



The
University of
Faisalabad



ORIC NEWSLETTER

ISSUE:05 VOLUME: 2026



HIGHLIGHTS

- ORIC Achievement
- Seminars, Workshops and Symposiums
- Faculty Participation in Scientific Events
- Significant Publications
- Research Funding Opportunities

TUF Achieves National Recognition in HEC Annual ORIC Validation Report FY 2024–25

ORIC-TUF secures a place among Pakistan's top-performing ORICs in the HEC Annual ORIC Validation Report FY 2024-25. A proud milestone for The University of Faisalabad. This remarkable achievement reflects our commitment to innovation, commercialization, research excellence and impactful academia-industry collaboration.



The
University of
Faisalabad



Redefining *Excellence* Through Innovation

The University of Faisalabad secured an overall score of **75/100**, placing it in the prestigious

“X”

Category and ranking among the top performing ORICs in Pakistan
by HEC Annual ORIC Validation Report FY 2024–25.

Ranked

8th

Overall Pakistan Rank

3rd

Private Sector Rank
(Pakistan)

2nd

Private Sector Rank
(Punjab)

Highest score Among all **38 ORICs** in X category

TUF is among the TOP **8 ORICs** in Pakistan
out of **95 Universities** Evaluated by HEC

Research Publications and Academic Performance Award Ceremony

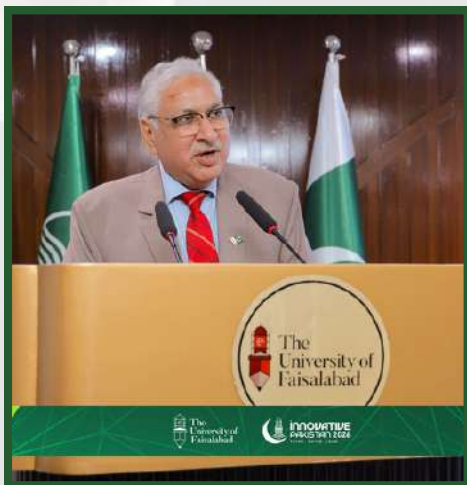


The Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), The University of Faisalabad (TUF), organized the Research Publications and Academic Performance Award Ceremony to recognize and celebrate faculty achievements in research and academics. The ceremony was graced by Prof Dr Aman Ullah Malik, Rector The University of Faisalabad, as Chief Guest, along with Dr Zahida Maqbool, Registrar, TUF, Deans, Directors, Heads, and faculty members. Awards were distributed under the Research Incentive Award amounting to PKR 2,865,000 and the Academic Performance Award amounting to PKR 3,681,336.



Prof Dr Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC, emphasized that recognizing faculty achievements had played a vital role in motivating researchers and strengthening the University's vision of academic distinction and global research visibility. Dr Zahida Maqbool appreciated the dedication and scholarly contributions of the faculty members and encouraged their continued engagement in impactful research activities. Prof Dr Aman Ullah Malik congratulated all award recipients and commended their commitment to quality research, innovation, and academic excellence. The event reflected the University's commitment to research excellence, academic quality, and innovation.

Innovative Pakistan 2026: Advancing Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Academia-Industry Collaboration



The University of Faisalabad hosted Innovative Pakistan 2026, a landmark national innovation event brought together academia, industry leaders, policymakers, entrepreneurs, researchers, and students from across Pakistan. The event served as a dynamic platform for showcasing innovative projects, strategic partnerships, and promoting collaboration among key stakeholders of the innovation ecosystem. The event commenced with a welcome address by Prof Dr Aman Ullah Malik, Rector, The University of Faisalabad, who highlighted the University's commitment to building innovation-driven ecosystems that empower youth to become future leaders, problem-solvers, and contributors to national development. Prof Dr Majid Hussain, Dean, Faculty of Information Technology, presented the vision of "Innovating Pakistan: From Campus to Country." He reflected on the remarkable growth of the initiative from Innovative Lyallpur 2023, which featured 71 projects from 11 universities, to Innovative Pakistan 2026, a nationwide platform showcasing more than 300 innovative projects from institutions across the country.

