



BIPS NEWS



A Quarterly Newsletter of Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Bad times have a scientific value. These are occasions a good learner would not miss - Ralph Waldo Emerson

The Vice Chancellor, BMU presented "Award of Excellence to Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad"

An Award of Excellence was presented to Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad by Prof. Dr. Zahida Baqai, Vice Chancellor, Baqai Medical University, on 8th March 2019 in the meeting of Board of Governors as recognition to his research services.

Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad is the Director, Postgraduate Studies at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, BMU. He previously served as Professor and Chairman, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry at the Faculty of Pharmacy, University of Karachi. He obtained a Ph.D. degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry from the University of London and conducted postdoctoral research at North E Wales Institute of Higher Education, UK and Department of Biochemistry, University of Arizona, USA. He has the privilege of working with Professor Lord George Porter, Nobel



Laureate, at Imperial College London on a Royal Society Fellowship. He has vast experience of teaching and research extended over a period of 50 years and has to his credit more than 200 publications including 3 books and 18 chapters. He has supervised more than 60 students of M. Pharm., M. Phil., and Ph. D. degrees at the University of Karachi and Baqai Medical University. He was awarded D. Sc. degree in Pharmaceutical Chemistry by the University of Karachi and Tamgha-e-Imtiaz by the Government of Pakistan in 2014 for his outstanding academic and research contribution. He was elected as the Fellow of the Chemical Society of Pakistan in 2018.

Pharm. D. 3rd Year Student Won 3rd Prize in LPCP Diabetes Symposium and Poster Competition at Jinnah University for Women

Ms. Maryam Inayat (Pharm. D. Third Professional) represented the institute in LPCP Diabetes Symposium and Poster competition on 27th March, 2019 at Jinnah University for Women and won the 3rd Prize in Poster Competition. Ms. Maryam presented her abstract titled as "**In Vivo Antidiabetic Effect of Edible Shrub Phalsa on Diabetic Albino Rats.**" Her supervisor for this research was Dr. Zuneera Akram, Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology. The LPCP Diabetes Symposium and Poster Competition judges appreciated the efforts of an emerging researcher, and also recognized such a perceivable research study. It is indeed a moment of great pride for BIPS and BMU that an undergraduate student represented the university and won a prize.



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BIPS “Hawks” Participated in the Annual Intra-University Sports

The undergraduate students of BIPS, under the flag of “Hawks”, took part in the annual sports event of Baqai Medical University. The event was named “*Victoire '19*” and was held from 7th to 15th March, 2019. Teams from various colleges and institutes of the university participated in the event. The hard work of the players under the dedicated guidance of Mr. Arshad Jamal, Dr. Sadia A. Zuberi, Dr. Ayesha A. Nabi, Dr. Zubair Anwar and Dr. M. Ahsan Ejaz, paid off as they won 4 gold and 4 silver medals, in Cricket, Table Tennis, Throwball, Tug of War, Arm Wrestling and Athletics.



Undergraduate Students Represented BIPS in “Women Novelty in Contemporaneous Medical Sciences and Research” An Undergraduate Research Conference 2019

The students of BIPS under the supervision of Dr. Zuneera Akram, Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology and co-supervised by Ms. Aisha Noreen, Senior Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Dr. Muzammil Hussain Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology participated in an Undergraduate Research Conference titled as “**Women Novelty in Contemporaneous Medical Sciences and Research**” on 27th February 2019. The conference was organized by the Rotaract Club of Karachi Karsaz-RID 3271 in collaboration with Dr. Essa Laboratory and Diagnostic Centre.

There were over 60 submissions received for the conference from universities and hospitals all around Karachi, and 32 abstracts were shortlisted to be presented by more than 7 medical and health sciences institutes including Aga Khan University Hospital, Baqai Medical University, Dow University of Health Sciences, Hamdard University, Jinnah University for Women, Pakistan Central Homeopathic College and Hospital, Ziauddin University and two private hospitals.



