



AIC Report

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Executive Summary

The committee members along with NAEAC officials were welcomed by the University Faculty members. Thereafter, Campus Director (Ilyas Khan) briefed about the Campus which was started back in 2009 and journey made so far by the Campus. AIC had detail meeting with all faculty members and under graduate students. Agronomy was the one of three departments in which 18 students opted in 5th semester as their major back in 2011. Present Nomenclature of “Agriculture Department” comprising number of several important teaching disciplines is not only confusing but also misleading. It is therefore, proposed that each discipline may be declared as an independent teaching department notifying its Chairman/HOD to streamline the academic activities. The courses for degree programs offered by the section are those developed by the HEC constituted committee (NCRC) and adopted by the section, hence are in harmony with other institutions. The objectives of curriculum are clear and in accordance with the HEC guidelines. There are three faculty members in the section under discussion, out of these three, two hold PhD degree, while one is M.Phil degree holders. The pyramid as per recommendation (1:1:2:2) is incomplete which needs to be filled as early as possible. Moreover, availability of class rooms as per number of students, labs and offices is still needed. The availability of moderately equipped labs (atleast 2) for each, provision of IT facilities and teaching learning resources and demonstration/practical facility in the form of a moderately developed research area/farm is needed in short period of time. Presently, facilities of class practical are lacking. Facilities like laptop provision to students and scholarship/financial aid from different resources need to be streamlined with regular office/focal person in the university.

Introduction

The Agriculture University, Peshawar started the AMK Campus back in 2009 with Agriculture as the main enrollment. After two years, the three majors in Agriculture i.e Agronomy, Horticulture and Soil Science were introduced in the campus. Although Campus in general and Agronomy as major subject has made significant and visible progress. Intake of students for B.Sc(Hons) Agric. progressively increased from 50 during first year to 120 for

last admissions. Similarly, Agronomy major has progressed accordingly. So far, 18 (first batch) and 24 (2nd batch) students have completed their degree majoring in Agronomy in last batches. Although, couple of P.C1s for Campus development have been approved yet release of funds did not materialized. Consistent efforts of university administration, planning wing of the university and Campus Director are commendable.

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CRITERION ANALYSIS

Criteria I: Strength and quality of Faculty

The Faculty members of the Department of Agronomy, at AMK Campus are capable of teaching and conducting research. All three teachers are young and qualified. They are able to teach and train the students to face future challenges. Presently, there are one Assistant professor and two lecturers. Two of them hold Ph.D and one is M.Sc (Hons). Range of experience of faculty members; vary from 1-3 years. Department is running graduate program. Faculty members of the department are also rendering their services to the farmer community. There is a need of permanent/regular appointment of assistant professors, associate professors and professor to justify the work load and to fulfill the HEC criteria. The Faculty is using available resources for teaching and evaluations, techniques such as quizzes, assignments, projects, seminars plus presentations. Evaluations for sessional, mid and final examinations are in operation. Campus Director and HoD are there for monitoring the existing system. Participations of students in seminars and conferences are limited. Funds and facilities are not available for participation of students in seminars/conferences.

Faculty research publications in national (HEC recognized journals) and international journals are satisfactory but there is room for improvement. Contribution toward publication of books, chapters and proceedings is also needed. Agronomy faculty have life time membership in Pakistan Society of Agronomy (PSA). Faculty perception about degree program is clear. The student teacher ratio is not good; however, teacher can focus the students in a better way due to low strength of students and giving more session to question answer and presentations etc.

Criteria II: Curriculum Design and Development

The Department of Agriculture section Agronomy, at AMK Campus, is focusing on already approved curricula by HEC where AUP has two nominations in NCRC. So far, main focus of faculty is towards the teaching of 4 years B.Sc (Hons) degree program. The curriculum has been revised as and when need by the Department/Faculty as well as HEC. Curriculum is well defined with clear objectives. Still, there is continuous revision of the curricula for B.Sc (Hons). A few text and reference books are available. Availability of text books should be increased in the library which is catering the need of all the Campus. The budget for books is available for main library of the University and not for the department. A well developed and equipped with latest text and reference books library is needed at urgent basis for whole campus. Similarly, a book bank in the department is also needed. Credit hours and contact hours are justified for existing staff. Course completion is a regular and encouraging process of this department.

All students (21 of 7th and 24 of 5th semester) of this department are well informed and fully aware about course program, admission policy, enrolment, withdrawal and course break up. However, it was felt that rules related to admission, course load in each semester should be written in some or other form available to students. Course files verified by the AIC are maintained but need some improvement that has been pointed out by the committee. QEC of the university exists and has evaluated teachers, course satisfaction, and teacher evaluation by the student. However, formal establishment of relevant office shall be done in due course of time.

