



# BIPS NEWS



## A Quarterly Newsletter of Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Quote of the Quarter: "It always seems impossible until it is done." – Nelson Mandela**

### ORIC Signed ToRs with PCSIR, Karachi

Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) of Baqai Medical University has signed Terms of Reference (ToR) with the Pakistan Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (PCSIR Laboratories Complex, Karachi) on December 31, 2020, for a period of three years to conduct collaborative R & D programs. The ToR



was signed by Prof. Dr. S. Fazal Hussain T.I., (Director ORIC, BMU) and Dr. Shahnaz Perveen, T.I. (DG, PCSIR Labs Complex, Karachi) in the presence of Prof. Dr. Mrs. Zahida Baqai (Chancellor, Baqai Medical University) and Dr. Shoaib Baqai, (Managing Trustee, Baqai Foundation & Director, Planning & Development, BMU).



Others present on the occasion were Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed (Dean, Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences, BMU), Mr. Israr Ahmed Khan (Registrar, BMU), Col. (R) Dr. Shahida Nagi (Director, QEC, BMU), Mr. Aalijah Yousuf (Director, Admin, BMU), Prof. Dr. M. Ali Sheraz (Director, Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences), Dr. Atiq ur Rahman (Director, Planning & Development, PCSIR, Karachi), Dr. Nighat Sultana (Chief Scientific Officer, PCSIR, Karachi), Dr. Rashid Ali Khan (Principal Scientific Officer, PCSIR, Karachi), Mr. Mehtab Ahmed (Technical Officer, Marketing, PCSIR, Karachi) and Dr. Farman Ahmed (Senior Scientist, PCSIR, Karachi). The collaboration will support the research activities of both organizations and hopefully would result in outcomes that would enhance the quality of the research in Sindh province.



### Establishment of CMS at BIPS

BIPS with the support of BIIT has established the Campus Management System (CMS). The CMS would not only help in the execution of automated reports on all aspects for data-driven decision-making but would also help a great deal in improvisation of record management of enrollment, admissions, students, faculty, attendance, fees, scheduling, assignments, and grades of the institution. All batches from 22 and onwards have been shifted to the CMS and the trial will start from January 2021.

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## Dr. Nausheen Malik Defended Her Ph.D. Dissertation

Dr. Nausheen Malik successfully defended her Ph.D. thesis on October 27, 2020. She did her Ph.D. in Pharmacology under the supervision of Prof. Dr. S.N.H. Naqvi. The topic of her research was "The Anti-Obesity Effects of *Guaiacum officinale* in Sulpiride Induced Female Albino Rats".

## BIPS Alumna Dr. Anum Akram Selected in The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP), USA



The International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) is a professional exchange program funded by the US Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The mission of IVLP is to offer current and emerging international leaders the opportunity to experience the richness and diversity of American political, economic, social, and cultural life through carefully designed exchanges that reflect participants' professional interests and the public diplomacy objectives of the US government. The program is a nomination only by staff at US Embassies.

Each year nearly 5000 International Visitors come to the USA on the International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP). More than 200,000 International visitors have engaged with Americans through the IVLP, including more than 500 current or former chiefs of states or Heads of Governments. Through short-term visits to the USA, current and emerging foreign leaders in a variety of fields experience the country first hand and cultivate lasting relationships with their American counterparts. Professional meetings reflect the participant's professional interests and support the foreign policy goals of the United States.

This is an immense pleasure to announce that Dr. Anum Akram, BIPS alumna from Batch 13 has been selected for the IVPL. She is one of the most proficient and hard-working alumnae who always kept herself in limelight by achieving different milestones. She is currently working as a Senior Manager at Indus Hospital, Karachi.

## Completion of Exams and Start of New Semester Online Classes

All exams of the ODD courses including labs have been conducted and the online classes for the EVEN Semester have been started to complete the academic year on time. Although HEC allowed the universities to conduct on-campus theory classes, BIPS decided to continue with the online Learning Management System (LMS) to ensure the safety of students. The students had also provided overwhelmingly positive feedback about online teaching in the official online surveys conducted by QEC of BMU. A similar feedback survey will also be conducted on the completion of this semester from the students.



## Promotion in the Department of Pharmacognosy

Dr. Mobeen Islam has been promoted to the post of Lecturer in the Department of Pharmacognosy after completing her M. Phil. Dr. Mobeen did her Pharm. D. from Jinnah University of Women and is associated with BIPS since 2016.

## Synopses Defense by M.Phil. and Ph.D. Candidates

The postgraduate students who cleared their Final Certifying Examination (FCE) in 2020 defended their synopses in front of the Departmental Research Review Committee (DRRC). The students presented their synopses and explained their objective and tentative plan of work to the members of the committee and replied to their questions and queries. After making the suggested changes in their synopses (if any), the students have submitted their synopses to the Ethics Committee. After the review by the Ethics Committee, the synopses will be submitted to the Board of Advanced Studies and Research (BASR) for the final review.

## Prof. Dr. Shaukat Khalid Invited as Guest of Honor at NHU



Nazeer Hussain University invited Prof. Dr. Shaukat Khalid as a Guest of Honor on the occasion of Pink Ribbon Breast Cancer awareness program on October 29, 2020. In her speech, she enlightened the importance of breast cancer awareness sessions and pink ribbon program to overcome the burden and mortality of this disease.



## Webinar on "Healthy Skin Matters"

BIPS in collaboration with Brookes Educational Activity Transition Series (BEATS) of Brookes Pharma organized a webinar on October 11, 2020, on the topic "Healthy Skin Matters". The webinar was based on male and female hair loss problems. The speaker, Dr. Afzal Lodhi, is a UK qualified Consultant Dermatologist, Laser Specialist, and Cosmetologist. He provided useful knowledge on skin and hair care issues and answered the questions of the Pharm. D. students and other participants.