Innovative Pakistan 2026: Advancing Innovation, Entrepreneurship, and Academia-Industry Collaboration



The event featured keynote addresses focusing on innovation-driven education, entrepreneurship, research commercialization, and the importance of strengthening academia-industry linkages. Speakers emphasized the role of higher education institutions in developing future-ready graduates equipped with technological, entrepreneurial, and problem-solving skills to meet emerging national and global challenges. A major highlight of the event was a panel discussion titled “Future-Ready Graduates: Bridging Academia, Industry & Innovation.” The session brought together representatives from academia, industry, and policymaking bodies to discuss strategies for aligning academic outcomes with industry requirements and innovation-led growth. Discussions focused on workforce readiness, technological advancement, sustainable partnerships, and the development of a collaborative innovation ecosystem. The session was appreciated for its insightful discussions on advancing innovation-driven higher education in Pakistan.



Another major achievement of Innovative Pakistan 2026 was the signing of multiple high-impact Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with leading industry partners, technology firms, innovation hubs, and professional organizations. Strategic collaborations were established with NIC Faisalabad, Faisalabad I.T Companies Organization (FITCO), Visibility Bots, Corporate General Solutions (Pvt.) Limited, Cloud ERP Solutions, Chenab Engineering Works & Foundries, Invictus Solutions Private Limited, Snow Dream Studios GmbH, Brandstudio.com.pk, NetixSol, Web3 Geeks, CYBEX IT Group, One Ten Design Studio, CyberGen, InvoZone, Almaec (Alliance Legal Marketing and Ecommerce), and IEEE Lahore Section. Innovative Pakistan 2026 concluded with a renewed commitment to strengthening Pakistan's innovation landscape through collaboration, research excellence, entrepreneurship, and technology-driven solutions. The event demonstrated the collective potential of academia, industry, and policymakers in shaping a knowledge-based and innovation-driven future for Pakistan.



International Symposium on Childhood Strabismus

Advanced Knowledge in Pediatric Eye Care

The Department of Optometry hosted an International Symposium on Childhood Strabismus, bringing together renowned national and international experts to discuss advancements in pediatric eye care and vision science. During the symposium, Dr Memoona Arshad, Associate Professor, emphasized the importance of early detection and collaborative care in improving visual outcomes for children with strabismus. The event featured Prof Dr Aamir Ali Choudhary, Professor, Ophthalmology, as the Chief Guest, alongside speakers from South Africa, United States and Pakistan. The sessions facilitated discussions on early diagnosis, contemporary treatment strategies, and long-term visual outcomes, providing participants with clinical and academic perspectives.



Students Demonstrated Scientific Excellence Through Innovative Projects

The Department of Medical Laboratory Sciences conducted a Poster and Model Competition under the theme, "Relation of Biosafety with Microbiology, Immunology and Histology Diagnosis." The event provided a platform for students to demonstrate their scientific knowledge, creativity, and innovative thinking through a range of informative posters and working models. The projects were evaluated by Dr Zaima Umar, Faculty Coordinator, Medicine & Allied Health Sciences, who provided expert feedback and encouragement for participants.



PASTEURISATION			
Pure Milk, Safe Life.			
Why is it Important?			
Pasteurisation is a process of heating milk or other liquids to a specific temperature for a set time and then cooling it quickly. It kills harmful microorganisms without significantly affecting the taste and nutrients.			
Methods of Pasteurisation			
METHOD	TEMPERATURE	TIME	USED FOR
LTLT (Low Temp. Long Time)	63°C	30 min	Home & small scale dairy
HTST (High Temp. Short Time)	72°C	15 sec	Most commonly used in dairies

Digital Age Mind Symposium Explored Psychological Impacts of AI Technology

The International Symposium on “Digital Age Mind: Psychological Issues in the Era of AI Technology” brought together leading psychologists, researchers, and mental health experts from Pakistan and abroad. The event provided a platform to discuss the impact of artificial intelligence and digital technologies on human cognition, emotional well-being, and modern society. It highlighted critical conversations on digital dependency, AI ethics, mental health awareness, and the responsible use of technology in an increasingly digital world.



