



**NUMS**  
NATIONAL UNIVERSITY  
OF MEDICAL SCIENCES



**Report on:**

**SDG-17 (PARTNERSHIP FOR THE GOALS)**

**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**

<b>1</b> NO POVERTY	<b>2</b> ZERO HUNGER	<b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING	<b>4</b> QUALITY EDUCATION	<b>5</b> GENDER EQUALITY	<b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION
<b>7</b> AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY	<b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH	<b>9</b> INDUSTRY, INNOVATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE	<b>10</b> REDUCED INEQUALITIES	<b>11</b> SUSTAINABLE CITIES AND COMMUNITIES	<b>12</b> RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
<b>13</b> CLIMATE ACTION	<b>14</b> LIFE BELOW WATER	<b>15</b> LIFE ON LAND	<b>16</b> PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS	<b>17</b> PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS	

National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS) - An SDG Engaged University

## Preamble

NUMS was founded to promote and achieve excellence in advanced health education, research and service delivery. The university is backed up by an extensive network of **45** Military Hospitals, **10** Single Specialty Institutes, **9** Medical Colleges, **4** Dental Colleges, **6** Nursing Colleges and **3** Allied Health Sciences Institutes making it the country's largest healthcare provider in terms of trajectory and patient volume.

NUMS has the potential to become a force multiplier by supporting other service providers in this field, developing partnerships with the several advanced national and international universities, industrial, governmental and community based stakeholders in consonance with national vision and plan to develop knowledge based economy.

## NUMS Memberships with National & International Associations

NUMS believes in establishing collaboration with international bodies for the capacity building, shaping future leadership, and preparing youth for the multi-dimensional global challenges.

NUMS is a member organization of the following International organizations;

- a. United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI)
- b. Global Consortium on Climate and Health Education (GCCHE)
- c. Talloires Network of Engaged Universities
- d. Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)
- e. Planetary Health Alliance (PHA)
- f. Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) Alliance
- g. Association of Quality Assurance Agencies of the Islamic World (Islamic-QA)
- h. Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN)

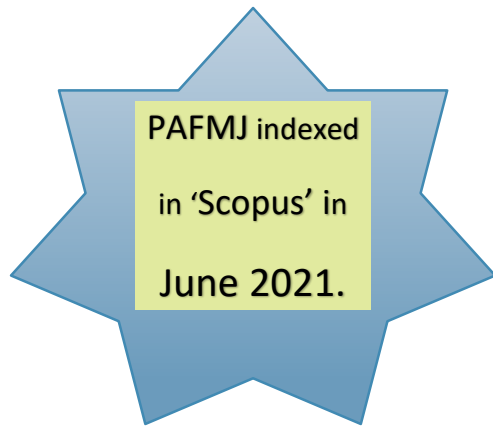
NUMS is a member organization of the following National organizations;

- a. Pakistan Network of Quality Assurance in Higher Education (PNQAHE)



 **COLUMBIA** | MAILMAN SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
GLOBAL CONSORTIUM ON CLIMATE AND HEALTH EDUCATION





