



University of
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Volume 1

ISES NEWS

INSTITUTE OF SOIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES, UAF



Prof. Dr. Muhammad Yaseen
Director (Patron in Chief)

Dr. Irshad Bibi
Assistant Prof., (Chief Editor)

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Welcome To Director ISES

On behalf of faculty, students and staff of the Institute, we welcome **Professor Dr. Muhammad Yaseen** as new Director of Institute. As a part of our team's leading role, we believe that you are going to be the best asset who can accomplish tasks for the improvement of Institute's growth.

Professor Dr Muhammad Yaseen brings 30 years of experience of working at the institute in different positions. He joined the institute in 1990 as a lecturer and later on promoted to the rank of Professor. He is a well known scientist and expert in the field of Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition. One of his major achievements for agriculture is the development of innovative fertilizer technology i.e. 'SMART fertilizer' for enhancing crop productivity.

By having attained his new role as the director ISES, we are confident that Professor Dr Muhammad Yaseen will uplift the institute's teaching and research portfolio to the highest standards.

Please join us in welcoming Professor Dr Muhammad Yaseen as the director of Institute of Soil and Environmental Science and wish him every success in his new role.

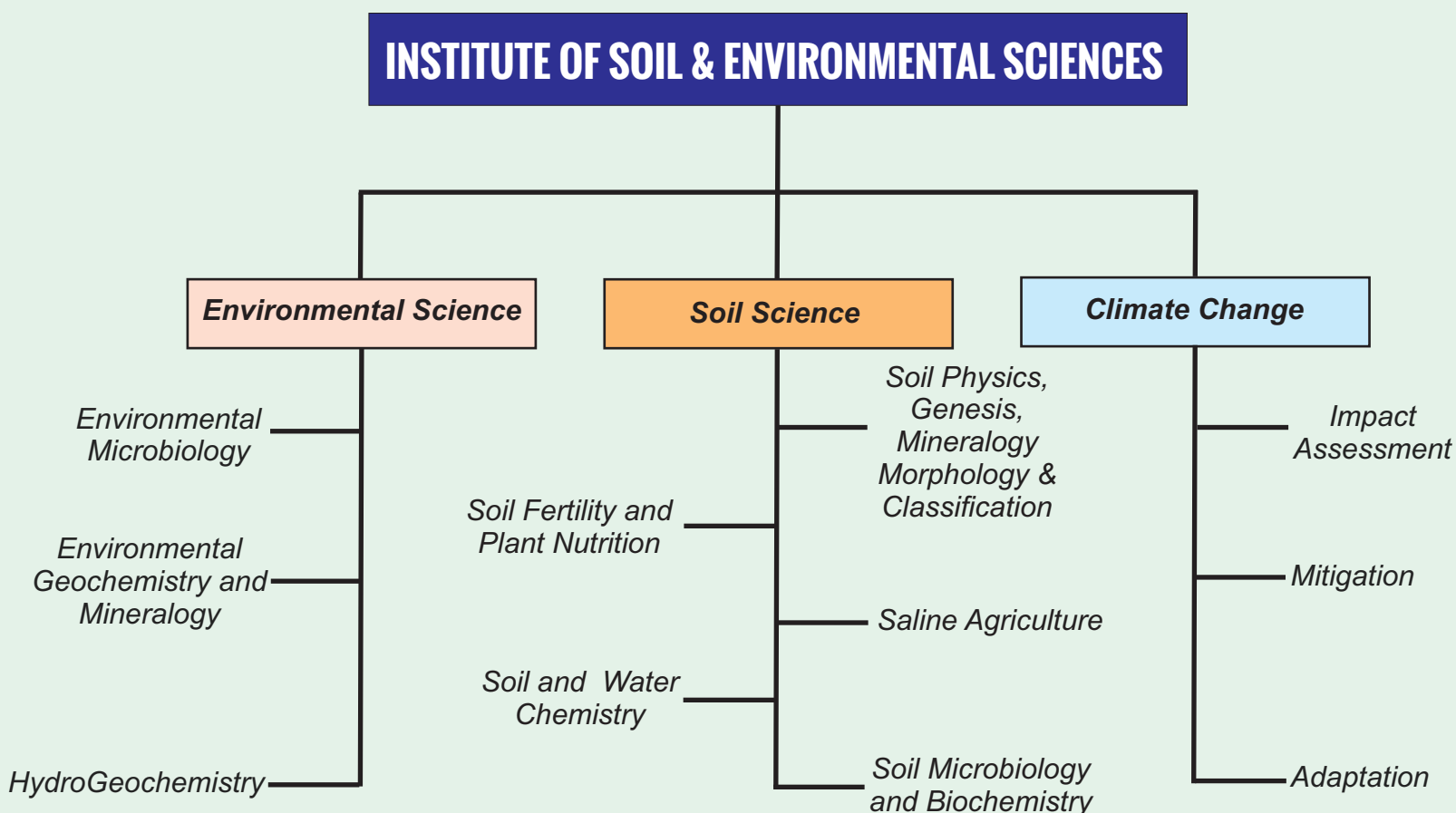


Director's Vision

Contribution in the National Growth and Economy through Uplifting Research and Teaching, Developing new Technologies and Strengthening linkages with Industry

Institute's Introduction

The Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences was established by the up-gradation of Department of Soil Science that had the reputation of excellence since its establishment in 1961. The Institute is actively engaged in research on different aspects of Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition, Soil and Water Chemistry, Saline Agriculture, Soil Microbiology and Biochemistry, Soil Physics, Soil Genesis, Survey & Classification, Environmental Sciences and Climate Change. Advisory services to farmers are also rendered upon request. Institute offers degree programs in Soil Sciences, Environmental Sciences and Climate Change. There are 28 PhD's in staff. Among them 4 Professors, 11 Associate Professors, 9 Assistant Professors and 4 Lecturers. The contribution and dedication of the staff towards research is reflected through a high number of research articles in foreign and local journals. They have also authored books published by national and international agencies. The devotion and commitment of the faculty members to their profession have been recognized by various national organizations, since a number of faculty members have won prestigious national awards (Tamgha-e-Imtiaz, Gold Medal in Agricultural Sciences, Research Productivity Award, Best Research Paper Award & Best University Teacher Award etc.). Above all, the institute enjoys an excellent reputation among the scientific community not only in Pakistan but also at international level.



