

Accreditation visit of Departments of Agronomy, Entomology, Food Science & Technology and Horticulture at Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan

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Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan (AWKUM) was established in 2009, it is the second-largest university of the province and stands 2nd HEC ranking for Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KPK). The area has witnessed the rise and fall of the famous civilizations that inspired the world with the glorious culture and civilized traditions devoted to learning. Five campuses of AWKUM have been upgraded as independent universities i.e. Women University Mardan, Bacha Khan University Charsadda, University of Swabi, the University of Chitral, and University of Bunir. In the recent past, HEC awarded and ranked it 1st in the province and 15th in the country for research awards under National Research Program for Universities. The university has 32 academic departments where 95 undergraduate and graduate programs are offered. The university has a qualified faculty of 450 members (half being PhDs), qualified administration, and a vibrant community of 15,000 students. The university has tremendous potential for further contribution and becoming a leading educational institution.

Four Accreditation Inspection Committees (AICs) comprising of Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Secretary NAEAC as a convener and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Akmal, Department of Agronomy, The University of Agriculture, Peshawar (UAP), Prof. (Retd.) Dr. Farman Ullah, Department of Plant Protection, AUP, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Ayub, Department of Food Science & Technology, UAP, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Sajid, Department of Horticulture, UAP as members were constituted to conduct accreditation visit of departments of Agronomy, Entomology, Food Science & Technology and Horticulture at Abdul Wali Khan University, Mardan.

Mr. Sayim Sohail, Registrar, AWKUM and Prof. Dr. Sultan Ayaz Khatak, Dean, Faculty of Chemical & Life Sciences, AWKUM and HoDs of relevant departments welcomed NAEAC and AIC team. Prof. Dr. Zahoor ul Haq, Vice Chancellor, AWKUM was busy in another meeting therefore, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar chaired the inaugural session and initiated the proceedings by reciting few verses from Holy Quran. Dr. Adil Hussain, Associate Professor, Entomology, AWKUM presented an overview of the university. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Secretary, NAEAC presented NAEAC activities and highlighted the previous actionable recommendations of each department.

After that, AICs moved to the relevant departments where detailed presentations and discussions were held. Each HoD briefed respective AIC in detail about the department working and achievements in terms of student graduation, current faculty position and research projects meanwhile Dr. Zahoor ul Haq, Vice Chancellor called the AIC members in his office and shared the university THE rankings and future vision. Secretary NAEAC shown his concern regarding previous categories awarded to these disciplines. AICs again resumed evaluation task and visited respective departmental labs, classrooms, library, glasshouse, faculty offices, experimental research area and held individual meetings with faculty members to know the level of satisfaction and students of the departments to get an insight of teaching/working environment in the departments.

Secretary NAEAC visited the hostel, medical, transport and sports facilities along with Dr. Zafar Hayat HoD, Agronomy, AWKUM and Dr. Badsha Islam, Chairman, Department of Physical Education & Sports. Sports facilities are up to the mark. Chairman sports presented the shield to Secretary NAEAC. In the exit meeting, program evaluators shared their observations with respective HoDs and other officials who assured that the recommendations made by AICs would be implemented to raise the standard of education and to improve the skills of the graduates.

