



# BIPS NEWS



## A Quarterly Newsletter of Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

**"If you can't explain it simply, you don't understand it well enough" — Albert Einstein**

### Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Sheraz Appointed as Director, BIPS

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Chairman of the Department of Pharmacy Practice and Editor-in-Chief, Baqai Journal of Health Sciences, has been appointed as the first Director of Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

Prof. Dr. Sheraz is a graduate of Baqai Medical University. He obtained his B. Pharm., M. Phil. and Ph. D. degrees from Baqai Medical University and conducted postdoctoral research in the University of Sheffield, UK on a fellowship awarded by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan. He is an HEC approved supervisor for M. Phil. and Ph. D. studies. He has published more than 75 research papers and has also co-authored 11 chapters and 3 books.



### Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed Appointed as Dean, FPS

Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed, Chairperson of the Department of Pharmaceutics, has been appointed as the new Dean of the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences (FPS), BMU on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2019. She is the fourth Dean of the FPS.

Prof. Dr. Sofia has obtained her B. Pharm., M. Phil. and Ph. D. degrees from BMU and conducted postdoctoral research in the University of Sheffield, UK on a fellowship awarded by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan. She is an HEC approved supervisor for M. Phil. and Ph. D. studies and has so far supervised 6 M. Phil. students. She has published more than 75 research papers and has also co-authored 11 chapters and published 2 books.



### Establishment of Quality Management Cell at BIPS

The Director, BIPS, has established a Quality Management Cell (QMC) at BIPS. The QMC would not only help in the execution of various tasks through the formation of various committees but would also help a great deal in improvisation of quality education in the institute. The various committees under QMC would be formed in the coming months which may include: Faculty Development Committee, Student Development Committee, Student Support Committee, Academic Planning Committee, Tabulation Committee, Publication Committees, Social Media Committee, etc. The main objective of forming QMC is to initiate and execute programs that help the institute in fulfilling its mission and vision. The progress and performance outcome of each committee shall be presented in the Annual Report of BIPS to the Vice Chancellor, BMU.

#### Editor-in-Chief

*Dr. Zuneera Akram*

#### Editorial Team

*Dr. Sharonia Butt  
Dr. M. Ahsan Ejaz*

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## Founder's Day Celebrated in BMU

Baqai Medical University celebrated the Founder's Day at Saeeda Auditorium on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 to remember and pay tribute to Prof. Dr. Fareeduddin Baqai and his services to the medical and educational community of the country. The faculty members and students of all constituent institutions attended the gathering. Dr. Talha Siddiqui, Vice Principal, Baqai Dental College (BDC) was the stage secretary of the program. The eminent speakers included Prof. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmed, Dean Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, Prof. Dr. Kashif Ikram, Principal, BDC, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Director, BIPS and trustees of Baqai Foundation. The speakers threw light on the personality of Prof. Baqai and the journey of his hard work throughout his life. A biographical video about the life of Prof. Baqai was also played for the audience which was prepared by Dr. Ayesha A. Nabi (Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutics, BIPS).

The life of Prof. Baqai motivates the new generation to dream big and work with devotion to achieve them. Prof. Dr. F.U. Baqai is one of the pioneers of community-oriented medical education in Pakistan. He established Baqai Hospital Nazimabad in 1969, Baqai Medical College in 1986, BDC in 1990 and the university charter was granted in 1996. BMU now comprises of more than thirty-five affiliated institutions.



## Dr. Zuneera Akram Received the "BEST RESEARCH PAPER AWARD"

It is indeed a moment of great pride for BIPS and BMU to praise Dr. Zuneera Akram (Ph.D. Research Fellow and Lecturer, Department of Pharmacology, BIPS, BMU). She received the "BEST RESEARCH PAPER AWARD" in the 7th International Conference of Endorsing Health Science Research (ICEHSR) organized by Advance Educational Institute and Research Center (AEIRC) in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO) held on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at DUHS, Karachi in commemoration of World Health Day.

Several participants from all around Pakistan took part in the conference by submitting their abstracts in the form of posters or by oral presentations. Since words are more impactful in permeating the influence, Dr. Zuneera opted for oral presentation representing her Abstract "**In Vivo Antidiabetic Effect of Ethanolic Extract of *Grewia asiatica* on Streptozotocin Induced Diabetes Albino Rats.**" Her supervisor for this research was Prof. Dr. Rehana Perveen, Chairperson, Department of Pharmacology, BIPS, BMU. Dr. Muzammil Hussain (Lecturer, Dept. of Pharmacology) and Ms. Aisha Noreen (Sr. Lecturer, Dept. of Pharmaceutical Chemistry) were the co-authors for this research study.



## BMU Purchased EBSCO Online Database

BMU has subscribed for EBSCO Online Database for Pharmacy that includes online access to around 1000 scientific journals and professional magazines. This database is in addition to the journals of PERN that were purchased last year from HEC. Access to all such database is available for free to all staff and students at BMU.

## Final Year Students Visited Patel Hospital

The final year students of BIPS visited Patel Hospital on 11<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The main focus of the visit was to introduce the students with the working mechanism of a hospital pharmacy and the duties of the pharmacists in a hospital setup. Patel hospital is situated at a prime location of Gulshan-e-Iqbal and is providing high-quality patient care and health services. The students were informed about the setup and working of pharmacists at the hospital.



