

UHS Newsletter

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Prof. I.A. Naveed assumes the charge of Acting Chief Executive

On the orders of Hon'ble Supreme Court of Pakistan, Prof. Irshad Ahmad Naveed took the charge of Acting Chief Executive of the University of Health Sciences Lahore on March 14, 2012. He has been allowed to use the power of the Vice Chancellor and perform duties under Section 13 of UHS Ordinance 2002, till the appointment of a regular Vice Chancellor. Prof. I.A. Naveed was earlier serving as Director Medical Education of the university.



First ever HEC ranking

UHS declared No.1 public medical university

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) has ranked University of Health Sciences (UHS) as the 'No.1' public sector medical university of Pakistan, with overall 8th position amongst 136 public and private sector universities of the country.

In the first-ever national academic ranking of the universities that was made public by the HEC on February 23, UHS is on overall 8th position in the list of Top 10 universities of Pakistan.

The ranking model has been developed by HEC's Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) through extensive stakeholder participation, tailoring the process according to the ground realities of the higher education sector in Pakistan. Various leading international ranking practices and systems have also been analyzed while devising the methodology for this ranking.

The ranking is based on the number of students, research productivity and quality, innovation and knowledge transfer, infrastructure, annual graduate output, international collaborations, student satisfaction and financial health of the institution. The basic objective of the rankings is to enhance international competition of universities in order to create attractive educational multi-cultural environments and the trend towards

university collaboration and most importantly the opportunity to improve and eliminate institutional weaknesses.

According to the statistical analysis, UHS has 519 postgraduate and 15,620 undergraduate students enrolled and 39,562 students registered with it. The university has 187 research publications to its credit in high impact international journals during last 5 years. In last one year only, the work done by its researchers has been cited in 62 international articles. Overall student satisfaction rate with regards to teaching and facilities, has been calculated as 88 per cent. University spends more than 10 per cent of its annual budget on research and innovation. It has developed very fruitful international research collaborations with 13 foreign universities and 18 of its students are doing PhD in top universities of the world. It has produced 8 PhDs and 241 MPhils in last 5 years.

UHS offers 71 postgraduate and 25 undergraduate courses. It conducts an average of 170 examinations every year in which 40,314 candidates are evaluated. It has 85 colleges and institutes affiliated with it. The university has a huge endowment fund exceeding Rs. one billion.



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UHS conference dedicated to Arfa Karim

Experts call for an eHealth strategy for Pakistan

Experts called for a fundamental shift in the way information is accessed and shared across the health system in Pakistan.

“The health system in Pakistan is straining to deal with increasing cost and demand pressures and a shortage of skilled healthcare workers. We have to move away from a reliance on tools such as pen, paper and human memory to an environment where patients, care providers and healthcare managers can reliably access and share health information in real time across geographic and health sector boundaries. The only way this can be achieved is through formulation and implementation of world class eHealth policy”.

“eHealth technology could play crucial role in controlling epidemics such as polio and dengue fever through effective surveillance system”

Education Minister Mian Mujtaba Shuja-ur-Rehman said the government was taking all measures as it deemed necessary for the administration, promotion, development and use of information technology in the province.

“Punjab government is providing free laptops to 100,000 brilliant students currently studying at public sector colleges and universities as a part of Chief Minister’s e-Youth Initiative. Moreover, computer labs have been

established in all high schools of the province, he said adding that the motivation and enthusiasm behind these schemes was to help students rise above problems and hurdles they faced in their path to gain knowledge and excel professionally.

Mujtaba was of the opinion that eHealth technology could play crucial role in controlling epidemics such as polio and dengue fever through effective surveillance system. He further said that the government encouraged all such initiatives which helped in the eradication of disease and the betterment of healthcare facilities.

UHS Vice Chancellor Prof. Malik Hussain Mubbashar said that better use of information technology should play a critical enabling role in implementing national healthcare reform and policy agendas and improving the efficiency, safety and ultimately the sustainability of our healthcare system.