The students of BIPS represented the university and won the 1st and 3rd Prize in Poster Competition while in Oral Competition they won the 3rd Prize. A special award on **Maximum Undergraduate Students’ Participation** from BMU was awarded to Prof. Dr. Rehana Perveen while Dr. Zuneera Akram received the award for **Best Supervisor**.

Dr. Zuneera Akram and Ms. Aisha Noreen Presented their Studies in 23rd International Conference of Rheumatology

Dr. Zuneera Akram presented her two research studies entitled as “**Prevalence of Osteopenia and Osteoporosis by Low Peripheral Bone Mineral Density in Young Individuals of Private Sector Medical University**” and “**Prevalence of Osteoporosis and Associated Factors Among Individuals with Non-Insulin Dependent Type II Diabetes Mellitus**” in 23rd International Conference of Rheumatology organized by Pakistan Society of Rheumatology from 14th to 17th March, 2019 at Regent Plaza, Karachi, Pakistan. Ms. Aisha Noreen was the co-author for the study.

Over 75 New Books Added in the Seminar Library

More than 75 books on various subjects have been added in the Seminar Library of BIPS for the undergraduate and postgraduate students. These include 35 books on Pharmacology, 20 books on Pharmaceutics, 08 on Pharmacognosy, 07 on Chemistry, 07 on Physiology and 02 books on Biochemistry.

Final Year Students Visited Abbott Laboratories Pvt. Ltd.

A visit to Abbott Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. on 28th March, 2019 was arranged for final year students to enlighten their understanding of industrial pharmacy. The students visited different sections of the industry where the officials explained the working mechanisms to them. The visit ended with a question/answer session followed by lunch.

BIPS is highly grateful to the official's of Abbott Laboratories Pvt. Ltd. for their kind cooperation and hospitality during the visit. We hope that such cooperation will continue in future as well.

BIPS Organized a Session on "Scope of Pharmacy"

In order to introduce new students to various career paths available for pharmacists, a session was arranged by BIPS in collaboration with PharmEvo on 29th March, 2019 in Sabir Ali Hall for first and second year students. Dr. Rana Asif was the stage secretary for this session. The speakers included Mr. Irfan Ahmed, Director Corporate Communications and Corporate Marketing and CSR, PharmEvo Pvt. Ltd. and Mr. Athar Sulaiman, Manager Corporate Marketing, PharmEvo Pvt. Ltd. The speakers discussed the importance as well as the scope of pharmacy in the modern world and broadened the vision of the students. At the end of session, mementos were presented to the guest speakers by the Dean.



Faculty Meeting Held to Discuss Administrative Issues

Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences called a faculty meeting on 10th January 2019. The meeting agenda included the forthcoming CIEC team's visit, infrastructural maintenance and the undergraduate examination pattern. The faculty members participated in the discussions and forwarded their opinion to resolve the concerns. The decision was taken to organize a proper check and balance of standard of examination papers by the Heads of the Departments.

Charter Inspection and Evaluation Committee Team Visited BMU

A special Charter Inspection and Evaluation Committee (CIEC) team from the Govt. of Sindh visited Baqai Medical University on 24th Jan 2019. The purpose of the visit was to evaluate the university's working and facilities in order to continue its recognition by Sindh HEC. The experts of respective fields visited all the departments of the university. The officials were satisfied by the educational facilities at BIPS and praised the performance of the faculty in pharmaceutical research.

Aptitude Test and Interviews Conducted for Postgraduate Admissions

The postgraduate aptitude test for the session 2019 was conducted on 29th January 2019. The shortlisted candidates were later interviewed by a panel comprising of the Dean, Heads of the Departments and senior Professors. The Board of Advanced Studies and Research, Baqai Medical University announced the admission of 10 successful candidates in M. Phil in which include 04 in Pharmacology, 05 in Pharmaceutics, 01 in Pharmacognosy and 03 successful candidates in Ph. D. Program including 02 in Pharmacology and 01 candidate in Pharmacognosy.

