

JULY – DECEMBER 2019



PAK-UK EDUCATION GATEWAY NEWSLETTER

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Dear Reader,

We are delighted to introduce this first edition of the Higher Education and Skills newsletter. We intend to make it a regular bi-annual publication and use it to keep in touch with news, developments, and activities which connect Higher Education in Pakistan to the UK.

We are keen to respond to the interests of our readers and look forward to your feedback and comments.

PAK-UK EDUCATION GATEWAY

Pak-UK Education Gateway is your pit stop for knowledge exchange, leadership development, student and teacher training, scholarships, and research collaborations with the UK. It is built on existing collaborations between the UK and Pakistan that the British Council and Higher Education Commission have facilitated over the last fifteen years.

NEWS AND FEATURES

Starting off



Video: Inauguration Ceremony of the Pak-UK Education Gateway at the Higher Education Commission in Islamabad in November 2018

Twelve months of continued consultative engagement with the UK- PK HE sector culminated in [a 4-day launch ceremony](#) with the most senior UK delegation in Pakistan in Nov 2018, an investment worth GBP 2 Million – an equal contribution from HEC and the British Council. We now have a rigorous project plan revolving around seven main themes in academia:

1. Innovative, Impactful and Collaborative research
2. Higher Education Leadership
3. Quality Assurance and Standard Setting
4. Distance Learning and New Ways of Delivery of Higher Education
5. International Mobility
6. Transnational Education
7. Citizenship education and community engagement



Video: Matthew Foster sharing his views on the Pak-UK Education Gateway while visiting LUMS in Lahore, Pakistan

Orientation

In May 2019, we hosted sessions with Vice Chancellors, Rectors and senior management staff of HEIs in all four provinces in Pakistan to understand the needs of our stakeholders and bring them up to speed with the upcoming opportunities under the project.



GOING GLOBAL

More than 950 leaders in higher education, business and government attended the British Council's 13th annual Going Global conference, taking place in Berlin from the 13th to the 15th May 2019. Over 85 countries are represented by delegates, including vice-chancellors, pro vice-chancellors, and government ministers.

Pak-UK Education Gateway was promoted at the conference in May 2019. Dr. Tariq Banuri, Chairman Higher Education Commission, met with various stakeholders and discussed ways to strengthen academic partnerships between the world and Pakistan against the example set by Pak-UK Education Gateway.

In the session revolving around [“Digital collaboration to sustain global research”](#) on the 2nd day of the conference, the research culture in Pakistan to strengthen engagement with the public through digital was also discussed among other themes.

Left: Pakistan poster – Indigenous Solution to global Problems - displayed at Going Global 2019 by Sarah Parvez, Head Higher Education and Skills, British Council Pakistan

UK ALUMNI IN PAKISTAN



STUDY UK Alumni Awards 2019

Twelve finalists were selected from more than 150 applicants from across Pakistan, for their outstanding achievements as business professionals, entrepreneurs and community leaders, and for their important contribution to strengthening collaborative ties between the UK and Pakistan. The following 3 award winners were announced at the award ceremony on Friday 21 June 2019: They are:

1. **Entrepreneurial Award:**
Osman Haneef, CEO & Managing Director, BIMA Pakistan
2. **Social Impact Award:**
Salima Begum, Instructor, Elementary College for Women Gilgit
3. **Professional Achievement Award:**
Shahzaib Ali, Senior Manager Digital Transformation, HBL

To find out more about our finalists, winners and our UK alumni engagement activities, visit [here](#).

PAKISTAN SCOTTISH SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME 2019-20

The Pakistan Scottish Scholarship Scheme first launched in 2013 aims to assist Pakistani women – all committed to not only improving their futures but also contributing to the economic and social betterment of Pakistan – to pursue higher education. Last year alone, over 6000 exceptional young women from across Pakistan applied for consideration. These impactful scholarships have thus so far supported over 700 women to pursue

education at master's level in areas such as food security, education, health and STEM, all of critical importance to Pakistan.

This year, for the very first time, these scholarships are being offered at the undergraduate level as well. To find out more, please visit our website [here](#).

Deadline: Last date to apply is
30 August 2019

OPPORTUNITIES

- **Exploratory Grants | 10 June 2019**
These will be open to universities and independent researchers who aim to initiate research partnerships. This scoping study will help you to secure funding when opportunities are available for research projects.
- **Mobility grants for Faculty and Students | 10 September 2019**
To improve the two-way international mobility in HE between UK and Pakistani by providing placement opportunities to faculty and students from both countries for cultural, creative, and intellectual exchange.
- **Collaborative Research Grants | October 2019**
The British Council in Pakistan and HEC will jointly announce a call for multilateral research partnerships between Pakistan and the UK universities and research bodies and existing centers of excellence. The purpose of the research grants is to create collaboration clusters and hubs between both countries.
- **What should you do?**
We recommend that our stakeholders prepare for the upcoming opportunities well before we make the announcements. This process would generally include identifying your institution's needs, making the first contact with potential partners, i.e., identifying UK organizations that can potentially contribute to your areas of interest and forming a project plan in advance. You might also want to contact local third-parties to form a consortium to execute the proposed research partnership.

CONTACT US

For further information, please visit:

www.hec.gov.pk

www.britishcouncil.pk

You can email us at Pak-UKGateway@britishcouncil.org.

Or contact the focal point for the project.

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