### **Pakistan Armed Forces Medical Journal (PAFMJ) indexing in Scopus**

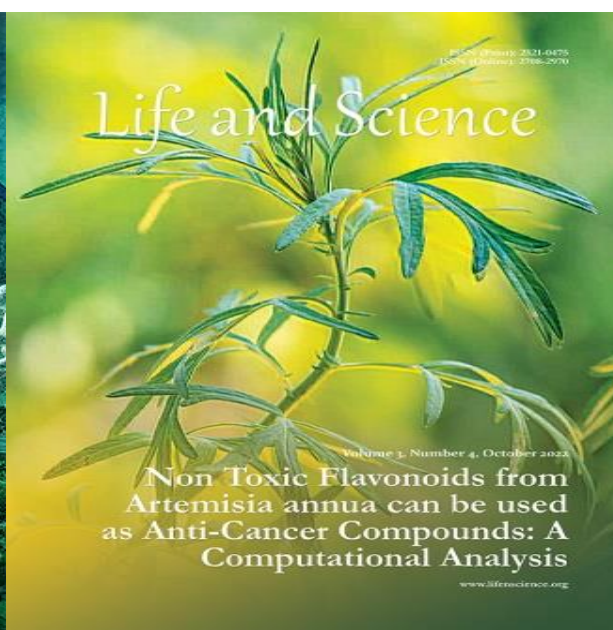
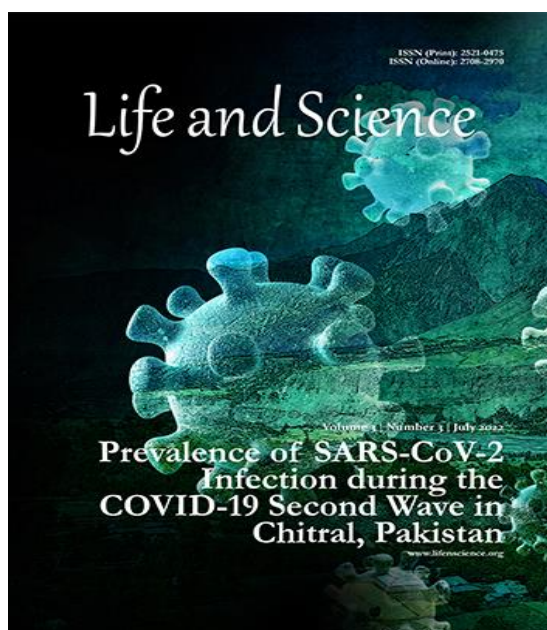
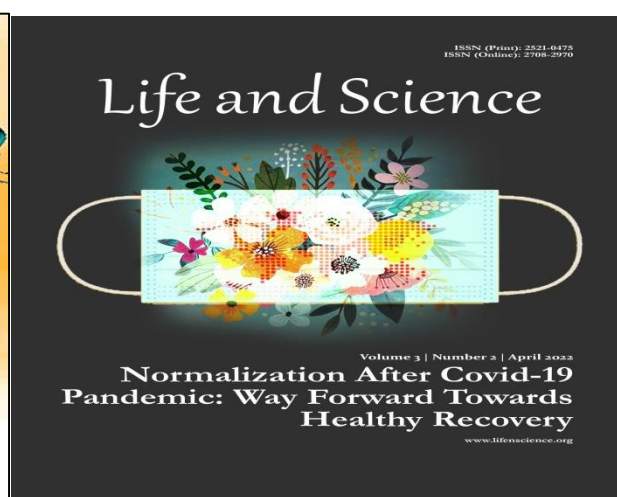
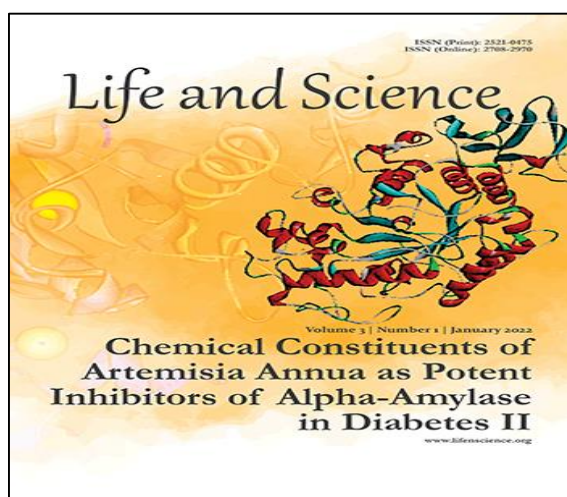
PAFMJ is bi - monthly medical journal published by Army Medical College, Rawalpindi, Pakistan. It publishes scholarly work from all the medical and allied subjects (basic as well as clinical) including medical education as well as from biological and biomedical sciences.

NUMS Journal:

# Life & Science

Life and Science is recognized by **Higher Education Commission (HEC)**, Islamabad, Pakistan in Category "Y"

Life and Science is recognized by **Pakistan Medical and Dental Council (PM&DC)**, Islamabad, Pakistan



## NUMS Participation in International Rankings

Participation / Membership	Participation
Impact Rankings, 2022 by Times Higher Education (THE)	Since 2021
World University Rankings (WUR – THE)	Since 2022
Subject Rankings (THE)	Since 2022
Asia Rankings (THE)	Since 2022
IAU World Education Database (WHED)	Since 2019
Webometrics	Since 2019



INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITIES

THE WORLD UNIVERSITY RANKINGS



RANKING WEB OF UNIVERSITIES

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



# NUMS National Collaborations



## **PAKISTAN AGRICULTURE RESEARCH COUNCIL (PARC)**



DoU signed: February 7, 2022 | in reference to achieving SDG-4 & SDG-17

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To exchange subject matter experts, scientific information, research material, students and internships, etc for research and academic development.
2. To jointly explore funding, development and execution of national/international projects for research and educational development in mutually agreed areas.
3. To hold joint meetings, conferences, seminars, symposia, workshops and training courses.
4. To access knowledge, data, libraries, classrooms, labs, field and other facilities at the institution and country wide establishments of the two parties a per their defined policies.
5. To mutually participate in the extension and outreach activities.
6. To recognize the scientists and researchers after adoption of due academic protocols as supervisors/co-supervisors/visiting faculty/adjunct faculty members.





## **NATIONAL UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (NUST)**



DoU signed: December 30, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG - 4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To define the areas of collaboration at undergraduate and postgraduate level, joint research and other academic services.
2. To undertake research initiatives in areas of Health Sciences, Biomedical Engineering, Applied Biosciences, Psychology, etc by faculty members, researchers, scholars and students of both institutes.
3. To cooperate to launch joint research projects.
4. To provide support in academic activities like co supervision, evaluation of thesis, provision of external examiners.
5. To conduct joint training seminars, workshops and talks on different topics.
6. To hold national/international conference/workshops in disciplines of mutual interest.
7. To collaborate for joint research outcomes like publications in nationally and internationally recognized journals, patents and intellectual property.



