



BIPS NEWS



A Quarterly Newsletter of
Baqai Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences

Quote of the Quarter: "Hard Work Beats Talent When Talent Fails to Work Hard" - Kevin Durant

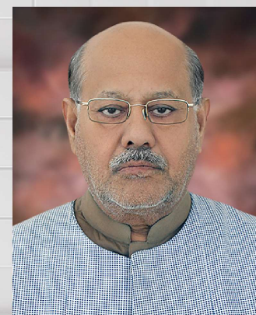
Members of Pakistan Pharmacist Association Visited BIPS

A deligation of Pakistan Pharmacist Association (PPA) visited BIPS on April 2, 2021. The members included Sardar Shabbir Ahmad, Dr. Fakhsheena Anjum, Mr. Alamgir Rao, Dr. Umair Ikram Dar, Mr. Kalimullah and others. The purpose of the visit was to promote the PPA among the pharmacists of BIPS (faculty and students). The delegates elaborated the concept behind this association, how it works for the rights of pharmacists, its functional mechanism, and how students or faculty can join PPA.



Obituary

Mr. Syed Nasir Asghar (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Pharmacy Practice) has passed away due to a sudden heart attack on April 15, 2021. He had been serving BIPS since 2010. Before joining BIPS, he served as the Director of Pharmacy at Seven Day Hospital for 13 years. He also worked as a Lecturer in Sarhad University, Peshawar. He had a vast 21 years professional experience in pharmaceutical industry, hospital pharmacy and teaching.



BIPS extends the deepest condolence to his family and friends. His tenure in the organization will be remembered forever and his experience and expertise will be missed.

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 Dr. Zuneera Akram

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New Appointments



Two new faculty members have joined BIPS. Dr. Noreen Tariq (Pharm.D, M.Phil) has joined as a Lecturer in the Department of Pharmacy Practice. Dr. Noreen has over 2 years of teaching experience and 1 year of hospital pharmacy experience.



Dr. Hasnan Ali (Pharm.D) has joined as a Teaching Assistant in the Department of Pharmaceutics. He has defended his M.Phil. thesis and will soon be awarded the M.Phil. degree. Dr. Hasnan has around four years of experience in the Research and Development Department of different pharmaceutical industries.

BIPS Faculty Members Completed Various Certification Courses

Dr. Sadia Ahmed⁽¹⁾, Dr. Zuneera Akram⁽²⁾, Dr. Muzammil Hussain⁽³⁾, and Ms. Aisha Noreen⁽⁴⁾ have completed the National Academy of Higher Education's (NAHE) online courses on "HEC's Policy on Sexual Harassment in HEIs" and "HEC's Policy on Students with Disabilities" in June 2021.

Dr. Zuneera Akram⁽²⁾ and Ms. Aisha Noreen⁽⁴⁾ completed a four-week online course in April 2021 on 'Analytical Understanding of the Regression Family via SPSS'. The course covered the fundamentals of regression analysis in this two-module-based course, including the conceptual understanding of components of regression analysis, assumptions, data handling, linear regression, and multiple linear regression. They also learned about logistic regression, the concept of odds and odds ratios, binary and multinomial logistic regression with metric, non-metric IDVs through SPSS.

Dr. Zuneera Akram⁽²⁾, Dr. Muzammil Hussain⁽³⁾, and Ms. Aisha Noreen⁽⁴⁾ completed a series of online courses on multiple diabetes-relevant topics offered by the IDF School of Diabetes that is recognized by the European Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (EACCME).

Dr. Marium Fatima Khan⁽⁵⁾, Dr. Zuneera Akram⁽²⁾, and Ms. Aisha Noreen⁽⁴⁾ attended an Agilent Technologies webinar on the "Method Development & Optimization Workshop" on April 21, 2021.

Dr. Zuneera Akram⁽²⁾ attended three days virtual MENA Pharmacy Congress titled "Advancing Pharmacy Practice in the Region" organized by the Maarefah group on June 12–14, 2021. The congress educated attendees on the latest technologies used to improve healthcare outcomes and highlighted critical solutions to the profession's regional challenges and covered a variety of topics including leadership, pharmacoeconomics, health technology assessment, innovation in pharmacy technology, COVID-19 updates, vaccines, medication safety management, and technologies. The primary objective of this congress was to foster conversation among regulators, medical experts, and pharmaceutical firms to enhance collaboration and achieve the best possible health results.



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Final Certifying Exam of Postgraduate Students

The Final Certifying Examination (FCE) of M.Phil. and Ph.D. students in the Faculty of Pharmaceutical Sciences was conducted on April 12, 2021, under strict COVID-19 SOPs. The following candidates have been announced successful:

1. Ms. Zoya Amin (M. Phil. Pharmaceutics)
2. Ms. Erum Shehzadi (M. Phil. Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
3. Ms. Hira Khan (M. Phil. Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
4. Ms. Saba Sabir (M. Phil. Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
5. Ms. Asma Elahi (M. Phil. Pharmacology)
6. Ms. Shumaila Pervaiz (M. Phil. Pharmacology)
7. Ms. Bushra Zaidi (M. Phil. Pharmacology)
8. Ms. Sumaira Naz (M. Phil. Pharmacology)
9. Ms. Tooba Jawaid (M. Phil. Pharmacology)
10. Ms. Muneeba Usmani (Ph. D. Pharmaceutics)
11. Ms. Sharonia Butt (Ph. D. Pharmaceutics)
12. Mr. Mazhar Rasool Shah (Ph. D. Pharmaceutics)
13. Mr. Muhammad Ahsan Ejaz (Ph. D. Pharmaceutical Chemistry)
14. Mr. Usmani Ghani (Ph. D. Pharmacology)

New Instruments

BIPS is growing by leaps and bounds. Every month new additions are being made to make the institution more efficient in carrying out valuable research. An isocratic HPLC system with a column oven (Shimadzu, Japan) has been installed in the research lab. Digital microscopes with smart LEDs have been fitted in the Microbiology and Pharmacognosy Labs to support the teaching and practical performance in the Pharm. D. courses while a new Spectrophotometer has been installed in the Physiology Lab.