These views were expressed by health experts on the occasion of Third International eHealth Conference which was held at University of Health Sciences (UHS) on January 21-22. The two-day conference was organized by eHealth Association of Pakistan. The theme of the conference was “Road to National eHealth Strategy for Pakistan”. Around 400 participants including medical students, Information Technology experts, health providers, policy makers and international experts on eHealth from Canada, United States, Britain, Switzerland, Spain, East Africa, Nepal, Philippines and Afghanistan participated in this conference.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Punjab



He announced to make eHealth an essential part of

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British experts call for improving medical teaching

Medical educationists have called for improving the teaching of medical and other healthcare professionals, focusing on changing the role of the students from passive observer to active participants.

“Clinical teaching and learning must be an



intellectually challenging experience whereby students, through extensive interactive teaching, are able to gain through conceptual understanding”, said Dr. Ian

“Clinical teaching and learning must be an intellectually challenging experience whereby students, through extensive interactive teaching, are able to gain through conceptual understanding”

Willis, Director of Studies for the Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Teaching, University of Liverpool, UK, addressing at a workshop at UHS in February. The theme of the 4-day workshop was “Introduction to Teaching in Medical Education”. It aimed at giving medical teachers the basic knowledge, skills and competence for successful start of their teaching career.

Dr. Willis said that the teacher who was able to maintain students interest with an exciting, dynamic delivery using a variety of instructional method, was more likely to be successful in helping students reach the learning objectives.

He recommended the use of active learning activities including analysis of case reports, problem-solving exercises, student presentations and students working cooperatively in groups.

Dr. Janet Strivens from Liverpool Centre for Lifelong Learning said that interactive learning was enhanced through the effective use of key teaching skills including questioning, demonstrating, providing positive reinforcement and reviewing.

She further said that use of lecture notes prepared during the planning stage, communication on a personal level, maintaining eye contact with the students, exhibiting enthusiasm about the topic, avoiding the use of slang or repetitive words and phrases, asking a number of questions and



encouraging students to ask questions, and making smooth transitions between parts of the lectures, were some of the techniques which would prove useful to make a lecture more interactive and effective.

GMC made constituent medical college of UHS

The Punjab government has declared Gujranwala Medical College (GMC) as the constituent college of the University of Health Sciences (UHS).

According to the notification issued by provincial health department, the management, administration and control of Gujranwala Medical College has been transferred to UHS with immediate effect.

The District Headquarters Hospital, Gujranwala shall continue to function as attached teaching hospital for the Gujranwala Medical College of UHS.

The existing employees of GMC, Gujranwala shall continue to be government employees under the Development Scheme of GMC, till completion of

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New programme inaugurated

The Vice Chancellor University of Health Sciences (UHS) inaugurated the classes of 2-year transitional programme in Doctor of Physical Therapy (t-DPT) in January. The post-professional degree course has been launched for the first time of Pakistan.

Addressing to the students and faculty, UHS VC said that the programme was designed to provide contemporary knowledge and skill to practicing physical therapists for better patient care.



“What makes physical therapists important is that they know how to look at the bigger whole picture and take care of the smallest details which sometimes means nothing to others even patients themselves, but at the end make a huge difference”, he added.

He emphasized the need of research and evidence-based clinical practice and said that there would be no compromise on quality and standards of education at the university.

The Course Coordinator, Dr. Muhammad Asim said that the curriculum of t-DPT had been designed in line with international standards with a focus on the evidence-based format. The teaching would be through the highly sophisticated web portal to encourage constant and active learning among students in term of discussion board activities and projects.

One of the faculty members, Dr. Fariha Shah, said that across the globe, physical therapy had gotten its recognition in healthcare due to its research backed validity as a necessary and important treatment for patients suffering from a variety of pathologies including musculo-skeletal, neuro-muscular, cardiopulmonary, integumatary, vestibular and sports related injuries.