ACHIEVEMENTS

AGRICULTURE CONFERENCE

Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences organized an international Conference in February 13-15, 2019 on **“Innovations in Agriculture: Nourishing Pakistan in Changing Climate”** at CAS-Auditorium, UAF. The total number of participants were 230 including National and international speakers.

The objective of the conference was

To provide platform for academia, industry and students to discuss current status of climate change, impact assessment on crops, human and animal, their solutions for sustainable production.

To provide recent developments in soil, crop and animal production technologies for sustainable crop and animal production and their impact assessment.

To formulate recommendations and policy framework for sustainable farming systems in Pakistan.

Dr. Abdul Wakeel (Assistant Professor ISES, UAF) was the secretary of this mentioned conference.



SURFACE SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences organized **“1st International Conference of Surface Science: Innovations and Applications for Geoenvironmental Challenges”** on April 25-26, 2019 at CAS Auditorium, UAF. The objectives of this conference were to highlight the key advancements in the field of Environmental Geochemistry, Material Sciences and Nanotechnology. This mega event provided a great platform to devise the robust strategies for future interventions and providing real world solutions to Geoenvironmental challenges. Dr. Irshad Bibi was the Focal Person & Dr. Nabeel Khan Niazi was the joint secretary of the conference. Professor Dr. Andreas Lüttge (Germany), Professor Dr. Balwant Singh (Australia) & Dr. Derk Machiel Bakker (Lahore) were the Plenary Speakers. Mr. Adeel (GCUF), Ms. Haram Javed & Saira Saeed (UAF) and Ms. Amina Kalsom (AARI, Faisalabad) got the 1st, 2nd & 3rd Positions respectively. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ashraf (T.I.) Vice Chancellor, UAF was the Guest of Honor. 200+ persons participated in the Conference.



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

The Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences in collaboration with Pakistan Journal of Agricultural Sciences, organized 1st International Workshop on **“Scholarly Writing and Publishing”** for postgraduate students/early career faculty from March 18-21, 2019. This workshop provided the participants a learning experience of scholarly writing, data analyses, reference management, journal ranking and editorial preferences/decision making. Dr. Muhammad Saqib (Associate Professor, ISES) was the coordinator of workshop.



