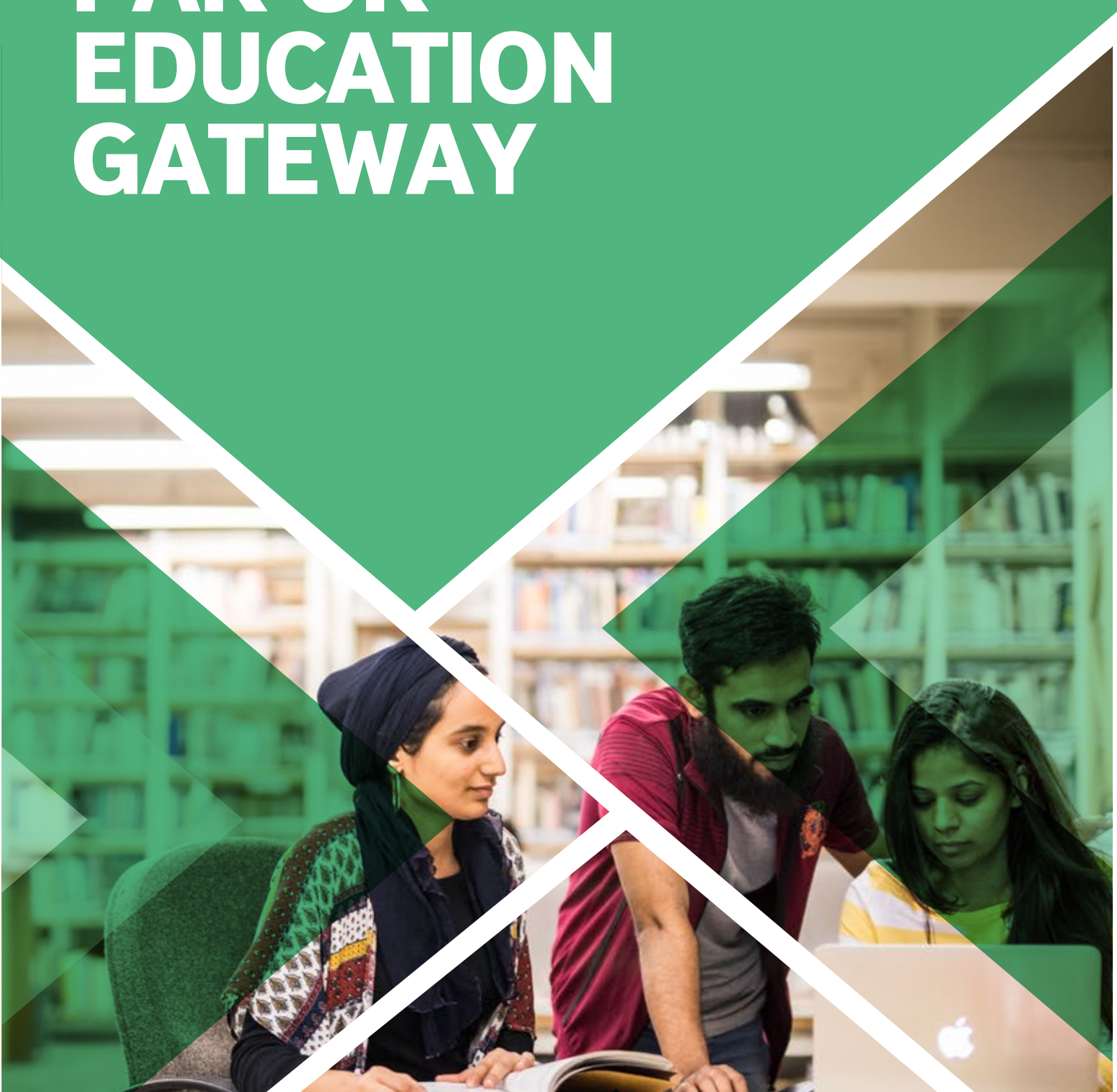




PAK-UK EDUCATION GATEWAY





Consultant HEC Dr. Mehmood UI Hassan Butt along with Secretary General Association of Commonwealth Universities Joanna Newman, British High Commissioner Thomas Drew, Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood, Country Director British Council Rosemary Hilhorst officiated the launch of PAK-UK Education Gateway.