She added that with the launch of new programme by UHS, it would be ensured that the knowledge which is required out of these professionals would truly be displayed through their practice. Two of the students of the new class, Irsila Bhatti and Faiza Sharif also spoke.

Student-patient encounter from day one

UHS develops new curriculum for MBBS

The University has developed a unique competency-based assessment curriculum for medical colleges in which the students will learn through direct student-patient encounters from day one of their education.

This curriculum which has been named as “Assessment Directed Medical Education (ADME) curriculum”, will provide opportunity to medical students to learn through structured, supervised simulated-patient/real-patient encounters presenting common problems that require practical and analytical solutions.

The work which has recently been presented by UHS controller of examinations Prof Junaid S Khan at an international conference on “Innovations in Medical Education” held at Pasadena, California, USA, is based on the theory that assessment methods and requirements have a greater influence on how and what students learn than any other single factor.

Highlighting the salient features of the new curriculum, Prof. Junaid said that it would indicate educational strategies that could be used for a problem solving, critical thinking learning process. Moreover, it would also foster self-directed, life-long learning traits in our medical students, he opined.

He further said that the new curriculum would take the teaching and training from out of the lecture halls and tutorial classes into simulation labs and skills laboratories from day one of the MBBS course and progressively to workplace and day-to-day patient encounters and patient-care areas.

Prof Junaid informed that the curriculum was divided into five broad academic years with a certain number of major or minor competencies that a student would have to achieve each year in a systematic and structured fashion in the subjects delineated. The curriculum would be introduced in all affiliated medical colleges after the approval of UHS statutory bodies.



BRITISH COUNCIL for closer ties with UHS

The British Council has greeted the University of Health Sciences (UHS) on being ranked as one of the top 10 universities of Pakistan.

In a letter, British Council's director David Martin has said that the recent initiative taken by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to develop a system of globally recognized university ranking is a welcome step in internationalizing the higher education sector in Pakistan.

"The British Council is proud of its association with the University of Health Sciences and our partnerships under the Council's various higher education programmes", he maintained.

David further said that the British Council was looking forward to work with UHS in future and to learn valuable lessons from the standards of excellence maintained by the university.

UHS has recently been awarded prestigious International Strategic Partnership in Research and Education (INSPIRE) and Development of Innovative System through Knowledge Exchange (DISKE) grants by the British Council for supporting joint academic and research programmes with University of Liverpool, UK.



UHS Chairman Board of Governors, Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar unveiling the plaque of Faculty Lodges and Examination Hall Complex.

Senator Muhammad Ishaq Dar sharing a light moment with Prof. Mubbashar after inaugurating the Day Care Center for the children of working women and female students of the university.





Training programmes in family medicine launched

The University of Health Sciences (UHS) is launching two innovative training programmes for general practitioners from this year in a bid to strengthen family medicine as an institution in Pakistan.

The 2-year diploma and 4-year Doctor of Medicine (MD) programmes in family medicine shall be offered at UHS affiliated medical colleges with an aim to uplift the standard of primary healthcare in Punjab.

The programmes were approved in the 63rd meeting of UHS Advanced Studies and Research Board held on March 08.

Highlighting the importance of these programmes, former dean of postgraduate medical

“The 2-year diploma and 4-year Doctor of Medicine (MD) programmes in family medicine shall be offered at UHS affiliated medical colleges with an aim to uplift the standard of primary healthcare in Punjab”

education of Cambridge University, Prof. Johan SG Biggs said that family physicians were an integral part of primary care and, therefore, most of the developed countries provided opportunities for professional development to primary care physicians.

The members of the board were told that there were more than 120,000 registered family physicians in Pakistan who were not being trained formally in family medicine.

He said that the situation demanded a two prong approach to train fresh graduate and also to impart flexible training to those who were already practising. He added that UHS, being the leading medical university, initiated the work in this regard in collaboration with its affiliated institutes and a group of 25 qualified physicians.