Spectrophotometer



HPLC



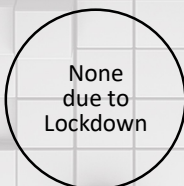
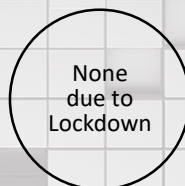
Microscopes

Employee of the Month Award

APRIL 2021

Mr. Abdul Ahad
Lab TechnicianMr. Zahid Hussain
Lab Assistant

MAY 2021

None
due to
LockdownNone
due to
Lockdown

JUNE 2021

Mr. Majid Gabol
Lab TechnicianMr. Abdul Bari
Lab Attendant

Commencement of Postgraduate Classes

The classes of the first semester for the newly admitted M.Phil. and Ph.D. students have commenced from April. A blended approach of teaching including physical and online classes is being followed for postgraduate students.

Defense of M. Phil. Thesis



Dr. Hasnan Ali has successfully defended his thesis for the award of an M.Phil. degree in Pharmaceutics on June 22, 2021. The topic of his research was "*Preparation and Characterization of Patches through Iontophoretic System*" and his supervisor was Prof. Dr. M. A. Sheraz. The BASR of BMU has also approved his case for the award of the degree.

Scholarships Awarded to Two PG Students by Sindh HEC

Ms. Zoya Amin (M. Phil. Pharmaceutics) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed and Mr. Usman Ghani (Ph. D. Pharmacology) under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Rehana Parveen have received a scholarship of Rs. 57,500/- each from Sindh HEC. Both students were shortlisted by the institute on the basis of their excellent performance in the semester exams.

Financial Assistance/Scholarships Awarded to Pharmacy Students

The financial assistance to the selected students of second to fifth year Pharm. D. has been awarded. Every year, financial assistance (scholarship) is provided to several students throughout the university on need-cum-merit basis after a thorough scrutiny of the documents by the Student Affairs Department. The financial assistance committee is chaired by Prof. Dr. Syed Fazal Hussain and assisted by Dr. Yasmeen Badar (Director, Student Affairs). Prof. Dr. Sofia Ahmed (Dean, FPS) and Prof. Dr. M. A. Sheraz (Director, BIPS) were also part of the committee.

Publications

1. Xin Duan, Rehana Perveen, Akhila Dandamudi, Rehman Adili, James Johnson, Kevin Funk, Mark Berryman, Ashley Kuenzi Davis, Michael Holinstat, Yi Zheng, Huzoor Akbar. Pharmacologic targeting of Cdc42 GTPase by a small molecule Cdc42 activity-specific inhibitor prevents platelet activation and thrombosis. *Scientific Reports* 2021;11:13170.
2. Adam Pokluda, Zubair Anwar, Veronika Boguschová, Iwona Anusiewicz, Piotr Skurski, Marek Sikorski, Radek Cibulka. Robust photocatalytic method using ethylene-bridged flavinium salts for the aerobic oxidation of unactivated benzylic substrates. *Advanced Synthesis and Catalysts*. 2021;363:1-10.
3. Hina Yasin, Shaukat Mahmud, Hina Abrar, Adeel Arsalan, Noor Jahan, Kaneez Fatima, Rahila Bano, Rana Asif Hussain, Mobeen Islam. Anti-inflammatory and histopathological studies of leaves extracts of *Croton bonplandianus* in albino rats. *Pakistan Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 2021;34(2):747-753.
4. Muzammil Hussain, Rehana Perveen, Mehreen Lateef, Zuneera Akram, Iqbal Azhar, Saima Saleem. In-vitro dose-response effect of bergenin on platelet aggregation by inhibiting inducers (collagen and ADP) and lipoxygenase. *Health Biotechnology and Biopharma* 2021;5(1):24-38.
5. Sadaf Ibrahim, Zuneera Akram, Aisha Noreen, Mirza Tasawer Baig, Samina Sheikh, Ambreen Huma, Aisha Jabeen, Muneeza Lodhi, Shahzada Azam Khan, Ajmal Hudda, Uzma Shahid, Nayel Syed. Overweight and obesity prevalence and predictors in people living in Karachi. *Journal of Pharmaceutical Research International*. 2021;33(31B):194-202.
6. Najia Rahim, Shagufta Nesar, Sarah Jameel Khan, Sabahat Jabeen, Sadaf Naeem, Sharonia Butt, Shazia Naz, Mehwish Rizvi, Sabiha Gul, Tayyaba Mumtaz, Zeeshan Wasti. Pharmacy students' perception from their current hospital ward rotations. *Latin American Journal of Pharmacy*. 2021;40(4):907-914.