PAK-UK Education Gateway is a partnership between the British Council and the Higher Education Commission of Pakistan which aims to develop human resource capital and cultivate knowledge capital through improved quality of higher education and skills development institutions in Pakistan. It opens doors for establishing strong partnerships of policy learning, in which stakeholders from both the UK and Pakistan can co-develop solutions to challenges faced by the higher education system in Pakistan thereby contributing to the social and knowledge economies of both countries.

The project was conceived on the basis of shared interest and mutual benefit for both the UK and Pakistan. The programme has been developed to cover core areas including: Innovative, Impactful and Collaborative Research; Higher Education Leadership; Quality Assurance and Standard Setting; Distance Learning and New Ways of Delivery of Higher Education; International Mobility and Transnational Education, Citizenship Education and Community Engagement.

In 2018, British Council and HEC organised six roundtables in London, Edinburgh, Birmingham, Bath, Belfast and Cardiff, which were attended by the UK higher education sector. The delegation from Pakistan interacted with more than 100 UK Higher Education representatives from 40 institutions and UK bodies. The positive response from both sectors demonstrates willingness to develop long term strategic relationships between these two countries.

The PAK-UK Education Gateway launched at a ceremony held at the Higher Education Commission in Islamabad in the presence of the Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood, and the British High Commissioner to Pakistan, Thomas Drew CMG. On the occasion, the **High Commissioner announced an additional investment of GBP 1 million** which would be invested in the Gateway to support the development of the Research Excellence Framework.



Day 2 of UK Higher Education Leaders visit to Pakistan.

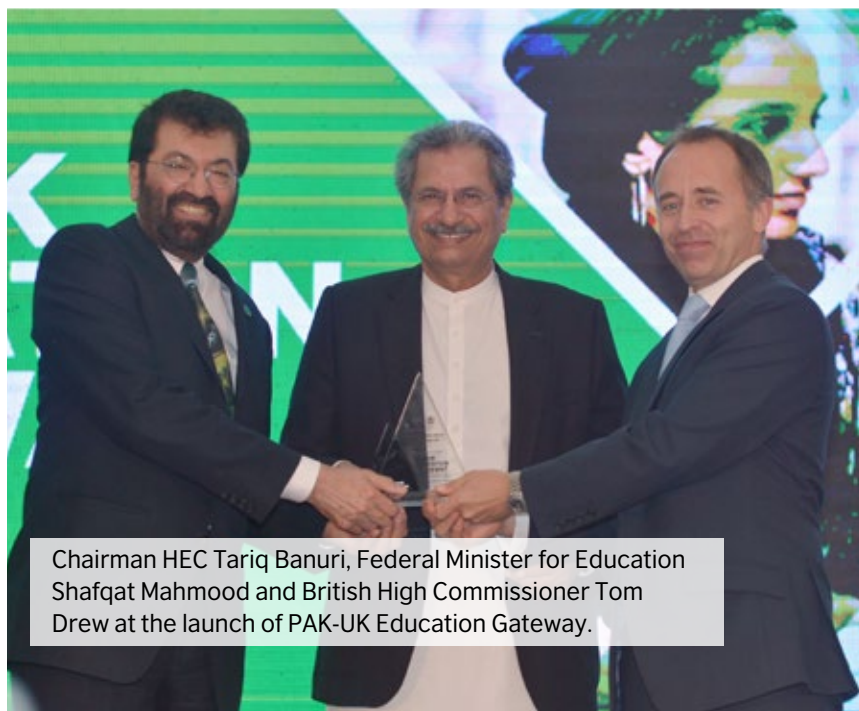
After the success of the roadshows in the UK, the British Council and Higher Education Commission of Pakistan invited a group of the UK Higher Education Senior Leaders to visit Pakistan between 25-29 November 2018.

The most senior delegation from the UK Higher Education Sector to visit Pakistan in living memory arrived on the invitation of the British Council in Pakistan and the Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan to officially launch the PAK-UK Education Gateway. The delegation of over 18 Higher Education leaders from the UK was led by Dr. Joanna Newman, Chief Executive and Secretary General of The Association of Commonwealth Universities.

The launch ceremony was attended by over a 100 Vice Chancellors from Pakistani universities during which the Higher Education Commission announced the Transnational Education policy for foreign Universities to operate in Pakistan. The British Council and Quality Assurance Agency UK prepared the ground work for the development of the TNE policy by reviewing the existing UK TNE provisions in Pakistan.

