "Water Quality around us: overview situation in Hyderabad and Tharparkar", Dr. Muhammad Iqbal Bhangar delivered lecture on the topic.
2. "WATER: Resources, Issues and Management", lecture delivered by Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmed Panhwar, Senior Professor, Faculty of Management Science at Bahria University Karachi.



Seminar on Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources of Sindh Province

USPCAS-W in collaboration with Water Environment Forum (WEF) organized one-day seminar on "Impact of Climate Change on Water Resources of Sindh Province" on November 5, 2015. The main objective of the seminar was, to aware the academia and civil society on the effects of climate change particularly on water resources of Sindh Province.

Chairman WEF Senator Nisar A. Memon was chief guest of the event. He presented a model of Pakistan's security while briefing on various impacts of climate change and its link with national security. Dr. Ghulam Rasool, Chief Meteorologist, Pakistan Meteorological Department gave presentation on "Implication of Climate Change for Sindh Province". Dr. M. Aslam Chaudhry, Chief of Party, USPCAS-W made a

presentation on partnership of MUET and University of Utah USA and the climate change agenda.

Dr. Mohammad Aslam Uqaili, Vice Chancellor MUET paid vote of thanks to all distinguished guests, faculty and students of USPCAS-W. He also thanked USAID/Pakistan for creating this Water Environment and Food Security Nexus for this Center. On this occasion Dr. Uqaili said that USPCAS-W is national water research center and MUET, during this project, will put all its efforts to make it not only a regional but international center.



In the beginning of the seminar, Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari, Project Director USPCAS-W formally welcomed all the participants and put light on objectives of the seminar and also briefed on rationale behind the establishment of this water research center at MUET. He assured that the center would definitely give a due share to the research on climate change and provide practical solution of its adaptation and mitigation, while Dr. Kamran Ansari, Deputy Project Director USPCAS-W presented his work "Effects of Climate Change on Water Resources".



■ Stakeholders' Consultation – MUET Gender Policy Principles

A consultative meeting with stakeholder on Gender Equity Policy held in November 4, 2015 to seek inputs and ideas from the faculty, students, administrative staff, civil society organizations and other stakeholders for setting up parameters for the university level gender policy. The consultation outlined the following broad principles and guidelines to steer the process for developing a comprehensive action plan to achieve the defined policy objectives.



1. Establishing institutional and policy framework for making MUET a gender-friendly campus where gender equity is to be understood and implemented effectively as a top management priority.
2. Adopting and promoting HEC policy guidelines against sexual harassment in institutions of higher learning.
3. Providing an inclusive environment in which everyone irrespective of its gender and socio-ethnic, economical and religious backgrounds can participate and benefit.
4. Strengthening legislative framework to protect women's rights, enhance their empowerment, and eliminate discriminatory practices in all their forms.
5. Creating mentoring and leadership opportunities for empowering women students, staff, and faculty, and strengthening their participation in academic and extra-curricular activities.

In this regard, MUET takes lead in adopting Gender Equity Policy among public sector universities. The policy stand approved from MUET Syndicate.

■ Faculty of USPCAS-W on Exchange Program

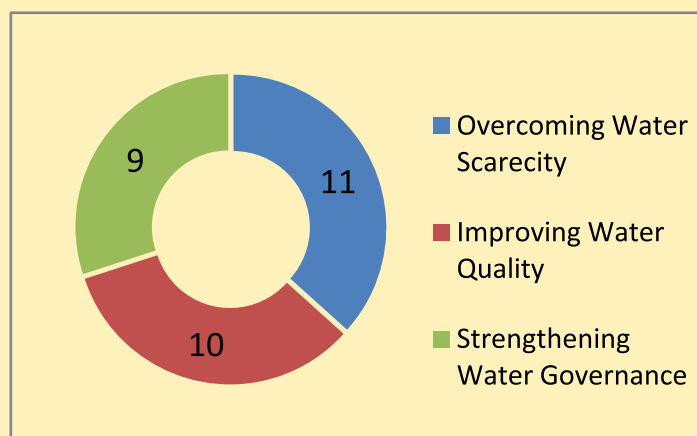
USPCAS-W believes in participatory and learner-centered teaching methods, in order to create an effective teaching and learning environment based on innovative teaching methodologies, Seven faculty members are going United States on exchange program including Prof. Dr. Muhammad Munir Babar, Prof. Dr. Rasool Bux Mahar, Mr. Wali Muhammad Daudpota, Dr. Syeda Sara Hasan, Ms. Rakshanda Bano, Ms. Uzma Imran and Mr. Muhammad Ali. Dr. Babar and Mr. Daudpota will stay at Colorado State University (CSU), USA, while rest of the faculty will be at University of Utah, USA for 4 to 6 months for their learning and research purposes.