## **GETZ PHARMA PVT LIMITED, KARACHI**

MoU signed: October 20, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17 & SDG -3.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

Getz Pharma will assist NUMS in identifying and connecting with a partner in China who has experience in manufacturing of Bio-Similar Products and also work in collaboration with universities.



## **MEHERGARH: A CENTER FOR LEARNING, ISLAMABAD**

MoU signed: September 28, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -5 & SDG - 10.



### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. Active engagement of NUMS students, faculty and staff in training and workshops organized by Mehergarh.
2. Internship opportunities to the NUMS students.
3. To work on Implementation of 'Protection of Women at Workplace Act 2010' and 'HEC Policy on Protection of Against Sexual Harassment at HEIs 2020' through trainings, awareness sessions and student community projects.



### **INTEGRATED HEALTH SERVICES, ISLAMABAD**

MoU signed: Wednesday, August, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17 & SDG -3.



#### **Scope of Collaboration:**

IHS shall provide following to the students of Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BSPH) NUMS:

1. The short duration certificate courses; and
2. Internship opportunities.

### **GREENSTAR SOCIAL MARKETING PAKISTAN (G) LTD**

MoU signed: August 17, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17 & SDG -3.



#### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To start 'Khud ko Pechaano Program' for Youth Engagement.
2. To train 20 Master Trainers for creating social awareness on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).
3. To develop skillset to identify gender-based violence and its mitigation strategies.



## **INSTITUTE OF RURAL MANAGEMENT, ISLAMABAD**



DoU signed: August 10, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To promote cooperation in the areas of education, research and capacity building.
2. To build the capacity and strengthening the efficacy and effectiveness of members of rural communities and professionals for unlocking their true human, social and economic potential.

## **FOCUS AND RULZ PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY**

DOU signed: November 24, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To promote and achieve expertise in advanced health education, research and service delivery.
2. To ensure research and development pertaining to healthcare including capacity building and training with special emphasis on pharmaceutical testing including bioequivalence studies, clinical trials and healthcare products development.



## CCL PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY

DOU signed: June 18, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.



### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. enhance cooperation in the field of research and development pertaining to healthcare.
2. building and training with special emphasis on pharmaceutical testing including bioequivalence studies, clinical trials and healthcare products development.
3. To seek opportunities to contribute to clinical research, product, and capacity development of key stakeholders.



## DRUG REGULATORY AUTHORITY OF PAKISTAN (DRAP)



MOU signed: Wednesday, March 17, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To exchange information, compliance, training and capacity building in view of the university's plans revolving around Bioequivalence and Clinical Trials involving human subjects.
2. To lay foundation for research and quality products in the country.

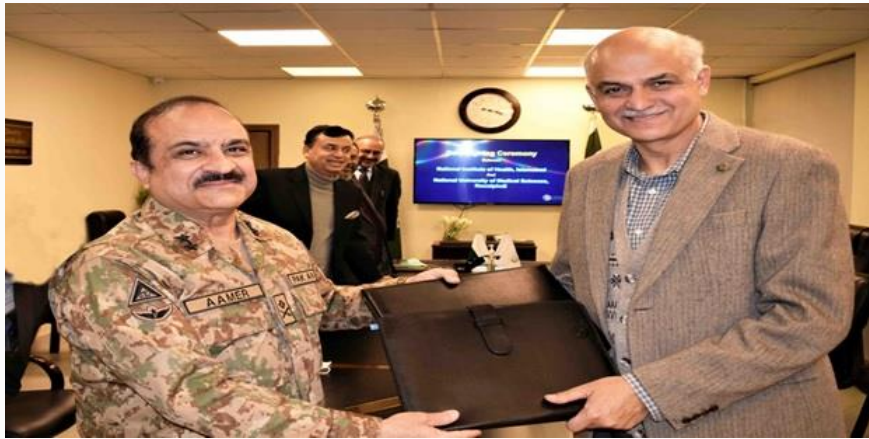
## **NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF HEALTH (NIH), ISLAMABAD PAKISTAN**

MOU signed: Friday, 22nd January, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.



### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To strengthen research cooperation in the development of medical sciences.
2. To facilitate exchange of faculties, scientists and experts for joint research project.
3. To promote and achieve excellence in advanced health education, research and service delivery to eventually run the university health care system.



## **FOUNDATION UNIVERSITY, ISLAMABAD**

MOU signed: March 7, 2019 in reference to achieving SDG -17 & SDG -4.



### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. Exchange of Examiners, Guest Speakers -Subject Experts.
2. Joint Workshops/ Seminars on Medical Education and Research



## NUMS International Partners

# NUMS International Collaborations





## UNIVERSITY OF MOSTAR, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



DOU Signed: December 15, 2022 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. Exchange of staff:
  - a. Visiting of academic staff/professors for giving lectures and consultations for certain period.
  - b. Visiting of researchers for improving the study or research.
  - c. Exchange of students (undergraduate and graduate both) in appropriate fields of study.
  - d. Exchange of Publications published by both universities.
  - e. Mutual library communication, exchange of books, periodicals and other information material.
  - f. Organizing and carrying out undergraduate and graduate studies, information and coordination of admission requirements, exchange of experiences and information on study programmes and working methods.
  - g. Organizing and participation in Scientific and Professional conferences, symposia, meetings, and other similar forms of education.
  - h. Cooperation of students and student organizations in the field of academia, cultural and sports activities.



## QUEEN MARY UNIVERSITY OF LONDON



LOI signed: June 23, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To develop joint activities and programs for exchange of academic faculty, research personnel, research fellows between the institutions for research and study.
2. To cooperate and collaborate in the broad field of medical research.

## SIEMENS HEALTHINEERS

DOU signed: March 17, 2021 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### Scope of Collaboration:

1. To promote the competitiveness and enhance the standard of medical equipment and medical care of NUMS.
2. For technical upgradation of clinics via AMC a special investment vehicle (actively managed certificates).
3. For financial and cooperation opportunities to establish new clinics.
4. To support in education and training of medical staff.

SIEMENS  
Healthineers



POWERGROUP  
Business Design Thinking

## LUDWIG-MAXIMILIANS-UNIVERSITÄT MÜNCHEN (LMU), Munich, Germany



DOU Signed: Dec 06, 2019 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### Scope of Collaboration:

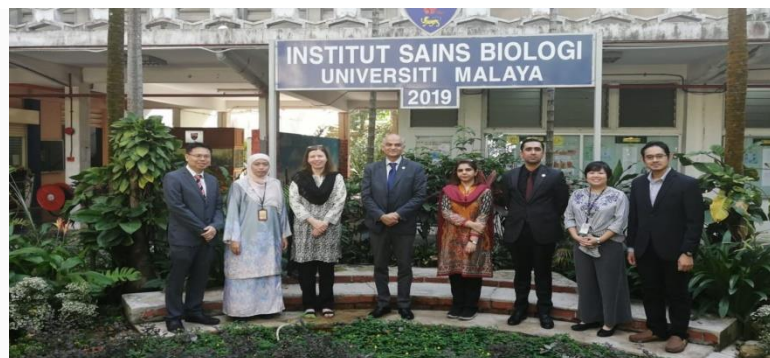
1. Exchange of faculty – short or long time.
2. Student exchange - short or long time.
3. Collaborative research.

## UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA

MOU Signed: April 29, 2019 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG -4.

### Scope of Collaboration:

1. Student and administrative/academic staff exchange.
2. Joint research activities
3. Sharing of publication/reports etc.

