

Accreditation visit of Food Science & Technology and Quality Assurance & Accreditation Awareness Seminar (Human Nutrition & Dietetics and Biotechnology) at Hamdard University-Karachi

November 25, 2022

Shaheed Hakim Mohammed Said (1920-1998) established Hamdard Pakistan in 1948. Within a few years, the herbal medical products of Hamdard became household names. The phenomenal business success of Hamdard brands is a legendary part of the business history of Pakistan. Hamdard University (HU) is a private research university with campuses in Karachi and Islamabad, Pakistan. It was founded in 1991 by the renowned philanthropist Hakim Said of the Hamdard Foundation. Hamdard is one of the first and the oldest private institutions of higher education in Pakistan. There are 07 faculties with 02 campuses. Total faculty strength of Engineering Sciences & Technology is more than 100. Food Science & Technology (FST) was initiated in 2019 under the department of Biomedical Engineering. Currently 320 students are enrolled in different semesters.

An Accreditation Inspection Committee (AIC) comprising of Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana, Chairperson NAEAC as a convener, Dr. Shahina Naz, Department of Food Science & Technology, University of Karachi as member conducted accreditation visit of Food Science & Technology (FST) department of Hamdard University, Karachi.

Engr. Prof. Dr. Muhammad Amir Saleem, Dean, Faculty of Engineering Sciences & Technology, HU, Karachi and Dr. Tariq Javed, Chairman, Department of Biomedical Engineering, HU, Karachi received the guests. Prof. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan, Vice Chancellor, HU, Karachi formally welcomed NAEAC and AIC team. Prof. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan chaired the inaugural session and presented the salient achievements of the university. Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana, Chairperson, NAEAC presented a brief overview of NAEAC and informed the faculty about the need & importance of accreditation in addition to highlighting the previous actionable recommendations.

Afterwards, AIC moved to the FST where detailed presentation and discussion was held. HoD of Food Science & Technology department briefed AIC in detail about the department working and achievements in terms of student's graduation, faculty positions and research projects. AIC also visited the departmental labs, classrooms, faculty offices and library. HoD also demonstrated the on-line process for teacher and course evaluation by students through QEC and also the individual teacher folder where the recorded lectures were uploaded during Covid-19 period. AIC also held individual meetings with faculty members to know the level of satisfaction. Subject experts also held individual meetings with students to get an insight teaching/working environment in the departments.

A Quality Assurance & Accreditation Awareness Seminar was also conducted at Hamdard University, Karachi on November 25, 2022. Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq A. Rajwana, Chairperson NAEAC was the Guest Speaker. The proceedings of the seminar started with the recitation of Holy Quran. Prof. Dr. Ishtiaq Rajwana speaking on the occasion emphasized, "Quality education and research guarantees bright future for the youth since knowledge economy is the new mantra of success in the world today to achieve progress and development goals. Competent and dedicated teachers play a pivotal role in the intellectual development and promotion of academic potential of the students". He also briefed the seminar participants about the working and performance of NAEAC. Students and faculty members of the department of Human Nutrition & Dietetics and Biotechnology attended the seminar.

In the exit meeting, program evaluator shared her observations with the Prof. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan, VC, HU, Karachi, Dean and other officials. Dr. Syed Shabib-ul-Hasan thanked NAEAC team for their day long deliberation and assured that the recommendations made by AIC would be implemented to raise the standard of education and to improve the skills of the graduates.