Criteria III: Infrastructure and Learning Resources

A couple of lab facilities available which are being shared by all the sections for their practical classes and demonstration to the students. Size of lab is meant for small number of

students, if enrollment increases these labs shall not be able to cater the needs. Class rooms are not enough for the working of students. There is need of fully equipped more departmental labs and class rooms. Equipment available in lab is insufficient and need upgradation. Supporting staff is insufficient and not fully trained. Practical work and write up of practical note books is good. Provision of better equipment in lab as well at proposed research farm and trained supporting staff is urgent need of this department. Moreover, establishment of proper research farm shall be required for undertaking better research. The efforts for establishment of proper class rooms are being made by Administration. Similarly, transfer of funds for proper research farm are under way. However, securing of funds should be focused for early disbursement.

Criteria IV: Students Support and Progression:

Students actively participate in cultural, scientific, academic and welfare societies. Merit based laptop were won by almost all students. Besides this, merit Fellowship, Mora scholarships, Fauji Foundation, Hamdard and Endowment Fund scholarships have been won by students which is good sign of student's progress and abilities. Out of the total enrolled student strength top most talented 1/3rd students have shown their interest in majoring Agronomy (21+24=45), which is an other sign of future prospects of the section. Departmental admission to B.Sc. (Hons) is normal as per available facilities. Availability of academics guidance/counselling to students needs strengthening which at present is insufficient.

Hostel accommodation is not available at present, however, administration is planning to build that facility in near future. Transport facility is not available, limited sports facilities are available. There is a good atmosphere for co-curricular activities. Students cafeteria is not available. Student attendance is being recorded regularly and there is restriction of 75 % presence record of attendance has been verified by the AIC as course files. Medical and transport facilities are adequate. However, there is need in improvement of computing facilities, research funds, and internship allowances.

SWOT Analysis

Strengths of Degree Programs

1. Students' preference for admission in the section.
2. Campus of a well developed and recognized University (AUP).
3. Friendly and peaceful environment for teaching and learning.

Weaknesses of Degree Programs

1. Insufficient qualified teaching, lab and supporting staff.
2. Lack of office, lecturing, laboratory space, computer and library facilities.
3. Non-existence of sports, co-curriculum, recreational and refreshment facilities.
4. Absence of well developed and equipped research farm.
5. Lack of exposure of students to other Universities, research institutions of the country.

Opportunities for Degree Programme:

1. Trainings for capacity building of professionals and farmers would be possible in future.
2. Potential of targeted and specific crop targeted research i.e. Tobacco.
3. Qualified and experienced faculty can provide consultancy services to national and international NGOs/donor agencies for sustainable development in the area.

Threats to Degree Programme:

1. Existence of well established AWK, University having the same program.
2. Existence in remote area having no direct link with main road.
3. Security is a big threat to staff and students under present circumstances.
4. Lack of resources for running departmental matters independently.

Actionable Recommendations

- Provision of IT facilities, access to HEC digital library, textbooks and reference material of almost all disciplines.
- Provision of at least two class rooms, seminar room, committee/conference room for each discipline.
- Provision of recreational as well as indoor/outdoor sports facilities for students.
- Completion of faculty pyramid i.e. Appointment of Professor/Associate Professor as soon as possible as per recommended of HEC 1:1:2:2.

- Infrastructure strengthening and upgradation like library, labs. Farm research area should be focused.
- Allotment of “major” after 4th semester should be more or less equal in all disciplines and as per student choice and merit. Guidance and counselling to students should be provided in this regards by senior faculty.
- Provision of scholarship facilities should be advertised at prominent places for information of students.
- Rules/regulations related to admission till the completion of degree should be available to students either in the form of catalogue.
- Enrolment of extra courses in 7th and 8th semester facility be provided to students for timely completion of degree.
- Field visits should be made part of practical as university does not have proper research farm.

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Name, Qualification and experience of faculty and support staff:

S.#	Name	Designation	Univ. Exper.	Experience other than univ. experience	Total experience
1	Dr. M. Zahir Afridi PhD	Assistant Prof.	3 years	Nil	3 years
2	Dr. Fazal Munsif M.Sc(Hons)	Lecturer	3 year	Nil	3 years
3	Mr. Kashif Akhtar M.Sc(Hons)	Lecturer	2 years	-	2 years
Supporting Staff Supporting and technical staff is available but there is no separation for section. Apart from above staff, there is one office and lab. attendents.					