WORLD EARTH DAY 2019

Soil and Environmental Sciences Students Society in collaboration with WWF-Pakistan & Environmental Protection Agency, Faisalabad organized an Interiversity Poster Competition on 22 April, 2019 on **World Earth Day 2019** on theme **“Protect Our Species”**. Director ISES Dr. Javed Akhtar, Director EPA Shoukat Hayyat & Mr. Abdullah WWF-Pakistan lead the walk. Faculty of ISES & Volunteers from other agencies were also present on this event. 50 students took part in poster competition. The evaluation of poster competition made by **Dr. Azhar Hussain** (Assistant Professor, IUB), **Dr. Hafiz Naeem Asghar** (Associate Professor ISES UAF) & **Dr. Irshad Bibi** (Assistant Professor ISES UAF). Mr. Imdad Hussain & Azhar Hussain, Ms. Humaisa Rasheed & Ms. Zilwa Mahnoor and Ms. Aqsa Naseem got the 1st, 2nd and 3rd positions, respectively, in poster competition.



Farmers' Day 2019

The Institute of Soil and Environmental Sciences & Punjab Agriculture Research Board conducted farmers' meetings cum workshops on 23rd September 2019 at Burewala sub-campus and on 24th September 2019 at Depalpur/Okara Campus. The objective of this event was to equip the farmers with the results obtained from research project (PARB 582) entitled **“Utilization of poultry farm litter and dead birds compost as livestock feed ingredient and agriculture fertilizer”**. Furthermore, farmers were updated about integrated nutrient management for agricultural sustainability in changing climate. Dr. Abdul Wakeel guided the farmer about the mentioned topic.



Dr. Muhammad Saqib (Associate Professor ISES UAF) participated in the Web of Science Conference on International Scholarly Publishing from Pakistan: Framework for Fast-Paced Progress. March 11, 2019. Centre of Excellence in Molecular Biology, University of the Punjab, Lahore.

Dr. Muhammad Saqib & Dr. Irshad Bibi (Assistant Professor ISES UAF) participated in the **"Humboldt Kolleg" of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, Germany** in March 25-28, 2019.



Group Photo of Participants AVH Foundation

Dr. Hafiz Naeem Asghar (Associate Professor ISES UAF) was invited speaker in **"Cleanup 2019-the 8th International Contaminated Site Remediation Conference"** from 8-12 September 2019 at Adelaide, Australia. Title of Talk was: *"Environmental Pollution and Remediation Strategies in Pakistan"*. He chaired a technical session of the conference.



Dr. Hafiz Naeem Asghar with program chair (Dr. Prashant Srivastava) of the Conference

Dr Nabeel Khan Niazi (Assistant Professor, ISES) is Global Member and Coordinator of Pakistan Chapter for *UNESCO Chair on Groundwater Arsenic within 2030 Agenda of Sustainable Development*. Dr. Niazi was invited by the UNESCO Chair, Prof Jochen Bundschuh, from the University of Southern Queensland (USQ), Australia along with other global partners on September 03-10, 2019. He had a meeting on Development of a global project on 'Arsenic Contamination Assessment and Mitigation' and discussed future collaboration opportunities between USQ and UAF.



Dr Nabeel Niazi with UNESCO Chair and Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research) Prof Peter Terry



Dr. Nabeel Niazi with Prof Jochen Bundschuh and his students



*Environmental Biogeochemistry laboratory in USQ
Dr Niazi interacting in laboratory with PhD students*

Congratulations

Dr. Zahir Ahmad Zahir (Professor, ISES, UAF) received **Quaid-e-Azam Husnan-e-Karkardgi Award** from the wife of Governor Punjab on August 18, 2019.



