



SARGODHA UNIVERSITY ENTERS TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS 2020

Sargodha University has for the first time made its entry into the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2020, and has been ranked 1,276 in the world.

The 'THE World University Rankings 2020' included 1,400 out of 60,000 universities from 92 countries that qualified its ranking criteria. The criteria were based on 13 performance indicators concerning teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook.

This year, 14 universities from Pakistan qualified for the Rankings among which the Quaid-i-Azam University came at top, placed at number 401-500 while Sargodha University and six other universities were placed in the 1,000+ category of universities. Earlier, Sargodha University also became one of the Top 500 Asian Universities in QS Asian Universities Rankings 2019, and was placed in the 401-450 band.

Past couple of years have seen the University make rapid progress in its academic profile due to progressive reforms that aim to meet the basic criteria and various performance indicators of both THE and QS.

The reforms process, among others, includes faculty development through recruiting over 300



competent faculty members; while the closure of private campuses, streamlining of college affiliations and consolidation of commercially viable academic programs and facilities have further enhanced the quality of education.

New initiatives for institution building include the establishment of e-Rozgaar Centres, Career Development Centre, Business Incubation Centre, Pakistan Institute of China Studies. Meanwhile, digitization, including online admissions and one-window operation at Facilitation Centre, has helped spur service delivery.

Various incentives for research and publications have led to significant increase in the number of impact factor publications and citations. Besides international conferences, collaborations with China, especially in agricultural sciences, have also helped improve the international outlook.



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The Vice Chancellor addressing the Kashmir rally of SU female faculty and students condemning Indian brutality against innocent people in occupied Kashmir on September 20, 2019

SU EXPRESSES SOLIDARITY WITH KASHMIRI PEOPLE

VICE CHANCELLOR URGES STUDENTS TO VOICE PROTEST ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Faculty members and students of Sargodha University have been coming out of their offices and classrooms every Friday to express their unflinching solidarity with the people of Kashmir ever since the imposition of complete lockdown by Indian security forces in Occupied Kashmir.

In the mass rallies held during the 'Kashmir Hour,' the faculty members and students, carrying placards and banners, have condemned unprecedented atrocities being perpetrated by Indian armed forces against the Kashmiri people in their longstanding struggle for the right to self-determination.

Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad led the rally against Indian oppression on Kashmiri women on September 20. As an ardent advocate of Kashmiri cause, including lobbying effort alongside Hurriyet leader Mirwais Umer Farooq at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva and

other Western capitals, the Vice Chancellor spoke vehemently against India's Hindu supremacist regime and its neo-Nazi agenda. He especially urged the students "to use social media tools to raise their voice for Kashmiris and try to influence the global public opinion that is overwhelmingly against the Indian lockdown of Occupied Kashmir."

This time, the University also observed the Independence Day and Defense Day as Kashmir Solidarity Day to send a clear message of camaraderie to the besieged people of Kashmir. As part of the observance, multiple events, including walks, seminars, speeches and national songs competition and exhibition, were organized.

The speakers of these events called on the United Nations, human rights organizations and the international community to take concrete actions for ending the grave human rights violations in the Occupied Kashmir.



A view of the Kashmir rally on the University Road, August 30, 2019



Minister for Higher Education Punjab Raja Yassir Humayun Sarfraz (centre) along with Chairman PHEC Dr Fazal Ahmad Khalid (left) and Chairman HEC Dr Tariq Banuri (right) addressing a press conference held to launch the Associate Degree Program at PHEC Office, Lahore, August 2, 2019.

SU IMPLEMENTS HEC'S PATHBREAKING ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM

The University of Sargodha has implemented the pathbreaking initiative of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to introduce the two-year Associate Degree Program (ADP) in Arts, Science and Commerce from Fall 2019, while phasing out the BA, BSc and BCom degree programs, in its affiliated colleges and for external/private candidates.

The decision was made by the Academic Council meeting on August 22, 2019, and subsequently implemented by the Vice Chancellor invoking the emergency clause of the University Act on behalf of the Syndicate.

The Academic Council has also decided that there will be no changes in curriculum. The course outlines/syllabi, which were being offered to BA, BSc and BCom students, will be offered to the ADP students. The system of examination for ADP will include annual and supplementary examinations.

The ADP includes a general education requirement as well as a marketable skills requirement. It aims to prepare the young graduates equipped with employable and marketable skills. These skills would encourage them to become an efficient labour force to speed up the wheel of economic productivity and inclusive growth in Pakistan.

The ADP, therefore, is a revolutionary initiative for providing a lasting solution to our key national challenge, i.e. the youth bulge, in view of the widening gap between higher education and youth employment. It is part of a major transition in higher education being steered by HEC Chairman Dr Tariq Banuri who prioritizes quality-oriented under-graduate studies and skills-based learning on the pattern of liberal arts education in the United States. This would replace the hitherto largely unproductive HEC policy, whose focus, in the words

of Prof Pervez Hoodbhoy, was “purely numerical – the number of published research papers, patents obtained, and PhDs produced locally.”

The HEC has been asking the universities to phase out their BA, BSc and BCom programs and replace them with AD degree programs for years. Finally, in June, the HEC Chairman decided to launch the ADP as well as to phase out MA and MSc programs in Fall 2020. Subsequently, consultative sessions were held with the Vice Chancellors both at HEC and PHEC.

The Vice Chancellor of Sargodha University vocally supported the initiative during the consultative process, while highlighting some key concerns regarding the implementation mode of ADP in the first session at HEC in July, especially pertaining to curriculum development, faculty and infrastructure development at private and government colleges in the province. However, in view of satisfactory clarification regarding curriculum development and examination of private candidates by HEC officials, the University presented its ADP implementation plan at the subsequent consultative session at PHEC in August.

The plan included specific time-lines as well as curriculum and examination details. In the first phase, i.e. 2019-2020, examinations will be held on annual/bi-semester basis for the students of affiliated colleges as well as external candidates.

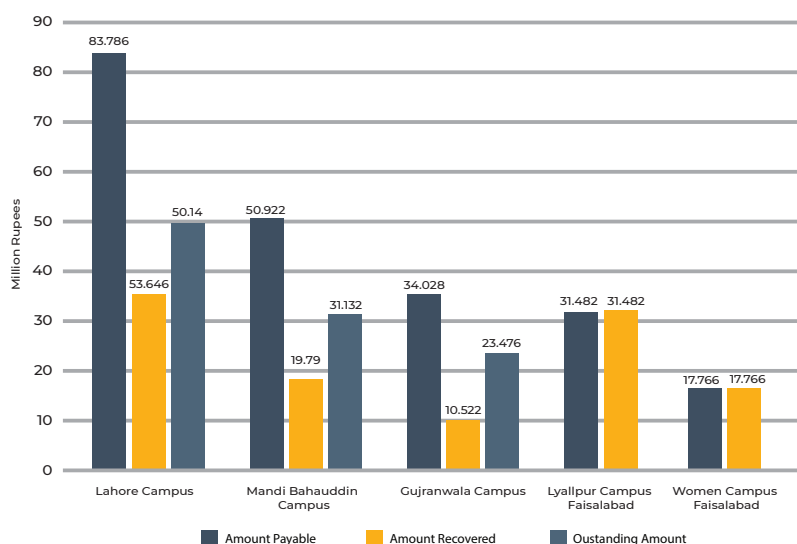
In the second phase, starting from session 2020-2022, University of Sargodha will launch the theme-based AD programs in specific disciplines to develop marketable skills among the students and to meet the requirements of the industry. For the purpose, a committee led by Director Academics Prof Masood Sarwar has been created to chalk out the required changes in curriculum and examination system of ADP in cooperation with both the HEC and PHEC.