Addressing the audience at the launch ceremony, Chairman HEC Dr. Tariq Banuri shed some light on the needs of the future, 'It is a brilliant start. Yet, we want to take it not only to thousands but to tens of thousands,' he underlined. He

The panellists reflected on phenomena's around, **'Fix the woman, Fix the organisation, Fix the knowledge'**; strategies work in improving the gender balance in higher education leadership, **'Imposter Syndrome'**, do women experience it in Pakistani Universities and what are global strategies to deal with these.



Chairman HEC Tariq Banuri, Federal Minister for Education Shafqat Mahmood and British High Commissioner Tom Drew at the launch of PAK-UK Education Gateway.

stressed the need for developing the bilateral academic relationship in a way that helps Pakistan build up its universities. He underscored that global parity is essential to help the future generations address the challenges. "We need to train our children to be global citizens, as we know for sure that the challenges they will face will be of global character," he stated. He emphasised that all academic institutions need a strategy to enhance global engagement.

Advancing the conversation around the large-scale transnational partnerships in higher education, Country Director British Council Rosemary Hilhorst added, 'Through this partnership we continue to bring the UK's knowledge and expertise to Pakistan in support of HEC in their ambition to develop and build the capacity of higher education institutions in the country. We look forward to working with the HEC and our UK partners in making this gateway a success and add value to bilateral and mutually beneficial relationships'.

An extensive programme was set up for the delegates, visit, which included the launch of two very important pieces of research: Women in Higher Education and Culture of Research. The documents were co-produced by the British Council and Higher Education Commission. The UK delegation was engaged in panel discussions based on the sub-themes of Distance Learning, International Mobility, Transnational Education, Quality Assurance and Standard Setting. These discussions were attended by 250 senior representatives from 188 Pakistani universities.

The launch of the 'Women in Research' report was held in the evening of day 2 of the UK Higher Education Leaders visit to Pakistan. The event was moderated by Director Education British Council Maryam Rab and Monitoring Unit



UK delegation visits Government College University, Lahore.

at the British Council. She also presented the findings of the study and suggested ways forward. The panel included experts from academia such as, Pro Vice-Chancellor (International) and Chief Executive University of London Worldwide Dr. Mary Stiasny OBE, Vice Chancellor International Islamic University Islamabad Professor Masoom Yasinzai, Vice Chancellor Fatima Jinnah Women University Professor Samina Amin Qadir and MBE - CEO & Secretary General at Association of Commonwealth Universities Dr. Joanna Newman MBE.

The launch of 'Culture of Research' was held on day 3 and moderated by Director Education British Council Nishat Riaz. Experts were

invited to discuss the findings of the report. Vice Chancellor Quaid-e-Azam University Dr. Muhammad Ali, Pro Vice-Chancellor School of Water, Energy and Environment Cranfield University Professor Simon Pollard, Vice Chancellor University of Engineering and Technology Lahore Dr. Fazal Ahmed Khalid and Former Deputy Chairman Planning Commission Dr. Nadeem ul Haq were present on the panel and gave crucial insights into the research culture and how to mould it to fit the market demand. Globally, universities have become hubs for innovation and market driven – a concept missing in major universities in Pakistan. The group reviewed issues around who owns the research agenda, current state of research



Dr. Joanna Newman shares her experience at the launch of 'Women in Higher Education'.



Panellists deliberate on 'how central students are in making universities places of high value', at National College of Arts, Lahore.



UK delegation interacts with faculty at King Edward Medical College, Lahore.

and where it is ought to be, how to see, encourage and apply research in existing climate and the ingredients to flourish a research friendly ecosystem.

Following the launch of 'Culture of Research' report, three parallel panel sessions were held. 'Leadership Development and University Governance Systems' – The esteemed panel was moderated by Dr. Maryam Rab and the panel included Provost University of Central Lancashire Dr. Ebrahim Adia, Advisor to Higher Education Commission Dr. Mahmood Ul Hassan Butt, Head of International Partnerships University of Reading Steven Thomas and Former Vice Chancellor IT University Lahore Dr. Umar Saif.