LIST OF BOOKS PERTAINING TO THE SUBJECT OF AGRONOMY

S.No.	Auther Name	Book Name
1	Kulkarni	Principal of seed technology
2	Nazir	Crop production
3	Taiz	Plant physiology
4	Fageria	Physiology of crop production
5	Gardner	Physiology of crop plants
6	Gupta	Physiology of stressed crops
7	Panda	Dry land Agriculture
8	Wolfe	Production of field crop
9	Copeland	Principles of seed scienc
10	Panda	Cropping and farming system
11	Dris	Environment and crop production
12	Balasubramaniam	Principles and practices of Agronomy
13	Filter	Environmental Physiology of plants
14	Pritchard	Crops and envirmental change
15	Wolfe	Field crops
16	Derell Byerlee	Farming system of Pakistan
17	Walter Larcher	Physiological plant ecology
18	Iqtidar Ahmad Khalil	Crops and cropping in Pakistan
19	R.S. Dixit	Cropping system research
20	J.Derek Bewley and Michael Black	Seeds (Physiology of developmental and germination)
21	M. Irshad	Post harvest management of cereals in Pakistan

LIST OF EQUIPMENTS AVAILABLE IN THE LABS To BE USED in AGRONOMY

S/#.	Particular	Capacity	Quantity
	Not a single equipment has been seen in labs. Moreover, the list provided by HoD does not contain any single item to be used for lab or field experiments. There were only flasks, beakers and other similar items.		

FACULTY PUBLICATIONS, BOOKS, SEMINAR/CONFERENCES AND AWARDS

1. Z. Hussain, **Fazal. Munsif**, K.B. Marwat, K. Ali, R.A. Afridi and S. Bibi. "Studies on efficacy of different herbicides against weeds in potato crop." (2013) Pakistan Journal of Botany Vol:45(2) pp:487-491 (Journal)
2. Z. Hussain, K.B. Marwat, **Fazal. Munsif** and A. Samad "Evaluation of various herbicides and their combinations for weed control in wheat crop" (2013) Pakistan Journal of Botany Vol:45(1) pp:55-59 (Journal)
3. Z. Hussain, K.B. Marwat, **Fazal Munsif**, A. Samad, S. Hashim and T. Bakht. "Impact of intercropping in maize crop on weed growth and maize grain yield" (2013) Pakistan Journal of Botany Vol: 45(5) pp: 1729-1734 (Journal).
4. **Fazal Munsif**, M. Arif, M.T. Jan and M.J. Khan. Phenology of dual purpose wheat cultivars as influenced by planting dates (2013). Scholarly Journal of Agricultural Science Vol. 3(9), pp. 340-350 (Journal).
5. M. Arif, M. Tariq, **Fazal Munsif**, M.T. Jan, A. Rab and A. Khan. Effect of Nitrogen Application Timing and Cutting Treatments on Phenology and Leaf Area of Three Brassica Cultivars. (2012). Communications in Soil Science and Plant Analysis.43: (21) pp: 2809–2819. (Journal).
6. Z. Hussain, **Fazal Munsif**, S.I.A. Shah, M.S. Kakar and A. Ahmad "Assessment of weed problems in wheat crop in Peshawar Pakistan" (2012) Pakistan Journal of Weed Science Research Vol:18(3) pp:357-366 (Journal).
7. M. Arif, K. Ali, **Fazal Munsif**, W. Ahmad, A. Ahmad and K. Naveed. Effect of biochar, FYM and nitrogen on weeds and maize phenology. (2012). Pak. J. Weed Sci. Res., 18(4): pp: 475-484 (Journal).
8. K. Ali, **Fazal Munsif**, Iftikhar Ud Din, A. Khan and N. Khan. Maize phenology as affected by tillage practices and nitrogen sources. (2012). Agricultural Science Research Journals Vol. 2(8), pp. 453-458. (Journal).
9. M. Ismail, D. Muhammad, F.U.Khan, **Fazal Munsif**, T. Ahmad, S. Ali, M. Khalid, N. Haq and M. Ahmad. Effect of brick kilns' emissions on heavy metal (CD AND CR) content of contiguous soil and plants. (2012). Sarhad J. Agric. Vol.28, No.3,pp. 403-409. (Journal).
10. Jan, M.T., M.J. Khan, Farhatullah, M. ARIF, **M. Zahir Afridi**, A. Khan and H. Akbar. Integrated management of crop residue and n fertilizer for wheat production (2012). Pak. J. Bot., Vol. 44(6) pp: 2015-2019 (Journal).