NAB RECOVERIES FROM EX-PPP SUB-CAMPUSES WORTH OVER RS.94 MILLION

Sargodha University has received a cheque of Rs.94.1 million as first installment of the money recovered by the National Accountability Bureau (NAB), Lahore from the management of illegal ex-private sub-campuses of the University. The cheque was handed over to the Registrar, Sargodha University by the Director General NAB, Lahore on July 25. "An amount of Rs.34.8 million was embezzled by the then administration of Sargodha University by misusing their powers while the remaining amount was withdrawn from the pockets of innocent students studying in the sub-campuses established illegally by the ex-vice chancellor and his close aides. The ex-administration charged heavy fee from the students and did not award degrees and transcripts to them," said DG NAB while addressing the cheque distribution ceremony. Earlier in October 2018, NAB took ex-VC, former registrar and the management of the Lahore and Mandi Bahauddin sub-campuses into custody for establishing illegal sub-campuses, jeopardizing the future of students, making excessive admissions, issuing fake documents to the students including transcripts, NOCs and registration cards, committing financial embezzlement and causing a loss of millions of rupees to the public exchequer. In February 2019, the imprisoned management of the illegal sub-campuses submitted a plea bargain applications before the NAB, agreeing to return Rs.110 million in the case.

- **OUT OF THE TOTAL RECOVERED AMOUNT, ABOUT RS.59 MILLION TO BE REIMBURSED TO STUDENTS UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF NAB OFFICIALS**
- **AROUND RS.35 MILLION TO BE ADDED TO UNIVERSITY'S EXCHEQUER**

AMOUNT RECOVERED FROM EX-PPP SUB-CAMPUSES



RS.17 MILLION RECOVERED IN BANK FRAUD

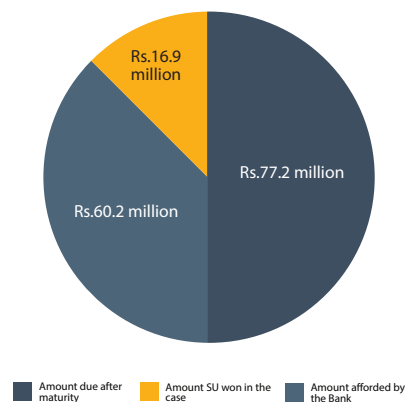
On July 31, 2019, Sargodha University won Rs.16.9 million when the President of Pakistan approved the recovery in favour of the University, while upholding the Banking Ombudsman's decision against a private bank, where the previous University administration had invested over Rs.775 million by manipulating interest rates.

Early last year, the current University Management had filed a complaint with the Banking Ombudsman pointing out misappropriation in three consecutive investments made in 2015 with the private bank's University branch.

The mode of misappropriation in each case was that the said bank would first offer the highest profit rate @10.50%, kicking other banks out of competition. Then, the bank would receive University investments after a lapse of couple of weeks on the reduced negotiated rates @8.45%, @7.50% and @6.60%. These underhand deals were never brought on record.

In November 2018, the Banking Ombudsman decided in favour of the University, ordering the bank to pay back this amount to the University.

MANIPULATION OF INTEREST RATES AND IMPACT



SYNDICATE

SURPLUS BUDGET AMID FINANCIAL CRUNCH



Vice Chancellor presiding over the Syndicate meeting on August 1, 2019

The Syndicate of Sargodha University has approved over Rs.4 billion surplus budget for the fiscal year 2019-20, at a time when public sector universities are grappling with financial crunch.

The budget was approved during the third Syndicate meeting of the year held on August 1, with the Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad in the chair. The Vice Chancellor briefed the Syndicate members about the budget while the house expressed satisfaction over the financial health of the University.

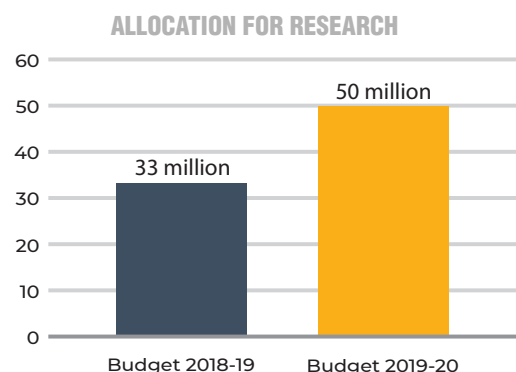
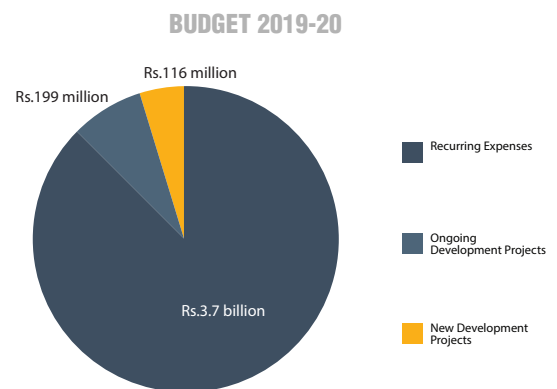
WHILE OTHER UNIVERSITIES ARE FINDING IT IMPOSSIBLE TO HAVE THE WHEREWITHAL FOR RECURRING EXPENDITURES, FEW EVEN GONE BANKRUPT AND DON'T HAVE FUNDS TO PAY THE FACULTY AND STAFF, SARGODHA UNIVERSITY SUCCEEDED IN MANAGING RECEIPTS EXCEEDING OUTLAYS.

The surplus amount of Rs.80 million in the budget was a result of realistic budgeting, strict financial accountability, inclusive planning and adaptation of viable financial policy that helped in 'cutting the excess fat.' More than 285 vacant teaching and non-teaching posts and budget cushions were abolished to cut the undue financial burden.

Out of the total budget outlay, Rs.339 million would be spent on developmental projects whereas Rs.3.7 billion has been allocated for recurring expenses. The budget also includes an amount of Rs.10 million for installing solar power generating system in the Central Library.

The body has increased budget allocation for research by 51% percent. In the last budget, an amount of Rs.33 million was allocated for research which has now been increased to Rs.50 million. The vision is to provide financial assistance and research projects and grants to the senior faculty from the University's own resources.

Other salient features of the budget included allocation of Rs.15 million for construction of purpose-built multi-story



hall which would be used as combined examination centre. The budget also includes an amount of Rs.30 million for the ongoing on-campus internship program, which was especially designed for the fresh graduates of the University to give them hands-on experience.

Moreover, the body accorded Rs.8.5 million budget for merit-based scholarships usually awarded to the position-holders. Besides, a handsome amount has also been allocated for need-based scholarships, awarded to more than 8,000 students last year.

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR PUNJAB STUDIES ESTABLISHED TO PROMOTE RICH ETHNIC HERITAGE OF THE PROVINCE

The Syndicate of Sargodha University, in its meeting held on August 1, approved the establishment of International Centre for Punjab Studies (ICPS) at the main campus as a premier venue for research and scholarly exchange to aid cultural understanding and community cohesion.

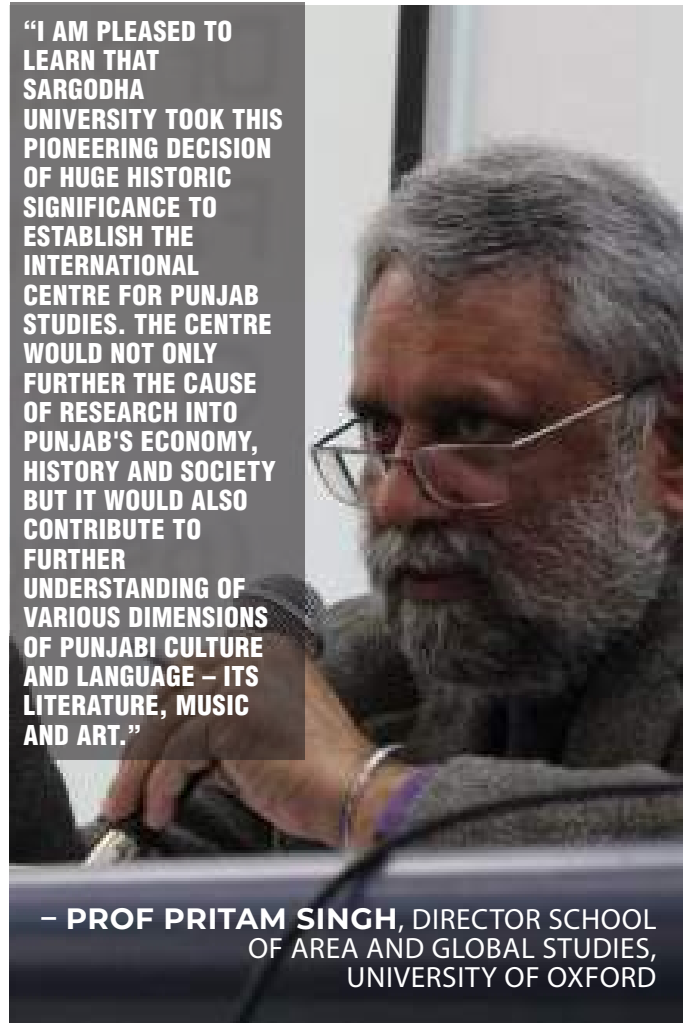
The idea was floated at the 1st International Punjabi Conference on 'Punjab History, Literature and Civilization,' held at Sargodha University on April 15-16, 2019, where a resolution was moved to establish the Centre. The name of the Centre was proposed by Dr Pritam Singh, Visiting Scholar at Wolfson College, University of Oxford, UK.

