UPGRADATION TO UNIVERSITY

It has been a fervent desire of teachers, students, parents and all other concerned to see our beloved institution becoming a university. We had to wait for twenty seven long years but the dream has finally come true.

The upgradation of Balochistan Agriculture College to a university status is allocated as a new scheme in the Government of Balochistan budget for the fiscal year 2013-14. Two hundred (200) acres state land has been allotted for this purpose and the Planning & Development department has approved Rs 500 million for the construction work. The site for the proposed university is situated at a distance of just seven kilometers from the present college premises.

Engineer Mr. Nasir Majeed has been appointed Project Director to carry out the construction work. Government of Balochistan has also tasked the concerned departments to formulate Act for the proposed university.

Balochistan Agriculture College was established in 1967 with the objectives to integrate in a suitable manner the function of teaching, research and extension, in order to produce appropriately educated, trained and motivated graduates to meet the developmental needs of the regional agriculture with heterogeneous and diversified characteristics. Since its inception it has produced more than one thousand graduates in various disciplines of agriculture. The graduates of this college are serving nearly all nation building departments, educational and research institutions in public & private sector.

In this way the institution rendered splendid services in terms of imparting much required knowledge in the field of agriculture. The academic stuff of the college uses every endeavor possible in producing agriculture graduates equipped with all the necessary skills & knowledge for a very competitive agricultural industry of the country.

However the growing population of the province has generated the need for the upgradation of Balochistan Agriculture College into a university to enhance its capacity to admit more number of students by expanding its infrastructure.

This was realized much earlier and there had been some efforts made to materialize this idea but unfortunately they went in vain. Therefore the decision taken by the present Provincial Government of Balochistan is remarkable and shows its seriousness towards development in education sector in the province.

Here it goes without saying that Principal Balochistan Agriculture College, Professor Mohammad Azam Niaz is working diligently to expedite the process of upgradation. He has been instrumental in acquiring 200 acres state land for the university. He is also striving to pile up qualified human resource to strengthen the academia.

BAC’s Mission

To impart quality education, knowledge & skills to the agriculture professionals for meeting the future developmental needs & challenges of diversified agriculture
Obituary

A brilliant administrator, visionary guide, kind human being, and a friend to all, Muntaz Ali Khan was an epitome of what an educator ought to be and an example for all of us to emulate.

Mr. Muntaz Ali Khan passed away on April 5th, 2014. He was the first Principal of Balochistan Agriculture College. Long before becoming the Principal, he actually imagined the entire edifice of an institute that would provide professional education in the field of agriculture to the students of Balochistan. There wasn't any agricultural college or university in the province and students had to go to institutions in other provinces to acquire professional knowledge and manual dexterity in agriculture and only a limited number of seats were available.

Muntaz Ali Khan was among the pioneers of Balochistan Agriculture College and then he served the institution with passion & dedication for more than twelve years. He rendered tremendous and unmatched services to this institute.

Besides being a visionary mentor, a sound professional and a very successful administrator, he was a kind hearted person and a thorough gentleman.

May Almighty Allah rest his soul in eternal peace and grant strength and gratitude to the family members to bear this irreparable loss.

Muntaz Ali Khan
Principal (1996-1999)

5th IPARCC Meeting

5th Meeting of Inter-Provincial Agricultural Research Coordination Committee (IPARCC) was held in PARC (HQs) Islamabad. Dr. Iftikhar Ahmad, Chairman Pakistan Agricultural Research Council (PARC) presided the meeting. The Federal and Provincial Government Representatives participated in the meeting and appraised the participants regarding research and development projects and activities initiated at their respective provinces and highlighted the requirements of future research. Professor Amin Ali of Balochistan Agriculture College represented the province in the meeting.

Training/Workshop

Khalil Ahmad, Lecturer Department of Horticulture participated in a training workshop on "on farm water management" at PMAS-AUR. It was a 10 days workshop, organized by FAO under Balochistan Agriculture Project of USAID, in collaboration with Dr. Merz Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi. The participants were given trainings on high efficiency irrigation system, crop water requirements, sources of irrigation water, surface irrigation methods, irrigation scheduling, GIS remote sensing techniques etc.

Professor Amin Ali, Associate Professor Dr. Arif Shah Kakar, Lecturer Ajab Khan Tareen and Lecturer Sikander Shujaz attended "Five Days Training Program on Proposal Writing" at National Agricultural Research Centre (NARC) in Islamabad. The participants were trained on how to write a convincing proposal for grant in agriculture research. The main goal of the workshop was to strengthen project development, donor relations, and resource mobilization in agriculture.
Secretary of Agriculture visits campus

Former Secretary Education Mr. Abdul Rehman Buzdar has been appointed and assumed the charge as Secretary Agriculture, Government of Balochistan. Immediately after assuming the charge of his office, he paid a visit to Balochistan Agriculture College which functions under the patronage of the Department of Agriculture.

On his arrival to BAC, he was accorded a warm welcome by the college Principal and academic staff. College Principal Professor Mohammad Aslam Niazi introduced the academic staff to the Worthy Secretary and then gave a formal briefing on history, academic & administrative structure, educational system and ongoing projects in Balochistan Agriculture College. The secretary acknowledged the comprehensiveness of the briefing presented and asked questions regarding the general functioning and procedures of semester system of education in the college.