UHS professor of medical education, Prof. Junaid S. Khan informed that the programme documents were finalized after a series of workshops,

by a steering committee, under the chairmanship of Prof. Biggs. The programmes were according to the standards of Royal Australian College of General Practitioners, he said adding that half of the training would be hospital based and half in primary care settings.

“Trainees will be receiving training individually during various training posts but once a month, all the trainees of different institutions of the region will gather for joint educational sessions such as workshops, case presentation, etc.”

Prof. Junaid further said that candidates with MBBS degrees and one year house job experience would be eligible for admission. In hospital rotations, the consultants would be supervising the trainees and in primary care setting, qualified and trained family physicians would supervise trainees in their clinics. The clinics of faculty members would be evaluated and upgraded in order to provide best learning environment, he maintained.

The members of the board were further apprised that for diploma programme the family physicians with more than 10 years of experience in general practice would be exempted from rotational training. They would be allowed to apply directly for final examination based on their experience.

According to the programme document, trainees will be receiving training individually during various training posts but once a month, all the trainees of different institutions of the region will gather for joint educational sessions such as workshops, case presentation, etc.

All the training rotations will be assessed at the end of rotation and feedback will be given to trainees in order to improve their performance. All the trainees will also be required to complete a log book of the cases seen during rotations. Case based discussions, multi-source feedback and mini clinical evaluation exercises will be conducted during the programmes as part of workplace based assessment.

The board appreciated the initiative taken by UHS and unanimously approved the programmes to be launched from current academic session.

UHS makes 'Basic Life Support' mandatory for medical and dental students

In order to train medical and dental students in quickly responding to emergencies and saving the life, the University of Health Sciences (UHS) has made Basic Life Support an essential component of the curriculum of MBBS and BDS courses.



It has been made mandatory for all fourth year and final year MBBS, third and fourth year BDS as well as allied health sciences' students to undergo Cardiac First Responder (CFR) as a basic life support course under the supervision of an instructor faculty, being developed by UHS in collaboration with Disaster Relief by Irish and Pakistani (DRIP), Ireland, Institute of Learning Emergency Medicine (ILEM), Ireland and Pre-hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC), Ireland.

Each student on successful completion of the course would be

awarded an international certificate jointly by UHS and Irish Institutes.

No medical or dental student would be allowed to appear in final year examination unless he/she has completed training and got certification in this essential course. There would be at least one station each of basic life support in the practical examination of medicine, surgery, obstetrics and gynaecology and pediatrics subjects of MBBS with effect from annual examination 2012.

To develop an instructor faculty for this course, UHS has started a training programme for the faculty of its affiliated colleges. Through a series of workshops, experts from National Ambulance Services College Dublin, University College Dublin, Pre-hospital Emergency Care Council of Ireland and DRIP would develop an instructor faculty within all medical and dental colleges for this internally accredited course.



UHS, UK varsity to start sandwich PhD programme

The University of Health Sciences (UHS) and the University of Glasgow, UK, will enter into a partnership to start a 'sandwich' PhD programme for Pakistani researchers in molecular biology, clinical neurosciences, medical genetics, nursing and public health.

This was decided in a meeting between UHS Vice Chancellor Prof. Malik Hussain Mubbashar and the international lead of School of Medicine, University of Glasgow, Prof. Maryann Lumsden, held in February.

In sandwich doctorate, the students will initiate their PhD at UHS and in the second phase, varying

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Ranking...

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UHS has sufficient IT infrastructure with a wireless network coverage of 80 per cent. It has recently been awarded 'Best Educational Institute in Asia Award' by World Education Congress.

While congratulating the faculty and staff on this achievement, UHS Vice Chancellor Prof. Malik Hussain Mubbashar paid tribute to their devotion, enthusiasm and commitment. He urged them to take university to new heights avoiding complacency trap.

"We would focus on the quality of student learning and on innovation in both academic and administrative pursuits", he said adding that UHS had to become a launching pad for the inventions and creative ideas born in its labs, to translate into technologies and industrial products, to reach the grass roots.

