

MILESTONES OF WEAKER UNIVERSITIES' SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

With a passion to create a breed of highly qualified manpower in high-tech fields including Natural and Basic Sciences and to facilitate assimilation, absorption and transfer of important and promising technologies to achieve rapid economic progress, Higher Education Commission launched MS/M.Phil leading to Ph.D. level training program for selected weaker universities of Pakistan in 2004.

The Scheme envisaged MS/M.Phil leading to PhD level training and six months language course for 100 full time teachers; working on regular basis in less equipped, newly established universities at reputed universities of Austria, France and Germany. The scheme was launched in 2004 and by December 2007, all the available slots were occupied. As mentioned below, a total of 11 scholars have left for Austria, 42 have gone to Germany while 45 had proceeded to France:

| Name of University | Austria | France | Germany | Total |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Hazara University Dhodial, Mansehra | | 01 | 07 | 08 |
| Gomal University, D.I. Khan | | 02 | 04 | 06 |
| Kohat University of Science & Technology, Kohat | | 01 | 01 | 02 |
| Karakoram International University, Gilgit | | 01 | 02 | 03 |
| University of Malakand, Chakdara, Dir, Malakand | | 02 | 01 | 03 |
| University of AJK, Muzaffarabad | 02 | 02 | 02 | 06 |
| Quaid-e-Awam University of Eng. Sciences & Tech, Nawabshah | 01 | 05 | 02 | 08 |
| Shah Abdul Latif University, Khairpur | | 02 | 02 | 04 |
| Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam | 02 | 04 | 07 | 13 |
| Government College University, Faisalabad | | 03 | 04 | 07 |
| Islamia University, Bahawalpur | 03 | 03 | 03 | 09 |
| University of Sargodha, Sargodha | 03 | 08 | | 11 |
| University of Baluchistan, Quetta | | 05 | 05 | 10 |
| Balochistan University of Eng. & Tech., Khuzdar | | 02 | 01 | 03 |
| Balochistan University of IT & Management Sciences, Quetta | | 04 | 01 | 05 |
| Total | 11 | 45 | 42 | 98 |

Till date, five scholars have successfully completed their PhD and have joined back their parent universities as faculty members. The achievements of some of the scholars are highlighted below:

Dr Nazeer Hussain Kalhoro:



A lecturer of Anatomy and Histology at Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam; was selected for HEC scholarship to pursue PhD studies in Biological Sciences at University of Veterinary Medicine, Hannover Germany.

Realizing that the commercial poultry farming is the most significant source of protein and frequent outbreaks of avian influenza (bird flu) incur huge economic losses not only in the form of death of birds but also as a ban on poultry related products' export from Pakistan; Dr Nazeer Hussain Kalhoro dedicated all his efforts and energies to diagnose and control this fatal disease. During this 'Master leading to PhD Program' training, he successfully evaluated and produced twelve different vaccines against avian influenza (bird flu).

On successful completion of his PhD in 2009, he has rejoined Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam and is working hard on epidemiology, infections and prevention of avian influenza in poultry to make Pakistan prosperous and free from bird flu.

Mr Zahoor Ahmad:

Assistant professor at Balochistan University of Engineering & Technology, Khuzdar, he was enrolled in Master-2-research (M2R) program in Informatique et Sciences de l'information et de La Communication Université de Limoges (Computer Science and science of Information and communication, University of Limoges). He completed M2R securing 3rd highest position in class and was awarded admission to PhD by the same university in the School of Engineers (ENSIL, Ecole Nationale Supérieure d'Ingénieurs de Limoges).



During his PhD studies he has presented two papers in International Wireless Communications and Mobile computing conferences (IWCMC) held by IEEE at Greece and UK respectively.

Mr Bilal Shams Khattak:



A lecturer in I.T. Department of Kohat University of Sciences & Technology (KUST); was awarded MS leading to PhD Scholarship to acquire higher education in France. He enrolled himself at Université de Bretagne Occidentale (UBO) in the Masters-2 research program of Signaux et circuits (Signals & Circuits). However, on successful completion of his Masters, he was able to secure a CIFRE scholarship (a French acronym for 'Industrial training through research'); the most prestigious and highest paid scholarship in France which is jointly funded by the French Govt and the industry (STMicroelectronics in his case). An HEC scholar can not have another scholarship in parallel; the scholar not only informed Higher Education Commission about his selection but also stopped taking HEC funding and is still determined to serve Pakistan in accordance with the deed of agreement.

Mr. Noor Ahmed Rind:



Lecturer at Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar; has successfully completed Masters Program in Transportation Systems from TU Munich. As a pre-requisite for admission into PhD Program, Mr Noor Ahmad also interned for eight weeks at The Prüfamt für Verkehrswegebau, Baumbachstraße 7, 81245 München; one of the best research centers in the field of railways and roads. As a doctoral student at the Institute of ISBS, TU Braunschweig, he now deals with the analysis of cracks in asphalt roads with the help of geo-radar (crack detection in road pavements by means of radiometry). It is expected that this research will create a link between Pakistan railways, NHA, Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar and aforementioned German Institutes.

Mr. Sajjad Hussain Sajjad:

As a Lecturer of Geography at Department of Earth Sciences, University of Sargodha; Mr Sajjad was awarded scholarship in 2008 under this scheme to pursue his doctoral studies in the field of 'Climate Change' at Université de Strasbourg, France.



Non exploration of renewable energy resource can lead to a huge energy crisis having devastating social and economic effects particularly when there is constant increase in its parameters i.e. Population and Energy Consumption. Since urban areas hold a central figure in this matter and both the components viz population and consumption are high in these areas; Mr Sajjad aims to explore the urban development strategies to minimize energy consumption and their effect on the environment. His PhD research is based on development and use of meteorological model 'Finite Volume Mesoscale (FVM)' i.e. to develop some model based cities having less energy consumption and heat generation. Till date, the scholar has published four papers having cumulative impact factor of 6.951 in journals like 'Climatic Change' and 'African Journal of Biotechnology'.