KEY FUNCTIONS

- Establishing a Punjabi Studies teaching program at the University
- The founding of a research journal of Punjab Studies in Pakistan
- Offering fellowship program for Pakistani and non-Pakistani scholars to be resident at the Centre
- Devising programs of research in collaboration with international institutions and signing of MoUs with esteemed institutions
- Organizing national and international conferences and publishing research papers
- Establishment of Punjab Studies Central Library with a dedicated section for audiovisual archives.

Dr Muhammad Munir, Focal Person, ICPS informed that the core objectives of the Centre would be to engage in research on Punjab's socio-economic policies, rural and urban divides, and future policy framework; to promote the study of Punjabi language and literature for combatting extremist ideologies and save the diminishing artistic and social capital of community; to engage in research undertaken on Punjabi folklore, epics, oral history, Punjabi literary and linguistic studies; and to collect, procure, buy, borrow, and copy manuscripts and rare prints of Punjabi language for research purposes.

"I AM PLEASED TO LEARN THAT SARGODHA UNIVERSITY TOOK THIS PIONEERING DECISION OF HUGE HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE TO ESTABLISH THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR PUNJAB STUDIES. THE CENTRE WOULD NOT ONLY FURTHER THE CAUSE OF RESEARCH INTO PUNJAB'S ECONOMY, HISTORY AND SOCIETY BUT IT WOULD ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHER UNDERSTANDING OF VARIOUS DIMENSIONS OF PUNJABI CULTURE AND LANGUAGE – ITS LITERATURE, MUSIC AND ART."



– PROF PRITAM SINGH, DIRECTOR SCHOOL OF AREA AND GLOBAL STUDIES, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

"THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE WILL ENHANCE THE PRESTIGE OF SARGODHA UNIVERSITY AND IT WILL CONFIRM, ONCE AGAIN, THAT THE UNIVERSITY CONTINUES TO ESTABLISH ITSELF AS A LEADING INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION IN PAKISTAN. I HOPE THAT THE CENTRE WILL ATTRACT THE ATTENTION OF SCHOLARS WORKING ON PUNJAB OUTSIDE PAKISTAN AND THAT THEY CAN BE INVITED TO PAKISTAN FOR RESIDENT RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS. THE CENTRE CAN BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL FOR FOREIGN PHD STUDENTS WHO NEED TO COLLECT DATA ON PUNJAB AND THIS CENTRE WILL SERVE AS THEIR NATURAL ACADEMIC HOME."

– DR WALI ASLAM, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, UNIVERSITY OF BATH, UK

With the Centre in function, the University would become a hub of preservation of Punjabi language, literature and culture while connecting the study of Punjabi society with future economic and resource planning for megaprojects like CPEC.

HEADWAY IN AGRICULTURE RESEARCH LINKAGES WITH CHINA



SU delegation led by the Vice Chancellor in a meeting with Chinese counterparts at Agricultural Information Institute of CAAS, Beijing

A delegation comprising Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad, Dean Agriculture Dr Muhammad Afzal, Director Implementation Mr Mubashar Tariq and Dr Farhat Abbas, IPFP Faculty from College of Agriculture visited the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS), Beijing, and South China Agricultural University (SCAU), Guangzhou, from August 31 to September 9, 2019.

At CAAS, Dr Afzal and Dr Abbas presented papers, respectively titled “Biodiversity of Insect Fauna Associated with Cereal Crops” and “Citrus Marketing and Supply Chain in Pakistan” before a select gathering of CAAS scholars, including Dr Xu Shiwei, Dr Yu Wen, Dr Wang Shengwei and Dr Li Ganqiong. The SU delegation was given a briefing at the Agricultural Information Institute (All) of CAAS, which is known for having the world’s largest monitoring and early warning agricultural research unit and digital system. Dr Xu, its chief scientist, expressed keen interest in collaborative research on citrus and cereal crops as well as in sharing All expertise and technology for an agricultural monitoring and early warning research unit at SU.

SU delegation’s next stopover was South China Agricultural University in Guangzhou. SU and SCAU have been engaged in several joint research projects since signing of their MoU in May 2017. The period has seen frequent visits of high-level delegations and exchange of research scholars between the two institutions. SCAU has also extended support to SU in the field of precision agriculture, by recently gifting a drone.

The four joint SU-SCAU research projects, each one involving RMB 1 million funding by the Chinese

government, cover the subjects of Citrus disease and insect pest management, precision agriculture, post-harvest technologies, and sugar mechanization production technology.

Out of these, the first one, for which a Joint China-Pakistan Research Centre exists at the College of Agriculture, has been progressing well. However, the pace of progress in the rest of the three projects led by SCAU researchers was relatively slow. This concern was shared by Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad while meeting with President SCAU Prof Yahong Liu and her colleagues, including Mr Lixin Feng, Director International Office, Prof Yubin Lan, Director of Precision Agriculture Centre, Prof Guohua Zhong, Prof Guoping Wang, Prof Yali Zhang, Dr Shaukat Ali and Mr Shizhou Wang – all of whom have visited SU before.

President Liu promised to speed up the research effort from SCAU’s side in the three research projects. Both sides also agreed to apply for funds to their respective governments to further expand the mutually beneficial research collaboration between the two institutions. The Vice Chancellor also extended her the invitation to visit Pakistan.



The Vice Chancellor, President South China Agricultural University and others posing for a group photo after successful meeting

CHINESE LANGUAGE TEACHERS POSE WITH DIRECTOR PICS

On the request of Pakistan Institute of China Studies (PICS), Ms Tan Jie and Ms Su Xiaoqin, teachers of Chinese Language have been selected and sent to the SU from Hanban (Confucius Institute Headquarters). The teachers have joined the University on September 24, 2019 and will stay for one year as a precursor to establishment of Confucius Institute at Sargodha University. This is for the first time in the history of SU to have native Chinese teachers as visiting faculty. Their presence will contribute immensely for the promotion of Chinese language and culture besides benefiting hundreds of students and faculty members interested in Chinese language and culture.



Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad and Director China Institute Fazal ur Rahman met the Governor of Punjab and Chancellor, Chaudhry Muhammad Sarwar at the Governor House, Lahore, on September 20, 2019 and shared with him recent efforts for quality education at the University and research collaborations with China. The Honourable Chancellor congratulated the Vice Chancellor and his team on Sargodha University's entry into the Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020.

The Vice Chancellor, Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad, speaking at the Turkish Embassy in Islamabad on July 15, 2019 at the occasion of the third anniversary of the military coup in Turkey officially celebrated as the Democracy and National Unity Day.



MOU WITH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY: SU TO CONDUCT ECONOMIC MAPPING OF SARGODHA DIVISION

Sargodha University keeping in view the importance of knowledge transfer through linkages between academia and industry has joined hands with the Sargodha Chamber of Commerce and Industry to uplift the local economy of Sargodha.

SU and SCCI signed a Memorandum of Understanding in this regard on July 26, 2019. The MoU signed by Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, SU and Mirza Fazal ur Rehman, President SCCI, aims at economic mapping as a bench mark for researchers, industrialists, farmers and policy makers, dissemination of information and training and capacity building of local entrepreneurs in order to enhance domestic as well as international competitiveness of the local economy in collaboration with the Government of the Punjab.

