



BIPS NEWS



A Quarterly Newsletter of Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Quote of the Quarter: "If the Plan Doesn't Work, Change the Plan, Not the Goal" — Anonymous

Approval of Postgraduate Programs from PCP

The Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (PCP) has recognized the postgraduate programs of Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (FPS). In a letter received from the PCP, 15 seats per year of M. Phil. for each department have been allotted while 10 per year for Ph.D. subjected to availability of a required number of Ph.Ds. in each department. This letter has been issued in response to their visit performed earlier this year on 31st January 2019, where a detailed visit of the facilities and programs was performed by the members of PCP.



Establishment of Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization



BMU, on the recommendation of HEC, has established Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) to make research a top priority for sustainable economic growth and future knowledge economy. Prof. Dr. Syed Fazal Hussain has been appointed as the Director of ORIC. Prof. Fazal has a vast relevant experience of working as Director-General in PCSIR. He has taken charge and has already started working on the policy and working of the ORIC at BMU.

Seminar on "Emotional Management"

A seminar on "Emotional Management" was arranged for the faculty members by the Quality Management Cell (QMC) of BIPS on 1st August 2019 at Dr. Sabir Ali Hall. The speaker, Dr. Kulsoom Haider, is a mental health professional and psychotherapist. The core objective behind arranging this seminar was to identify the stresses being faced by the faculty members and to motivate them to counter such phases. During the session, the faculty members performed different activities and learned new stress control exercises.

The seminar proved to be very fruitful for the audience, and an overwhelming response was received. BIPS is profoundly grateful to Dr. Kulsoom Haider for sparing her valuable time and allowing us to get benefited from her professional skills.

Independence Day Celebration in BMU

BMU celebrated Independence Day on 16th August 2019. The program, hosted by Dr. Talha M. Siddiqui (Vice Principal BDC), started with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by the inauguration speech of Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed (Principal, BMC). Later Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed (Dean, FPS) and Prof. Dr. M. A. Sheraz (Director, BIPS) also spoke at the occasion and thrown light on the importance of the day. Meanwhile, students and faculty members sang the national anthem and patriotic songs.

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Renovation Work at BIPS

There are several things that you can look at to gauge a department's character. One of the most prominent is its infrastructure. Every building needs renovation, improvement, and up-gradation regularly. A complete renovation and some construction have been done in BIPS that include offices, classrooms, corridors, laboratories, and bathrooms. New bathrooms and a kitchenette for faculty have been constructed. The improvement in the facilities and infrastructure is a continuous process and will be continued in the future as well under the new management of BIPS and FPS.



FPS and PharmEvo Signed Memorandum of Understanding

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between the FPS, BMU and Pharm Evo (Pvt.) Ltd. This MoU will help both organizations in promoting academic, research and professional activities enabling them to work in harmony to advance in the field of Pharmaceutical Sciences.



Dr. Zubair Anwar Received Postdoctoral Fellowship in Poland

It is indeed a moment of great pride and honor for BIPS and BMU that one of its faculty members, Dr. Zubair Anwar (Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry), has received a postdoctoral fellowship at Adam Mickiewicza University, Poznan, Poland. Dr. Zubair has already joined the host university and is currently working on a project on "Flavin Based Tools for Monitoring and Controlling Redox Environment in Cells."

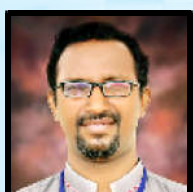
Dr. Zubair is the fourth faculty member who has received a postdoctoral fellowship after Prof. Dr. Rehana Perveen, Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed and Prof. Dr. M. Ali Sheraz. The fellowship received by Dr. Zubair is unique in the sense that it is obtained directly from the Government of Poland and not from the HEC. Dr. Zubair will resume his duties at BIPS after completion of the postdoctoral assignment.

Annual Health Conference

The students of BIPS under the supervision of Dr. Zuneera Akram participated in an Annual Health Conference organized by the Rotaract District 3271 hosted by Rotaract Club of Karachi Karsaz at Karachi School of Business & Leadership, titled "Health For All" on August 31, 2019. More than 260 submissions were received from different universities and hospitals out of which 47 abstracts were shortlisted to be presented by more than 25 medical and health sciences institutes across the province. Dr. Muneeba Usmani (Lecturer, Dept. of Pharmaceutics, BIPS) also presented a research paper.

Dr. M. Ahsan Ejaz Received Training of GC Technique

The Quality Management Cell (QMC) of BIPS arranged a two-day training course for Dr. Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz (Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry, BIPS) on Gas Chromatography (GC). The training was conducted by the Application Laboratory Division of Technology Links (Pvt.) Ltd. on 20th-21st August, 2019. The course included hands-on training of instrumentation, operation, data processing, data reporting, and maintenance of automated Gas Chromatography-Flame Ionization Detector (Shimadzu GC-2010 Plus).



