



Rawalpindi Women University

Issue 9
Jul-Sep, 2023

Newsletter

Vice Chancellor's Message

Being part of a young University has many challenges to conquer and milestones to achieve and amidst this process, it becomes an absolute moment of pride when the first graduating batch leaves its Alma mater and steps forward in the professional world. RWU 2019 being the departing batch also became the first Alumni batch of the University who would be pillar of strength and support to RWU in the times to come. During this period the University completed its selection process for the hiring of senior faculty in the University as four Professors and Nine Associate Professors joined the University and we are very proud to state that 80% of the faculty hired at RWU holds doctoral degrees. To streamline the University's academic, financial and operational pursuits, the 8th meeting of the syndicate was held in August and was chaired by the Minister for Higher Education Department (HED), Mr Mansoor Qadir who appreciated the progress of the University in such short period and assured the support of HED to RWU in bringing forward academic excellence by the University.

One of the academic milestones of the University is the introduction of the Summer Semester for the very first time in RWU which would be a facilitation to students to catch up on missed opportunities in the regular semester. During this time three important activities were going on in parallel besides the academic pursuit of the summer semester; the Internship program for students was in full swing and the admissions for the batch 2024 for not only undergraduate but postgraduate students in ten different approved programs of the University. HEC also introduced the new Undergraduate and postgraduate policy and the University incorporated the same policy in the admission of undergraduate programs and the launching of MS and MPhil programs by the University. We celebrated Independence Day with a zeal and commitment to further strengthen the University in its pursuit of excellence by remaining committed to our goals for the betterment of our country and amidst this pledge we welcome the Batch 2024 to the University to further open doors of learning, research and progress for themselves, RWU and Pakistan!!! Amen.



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RWU Milestones

RWU Launches MS/M.Phil Programs in Admissions Fall-2023

July 01, 2023: Under the visionary and research-oriented leadership of Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Rawalpindi Women University has achieved a significant milestone by successfully launching its first-ever MS/M.Phil Degree program in 10 different disciplines for the Fall 2023 admissions.

This initiative aligns with Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal's emphasis on fostering a research-centric environment at RWU. In addition to the MS/M.Phil program, the university also offered admissions in BS programs for the 1st semester and 5th semester (lateral entry) in 15 disciplines spanning sciences and social sciences. The registrar's office played a pivotal role in making the admission process successful and approximately 1200 students got admission in the university.

8th Syndicate Meeting Chaired by Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Punjab

August 23, 2023: The Registrar Office organized the 8th meeting of the Syndicate under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Minister for Higher Education Punjab, Mr. Mansoor Qadir. The representatives of Government of the Punjab Higher Education Department, Law Department, Finance Department, Higher Education Commission, Punjab Higher Education Commission and renowned experts attended the meeting. The recommendations of the Selection Board for recruitment of senior faculty at RWU were approved by the House along with many other important matters pertaining to finance and administration.



Board of Studies

September 27, 2023: The Department of Statistics conducted a review of the BS Curriculum, during which changes in the curriculum for BS Statistics in accordance with the new undergraduate policy of the HEC were approved by the Board of Studies. The meeting was presided by Dr. Saba Riaz, HoD Statistics, and attended by Prof. Dr. Tahir Mehmood, School of Natural Sciences, National University of Science and Technology (NUST), Islamabad, Associate Professor Dr. Zamir Hussain, School of Interdisciplinary Engineering & Science, National University of Science and Technology (NUST).



September 28, 2023: The Department of Sociology conducted a Board of Studies meeting presided by Dr. Raza Ullah, In-Charge Sociology Department and attended by Prof. Dr. Hazir Ullah, Director School of Sociology and ORIC at Quaid-i-Azam University, Prof. Dr. Naimatullah Hashmi from PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, and Dr. Rabi Ali from the International Islamic University.



Meetings

1st Meeting of ORIC Steering Committee

July 11, 2023: The Office of Research, Innovation & Commercialization (ORIC) conducted its 1st meeting of the ORIC Steering Committee. The meeting, presided over by Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, saw active participation from esteemed members including Dr. Shimail Daud Arain (Former President, Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industry & Member Federal Board of Investment), Mr. Hamidullah (CEO e-guard AKHMT), Mr. Izhar ul Haq Awan (Supplier Development & Commercialization



Manager, Pepsi Cola International), Ms. Saba Chaudhary (Supply Chain Professional, Nestle Pakistan), Dr. Farhan Ahmad Khan (GM Production Shabbir Feeds Mills (Pvt) Ltd.), Mr. Sohail Anwar (General Manager, Qarshi Herb Research Center (QHRC), Dr. Shahzad Hussain (HOD Business Administration, RWU), Dr. Motsim Billah (Additional Director ORIC RWU), Ms. Neelum Shahzadi (Deputy Registrar, RWU), , and Dr. Nasir Mehmood (Assistant Director ORIC). The committee reflected on various agenda items, including an introductory overview of ORIC, the focus areas of research for the current year in both sciences and social sciences, mobilization of resources for quality research, particularly market-oriented research, development of linkages with industries/partners to promote joint research projects addressing industry issues, and a comprehensive discussion on challenges and prospects of research and innovation. During the meeting, the committee members acknowledged key achievements of ORIC and stakeholders' engagement efforts. Valuable suggestions and recommendations were offered by committee members concerning the formulation of a five-year strategic plan and milestones for ORIC. The Vice-Chancellor expressed her appreciation for the dedication and valuable contributions of the committee members.



Vice Chancellor joins Female Sports Empowerment Campaign Meeting

July 27, 2023: Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, attended a meeting to discuss the female sports campaign, focused on empowering young girls and improving their socio-economic status at National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in collaboration with Zalmi & Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan.