The panellists discussed the leadership development processes that exist in the UK universities, the interventions that helped them evolve and address the need to change. Similarly, the dynamics of governance processes in Pakistan were brought to light and the areas were identified where technical assistance from UK would result beneficial, as quoted by Steve Thomas, 'Excellence at home comes from excellence abroad' – highlighting the growing need for transnational collaborations. Pakistan aims to establish 100 more universities over the next 5 years – the support that will come as a result of the Gateway will help pave the way

for effective and efficient governance of these institutions.

Dr. Mahmood Ul Hassan Butt emphasized that, 'This gateway is an avenue available to all my Pakistani colleagues to autonomously think what are the kinds of relationships that you would like to develop with British partners and institutions and what are the things we can learn from each other.'

The session 'Quality Assurance in Higher Education' was moderated by Regional Director UK British Council Jackie Killeen. The panel was represented by Pro-Vice Chancellor Oxford Brookes University Professor Paul Inman, Consultant Quality Assurance HEC Muhammad Ismail, Dean of Sciences Royal Holloway University UK Professor Jose Fiadeiro, and Dean of Faculty Social Sciences Air University Dr. Wasima Shahzad.

The discussion centred on the criteria devised for quality assurance in both, UK and Pakistan. HEC is the main regulatory body in Pakistan and has steered the quality of education towards improvement – despite these measures, there are loopholes that need to be addressed. Through dialogue with the UK representatives, it was established that the tertiary education in UK, much like Pakistan, is also experiencing a new wave of reforms through legislations.

Pro-Vice Chancellor Oxford Brookes University Paul Inman weighed in that, **'Quality must be reliable, fair and inclusive. In terms of our admission system, it should be inclusive and fair especially where you plan to implement access to education as an agenda'**

he added that, **'Student satisfaction surveys have become a way of life for academics. The students score their teaching and universities get ranked. This lets the sector have a transparent complaints procedure where students can complain about the quality of education that they have received'**.



Matthew Foster from Open University UK speaks on 'Innovation in teaching and learning through leadership and governance' at Fatima Jinnah Women University.



UK delegation visits Lahore University of Management Sciences.



Governor Punjab Chaudhary Muhammad Sarwar hosts the UK delegation at Governor House.

According to UNESCO statistics, in the last 5 years, **UK has been the 2nd destination for Pakistani students to pursue their education.**

This thereby also shows that there is demand and requirement and a need for policy formulation whereby we can invite foreign universities from around the UK to come operate in Pakistan.

Maintaining and catering to student creativity in the face to rigid quality assurance measures was also deliberated upon. Professor Jose opined, 'While devising curriculum, academics need to ask themselves if their teaching is stimulating critical thinking, innovation and the capacity to create. Are they equipping the students with the soft skills they need such as communication, team work and professional values?' Professor Waseema seconded the thought by adding that, 'The knowledge that they [students] bring to the university is very important and that is where we need to focus our energies'.

The third panel 'Open and Distance Learning and Transnational Education' was moderated by Senior Higher Education Adviser British Council Liz Dempsey. The panel was represented by Executive Dean Faculty of Business and Law Open University UK Professor Devendra Kodwani, Vice Chancellor Allama Iqbal Open University Dr. Zia Ul Qayyum, Head of ACCA Pakistan Sajjeed Aslam, Director General Attestation and Accreditation HEC Tahir Abbas Zaidi, Pro Vice Chancellor (International) and Chief Executive University of London Dr. Mary Stiasny OBE

and Dean Magna Carta College Dr. David Oakley Faulkner

Translational education and open distance learning are very important areas in Pakistan's Higher Education sector. We have seen significant expansion in the sector over the last 15 years. Access has also increased from 2% to 8% over the last 15 years, however, there is still a significant demand that is currently unmet.

Tahir Abbas Zaidi informed the audience that HEC has formulated a national policy for translational education in the country which gives opportunity to internationally recognised universities to operate in Pakistan in the translational education system.

The main aim of the transnational Education policy is to protect and safeguard the rights of the students to ensure they receive quality education and degrees that are both recognised by HEC and internationally.

Professor Devendra Kodwani views access to higher education as, 'fundamental to future civilisations, to the economy and the societies in general, and should be seen not just as an experience an 18-21-year-old goes through but as an access to learning resources for a wide spectrum of people'.

The sessions were lively and reeled in questions and suggestions from the audience, making for overall very useful and impactful interchange of thoughts and ideas.