■ Applied Research Grants

In, total 30 proposals have received against 1st call for research proposals in November 2015. These proposals were submitted by universities, research organizations and national NGOs on the following research agenda themes:

1. Overcoming Water Scarcity
2. Improving Water Quality
3. Strengthening Water Governance

The size of each research grant is PKR 3 Million. After desk appraisal, all the submitted proposals have shared with University of Utah for their technical and expert review. Research Grants Management Committee of this center will finalize the scrutiny process and decide to award the grants in January 2016.



Communication and Outreach Activities

Developing and implementing the effective communication and outreach strategies have always been critical in achieving the desired program outcomes. Taking into consideration the significant importance of augmented and effective program outreach, different activities have been done so far including media coverage, awareness raising seminars with local stakeholders, writing of news features, creation of website and printing of promotional material etc. Yet, the impact of objective outreach to different Pakistani Universities and conduct interactive sessions with students and faculty regarding project orientation was considered high. In order to provide first-hand information on the degree programs offered by USPCAS-W to the concerned students of final year, center initiated an outreach program. During the month of November 2015, USPCAS-W team consisting of

Mr. M. Shahid Panhwar, M&E Specialist and Ms. Shabnam Baloch, Gender & Communication Specialist visited five universities of Pakistan from 13 to 19 November.

Following universities were visited during this period:

1. University of Engineering & Technology- Taxila-Punjab
 2. University of Engineering & Technology-Lahore-Punjab
 3. University of Agriculture-Faisalabad-Punjab
 4. University of Agriculture-Peshawar-KPK
 5. University of Engineering & Technology-Peshawar-KPK
- Around 800 students participated in open house sessions and asked relevant questions regarding the program i.e. admission criteria, scholarships and exchanges, gender equity measures, other learning and exposure opportunities with USPCAS-W



Sustainability through forging Partnerships

Capacity Building of Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh

USPCAS-W is entering into an agreement for a principally agreed Capacity Building Project with Irrigation Department, Government of Sindh. The project cost stands as Rs. 41.4 million for a period of three years. The scope of the project includes technical assistance and training, which will cover subjects such as hydraulics, hood control, detailed design, contract administration and construction supervision, irrigation and drainage and water resources management and development. Modalities for delivery include postgraduate programs, long and short terms trainings program and study tours.



USPCAS-W honored full session in 18th SDC of SDPI

Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) organized its 18th Sustainable Development Conference (SDC) titled “Securing Peace and Prosperity” held on December 7-10, 2015 at Islamabad, in which USPCAS-W MUET honored with allocation of full session on “Water, Sustainability, Equity and Security”. The session was chaired by Senator Nisar A. Memon, Chairman Water Environment Forum, Pakistan, and co-chaired by Dr. Tariq Banuri, University of Utah, USA. In which Dr. M. Aslam Chaudhry, USPCAS-W, University of Utah, USA, Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari, PD USPCAS-W MUET, Dr. Kapil Ghosh, Rajiv Gandhi University of India, Dr. Suleman Tahir, University of Gujrat presented their technical papers, while Mr. Khalid Mohtadullah, Senior Advisor to International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and Member Senior Advisory Board at University of Utah, USA gave special remarks on the topic.



USPCAS-W Faculty Participation in Hisaar Foundation's Conference

Securing Sustainable Water for AI 2015 - an international conference was organized by Hisaar Foundation – an NGO on 17-18 November, 2015 at Karachi. Among others, six faculty members of USPCAS-W read papers in different sessions of the conference. These included;

- Water for Cities: Making the Metropolis more Manageable by Prof. Dr. Rasool Bux Mahar
- Managing Groundwater, Floods and Droughts by Prof. Dr. Abdul Latif Qureshi
- Water for Food: Smart Agriculture Practices by Prof. Dr. Altaf Ali Siyal
- Role of Stakeholders; Innovations and Affordable Solutions by Prof. Shafi M. Kori and Mr. Waqas Ahmed Pathan – Assistant Professor
- Nexus of Water, Climate Change, Food & Energy by Mr. Ghulam Hussain Dars – Assistant Professor



USPCAS-W Participation in Seminars, Conferences and Meetings

1st Meeting of National Steering Committee for USPCAS Projects

Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari, Project Director USPCAS-W and Dr. Mohammad Aslam Chaudhry, CoP, USPCAS-W, UU at MUET attended the first meeting of National Steering Committee for U.S.-Pakistan Centers for Advanced Studies (USPCAS) of Higher Education Commission at Islamabad, which was focused on the project achievements. Dr. Lashari gave presentation 1st year achievements of the center and also shared the future plans of USPCAS-W, MUET Jamshoro.

