PROF. DR. KHAN BAHADAR MARWAT APPOINTED AS NEW VC, AUP

Dr. Khan Bahadar Marwat, Meritorious Professor has been appointed as new Vice Chancellor of the KPK Agricultural University, Peshawar.

Dr. Marwat is a Weed Scientist of International fame, excelled in the academics, research, outreach and administration. He is the only professor in Pakistan having two Ph.D degrees, one from the University of Illinois (USA) and another from the University of Peshawar, Pakistan.

He started his career as Plant Taxonomist in PCSIR Labs during 1976, then switched over to teaching in 1977. He has supervised 30 M. Phil, 3 MS and 10 Ph. D students. He has 170 citable publications, with 35 in Impact Factor/Foreign Journals. He has run six Research Projects and now working as Advisor in Pak Australian Linkage Project on Parthenium.

Dr. Marwat introduced Weed Science as a discipline, the first in Pakistan, awarding degrees right from Bachelor to Ph.D. He has organized 22 trainings on weed identification and management and 19 conferences/workshops and represented Pakistan in 27 international conferences as a delegate.

He has vast experience of academic administration having worked as Dean, Chairman, Coordinator, Students' Advisor, Chief Proctor, Warden and Acting Vice Chancellor. He is Member of Academic Council, Finance and Planning Committee and Convener, UFM Control Committee. He remained member University Syndicate, Convener Affiliation Committee and Purchase Committee as well.

He is also member of different statutory bodies of various Universities of the country including Malakand University, University of Science and Technology, Bannu, Benazir Bhutto University, Dera Ghazi Khan University of S&T, Kohat, City University, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, Hazara University and University of Peshawar.

Dr. Marwat has received Outstanding Weed Scientist Award in 1993 from PARC, Best University Teacher Award from HEC in 2005 and President’s Medal for Technology in 2008. He is Member of eight professional societies at the international level. Presently, he is President of Asia-Pacific Weed Science Society, Pakistan Ethnobotanical Society (PES) and Weed Science Society of Pakistan.

Dr. Marwat is the Chief Editor of Pakistan Journal of Weed Science Research, Editor International Journal of Biology & Biotechnology, Crops and Weeds Seed Science. He is also reviewer for journals from USA, Europe and Asia.

AUP WON PRIZES IN FLOWER SHOW

In the Flowers Show, organized by Cantonment Board, Peshawar, the Department of Horticulture, AUP won first position in “Institutes” and “Slopes”, second position in “Circle” and third position in “Flower arrangement” and “On the spot flower arrangement”.

INTERNATIONAL WEED SCIENCE CONFERENCE HELD IN LAHORE

22nd Asia Pacific Weed Science Society Conference successfully held at Government College University, Lahore during March 8-12, 2010 under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat, President and Prof. Dr. Gul Hassan, Secretary. Out of total 150 Abstracts, most were presented in the conference. Delegates from nine countries including USA, Australia, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Bangladesh, Jordan and Sudan participated in the conference.

Mr. Rahamdad a student of B.Sc (Hons) Weed Science, AUP got best presentation award in the conference. He presented research paper on “Proximate and mineral composition of major weeds found in Peshawar”. He was awarded cash prize of US $ 500.

INTERNATIONAL BIODIVERSITY DAY 2010 CELEBRATED

A seminar on “International Day on Biodiversity 2010” was organized by the Directorate of P&D on May 24, 2010. Faculty members and senior students attended the session. Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat, Vice Chancellor AUP was the Chief Guest on the occasion. Mr. Ashiq Ahmad Khan, Advisor, Pakistan Forest Institute was the Guest Speaker who highlighted the importance of Biodiversity and its relevance with Food Security and Poverty Alleviation. The Vice Chancellor stressed the faculty to focus their research on issues that help us to conserve biodiversity and disseminate the knowledge among the students for their wider understanding on the subject.
NATIONAL TRAINING COURSE ON “VALUE ADDITION OF DAIRY PRODUCTS” HELD AT AUP

A five-day training course on “Value Addition of Dairy Products” was held during May 10-14, 2010 at the AUP. This was organized by the Department of Livestock Management in collaboration of LTC (Livestock Training Consultant) and sponsorship of ASF (Agribusiness Support Fund). The course was attended by 30 participants from all over the country in two batches, belonging to various government, private and Non Governmental Organizations. The course was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadur Marwat. Prof. Dr. M Subhan Qureshi, Chairman Department of Livestock Management, Dr. Shaukat Khan, Programme Director LTC and Mr. Saeed Iqbal, Liaison Officer, ASF also attended the inaugural session.