Obituary

Mr. Sajid Hussain (Lab Attendant, Department of Pharmaceutics, BIPS), a highly efficient and devoted worker of BIPS, passed away at the age of 36 years due to heart attack. The entire faculty of BIPS prays that may the Almighty grant him the highest place in Jannah and give his family the power of suffering from fortitude.

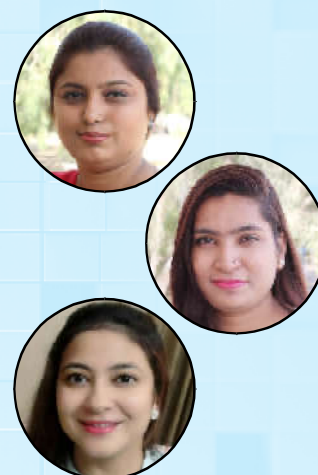
Rang 2019

Rang is an event of showing talent, joining and rejoicing, generating innovative ideas, and managing them to present confidently in front of an enormous crowd, particularly in the presence of respectable Jury from the Showbiz, Media, and BMU. Indeed it does make you feel nervous, but students of BIPS, as always, performed beyond everyone's expectations. The future pharmacists have actively taken part in a multidimensional contest held under a single roof on 28 and 30 August 2019, where they were challenged by the students of other departments that included Baqai Medical College, Baqai Dental College, Department of Physiotherapy and Baqai College of Nursing. The following talented students of BIPS won awards in the event.

Award	Name	Year
Best Director	Maliha Hasan	2 nd year
Best Actor – Male	Syed Meesum Tammar	3 rd year
Best Actor – Female	Maliha Hasan	2 nd year
Best Play	Beggars' Association	Directed by Maliha Hasan (2 nd year)
Best Model	Tauseef Shaikh	1 st year
Best Choreographer	Zainab Habib	3 rd year
Best Emerging Talent	Hammad Khan	1 st year
Best Play (Critics' Choice)	Kashmir Kon Hai	Directed by Ashher Azizi (3 rd year)

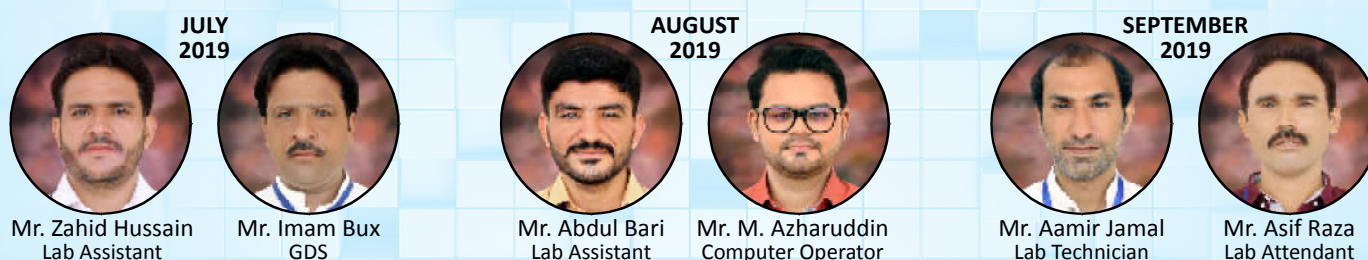
Farewell Party for Faculty Members of BIPS

A farewell party was arranged on 17th September, 2019 for three of the faculty members who have recently resigned from BIPS to pursue new endeavors in their life. Dr. Kiran Qadeer was working as an Associate Professor and Chairperson, Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Dr. Kaneez Fatima was working as a Senior Lecturer in the Department of Pharmacognosy. Both of them have now joined the same departments at the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jinnah Sindh Medical University. Dr. Anam Khan, who recently joined BIPS as a Lecturer in the Department of Pharmaceutics, has resigned due to some domestic reasons. Mr. Muhammad Naseem, Lab Assistant, Department of Pharmacology, has also left from BIPS as he has acquired a job in the government sector. A farewell party was arranged by the same department on 16th September, 2019. The faculty members and the team of BIPS News wish them the best of luck in their new endeavors.



