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September 19, 2022

Ref: S.N. Nahar Teachers and A.R. Rahman Students Prizes

Dear Vice Chancellor Prof. Shakil A Romshoo

Assalamu alaikum.

I am an atomic astrophysicist in the Astronomy Department of the Ohio State University (OSU), USA. I know the need for education and research in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) disciplines which are also the objectives of IUST. I promote them through recognition which brings encouragement and motivation for extra effort for achievements. It is a fact that any recognition always brings only the positive impact.

I have been in contact with Prof. Mir Hashim Rasool and Prof. Farooq Bhatt in the Department of Physics of IUST regarding initiating the recognition program at IUST. They are very supportive. Based on the information from them and from IUST website, I am proposing 6 prizes at IUST: 3 in Physics (2 faculty and 1 student), 2 in Chemistry (1 faculty and 1 student) and 1 faculty in Mathematics. The attached MOA has the details of the objectives, guidelines, and prizes. They are similar to those established at AMU. Please let me know your comments.

The purpose of the recognition program is to give annual prizes which will come from the profit of the endowment of \$8000 that I will sponsor. Following Hashim, the current annual returns will yield rupees equivalent to \$100 for each prize. Once the recognition program is approved, I will send the fund to IUST.

I have known both Hashim and Prof. Farooq for some time and received invitation from them to visit IUST in 2018 while I was at University of Kashmir. I have been to University of Kashmir almost every year since 2014. However, due to my lecture course at Aligarh Muslim University I could not stay longer to visit IUST. I may like to add that Hashim received the best Ph.D. thesis award in physics at AMU that I established. Prof. Altaf Wani at Radiology OSU, originally from Kashmir, is a good friend and we have been collaborating on programs since 2013. We talked about IUST about a week ago and he has sent his best regards to you.

I am very pleased to know that extended programs for PhD at IUST have already started and I would like to extend the recognition program for the PhD students in the future.

I would appreciate very much your cooperation in establishing the recognition for teachers and students at IUST. If OK with IUST, the program can give prizes starting in 2022 and I am willing to give extra funds.

Best regards,

Prof Sultana N. Nahar

Memorandum of Agreement:

Sultana N. Nahar and Alburuj R. Rahman Annual Prizes in PHYSICS, CHEMISTRY, and MATHEMATICS at Islamic University of Science and Technology

1. Purpose:

To recognize and motivate teachers for the best teaching in class and outstanding research publications and encourage students for the best academic performance and research excellence in Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics.

In the present recognition program, the role of teachers is emphasized more in order to increase the number of graduating students with higher quality of education. There is always a limited number of top students in the class. Recognition will encourage them to continue their best effort to achieve higher excellence. However, it is for the rest of the class who may fall behind in grasping the subject materials where the teachers can play the most important role. Motivated teachers can help uplifting the standard of the entire class by better teaching skill, being more helpful and providing positive inspiration, when not only the top students the whole class will benefit. This program will recognize teachers annually to support and encourage their effort for the best teaching which raises the standard of the class. Students, who are the direct beneficiary of knowledge, will nominate their teachers.

Teachers also play the most crucial role in guiding and leading research. Without research and publications, there are no advances and the university will not be known outside. Hence faculty members will be recognized annually for the best research.

Initiation of recognition will begin in the Departments of Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics with a plan to include others in the future. The program will have four prizes for faculty members, two for Physics, one for Chemistry, and one for Mathematics. Although the sponsor is proposing two faculty prizes in physics, she is open to two in chemistry and mathematics in the future. There will be two M.Sc. student prizes, one for Physics and one for Chemistry. There is no M.Sc. program in Mathematics at this time in 2022.


2. Funding:

The prizes are sponsored by Prof. Sultana N. Nahar of the Ohio State University from her personal income. She will provide US\$8,000 as the endowment fund and the profit from the endowment will be used for the annual teachers and students prizes, sustenance and future increment of the honorarium. *The amount has been incremented by 1 lakh INR.* 95% of the annual profit from the endowment fund will be used for the 6 annual faculty and student prizes, and 5% of the profit will either be added to the endowment at its investment renewal or reinvested if the amount becomes sufficient.

The endowment can be deposited in a financial plan for the maximum profit for IUST. From the information provided by Prof. Hashim Rasool and Prof. Farooq Hussain Bhat in the Physics Department of IUST, the current return in 2022 from the bank is 8% annually. Hence for the first year, following the guidelines proposed, each of the six prizes could amount to Indian rupees equivalent to \$100. The amount may change depending on the profit earned.