Ms. Huma Fawad, Director Student Affairs, Ms. Khadija Saeed, Addl. Director Student Affairs, and Ms. Sadaf Parveen, Asst. Director Sports were also in attendance and contributed to the discussions of this significant initiative.



Pre-MoU Meeting with Temar Diagnostic

August 24, 2023: The Department of Zoology conducted a meeting with Dr. Sohail Ahmad, Dean of Margalla Institute of Health Sciences, and M. Ali Rafiq, Deputy General Manager of Temar Diagnostic Pvt. Ltd. Dr. Baqir, Addl. Director External Linkages, along with Dr. Rabeba Ejaz and Dr. Fareeha Ambreen from the Zoology Department discussed the key points for the upcoming MoU between Temar Diagnostics and RWU, focusing on extending internship opportunities and providing diagnostic test concessions for university employees.



Vice Chancellor meets Hon'ble Chancellor on University Affairs

September 04, 2023: Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, had a meeting with the Honorable Governor of Punjab, Mr. Muhammad Baleegh-ur-Rehman, at the Governor House Lahore. The discussion centered around various matters concerning Rawalpindi Women University.



Vice Chancellor joins Follow-Up Meeting on UK Leadership Program at NAHE

September 18, 2023: Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal participated in the follow-up meeting regarding the UK Leadership Program (February 05-14, 2023) held at National Academy of Higher Education (NAHE), Islamabad. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the key takeaways, strategies, and action plans that can be implemented to drive positive change within the Higher Education Sector. Pak-UK education gateway is an initiative of the British Council and Higher Education Commission that aims to strengthen educational ties and opportunities between Pakistan and the United Kingdom.



RWU Participations

Vice Chancellor Moderates Panel on Safeguarding University Campuses Against Extremism at VC Conference

July 19-21, 2023: Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice-Chancellor RWU, moderated the panel discussion on "Universities' roles in countering attempts to instigate violence and extremism within their campuses and in promoting tolerance, diversity, and respect for different opinions." The session was held as part of the "3-Days VC Conference on Promoting Peaceful and Tolerant University Campuses" in Islamabad.

The session aimed to address the critical role that universities play in safeguarding campus environments against the rising threats of violence and extremism. Dr. Anila emphasized the urgent need for universities to empower students to actively combat intolerance and extremism in society.



RWU Collaborated for Cricket Trials of Zalmi Women League

August 03, 2023: Rawalpindi Women University, National Commission on the Status of Women, and Zalmi Foundation, under the umbrella of Dukhtaran-e-Pakistan, collaborated to conduct successful cricket trials for the Zalmi Women League at COMSATS University Islamabad. The initiative aimed to empower the daughters of Pakistan. Over 300 young girls participated in the trials, supervised by Mr. Rashid Latif, the Coach of the Zalmi Team and Former Captain of the Pakistani Team.



Dr. Raza Advocates for Safe and Inclusive Campuses

August 06, 2023: Dr. Raza Ullah, In-Charge Department of Sociology, attended an interactive session with Kohat University of Science and Technology (KUST) students. During the session he emphasized the significance of safe and inclusive campuses, highlighting that such environments are crucial for the well-being of both teachers and students.



RWU Joins Consortium to Combat Disinformation

August 10, 2023: RWU is one of nine universities and journalism schools forming a consortium against the Disinformation Research Project. Dr. Noman Ansari, Head of the Media & Communication Studies Department, attended a collaborative meeting in Islamabad along with other stakeholders. The meeting focused on the research project's themes and methodology, which will utilize a limited survey using a pre-developed questionnaire to explore "Perceptions of Disinformation Among University Students." Additionally, the meeting addressed Campus Media Literacy Activities.



Vice Chancellor Joins HEC Launch of Quality Assurance Standards

August 11, 2023: Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, participated in the launch event of the "Pakistan Precepts, Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (PSG-2023)" by Higher Education Commission Pakistan. The initiative, aligned with HEC Vision 2025, introduces a revamped Quality Assurance Framework, developed with global expertise, aimed at transforming the assessment and enhancement of higher education quality.



The event organized in partnership with British Council Pakistan, brought together former Minister for Federal Education and Professional Training, Minister of Planning, Development & Special Initiatives, Chairman Higher Education Commission, Country Director of British Council Pakistan, Vice Chancellors, Deans, and senior University officials.

Vice Chancellor Advocates Responsible Media Role at Vice Chancellor's Conference on Civic Education

August 16-17, 2023: Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, took the stage as a panelist on "Understanding the Role of Media in Shaping Public Opinion" at the "Vice Chancellors' Conference on Civic Education" jointly organized by Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and Center for Peace & Secular Studies (CPSS) at a Hotel in Lahore. Dr. Anila highlighted that while media is a valuable information source, responsible reporting and media literacy are essential to ensure accurate and ethical shaping of public opinion in today's digital era.



Honors and Awards

Dr. Nasir Mehmood's Recognition at International Congress of Plant Pathology



August 18-25, 2023: Dr. Nasir Mehmood, Assistant Director of the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC), represented RWU at the 12th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP-2023) in Lyon, France. He received a prestigious Bursary Travel Award (approx. 2500 €) among 250+ global applicants. The event



united Plant Pathologists and Plant Health Researchers from 101 countries, discussing cutting-edge research and future plant health challenges. Dr. Nasir's research received recognition and positive feedback from experts in the field and also represented the Pakistan Phytopathological Society (PPS) at the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP) meeting, attended by councilors from 68 countries. Under the theme "One Health for All Plants, Crops, and Ecosystems," the congress explored emerging plant diseases, biological disease control, climate change, biosecurity, biotechnology and more.