WAPDA Consultative Seminar

Dr. Kamran Ansari, Deputy Project Director participated in One-Day Seminar on "Consultative Session on Water Security Issues" organized by WAPDA at Indus Hotel Hyderabad on 15-10-2015. Dr. Ansari delivered presentation on "Floods and Droughts Management" in one of the sessions of the seminar.

Training on Exchange and Scholarship:

Dr. Kamran Ansari, Deputy Project Director and Ms. Maria Memon, Exchange & Scholarship Coordinator participated in USAID's Participants Training Working Group (PTWG) in Islamabad on October 09, 2015.

Provincial Water Conference

Dr. Rafiq A. Chandio, Director Administration represented USPCAS-W in Provincial Water Conference organized by Indus Consortium on "Improving Water Governance and Promoting Water Cooperation" held on 12th November, 2015 in Lahore. Dr. Chandio delivered a presentation on the aims and objectives of the center and its roll for water governance and research.

Communication Working Group Meeting

Mr. Sahib Khan Bhand, Communication, Media & Outreach (CMO) Expert participated in CWG meeting held on November 25, 2015 at John Hopkins Center for Communication Program Office Islamabad.

USAID Financial Review Meeting

USAID arranged a quarterly review meeting with all USPCAS partner universities which was attended by Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari, Project Director and Syed Mansoor Ali Shah, Finance & Grants Manager. USAID team highly appreciated the efforts put in by USPCAS-W in setting up an efficient financial management system. Further USAID experts advised to all other USPCAS project implementers to adopt the best practices of USPCAS-W, MUET Jamshoro.



Written Test for various positions held

There were 257 candidates appeared in following positions

1. Lab Lecturer
2. GIS Specialist
3. Soil Scientist
4. Lab. Technician

whereas total 427 applications received for the mention posts and 364 candidates were short-listed by the scrutiny committee and finally written test was conducted on October 22, 2015, for the mentioned posts.



Student Activities

Poster competition and formation of Water Advocacy Group

Graduate students of Environmental Engineering participated in poster competition and won prizes. The posters highlighted important facts around physical, chemical and biological processing units including drinking and waste water treatment plants, heavy metals and screening process in waste water, advanced nano-technology, sedimentation process, effects of climate on environment, water reservoirs in Sindh, ozone layer depletion and others. After decision of the designated judges of this event, Shoaib Ahmed, Irum Sifat, Azizullah and Sadaf Sher won 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th prizes respectively. The speakers in this event said that this is one of the healthy academic activities and such type of activities will be promoted in this center. After this successful event students voluntarily formed a Water Advocacy Group (WAG) to organize such healthy academic and co-curriculum activities in future to promote importance of water and its sustainable use in daily life.



Field Trips

Following field trips were organized in this quarter:

- ☐ Visit to Drainage and Reclamation Institute of Pakistan (DRIP) Tandojam, Sindh
- ☐ Visit to Chotiari Reservoir Sanghar, Sindh
- ☐ Visit to Waste Water Treatment Plants Karachi
- ☐ Visit to Darawat Dam, Jamshoro, Sindh
- ☐ Visit to Indus Delta, Keti Bunder, Thatta Sindh



Picture Gallery



Dr. Sajjad Ahmed delivers his presentation in graduate workshop



Dr. Tariq Banuri delivers his lecture to PhD students



Dr. Jim VanDerslice with USPCAS-W Faculty Members



Group photo of Boot Camp held at USPCAS-W, MUET, Jamshoro



Prof. Dr. Bakhshal Khan Lashari briefs Utah Mission about USPCAS-W activities



Prof. Tariq Banuri with USPCAS-W Team Members



1st Batch Students of USPCAS-W in their 1st Semester Examination



Construction work of USPCAS-W Building is in progress

Disclaimer:

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