The resource persons included Dr. Anila Mushtaq and Mr. Iftikar Ahmad from AUP and Dr. Saeedullah and Dr. Shaukat from LTC. Composition of milk and its property, hygienic milk production, analytical tests for milk adulteration and value addition of milk were the main themes. The participants were provided an opportunity to practice preparation of cheese, khoa, yogurt, butter, cream and ghee.

DR. SUBHAN QURESHI NOMINATED AS VISITING PROFESSOR, CSU AUSTRALIA

Prof. Dr. M. Subhan Qureshi, Chairman Department of Livestock Management has been selected as visiting professor by Charles Sturt University, Australia. He will work with Prof. Peter Wynn and other research groups at the School of Animal and Veterinary Sciences, Faculty of Science, Wagga Campus of the University.

The visit will be helpful in formulating a joint research initiative which will help in understanding the mechanism of action of stress factors affecting reproductive physiology, mediated by blood metabolites, hormones, enzymes and other factors in dairy animals under tropical conditions.

DR. ALAM ZEB ATTENDED HEC NCRC MEETING IN KARACHI

Prof. Dr. Alam Zeb, Chairman of the Department of Food Science & Technology participated in the Final meeting of the HEC National Curriculum Revision Committee of Food Science as Subject Expert held during April 12-14 at HEC Regional Centre Karachi.

DR. HAROON GOT Ph.D DEGREE

Dr. Haroon successfully completed his Ph. D degree from the Department of Soil & Environmental Sciences, AUP under the supervision of Meritorious Professor Dr. Riaz A. Khattak. The title of his dissertation was “Increasing crop production through Humic Acid in salt affected soils”. PARC, Islamabad sponsored his Ph. D as a part of ALP Project. He has produced three manuscripts from his research work. His dissertation was evaluated by two distinguished Professors from UK and USA. He is working as Deputy Provost of the University.
ACTIVITIES OF AGRONOMY DEPARTMENT

- The Department of Agronomy organized field day under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Mohammad Tariq Jan on April 15, 2010. All faculty members participated, examined the field experiments of M.Sc. (Hons) and Ph.D students and gave useful suggestions to improve their field research.

- National Scientific Corporation, Lahore arranged six-day CNS Analyzer (elementar) training in Agronomy Lab under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akmal for the faculty and students to deliver the conceptual training along with working of the equipment, hand on practices, sampling and software handling of the machine.

- Dr. Shahen Shah, Lecturer has successfully completed his Ph. D degree from Japan. He was sponsored by the Japanese Government under MEXT Scholarship Programme.

He studied the eco-physiological adaptive mechanisms under the water stress conditions; especially the chlorophyll fluorescence parameters in relation to changes with leaf temperature. He published three research papers in the international journals from his Ph.D research.

- Dr. Amanullah Khan successfully completed his one year Post Doctoral Fellowship Programme on “Cereals response to water, nutrient and soil management, planting geometries and crop competition” at the Dryland Agriculture Institute, Division of Agriculture, West Texas A & M University, USA. This programme was sponsored by the HEC, Islamabad. He presented several research papers in the international conferences, published five research papers and got membership in Agronomy, Soil Science and Conservation Societies during his studies.

DR. HIMAYAT NOMINATED AS EDITOR OF INTERNATIONAL JOURNALS


DR. INAYATULLAH JAN ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Dr. Inayatullah Jan, Assistant Professor, IDS, AUP presented paper titled “Institutional change exhibited by agricultural credit system in Northwest Pakistan” in the 12th International Business Research Conference held in Dubai during April 8-9, 2010. The conference was organized by World Business Institute, Australia with the main theme 'Research for Rethinking'. The paper has been published online at www.wbiconpro.com. The trip was funded by HEC, Islamabad.