During the visit, the students interacted with the patients in the wards and explored the quality of pharmaceutical care, safety, use of external services, and satisfaction level of the patients with the treatment. Precisely, it was



a great experience for students to accelerate their knowledge regarding the hospital pharmacy. The staff of the hospital generously explained the working mechanism to the students and shared knowledge related to clinical pharmacy. At the end of the visit, mementos were presented to the teaching faculty of BIPS including Dr. Syeda Ayesha Nabi (Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutics, BIPS), Dr. Sharonia Butt (Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutics, BIPS), and Dr. Nimra Khan (Lecturer, Department of Pharmaceutics, BIPS).

BIPS is highly grateful to the officials of Patel Hospital for their kind cooperation in arranging the visit for the students. We hope that such cooperation will continue in the future as well.

## Mr. Mohsin Ali and Mr. Anis Hassan Given Additional Responsibilities



Mr. Mohsin Ali

Mr. Mohsin Ali, who was previously working as Computer Operator at BIPS for almost past ten years, has been given an additional post as Secretary to the Director. Mr. Anis Hassan, who was working as a Lab Technician in the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry since 2005, has been promoted as Office Staff in the Semester Cell of BIPS. The team of BIPS News congratulates both of them and wish best of luck for their future endeavors.



Mr. Anis Hassan

## 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Dean and Director with the Non-Teaching Staff

The newly appointed Dean (Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmad) and the Director (Prof. Dr. M. Ali Sheraz), called the first meeting with the non-teaching staff on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019. In the meeting, the staff was informed about the renovation and construction work that is going to start in BIPS. The staff members were also informed about the initiation of **“Merit Rewards and Incentives Program”** at BIPS from June 26, 2019. Through this program, ‘Employee of the Month’ will be selected every month. The one who gets a maximum number of employee the month prizes will receive the ‘Employee of the Year’ award. Implementation of such policy is believed to be fruitful as this will motivate the staff for better performance.

## BIPS Signed 'Memorandum of Collaboration' with BDC

A Memorandum of Collaboration (MOC) has been made between Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Baqai Dental College on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2019. This MOC will enable both schools to work in harmony to achieve their goals. The goals will be accomplished by undertaking the following activities:

- Mutual access to the instruments and laboratory for research purposes.
- Sharing of resources that include online database, access to journals, online journals, and other material and resources, whenever possible and required.
- Teaching collaboration at undergraduate and postgraduate level, particularly Clinical Dental Pharmacy and other areas as required or mutually agreed.

The teaching of Dental Pharmacy to the fourth and final year Pharm. D. students will provide new insights into the clinical pharmacy curriculum and would be fruitful to the future pharmacists.

## BIPS Officially Launched "BIPSAA"



Alumni associations exist to support the parent organization's goals and to strengthen the ties between alumni, the community, and the parent organization. Alumni of any institution is key to its growth. Therefore, Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences Alumni Association (BIPSAA) has been formed to achieve such goals and create a link between the current and former students of BIPS. The first meeting of BIPSAA was held on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> May 2019, in the Dr. Sabir Ali Hall of BIPS in which several former graduates participated and discussed about the future working of BIPSAA. A group on Facebook has also been formed for BIPSAA to provide a platform for all BIPSians. A registration form is now available on the Facebook page as well as on the website of BMU which can be filled and email at.



## Papers Published

Following research papers have recently been published by the research students and faculty members of BIPS:

1. Iqbal Ahmad, Tania Mirza, Zubair Anwar, Sofia Ahmed, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz, Sadia Hafeez Kazi. **Photodegradation of Formylmethylflavin by Side-Chain and Isoalloxazine Ring Cleavage in Alkaline Solution: A Kinetic Study.** Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A: Chemistry, 2019;374:106–114.
2. Muneeba Usmani, Sofia Ahmed, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Iqbal Ahmad. **Development and Validation of a Pre-Column Derivatization HPLC Method for the Assay of Amikacin Sulfate in Pure and Parenteral Dosage Forms.** Current Pharmaceutical Analysis, 2019;15 (5):511–520.
3. Syed Furqan Ahsan, Muhammad Ali Sheraz, Marium Fatima Khan, Zubair Anwar, Sofia Ahmed, Iqbal Ahmad. **Formulation and Stability of Fast Disintegrating Tablets of Amlodipine Besylate.** Indian Journal of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, 2019;53 (3):480–493.
4. Zubia Zia, Naim ul Hasan Naqvi, Ayaz Mustafa, Muzammil Hussain, Aysha Zia, Rehana Perveen, Hira Naeem, Zuneera Akram. **Assessment of Effects on Hematological Parameters after Interferon and Ribavirin Therapy among Hepatitis C Patients in Karachi.** Professional Medical Journal 2019;26(7):1162-1166.
5. Zuneera Akram, Rehana Perveen, Aisha Noreen, Maryam Inayat, Muzammil Hussain, Sadaf Ibrahim, Mariam Razzak, Kiran Qadeer. **Morphological, Phytochemical, and Pharmacological Studies of *Grewia asiatica*: A Review.** RADS Journal of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences 2019; 7(1): 1-10.