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Ref: Introducing S.N. Nahar Awards in Physics for two teachers and <sup>two</sup> ~~one~~ student <sub>5</sub>

Dear Professor Azis,

Assalamu alaikum.

I am proposing introduction of annual awards for two Muslim teachers and two (one male and one female) Muslim students in Physics at Aligarh Muslim University. The aim of these awards is to motivate and give incentives to more Muslims in science, particularly in Physics. As people say Muslims are much behind in science than any other group. It is important that they advance in science on par with any other groups. I have discussed about the awards with the Physics Chair Professor Wasi Haider of AMU, a few Physics faculty members, and Hasan Kamal. Each award will consist of a certificate and an honorarium. Although the amount of an honorarium is specified in the proposal below, the final amount will be decided after discussion. I am describing the proposal below.

There will be two annual teaching awards for the i) S.N. Nahar Teacher of the Year (without research), ii) S.N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year (with research with M.Sc./Ph.D. students), both based on students votes. Each award will consist of a Certificate of Recognition and an honorarium of <sup>Rs. 18000</sup> \$400. The S.N. Nahar student prizes will be for the best male and female Muslim students in the final year of B.Sc.

Followings are the criteria of the awards.

- i) S.N. Nahar Teacher of the Year – Nomination of this award for a Muslim teacher will have a 90% weight from students' votes. Each student will make one or more selections of physics professors from whom he/she has experienced to have acquired maximum knowledge through class lectures and inspirational interactive discussions. Students beyond the 2<sup>nd</sup> year B.Sc. and all in postgraduate students will vote and but choose teachers from first to the final years. The recommendation of the sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar or her representative will carry 5 % to the choice. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, the 5% will be added to the students' top choice. The final 5% will come from the Chair of Physics Department based on judgment on teaching of the nominated teachers. In the event the Chair himself or herself is nominated , the 5% will come from recommendation of the award committee overseeing the procedure.
- ii) S.N. Nahar Distinguished Teacher of the Year – This award will be for a Muslim professor of physics with whom at least one student has carried out his/her M.Sc. or Ph.D. thesis research. General votes of the post-graduate students, based on the same criteria as for the Teacher of the Year, will comprise 70% of the award nomination. 15% of the nomination will come from the research students who will be given additional slips for their votes for their advisors. A research student will give x-points out of 7.5 based on his/her best learning and understanding of the research topic, and x-points out of 7.5 on his/her intellectual and encouraging interaction with the advisor(s). On the slip the student will write the name of the advisor. 5 points will be given for published or submitted research papers. Without any research paper, the advisor will have 1 point per research student (a maximum of 5 points for 5 or more students). If the number of students does not add up to 5, the Departmental Chair can give x-points out of maximum 5 on the judgment of research progress. The recommendation of the sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar, or her representative will carry 5% to the nomination. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, 5% will go to add the students' top choice. The recommendation of the Physics Chair, based on the work in

the research topic and student's grade, will carry the last 5% of the award nomination.

- iii) About two months before the end of the academic year, university office will send a notice to the Physics Department to initiate the awarding process. The academic committee of the Physics Department will form an awarding committee of three or five faculty members, with at least two senior professors. All faculty members in the awarding committee are also eligible to be nominated.
- iv) The awarding committee will fix a date for the voting to take place in the on-going classes in the presence of the class teacher and one member of the awarding committee. Students will be informed about the criteria of the choice and be given slips to write the names on of their choices. These will be collected in an envelope and sealed with signatures of the teacher and award committee member. The envelope will be opened by the awarding committee to count the selections. The committee will send two nominations with maximum points to the Board of Trustees headed by the VC or the ProVC or the University personnel dealing with awards who will have the syndicate approve the awards. The Board of Trustees will inform and give the certificates and honoraria to the awardees.
- v) S.N. Nahar Best Student Prize – This annual prize, a certificate and prize money of <sup>Rs. 10000</sup> \$150, will be given to each best Muslim student with highest score in the final year of B.Sc. . In case of two graduating students in the same category with total equal score, the money will be divided equally, but each will have separate certificate.
- vi) The Board of Trustees will consist of the VC or the Pro-VC or the person in charge appointed by the university, the Dean of Science, the Physics Chair and the sponsor Dr. Sultana N. Nahar, Any decisions for the awards can be made in presence of three members of the board and sponsor should be informed about the outcome.

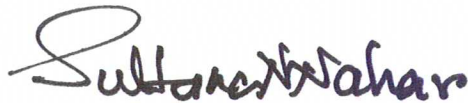
vii) The sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar, will provide <sup>12,500</sup> \$12,000 for the capital fund of the four awards. The university will keep the capital under S.N. Nahar Physics Awards trust Fund. For higher interest rate the fund is expected to be deposited in a private bank. The interest of the capital will be used for the four awards, overhead expenditures and add to the capital for sustenance and future increment of the honoraria.

viii) For the teaching awards, the academic committee of the Physics Department may suggest modifications or adjustment of the process, and with consent of the sponsor, decisions can be made.

I will be in India for a conference in Delh in December. Professor Haider has invited me to the Physics Department for couple of days with two physics seminars after the conference. We have also discussed about my contributing astronomy books to introduce an undergraduate astronomy class at AMU.

I would like to meet you during my visit at AMU regarding this proposal and hand over the check for the trust. I hope that the syndicate of the university will approve the proposal.

With best regards,



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