TRAINING ON “PROJECT MANAGEMENT” HELD

Two-day training course on “Project Management” was held at AUP in April, 2010. About 50 Faculty and Administrative staff was trained in the Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation Process of the Project. Mr. Muhammad Israr, Additional Secretary Agriculture, Livestock & Cooperation Department, Peshawar was the resource person for the training course. During the training, the emphasis was made on Projects in Contemporary Organizations, Project Selection, Project Organization, Project Planning, Budgeting and Cost Estimation for the Projects, Scheduling Projects, Monitoring and Evaluation System, Project Control and Types of Control Processes.

MUNIR KHAN COMPLETED HIS Ph.D

Dr. Munir Khan, Assistant Professor, Institute of Development Studies (IDS), AUP completed Ph. D degree under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Mir Kalan Shah. The topic of his dissertation was “Socio-economic impact of overseas workers remittances on the recipient households in district Swabi, Pakistan”, which was evaluated by reviewers from China and USA. The main objective of the study was to analyze the impact of foreign remittances on the socio-economic development of District Swabi, North West Pakistan.

FRESH FRUIT JUICES AVAILABLE

Quality hygienic fruit squashes and syrups, having fruit pulp and cane sugar, with no artificial sweeteners, prepared by the Department of Food Science and Technology of the University are ready for general sale on comparatively less prices at the Food Processing Hall of the Department.
DR. MUJIB ATTENDED COURSE IN THAILAND

Dr. Mujib ur Rehman, Assistant Professor IDS attended a course organized by the South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE) at the AIT Centre, Pathumthani, Thailand from May 3 to 20, 2010. SANDEE is a regional network that seeks to use economic tools and analyses to address some of the South Asia's environmental challenges. As part of its capacity developmental activities, SANDEE organized an introductory course on Environmental and Natural Resource Economics.

TRAINING COURSE ON "CLIMATE CHANGE & ITS IMPACT ON FOOD SECURITY" HELD AT AUP

Training course/consultative session on “Climate change and its impact on the food security” organized by Directorate of P&D was held during May 19-20, 2010 at AUP. The purpose of the course was to create awareness amongst the participants and formulate an action plan on climate change and its impact on food security. About 80 participants comprising of Faculty, Students, Officers from the Agricultural Extension/Research, Livestock Department, Zarai Taraqiati Bank and Agriculture Department attended the workshop. Prof. Dr. Khan Bahadar Manwat, Vice Chancellor AUP was the chief guest on this occasion. He highlighted the importance of changes occurring in climatic conditions and our response to mitigate the impacts on crop and livestock production. Experts from Civil Secretariat, National Climate Change Center, Islamabad and University of Agriculture, Faisalabad were the resource persons.

DR. SAIMA HASHIM EARNED Ph.D DEGREE FROM JAPAN

Dr. Saima Hashim, Assistant Professor, Department of Weed Science AUP has successfully completed her Ph.D degree from the University of Tsukuba, Japan under MEXT Fellowship of Japanese Government, under the supervision of Dr. Hiroshi Matsumoto, a world renowned Herbicide Physiologist. She is third scholar of the Department having completed Ph. D from abroad. University of Tsukuba is rated among the top ten Universities of Japan. Her Ph.D dissertation title was "Mechanism of Trifluralin Resistance in Aloepecurus aequalis". For the first time, efforts were made to elucidate the mechanism of resistance to trifluralin in this weed species. The resistance was considered to be mainly due to the mutation in alpha-tubulin genes. The newly identified nucleotide sequences of these tubulin genes have been submitted to DNA Data Bank of Japan (AB514115 - AB514118) with her name.

Due to her distinguished discovery in Weed Science, Dr. Saima has been selected by the Schlumberger Foundation for Post Doc Fellowship in Ohio State University, USA. She has been awarded with life time Honorary Membership by Weed Science Society of America.