Hajra Zafar from Fine Arts Department Wins 2nd Prize at PEDRR-23 Expo

August 18, 2023: The talented student from the Fine Arts Department, Hajra Zafar, secured the 2nd Prize worth Rs. 75,000 in the national competition of arts on Disaster Risk Reduction (PEDRR-23) - Pakistan's first-ever National Expo on Disaster Risk Reduction organized by NDMA (National Disaster Management Authority) at Pak-China Friendship Center, Islamabad. Speaker National Assembly, Raja Pervaiz Ashraf was the chief guest of the event. Hajra's painting served as a powerful reminder of the role art can play in raising awareness on critical issues.



Trainings and Workshops Outside RWU

Five-day training on Project Proposal Writing for Development Projects

July 17-21, 2023: Representatives from various RWU departments participated in a five-day training course on "Project Proposal Writing for Development Projects" organized by the Akhtar Hameed Khan National Centre for Rural Development (AKHNCRD) Islamabad.

The participants included Dr. Motsim Billah, Dr. Shazia Shamas, Dr. Azka Khan, Dr. Saba Ashraf, Dr. Benazir Ahan Abbasi, Dr. Anum Khan, Dr. Ghulam Safdar, Dr. Rabea Ejaz, Dr. Sadia Hanif, Ms. Nabiha Muzaffar, Ms. Umme Eman Syed and Syed Umair Jalal representing diverse academic backgrounds such as Zoology, English, Chemistry, Botany, Psychology, Media & Communication Studies, Political Science and Business Administration.

The training offered in-depth insights into drafting project proposals for development initiatives, covering essential topics such as need assessment, logical framework analysis, budgeting, and evaluation. Faculty members gained valuable skills to design effective development projects, secure funding, and address societal challenges. The course also facilitated knowledge-sharing, networking, and enhanced capacity for sustainable development work.



Workshop on "Gender Equity and Leadership Roles for Women"

July 31 – 01 August, 2023: Ms. Noor-ul-Ain, Financial Aid & Scholarship Officer, attended a workshop titled "Gender Equity and Leadership Roles for Women" conducted by Higher Education Commission (HEC). The workshop aimed to encourage and equip women as leaders, providing them with skills to ensure their full and effective participation in decision-making processes, particularly within higher education institutions.

Training on New Undergraduate Education Policy

August 23, 2023: Dr. Baqir Husnain, Addl. Director Quality Enhancement Cell (QEC), and Ms. Amber Zaheer, Asst. Director Academics, participated in an orientation and training program on the Undergraduate Education Policy. The event, organized by the Curriculum Division of Higher Education Pakistan (HEC) Islamabad, aimed at enhancing student success through the acquisition and application of conceptual knowledge, professional skills, and the embodiment of civic and ethical values, including tolerance and inclusiveness. Following the training, the policy was circulated among all academic heads of departments for further discussion and implementation.



Trainings and Workshops at RWU

Training Session on Utilizing Library Resources



September 08, 2023: In a bid to enhance faculty proficiency in navigating a diverse array of library resources, the RWU Library organized a training session for university faculty. The session, designed to implement upskilling and reskilling strategies, was led by experienced library staff, equipping faculty members with the tools needed to guide students effectively and fostering enriched learning experiences. Faculty members actively engaged in discussions and practical exercises, gaining insights into optimizing the use of resources for both teaching and research purposes.



Seminars and Webinars

Impact of Nanotechnology in Recent Research in Pakistan

July 19, 2023: The Department of Chemistry organized a seminar titled "Impact of Nanotechnology in Recent Research in Pakistan". The seminar was conducted by Dr. Noor-ul-Ain, Lecturer Chemistry Department. A significant number of students participated in the event, eager to delve into the latest advancements in nanotechnology and their applications in ongoing research across Pakistan.



Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Women Empowerment in Pakistan

August 02, 2023: The Department of Sociology organized a seminar on Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and Women Empowerment in Pakistan". Guest Speaker, Dr. Nasim Khan Mahsud, Assistant Professor of Sociology at Allama Iqbal Open University, stressed achieving SDG 4 and SDG 5 to empower women by promoting gender equality and improving their socio-economic status and participation in decision-making. Students and faculty from various departments were in attendance. Dr. Raza Ullah, in-charge Sociology Department RWU, extended gratitude to Dr. Nasim.



Social Class and Women's Political Empowerment in Pakistan



August 29, 2023: The Department of Sociology hosted a seminar on "Social Class and Women's Political Empowerment in Pakistan" featuring Dr. Muhammad Bilal, a senior lecturer from Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (AWKUM). Dr. Bilal delivered a



comprehensive talk on the intersection of social class with women's political empowerment in Pakistan. The seminar was attended by the students from the Departments of Sociology, Political Science, and Botany. Dr. Raza Ullah extended gratitude to the Guest.

Quantitative Research Designs

September 19, 2023: The Department of Chemistry organized a seminar on quantitative research designs. Dr. Fareeha Ambreen, Lecturer, Zoology Department, provided significant perspectives on various research designs. The seminar, attended by students of the 7th semester, offered a comprehensive understanding of quantitative research methodologies.



Role of Chemistry in Inter-Disciplinary Sciences

September 20, 2023: The Department of Chemistry hosted a seminar on the role of chemistry in interdisciplinary sciences. Dr. Memoona Munir, Incharge Botany Department, delivered a presentation, highlighting the significance of chemistry in various scientific disciplines. Students from the 5th and 7th semesters actively participated in the seminar, gaining understanding into the interdisciplinary applications of chemistry.



