

# ”INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF MUSLIM WOMEN IN SCIENCE (ISMWS)”

Motto: ”Stay in Science (Basic or Applied)”

Practice: ”Keep some hours for our intellectual nourishment everyday.”

We believe: ”The more we use our brain and mind, the more beautiful we look.”

- Members: 293 from 31 countries, December 2019

Founder & President: Dr. Sultana N. Nahar  
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Established: April 2010

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## Newsletter 7, November 2019

### President’s greetings:

”Assalamu alaikum! Pray this finds you all in excellent health and spirit.

A very warm welcome to our new and hearty greetings to existing members and pray all the best for making impact and contributing to advances in their respective field in 2019. Wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving Day.”

- Sultana N. Nahar

### SHARE NEWS:

- Please send your updates to ISMWS Editors. ISMWS Editors are:

1. Prof. Beenish Saba, Environmental Engineering, Arid Agriculture University, Pakistan,  
Email: beenishsaba@uaar.edu.pk

2. Prof Faiza Shujat. Mathematics, Taibah University, Saudi Arabia,  
Email: faiza.shujat@gmail.com

- Each ISMWS message includes all the names, subject area, and country name so members can communicate with each other. However, with close to 300 members, list is becoming long. To make it short, I could suppress the email addresses and add them in the members list file available at the ISMWS website. If you have any objection to it, please let me know.

### NOTICES:

- ISMWS members in-charge for maintaining social media networks are:

- **facebook:** Dr. Rubiya Samad, Physics, Central University of Kashmir

- **Instagram:** Dr. Rubiya Samad, Physics, Central University of Kashmir

- **twitter:** i) Prof. Fatma Azmy, Dept of Mathematics, Al Azhar University

ii) Dr. Dana Saif Akil, Dept of Physics, American University in Cairo

- **linked:** i) Prof. Fatma Azmy, Dept of Mathematics, Al Azhar University

ii) Dr. Dana Saif Akil, Dept of Physics, American University in Cairo

- **website:** Prof. Sultana N. Nahar, The Ohio State University

• ISMWS Gallery has limited number of passport size pictures with a few words below each picture giving the best designation of the member. This can be expanded for the strength of ISMWS. So email a passport size picture and the best designation for yourself when you can.

**NOTES:**

- Share your achievements and take pride in achievements of ISMWS members

- Visit ISMWS website for various opportunities

- Invite any female, student/professional, in science to ISMWS membership

- Anyone in Physics and related to Physics, please become a member of American Physical Society (APS). It has many benefits. Free membership (not from US, Canada, Europe) form and instruction are available at

<http://www.astronomy.ohio-state.edu/~nahar/fip.html>

- Inform ISMWS whenever you change your email address

- Create an ISMWS chapter at your institute/university

• Newsletters are posted at the ISMWS website

## PRAYER FOR HEALING

• **Prof. Seemin Rubab, National Institute of Technology- Srinagar, Kashmir, India:**

She has resigned from her position as the Head of the Physics Department for treatment of the brain tumor. We pray for her successful recovery from the illness.

## HIGHLIGHTS & SUCCESS STORIES OF OUR MEMBERS

**Our hearty congratulations and prayers for the continued success of the members:**

**ACHIEVEMENTS:**

• **Prof. Sarah Al-Shareeda, Iraq:** Sarah is from Basra University in Iraq, received her Ph.D. from the Ohio State University Engineering in 2018. She is now an assistant professor at the Electrical and Electronics Engineering Department of University of Bahrain, Bahrain. She wrote "I like it so far and all khair inshallah, salam to all and everyone".

• **Prof. Samina Masood, University of Houston-Clear Lake, USA:** She has been promoted to full professorship in the Physics Department.

• **Prof. Jahanara Momin, Osmania Degree College Kurnool, India** has published the paper titled "LDH-The Biochemical Marker of severity in clinical Malaria" in International journal of Scientific Research.

- She and her group have carried out an excellent public health project "A STUDY ON OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH HAZARD AMONG WOMEN BEEDI WORKERS". Anyone who can help her to publish the work in a public health journal will be appreciated. Her email address: [jahanara.phd@gmail.com](mailto:jahanara.phd@gmail.com)

• **Prof. Somaya Saad, National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics, Egypt:** She is an excelled leader! She is now holding three top positions: i) Head of the Egyptian National Committee of Astronomy and Space Science, ii) Head of Astronomy Department, iii) Head of Kottamia Center of Scientific Excellence in Astronomy and Space Science (a picture is appended)

