



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

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To:

Professor Khurshid I. Andrabi  
Vice Chancellor  
University of Kashmir  
Hazratbal, Srinagar, Kashmir, India

March 24, 2016

Ref: S.N. Nahar Teacher and A.R. Rahman Student Prizes in Mathematics at University of Kashmir

Dear Professor Khurshid Andrabi,

Assalamu alaikum.

I am submitting a proposal for two annual prizes in mathematics to promote the excellence in research and academic performance. After getting your consent, I spoke with Professor Shariefuddin Pirzada, Chair of the Mathematics Department of University of Kashmir, for these prizes and the criteria. He has agreed with the criteria, but may make a few changes for clarification of dates and objective evaluation of papers. Those minor changes should be fine. The present objectives and criteria of the prizes are similar to those in the Physics Department.

The proposal is below my letter for your approval. I would appreciate very much your cooperation in establishing these recognition which are largely for the best research by a faculty member and the best Ph.D. thesis by a student at University of Kashmir. Recognition impacts positively on inspiration and raising the standard. I may note that there is no other annual recognition in the Department of Mathematics.

I will be provide the endowment fund of \$5000 for the prizes during my visit, March 23 - 26, 2016 at University of Kashmir. I would greatly appreciate your presence at the prize ceremony starting 2017.

With best regards,

Prof Sultana N. Nahar

Registrar, Ph in the item  
prepared for UC  
Mojibur  
25/03/16

## Sultana N. Nahar and Alburuj R. Rahman Annual Prizes in MATHEMATICS

### 1. Purpose:

To recognize and motivate faculty members for the best teaching in class and outstanding research publications and encourage students in academic and research excellence in mathematics at University of Kashmir.

Teachers 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. They also contribute the most 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 for higher excellence. The rest of the class falls behind largely due to difficulties in grasping the subject materials. Motivated teachers can uplift the standard of the whole class by better teaching skill, being more helpful and providing positive inspiration. Then not only the top students the whole class will be benefited. Students, who are the direct beneficiary of knowledge, will be involved in the nomination.

This prize program will recognize annually one faculty member for the best research and effort for teaching to raise the standard of the class, and Ph.D. graduating student for the best thesis.

### 2. Funding:

The prizes will be sponsored by Professor Sultana N. Nahar of the Ohio State University from her personal income. She will provide US\$5000 as the capital amount or endowment fund. The profit from the capital fund will be used for the annual faculty and student prizes, any overhead expenditure, for sustenance and increment of the honorarium in the future. The annual profit from the endowment fund is expected to be sufficient for a total honorarium of Rs.25,000 for the two prizes.

The sponsor Professor Sultana N. Nahar is at University of Kashmir during March 23-27, 2016 and will provide the endowment fund during the visit. The prizes can start in 2017.

### 3. Prizes:

There will be two annual prizes - i) Sultana N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year for a faculty member and ii) Alburuj R. Rahman Best Ph.D. Thesis prize for a graduating student. Each prize will consist of a Certificate of Excellence and an honorarium of Rs.15000 for the faculty member and Rs.10000 for the student. Honorarium may vary depending on the available fund. The certificates will be signed by the Vice Chancellor or Pro Vice Chancellor of the university, the Dean of Faculty of Science and the Chair of the Department.

### 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, Chair of the Department of Mathematics and the sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar.

For the best of motivation or encouragement, the academic committee of the Department of Mathematics 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 three members of the Board with consent from the sponsor.

**Selection Criteria:**

Nomination of this prize for a faculty member will be based largely on research publications and with whom at least one student has carried out his/her research for the Ph.D. or Master thesis or authored in one publication in a peer-reviewed journal in the past year. Research publications (published, in press) will comprise 60% weight of the prize nomination. 10% of the weight will come from on invited seminar, conference presentations, participating in organizing a conference or some other achievement that makes University of Kashmir known for its research. 10% weight of the nomination will come from the research students who will be given slips to give voting points for their advisors. A research student will give x-points out of 5 based on his/her best learning and understanding of the research topic, and x-points out of 5 on his/her intellectual and encouraging interaction with the advisor. On the slip the student will write the name of the advisor and put the total points. 10% 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. In case the general vote is not possible at all, the Chair can make the judgment on the teaching skill of the faculty member and number of students with higher performance in the class. The Chair will give 5% on the research work and interaction with the research students of the faculty member. The recommendation of the sponsor, Sultana N. Nahar, or her representative will carry 5% weight of the nomination. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, 5% weight will go to add to research students top choice.

Weight on research publications will depend on i) number of publications (published, accepted 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.

**Citation:** In recognition of the outstanding research publications and training and inspiring students to advanced research

**B. Alburuj R. Rahman Best Ph.D. Thesis Prize for a student:****Selection Criteria:**

Selection of this prize will be for a Ph.D. thesis which has already been recommended for awarding the degree. The nomination will have 70% weight from publications (published, in press, submitted), 10% weight from conference and other public presentations and pre-submission presentation, and 20% from postgraduate academic record.

Publication score will depend on i) number of publications (published, accepted 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, and iv) quality of recommendation report of the external examiner. An evaluation committee consisting of the Chair and two faculty members will determine the score.

**Citation:** In recognition of the best Ph.D. thesis and academic excellence at graduation in Mathematics

**6. Evaluation Process:**

At the beginning of the calendar year, usch as January, Mathematics Department will initiate the awarding process. The academic committee of the Department will form a prize committee of three to five faculty members. All faculty members in the prize committee and the Chair are also eligible to be nominated. A notice will be circulated for each faculty member to submit his/her CV to the Chair of the Department before the selection. The CV will contain the list of publications (published, in press, submitted), conference/seminar/public presentations, roles

his/her CV to the Chair of the Department before the selection. The CV will contain the list of publications (published, in press, submitted), conference/seminar/public presentations, roles in organizing conferences or workshops, and any other credentials and achievements in the past one year. 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.

The prize committee will make selection of faculty member and student with maximum points.

The Chair and the prize committee will 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.

All graduating Ph.D. students will be asked to provide their credentials (such abstract of their thesis, conference presentations, updated CV) and other extra-curricular achievements in the office of the Department Chair.

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 and 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.



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*25<sup>th</sup> March 2016*

The University acknowledges the receipt of an amount of \$5000 USD from "Prof. Sultana N. Nahar" working in the Department of Astronomy at "The Ohio State University (USA)" today on 25<sup>th</sup> March, 2016 (in cash) on account of endowment fund for promoting the excellence in research and academic performance in the Department of Mathematics, University of Kashmir.

**Prof. Musadiq A. Sahaf**



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*Professor Musadiq A. Sahaf*

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