

Accreditation and Pre-Accreditation/Zero visit of Agriculture & Allied degree Programs at PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi

September 25-26, 2023

Pursuant to the recommendations of the Barani Commission, the Government of Punjab established Barani Agricultural College, Rawalpindi which was later upgraded to the level of the University in 1994. The PMAS- AAUR is offering undergraduate as well as post graduate degree programs in various disciplines. The University includes 5 Faculties (Agriculture, Sciences, Social Sciences, Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Agricultural Engineering and Technology and 8 institutes (Management Sciences, Information Technology, Biochemistry and Biotechnology, Geo-Information & Earth Observation, Food and Nutritional Sciences, Hydroponics Agriculture and Soil and Environmental Sciences). The University building contains an auditorium, multi-storied administrative block, a library, a museum, four multi-stories academic blocks and international standard undergraduate block comprising of 30 classrooms.

Seven Accreditation Inspection Committees (AICs) comprising of Prof. Dr. Fayyaz-ul-Hassan, Chairperson NAEAC as a convener, Dr. Abdul Hayee Qureshi, Ex-Director, Agricultural Economics Research Institute National Agricultural Research Center, Islamabad, Prof. Dr. Syed Moazzam Nizami, Department of Forestry and Wildlife Management, the University of Haripur, Prof. Dr. Muhammad Jafar Jaskani, Institute of Horticultural Sciences University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, Dr. Shinawar Waseem Ali, Associate Professor and Chairman Department of Food Sciences, University of the Punjab, Lahore, Prof (Retd). Dr. Muhammad Qayyum Khan, Dean, Faculty of Sciences, the University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir as members conducted Accreditation visit of Agricultural Economics, Forestry, Horticulture, Human Nutrition & Dietetics and Seed Science & Technology degree programs. Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Ex-CSO, Animal Sciences Institute, NARC and Secretary, NAEAC and Dr. Sohail Yousaf, Department of Environmental Sciences Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad as members conducted Pre-Accreditation/Zero visit of Animal Sciences and Environmental Sciences degree programs at PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi.

Prof. Dr Muhammad Naem, Vice-Chancellor and Prof. Dr. Muhammad Azam Khan, Director Quality Assurance received and welcomed NAEAC and AICs team on September 25, 2023. Vice Chancellor chaired the inaugural session in the Committee Room attended by the Registrar, Controller, Deans and Directors. In the inaugural session, Director Quality Assurance provided a brief introduction of the university and presented the salient accomplishments as well. Later, Dr. Abdul Ghaffar, Secretary NAEAC shared the accreditation standards (8) and substandard (73) besides the importance and significance of accreditation along with previous AIC recommendations.

AICs then moved to relevant departments where detailed presentations of departmental achievements as per itinerary were given by relevant Chairpersons. AICs visited departmental infrastructure including labs, classrooms, library, faculty offices, experimental research area and held meeting with students of the department to get an insight of teaching/working environment in the departments. On September 26, 2023, two major activities (curriculum review and meeting with individual faculty) were carried out. Each course file was checked for its contents like lecture breakdown, assignments and results. AICs held individual faculty meeting to know the working environment and job satisfaction level and student teacher interaction.

In the concluding session of the visit, the program evaluators/experts shared their observations with the Vice-Chancellor, PMAS-Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi. In this session, all the Deans, Directors, Principal Officers, Heads of administrative departments, Chairpersons and faculty members were present. Prof. Dr Muhammad Naem thanked NAEAC team for their two-day deliberations and inspection visit and assured that the recommendations made by AICs would be implemented to increase the standard of education and to expand the skills of the graduates.