- **Dr. Khadije Bazzi, Michigan, USA:** She is now a research Scientist at A123 Systems in Michigan. She has joined Zaman International in Detroit that provides daily essentials and vocational training to poor women and children
- **Dr. Samima Khatun, Aligarh Muslim University, India:** She has appointed as an Assistant Professor (contractual) in the Chemistry Department of Aligarh Muslim University
- **Dr. Swaleha Naseem, Aligarh Muslim University, India:** She has appointed as an Guest Professor (contractual) at the Nanotechnology Center of Aligarh Muslim University
- **Dr. Abeer Ismat, 6 October University, Egypt:** She has published "Study of half metallicity, structural and mechanical properties in inverse Heusler alloy  $Mn_2ZnSi(1-x)Ge_x$  and a superlattice" in Royal Society of Chemistry Advances with her collaborators in India. She wrote "hope to get prize on our new paper with impact factor 3.0".
- **Prof. Nighat Fatima, COMSATS University, Pakistan:** An Assistant Professor in Pharmaceutical Chemistry was awarded Fulbright Fellowship for her research at the College of Pharmacy of the Ohio State University. She is completing her fellowship on December 15, 2019.
- **Dr. Samima Khatun, Chemistry, Aligarh Muslim University, India:** She received prestigious travel grant. She wrote "I have been awarded the Travel grant from Nature Communications Chemistry for presenting my research paper in the 26th International Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics to be held at London during 19-23 July, 2020 which is being organized by Imperial College London and University College London, UK. Nature Communications Chemistry offers only one travel grant every year in the world to early career researcher to attend an international scientific meeting/ conference of their choice. The grant is worth 2,500. In 2019 I got the award from Chemistry." (picture at end)

## MEMBERS EARNING DEGREES:

Hearty congratulations for the graduates and pray for the successes of the next phase!

- **Dr. Swaleha Naseem, Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), India:** Received her Ph.D. in Applied Physics in 2019. Part of Ph.D. research was carried out at the Ohio State University (OSU) as a Fellow of the Indo-US 21st Century Knowledge Initiative award of OSU in partnership with AMU for which Sultana was a co-director and overseeing advisor.
- **Madeeha Zubain, Jamia Millia Islamic, India:** After completion of M.Sc., my student Madeeha canceled but would go for it later the marriage and has started her Ph.D. at Texas Tech University and started on LISA project in Astronomy.
- **Dr. Amany Gauda, Egyptian Atomic Energy Authority:** She received her PhD degree in Plasma Physics from Nagoya university, Japan in 2018
- **Dr. Tajalli Ilm Chandel, Aligarh Muslim University, India:** She has received her Ph.D. in Interdisciplinary Biotechnology in 2019.

## PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS:

Hearty congratulations for the professional achievements of our members and pray for continued successes!

- **Members reunion at American Physical Society (APS) conference, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, May 2019:** Four ISMWS members making presentations were wonderfully

united - Prof. Burcin Bayram, Dr. Qudsia Quraishi, Prof. Samina Masood and Prof. Sultana Nahar- at the conference.

- We pray all the best for the successful delivery of Qudsia's second child. She leads a research group at the Defense lab in Washington DC.

• **Dr. Nida Rahmani, A member of New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) Editor of Lotus STEMM organization for Women, USA:** Wrote about her updates "My interview on the "relevance of soft skills in STEM" is featured and published in the New York Academy of Sciences (NYAS) Magazine, fall 2019 Additionally, I have been awarded professional membership of NYAS owing to my mentorship for the 1000girls1000futures program by the Global STEM Alliance."

• **LEAP Workshop: ISMWS members Professors Farukh Arjmand (Chemistry), Qudsia Tahseen (Zoology), Subuhi Khan (Mathematics) and Faiza Abbasi (wildlife) of Aligarh Muslim University, India, and Moizzah Ahmad (biology), Maliha Sawam (biology), Moizzah Ahmad (biology), Samira Shire (nutrition), Shamina Liva (pharmacy) of OSU, USA,** The four professors were the participants of the highly competitive LEAP (Leadership of Academicians programme) workshop sponsored by the Government of India and organized by the Ohio State University for one week. Out of the 26 participants from 9 Central Indian universities 5 were women - 4 of them are Muslims and members of ISMWS. I was one of the two coordinators and one of 28 lecturers. Part of my lecture was on ISMWS and its themes. The OSU student members were volunteers. It was a very successful workshop with well known experts and a wonderful reunion of ISMWS members (a picture added). ISMWS at Ohio State President Samira Shire gave the welcome speech on behalf of the OSU students. Prof. Faiza Abbasi is a LEAP coordinator at AMU, India

• **18th convention of the Federation of Aligarh Alumni Association, Atlanta, USA:** I was invited to speak on the work of the Indo-US STEM Education and Research Center of OSU and Aligarh Muslim University at the convention held in July 2019. The convention was very inspiring and was on the theme of "Sir Syed's Vision and the 21st Century". It also gave me the opportunity to meet three ISMWS members, Prof. Nabiha Yusuf (Dermatology, University of Alabama at Birmingham), Shaista Begum (Environmental engineer, USA) and Dr. Nareen Haque (physicist, President and CEO of Intalage Inc, USA) (a picture at the convention is attached). All of them are doing excellent work in their professions. Shaista is raising two wonderful daughter with the elder one in the medical school. While excelling herself as the CEO and President of their own company in STEM teaching Education, Nasreen is a wonderful mother raising two son, the elder one Tahir Haque has joined Harvard Medical school as a teaching physician.