Industry-Academia Linkages and Mental Health Awareness

September 20, 2023: A seminar titled 'Industry Academia Linkages: A Challenge in the Career of Graduate Students' was organized by the Department of Zoology. The guest speaker, Prof. Dr. Sohail Ahmad, Principal/Dean of Margalla School of Pharmacy, shed light on the topic by emphasizing the importance of professional training in the industry to enhance students' job market prospects. Dr. Haiqa Zahid Abbasi, Consultant Clinical Psychologist at TEMAR Diagnostic and Medical Center, shared her expertise on 'Understanding Anxiety and Depression'.

Additionally, Mr. Ali Rafiq from TEMAR Diagnostics introduced discounted packages for RWU faculty, staff, and students. The seminar provided students with a valuable opportunity to engage with experts, enhancing their professional journey.



Research Excellence in Social Sciences



September 20, 2023: The Department of Political Science conducted a seminar on "Designing and Conducting Research in Social Sciences". Dr. Syed Qandil Abbas, Assistant Professor at the School of Politics and International Relations, Quaid-e-Azam University, Islamabad, served as the key speaker. The seminar provided comprehensive understanding into research methodologies, emphasizing effective design.



International Seminar on New Sulfonamide Derivatives



September 21, 2023: The Department of Chemistry organized an international seminar on the new sulfonamide derivatives of the pyrazole [4, 3 e-] [1,2,4] triazine system as potential enzyme inhibitors. Dr. Mariusz Mojzych, Associate Professor from Siedlce University of Natural Sciences and



Humanities, explained the topic. Dr. Mohtsim Billah, Addl. Director ORIC, presented a shield and expressed gratitude, highlighting the event's importance in advancing knowledge and fostering international collaboration.

Mental Peace and Wellbeing

September 25, 2023: The Department of Psychology hosted a seminar centered on "Mental Peace and Wellbeing." Led by Ms. Faiza Mubeen, Clinical Psychologist at Nelson Complex, the seminar focused on the vital significance of nurturing the mental peace and wellbeing of adolescents for shaping the future generation. Ms. Faiza highlighted the numerous challenges faced by adolescents, including academic pressures, social expectations, and the growing influence of digital media. In recognition of her valuable insights, a token of appreciation in the form of a shield was presented to Ms. Faiza Mubeen by the in-charge of Psychology, Dr. Anam Khan.



Exploring Marvels of Mathematics

September 26, 2023: The Mathematics Department hosted a seminar titled 'Mathematics: A Journey of Discovery and Wonder' featuring distinguished speaker Dr. Ayesha Rafiq, Assistant Professor at the Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad. Attendees delved into the captivating realms of numbers, patterns, and logic. Beyond mere formulas and equations, the seminar unraveled the mysteries of mathematics and showcased how its principles influence science, technology, and art.



Research Planning

September 26, 2023: The Department of Chemistry organized a seminar on research planning. Dr. Banzeer Ahsan Abbasi, Assistant Professor at Department of Botany RWU, delivered an engaging presentation that enhanced the understanding of research methodologies among the 5th semester students.



Pakistani Society and Key Sociological Perspectives

September 26, 2023: The Department of Sociology hosted a seminar titled "Pakistani Society and Key Sociological Perspectives." Dr. Raza Ullah elaborated on the prevalent issues within Pakistani society, shedding light on key sociological perspectives. Students and faculty from various departments were in attendance.



Importance of Ethnobotany

September 27, 2023: The Department of Chemistry arranged a seminar on the importance of ethnobotany. Dr. Sadia Malik, Lecturer, provided insights into the topic, with active participation from third and fifth-semester students gaining a valuable understanding of its significance.



Global UGRAD Exchange Program



September 27, 2023: The Scholarship and Financial Aid Office, Directorate of Student Affairs, hosted a seminar on the Global UGRAD, a cultural and academic exchange program in the United States. Ms. Irfana Babar, a UGRAD Alumna currently employed at a multinational organization, served as the keynote speaker. Students gained firsthand experience of the entire UGRAD journey, from application submission to living the UGRAD dream.



Online Disclosure Practices of NGOs/INGOs in Pakistan

September 27, 2023: The Department of Statistics hosted a seminar on "Online Disclosure Practices of NGOs/INGOs in Pakistan." Dr. Ayesha Nazuk, Associate Professor at NUST School of Social Sciences and Humanities, Islamabad, shared insights into the challenges and importance of transparency in the non-governmental sector. Dr. Saba Riaz, in-charge Department of Statistics, presented a shield to Dr. Nazuk in appreciation of her contributions.



Industrial and External Linkages

The Office of External Linkages organized the following Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signings, strategically crafted to fortify collaborations and cultivate external partnerships.

RWU Partners with APWUC to Empower Women in Higher Education



August 02, 2023: The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) and the All Pakistan Women Universities Consortium (APWUC), with the aim of advancing women's empowerment in higher education. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, and Dr. Saima Hamid, Vice Chancellor Fatima



Jinnah Women University (FJWU), signed the MoU.

RWU and WUM join hands to Empower Women



August 02, 2023: Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) and Women University Multan (WUM) collaborated through an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to empower the next generation of women. The agreement, signed by Prof. Dr. Anila

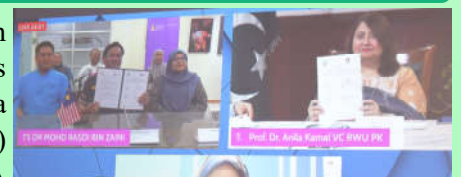


Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, and Prof. Dr. Uzma Quraishi, Vice Chancellor WUM, signifies a commitment to joint progress. The MoU also facilitates knowledge exchange and collective efforts for nurturing talent.