Dr. Tania Mirza Successfully Defended Her Ph.D. Thesis



Dr. Tania Mirza, Asst. Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, has successfully defended her thesis on 2nd Feb 2019 under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Iqbal Ahmad. Her research topic was "**Degradation of Flavins in Aqueous and Organic Solvents**". She graduated from BIPS with Pharm.D. in 2009 and got her M. Phil. degree from the same university. Her noteworthy dedication in research has been recognized in the form of publications in European and American journals. Dr. Mirza has so far published 26 papers in the international and national journals of high repute.

Semester Cell Announced Terminal Examinations Results

The results for Pharm. D. 5th (Batch 19), 4th (Batch 20), 3rd (Batch 21), 2nd (Batch 22) and 1st year (Batch 23), have been announced by the semester cell. The first three positions were secured by the following students:

Batch	Year	1st Position	2nd Position	3rd Position
19	5th	Urooba Ejaz	Aisha Mateen Khan	Bushra Khushal
20	4th	Ramsha Hussain	Saman Naeem	Shahmeera Hamid
21	3rd	Shumaila Latif	Shafaq Farooq	Zoha Iqbal Sorathia
22	2nd	Maryam Inayat	Aqsa Khan	Iqra Khan
23	1st	Haiqa Arif	Nehan Zeb	M. Saif Ali Khan

Orientation Ceremony of 24th Batch of Pharm. D. (2019)

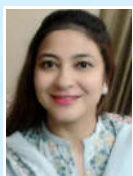
On 7th Feb 2019, BIPS organized the Orientation Day Ceremony for the newly admitted students of 24th Batch of Pharm. D. at Sabir Ali Hall. The students were invited with their parents to attend the ceremony. Dr. Mariam Fatima Khan was the stage secretary of the ceremony. The Dean, Prof. Dr. Shaukat Khalid, greeted the students and their parents. In her speech, she strongly encouraged the upcoming pharmacists for their future professional role. The students were introduced to the faculty members by Prof. Dr. Syed Fazal Hussain. Later, Prof Dr. Rehana Perveen, Chairperson, Department of Pharmacology, explained the semester system and its rules and regulations to the students. The regular classes of the newly admitted students started from Friday, 8th Feb 2019.

New Appointments



BIPS has appointed two lecturers, **Dr. Sharonia Butt** and **Dr. Anam Khan**, in the Department of Pharmaceutics.

Dr. Sharonia Butt is a Pharm. D and M. Phil. (KU) in Pharmaceutics. She has worked as a Lecturer in Jinnah Medical & Dental College for 4 years. During this period she also served as the Academic Co-ordinator of Student Affairs.



Dr. Anam Khan is a Pharm. D Gold Medalist of BIPS (Batch 11). She also completed her M. Phil. in Pharmaceutics from the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences BMU. Dr. Khan has a vast experience in Validation and Qualification Department which include 5 years at Getz Pharma and 2 years at Indus Pharma.

Publications

- Chapter on **"Photochemistry of Cobalamins"** by Kiran Qadeer, Adeel Arsalan, Zubair Anwar, Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz, Iqbal Ahmad. In: Photodegradation Mechanisms and Applications, (Frank Soto, Editor) Nova Science Publishers, New York, USA, pp 129-164 (2019).
- Chapter on **"Analytical Techniques for the Assay of Sulfacetamide, its Degradation Products, and Other Sulfonamides: A Review"**, by Sofia Ahmed, Noureen Anwar, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Iqbal Ahmad, In: Advances in Chemistry Research (James C. Taylor, Editor), Volume 48, Nova Science Publishers Inc., New York, USA, pp. 99-148, ISBN: 978-1-53614-724-7 (2019).
- Monograph on **"Multicomponent Spectrometric Analysis of Drugs and Their Preparations"**, by Iqbal Ahmad, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Sofia Ahmed, Zubair Anwar, In: Profiles of Drug Substances, Excipients and Related Methodology (Harry G. Brittain, Editor), Volume 44, Elsevier Inc., Amsterdam, Netherlands, pp. 379-413, ISBN: 978-0-12-817165-3 (2019).