Electrotherapy and Neuroanatomy Project Display Promoted Innovation in Physiotherapy Education

The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences organized an Electrotherapy and Neuroanatomy Project Display. The event was conducted to promote practical learning, innovation, and the application of medical physics and neuroanatomical concepts in physiotherapy practice. The event showcased practical applications of electrotherapy and neuroanatomical concepts through interactive models, circuit demonstrations, and clinical interpretations of electrical and neurological principles in physiotherapy rehabilitation. The projects were evaluated by distinguished judges, including Mr Muhammad Bilal Sarwar, Deputy Manager, Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), and Dr Bushra Sana Idrees, Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematics, Physics and Statistics, TUF. It provided students with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding through interactive models, charts, and working demonstrations.



Move Fest 2026 Promoted Health, Fitness, and Rehabilitation Awareness Through Active Learning

The Rehabilitation Society organized Move Fest to promote movement, physical fitness, rehabilitation awareness, and healthy lifestyles among students and participants. The event featured a series of interactive and educational activities, including assessment and consultation sessions, followed by an energetic warm-up and group exercise sessions that created an engaging and enthusiastic environment. Educational segments emphasized injury prevention, rehabilitation techniques, posture correction, stretching, and fitness awareness. Students delivered demonstrations on active movements, walking aids, involuntary movements, relaxation exercises, derived positions, and stretching exercises. Interactive activity rounds further enhanced participation and increased awareness of physical health and movement sciences. The event concluded with the distribution of certificates and awards presented by the Chief Guest, Sairah Aslam, Senior Physiotherapist at Social Security Hospital, Faisalabad, who appreciated the efforts of students and organizers in promoting rehabilitation and health awareness.



Conferred Fellowship of the Soil Science Society of Pakistan

Prof Dr Zahir Ahmad Zahir, Director ORIC, TUF, was conferred the prestigious Fellowship of the Soil Science Society of Pakistan during the 21st International Congress of Soil Science (ICSS-2026) in recognition of his outstanding contributions to soil science, research, education, and scientific leadership. During the congress, he presented an invited plenary talk titled "Bacterial Allelopathy for Resilient Soils and Sustainable Farming Systems". He also chaired a technical session.



Data-Driven Approaches to Strengthening Air Quality Standards and Policy Frameworks

The Rehabilitation Society, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, organized a Community Outreach Programme at the Karachi Down Syndrome Programme (KDSP), Faisalabad. The activity promotes community engagement, inclusive rehabilitation practices, and experiential learning beyond the clinical setting. The programme was led by Dr Anbreena Rasool, Assistant Professor, The University of Faisalabad. The delegation was received by Mr Ali Shahid Pansota, Manager Operations, KDSP Faisalabad, who introduced the students to the centre's services and multidisciplinary rehabilitation model for individuals with Down syndrome. During the visit, students toured the facility and its specialized units, where they observed community-based rehabilitation services and developmental support programmes in practice.



TUF at XI International Academic Studies Congress and Faculty Exchange Program in Türkiye

Prof Dr Muhammad Ashfaq, Dean, Faculty of Management Studies, The University of Faisalabad (TUF), represented the University at the XI International Academic Studies Congress and participated in a series of faculty exchange visits to partner universities in Türkiye. During the congress hosted by Çağ University, Mersin, Türkiye, he participated in academic sessions and delivered a keynote address titled "Use of AI in the Agriculture Sector for Achieving Food Security." Alongside his conference participation, Prof Dr Ashfaq took part in academic meetings, faculty exchange activities, and collaboration discussions with several prominent Turkish universities. The visit included strategic engagements with the leadership of Çağ University, Selçuk University, Kırşehir Ahi Evran University, and İstanbul Bilgi University. Throughout the visit, meetings were conducted with Rectors, Deans, International Office representatives, and faculty members to explore opportunities for academic collaboration, faculty and student exchange programs, joint research initiatives, and institutional development.