RWU Goes Global: MoU with UiTM Malaysia



August 11, 2023: Rawalpindi Women University (RWU), Pakistan, makes global strides as it signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Universiti Teknologi MARA



(UiTM), Malaysia, presenting a range of promising opportunities to transform the academic landscape for students, faculty, and researchers. The MoU was signed by Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, and Associate Professor TS. Dr. HJ. Mohd Rasdi Zaini, Rector UiTM, in a virtual signing ceremony conducted over Zoom.

RWU and UO Forge Academic Collaboration



August 17, 2023: Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) and the University of Okara (UO) inked a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the aim of fostering collaboration and establishing a framework for cooperation at the forum of "Vice Chancellors' Conference on Civic Education".

The MOU encompasses various areas including academic partnerships, research collaboration,

student and faculty exchanges, as well as joint initiatives. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Wajid, Pro Vice Chancellor UO, were the signatories to this agreement, marking a significant step towards enhanced educational and research endeavors between the two institutions.



RWU Partners with PNY Training to Empower Students with Cutting-Edge Skills



September 26, 2023: Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) and PNY Training have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to empower RWU students with cutting-edge skills in Digital Marketing, E-Commerce, FinTech, Dig-



ital Art & Design, Web Development, Cyber Security, Networking, Language, and more. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU and Mr. Wahab Yunus, CEO, PNY Training signed the MoU.

Visits

HEC Research & Innovation Division team visits ORIC

September 14, 2023: The Higher Education Commission's Research & Innovation Division (R&ID) team, led by Ms. Noshaba Awais, Director, and Mr. Ahmad Gulzar Kayani, Asst. Director, visited the Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization (ORIC) at RWU. The purpose of the visit was to assess the functionality of ORIC in alignment with the HEC ORIC Policy. The team conducted a thorough inspection and held a briefing session with the ORIC team, gaining insights into the office's operations. During the visit, the HEC team engaged in discussions with Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, delving into their initiatives, challenges, and future plans in research and development.



Pre-Conference Workshops

Various departments conducted pre-conference workshops in collaboration with the Office of Research and Innovation (ORIC) with the aim of enhancing skills, sharing knowledge, and fostering collaborative learning experiences. The workshops contributed to the overall enrichment of academic and research pursuits, creating a conducive environment for innovation and collaboration ahead of the main conference.

Two-days hands-on Training on "Drug Designing Tools"



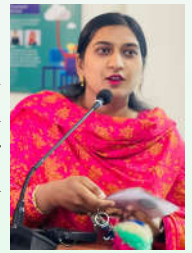
August 16-17, 2023: The Chemistry Department organized its third two day pre-conference workshop on "Drug Designing Tools". Led by resource persons including Dr. Fouzia Parveen Malik, Head of Department of Sciences



from National University of Science & Technology, Dr. Umer Rashid, Associate Professor from COMSATS Abbotabad Campus and Dr. Sadaf Ikram, Visiting faculty RWU. The workshop provided hands-on training to over 50 participants, including faculty, researchers, and students from various universities both in-person and online. The workshop covered Molecular Docking (Enzymes and Protein), Pharmacophore modeling and Virtual screening techniques through MOE and Autodock softwares. The workshop concluded with certificates and shields distribution ceremony to resource persons, organizers and participants.

Workshop on “Mastering FYP Design in Computing Domain”

August 17, 2023: The "Mastering FYP Design in Computing Domains" pre-conference workshop, hosted by the CS & IT department brought together students, educators, and professionals. Focused on software development intricacies, including features, requirements traceability, and design applicability, the workshop aimed to enhance attendees' knowledge and skills for success in computing projects. Key speakers included Dr. Shariq Hussain, Associate Prof. and Engr. Umar Mehmod, Assistant Prof. from Foundation University School of Science & Technology (FUSST), and Dr. Amber Sarwar Hashmi from RWU. The event also provided valuable networking opportunities, enabling participants to connect with peers and potential mentors in the computing field.



Workshop on “Application of Statistics and Data Analyses through SPSS”

August 22, 2023: The Zoology department hosted a workshop on "Application of Statistics and Data Analyses through SPSS". Dr. Maryum Ibrar from Pakistan Scientific and Technical Information Center (PASTIC) led the session, with over 30 participants from RWU and other universities including Riphah International, National University of Science and Technology, and Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Women University Peshawar. Some participants also joined online. The workshop covered basic statistical concepts and the use of statistical tools in natural sciences, providing participants with hands-on experience in data analysis using SPSS software.



Workshop on “Digital Marketing & Tools of Monetizing New Media”

August 22, 2023: The Department of Media & Communication Studies hosted a pre-conference workshop, "Digital Marketing & Tools of Monetizing New Media," featuring Ms. Zarnab Noor Tariq, a digital marketing strategist. Participants gained hands-on training to develop effective digital marketing strategies, social media marketing, and monetizing YouTube channels. The workshop concluded with a certificate distribution ceremony, and Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal presented a shield to the trainer.



Workshop on “Confidence Building Strategies for Adolescents”

August 25, 2023: To equip students with essential confidence building strategies, the Department of Psychology organized a pre-conference workshop on "Confidence Building Strategies for Adolescents" led by Dr. Anila Fazal, lecturer at Waqar-un-Nisa College, Rawalpindi. Dr. Anila shared insights on boosting confidence in adolescents, emphasizing self-care, positive relationships, growth of mindset, and self-affirmations as key strategies. A shield was presented to the guest, followed by the concluding remarks from the in-charge of the Psychology Department and the Additional Director QEC.