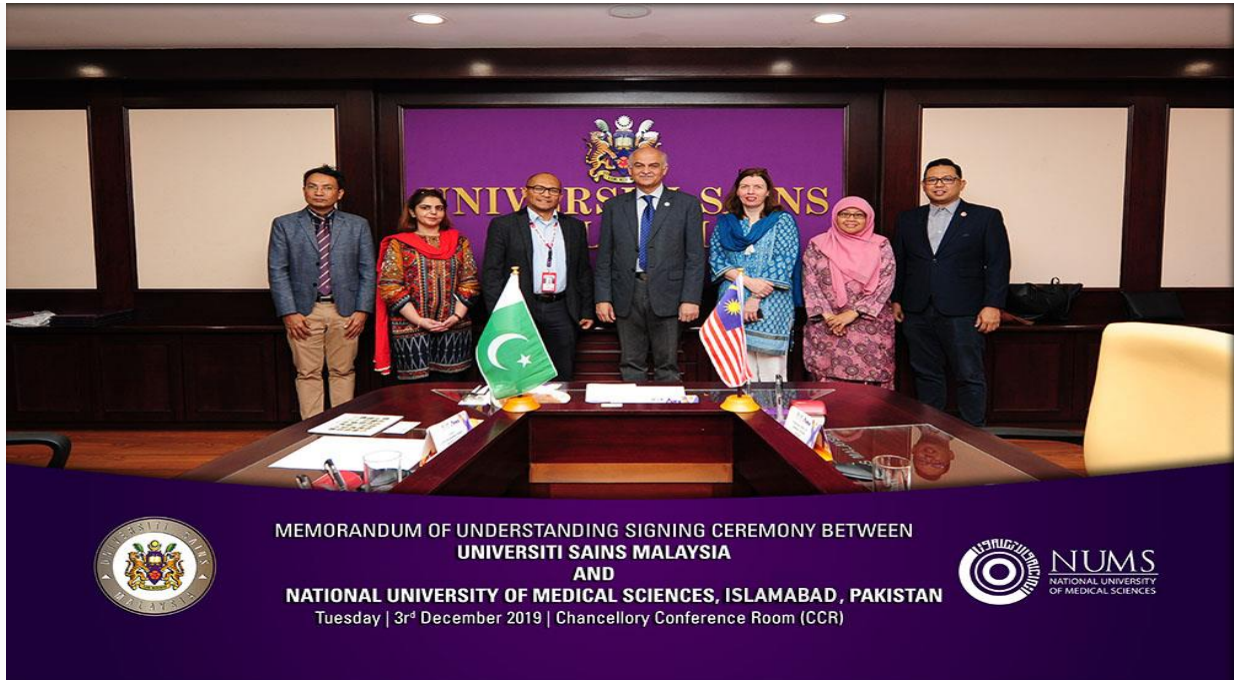


## UNIVERSITY OF SAINS MALAYSIA

DOU Signed: Dec 03, 2019 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG - 4.

### Scope of Collaboration:

1. Pursuance of collaborative research projects in Biosciences as well as other disciplines.
2. Initiation of faculty/student exchange programs.



## **MONASH UNIVERSITY, MALAYSIA**



MONASH University

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. Health care surveillance.
2. Initiation of research projects and faculty/student exchange programs .



## **UNIVERSITY OF EXETER MEDICAL SCHOOL, UEMS, EXETER, ENGLAND**



Agreement signed: March 1, 2019 in reference to achieving SDG -17, SDG -3 & SDG - 4.

### **Scope of Collaboration:**

1. To collaborate to conduct a study to determine the nature and causes of inherited disorders in families in Pakistan..

## NUMS conducted Entry Test for admission in MBBS/BDS courses in Pakistan and Saudi Arabia



The National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS) conducted the Medical and Dental College Admission Test (MDCAT) in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates in Oct 2022.

Around **70,000** candidates took the test, which is mandatory, to get admissions to medical and dental colleges.

NUMS Vice Chancellor (VC) Lt Gen Wasim Alamgir shared that the test was conducted simultaneously in more than **20** cities throughout Pakistan and in Saudi Arabia and UAE. This was made possible with the well-coordinated and robust arrangements. The Pakistan Medical Commission (PMC) had divided MDCAT among the federation, provinces and for NUMS to fill the seats in medical and dental colleges across the country. PMC President Prof Dr Noshad Ahmad Shaikh reached NUMS on Sunday and visited the control room where he was given a briefing by Controller Examination on the arrangements for safe and transparent process.

The NUMS MDCAT pass certificate would be eligible to seek admission on merit in MBBS/BDS in private colleges anywhere in the country as well. The PMC president along with vice chancellor, Pro VC academics and Pro VC administration also visited the NUMS examination center in Rawalpindi and witnessed the students taking their test.

All MBBS/BDS candidates with Pakistani nationality will have to secure 55pc and 45pc passing marks in MBBS and BDS respectively to be successful in the test and to compete for 2,075 seats. Of all the contesting candidates, **46,582 girls** and **23,641 boys** had applied for the NUMS MDCAT.

## NUMS Faculty Development Program

Name of Faculty	Program/ Scheme	Degree Persuing	Subject	PhD Research	University of Malaya
Dr. Mehmood Asghar	UESTP	PhD	Restorative Dentistry	Effect of Incorporation of Green Capping Agents on the Biochemical Properties, Tooth Staining Potential and Remineralisation Properties of Silver Diamine Flouride	Queen Mary University of London
Dr. Saima Usman	UESTP	PhD	Dentistry	Role of Vimentin in Cancer Progression	The University of Edinnurgh, United Kingdom
Dr. Muhammad Ahmed Raza	OSS-III Batch 1	PhD	Artificial Intelligence	-	Technische University Dresdon, Germany
Dr. Salman	OSS-III Batch 1	PhD	Biomedical Engineering	-	University of Malaya
Dr M. Fahad Sheikh	OSS-III (Batch I)	PhD	Biomedical Engineering	-	Swinburne University of Technology (Australia)
Dr. M. Mohsin Malik	OSS-III (Batch I)	PhD	Artificial Intelligence	-	Technical University of Munich (Germany)

## NUMS International Contributions

### Contribution in International Quality Education Project of OAAAQA (SUR ISR-II)



Director Quality Assurance NUMS, Air Cdre (Retd) Muhammad Ismail, is on the Panel of International/External Reviewers of Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance in Higher Education (OAAAQA), since 2007. He has worked on different panels for the accreditation/audit-review of many Omani

Institutions of Higher Education. These panels consisted of experts from different countries; like USA, UK, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Lebanon, India, Tunisia etc.