AREAS OF COOPERATION

- Internship opportunities for potential students of the University at various organizations/industries
- SCCI sponsored research on industrial need-based projects
- Outreach program for training and counseling of the local farmers, particularly citrus growers

- Research and training facilities on value addition in various food commodities to the local growers and industry
- Training for local food industrialists on food handling and processing, food safety and establishment of cottage industry
- Cooperation in business, research and sharing of resources for the uplift of business activities inside the country
- Joint efforts to mobilize resources for promotion of quality education at the university

Realizing the importance of academia, industry and government linkages, the Planning and Development Board of Government of the Punjab also called for submission of proposals for development of policies and projects aimed at economic and social development. In order to realize the above mentioned areas of cooperation, economic mapping of Sargodha Economy is required. SU in collaboration with SCCI will submit a proposal to the Planning and Development Board of Government of the Punjab so that it can become a reference document for all the stake holders.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

OPHTHALMOLOGY FACULTY STARTS FREE CORNEAL TRANSPLANTATIONS AT DHQ HOSPITAL

Dr Hashim Imran and his team at the Department of Ophthalmology, Sargodha Medical College, have started free corneal transplantations at the District Headquarter Hospital. A donation of five corneas was received by air from the United States, and the patients underwent keroplasty, or transplantation procedure, successfully without bearing any financial cost.

Corneal opacities are a preventable cause of visual disability but its only treatment available is to replace opaque cornea with clear donor cornea. For transplantation, cornea can only be taken from a dead body and, that too, within the first six hours of death, which is quite difficult in Pakistan due to social and religious taboos.

Hence, Dr Imran and his team reached out to Ophthalmologists associated with Pakistan Association of Memphils and Association of Physicians of Pakistani descent of North America who helped them to enlist in the respective Centre to receive corneal donations through these organizations. They also get the Department of Ophthalmology at SMC accredited with the Punjab Human Organ Transplant Authority with the help of DHQ Teaching Hospital Administration.

The unique addition of free cornea transplantations to SU's rich community service tradition will continue with more such donations from foreign lands for the needy patients in Sargodha Division. Simultaneously, efforts will be made to create the much needed social consciousness for local cornea donations.



PUTTING SARGODHA UNIVERSITY BACK ON TRACK



As a college established in 1929 and chartered as university in 2002, Sargodha University suffered a steep decline due to years of mismanagement, predatory profiteering and disregard for law. In an interview with Arsalan Haider of *Academia* magazine, August 2019 issue, Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmed explains his efforts for progressive reforms that have resulted in Sargodha University making its mark in international rankings and shares his future vision for further consolidating the University's global academic profile.

After serving such prestigious educational institutions like Oxford and QAU, why did you join a regional and relatively young university as vice chancellor?

When my Oxford tenure was coming to an end in 2015, the Punjab government announced several positions of Vice Chancellor at public sector universities in the province. I had a couple of lucrative options abroad, but I decided to serve back home, in a university located in the region where I was born – to pay back for all the opportunities this great nation has provided me as a person of humble origins, especially the distinction of representing Pakistan at Oxford. So, I consciously chose to apply only for the post of Vice Chancellor at Sargodha University. I submitted a Letter of Intent along with my application, specifying how I would contribute to its academic excellence on the basis of my vast academic exposure. This letter remains the basis of what I do at SU.

What were the main challenges you faced soon after joining Sargodha University and what strategy you adopted to resolve them?

I had some idea beforehand about the state of affairs at Sargodha University before assuming the charge

of Vice Chancellor in December 2016, and hence was able to identify the key challenges relatively quickly, including the sheer absence of the Rule of Law, the reckless expansion of academic programs and the acute nature of patronage-based administrative structure. To overcome these challenges and prepare the ground for implementing preliminary reforms, we began with a new vision statement, which was to make the University a trendsetter of higher education in the country. The values around which the ensuing quest for quality education was to be pursued were pronounced as professionalism, integrity, Rule of Law, inclusiveness, compassion and social responsibility. Our initial and subsequent reforms at SU have been guided by these overarching ideas to ensure that no compromise is made on the pursuit of quality education to students, and both the faculty and staff are provided with the enabling conditions for the purpose. A major challenge for universities located in semi-urban areas like Sargodha is the lack of exposure. Hence, our main strategy at SU has been to extend all possible opportunities to its students and teachers.

What steps did you take to enhance the standard and quality of education at Sargodha University? Any specific initiatives taken to build the capacity of teaching and non-teaching staff? Any specific facilities and programs to maximize research and academic productivity of students and young faculty?

We have made major interventions to change the status quo and achieved demonstrable outcomes in terms of institutional repute and quality education. Following structural reforms and development initiatives are worth mentioning:

- Development project worth Rs.1.54 billion funded by the HEC to provide state of the art facilities for advanced research, multimedia development, China studies and other academic programs.
- Closure of private campuses and bringing college affiliations down from over 600 to around 270 at present.
- Appointment or promotion of nearly 300 qualified faculty members on merit in successive Selection Board and Syndicate meetings.
- Revamping the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) by incentivizing research publications, projects and international travel; and creating inter-disciplinary research groups.
- Collaborations with reputed international institutions, including with leading agricultural universities of China in precision agriculture, citrus and sugarcane research and dry-land agriculture as well as the agreement to establish the fifth Confucius Institute in the country.
- Academic consolidation by merging overlapping faculties and departments, closing unnecessary programs, curriculum development of market-oriented disciplines, and foreign refereeing from Top 500 world universities for better faculty recruitment and research assessment.
- Better service delivery through user-friendly website, including online admissions, and inclusive management by devolving powers and responsibilities to capable colleagues in both academia and administration.
- Promotion of critical thinking among students by regularly organizing major national and international conferences as well as an annual literary festival.
- Gearing up sports and co-curricular activities, including concerts, theatres and festivals, managed by various Student Societies, coupled with awareness campaigns via posters, FM radio and digital screens to inculcate ethical values among students.
- Career development opportunities to students by establishing Career Development Centre, Business Incubation Centre, three e-Rozgaar centers for free-lance entrepreneurship, and internship program for meritorious students and graduates.

What is your role in bringing Sargodha University to among top 500 Asian universities in QS Rankings 2019 and at 1000+ in Times Higher Education World University Rankings 2020?

Leadership is about change. So, my role has merely been to steer the process of reforms, the real credit goes to our dedicated team of faculty and staff members for implementing these reforms and realising their fruitful outcomes. The fact that there is almost zero politics at SU, both among students and teachers, has helped us a great deal in implementing major reforms without much problem. What I have simply done is to strictly impose the Rule of Law, comply with the guidelines of HEC as our parent organisation in letter and spirit, and take all decisions through statutory bodies, especially the Selection Board and the Syndicate, which have met 8 times each in the past over two years to ensure faculty appointments on merit and resolve pending issues through collective wisdom, respectively.

“Leadership is about change. So, my role has merely been to steer the process of reforms, the real credit goes to our dedicated team of faculty and staff members for implementing these reforms and realising their fruitful outcomes.”

Where do you see SU in the next five years and what is the importance of rankings in your opinion?

All great things happen due to sheer imagination, on the basis of which we conceive an idea and then work tirelessly for its realization. That's precisely our approach at SU. With the pace of current reforms uninterrupted, SU will be a much more modern institution five years down the lane. With far less students than the current number of over 26,000, the faculty size more or less the same at around 700, and academic programs and faculties having been further consolidated, the University will admit better students and produce more competitive graduates. There is tremendous scope for building upon the current gains in research productivity reflected annually in the significant increase in the number of research publications and several folds increase in the number of PhD and MPhil graduates. Likewise, tangible progress is possible in other crucial spheres, i.e. quality teaching, knowledge sharing and global outlook – which, together with research productivity, constitute the key determinants of international rankings. The QS and Times Higher Education are two major international ranking agencies, whose annual ratings of global and regional universities are important for gauging the improvement in the academic profile of any university.

TRAINING

CAREER DEVELOPMENT CENTER INCULCATING VOCATIONAL SKILLS AMONG STUDENTS

The Career Development Center (CDC) at Sargodha University organized 'Skill Development Program' from July 1-August 1, 2019 to equip students with modern and updated skills for their professional life ahead. A total of 321 participants attended the sessions out of which 59 percent were girls.