Workshop on “Overview of Research and its Methodologies”

August 29, 2023: The Department of Statistics hosted a pre-conference workshop titled "Overview of Research and its Methodologies." Dr. Nadia Shabnam from the National University of Medical Sciences served as the resource person, providing a comprehensive understanding of research methods and techniques. The workshop provided a



platform for discussions and knowledge exchange, attracting over 35 participants from various institutions, both in-person and online. Dr. Motsim Billah, Additional Director ORIC, presented a shield to Dr. Nadia.



Workshop on “Numerical and Symbolic Coding with Maple”

August 30, 2023: The Mathematics Department hosted its second Pre-Conference Workshop titled "2nd Mathematical Computation & Simulation Workshop: Numerical and Symbolic Coding with Maple". Led by Associate Professor Dr. Naveed Ahmed from HITEC University, the workshop witnessed participation of 48 researchers, including faculty members and students from various universities. The comprehensive workshop covered a wide array of topics, from the basics of Maple software to coding numerical and analytical schemes from scratch, providing valuable skills and knowledge in mathematical computation and simulation.



Workshop on “Corpus Linguistics”



September 05, 2023: The Department of English organized a workshop titled "Method, Theory, and Practice in Corpus Linguistics" aimed at providing students with a thorough understanding of corpus linguistics and its practical applications.

Dr. Azka Khan, Asst. Professor at the Department of English, highlighted the importance of corpora in linguistic research by introducing key concepts. The resource person Dr. Akhtar Abbas, Manager Corpus Research Center, conducted a hands-on session on corpus building and annotation while in the second session, he discussed recent advancements and real-world applications of corpus linguistics.



Extra and Co-Curricular Activities

RWU Library Launches Informative Sessions on Maximizing Resources

July 01- September 30, 2023: The RWU Library conducted a series of informative sessions aimed at introducing students to the wealth of resources available to them. During these sessions, students eagerly explored the extensive collections, while librarians shared valuable tips on maximizing the benefits of the Institutional Digital Repository, the HEC Digital Library, and OPAC (Online Public Access Catalog).



Recording of Hum TV Morning Show on the Impact of Social Media on Youth



July 06, 2023: The Department of Media & Communication Studies arranged the recording of Hum TV morning show "Subah Sy Aagay", exploring the topic of "Social Media and its Impact on Youth." The discussion led by faculty of Media & Communication Studies shed light on the ever-evolving landscape of social media and its influence on the young generation.



First Critical Thinking Circle on Girls' Education in Pakistan



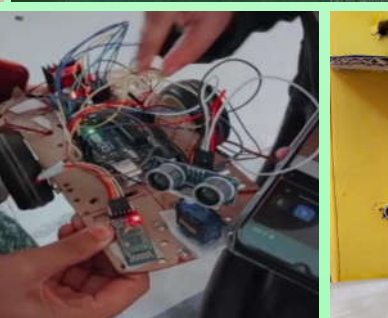
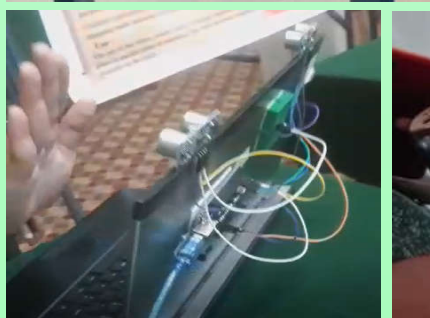
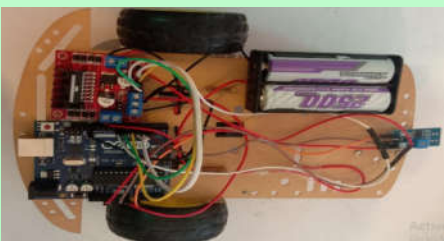
July 21, 2023: The External Linkages Department, in collaboration with Shaoor Foundation for Education and Awareness (SFEA) organized the First Critical Thinking Circle on "Facts about Girls' Education in Pakistan". The session, chaired by Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor



RWU, witnessed the active participation of 20 students and faculty members. Dr. Anila's valuable perspective motivated participants to explore innovative solutions for challenges in girls' education.

Project Competition: Inspiring Innovation in Science Education

July 21, 2023: RWU Science Society, in collaboration with ORIC, organized a Project Competition where Dr. Nadeem Badani from UET Taxila and Dr. Humaira from Quaid-e-Azam University Islamabad served as the jury. A total of 115 students from Physics, Chemistry, and Botany registered, presenting nearly 24 innovative projects and innovative working models. Ms. Amber Kazmi, Lecturer Department of Physics, supervised the innovative projects, providing students with hands-on experience in electronics and programming. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, awarded shields to jury members, cash prizes to winners and certificates to all participants.



Digital Media Projects

July 30, 2023: Department of Fine Arts (Students of 4th Semester) showcased their Digital Media projects, which focused on learning branding principles and marketing communication concepts.

Their aim was to achieve effective brand management goals and enhance marketing performance. Through creative and innovative approaches, they demonstrated a profound understanding of brand building, positioning, and engaging target audiences.



Artist Talk and Workshop



July 30, 2023: Fine Arts students attended the Artist talk and a Painting workshop hosted by National Council of the Arts (PNCA). The workshop was conducted by Ms. Dagmar Rauwald, a renowned contemporary artist from Germany. The students had the opportunity to interact with Ms. Dagmar, gaining insights into her artistic techniques and creative process. Additionally, the faculty presented Ms. Dagmar with the catalog of the first Thesis Degree Show, showcasing the talent and achievements of Fine Arts students at the university.



