



ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Research and Innovation

5 YEAR ACHIEVEMENTS REPORT

2020-2025



Prepared By
ORIC DEPARTMENT

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MESSAGES FROM THE MANAGEMENT

“

Ziauddin University is a leading academic institution in Pakistan that places a strong emphasis on research and innovation. The university has a well-established research culture and infrastructure that supports and promotes research in various fields. The university's research agenda is driven by a commitment to tackling some of the most pressing issues facing society, including healthcare, education, social justice, and sustainable development.



Prof. Dr Nida Hussain
Pro- Chancellor
Ziauddin University



Prof. Dr Abbas Zaffar
Acting Vice Chancellor
Ziauddin University

The university's commitment to research and innovation has not only contributed to the development of new knowledge but has also translated into practical solutions for some of the most pressing challenges in Pakistan and the wider world. The University is also committed to strengthening collaborations with industry and other academic institutions in order to expand the impact of its research and innovation activities.

”

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



“ From where we started to where we stand today, the journey of ORIC at Ziauddin University has been one of remarkable growth, resilience, and purpose. What began in 2015 as an initiative to strengthen the university’s research culture and foster innovation has now evolved into a nationally recognized center of excellence in research and innovation.

Over the years, our progress has been both steady and strategic. Today, we stand among the top universities in Pakistan in the field of Research and Innovation. To further strengthen our research impact, we established the Clinical Trial Unit (CTU) in 2022, expanding our capacity for evidence-based research and innovation. We are also proud to have submitted our scorecard in the prestigious W Category, underscoring our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement.

These milestones are not just achievements; they reflect the unwavering dedication of our management, researchers, and faculty who continue to make meaningful contributions to society. Our vision extends beyond academic success; we aim to translate research into real-world solutions, addressing pressing challenges in public health, climate change, sustainable development, and technology.

As we move forward, ORIC at Ziauddin University remains steadfast in its mission to create knowledge that benefits communities, empowers innovators, and drives sustainable change. Together, we will continue to build bridges between academia and society, turning ideas into action and action into impact. ”

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zulfiqar', with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Umrani
Director ORIC

Our Team



Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Umrani
Director
ORIC



Ms. Rahima Tahir
Manager
Linkages and Outreach



Mr. Adnan Jafri
Manager
Grants Management



Mr. Sohail Rehman
Manager
Research and Innovation
(North Nazimabad)



Ms. Laraib Khan
Manager
Research and Innovation
(Link Road)



