



HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, ISLAMABAD (PAKISTAN) Website: www.hec.gov.pk

Prof. Dr. Mahmood ul Hasan Butt
CONSULTANT

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Dated: October 18, 2017

Subject: "US-Pakistan Knowledge Corridor", Opportunities for Pakistani Scholars to Pursue PhD Studies in Ranked US Universities

My dear Vice Chancellor,

I am writing to request your help in encouraging outstanding non-Ph.D. faculty in your university to participate in Scholarship program for doctoral studies at leading US universities under "US-Pakistan Knowledge Corridor"

2. The US-Pakistan Knowledge Corridor was conceptualized to significantly increase the number and quality of faculty in our HEIs. It aims to provide opportunities for 10,000 Pakistani scholars over the next ten years for doctoral studies at US universities. In the initial phase, HEC is focusing on sending 1,500 PhD scholars to the leading US universities, beginning Fall-2017 semester. The first group of the scholars has started their program in US ranked universities.

3. The project titled PhD Scholarships under US Pakistan Knowledge Corridor was approved in principle by the Executive Committee of National Economic Council (ECNEC), Government of Pakistan, on 25th January 2017. Currently, the operational activities are in process & a Second annual open "Call for Scholarship" for fall, 2018 will be advertised soon in the national dailies.

The scholarship targets priority fields of study defined on national need basis: the broad categories are Arts & Humanities; Design & Media; Water Resources & Energy, Social Sciences, Physical Sciences, Business Sciences, Agriculture & Food security, Veterinary Sciences, Engineering & Technology, Emerging Technology, Nano-Technology, Computers, Medical & Allied Health Sciences, Bio-Technology, Telecommunications, Human-made Materials, Robotics, Microelectronics.

4. You are requested to:

- Encourage prospective PhD candidates, preferably the non-PhD faculty in your university to avail this opportunity upon advertisement of "Call for Scholarship" for fall, 2018.
- Explore and encourage already enrolled students of MS/MPhil/Masters, completing 18 years of education to benefit from this opportunity.
- Promptly disseminate the Call for Scholarship among faculty & students on campus through other suitable channels on priority basis. HEC is forwarding posters to all universities for wide projection of available PhD Scholarships under US-Pak Knowledge Corridor.
- Disseminate details of: Eligibility criteria; academic criteria; general instructions; specific instructions; List of Ranked US universities which are available on the following link:
www.hec.gov.pk/site/US-PakCorridor

5. HEC is also offering "Talent Farming Program" to enable candidates to prepare for achieving high scores in GRE + TOEFL examinations required for admission in ranked US universities. The candidates will be provided orientation session about US graduate studies programs and detailed preparation for successfully taking the required admission tests. The talent farming programs will be available at all provincial capitals & Islamabad at selected university campuses.

6. HEC appreciates your help in increasing the number and quality of faculty in our universities.

Yours sincerely,

(Prof. Dr. Mahmood ul Hasan Butt)

Lt Gen Rizwan Akhtar, H St. HI (M),
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