Muhammad Ismail, on **18 November, 2021**, was invited /engaged by the OAAAQA for the Institutional Standard Review–II (ISR-II) of Sur University College (SUC), Oman (Annex- A). He had been working with the Review Director Dr Wafa Al Mansoori (Bahrain) and the panel members Dr Diane Meehan (UK) and Dr Azzah Al Maskari (Oman). He was supposed to visit SUC during 13-15 Feb, 2022 but then OAAAQA informed that two members (Dr Wafa from Bahrain and Dr Azzah from Oman) will attend the meeting in person and Muhammad Ismail and UK Expert Dr. Diane Meehan will have online (virtual) visit to SUC instead of physical visit due to Covid-19 issue (Annex-B). The Panel produced six versions of the review report; sixth being final made available on the OAAAQA Webportal (Annex-C). In this way, the review process was completed on 07 September, 2022.



## NUMS National Contribution

## Drafting of Infection Prevention and Control Guidelines (IPC)



A good quality healthcare system is based on the principle of: “Do No Harm”. It is well recognized that infections acquired from healthcare settings are of a huge concern for all countries, irrespective of their level of development, and can affect patients, healthcare workers (HCWs), and visitors.

***National Guidelines Infection Prevention & Control*** (available on National Institute of Health (NIH), Pakistan website) were developed mainly by using WHO recommendations, supplemented by the evidence-based and best practice guidelines published by the Centers for Disease Prevention & Control (CDC) along with other governmental organizations and professional

societies. Practical efforts have been made to keep these guidelines concise and simple; supplemented by illustrations to facilitate understanding.

These National IPC Guidelines were prepared with the help of experts from the WHO and a national technical working group comprising medical microbiologists, infectious diseases physicians and consultants in public health from all over the country. **Brig Dr Javaid Usman, Professor of Pathology (Microbiology), Army Medical College, National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS)** along with WHO expert has contributed towards the initial drafting of the IPC guidelines and hence had a contribution at National Level. A bounded copy of IPC Guidelines is also made available in NUMS Library for student’s reference.

### **Online Link to IPC Guidelines:**

[https://www.nih.org.pk/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/Complete\\_IPC\\_Guideliens.pdf](https://www.nih.org.pk/wpcontent/uploads/2020/04/Complete_IPC_Guideliens.pdf)



## Visit to Regional Blood Centre, Islamabad



The newly constructed **Regional Blood Centre (RBC)** in the Federal Capital, Islamabad, Pakistan was visited on **16 July 2021** by **Brig Dr Javaid Usman, Professor of Pathology (Microbiology), Army Medical College, National University of Medical Sciences (NUMS)**.

The objective of the visit included the following;

- To present the concept of Health Care Waste, i.e., safe collection, transportation, treatment and disposal of all different kinds of Health Care Waste (HCW) generated during blood transfusion activities in accordance with the Hospital Waste Management Rules, to the attendees.
- To train the existing staff for utilization of provided Health care waste management equipment, i.e., Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Start up supplies for safety of environment and occupational health.

**Fifty four** personnel attended the training session. The participants comprised administrators, doctors, laboratory technologists, laboratory technicians and other staff working in the RBC