Visit to Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industries (RCCI)

July 31, 2023: The External Linkages Department organized an exposure trip to the Rawalpindi Chamber of Commerce and Industries (RCCI) led by Ms. Iraj Munawar Gill, Asst. Dir. External Linkages. The President RCCI, Mr. Saqib Rafiq, and Secretary General, Mr. Irfan Manan Khan, graciously hosted the faculty members and students of RWU, sharing insights into RCCI's impactful initiatives for society. The visit also featured inspiring stories from women entrepreneurs.



Second Critical Thinking Circle on Girls' Education in Pakistan

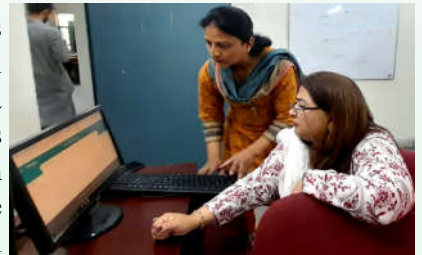
July 31, 2023: The External Linkages Department, in collaboration with Shaoor Foundation for Education and Awareness (SFEA) organized the Second Critical Thinking Circle on "Facts about Girls' Education in Pakistan". The event engaged 30 enthusiastic students in thought-provoking discussions centered around "Gender Equity, Women Empowerment, and Challenges Faced by Women Today." Dr. Baqir Husnain, Addl. Dir. External Linkages, encouraged students to actively participate in discussions, fostering responsible and engaged citizenship to effectively tackle real-world challenges.



Vice Chancellor Evaluates Library Performance to Enhance Educational Experience



August 04, 2023: As part of RWU's commitment to a high-quality educational experience, Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal visited the university library to assess its performance and facilities. The evaluation encompassed various aspects, such as the collection of books, journals, and digital



resources, as well as the accessibility and user-friendly features. The visit also emphasized the library's significant role in fostering a conducive learning environment and meeting the academic needs of the university community.

Distribution Ceremony of Prime Minister's Youth Laptop Scheme-2023

August 05, 2023: The Office of Research and Innovation (ORIC) organized the distribution ceremony of Prime Minister's Youth Laptop Scheme 2023 in collaboration with Higher Education Commission (HEC) at Rawalpindi Women University (RWU). The ceremony was graced by Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb, Member National Assembly of Pakistan, and Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry. The event witnessed the distribution of laptops to students, furthering the government's commitment to promoting digital empowerment and academic excellence.

Ms. Tahira Aurangzeb emphasized technology's importance in education, while Barrister Daniyal Chaudhry stressed empowering women for Pakistan's future. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, encouraged students to utilize laptops for research and thanked the Prime Minister for envisioning this initiative. The scheme aims to bridge the digital divide and equip talented students nationwide.



Launch Ceremony of Commemorative Postage Stamp Addressing Gender-Based Violence

August 10, 2023: The Faculty of Fine Arts Department attended the launch ceremony of commemorative postage stamp to spread awareness about gender-based violence in the country and to honor the victims organized by the National Commission on the Status of Women (NCSW) in support with the Ministry of Human Rights & UN Women in Islamabad. The event also featured an art exhibition consisting of pieces of art from the NCSW poster competition as well as artwork brought from the Czech Embassy.



Independence Day Celebration

August 14, 2023: A flag hoisting ceremony was held at Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) to commemorate Pakistan's 76th Independence Day. Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal unfurled the National Flag on the campus, followed by the national anthem and prayers for the integrity and prosperity of Pakistan, saplings were also distributed among faculty members for tree plantation. RWU community came together to honor the struggles and sacrifices that have paved the way for our freedom.



Emerging Artists of RWU Shines at PNCA Exhibition



August 16, 2023: RWU's Talented Artists (students of Fine Arts) shine at the Exhibition hosted by Pakistan National Council of the Arts (PNCA) - "A Space Between the Worlds Vol:2." The exhibition served as a captivating display of creative visual expression by 35 young and emerging artists from the



twin cities. Notably, 29 selected participants hail from Rawalpindi Women University's first batch, showcasing their exceptional thesis works.

The inauguration of the exhibition was graced by the presence of Renowned Artist Mr. Ahmed Habib and Mr. M. Ayoub Jamali, Director General PNCA. During the event, Mr. Habib highlighted the significance of nurturing young talents. The exhibition incorporates work in diverse concepts and various mediums including painting, sculpture, miniature, and digital /VR technology.



Knowledge Sharing Symposium: Empowering Women Entrepreneurs

August 17, 2023: The Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) organized the Knowledge Sharing Symposium with the Shaoor Foundation for Education and Awareness (SFEA). The symposium addressed challenges of women entrepreneurs and explored policy initiatives. It discussed opportunities for empowerment in future financial projects. Prof. Dr. Anila Kamal, Vice Chancellor RWU, inspired attendees with her valuable views. The panel included notable women entrepreneurs sharing experiences. The event concluded with shields presented to speakers and panelists as a gesture of appreciation.



RWU Library Commemorates Independence Day with Special Book Display

August 17, 2023: In honor of Independence Day, the library curated a week-long special book display, honoring the nation's path to independence. The exhibit features a thoughtfully selected collection of books spotlighting our history, culture, and accomplishments. The display offered a chance for people to engage with our history and celebrate the essence of independence through literature.



Guest Lecture on Political Instability in Pakistan

August 22, 2023: The Department of Political Science organized a one-day guest lecture on "Making Sense of Political Instability in Pakistan: Causes, Implications, and Remedies." The distinguished guest speaker Prof. Dr.



Azhar Ahmad, a prominent researcher associated with the Asia-Africa Development and Exchange Society in Beijing, delivered a compelling presentation shedding light on the factors contributing to political instability in Pakistan. The lecture not only provided valuable insights into the causes but also discussed potential implications and suggested remedies for addressing the challenges.