Conference Participation and Academic Contributions at IBBC-2026

Dr Marium Zafar, Associate Professor, Department of Rehabilitation Sciences, participated in the 3rd International Brain and Biomedicines Conference (IBBC-2026) held at Government College University, Faisalabad, and contributed to the academic discussions and scientific exchange throughout the event. She also co-chaired a scientific session. Alongside Dr Alamgeer, and Dr Ejaz Basheer, Assistant Professor, GCUF, presented their research work and gave an insight on how to handle animals in animal study and how to maintain their environment for certain conditions and different drug trails on Rats. Each presenter was analyzed on presentation skills, clarity in objectives, result gained, literature cited, relevancy of data and society outcomes.



Community Health Initiative: Blood Donation Camp

The Department of Rehabilitation Sciences organized a Blood Donation Camp in collaboration with Hilal-e-Ahmar. The camp was conducted aimed to promote voluntary blood donation and raise awareness regarding community health. A total of 78 individuals were screened during the camp. Among them, 18 participants were declared medically unfit after screening and were therefore unable to donate blood. The remaining eligible participants successfully donated blood, contributing to the critical cause of saving the lives of Thalassemia survivors. The event was conducted under strict Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure safety, hygiene, and smooth execution. In addition to blood donation, participants were provided with free health screening services, including HIV/AIDS testing, blood group determination, and hemoglobin level assessment.



Significant Publications

- Ayub, I. (2026). Prevalence of neck and shoulder pain among railway porters at Faisalabad railway station. *Rawal Medical Journal*, 51(2), 465–465. **(IF: 0.2)**
- Idrees, B. S. (2026). Investigation of polycystic ovary syndrome using machine learning-assisted laser-induced breakdown spectroscopy. *Optics Continuum*, 5(5), 1663–1677. **(IF: 1.4)**
- Sana, S. Ajaz, N. (2026). Cubosome-based nanoformulation of synthesized 1-cyclopentyl benzimidazole: In-vitro characterization and antibacterial evaluation. *Pakistan Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences*, 39(5), 1438–1451. **(IF: 0.6)**

RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



**Pakistan
Science Foundation**

An Autonomous Organization
Under the Ministry of Science
and Technology (MoST)



**NATIONAL
SCIENCE
FOUNDATION**
SRI LANKA

2ND JOINT CALL FOR **COLLABORATIVE RESEARCH PROJECT PROPOSALS**

BETWEEN NSF, SRI LANKA AND PSF, PAKISTAN – 2026

The Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST), is committed to promoting scientific research, innovation, and capacity building across Pakistan.

In line with this mandate, PSF is pleased to announce the 2nd Joint Call for Collaborative Research Project Proposals between the National Science Foundation (NSF), Sri Lanka and PSF, Pakistan – 2026.



DURATION OF EACH PROJECT

TWO (02) YEARS



FUNDING SUPPORT OF UP TO

PKR 8 MILLION

(APPROXIMATELY USD 26,000) PER PROJECT

PROPOSALS MUST ALIGN WITH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PRIORITY AREAS:



**1. ENVIRONMENT
AND CLIMATE
CHANGE**



**2. HERBAL
MEDICINE,
BIOTECHNOLOGY
AND YIELD
IMPROVEMENT**



**3. ENGINEERING
AND MATERIAL
SCIENCES**



**4. ARTIFICIAL
INTELLIGENCE
AND CYBER
SECURITY**



**5. SMART
AGRICULTURE
AND VALUE
ADDITION**



INTERESTED APPLICANTS ARE
REQUIRED TO SUBMIT THEIR
PROPOSALS THROUGH THE
**PSF RESEARCH GRANTS
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
(RGMS) PORTAL.**



DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION IS

23RD JUNE 2026

Title: TWAS–Samira Omar Innovation for Sustainability Award 2026

Thematic priorities:

- Clean and renewable energy
- Green chemistry
- Sustainable agriculture and agrobiodiversity
- Plastic degradation, pollution and microplastics
- Water purification and sanitation
- Climate change (environmental effects, methane contribution, carbon capture)

Deadline: : 30 June 2026

Apply Link: <https://twas.org/opportunity/twas-samira-omar-innovation-sustainability-award>