The program educated the students on the following nine modules:

OFFICE MANAGEMENT

Mr Hammad Hassan Mirza, Incharge, Career Development Centre

The session highlighted the designing, implementation and maintenance of the process of work within an office or organization. Moreover, the main steps to build and manage research journals were also discussed.

CAREER BOOSTING AND JOB PLACEMENT

Ms Maryam Gul, Assistant Director Academics

The participants learnt about aptitude development, skill recognition, resume writing, writing a cover letter and preparing oneself for an interview.

FREELANCING

Mr Moeed Shahid, Mentor, e-Rozgaar Centre Sargodha

The session guided and trained the students to improve their financial health by earning through freelancing platform, Fiver.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Mr Ali Umair, Lecturer, College of Engineering and Technology

The session focused on developing effective listening, confident speaking and proficient writing skills in English language.

PRESENTATION COMMUNICATION (MS OFFICE)

Mr Naveed Network Administrator, Noon Bus

The session on effective communication, presentation, information and Microsoft Office.





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**DIGITAL
MARKETING**

**Mr Faisal Abbas,
Mentor, e-Rozgaar
Centre Sargodha**

The participants were informed about social media marketing, social media optimization, e-books, and e-games as channels to create, accelerate and transmit product value from producer to consumer.

E-COMMERCE

**Mr Muhammad Afzal, Mentor,
e-Rozgaar Centre
Sargodha**

During the session, examples of online market places like Alibaba and Olx were discussed to explain 3rd party B2C or C2C sales; B2B buying and selling; marketing to prospective and established customers; engaging in retail for launching new products and services; and online financial exchanges for currency or trading purposes.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**Mr Salman Piracha,
Lecturer, Noon
Business School**

The session explained the process of developing, organizing and managing a business venture that creates solution oriented opportunities for a social problem.

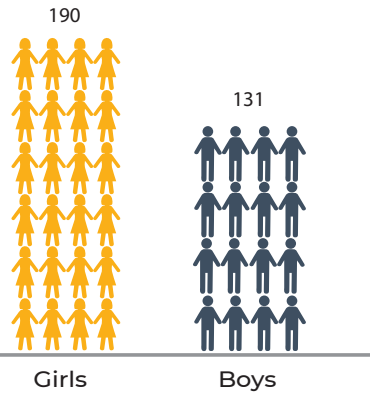
**PUBLIC
SPEAKING**

**Mr Bilal Saleem,
Public Speaker**

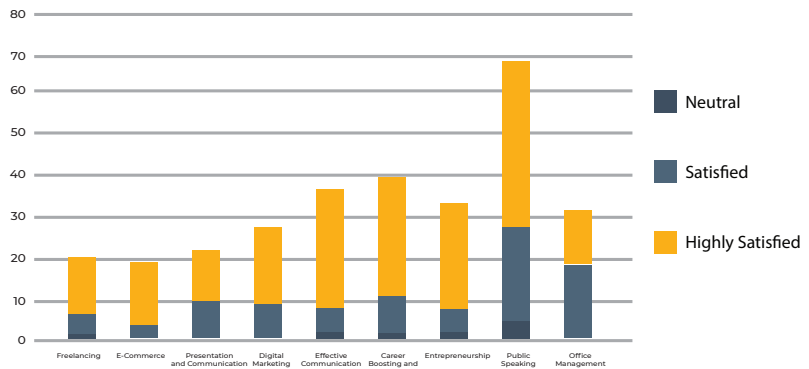
The participant were trained about stage presence, voice control, body language, message delivery, and engaging with the audience.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the program, a survey was conducted by the team CDC with all the 321 participants at the end of each module

OVERALL GENDER RATIO IN THE PROGRAM (N = 321)



OVERALL COUNT OF FEEDBACK FOR NINE MODULES



HISTORY DEPARTMENT FACILTATES RESEARCH VISIT OF BRITISH PRIME MINISTER'S SPOUSE

Sargodha University hosted British Prime Minister Boris Johnson's spouse Ms Marina Wheeler and son Mr Milo Johnson and made special arrangements for their visit to various colonial-era historical sites and buildings in Sargodha to conduct research for writing her family memoir.

The arrangements were made by the Department of History and Pakistan Studies when Ms Wheeler contacted the Vice Chancellor Dr Ishtiaq Ahmad with reference to Peter Osborne, author of *Wounded Tiger: A History of Cricket in Pakistan*, and expressed her interest in visiting her ancestral village, Sargodha.

The University provided the invitation letter which made it possible for Ms Wheeler and Mr Milo to visit Sargodha on March 27-28, 2018.

Besides seeing many sites and exploring her family roots, Ms Wheeler delivered an academic talk to the students of the History and Pakistan Studies on 'Writing a Memoir of Colonial Punjab: Problems and Prospects.'

She also interviewed Mr Sahibzada Abdur Rasul, renowned historian and former Principal Government College Sargodha, who had himself, experienced traumatic years of colonial rule and the agonies associated with partition of the Punjab.



Ms Marina Wheeler with History Chair Prof Abrar Zahoor

SITES VISITED

Ms Wheeler possessed a small but detailed sketched map of old Sargodha which was drawn by her maternal parents on the basis of their memories. To commemorate the services delivered by Ms Wheeler's maternal grandparents during colonial period, she visited following sites:

- Civil Lines, the location of their family house
- Central Gurudawara, a building of historical and impressive architecture presently housed by the Government Ambala Muslim High School
- Hilal-i-Ahmar Hospital, first Ladies Hospital in Sargodha established by Ms Wheeler's maternal grandfather
- Railway Station Sargodha

FOLLOWING HER RESEARCH VISIT, MS WHEELER EXPRESSED HEARTFELT GRATITUDE TO THE VICE CHANCELLOR FOR EXTENDING HOSPITALITY IN THE UNIVERISTY AND AROUND AND MAKING HER TRIP A SUCCESS.

CONFERENCES

DEBATING NEW TRENDS IN HORTICULTURAL CROPS PRODUCTION AND PROTECTION

The Department of Horticulture, College of Agriculture, Sargodha University, in collaboration with Pakistan Society for Horticultural Sciences (PSHS) organized the '1st International Conference on Horticultural Crops Production and Protection' on September 19-20, 2019.

Considering the new challenges and advancement in the field of Horticulture, scientists, academicians, as well as the industrialists from Syngenta, Fatima Fertilizers/Pak Arab Fertilizer Limited, Chase International Kinnow Factory, Kotmomin, and Chaudhary Ahmed Din and Sons (CADS), Gujranwala made representation to the conference.

The conference program consisted of six technical sessions, in which sub-topics related to horticultural crop production and protection, crop genetics, nutrition management, use of rootstocks in horticultural crops, and postharvest biology were discussed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Dwarfing rootstocks and high-density plantings are important germplasm resources in modern fruit culture and production. It was also proposed that plant growth and development is regulated by a variety of hormones, lower hormonal concentration, and combine hormonal ratio. These results can be useful in apple breeding programs to forecast the dwarfing ability at early stage of plant growth and development.
- Wuzishatangju, an excellent variety of Mandarin orange in China, has received a great attention from the market and the consumers because of seedlessness, high yield and good quality. The quality of Wuzishatangju fruit can be improved by focusing on fruit preservation in the second physiological fruit drop period; reducing fruit cracking by strengthening the cultivation management; and utilizing cultivation techniques.
- The use of fruits and vegetables in cheese production is comparatively new in cheese industry. Fruits not only impart flavors but also add probiotic characteristics in cheese production. Moreover, by incorporating local fruits, nuts and spices, the functional productivity and sensory characteristics of cheese can be enhanced.