Community Project

August 18- September 23, 2023: During the summer internship, students from the 7th semester in the Department of Statistics actively participated in a community project in collaboration with the Akhuwat Foundation. Focused on the theme of social responsibility, the project aimed to provide uniforms to students attending Dua Welfare School.

IELTS Master Class



August 22, 2023: The Scholarship and Financial Aid Office, Directorate of Student Affairs, in collaboration with the Australian Education Office (AEO), organized a master class on The International English Language Testing System (IELTS). The session



was conducted by Mr. Nadeem Akbar Khan, an experienced IELTS Instructor, who provided students with a comprehensive overview of all four modules: listening, reading, speaking, and writing. Mr. Bilal Rauf Sheikh, Manager & Senior Counselor at AEO, and Mr. Zaheer Chaudry, Business Development Manager at AEO, also shared significant perspectives with the students.

RWU Students visit to Educational Expo

August 24, 2023: The Scholarship and Financial Aid Office, Directorate of Student Affairs, organized a visit for RWU students to an Educational Expo held in Islamabad. The expo provided students with a valuable opportunity to interact with representatives from twenty-five international universities, allowing them to explore postgraduate degree programs and scholarship opportunities.



Zoology Students' Entrepreneurial Talent



August 28, 2023: The students from Zoology Department (6th & 8th semester) got hands-on experience by showcasing their entrepreneurial spirit with an array of food stalls under the guidance of Ms. Jaweria Tariq, Lecturer Department of Business Administration. The event was inaugurated by the Head of the Zoology Department, along with faculty members.



RWU students visit to Career Counseling & Study Abroad Expo

September 16, 2023: With the aim of exploring academic and career opportunities, a delegation from the RWU Student Council, accompanied by Ms. Zerish Gulbuz, Asst. Director Student Affairs, visited the Career Counseling & Study Abroad Expo, jointly organized by the Global Group of Education and Inter University Consortium for Promotion of Social Sciences (IUCPSS).



Personal Hygiene Awareness

September 20, 2023: The Directorate of Student Affairs, in collaboration with Embrace company, organized an activity on 'Personal Hygiene Awareness.' A student from the Physics Department, Samreen, won a gift hamper through a lucky draw. Additionally, the company distributed free samples among students.



Participation in Speech Competition

September 22, 2023: A student from the Computer Science Department, Laiba Nawaz, participated in the speech competition of the National Peace Festival organized by the National Counter Terrorism Authority (NECTA) on the occasion of World Peace Day at a local hotel in Islamabad. Laiba's speech on "The Role of Community in Establishing Peace" emphasized the power of unity for a peaceful world.



Cooking Competition

September 26, 2023: The Directorate of Student Affairs organized a cooking competition in collaboration with Bake Parlor. Wishah Aafeen, a student from the Department of Botany in the 7th semester, emerged as the winner.



Alumni Corner

Prof. Dr. Shaheena Ayub Bhatti

Foundation University of Science and Technology, Rawalpindi

I started my college in 1975 in what was then the Government College for Women, Rawalpindi, and which was known as the 6th Road College. A lot of people still call it that.

When I joined this college, the first shock I got was that I was separated from my friends, most had joined FG College for Women, Rawalpindi Cantt and it was a source of concern for me that I had been unable to get admission along with my friends. But that was then.

Time passed and I graduated from Government College for Women, Rawalpindi, along with my friends, having spent four wonderful years, four years filled with laughter, fun and frustration. We laughed at the mad dash to make it to class, once the bell had rung; we stressed over the exams, over our friend losing the Presidential Race and had fun trying to get money together for the pakoras, samosas and post-election celebration. Our friend had lost, but we still celebrated and sang songs with our feet 'dangling in the naali', and Waheed bhai (from the college canteen) bringing pakoras or taking notes in lieu of money!

Time moves fast and the seventies are long gone but the boost that RWU gave my professional and personal lives, is impossible to replicate. The teachers I had were committed to their profession. Professor W F Hussain and Mrs. Shafiq ur Rehman, for English Literature; Ms Muzzamil who taught us Urdu and who despaired of my ever getting more than 4.5 out of ten! Mrs Hussain who took on the responsibility of completing our approved syllabi outline, so we could sit for the exam with confidence.

Fast forward to 2024! I am currently serving as Professor of English in Foundation University of Science and Technology, Rawalpindi. In all the years that I have served in the teaching profession, I have not only taught English to speakers of other languages, but I have also supervised research for a number of students at MA, MS, MPhil and PhD levels. In addition to this I am currently working on a three year European Union and Norwegian Church Aid funded climate action project. A second project that I am working on is in collaboration with Government College University, Faisalabad. This is a two year project and is now in its second phase. I hope to be able to contribute to academia for another few years and am grateful to the opportunity that I received from this institution.



Student Review

Maham Choudhary

President Media Club

As I sit down to pen my thoughts, I'm flooded with memories. Stepping onto the Rawalpindi Women University (RWU) campus felt like walking into a live feed – a hub of events and energy. The Media & Communication studies program, though, became my anchor – a place where the chaos of campus life was channeled into creativity. My teachers weren't just lecturers; they were industry veterans, each with a story to tell. They challenged us to think critically, pushed us out of our comfort zones, and inspired us to see the world through a media lens. But the learning wasn't confined to classrooms. Campus life became our living laboratory, we the media students were like digital butterflies, flitting from event to event, armed with cameras and equipment, ready to capture moments. Thanks to RWU, I've learned to navigate the ever-changing media landscape, collaborate with a team of passionate individuals, and maybe even leave a mark on our little corner of the internet.