NEPTUN STATE PRIZE FOR WATER 2027

Austria's Environmental and Innovation Prize
for Sustainable Water Projects

AROUND
WORLD WATER DAY
(22 MARCH) 2027
VIENNA,
AUSTRIA



SUBMISSION PERIOD

1 JUNE 2026 –
11 OCTOBER 2026



AWARD CEREMONY

AROUND WORLD WATER DAY
(22 MARCH) 2027
VIENNA, AUSTRIA

ABOUT THE PRIZE

The Neptun State Prize for Water is Austria's leading environmental and innovation prize for sustainable water projects. Founded in 1999 and awarded as a state prize since 2023, it highlights the importance of water as a vital resource for life, environment, economy, science, art and society.

FIVE CATEGORIES – ONE MISSION: WATER FOR OUR FUTURE



WATER EDUCATION (WASSERBILDUNG)

Honours initiatives, projects and campaigns that promote (awareness) education and knowledge transfer for the protection and sustainable use of water.



TOTAL PRIZE

€5,000

for the best 3 entries



WATER RESEARCH (WASSERFORSCHT)

A platform for innovative research and development in science and industry focusing on the protection of water as a resource.



TOTAL PRIZE

€5,000

for the best 3 entries



WATER CREATIVE (WASSERKREATIV)

Gives a stage to art and culture inspired by water. We welcome works in performing, visual or experimental arts, literature, architecture and interdisciplinary artistic implementations.



TOTAL PRIZE

€5,000

for the best 3 entries



WATER REGIONAL (WASSERREGIONAL)

Honours regional and local commitment to water: climate adaptation, water protection, renaturation, flood protection, drinking water supply, sanitation, public services and tourism initiatives.



TOP PRIZE

€3,000



WATER WIEN (WASSERWIEN)

Photo, image and video competition on the theme „Mein Wiener Wasser Moment“. Selected entries compete in an online voting.



TOTAL PRIZE

€3,000

for the best 3 entries



WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?



✓ Companies and industry



✓ Associations and NGOs



✓ Municipalities and public institutions

- ✓ Schools and educational institutions
- ✓ Researchers, scientists
- ✓ Artists and cultural practitioners
- ✓ Private individuals*

*Especially for the WaterWIEN category.



WHY PARTICIPATE?



Showcase your innovative projects and creative works



Contribute to sustainable water management



Gain visibility at national level



Be part of Austria's leading water award

HOW THE PRIZE WORKS



SUBMIT

Submission period:
1 June 2026 –
11 October 2026



PRE-SELECTION

Review of all submissions
and pre-selection
by the jury.
Autumn/Winter 2026



JURY SESSIONS

Evaluation by the expert jury
and determination
of nominations.
Late 2026 / Early 2027



ONLINE VOTING

Vote for your favourites
in the WaterWIEN and
WaterREGIONAL categories.
February 2027



AWARD CEREMONY

Announcement and
awarding of winning
projects in Vienna.
Around World Water Day
(22 March) 2027

CO-ORGANISERS

Federal Ministry
Agriculture, Forestry, Climate and
Environmental Protection, Regions
and Water Management (BM/LUK)

ÖVGW
Austrian Association
for Gas and Water

ÖWAV
Austrian Water and Waste
Management Association

PARTNERS

kommunal
kredit
PUBLIC CONSULTING

Stadt
Wien

Verbund

Kraftunion
Sustainability
Initiative



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For Women
in Science



unesco

FONDATION
L'ORÉAL

2027

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

29th Edition **International Awards**

*IN PHYSICAL SCIENCES, MATHEMATICS
AND COMPUTER SCIENCE*

APRIL 6TH – JUNE 30TH, 2026



APPLY

The 2027 L'Oréal-UNESCO *For Women in Science* International Awards will honour five outstanding researchers in Physics, Mathematics, Computer and Information Sciences, Chemistry, Earth & Related Environmental sciences, each working in : Africa and the Arab States; Asia and the Pacific; Europe; Latin America and the Caribbean or North America.

Each of the Laureates will receive €100,000.