Chairman Higher Education Commission (HEC), Dr. Javaid R. Laghari, has also greeted the University of Health Sciences (UHS) for being ranked as the top medical university of Pakistan.

In a letter to UHS VC, Chairman HEC has urged UHS to participate in QS (Quacquarelli Symonds) World Universities Ranking.

"We see a strong possibility that your university may also qualify amongst the world's leading universities in the QS ranking", Dr. Laghari opined.

eHealth...

Continued from Page 2....

the curricula of various professional courses at UHS.

The World Health Organization's regional focal person for eHealth, Hani Farouk from Eastern Mediterranean Region (EMRO), Cairo, Egypt, said that eHealth should be viewed as both the essential infrastructure underpinning information exchange between all participants in a healthcare system and as a key enabler and driver of improved health outcomes.

He said that WHO had recognized eHealth as the way to achieve cost-effective and secure use of information and communication technologies (ICTs) for health and related fields, and urged its member states to consider drawing up long-term strategic plans for developing and implementing eHealth services and infrastructure in their health sectors.

Addressing on the occasion President eHealth Association of Pakistan (eHAP) Dr. Haroon Roedad

Khan said that the conference was dedicated to Arfa Karim Randhawa to honour her exceptional work and her efforts in the field of information and communication technology. He announced that "Arfa Karim Gold Medal" would be awarded every year to the best paper on eHealth.

Other speakers included Dr. Richard E. Scott, Director Global eHealth Strategy, University of Calgary, Canada; Dr. Esther Ogara, Director eHealth, Ministry of Health, Kenya; Nuwan Waidyanatha, Senior Researcher at LIRNEasia, Sri Lanka; Dr. Ronald C. Merrell, Emeritus Professor of Surgery at Virginia Commonwealth University, USA; Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qadir, Chairman National Disaster Management Authority; Dr. Syed Aoun Abbas, Chief Executive Officer, National ICT R&D Fund; Prof. S.K. Mishra, Head Department of Endocrine Surgery and Faculty Telemedicine Programme, Sanjay Gandhi Postgraduate Institute of Medical Sciences, Lucknow, India; Sania Nishtar, a key health policy voice in Pakistan and founder of Heartfile and Pakistan Health Policy Forum; Dr. Abdus Salam Khan, Director of Emergency Services, Shifa International Hospital Islamabad; Dr. Shariq Khoja, Director eHealth Aga Khan University, Karachi; and Dr. Sikder M. Zakir founder of Telemedicine Reference Center Ltd, Bangladesh.

GMC...

Continued from Page 3....

the scheme. These employees, at their option, shall be considered for absorption as employees of the university in accordance with UHS Ordinance 2002 and the rules framed thereunder.

UHS Vice Chancellor Prof. Malik Hussain Mubbashar, in a message on this occasion, congratulated the students and faculty of GMC on becoming the part and parcel of UHS.

He noted that the students of GMC are trailblazers by becoming the first undergraduate medical batch of the university, and he anticipated that this development will make a significant contribution to the medical education in Punjab and to the health of the population. Gujranwala Medical College was established by the Punjab government in 2010 and it has recently been recognized by the Pakistan Medical and Dental Council for teaching 100 MBBS students. The DHQ hospital Gujranwala, with 450 beds, has been attached as its teaching hospital.

UK varsity...

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from a few months to one or more years, they will carry out their research at Glasgow. The degrees will be awarded by both UHS and University of Glasgow.

Prof. Maryann said that Glasgow University provided the optimum environments for leading-edge, internationally-competitive research, and facilitated the rapid translation of laboratory-based research to the clinic and the wider population.

"Since 2000, our staff have supervised 1286 new postgraduate research students, providing them the highest quality learning environment. Our students are involved in a wide range of research subject areas including human nutrition, paediatric endocrinology, cancer biomarkers as well research in medical education and e-learning", she added.

UHS VC told that the University had entered into strategic partnerships with reputed universities of the world to develop innovative and distinctive basic sciences, translational and clinical research programmes based on interdisciplinary and a multi-professional approach.