Visits to some of Pakistan's leading varsities were arranged including Fatima Jinnah Women University, National University of Science and Technology, Lahore University of Management Sciences, King Edward Medical College and Government College University Lahore.

The delegates and the faculties had the opportunity to discuss areas of shared interest, laying the foundation for future collaborations within the



Secretary General Association of Commonwealth Universities Joanna Newman receives a shield from Pro-Rector Academics NUST Dr. Asif Raza.

Gateway's framework. The delegation also experienced the culture in higher education institutions during the visits.

These visits were designed to allow interaction between the delegation and the faculty and students of the universities to facilitate a wider discussion and a clearer understanding of the links that can be established between Higher



Rector International Islamic University Islamabad, Dr. Masoom Yasinzai talks on the panel of 'Women in Higher Education'.

Education Institutes of both the UK and Pakistan. The delegation met provincial decisionmakers including the Governor of Punjab Muhammad Sarwar and the Provincial Minister Punjab for Higher Education Raja Yasir Humayun.

The week concluded with the UK and Pakistan Higher Education sector ready to build relationships in supporting change and helping young people unleash their potential. The launch of Pak-UK Education gateway generated a substantial buzz in the UK and Pakistani partners in local electronic and print media, as well as the social media. You can follow the hashtag #PakUKEducationGateway to catch a glimpse of the week that left our hearts full and prompted the momentum required for the Gateway to deliver on its prospects.

'We cannot increase access without the use of the ordeal technologies, and we cannot enable ordeal unless we use technology, the recent trends in technology'

- Dr. Zia ul Qayyum (Vice Chancellor, Allama Iqbal Open University) added his valuable opinion on the topic.

A summary of the week in terms of visibility in media can be found below:



29
Print Media



11
Electronic Media



01
Radio



#3
Trended #3 on Twitter

Overall, the media outreach was spread over approximately

17 million
viewers/users.



HEC Chairman, Dr. Tariq Banuri addresses an audience of 150 Vice - Chancellors at the launch of PAK - UK Education Gateway.

Some important tweets

Thomas Drew @TomDrewUK

Today launched #PakUKEducationGateway with Fed. Education Minister @Shafqat_Mahmood, HEC and British Council. Did so in front of over 100 Vice Chancellors from Pakistan and visiting UK higher ed. leaders. We're bringing our units together to help the young unleash their potential.



The ACU @The_ACU

'Higher education is the gateway to peace and prosperity in Pakistan' - Prof @CaraCaitchison vice-chancellor of @cardiffmet writes for @timeshighered following the recent #PAKUKEducationgateway launch @pkBritish @DrJoannaNewman



Higher education is the gateway to peace and prosperity in Pakistan. New ambitions to increase Pakistan's higher education capacity and collaborations with the UK are reason enough to hopeful for the country's future, says Cara C...

Paul Inman @paulinman

How many countries could arrange for 150 vice-chancellors to come together in one building? #Pakistan just did. Respect to @pkBritish and @The_ACU for organising #PakUKEducationGateway.



Jackie Killeen @JackieKilleen

Fantastic visit to @LifeAtLUMS #Lahore, inspired by the international, interdisciplinary, innovative ethos. Special pleasure to see the incubation centre & hear Dr Sarah Qureshi describe her pioneering work on zero-emission jet engines



PTV World Coverage

PRODUCER : AMIR BUTT

DIPLOMATIC ENCLAVE

GUESTS:

