

**International Conference at Department of Botany “Water Saving and Plant Production Strategies: Constraints and Implications for Sustainable Agriculture (March 26-28, 2019)”**

The Department of Botany, Government College University, Faisalabad organized a three days international conference on “Water Saving and Plant Production Strategies: Constraints and Implications for Sustainable Agriculture (WSPPS-2019)” on March 26-28, 2019. During inaugural session, Prof. Dr. Feng-Min Li (China), Prof. Dr. Ahmet Mermut (Canada), Prof. Dr. You-Cai Xiong (China), Prof. Dr. Cengiz Kaya (Turkey), Prof. Dr. Arnold Gegechkori (Georgia), Dr. Hadi Pirasteh-Anosheh (Iran), Dr. Alireza Hedayati (Iran), and Dr. Alireza Yazdani (Iran) were present. Number of indigenous experts of the subject area were also present. Conference secretary, Dr. Nudrat Aisha Akram, Assistant Professor, Department of Botany highlighted the importance of the event and presented a video introduction of the Department of Botany. Chief organizer of the conference Prof. Dr. Muhamamd Iqbal, Chairman, Department of Botany emphasized the need of water saving strategies in scenario of changing climatic conditions and global food security while appreciating the indispensable role of all the faculty and students to make this event successful.

Adding on, Prof. Dr. Feng-Min Li, Prof. Dr. Arnold Gegechkori, Prof. Dr. Ahmet Mermut Prof. Dr. You-Cai Xiong appreciated the event as its themes were updated, motivational and professional. Also, they triggered the conference organizers, faculty and students to initiate future international collaborations in the subject area.

The chief guest worthy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Amin, cherished the conference theme “way out to meet indigenous/global food demands with less water” as it coincides very well with the present day needs. He further added that conference providing a platform for the research experts and economists to mingle with the students to highlight the indigenous as well as global water shortage problems. Prof. Dr. Farhat Jabeen, Dean faculty of Life Sciences extended her gratitude to all the conference participants, sponsors and international experts who travelled long way and wished them a pleasant stay in Pakistan.

The Department of Botany gratefully acknowledges the encouragement and support rendered by the worthy Vice Chancellor, Prof. Dr. Nasir Amin for the conference.

Prof. Dr. Muhammad Iqbal

Chairman/Chief Organizer, Department of Botany