"The interface with international organizations is critical to our research strategy and comprises a key element for translating basic science discoveries into clinical practice with clear societal benefits", Prof. Mubbashar maintained.

Research Board...

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"Serum vitamin D level and its relation with the metabolic syndrome in adult non-diabetic offspring of type 2 diabetic patients" by Dr. Mudassar Ali Roomi for M.Phil (Physiology), "Association between hyperuricemia and coronary artery disease" by Dr. Raja Jawad Ayub Khan for M.D. (Medicine), "The role of early decompressive craniotomy versus conservative management in traumatic brain injury" by Dr. Yaseruddin Hoti for M.S. (Neurosurgery), "Open reduction and internal fixation of metacarpal fractures: mini-plate versus k-wire" by Dr. Muhammad Ali for M.S. (Orthopaedics) and "Efficacy of reverse flow sural artery flap in coverage of soft tissue defects in the lower 1/3rd of leg and heel" by Dr. Ahmad Ali for M.S. (Plastic Surgery).

Disaster Mangement...

Continued from Page 12....

humanitarian professional development require collaboration between humanitarian organizations, academic institutions, other training providers, and, where appropriate, national and international professional accreditation and registration bodies", Timothy opined.

With regards to the recent dengue epidemic in Punjab, Prof. Timothy emphasized the need for effective early warning systems, disaster preparedness, contingency planning, disease surveillance, epidemic intelligence and response.

Chairman, National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Dr. Zafar Iqbal Qadir said that with probability of occurrence of disasters increasing every year and South Asia being the most vulnerable part on earth to natural disasters, it demands a holistic approach to pre-empt, mitigate and strategize managing a post disaster scenario.

He said that institutions such as UHS could play a crucial role in this regard, adding that the government had incorporated disaster management in the curricula of schools and professional educational programmes which would be taught from current academic session.

UHS Vice Chancellor Prof. Malik Hussain Mubbashar said that historically, disaster management in Pakistan revolved around floods, focusing on rescue and relief. After each disaster, the government incurred considerable expenditure towards rescue, relief and rehabilitation in addition to the loss of development funding which was diverted to meet critical needs.

But, he added, in view of some recent events such as dengue outbreak and adverse drug reaction, there is a need of paradigm shift from a relief to a risk management approach to disaster management and to develop a training and curriculum for a course on effective disaster risk management.

The chief of staff, Earthquake Reconstruction and Rehabilitation Authority (ERRA), Brig. Syed Wajid Raza said that there was a need for sharing expertise and learning from past experience. There should be scientific research and training in disaster management in which UHS must take a lead, he added.

Director General Punjab emergency Services (Rescue 1122) Dr. Rizwan Naseer said that every disaster was a wake-up call, an opportunity for the development.

UHS research board's meetings

The following synopses were considered in 61st, 62nd and 63rd meetings of UHS Advanced Studies and Research Board, for registration of students in various postgraduate courses:

