

Newsletter

PAKISTAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Promoting Science, Technology and Innovation for Socio-economic Development

Volume 14, No. 2

APRIL 2019

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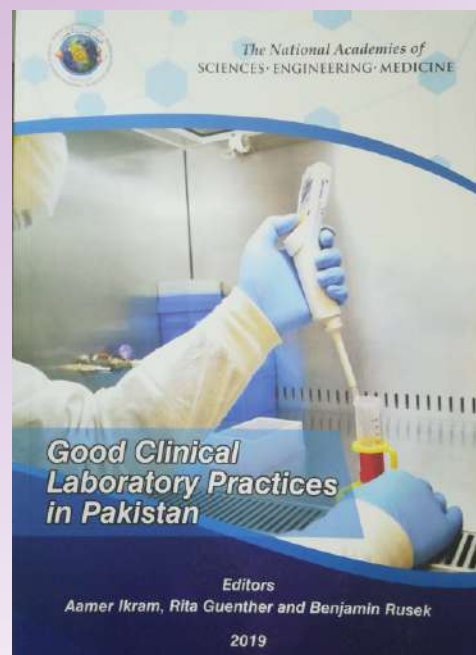
Launching of Handbook on Good Clinical Laboratory Practices in Pakistan by PAS & NASEM March 18, 2019



The Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) in collaboration with the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine (NASEM), USA, launched the first edition of a comprehensive handbook on "Good Clinical Laboratory Practices in Pakistan" on 18th March, 2019 at Marriott Hotel, Islamabad. The handbook has discrete sections focusing on laboratory management, bio-safety, laboratory operations & quality management systems. As such, this Handbook is intended to serve as an informational guide for clinical laboratories in order to improve the health and well-being of people and animals in Pakistan, in accordance with the concept of One Health. Syed Abu Ahmad Akif, Member, Prime Minister's Inspection Commission and Maj. Gen. Tahir Khadim were the chief guests of the ceremony. Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig, Secretary General PAS, represented Pakistan Academy of Sciences at the Laboratory Handbook Launch Ceremony.

Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari (Former, Secretary General PAS) led a team of 22 experts from Pakistan to participate in the joint Pakistan-U.S. Workshop to "Review PAS-NAS Clinical Laboratory Handbook" in Bangkok, Thailand from 28-30 January, 2018. The Handbook has been authored by Pakistani laboratory experts from various specialities in collaboration with their U.S. counterparts.

The Handbook has been written in simple format, especially for laboratory technical staff working in public, private and university/academic laboratories across Pakistan. Maj. Gen. Aamer Ikram (Executive Director, NIH) and Dr. Dave Franz led the effort from the US Pakistan PAS and US NASEM sides respectively.



Asian Council of Science Editors (ACSE) Annual Meeting February 13-14, 2019

Making an effort to connect various segments of the Scholarly-Communication Ecosystem, The 6th Annual Conference of the Asian Council of Science Editors (ACSE) was held in Carlton Palace Hotel, Deira Dubai from 13-14 February 2019. This year, the conference was organized and made efficacious with the support and effective collaboration of Science Alert, International Society of Manging & Technical Editors (ISMTE), International Society for Medical Publication Professionals (ISMPP), Society for Scholarly Publishing (SSP), Asian Network for Scientific

Information (ANSInet), Science International, and Medwell Publications.

The conference was attended by more than 200 participants including ACSE members, journal editors, reviewers, academic editors, researchers, and publishing professionals especially from Asian region. Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Fellow Pakistan Academy of Sciences was the key note speaker at the 6th Annual conference of ACSE.



InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) Conference & General Assembly April 9-11, 2019

The Korean Academy of Science and Technology (KAST) organized the 2019 IAP Conference & General Assembly from 9-11 April, 2019, in Songdo, Korea. The conference explored how science is required to underpin and advance progress towards achieving the 17 goals of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and in particular, what role academies should play towards achieving these goals.

Among the specific sessions identified by the Conference Scientific Committee, there were discussions on the role of academies in the 21st Century and how academies have been, and should continue to evolve, to respond to today's

challenges. There were specific sessions on artificial intelligence, food and nutrition security, and agriculture. Participants included distinguished scholars, presidents and leadership of national academies of science, medicine, engineering, as well as experts and health advisors from both industrialized and low to middle income countries. The last day of the Conference was dedicated to the General Assemblies of IAP for Science and IAP for Health, and the joint InterAcademy Partnership meeting. Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood Khan, Fellow PAS, represented Pakistan Academy of Sciences at the 2019 InterAcademy Partnership (IAP) Conference & General Assembly.