## NUMS has officially joined Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) in 2022.

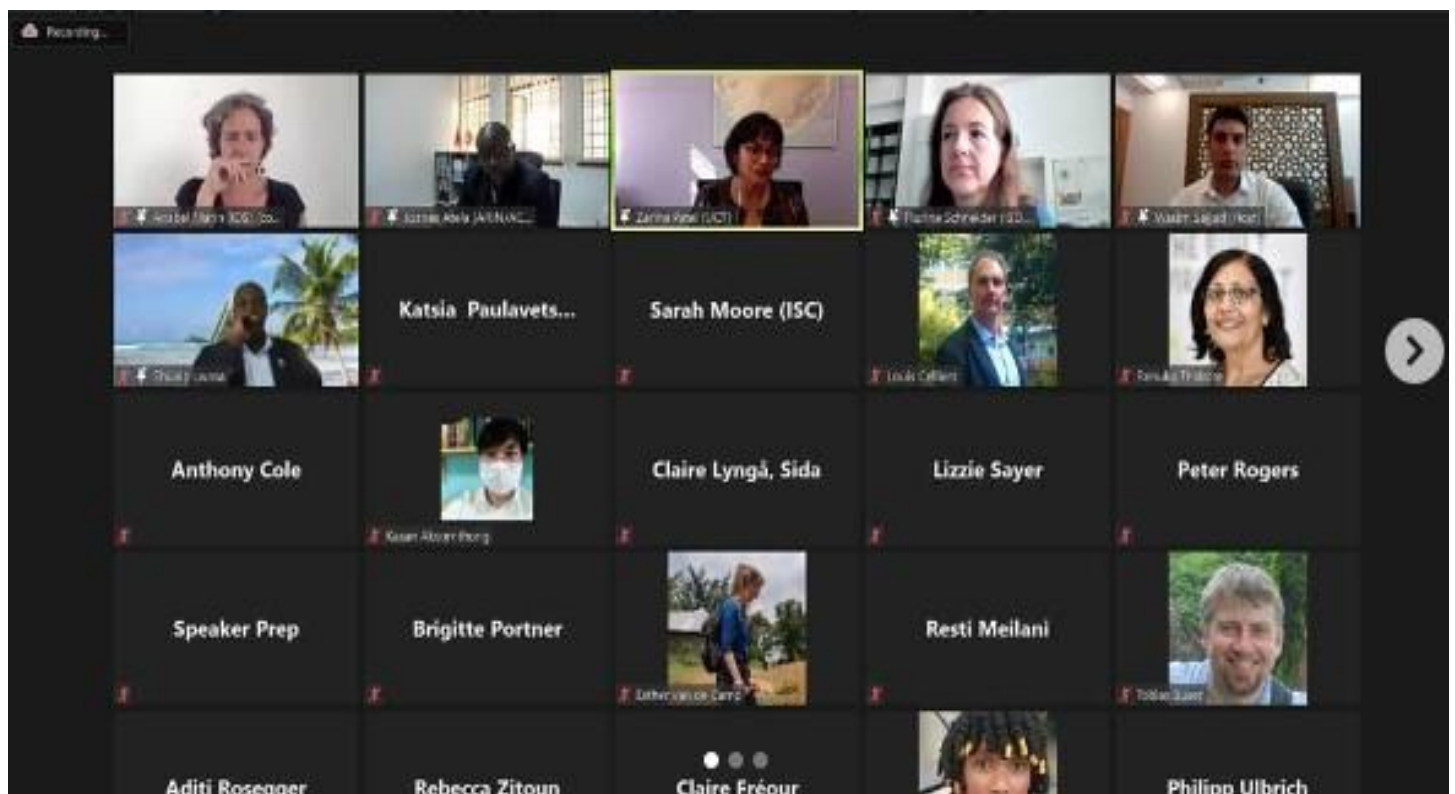
NUMS as a SDGs Engaged University is very keen to serve the nation as a whole through research, advocacy and provision of innovative solutions towards achievement of SDGs by collaborating with other institutions at National & International level in the field of Medicine, allied health and social sciences.



SDSN is a global network of knowledge-generating institutions advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDSN mobilizes the world's academic and research institutes and leverages their strengths to help realize the SDGs and the Paris Agreement. The SDSN pursues its mission by working with member institutions in countries around the world, organized into networks at the national and regional level. Each network focuses on distinct projects and priorities in line with their local contexts and challenges.

## NUMS Participation in Sustainability Research & Innovation Congress (2021, at Brisbane)

Dr. Wasim Sajjad Assistant Professor DBS, NUMS presented his virtual idea and contested in competition. The idea was based on the concept of circular Bio-economy to provide as sustainable bio-based solution to textile industry. The textile sector in Pakistan contributes 57% to the country's exports, contributes 8.5% to the GDP and second largest employment sector in Pakistan. The Pakistani textiles industry is facing serious challenges of water and energy costs that directly hampers its competitiveness in the international market, however one of the solutions to make Pakistan's textile industry more globally competitive is sustainable technological solutions "make more with less" while saving energy and generating less waste can support the industry in mitigating these challenges. Dr. Wasim Sajjad highlighted the role of microbes in bio-economy. Moving from the traditional techniques and petrochemicals towards a sustainability by use of microbial biotechnology is the future. Value-added compounds ranging from house hold detergents to expensive bio-based colors, enzymes and chemicals can be produced from the industrial effluent and sustainable feedstock. Textile processing with enzymes is a win-win, cut production times (20–25%), energy (25-30%), harsh chemicals (1 ton of CO<sub>2</sub>), and water (70,000 liters) per ton knitted fabric.



## UK Prof Janet Grant Visit to NUMS

Dr. Janet Grant, a UK expert on medical education delivered a lecture on “Thinking about improving Medical Education” which was organized by Health Profession Education of the National University of Medical



Sciences (NUMS) at the Army Medical College(AMC). The occasion was graced by Principal of AMC Maj Gen Farrukh Saeed HI(M) (Retd), NUMS’s Pro Vice Chancellor Academics Maj Gen Saleem Ahmed Khan HI(M) (Retd), Maj Gen Khalid Naveed (Retd), Principal Wah Medical College, Maj Gen Imran Fazal (Retd) Principal of Foundation Medical College, Dean of Social Sciences and Humanities NUMS, Prof. Azam Chaudhary, Prof. Aamir Shahzad Director Academics Clinical, Dean Multidisciplinary Studies Dr Aisha Mohyuddin, Dr.

Ayesha Rauf Head of Department of Health Professions Education and other senior members of faculty of the university.

The focus of Prof. Grant’s talk was curriculum and factors affecting its design and implementation for achieving the best outcomes.