DR. AZIM KHAN CONTRIBUTED A BOOK CHAPTER

Dr. Muhammad Azim Khan, Assistant Professor, Weed Science Department contributed a book chapter as co-author entitled “Sustainable management of rice blast [Magnaporthe grisea (Hebert) Barr]: 50 years of research progress in molecular biology”. The book chapter describes the importance of weeds as host for many pathogens and was published by CABI International 2010.
DR. GUL HASSAN APPOINTED AS CHAIRMAN WEED SCIENCE

Prof. Dr. Gul Hassan has been appointed as Chairman, Department of Weed Science for the second time. He has earned his Ph. D degree from the Oregon State University, Corvallis, USA during 1992. He has more than 200 publications in peer reviewed journals and international conferences to his credit. He is among the pioneer faculty since the inception of the Department of Weed Science of the University.

Dr. Hassan is also Editor, Journal of Weed Science Research and Secretary Pakistan Weed Science Society.

FACULTY MEMBERS ATTENDED INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

Prof. Dr. Farman Ullah, Prof. Dr. Ahmad-Ur-Rahman Saljoqi, Prof. Dr. Inamulah and Dr. Sanaullah Khattak of Plant Protection Department of the University attended the 30th International Zoological Congress during March 2-4, 2010 at the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and were awarded certificates for their participation and oral presentation. The congress was organized by the Zoological Society of Pakistan.

CHART COMPETITION/SEMINAR ON WATER CONSERVATION ARRANGED

The Department of Water Management and Society of Water Integration and Management (SWIM) organized a chart competition and seminar on “Water Conservation” in collaboration with UNDP on April 29, 2010. Prof. Dr. Said Khan Khalil, Vice Chancellor was the Chief Guest. Prof. Dr. Zahoor Ahmad Swati, Dean, Faculty of Crop Production Sciences and Mr. Junaid, Project Manager (UNDP) was also present on the occasion. In chart competition, MS Sana (Human Nutrition Deptt.) Kamran (Water Management Deptt.) and MS Madeha Lodhi (Rural Development Deptt.) got first, second and third positions, respectively. Speaking at the occasion, Prof. Dr. Said Khan Khalil said that we are wasting huge quantity of water due lack of knowledge and awareness about water conservation techniques. He stressed the importance of water conservation in agriculture and other sectors. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jamal Khan, Chairman, Deptt. of Water Management emphasized the need to construct small and large dams to meet the water and energy needs of the country. Mr. Junaid made a brief presentation on water conservation. Mr. Waheedullah, President (SWIM), explained the goal and mission of SWIM. Raja Waqar Ahmad, Chairman (SWIM) thanked the participants for sparing their time and making this seminar and chart competition successful. At the end, Prof. Dr. Said Khan Khalil distributed shields and certificates among the winners and participants.
DR. AYZ PASSED AWAY

Dr. Muhammad Ayaz, Chief Editor, Newsletter/Director Vice Chancellor's Secretariat passed away on June 11, 2010. He was 53.

Dr. Ayaz did his master's in English from the University of Peshawar and MS in Agricultural Journalism from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA. He started his career in the University as Secretary to Vice Chancellor. He also worked on a variety of positions, including Deputy Registrar, Deputy Director Personnel, Information Officer and Director Communication Services Division.

Dr. Ayaz was not only an honest, dedicated and hardworking officer but also a decent, smiling and nice gentleman. During his entire service period, he maintained cordial relations with all.

The Editorial Board, on behalf of faculty, staff and students of the University, conveys its condolences to his family and prays that May Allah Almighty rest his soul in eternal peace, shower His blessings upon him and give courage and patience to the bereaved family to bear the irreparable loss. Amen.

SPORTS ACTIVITIES OF AUPSC

- Various teams of the Agricultural University Public School and College (Boys) participated and performed well in the Inter Board Tennis, Squash, Volley Ball, Hockey, Hand Ball, Table Tennis, Athletics and Foot Ball Championships and won various positions in seven events.

- N/S Abdul Baaes, Mehran, Kamran (Hockey), Bahadar Khan (Volley Ball), Kamran, Ishaq (Hand Ball), M. Ilyas (Basket Ball), Nabeel (Cross Country), Nabeel, Bahadar Khan, Kamran (Athletics) have been selected for Pakistan Inter Boards team.

- M/S Mehran and Abdul Baaes are representing All Pakistan Boards team and have got national colour certificates.

- The AUPSC was selected for PT show during National Games.