Dr. Zia ur Rehman (Assistant Professor ISES UAF) received **Best Research Paper Award 2017** in 7th HEC Outstanding Research Awards held on August 7, 2019 by Higher Education Commission, Pakistan





CALL FOR PAPERS

**18th INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS
OF SOIL SCIENCE**

*Wise Soil Management Ensures
Better Environment and Livelihood*

11 - 13 February 2020, Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam, Pakistan



Important Dates

October 30, 2019	Last date of receipt of abstracts (as per given format) and registration forms
December 15, 2019	Notification of accepted abstracts
January 5, 2020	Last date for receipt of accommodation reservation requests

Organized By:
Soil Science Society of Pakistan
In Collaboration with:
Sindh Agriculture University, Tandojam, Pakistan

For Information
Website : www.sss-pakistan.org, Email : info@sss-pakistan.org

Congratulations

Faculty Members of ISES promoted as **Associate Professors**



Dr. M. Anwar-ul-Haq



Dr. Muhammad Iqbal



Dr. M. Zia-ur-Rehman



Dr. Muhammad Sabir



Dr. M. Amer Maqsood



Dr. Nabeel Khan Niazi



Dr. Muhammad Sana Ullah



Dr. Abdul Wakeel

2nd International Workshop on "Scholarly Writing and Publishing"

Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences is going to organize **2nd International Workshop on "Scholarly Writing and Publishing"** in November 2019. The interested students and early career faculty may contact the Workshop Organizer Dr. Muhammad Saqib (Associate Professor, ISES) for further information

SMOG AWARENESS WALK

OCTOBER 21, 2019 **9:00 A.M.**

Organized by
Soil and Environmental Sciences Students Society
Institute of Soil & Environmental Sciences, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad

The ANNUAL SPORTS GALA 2019

INSTITUTE OF SOIL & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

SOIL AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES STUDENTS SOCIETY®



**OPENING CEREMONY ON
29 OCT, 2019 AT 10:00 AM**

VENUE: UNIVERSITY CRICKET STADIUM, UAF

"CRICKET, FOOTBALL, BADMINTON,
ATHLETICS, TUG OF WAR, TABLE TENNIS

29 OCT to 31 OCT 2019

FOR REGISTRATION CONTACT

FAIZAN RAFI (SPORTS SECRETARY)

0336-0637468

ATIF HAROON (ASSOCIATE SPORTS SECRETARY)

0303-6087357

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UNIVERSITY OF
AGRICULTURE
FAISALABAD- PAKISTAN



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FROM IFS FOR BASIC RESEARCH GRANT

International Foundation for Science (IFS), Sweden promotes research activities through earlier career scientist's research work in the universities and degree awarding institutes across the globe. Currently grants for basic research (maximum of 15000 USD) are available for individual request.

CRITERIA

- 1) The applicant should be an early career scientist, should have completed a PhD degree within the last five years, or be enrolled in a PhD programme (Age criteria don't apply)
- 2) The application should be submitted in English only
- 3) The budget to be requested is to cover costs for equipment, consumables, travel for fieldwork, additional manpower etc. for a maximum of 15 000 USD

CLOSING DATE: November 30, 2019. However, ORIC UAF will receive applications for processing/signature of the competent authority till November 25, 2019

Special Note: Applications from scientists with simple M.Sc. Degree (as their highest academic degree) will not be accepted Researchers who are already grantees are not eligible for basic research grant

For further detail please visit: http://www.ifs.se/calls-for-applications/ifs-pre-call-announcement-2020.html?fbclid=IwAR1_16D0yliZ5Sc1QH5X8_NaQtN0tR_XehVz4iQnFyt0S3AYkEbmUYCfF8



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Research and Development (R&D)/Technical Support Fund for Academia

Deadline
October 25, 2019

The Planning and Development Board, Govt. of the Punjab invites **Concept Proposals** from Academicians and Researchers at HEC recognized Public or Private Sector universities for allocation of Research and Development Funds.

Themes

- Establishment of Industry, Government and Academia Linkages
- Conversion of Research into Commercial & Marketable Applications

Proposal Guidelines

- Research that contributes to value addition, Export Orientation & Import Substitution will be given preference
- Concept proposals from all areas will be accepted for consideration by the R&D Unit, P&D Board, Govt. of the Punjab.

General Guidelines

- Academicians & Researchers may submit concept proposals to P&D Board, Punjab for consideration through ORIC, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
- Project Proposals for R&D Fund that can potentially contribute to high level social impact, prototype development or aid in development of policy will be given preference.
- Standardized format for concept proposals may be downloaded from the P&D Board Website (<http://www.ppdunjab.gov.pk/>).