President Academic Staff Welfare Society BAC, Lecturer Nanak Khan Mushahid Congratulated Mr. Abdul Rehman Buzdar on becoming Secretary Agriculture on behalf of the academic staff and thanked him for visiting the institution. Mr. Nanak also informed the Worthy Secretary about various career related issues of the academic staff and requested for sympathetic and favorable consideration.

Mr. Abdul Rehman Buzdar also visited classrooms, laboratories, library and student hostels in the campus.

New academic session

New academic session has begun from March 4, 2014. The number of students seeking admission in Balochistan agriculture College is growing larger every year. This year a record 524 students applied against 200 available seats in B. Sc Honors Agriculture. Tests for admission to undergraduate & post-graduate programs are conducted through NTS. Students are required to wear proper uniform and secure minimum 75% attendance during the academic session.

Transfer posting

Dr. Arif Shah Kakar and Dr. Noor Ullah Kakar have been transferred and posted from Agriculture Extension Wing as Associate Professor and Assistant Professor in the Departments of Entomology & Agronomy Respectively. Dr. Shah is an experienced scientist and he is known for his work on Dubas Bug (Constrictus lybicus). The appointments are made with the view to develop and strengthen the faculties.

Part Time faculty

Dr. Mohammad Saeed, Mr. Saadullah and Miss. Rabaha Fayyaz have been appointed as visiting faculty members. Dr. Saeed has extensive experience in the field of horticulture. Mr. Saadullah and Miss Raheela have done post graduation in Botany & Food Sciences respectively. In the Department of Agriculture Extension, Mr. Hooti Khan is posted as Lecturer on deputation.

Selection through BPSC

Assistant Professor Mohammad Sulaiman Jafar has been selected for the post of Associate Professor (Department of Horticulture) through a competitive exam conducted by Balochistan Public Service Commission. Career progression through competitive promotion is an honor for any professional. BAC sincerely congratulates Mr. Jafar on his achievement.

Expected visit of NAEAC

National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) is a body founded by the Higher Education Commission (HEC) in 2007 to carry out accreditation process in agriculture education institutions of the country. Accreditation process evaluates services, operations or programs of an educational institution through an external body to determine if the minimum acceptable educational standards are met. NAEAC has representation of experts from agricultural universities and research institutions, other related institutions from public & private sector.

A team of such experts from National Agriculture Education Accreditation Council (NAEAC) is expected to visit Balochistan Agriculture College, Quetta in May 2014 to carry out accreditation of its agriculture programs leading to undergraduate & postgraduate degrees.
Internship

Undergraduate students are required to do two and half months internship in the eighth semester of their B. Sc Honors Degree Program. We encourage and facilitate our students to do their internship in renowned agriculture educational & research institutions. The students of 2009-2013 batch did their internship in esteemed institutions located inside the province and all around the country.

We are extremely thankful to the Director General NARC Islamabad for having the major chunk (53 students) of our interns in this session. We are also thankful to the Registrar PMAS-ARU, The Director NIAB Faisalabad, The Director General Agriculture Research Institute Quetta, The Director General, Arid Zone Research Centre Quetta and The Director General Agriculture Extension Quetta for their support & cooperation in this regard.

Retirements

Associate Professor Department of Entomology Syed Waseem Hussaini, and Associate Professor Department of Botany Abdul Ali Kakar have retired after serving BAC for more than twenty five years.

Both the respectable teachers have contributed their fair share in imparting education to the students of this college. They have been real assets who made ordinary students into sound professionals and good citizens.

Both Mr. Hussaini and Mr. Abdul Ali joined Balochistan Agriculture College at its start in 1987. There was shortage of teaching staff in the beginning and they also had to teach courses other than their field of specialization. They had gladly taught extra classes without any desire or demand for a reward.

They are leaving now with priceless reward of our respect, memories, devotion and love. We wish them peace & joy in their life ahead.

Promotion of staff

Balochistan Agriculture College is committed to promote equality of opportunity for all academic, administrative and supporting staff. Promotions are awarded on the basis of seniority & performance.

In recognition of their excellent performance, eleven eligible members of administrative and supportive staff have been promoted to higher level job titles.

Principal Balochistan Agriculture College Professor Mohammad Ashlam Niazi distributed the promotion orders among the employees. He assured that all eligible officials will be given promotion on their turn and urged them to work hard.

Computer Lab upgraded

The computer lab at BAC is upgraded by replacement of outdated Pentium 4 systems with 3rd generation Core i5 systems. The lab is now equipped with 35 Corei5 desktop computers, a powerful server, Scanner and multimedia projectors to assist the students in their research work and other general purposes.

The development project for upgrading of computer lab was prepared by our IT expert Mr. Sikander Shahnaz and the funds were provided by the Government of Balochistan. Upgraded Computer Lab will prove to be a vital resource for the students in terms of providing access to up to date technology.

New bus for students

Balochistan Agriculture College is always looking for ways to provide better facilities to its students. A new 54 seater Hino Pak super liner comfortable bus has been added in our transport fleet to make it easier for the students to travel between home and campus. The buses are provided and entirely funded by the Government of Balochistan to assist transport issues experienced by large number of students. Our buses provide pick and drop services on fixed routes separately for boys & girls. Bus service is free and the students are only required to produce a valid College Student ID Card when boarding the bus.