Mr Omer Faruk Celik, Research Associate, Ordu University, Turkey, addressing the conference

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

- Dr Muhammad Qasim Shahid, Associate Professor at South China Agriculture University, China
- Mr Omer Faruk Celik, Research Associate at the Department of Food Engineering, Ordu University, Turkey
- Dr Faisal Hayat from Key Laboratory of Biology and Genetic Improvement of Horticultural in Ministry of Agriculture, China Agricultural University, China

DPIR CONFERENCE UNDERScores THE VALUE OF WATER CONSERVATION

Pakistan being the agricultural country is facing critical challenges due to water scarcity. Keeping in view the magnitude of this issue, the Department of Politics and International Relations (DPIR) in collaboration with the Pakistan Institute of China Studies (PICS) Sargodha University, organized a national conference on Emerging Water Challenges in Pakistan on September 23, 2019. Five researchers from different universities presented their research papers on water challenges and remedies through oral presentations.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Water can be conserved by improving 'the overall irrigation proficiency', from 41.5% to 55% by using simple cost effective techniques.
- To combat water scarcity, construction of the mega dams on war steps is the dire need of time. If India would be able to construct the 12 hydro powers projects on river Kabul in Afghanistan, the storage capacity of Pakistan's reservoir would be further reduced from 28-30 days to 22 days, whereas minimum requirement for any country is 120-220 days.
- As Indo-Pak rift is escalating, Islamabad must adopt a pro-active policy to counter India's threats of "turning Pakistan's taps off."
- Due to the continuous threat of unilateral abrogation of 'Indus Water Treaty' by India, Pakistan can negotiate either to include China and Afghanistan in Indus Water Treaty, as both the countries share Indus Water Basin along with India and Pakistan, or sign another treaty with China and Afghanistan to counter India's water hegemony.
- For interprovincial harmony, Pakistan needs to engage the non-controversial and eminent politicians, academicians, journalists and senior water experts to build consensus among the federating units for the construction of dams.
- Government in collaboration with public, must figure out the ways to reduce or eliminate the cultivation of water intensive crops.



Ms Robina Khan, PhD Scholar from Government College University, Faisalabad



Dr Adil Khan, Assistant Professor at Hazara University, Mansehra



Mr Amir Nazir, PhD Scholar from Islamia University, Bahawalpur

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

- *Dr Nawaz Bhatti, Associate Professor at DPIR, Sargodha University*
- *Ms Robina Khan, PhD Scholar from Government College University, Faisalabad*
- *Dr Adil Khan, Assistant Professor at Hazara University, Mansehra*
- *Mr Abbas Ali, Student at College of Law, Sargodha University*
- *Mr Amir Nazir, PhD Scholar from Islamia University, Bahawalpur*

FUTURE MED 2019

EXPLORES INNOVATIVE METHODS OF DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT

A two-day national conference titled 'Future Med - 2019' concluded at Sargodha Medical College on August 23, 2019, highlighting current innovations in medical research, clinical practices, methods of disease diagnosis and treatment strategies in the field of Medical and Applied Health Sciences.

The speakers discussed the technological advancements in medical fields and explored the innovative methods of disease diagnosis and treatment strategies through keynote lectures, oral presentations, panel discussion, and poster presentations.

KEY POINTS

- Surgical simulation training not only covers the technical skills but equally helps in improving the non-technical skills in surgical procedures. Simulation consists of bench top models, low fidelity simulators to high fidelity simulators, laparoscopic simulators and case based simulations.
- In Pakistan, the percentage of women using intrauterine device (IUD) or coil as a cost effective, safe and efficient method of contraception, ranges between 4-5%. However, with misplaced IUD, the incidence of bleeding, pain in lower abdomen, pelvic inflammatory disease, and risk of spontaneous abortion in case of pregnancy is observed.
- The multi-drug resistance and microbial biofilms developed by microbes against antibiotics is increasing at a very fast pace. This resistance could lead to severe complications or even death. However, the synthetic chemistry and natural products chemistry will help in inhibiting the microbial biofilm formation and combating the drug resistance.



Dr Waris Farooka, Professor of Medical Surgery, Services Hospital and Institute of Medical Sciences, Lahore

- Chronic Pelvic Pain (CPP), a common condition particularly in reproductive-aged woman, significantly compromises their quality of life. Patients also present with various associated problems including bladder or bowel dysfunction, gynecological pathologies or sexual dysfunction, and other systematic or constitutional symptoms. The key to treating CPP is to take it as a complex disease.

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

- *Dr Waris Farooka, Professor of Medical Surgery, Services Hospital and Institute of Medical Sciences, Lahore*
- *Dr Zohra Khanum, Head of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Fatima Jinnah Medical University, Lahore*
- *Dr Saba Samreen, Consultant Rheumatologist, Fauji Foundation Hospital, Rawalpindi*
- *Dr Muhammad Shahid, Associate Professor of Biochemistry, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad*

MISSION STATEMENT

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

The mission of the Department of Electrical Engineering is

"TO PROVIDE HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION IN THE FIELD OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING AND PREPARE GRADUATES FOR ONGOING GLOBAL CHALLENGES IN INDUSTRY, ECONOMY AND RESEARCH THROUGH THEIR TECHNICAL AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS."

The following four Program Educational Objectives (PEOs) form the basis of the Department:

PEO 1: Competent in Electrical Engineering discipline to meet organizational and industrial needs.

PEO 2: Professionally sound in project management and exhibit good leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

PEO 3: Understand the importance of lifelong learning and ethics towards the society.

THE SUBLIME AND MUNDANE

THE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN THESIS SHOW 2019

This year, the geniuses of the Institute of Art and Design presented their works created through various raw forms, dimensions and genres, despite embodying the elements of excitement and enrichment. Emerging from personal experiences and observations, these works represented how graduating students dealt with the issues that concern not only a person working as an artist today, but were valid and relevant for an audience not formally trained in art.

Spanning from June 17 to July 12, the show included artwork of students from Fine Arts, Graphic, Textile and Fashion Design disciplines. Despite the differences in approaches, all the works revealed the way a young person views the world, mirrored in itself.

For evaluation, the jurors were called from the National College of Arts, Lahore, the College of Art and Design at Punjab University and other renowned art institutes.



TEXTILE DESIGN

The first display, presented by the students of BS Textile Design was like a metamorphosis of fresh ideas into functional design and its deliverance. There was an interest in traditional as well as modern techniques.

Every year students dive into vast spectrums of textiles, often coming up with practical solutions, few of them suit their expression with artistic exploration while some relive the tradition but their passion, creativity and painstaking work is constant.

The highest-rated project was by Azeeza Shabir, who expressed her interest on the phenomena of mushrooms, using various diverse techniques. Other admired artistic concerns were based around arbitrariness of nature, personal and social experiences and fantasy fiction.



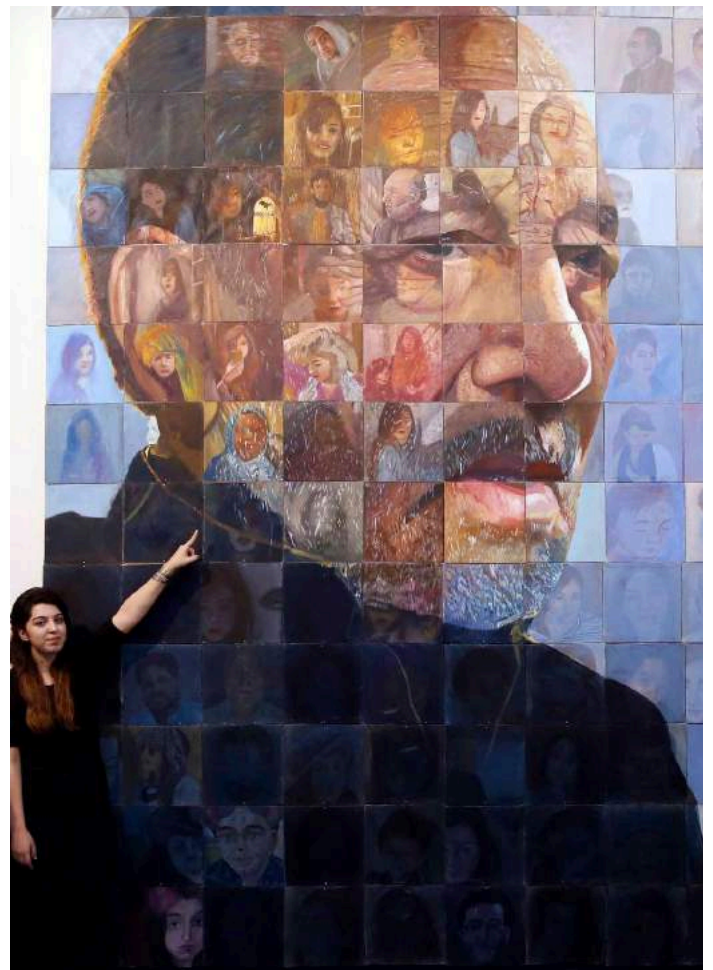


GRAPHIC DESIGN

The second display of BS Graphic Design aimed to equip the students with required skills and knowledge to articulate visual information in a constantly evolving world.