Meeting of the Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge and Technology (COMEST), in Beirut, Lebanon April 3-5, 2019

The meeting of the Commission on the Ethics of Scientific Knowledge & Technology COMEST was held in Beirut, Lebanon from April 3-5, 2019. The meeting discussed matters related to Development ethics and Development: (1) The amount of property which is needed for a good life is not unlimited, (2) Triple curse of underdevelopment: poverty; powerlessness; hopelessness, (3) Qualitative human enrichment rather than growth in production or material well being and (4) Important "mission of religion is "to keep hope alive ". Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari, Fellow PAS participated in the meeting at Beirut & presented data on Land Tenure and Resource Ownership. COMEST is an advisory body & forum of reflection set up by UNESCO in 1998. It is composed of 18 leading scholars from scientific, legal, philosophical, cultural and political disciplines from various regions of the world, appointed by the UNESCO Director-General in their individual capacity.

Prof. Dr. Zabta Khan Shinwari is among these eighteen members of COMEST.



OWSD National Chapter Established at KIBGE, Karachi April 3-5, 2019

The Organization for Women in Science for the Developing World (OWSD) is an international non-profit organization based at the offices of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) in Trieste, Italy, a program unit of UNESCO. The OWSD provides research training, career development and networking opportunities for women scientists throughout the developing world. The First National Chapter of OWSD in Pakistan was established at the Karachi Institute of Biotechnology & Genetic Engineering (KIBGE), University of Karachi in April 2019. The long-term aims of the Pakistan National Chapter of OWSD include the following:

- ✍ **Secretary:** Dr. Saima Saleem, Karachi Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering.
- ✍ **Treasure:** Dr. Sitwat Zehra, Karachi Institute of Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering.

The Members of the National Chapters include:

- Prof. Dr. Bushra Mirza, (Islamabad)
- Prof. Aziz Fatima Hasnain, (Karachi)
- Dr. Huma Ikram, (Karachi)
- Dr. Amber Javid, (Lahore)
- Dr. Hajra Naz, (Karachi)
- Dr. Rubeena Hafiz, (Lahore)
- Dr. Afsheen Aman, (Karachi)
- Dr. Rozeena Shaikh, (Quetta)
- Dr. Mehreen Lateef, (Karachi)
- Dr. Hafsa Muhammad, (Peshawar)
- Dr. Rizma Khan, (Karachi)
- Dr. Saima Hashim, (Peshawar)
- Ms. Sayda Abiha Zehra Jafri, (Karachi)

- ✍ Shape the future of international science, by delivering relevant activities and resources and through strengthening strategic international partnerships.
- ✍ Enhance the membership experience so it not only meets but exceeds expectations and members feel valued, heard and part of a community.
- ✍ Strengthen engagement and knowledge transfer, capitalizing on the depth and wealth of knowledge in the National Chapter's diverse membership.
- ✍ Secure a sustainable supply of the resources needed for the National Chapter to deliver its mission.

The first Executive Committee of National Chapter is formed by:

- ✍ **Chair:** Prof. Dr. Bina Siddiqui, International Center for Chemical and Biological Sciences, University of Karachi.
- ✍ **Vice Chair:** Prof. Dr. Azra Khanum, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi.

At the time of establishment, the OWSD National Chapter, Karachi, Pakistan has 239 Members in Pakistan. In the welcome statement to the Members, Prof. Dr. Bina Siddiqui, Chair of the OWSD Pakistan National Chapter hoped that the OWSD Pakistan National Chapter will take initiative to organize activities on a national and regional level in line with the objectives of OWSD. She remarked that this is the time for the women in Pakistan to join hands and work for the development and advancement of science in Pakistan.

NUST Materials Society(NMS)Talk Session with Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig (Sec. General, PAS) March 20, 2019

The Department of Materials Engineering, School of Chemical and Materials Engineering (SCME), National University of Sciences & Technology (NUST), Islamabad organized a special Talk Session with Dr. Muhammad Aslam Baig (H.I., S.I., T.I.) Director Atomic and Laser Physics Department, National Center for Physics (NCP), Islamabad and Secretary General, Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) at the platform of NUST Materials Society (NMS) on March 20, 2019. A large number of postgraduate students and faculty members of NUST and other academic institutions located within Islamabad participated in this interactive Talk Session on the versatile applications of Laser Induced Breakdown Spectrometry (LIBS) for qualitative identification of a variety of elements in solid sample materials, as well as the use of Laser Ablation-Time of Flight-Mass Spectrometry (LA-ToF-MS) for quantitative analysis of elements and their

respective isotopes in solid sample materials. Both the tools have been indigenously developed by Dr. Aslam Baig at NCP, through financial support from the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, and are being used by postdoctoral and postgraduate research students from different Universities in the country.