## IMPACT OF CLIMATE DRIVEN NATURAL CALAMITIES ON CHRONIC DISEASES AND DISABILITY IN A GLOBAL WEEK TO ACT ON NCDs AND SDGs



NUMS Department of Public Health (DPH) conducted Global Week for Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) from 15 August to 5 September 2022. The advocacy event on September 5, marked the end of the awareness and health promotion Campaign. Prof. Dr. Uzma Hassan, Head of Department Public Health, speaking on the subject said that the youth-led activity is to mark the inextricable interconnections between health, chronic diseases, and sustainable development. Cardiovascular diseases, chronic respiratory disease, cancers, diabetes, and mental health problems are constantly on the rise and these major groups of NCDs (also called chronic diseases) account for 77% of all NCD deaths in Low-and middle-income countries like Pakistan.

## Participation at INTERNATIONAL VACCINE INSTITUTE (IVI) SEOUL, KOREA



The International Vaccine Institute (IVI) is a nonprofit International Organization initiated by United Nations Development Program (UNDP) devoted to new vaccines for global health, and is headquartered in Seoul, Republic of Korea. After its establishment in 1997, the IVI has initiated training course on vaccinology annually. Each time, the IVI selected ten fellows based on their novel work in the field of vaccine science to participate in their annual vaccinology course. Dr. Muhammad Tariq Navid, Assistant Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences, National University of Medical Sciences in Rawalpindi, Pakistan represented Pakistan as IVI Fellow. Dr. Navid is working on vaccine development in Pakistan. He has developed novel Rabies recombinant vaccines while staying at State Key Laboratory for Agricultural Microbiology, P.R. China. Dr. Navid has awarded 13 million grant from Higher Education of Pakistan (HEC) for remodeling of foot and mouth disease (FMD) vaccine in Pakistan through novel recombinant strategies. In recognition of his work on vaccine development, Dr. Navid was invited by IVI to participate in this specialized event. Lead representatives from various global dynamic institutions were the part of this IVI's event. This representation has opened new horizons for international linkages and collaborations with reputed organizations for the NUMS-Pakistan.

## **NUMS Faculty Visited Qarshi Industries to Explore Potential Areas of Collaboration**

A team of faculty members from the Sections of Phytochemistry and Natural Product Research and Biotechnology visited Qarshi Industries, Hattar, Haripur on September 19, 2022 to explore the areas of mutual interest in order to establish collaboration between the two institutions. Qarshi is one of the top herbal industries in Pakistan, manufacturing more than 300 products. Apart from its prestige in product manufacturing from indigenous resources, Qarshi has ongoing research and development (R&D) activities in herbal materials standardization, including DNA barcoding, medicinal plant gardening supported by herbarium, seed bank and tissue culture facilities, and product development laboratories.

At the Qarshi Industry, NUMS Scientists were warmly welcomed and briefed about the existing product lines and future research programs. At the meeting, both sides deliberated on how a discovery/innovation at NUMS can be put use at industry through collaboration. The areas of mutual interest identified include, possibility of working on joint research on new product development, plant cell culture, funding and placement of MS/PhD students at Qarshi for their research work and training the manpower and help establish research facility. Later, NUMS team visited Qarshi Herb Garden, various laboratories and also met with the staff and scientists working there. The NUMS team from Phytochemistry and Natural Products Research was represented by Dr. Aman Karim, Dr. Sayed Afzal Shah, Dr. Nosheen Akhtar, Dr. Irum Mushtaq, from Biotechnology Dr. Muhammad Adil, and Microbiology was represented by Dr. Saeed Ahmad. The team from Qarshi Industry was represented by Mr. Muhammad Imran (Head of the Qarshi Research International), Dr. Nasir Hayat Khan (In-charge, Department of Product Process Innovation), Mr. Rashid Afzal (Manager Horticulture) and Dr. Shafi Ullah (Senior Scientific Officer, Quality Control, Publications and Research).

## NUMS Public Health Department Organized International Day Of Persons

### With Disabilities 2022 (IDPD-2022)

Disability inclusion is an essential condition in upholding human rights, sustainable development, and peace and security. It is also central to the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to leave no one behind.

This event was exclusively organized by the students of all batches of BSPH NUMS under the supervision of Dr. Tamkeen Jaffry (Associate Professor Public Health). They celebrated this day to increase awareness of gains to be derived from the integration of persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. The ceremony was moderated by students of BSPH and began with a welcome note and recitation of Holy Quran. Students of all three batches played videos featuring independent living, inclusive education, barrier free & right-based society and access to justice for the person with disabilities. They also prepared a video related to their visit to local NGO- Institute for Different-abled Young & Adults(IDYA). Posters focusing on right opportunities, personal choice, and community involvement for the disabled people were also displayed. Mr Asim Zafar CEO Saaya Association was the guest speaker, graced the occasion by his presence, and appreciated the great potential and talent of students exhibited during the event. The HOD Public Health Prof.Dr Uzma Hassan in her concluding remarks stressed upon the importance of the observance of this day as it aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disability.



**Prepared by:** Sumiya Nauman, Manager QA/Focal person for IR