DR TARIQ BANURI
CHAIRMAN HEC

MS ROSEMARY HILHORST
COUNTRY DIRECTOR BRITISH COUNCIL

MS JOANNA NEWMAN
SECRETARY GENERAL ASSOCIATION OF COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITIES

with **OMAR KHALID BUTT**

Saturday at 9:05 pm

REPEAT : 03:05 PM NEXT DAY

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Delegates from UK



Dr. Ebrahim Adia
University of Central Lancashire



Bobby Mehta
University of Portsmouth



Consola Evans
Association of
Commonwealth Universities



David Faulkner
Magna Carta College



Dr. Faye Taylor
Association of
Commonwealth Universities



Dr. Fiaz Hussain
Cardiff Metropolitan University



Dr. Joanna Newman
Association of
Commonwealth Universities



Dr. Mary Stiasny
University of London



Jackie Killeen
British Council

Delegates from UK



Liz Dempsey
British Council



Matthew Foster
The Open University



Paul Inman
Oxford Brookes University



Professor Cara Aitchison
Cardiff Metropolitan University



**Professor
Devendra Kodwani**
The Open University



**Professor
Simon Pollard DSc FEng**
Cranfield University



Professor Jose Fiadeiro
Royal Holloway University



Professor Vince Emery
University of Surrey



Steve Thomas
University of Reading

Higher Education Organisations, UK



Higher Education Organisations, Pakistan

- Abbottabad University of Science & Technology
- Abdul Wali Khan University Mardan
- Aga Khan University
- Air University
- ALHAMD Islamic University
- Allama Iqbal Open University Islamabad
- Bacha Khan University Charsadda
- Bahauddin Zakariya University, Multan
- Bahria University
- Balochistan University of Engineering and Technology, Khuzdar
- Barrett Hodgson University, Karachi
- BUIITEMS
- CECOS University of IT & Emerging Sciences, Peshawar
- City University of Science and IT Peshawar
- COMSATS
- Dadabhoy Institute of Higher Education
- DHA Suffa University
- FATA University
- Fatima Jinnah Women University
- Foundation University Islamabad
- GC University Lahore
- Ghulam Ishaq Institute of Engineering Sciences & Technology, Topi Swabi
- Gomal University, Dera Ismail Khan
- Government College University Faisalabad
- Government College Women University Faisalabad
- Government College Women University Sialkot
- Greenwich University, Karachi
- Hazara University, Mansehra
- Imperial College of Business Studies
- Indus University
- Institute of Business Management (IoBM) Karachi
- Institute of Southern Punjab Multan
- Institute of Space Technology (IST), Islamabad
- Iqra National University, Peshawar.
- Iqra University, Islamabad Campus
- Islamia College Peshawar
- Jinnah Sindh Medical University Karachi
- Jinnah University for Women
- Karakorum International University Gilgit Baltistan
- Khushal Khan Khattak University, Karak KP
- Khwaja Fareed University of Engineering & Information Technology, Rahim Yar Khan
- Kinnaird College for Women Lahore
- Lahore College for Women University
- Lahore Leads University
- Lasbela University of Agriculture, Water and Marine Sciences Uthal, (LUAWMS)
- Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro Hyderabad Sindh.
- Mirpur University of Science and Technology (MUST) Mirpur
- Muhammad Nawaz Shareef University of Agriculture Multan
- Muslim Youth University, Islamabad
- National College of Business Administration & Economics, Lahore
- National Defence University, Islamabad
- National Health University
- National University of Technology (NUTECH)
- NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi.
- NFC Institute of Engineering & Technology, Multan.
- NUR International , Lahore.
- NUST Islamabad
- Pakistan Institute of Fashion and Design, Lahore
- PMAS-Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi
- Preston University Kohat
- Preston University Kohat, Islamabad Campus
- Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
- Riphah International University
- Sardar Bahadur Khan Women's University, Quetta
- Sarhad University of Science and Information Technology, Peshawar
- Shaheed Benazir Bhutto City University, Karachi
- Shaheed Benazir Bhutto Dewan University
- Shaheed Benazir Bhutto University, Shaheed Benazirabad
- Shaheed Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto Medical University Larkana

- Shaheed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology (SZABIST)
- Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto University of Law, Karachi (SZABUL)
- Sindh Agriculture University Tandojam and Shaheed
- Sindh Madressatul Islam University, Karachi
- Sir Syed University of Engineering & Technology Karachi
- Sukkur IBA university
- The Benazir Bhutto Shaheed University of Technology and Skill Development Khairpur Mirs
- The Government Sadiq College Women University Bahawalpur
- The Institute of Management Sciences, Lahore
- The Superior College Lahore
- The University of Azad Jammu & Kashmir
- University of Baltistan, Skardu
- University of Engineering & Technology, Taxila
- University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore
- University of Health Sciences, Lahore
- University of Kotli, Azad Jammu & Kashmir
- University of Loralai,
- University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore
- University of Peshawar
- University of Sargodha
- University of Sialkot, Sialkot, Pakistan
- University of Sindh
- University of South Asia, Lahore
- University of Swabi
- University of The Poonch, Rawalakot
- University of Turbat
- University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore
- Women University Mardan
- Women University, Swabi