3. Prizes:

There will be 6, 4 for faculty members and 2 for graduating M.Sc. students, annual prizes in total. Followings are the prizes:

 Sultana Nahar

- i) Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year in Physics for a faculty member for the best research publications
- ii) Sultana N. Nahar Best Teacher of the Year in Physics for a faculty member for the best teaching
- iii) Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year in Chemistry for a faculty member for the best research publications
- iv) Sultana N. Nahar Best Teacher of the Year in Chemistry for a faculty member for the best teaching
- v) Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year in Mathematics for a faculty member for the best research publications and teaching
- vi) Alburuj R. Rahman prize for the best graduating M.Sc. student in Physics
- vii) Alburuj R. Rahman prize for the best graduating M.Sc. student in Chemistry.

Each prize will consist of a certificate of excellence and an honorarium. The certificates will be signed by the Vice Chancellor or Pro Vice Chancellor of the university, the Dean of Faculty of Science and/or the Chair of the Department.

Suggested citation for the distinguished teacher prize: In recognition of the outstanding research publications and training and inspiring students to advanced research

Suggested citation for the best teacher prize: In recognition of the best in-class teaching and inspiring interactions that benefited students acquiring maximum knowledge of the subject material and motivated to academic excellence

Suggested citation for the distinguished teacher prize in Chemistry and Mathematics where both teaching and research are combined: "In recognition of the outstanding research publications and the best in-class teaching and inspiring interactions that benefited students acquiring maximum knowledge of the subject material"

Suggested Citation for the best M.Sc. student: In recognition of the best M.Sc. thesis and academic excellence at graduation

The amount of honorarium will depend on the available fund for the prizes. Out of the available fund, distribution can be made such that each prize will have 16.67% of it for both the faculty members and the students.

4. The Prize Board of Trustees:

The Board will consist of the VC or the PVC or the person in charge appointed by the university, the Dean of Faculty of Science, Chairs of the participating Departments and the sponsor, Prof. Sultana N. Nahar.

For the best of motivation or encouragement, the academic committee of the Departments may suggest modifications or adjustment of the process. Any decision on the modification of the terms and conditions or relevant issues on the prizes can be made by over 50% of the members of the Board with consent from the sponsor.

5. Terms and Conditions for the prizes:

A. Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year in Physics

Selection Criteria:

Nomination of this prize for a faculty member will be based largely on research publications and with whom at least one available student has carried out his/her research for a degree or authored in one publication in a peer-reviewed journal.



- 70% weight of the nomination will come from research publications during the past academic year
- 10% of the weight will come from invited seminar, conference presentations, participating in organizing a conference or some other achievement that makes IUST known for its research.
- 5% weight of the nomination will come from the research students who will be given slips to give x-points out of 5 for their advisors based on his/her best learning and understanding of the research topic, and intellectual and encouraging interaction with the advisor.
- 5% weight will come from the Chair of the Department based on the research work and interaction with students of the faculty member. In the event the Chair himself or herself is nominated, the 5% will be decided by the prize committee overseeing the procedure.
- 5% weight will come from the recommendation of the sponsor, Sultana N. Nahar. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, the 5% will be added to the points for research publications.

B. Sultana N. Nahar Best Teacher of the Year in Physics

Selection Criteria:

Nomination of this prize for a faculty member will have:

- 85% weight from the votes of both undergraduate and postgraduate students
- 10% weight will come from the Chair of Physics Department based on judgment on teaching of the nominated faculty members. In the event the Chair himself or herself is nominated, the 10% will be decided by the prize committee overseeing the procedure.
- 5% weight will come from the recommendation of the sponsor, Prof. Sultana N. Nahar or her representative. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, the 5% will be added to the students top choice.

C. Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year in Chemistry and Mathematics:

Selection Criteria:

Nomination of this prize for a faculty member in Chemistry or Mathematics will be based on research publications and with whom at least one student has carried out his/her research for a degree or authored in one publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the past year. The research student criteria is waived where there is no postgraduate students, such as, in Mathematics Department. Points are distributed as follows:

- 50% weight of the nomination will come from research publications in the past academic year
- 5% of the weight will come from on invited seminar, conference presentations, participating in organizing a conference or some other achievement that makes IUST known for its research.
- 5% weight of the nomination will come from the research students who will give x-points out of 5 based on his/her best learning and understanding of the research topic, and intellectual and encouraging interaction with the advisor. Since Mathematics Department does not have postgraduate students, this 5% will be included in the research publications.
- 30% weight will come from general voting of the students writing the name of the teacher from whom they learned maximum knowledge of the subject materials.
- 5% weight will come from the Chair of the Department based on the research work and interaction with students of the faculty member.



Sultana N. Nahar

- 5% weight will come from the recommendation of the sponsor, Sultana N. Nahar, or her representative. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, the 5% will be added to the points for research publications.

D. Alburuj R. Rahman prize for the best graduating M.Sc. student in Physics and Chemistry:

Selection Criteria:

Selection of this prize will be made for a student whose M.Sc. thesis has already been recommended for awarding the degree. The nomination will have

- 30% weight from publications (mostly from published and in press papers, and partially from submitted papers),
- 10% weight from conference and other public presentations and pre-submission presentation,
- 60% from postgraduate academic record.

