

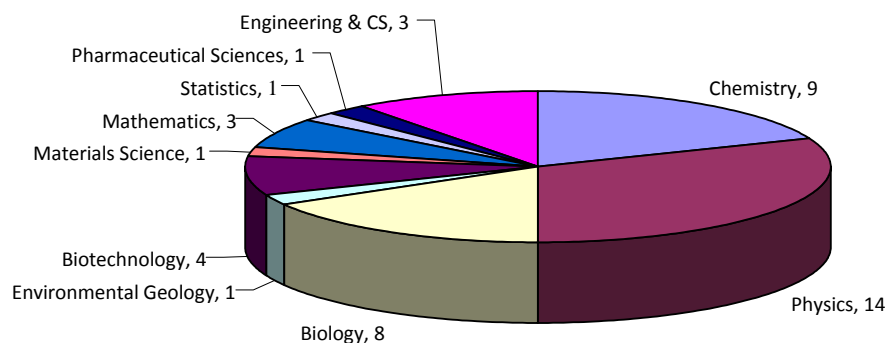
IMPACT OF HEC FUNDED 'PhD SCHOLARSHIPS IN BASIC SCIENCES, CHINA'

In order to supplement efforts of Higher Education Commission to provide opportunities to teachers & researchers for higher training abroad, so as to facilitate transfer of promising scientific knowledge and information; the scheme 'PhD scholarships in Basic Sciences, China' was launched in July 2003. It envisaged PhD level training of 50 outstanding teachers / researchers of Public sector university/R& D organizations in advanced Basic Sciences fields in China.

Till Sept. 2010, a total of 46 scholars have graduated under this scheme and have returned and joined their parent organizations. The beneficiaries, amongst other top rated institutions of our motherland, include University of Malakand, AJK university of Muzaffarabad, Hazara University, Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro and a number of colleges in Sindh, Khyber Pukhtunkhwa and Punjab.

The uplift of educational qualification has proved beneficial for the scholars also as few of them, erstwhile serving in colleges where adequate research facilities were not available; have joined reputable universities in the country to impart their knowledge and skills in a befitting manner. Moreover, by stimulating scientific activity in the form of international publication, this program raised the standard of research in various fields in the country i.e. 45 successful candidates have produced 94 international and 68 local publications to date. Subject wise distribution of scholars provides a snapshot of far reaching impact of this scheme:

Subject Wise Scholars Distribution



A glimpse of achievements of the scholars of this program is as under:

Dr. Sardar Khan:

Dr Khan has completed PhD in a period of three years from China Academy of Sciences in 2007. His PhD research on 'Changes in Chemical & Biological indicators of Soil Environment due to long term Waste Water Irrigation' provided him manuscript for a number of publications in high impact factor journals. During his PhD studies he attended international conferences in China and Australia. On successful completion of PhD, he has joined back Department of Environmental Sciences, University of Peshawar and is constantly working on the environmental issues concerning Pakistan. Till date cumulative impact factor of his publications is 20.76.

Dr. Qaisar Mahmood:



During his PhD studies from 2004-2007 in Zhejiang University, China; Dr Qaisar Mahmood authored four publications in ISI journals. On successful completion of his PhD, he returned to his parent organization i.e F.G. Post Graduate College H-8 Islamabad. However, further research in the area of his interest viz Wastewater treatment, bioremediation, Hazardous waste management was not possible at the college; he therefore joined COMSATS Institute of Technology (CIIT) Abbottabad as Assistant Professor. He is actively investigating the field of his specialization and authored another five publications during his stay at CIIT. His publications have a cumulative impact factor of 17.44.

Dr. Saleem Ahmed Shah Bokhari:



Dr Bokhari has authored three publications during his PhD studies with a cumulative impact factor of 9.08. His PhD research titled “Proteomic investigation of rice seedling response to elevated carbon dioxide levels” was published in the ‘Journal of Proteomic Research’ which alone bears an impact factor of 5.684. He was a lecturer at Govt. Degree College Gujjar Khan before proceeding to Tsinghua University, one of the top universities in China, for PhD studies. In order to gainfully utilize his research capabilities, he is now serving Government College University, Lahore as Assistant Professor.

Dr. Rehana Sharif:



During her PhD in Physics from China Academy of Sciences, Dr Sharif published four papers in ISI journals. On successful completion of her PhD, she joined back University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore as Assistant Professor and published more papers in IEEE journals. Total impact factor of her publications is 8.55. Presently she is focusing on fabrication and magnetic characterizations of 1D nanostructure such as nanowires and nanotubes. Her goal is to fabricate nano-magnetic/ semiconductor devices based upon nanowires and nanotubes.

Dr. Bilal Haider Abbasi:



During his PhD studies from July 2004-Feb 2008 in Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China; Dr. Bilal Haider Abbasi authored four publications in SCI journals including Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry, Plant Cell Reports, In Vitro Cellular and Developmental Biology-Plants and Journal of Insect Science. On successful completion of his PhD, he returned to his parental organization i.e. OPF Boys College, PBC Campus, H-9, Islamabad. However, further research in the area of his interest viz tissue culture of elite medicinal plant species, bioprocess technology and biochemical engineering was not possible at the college; he therefore joined Department of Biotechnology, Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad as Assistant Professor. He is actively investigating the antioxidant potential of medicinally important plants of Pakistan. He has authored another six publications from QAU. His publications have a cumulative impact factor of 13. He is also Principal Investigator (PI) of HEC sponsored research program (NRPU) and also supervising several MPhil and PhD students.