"Protective effect of ethanolic extract of propolis on isoniazid induced hepatotoxicity in male albino mice" by Dr. Farhat Amir for M.Phil (Anatomy), "In vitro efficacy of linezolid against vancomycin resistant enterococci" by Dr. Azfar Sattar for M.Phil (Microbiology), "A clinical and morphological study of radiolucent lesions of the jaws" by Dr. Khurshid Ali for M.Phil (Oral Pathology), "Comparison of shear bond strength and microleakage of resin modified glass ionomer cement with the use of etchants" by Dr. Faheem Abrar for M.Phil (Science of Dental Materials), "Titanium mesh cage & dynamic compression plates in anterior spinal fixation in darsolumbar tuberculosis as compared to transpedicular fixation" by Dr. Muhammad Imran for M.S. (Neurosurgery), "Efficacy of reverse flow sural artery flap in coverage of soft tissue defects in the lower 1/3rd of leg and heel" by Dr. Ahmed Ali for M.S. (Plastic Surgery), "Outcome of jumping man Z-plasty in release of linear post burn contractures of upper limb" by Dr. Muhammad Tariq for M.S. (Plastic Surgery), "Outcome of everted end-to-end urethroplasty in traumatic bulbar and membranous urethra with follow up of one year" by Dr. Amit Kumar Shah for M.S. (Urology), "Immunohistochemical and genetic characterization of muscular dystrophies in local patients" by Dr. Nadia Naseem for Ph.D. (Morbid Anatomy & Histopathology), "Effect of corn silk extract on acetaminophen induced nephrotoxicity in mice" by Dr. Faiza Mehboob for M.Phil (Anatomy), "Effect of acetylsalicylic acid on spermatogenesis in adult male albino mice" by Dr. Muhammad Kamran Ameer for M.Phil (Anatomy), "Glycated albumin is a better indicator than glycated HbA1c for glycemic control among diabetics on hemodialysis" by Ms. Rukhsana Shaheen Omer for M.Phil (Biochemistry), "Level of IFN- γ , IL-4 and IL-17 in patients of coronary artery atherosclerosis with and without allergic disorders" by Dr. Leenah Tayyab for M.Phil (Immunology), "Morphological and cytomorphometric analysis of

buccal mucosal cells in type 2 diabetic patients" by Dr. Sadia Sahrif for M.Phil (Morbid Anatomy & Histopathology), "To study the complications in women presenting at obstetrical emergency of Lahore General hospital after induced abortion" by Dr. Saima Shafqat for M.S. (Obst. & Gynae.), "The antibacterial effect of propolis on *Enterococcus faecalis* in root canal failure" by Dr. Naureen Sarwar for M.D.S. (Operative Dentistry).

"Protective effect of *Saccharum officinarum* L. juice on isoniazid induced hepatotoxicity in male albino mice" by Dr. Sadia Wazir Khan for M.Phil (Anatomy), "Factor V Leiden mutation in patients of venous thromboembolism" by Dr. Anjum Saeed for M.Phil (Haematology), "Thiopurine S-Methyltransferase gene polymorphism in Pakistani patients of acute lymphoblastic leukemia and its effect on acute toxicity of 6-mercaptopurine during maintenance therapy" by Dr. Ayesha Tajammal for M.Phil (Pharmacology), "Effect of $\alpha 1$ antagonist and $\beta 2$ agonist on acetaminophen induced hepatotoxicity in BALB/c mice" by Dr. Samra Sulaiman for M.Phil (Pharmacology), "Endometriosis and its association with TP53 gene (codon 72) polymorphism in Lahore" by Dr. Rizwana Hussain for M.Phil (Physiology),

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Honoured

Dr Nadia Naseem, a PhD research student and Assistant Professor of Histopathology department at UHS, presented a research poster at the European Cancer Conference 2012, held at Vienna, Austria, from 21-23 March, 2012. She was awarded a fellowship grant covering the expenses of travelling and accommodation to attend this conference. Her work was awarded the third best poster award in the category of poster presentations by PhD students at the congress.

The topic of research poster was "Clinicopathological pattern and neuroendocrine differentiation in breast carcinomas- an immunohistochemical study". This study was carried out under the supervision of Professor A H Nagi. Dr. Samina Khokar, Dr Fakeha Rehman and Dr Sadia Anwar were the co-authors of the research.



Appointed

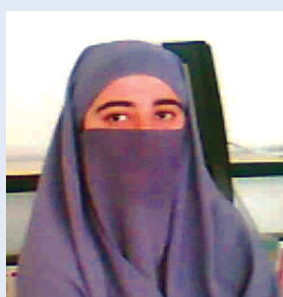
Brigadier Dr. Ihsan ul Haq Wafa has joined as Director Administration and Human Resource. He has a rich and diverse experience of over 29 years as qualified administrator, coordinator, instructor and staff officer in Armed Forces at various levels. A recipient of Burki Gold Medal, Dr. Ihsan has served as the Commandant of CMH Multan and as Assistant Commandant Armed Forces Post Graduate Medical Institute Rawalpindi.