The distinctive interdisciplinary design philosophy included digital designing, photography, animation, videography and illustration, coupled with personal vision to help students develop aesthetic and technical approaches to realize the demanding design concepts and to address challenging themes within their socio-cultural context.

Final outcomes in 2D and 3D ranged from print design, publication design, interface design, space and object design. The show was successful in preparing individuals with the ability to think critically and convey even the most complex information as powerfully as possible.



FINE ARTS

The quintessential final display of BS and MA Fine Arts outdid itself this year with each student striving to address concerns based on their personal experiences with the morbid society. Exploration and manipulation of human thoughts and behavior seemed to dominate conceptual concerns.

Presented forms of art were painting, intricate ink drawings, sculpture, advanced printmaking, contemporary miniature and constructed mix-media objects. The display had "21st century art" written all over it.

The depth and maturity with which contemporaries tackled their relevant concerns was praiseworthy as the chief guest, Dr Fazal-ur-Rahman, Director Pakistan Institute of China Studies also appreciated the approach towards contemporary art and trends.



ADMISSIONS 2019

E-ADMISSION SYSTEM AND FACILITATION CENTER ASSIST 39,000 APPLICANTS



One window operation at Facilitation Centre for admission September 1, 2019

The fully fledged online admission system, adopted by Sargodha University since 2017, facilitated more than 39,000 applicants without requiring them to visit the campus in person to apply for admission in Fall-2019 session against 9,972 seats in more than 150 degree programs on regular and self-support basis.

The online system is capable of handling the complete admissions procedure, from online registration to the enrollment of successful applicants in the respective departments. Through the system, the University received about 27,000 applications for admissions in undergraduate program, 8000 for graduate program and 4000 for postgraduate program while the online admission team received and solved more than 4000 queries and correction requests.

To instantly resolve admissions and online accounts queries by one window operation, the state-of-art Facilitation Center – fully equipped with data warehousing, software integration and network infrastructure – was established at the main entrance of the University.

“I was not expecting to be facilitated in such a manner while applying for admission at Sargodha University that I didn’t have to pay a single visit to the University either to get admission form, submit the fee or know the application status. The University promptly updated me about each step

via the SMS and email alert,” says Muhammad Nokhaiz, who applied for MS in Applied Physics.

“ONLINE ADMISSION SYSTEM MARKS BEGINNING OF THE AUTOMATION OF THE OVERALL WORKING OF THE UNIVERSITY. WE HAVE PLANS TO DEVELOP INCLUSIVE STUDENT PORTAL AND SOFTWARE FOR VARIOUS OFFICES AND DEPARTMENTS TO INCREASE EFFICIENCY, TRANSPARENCY AND SPEED OF THE OPERATIONS.”

-DR QAISER ABBAS, DIRECTOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CENTER

The online system has significantly reduced the work load of departmental staff. It replaced six persons from each department who have previously been handling the admissions. It is a centralized system with multi layers involving every stakeholder including the academic departments, Admission Committee, Inspection Committees, Treasurer’s Office, Directorate of Academics and Web Development Cell to perform their functions related to admissions via the same channel, which makes the whole process smooth and transparent. Dr Qaiser Abbas, Director Information Technology Center informed that several changes were made in the online system since its test launch two years ago including the initiation of online payment verification and the launch of master list which not only displays the admissions data of a particular program but also helps the aspirants in rectifying errors in their applications.

27,000

APPLICANTS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS



8,000

APPLICANTS FOR GRADUATE PROGRAMS



4,000

APPLICANTS FOR POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMS



4,000

QUERIES RECEIVED AND RESOLVED





BUSINESS INCUBATION CENTER NURTURES ENTREPRENEURSHIP



Sargodha University has established the Incubation Center to provide entrepreneurs with adequate resources and services to nurture and commercialize their innovative ideas. Sargodha University Incubation Center is also providing an intense six to eight months 'Business Acceleration Program' to support passionate students to launch their own startups. There is no financial burden on the startup founders for availing the services and support through the program.

OBJECTIVES

- Create linkages between academic/ R&D institutions and the private sector, aimed at creating knowledge-based enterprises
- Encourage youth to launch startup and fledgling companies by providing entrepreneurs with an array of targeted resources and services
- Facilitate entrepreneurs with well-equipped laboratories, extensive libraries, powerful computer systems, technology expertise, a well-educated workforce and subject matter experts

ABOUT THE PANELISTS

- *Mr Faisal Sher Jan, Director of National Incubation Center, Lahore*
- *Mr Haider Miraj, Founding Director of Business Incubation Center, University of Gujrat and Director Askolay*
- *Mr Ibrahim Ahmed, Chief Executive at Goal Trainings Corp.*

BUSINESS IDEA COMPETITION 2019

The first event organized by the Incubation Centre after its establishment was intra-varsity Business Idea Competition. The competition provided the students with a platform to pitch an innovative business plan addressing the marketing needs in the field of science and technology.

“SO FAR, I GOT SIMPLE TIPS FOR PITCHING THE IDEA, MARKETING IT, AND EARNING THE PROFIT. MOREOVER, IT IS A GREAT PLATFORM TO PROMOTE WOMEN ENTREPRENEURSHIP.”

– MS HIBA SAEED

The final round of the competition was conducted on July 19 at the Career Development Center, in which total 15 business ideas by students from various disciplines were included.

The ideas were evaluated by the panel of prominent national entrepreneurial figures. The panel of experts addressed all the contestants and guided them about brainstorming and evaluating business ideas while emphasizing the need for perseverance in pursuing the passion with courage. They also encouraged the runner-ups not to lose faith in their potential and keep improving the deficient areas of their plan.

TOP THREE BUSINESS IDEAS

1 **TURN PLASTIC INTO FUEL OIL**
It is about collecting the waste plastic and burning it to produce fuel oil.
USMAN JAFFAR
DEPARTMENT OF CS & IT

2 **WHISK BY HIBA**
It is home-based bakery store that provides bakery products delivered at home.
HIBA SAEED
INSTITUTE OF FOOD SCIENCES AND NUTRITION

3 **VALLEY VIEW TOURS**
It promotes tourism and provides tourist facilities to the Northern Areas of Pakistan directly from Sargodha city.
AHSEN MEHMOOD
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACY

DIRECTOR ORIC CONDUCTS TRAINING WORKSHOP AT UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

In line with the MoU recently signed between Sargodha University and Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Dr Farooq Anwar, Chairman Department of Chemistry and Director ORIC visited UPM from August 26 to September 7 to accomplish academic activities.

UPM is one of the leading research universities of Malaysia and is ranked 159th in QS World University Rankings 2020.

During the visit, Dr Anwar, as a resource person, conducted two-day training course on Technical Writing Skills for the research scholars and young faculty at UPM. Besides, he delivered an invited lecture in the 2nd International Food Research Conference (IFRC-2019) and a Seminar on Green Extractions. He also actively participated in designing and finalizing a joint International Research Proposal.



Participants of Green Extraction Seminar with Dr Farooq Anwar at UPM

“THIS VISIT TO UPM ENABLED ME TO FORGE NEW RESEARCH CONTACTS THAT MIGHT LEAD TO SUCCESSFUL COLLABORATIONS. IT WILL ALSO STRENGTHEN THE ACADEMIC AND RESEARCH LINKAGES AT THE INSTITUTIONAL LEVEL AND IMPROVE GLOBAL OUTLOOK OF SARGODHA UNIVERSITY.”