## Reorganization of the Semester Cell of BIPS

The Vice Chancellor has given an additional charge of the Incharge Semester Cell of BMU to Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed (Dean, FPS) (1). She will look after the relevant matters of all faculties of the university following the semester system. The newly appointed Incharge Semester Cell has reformed the Semester Cell of BIPS and has appointed Dr. Muzammil Hussain (Lecturer, Dept. of Pharmacology) (2) and Dr. Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz (Lecturer, Dept. of Pharm. Chemistry) (3) as the Assistant Incharge Semester Cell while Ms. Aisha Noreen (Senior Lecturer, Dept. of Pharm. Chemistry) (4) has been appointed as the Head Tabulator.



(1)



(2)



(3)



(4)

## Poster presented by JSMU and BIPS Faculty Members Won 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize in 2<sup>nd</sup> National IPDM Conference

Poster titled "Standardization of Commercially Available Cinchona Bark Collected from Local Market of Karachi: Natural Remedy for Malaria" presented by Kaneez Fatima, Kiran Qadeer, Huma Shareef and Shaukat Khalid won 3<sup>rd</sup> prize in the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Innovation in Pharmaceutical Development and Medicine (IPDM) Conference held at Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Jinnah Sindh Medical University (JSMU) Karachi.

## Pharm.D. Student Selected in NCPP Ambassadors Program 2021



Ms. Ayesha Arshad (Batch 23) has been selected as Ambassador in the Ambassadors Program 2021 of "Nurturing Community Pharmacy in Pakistan (NCPP)". NCPP is a platform established by practicing pharmacists to unite and strive for creating awareness and developing well-established community pharmacy setups in Pakistan. The Ambassadors Program would help the students in receiving opportunities to get hands-on training on community pharmacy practices, act as a liaison between the university and NCPP, and to develop leadership and interpersonal skills.

## Admissions in Postgraduate Programs Announced

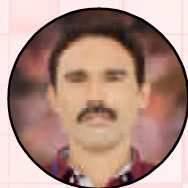
BMU has announced the admissions in various postgraduate programs including M. Phil., MPH, MS, MDS, MD, Ph.D. along with some diploma and certificate courses for the year 2021. The details can be obtained from the BASR secretariat.

## Employee of the Month Award

OCTOBER 2020



Mr. Abdul Bari  
Lab Attendant



Mr. Asif Raza  
Lab Attendant

NOVEMBER 2020



Mr. Abdul Bari  
Lab Attendant



Mr. Affan Ahmed  
Lab Assistant

DECEMBER 2020



Mr. Zaheer Raza  
Lab Assistant



Mr. Zahid Hussain  
Lab Assistant

## Agile Leadership Program of Martin Dow Limited

The final year (Batch 21) students of BIPS participated in the Agile Leadership Program of Martin Dow Limited from December 15 to 17, 2020 in three small groups. Martin Dow Ltd. is a group of corporates that consist of Martin Dow Marker, Martin Dow Limited, and Seattle Pharma. The main goal of the program was to guide students about their right career selection. Dr. Sadia Ahmed, Ms. Aisha Noreen, Dr. Ayesha Nabi, Dr. Muneeba Usmani, and Dr. Sharonia Butt also accompanied the students. During the session, representatives from different departments of MDL delivered insightful lectures to students including CSR, HR, Quality operations, regulatory affairs, business development, sales and marketing, medical affairs, and pharmacovigilance departments. In the end, a tour of the plant was arranged for the students and faculty members. BIPS extended its heartiest gratitude to the MDL team for creating this learning pathway for the students.



## Postgraduate Examinations and Commencement of New Semester

The first semester examinations of M.Phil. and Ph.D. have been conducted in October 2020 following strict COVID-19 SOPs and thereafter the classes for the second semester have been started.

## Interviews Conducted for Undergraduate Admissions

The interviews for the admission in the Pharm. D. session of 2021 (Batch 26) were conducted in November and December by the Admission Committee of BIPS. This year due to the current pandemic situation, the admissions have been conducted on interviews only. The candidates along with their parents were interviewed following the COVID-19 SOPs. Those fulfilling the criteria of Pharmacy Council of Pakistan (PCP) and BIPS have been offered admission in Pharm. D. for the academic year 2021.

## Publications

1. Sana Ghayas, Kiran Qadeer, Zubair Anwar. Role of Catalysis and Catalytic Agents in Drug Stability, In: Akash M.S.H., Rehman K. (Eds.), Drug Stability and Chemical Kinetics, Springer, Singapore, 2020; pp. 95–119 (ISBN 978-981-15-6425-3).
2. Kiran Mashaal, Rehana Perveen, Zubia Zia, Syed Muhammad Mahmood, Khurram Minhas, Sadaf Ibrahim, Syed Naim ul Hasan Naqvi, Hira Naeem. Histopathological effects on stomach, liver and kidney associated with *Cedrus deodara* root oil in ulcer induced rats (Wistar strain). Pakistan Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 2020;33(6):2483–2488.
3. Rafia Sadaf, Ishrat Yunus, Sidra Maqbool, Talha Bin Fayyaz, Sarah Jameel Khan, Sidra Siddique, Rida Fatima. Evaluation of anxiolytic activity of *Pulsatilla nigricans* L. in wistar rats by using elevated plus maze and hole board paradigms. Pakistan Journal of Zoology 2020;52(3):1201–1204.