6. Evaluation Process:

Near the end of an academic year, the Departments will initiate the awarding process. The academic committee of the Department may form a prize committee of three to five faculty members. All faculty members in the prize committee and the Chair are also eligible for the prizes.

A notice will be circulated for each faculty member and graduating M.Sc. student to submit his/her CV to the Chair of the respective Department before the selection.

The CV will contain the list of publications (published, in press, submitted), conference, seminar, public presentations, participating roles in organizing conferences or workshops, and any other credentials and achievements in the past. While a faculty member will be judged by the activities of the past one year, the student will be judged by the entire postgraduate study.

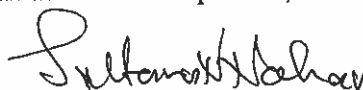
Research Evaluation:

Publication score will depend on i) number of published papers, ii) number of publications in journals with larger number of international readers such as western journals, iii) contribution of the author in a multi-authored paper

For the faculty prize, the research students will be asked to give points for their advisors in paper slips where they write the points and the name of the advisor, but not their names.

Followings are the recommended points for a publication.

- a) Science Citation Indexed (SCI) journals: 10 point
- b) Non SCI but refereed and good journals: 6 points
- c) Non SCI but refereed journals: 4 points
- d) Paper published in conference proceedings: 3 points
- e) In the special case of a published paper containing high impact research, as considered by the faculty members (for a maximum of 2 papers): 3 points (extra)
- f) Research work collaborated with well known colleagues in the developed countries (2-3 authors maximum and 2 papers maximum): 2 points (extra)
- g) For the contribution of the author, points for each paper with more than one author should be multiplied by the contribution factor. When all authors are important, tradition is that they



are listed alphabetically. Otherwise, an author is listed in the order of his/her contributions. Hence, the following multiplication factor can be used:

- For 1 author paper: 1.

- For 2 or 3 authors paper: 0.7

For more than 3 authors papers:

- Author in an alphabetical order paper: $1/(\text{number of authors.})$

- First author (non-alphabetical) or the last author who could be the leader of the project: 0.9

- Second author (non-alphabetical): 0.8

- Third author (non-alphabetical): 0.7

- Fourth author (non-alphabetical): 0.5

- Fifth or any position author (non-alphabetical): 0.4

h) Evaluation of points under each criteria: If a candidate gets the highest point MAXP in publications among all other candidates, then points of all other candidates can be normalized to it. Say, the percentage weight for the publication criteria is PMAX. Then a candidate with points "Point" will have the normalized point, Pnorm, as

$$P_{\text{norm}} = \text{Point} \times [P_{\text{MAX}} / \text{MAXP}]$$

Teaching Evaluation:

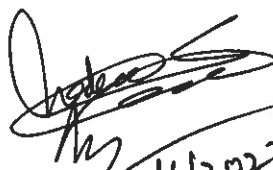
Evaluation will come from general voting of the students writing the name of the teacher from whom they learned maximum knowledge of the subject materials in the class. This can be done in an on-going class where the students will be given paper slips to write the names which will be collected in an envelope, sealed and counted later by the prize committee. The voting can also be done through google (<https://docs.google.com/forms/>). In case of any issue of the voting, the Chair can make the judgment on the teaching skill of the faculty member based on number of students achieving higher performance in the class.


The prize committee of each Department will select faculty members and student with maximum points. The Chair and the prize committee may approve one or two winner/s in case of close points for the prize. In case of two nominees with almost equal points, the prize money can be divided into two. Each winner will receive the certificate of excellence and half of the honorarium.

Department will send the names of all winners to the Prize Board headed by the University personnel who will approve them and inform the winners. The prizes will be presented formally with the certificate of excellence and an honorarium to each winner.

7. Prize Ceremony:

To honor the winners and inspire others to make the best effort, it is suggested to hold the prize ceremony in combination with other events or in an event where the largest university audience will be present and publish the news of the winners in the university news media.


19/6/2022
VICE CHANCELLOR


19/09/2022

ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
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Received with thanks from Sultana Nurun Nahar instrument bearing number 9401512969 dated 09.02.2022 amounting to \$8,000/- (USD Eight Thousand only) towards S.N.Nahar Teachers and A.R.Rahman Students Prizes.


All receipts of instruments are subject to realization.

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(Signature)
(Sameer Wazir)
Finance Officer
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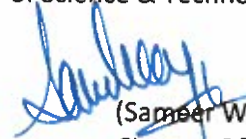
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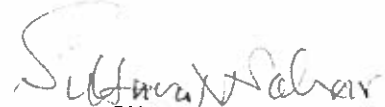
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