## **EXPOSURES OF ISMWS:**

• **Prof. Sultana N. Nahar of The Ohio State University, and Dr. Nida Rehmani of New York Academy of Sciences, USA:** Nida who is also serving as an editor of STEMM-Lotus, an organization on STEMM issues of women, has written the monthly featured article in October 2019 "Rendezvous with Sultana N Nahar" which is posted on the web and is open to public. This contains information and theme of ISMWS. A copy is attached to this email.

• **Prof. Sultana N. Nahar, The Ohio State University, USA:** The Arts and Sciences College News of the Ohio State University has published a story on the above mentioned LEAP India program at OSU which starts with ISMWS and ends with it, advertising the

ISMWS widely to the college. She has been advised to circulate the story among ISMWS members. The article is attached.

## INTRODUCTION BY NEW MEMBERS:

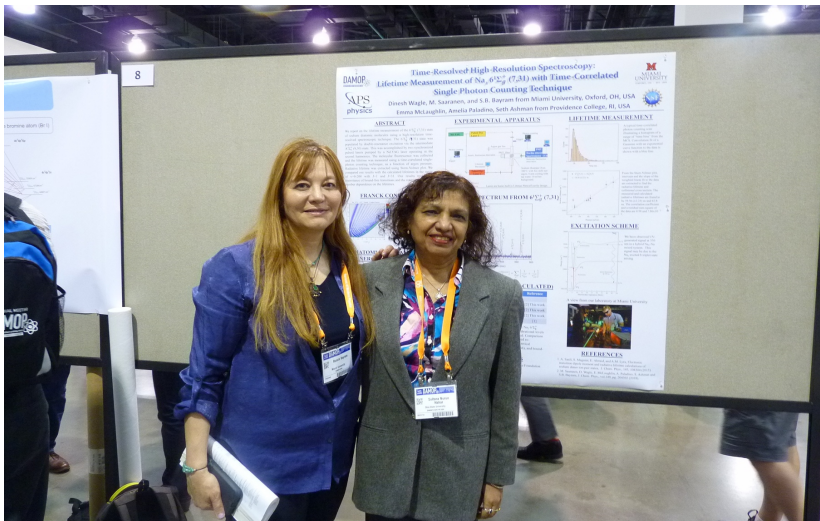
**We welcome warmly and congratulate on the achievements of our new members!**

• **Prof. Hina Younus, Aligarh Muslim University, India:** She as written "Dr. Hina Younus, Associate Professor, Interdisciplinary Biotechnology Unit, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh 202002, India

Subject area: Biotechnology

Message: I am glad to be a member of the ISMWS and I am pleased to know that so many Muslim women worldwide are advancing in science. I wish you all the best. Regarding myself, I am a mother of three School going children and taking care of them solely myself, since my husband is doing a job in another country. Believe me, it is tough managing job and home at the same time, but I keep myself motivated by I can and I will and believe in When there is a will, there is a way. I have done my Ph.D in Biotechnology from AMU, and during this time I was a DAAD fellow at Halle, Germany. I have done my postdoctorate from IUPUI, Indianapolis USA. Now as an Associate professor at AMU, I am actively involved in teaching and research. I have published 61 research papers in International journals of repute (Average IF: 3.5), 4 book chapters, and edited one book. My best two publications are in: Nature structural and molecular biology (IF: 13.3), Chemosphere (IF: 5.1). I enjoy doing research, and when I return back home, I am a smiling and friendly mother to my kids. We can balance work and home very well by taking every challenge positively and happily. Therefore, I wish all the brilliant women in this scientific society a prosperous career and a very happy new year. "

## ISMWS PICTURES: 2019



L: Burcin and me at DAMOP 2019 conference in front of her group presentation. Burcin leads a laser research lab at Miami University in Ohio. R: ISMWS members at LEAP reception at OSU.



L: Prof Somaya Saad and Sultana on a boat on Nile at International School of Young Astronomers. R: Prof. Nabihah Yusuf (left) and Shaista Begum (right) at the FAAA convention.

## Chemistry



Samima Khatun was awarded the *Communications Chemistry* grant. Samima recently completed her

PhD research on thermodynamic and spectroscopic studies on interactions in protein ligand systems at Aligarh Muslim University in India. She will attend the 26th International Conference on Chemical Thermodynamics in London, UK.

<https://www.nature.com/early-career-travel-grants/about/recipients>

Nature Early Career grant news for Dr. Samima Khatun

- *This newsletter was prepared by Sultana N. Nahar*