– DR FAROOQ ANWAR

TURKISH SCIENTISTS VISIT INSTITUTE OF FOOD SCIENCES FOR RESEARCH ON CHEESE TECHNOLOGY



Prof Zekai Taracki, Head and Mr Omer Faruk Celik, Research Associate, Ordu University, Turkey visiting labs at the Institute of Food Science and Nutrition

Prof Zekai Tarakci, Head of the Department, and Mr Omer Faruk Celik, Research Associate at the Department of Food Engineering, Ordu University, Turkey visited Sargodha University from September 02-18 as project partners under 'Pak-Turk Researchers' Mobility Grant Program.'

The objective of this program is to develop new scientific and technological cooperation between Turkish and Pakistani higher education institution by supporting the mobility of graduate students and academic staff.

Under the Program, a joint research project on Cheese Technology is being run between the Institute of Food Sciences and Nutrition, SU, and the Department of Food Engineering, Ordu University, Turkey. The guests visited high-tech research labs and pilot scale food processing plants at the Institute, and discussed on-going research and future prospects for joint projects between both the universities.

The Institute also organized an international seminar, "Prospects and Development of Functional Cheese" on September 17 in which Prof Tarakci elaborated the future prospects of dairy technology in Pakistan and Turkey with particular focus on cheese production. He recommended training the farmers and milk producers in cheese manufacturing to grow cottage industry.

SUCCESS STORIES

ECONOMICS LECTURER REPRESENTS PAKISTAN IN YOUNG SINOLOGISTS VISITING PROGRAM 2019, SHANGHAI

Mr Muhammad Nauman Malik, lecturer in the Department of Economics, Sargodha University after getting through a competitive process of selection, was the only young sinologist who represented Pakistan in the 'Visiting Program for Young Sinologists – 2019 (Shanghai).'

From June 16 to July 6, 37 outstanding young sinologists from 32 countries around the world visited China for three weeks.

The specialized training program was arranged around lecture teaching, research supervision, and field trips which facilitated the sinologists to:

- Observe the development of contemporary China
- Carry out an exchange of views in Chinese studies



Lecturer Mr Nauman Malik (4th from right), holding certificate of participation, poses for a group photo

- Improve on-going research analysis
- Experience the soft power of China

“I HAVE BEEN MOVED AND IMPRESSED BY THE HOSPITALITY AND ARRANGEMENTS OF CHINESE GOVERNMENT FOR US. EACH DAY WAS INSIGHTFUL AND EXCITING IN BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE GREAT CHINESE CIVILIZATION AND SHANGHAI’S CONTEMPORARY DEVELOPMENT WHICH IS DIVERSE, ADAPTABLE AND MODERNIZED. THIS CAPTIVATING EXPERIENCE PUSHED ME FURTHER TO EXPLORE MORE ABOUT CHINESE SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROGRESSION”

- MR MUHAMMAD NAUMAN MALIHK

19 DPIR STUDENTS QUALIFY FOR MILLENNIUM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The 19 students from the Department of Politics and International Relations, Sargodha University got selected as Millennium Fellows in the class of 2019.

The Millennium Fellowship Program partners with the United Nations Academic Impact and the Millennium Campus Network to develop the leadership skills among students worldwide.

A total of 69 campuses worldwide contested for the fellowship program, out of which 12 campuses are from Asia, and only two have been selected from Pakistan. The selected group of students from the Department of Politics and IR is led by Master's Degree student, Ms Hafsa Zafar under the supervision of Mr Meesam Ali, Head of the Department's Writing Club.

The semester-long program started from August 20 and will end on December 20, 2019. The program aims



Qualifiers of Millennium Fellowship Program pose for a group photo

at equipping the fellows with skills to plan and conduct projects that promote the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals in their respective communities.

Under this program, Ms Hafsa Zafar founded a project titled Youth Perspective, which promotes SDG 17 (Partnerships for Goals), SDG 4 (Quality Education) and the UN Academic Impact's principle of capacity building and sustainability.

“THE FELLOWSHIP HAS PROVIDED US WITH A GREATER CHANCE TO TEAM UP AND EQUIP THE YOUNGSTERS WITH NECESSARY SKILLS TO WORK FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.”

- MS HAFSA ZAFAR

”ریت پر چھوڑ گیا نقش ہزاروں اپنے“

ڈاکٹر وزیر آغا کی علمی و ادبی خدمات کے اعتراف میں



سرگودھا یونیورسٹی نے اردو ادب میں انشائیے کی صنف کو فروغ دینے اور اردو تنقید کو جدید نفسیاتی مباحث سے روشناس کرانے والے معروف ادیب و نقاد ڈاکٹر وزیر آغا کی علمی، ادبی، فکری اور تہذیبی خدمات کے اعتراف میں اپنے مرکزی کتب خانے کو ان کے نام سے منسوب کر دیا ہے۔

ڈاکٹر وزیر آغا اور احمد ندیم قاسمی سرگودھا کے اُن چند سپوتوں میں سے ہیں جنہوں نے ادب کے کئی ایک شعبوں میں کارہائے نمایاں انجام دیے اور انہی کی بدولت زراعت، سیاست، اعلیٰ تعلیم اور پاک فضائیہ کے ائیر بیس کے باعث شہرت کا حامل یہ خطہ علمی، فکری اور تہذیبی حوالے سے بھی پاکستان کے اہم مراکز میں شمار ہوتا ہے۔

ڈاکٹر وزیر آغا (1922ء-2010ء) نے 1943ء میں گورنمنٹ کالج لاہور سے ایم اے معاشیات کرنے کے بعد ایم اے اردو کیا اور پنجاب یونیورسٹی اور بینل کالج لاہور سے ”اردو ادب میں طنز و مزاح“ کے عنوان سے مقالہ لکھ کر پی ایچ ڈی کی ڈگری حاصل کی۔ 1960ء میں انھوں نے ماہنامہ ”ادبی دنیا“ لاہور کے جوائنٹ سیکرٹری کی حیثیت سے ادبی صحافت کا آغاز کیا جبکہ 1963ء میں ”ادراک“ کے نام سے اپنا ادبی پرچہ جاری کیا، جو 2003ء تک اردو ادب کے فروغ میں نہایت اہم کردار ادا کرتا رہا۔

ان کی متنوع ادبی حیثیات نے انھیں ایک نابغہ کے روپ میں پیش کیا۔ انھوں نے اردو شاعری، انشائیے، افسانے، تنقید اور تحقیق کے شعبوں میں متعدد اضافے کیے، بالخصوص اردو انشائیے کے خد و خال کی تشکیل اور اس کے فروغ میں ان کے کردار کو کبھی فراموش نہیں کیا جاسکے گا۔ اردو شاعری کا مزاج اور ”نظم جدید کی کروٹیں“ کے توسط سے انھوں نے نظری و اطلاقی تنقید کے دامن کو موتیوں سے بھر دیا۔ تخلیقی، تنقیدی اور تحقیقی موضوعات پر ان کی تیس سے زیادہ کتب دنیائے شعر و ادب میں عظیم سرمایے کا درجہ رکھتی ہیں۔

ڈاکٹر وزیر آغا کے تنقیدی نظریات نے اردو ادب اور اردو دنیا کو نصف صدی تک متحرک رکھا ہے اور ان کے حوالے سے فکری مباحث کا سلسلہ اب تک جاری ہے۔ جہاں ان کے تصورات و خیالات سے شعرا و ادبا کی ایک کثیر تعداد متفق و کھائی دیتی ہے، وہیں ان کے نظریات سے اختلاف کرنے والے بھی موجود رہے، چنانچہ ان کی تحریروں پر پاک و ہند کے علاوہ دنیا کے دیگر اردو جزیروں میں بھی گفتگو جاری رہی۔

حکومت پاکستان نے ان کی ادبی، فکری اور تہذیبی خدمات کے اعتراف میں انھیں ستارہ امتیاز سے نوازا، دوسری جانب علمی حلقوں میں ان کی تحقیقی، تنقیدی اور شعری تصانیف کی اشاعت کا تسلسل ان کے فکری نظریات کی اہمیت کا واضح ثبوت ہے، مزید برآں ان کی علمی و ادبی خدمات کے حوالے سے پاکستان اور بھارت کی بہت سی جامعات میں ایم اے، ایم فل اور پی ایچ ڈی کے متعدد مقالات لکھے جاسکے ہیں۔

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