Employee(s) of the Month Award

The policy of the "Merit Reward and Incentives Program at BIPS" has been approved by the competent authority. This program was launched to facilitate and motivate BIPS staff members. It accelerates the pace of work as well as develops the competitiveness among the employees. As per the approved policy, certificates were distributed among the non-teaching faculty (Grade 1–16) who were selected as the "Employee of the Month." The selection procedure is based on the performance, regularity, punctuality, and other factors. The program was initiated from June 26, 2019, on a monthly basis. The implementation of this policy has started proving very fruitful right from the first month. The performance of the staff has improved greatly, which is evident from the fact that there was a tie between six people in the first month for the employee of the month award. After critical scrutiny, the following highly devoted and hard-working staff members have been selected for the award in July.



Mr. Zahid Hussain
Lab Assistant

Mr. Imam Bux
GDS

Mr. Abdul Bari
Lab Assistant

Mr. M. Azharuddin
Computer Operator

Mr. Aamir Jamal
Lab Technician

Mr. Asif Raza
Lab Attendant



Seminar on Risk Management in Pharmaceutical Industry

A seminar on "Risk Management in Pharmaceutical Industry" was arranged by the QMC of BIPS for its fourth and final year students in Dr. Sabir Ali Hall on 26th September 2019. The seminar was conducted by Mr. Muqees Kazmi (B. Pharm., M. Pharm., MS, MBA), who is the Head of the Quality Assurance Department at Novartis Pharma (Pakistan) Ltd. The seminar provided valuable information regarding the working responsibilities and risk management for pharmacists in the pharmaceutical industry. At the end of the seminar, the Director, BIPS, wished his profound gratitude to Mr. Kazmi for sharing his valuable time and knowledge with the students. Later, a memento was presented to Mr. Kazmi by the Dean, FPS.

Promotions



Dr. Tania Mirza has been promoted to the post of Associate Professor and has also been appointed as the new Chairperson of the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Dr. Tania Mirza obtained her Pharm. D. in 2009, M. Phil. in 2013, and Ph.D. degree in 2019 from BMU. She joined BIPS as a Demonstrator in 2009. Her noteworthy dedication to research has been recognized in the form of publications in European and American journals of high repute. She has so far published 12 papers in international and 15 in national journals.



Dr. Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz has been promoted to the post of Lecturer after completion of his M.Phil. degree in the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Dr. Ahsan had earlier graduated with a degree in Pharm. D. in 2016 (Batch 16) from BIPS. He is a Gold Medalist in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Dr. Ahsan has so far published 1 chapter and 5 papers in international journals of high repute.

M. Phil. Degrees Awarded



Dr. Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz has successfully defended his thesis on 11th July 2019 under the supervision of Prof Dr. Iqbal Ahmad and Dr. Kiran Qadeer in Pharmaceutical Chemistry. He conducted his research work on "*Effect of Folic Acid on the Photodegradation of Cyanocobalamin*".



Dr. Shomaiza Andleeb (BIPS Alumnus of Batch 10, 2010) has defended her thesis on 11th July 2019. She carried out the research work on "*Development and Validation of a Fluorimetric Method for the Analysis of Tolfenamic Acid in Pure Form and Formulated Products*" under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed in Pharmaceutics.



Mr. Imran Ahmed (BIPS Alumnus of Batch 7, 2006) has defended his M. Phil. thesis on 13th September 2019. He conducted his research work on "*Qualitative and Quantitative Assessment of Herbal Raw Materials*," which was supervised by Prof. Dr. Shaukat Khalid in Pharmacognosy.



Dr. Afshan Mushaq (Pharm. D., JUW) has successfully defended her M. Phil. thesis on 26th September 2019, under the supervision of Prof Dr. Iqbal Ahmad in Pharmaceutics. Her co-supervisor was Dr. Rahila Bano, Asst. Prof., Dow College of Pharmacy. Her topic was "*Effect of Metal Ion Complexation on Moxifloxacin*".

Papers Published

1. Iqbal Ahmad, Tania Mirza, Syed Ghulam Musharraf, Zubair Anwar, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Sofia Ahmed, Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz, Adeela Khurshid. Photolysis of carboxymethylflavin in aqueous and organic solvent: A kinetic study. RSC Advances. 2019;9:26559-26571.
2. Sadaf Ibrahim, SNH Naqvi, Rehana Perveen, Hina Abrar, Zuneera Akram, Hina Tabassum, Samina Sheikh. Hepatoprotective and antidiabetic effect of *Guaiaecum officinale* in diabetes induced male albino wistar rats. Pakistan Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences. 2019;32 (5):2251-2256.
3. Hira Naeem, Rehana Perveen, Syed Sohaib Muzaffar Zaidi, Zubia Zia, Kaneez Fatima, Zuneera Akram, Muzammil Hussain, Farhan Ishaque. *Cleome brachycarpa*: A review on ethnobotany, phytochemistry, and pharmacology RADS Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences. 2019;7(2):107-111.