16th National Symposium on Frontiers in Physics, GCU, Lahore January 29-31, 2019

The Government College University (GCU) Lahore & the Pakistan Physical Society organized the 16th National Symposium on Frontiers in Physics from 29 -31 January, 2019 at the GCU Campus. This three days event was funded by the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Higher Education Commission of Pakistan & GCU. Eminent physicists from all across Pakistan presented their research work on the topics

in Physics including important fields of Condensed Matter Physics, Materials Science/Nanotechnology, High Energy Physics, Nuclear Physics & Cosmology, Atomic, Molecular and Laser Physics, Plasma Physics and Controlled Fusion and Computational Physics. This symposium provided opportunity to the students and young faculty to interact with the eminent senior physicists.



International Conference on Microbes for Sustainable Agriculture March 25-28, 2019

The International Conference on Microbes for Sustainable Agriculture an exploration into the interactive world of microbes and plants was organized by Forman Christian College, a Chartered University, Lahore Pakistan from 25-28 March, 2019 in collaboration with the Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS), Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), Higher Education Commission (HEC), ECO Science Foundation (ECOSF), and Punjab Agriculture Research Board (PARB). The conference was aimed to bring together international and national experts to review the status of soil microbial ecology and its impact on Sustainable Agriculture.

Prof. Dr. Kausar Abdulla Malik, Vice President and Fellow of Pakistan Academy Sciences was the patron of this International Conference. Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig Secretary General, Pakistan Academy of Sciences, attended the inaugural session of the conference. Speakers from various international universities such as from USA, Canada, Turkey, China, Germany and Saudi Arabia along with 30 national speakers from 15 different cities of Pakistan, including Tandojam, Mardan, Mansehra and Quetta presented their work and shared expertise to bolster the skills ahead.

Conference on Water Problems in Pakistan and their Solutions

April 15-17, 2019

The Pakistan Nuclear Society (PNS) organized a two day “Conference on Water Problems in Pakistan and their Solutions” from 15-16 April 2019 at Islamabad Hotel, Islamabad. The Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) supported PNS in the organizational arrangements of this event along with other sponsors namely, PAEC, PSF, FWO, CCRD/COMSATS. The main objective of the conference was to seek input from experts on various aspects of water-related issues and to frame viable solutions for remedial actions. More than 270 scientists, engineers, technologists, experts and students from various universities, R&D institutions and water/environment related NGOs etc. across Pakistan attended the deliberations at this conference. The conference was inaugurated by Engr. Shams ul Mulk, former Chairman WAPDA who expressed that in view of the emerging scenario of climate change and water scarcity in the country, it is high time to organize such conferences on water issues in order to devise concrete steps and policies to conserve water for the next generation. Other guest speakers included Engr. Parvez Butt, former Chairman PAEC, Amb.® Shafqat Kakakhel, Chirperson BoG-

SDPI, Dr. N.M. Butt, former Chairman PSF-PINSAT, Mr. Ahmad Kamal, Chairman Federal Flood Commission, Mr. Ali Toqeer Sheikh (CEO LEAD-Pakistan) and Dr. Syed Arif Ahmad, former DG DOS, PAEC. Different areas of concern in the water sector such as water storage, water quality, water management and water use were discussed in the conference.

A Posters competition related to research on water problems also took place on the 2nd day of the conference. Cash prizes were given to the top three posters. The conference was concluded by Engr. Parvez Butt (NI,HI,SI), former Chairman PAEC & former Federal Secretary Science & Technology (GoP). The outcomes of the conference were documented as specific recommendations for submission to the relevant government departments, national and international agencies for necessary measures. The conference enhanced the inter-organizational contacts and collaborative research and management activities in the water sector among researchers from government and non-government organizations in Pakistan.