USAID Small and Medium Enterprise Activity

Challenge Fund

3rd round of SME Growth Grants!

The USAID small and Medium Enterprise Activity (SMEA) can support the efforts to expand business through the Challenge Fund

Grants are available in the following sectors:

- Women-led business (from any sector)
- ICT
- Hospitality
- Logistics
- Textiles (excluding spinning)
- Agri-Business and Processing (off-farm only)
- Light Engineering

Last Date
October 25, 2019

Submit
Projects through ORIC

Potential grant funding up to
PKR 7.5 million
per grant

For more detail: challengefund@pakistansmea.com



Higher Education Commission (HEC) **Pak-France PERIDOT Research Programme** Phase VI (2019-20)



The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan invites joint research proposals from Pakistani faculty members of public and approved private universities for HEC funding in the following four areas under Pak-France PERIDOT Research Programme:

Environmental Sciences (including but not limiting to, Water, Climate Change, Pollution)

Energy (including but not limiting to, sustainable alternate energy)

Health

Human and Social Sciences

How to Apply:

- Applicant (PI) must hold a full time faculty position at public/HEC-approved private university for research funding
- Project must be submitted online on Campus France website <http://www.campusfrance.org/fr/peridot>
- Pakistani Researcher/Principal Investigator has to identify a French partner
- Maximum one research project can be submitted by one Principal Investigator for funding
- The application completed in all aspects should reach at ORIC till or before **November 11, 2019**



Higher Education Commission (HEC) **Pak-Turk Researchers** Mobility Grant Programme 2019-20



The Higher Education Commission (HEC), Pakistan invites joint research proposals from Pakistani faculty members of public and approved private universities for HEC funding in the following six areas under Pak-Turk Researchers Mobility Grant Programme:

Energy Technologies

Sustainable Environmental Technologies

Smart Transportation Systems

Food Technologies

Material Science

Robots and Smart Systems

How to Apply:

- Applicant must hold a full time faculty position at public/HEC-approved private university for research funding
- Project must be submitted online on prescribed form available at website www.hec.gov.pk/site/ptrg
- Pakistani Researcher/Principal Investigator has to identify the Turkish partner
- Maximum one research project can be submitted by one Principal Investigator for funding
- The closing date for submission of research proposals at ORIC is **November 11, 2019**



PAID INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR AGRI. GRADUATES



Under the Govt. of the Punjab through a Project "Enhancing productivity in 10 low producing tehsils through deployment of fresh Agri. Scientists at farm level" has initiated Agri. Graduates on Farm training program through paid internship.

Graduates having B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture from any of the three Agricultural Universities (i.e. MNS-University of Agriculture, Multan, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad and PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi) with Punjab domicile can apply for this internship (for period of two crop seasons)

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Graduates of Agricultural Sciences B.Sc.(Hons.) Agriculture, who passed out during the year 2018 and 2019.
- Minimum 2.5 CGPA in the bachelor's degree program.
- He/She must not be currently enrolled in any academic program/employed/holding any current scholarship for higher studies. Enrolled students have to present semester discontinuation certificate issued by the University.
- Possessing an **Android Phone** and **SIM** in his or her own name.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- Applicants are requested to visit (www.agriinternship.punjab.gov.pk) for further information and to fill an online Application Form available on the website.
- The stipend admissible to each intern will be Rs.30,000/- per month (including POL expenditures) and an incentive (not exceeding Rs.5,000 per month) based upon performance.
- Internees have to work with the registered farmers (at their farms) for provision of extension and technical services and they can be placed anywhere in the project area in Punjab for a period of one year. These placements will be non-transferable.
- Application forms can be submitted within 15 days from the date of publication of the advertisement (05-10-2019). Incomplete/late applications will not be entertained. Any application can be rejected at any time in case of concealment of facts/false statement.
- No TA/DA will be admissible for appearing in test/interview (if required)
- Department of Agriculture reserves the right to reject any or all the applications without assigning any reason
- Selected graduates should have to complete two weeks compulsory training
- For more information please visit www.agriinternship.punjab.gov.pk