Dr. Shah Jahan has joined University of Health Sciences Lahore as Assistant Professor Immunology on Tenure Track basis. He completed his PhD from National Center of Excellence in Molecular Biology (CEMB). He is an HEC approved PhD supervisor and member of editorial board of four International Journals. He has 25 international publications with more than 60 Impact factors, on Molecular Medicine and Molecular Virology.



Dr. Haiba Kaul has joined as Assistant Professor Biochemistry on Tenure Track basis. She did her PhD on genetic and molecular basis of congenital cataract. She has 8 research publications with an impact factor of 18.2 to her credit.



Dr. Saba Khaliq has joined as Assistant Professor at Department of Immunology. She did her PhD with specialization in Molecular Biology of infectious diseases and Virology from National Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology (NCEMB). She has a good research background with 23 international publications to her credit in last three



years. Her major areas of research interests include infectious diseases like HCV, HBV, Dengue etc, new drug designs and different pathologic conditions.

Dr. Munir Ahamd has joined the Department of Human Genetics and Molecular Biology as Assistant Professor on Tenure Track basis. He did his M. Phil. & Ph.D in Molecular Biology from National Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology (CEMB). His field of research is Genetic Diseases. He has research experience on deafness associated syndromes; Norrie syndrome, LAMM syndrome, Usher syndrome, Pendred syndrome and Waardenburg syndrome. He has published two papers in Clinical Genetics and Journal of Human Genetics.



Dr. Ghayyur Ahmad has joined as Assistant Professor at Human Genetics department on Tenure Track basis. He completed his PhD in 2010 from the Department of Gastroenterology and Endocrinology, University of Göttingen, Göttingen, Germany. His area of specialization is "iron-induced oxidative stress during acute phase reaction". Throughout his career he has been involved in different individual and collaborative research projects and has authored several national and international publications. His current cumulative journal impact factor is 40.427.



Dr. Ali Ahmad has joined UHS as the Veterinary Officer (BS-17). He is an experienced veterinarian having over 6 years experience of working in veterinary medicine, neuropathology and microbiology in various national and international organizations. He did his MSc in Microbiology from University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences Lahore in 2005 and is currently doing PhD in Microbiology.





International Seminar at UHS

Role of academia and media in disaster management stressed

Experts have stressed the need of formal training and education in disaster management and humanitarian relief, at the same time asking media to play its role in educating the masses about natural disasters and the ways and means available to deal with them effectively.

“Pakistan is in need of highly trained professionals to manage and direct programmes to reduce the public health threats, such as dengue outbreak, that continue to plague us. Where and when the next flood or earthquake will strike, or how the next terrorist group will respond is

“There is a need of paradigm shift from a relief to a risk management approach to disaster management and to develop a training and curriculum for a course on effective disaster risk management”

unknown. But the logic behind professionally mitigating and preparing for one of these incidences places us in a stronger position to respond”.

These views were expressed during an international seminar on human disaster management, held at the University of Health Sciences (UHS) on January 26. The seminar was organized by UHS Director Center for Innovation in Learning and Teaching

(CILT), Prof. Arif Rashid Khawaja, in collaboration with Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), UK. The theme of the seminar was “Role of Academia and Media in Human Disaster Management”.



INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR ON HUMAN DISASTER MANAGEMENT

Addressing at the inaugural session, LSTM Director of

Humanitarian Studies, Prof. Timothy O' Dempsey said that humanitarian assistance had become a rapidly expanding, multi-billion dollar, global industry with an estimated workforce of approximately 250,000, that impacted directly on the lives, livelihood, health and well being of millions of the world's most vulnerable people.

He said that in recent years greater emphasis had been placed on standard setting and accountability in humanitarian action, adding that this had been accompanied by a growing interest in 'professionalizing' the sector.

“The key challenges in this complex issue of

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