International Conference on Chemical Sciences

April 24-28, 2019

The Department of Chemistry, Quaid-i-Azam University (QAU), Islamabad in collaboration with Pakistan Academy of Sciences (PAS) organized an International Conference on Chemical Sciences from 24-26 April, 2019 at QAU under the framework of MOU titled “Pak-Belarus Roadmap 2016-20 for Developing Cooperation ” signed by the two countries. The main objective of the conference was to bring together leading foreign researchers, particularly Belarusian Faculty Members/Researchers and Pakistani Researchers in chemical sciences and related fields for exploring avenues of common interest for establishing international collaboration for mutual benefits of the two countries. The conference provided a platform for researchers to discuss diverse areas of chemical sciences and related fields as well as to interact and to share insight into their recent research results. The conference covered the following research disciplines:

- Physical and Computational Chemistry
- Inorganic Chemistry
- Organic Chemistry
- Biochemistry
- Analytical Chemistry
- Polymer Chemistry
- Materials Chemistry-process development and applications
- Composite Materials-process development and applications.

Prof. Dr. M. Aslam Baig, Secretary General, Pakistan Academy of Sciences also participated in this conference as invited speaker. He gave lecture on “Laser Matter Interaction -Elemental Analysis by LIBS & LA-TOF-MS.

News about Foreign Fellows, Pakistan Academy of Sciences

Prof. Dr. Eberhard Nieschlag (FRCP), Nominated as Honorary Member of The European Academy of Andrology

In recognition of his leadership and services to the European Academy of Andrology, Prof. Dr. Eberhard has been nominated as Honorary Member of the European Academy of Andrology. Prof. Eberard was former Director of the Institute for Reproductive Medicine and Emeritus at the Center for Reproductive Medicine and Andrology of the University Hospital Münster, Germany. He was elected as Foreign Fellow of Pakistan Academy of Sciences in 1996.



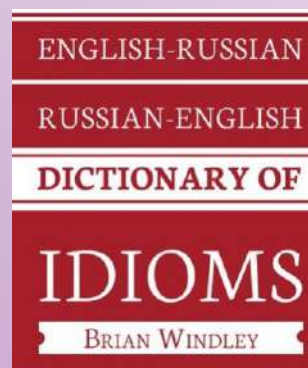
Professor Jinde Cao, Awarded the 2019 Obada Prize

In recognition of his seminal contributions to an impressive array of fields in natural sciences, most notably to nonlinear sciences and neuronal networks, Professor Jinde Cao, Foreign Fellow Pakistan Academy of Sciences, was awarded the 2019 Obada Prize at the 8th International Conference on Mathematics and Information Sciences held from 8-10 February, 2019 at Egypt. The Obada-Prize is an international award, endowed by the Natural Sciences Publishing and supported by the African Academy of Sciences. This prize is initiated as a recognition of His Excellence Professor Abdel-Shafy Obada. The Obada Prize recognizes and encourages innovative and interdisciplinary research that cuts across traditional boundaries and paradigms. It aims to foster universal values of excellence, creativity, justice, democracy, and progress and to promote the scientific, technological and humanistic achievements that advance and improve our world.



Prof. Dr. Brian Windley, Publishes “ENGLISH-RUSSIAN RUSSIAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS”

Prof. Dr. Brian Windley published a major book titled “ENGLISH-RUSSIAN RUSSIAN-ENGLISH DICTIONARY OF IDIOMS”, (ISBN: 9781728382937) which contains at least 20,000 idioms on 27 February 2019. Professor Brian Windley’s career has largely revolved around understanding the tectonic development of new and old mountain belts, like the Himalayas, from the most recent Neogene /Pleistocene mountain uplifts in Mongolia back to crustal/tectonic growth in the Archaean. He was elected as Foreign Fellow PAS in 2008.



Professor Dr. Wolfgang Voelter News

Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Voelter from the University of Tuebingen, Germany is well known to the Pakistan Scientific Community for his financial and scientific support for upgrading the scientific level in Pakistan. His successful efforts for Pakistan have been honoured by numerous awards like Honorary Degrees of universities, Presidential Awards and Medals or Scientific Prizes. Dr. Voelter was elected as Foreign Fellow of Pakistan Academy of Sciences in 1983. Prof. Voelter has received several international awards, including the prestigious civil awards, Hilal-e-Pakistan, and Sitara-e-Pakistan, from the Government of Pakistan. He has an unparalleled love, affection, and respect for the people of Pakistan, & confidence on their talent and abilities. He is truly the great ambassador of Pak-German scientific cooperation & friendship. Five years ago, Prof. Wolfgang Voelter and his cousin Dr. Ulrich Voelter bought the oldest house of Metzingen City, built in the Middle Ages (1453 B. C.) from the monks of a nearby monastery. They saved this historical house from pulling down by the city council and donated it to the city of Metzingen for younger citizens and named it “Family Center”. Besides the Mayor, Dr. Ulrich Fiedler, Prof. Voelter gave Inauguration Speech at the Opening Celebration of the Family Center