Ms. Tanzeelah Rehman
Manager
Research, Development
and Operations



Ms. Maryam Tahir
Manager
Projects and Grants

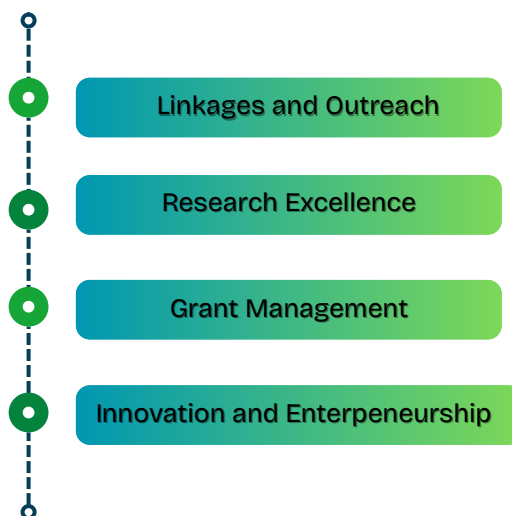


Mr. Mujtaba Khan
Manager
Innovation and Entrepreneurship



Ms. Bushra Fahim
Research Administration

**ORIC
Divisions**



ABOUT ORIC

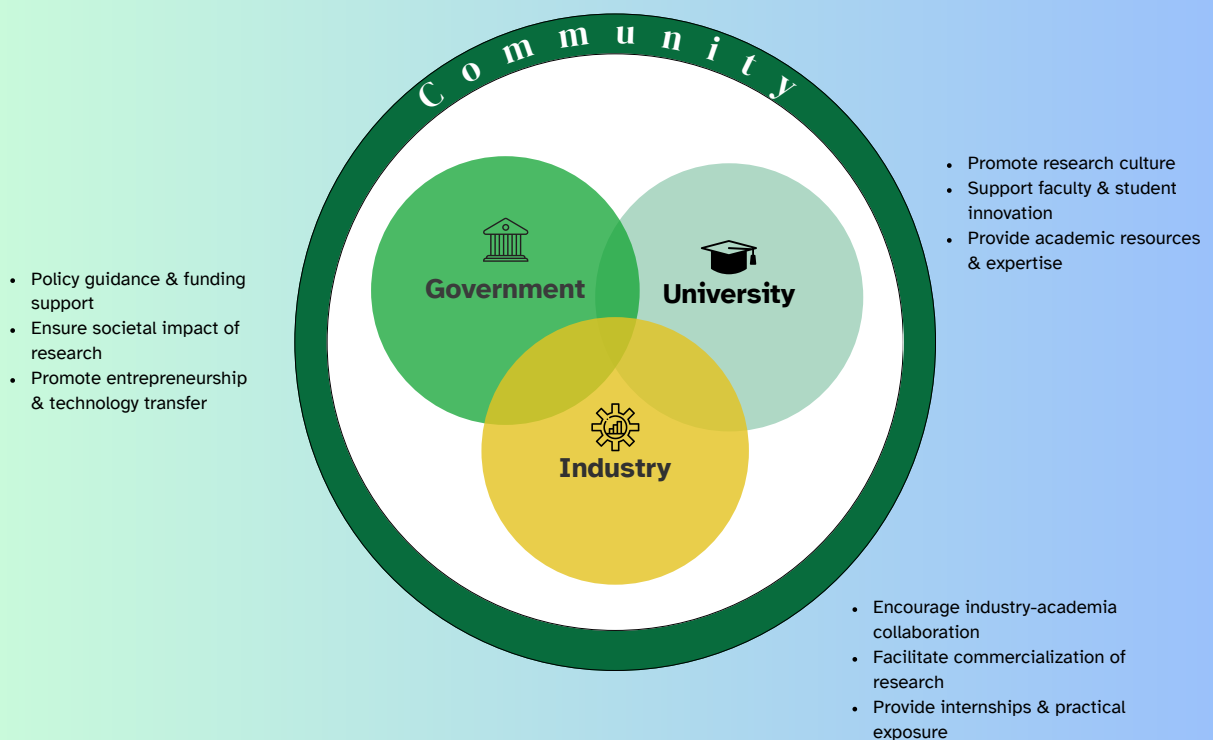
EXPLORING IDEAS, EMPOWERING CHANGE

Our Mission

Ziauddin University seeks to have a futuristic approach in imparting knowledge, skills and confidence in students and to inculcate in them such critical abilities, wisdom and values which are necessary for a forward looking coherent civil society where knowledge is disseminated and service rendered with the highest sense of moral uprightness and social responsibility to the nation, region and the world at large.

Our Vision

To be a prestigious institution of higher education recognized for its academic excellence and research, nurturing ethical and intellectual curiosity in the recipients of higher education, and positively contributing towards the development of a knowledge-based society in Pakistan that can fully understand global challenges in the rapidly changing political, economic and social paradigm.



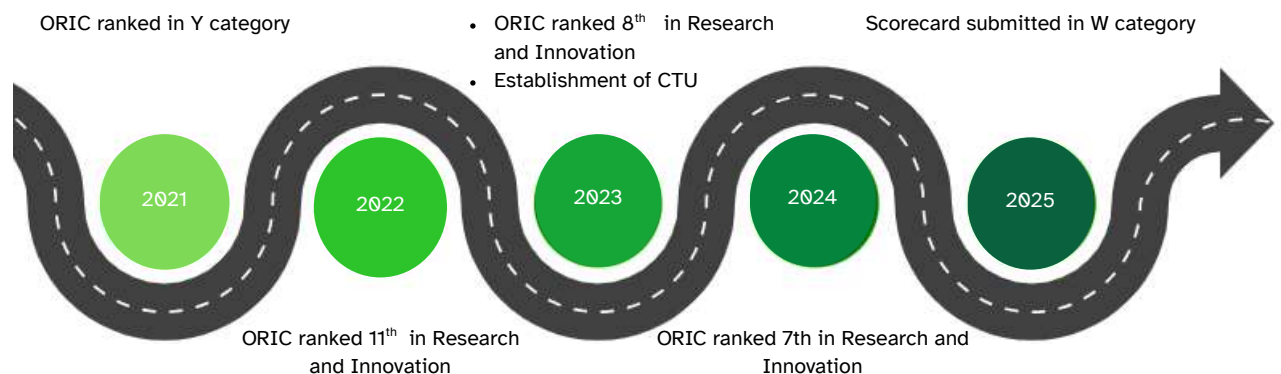
ORIC'S JOURNEY

The Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialisation (ORIC) at Ziauddin University has steadily evolved into a department of impactful research and innovation, marking significant milestones along its journey.

- In October 2020, ORIC achieved formal recognition when it was notified by the Higher Education Commission (HEC), reaffirming its credibility and potential in advancing research.
- By 2021, ORIC ranked 36th in the Y category of Research and Innovation, which is a testament to its growing influence and contributions.
- In 2022, with ORIC climbing further in Research and Innovation at the national level, and achieved 11th rank.
- In 2023, Ziauddin University's ORIC reached new heights, ranking 8th in Research and Innovation, alongside the establishment of the Clinical Trial Unit (CTU), expanding its scope and research capacity.
- In 2024, ORIC achieved its best performance, being ranked 7th in Research and Innovation out of all universities in Pakistan, and in 2025, submitted the scorecard in the W category, reflecting the university's unwavering commitment to excellence in research.

Currently, ORIC at Ziauddin University holds first place among all medical universities in Pakistan, second among all universities across the country, and first among all private universities in Pakistan in the field of Research and Innovation, as per the Higher Education Commission rankings.

From its inception to its rise in national rankings and present-day leadership, ORIC at Ziauddin University has demonstrated resilience, vision, and excellence, continuing to drive innovation and impactful research in Pakistan and beyond.



Recent Achievements

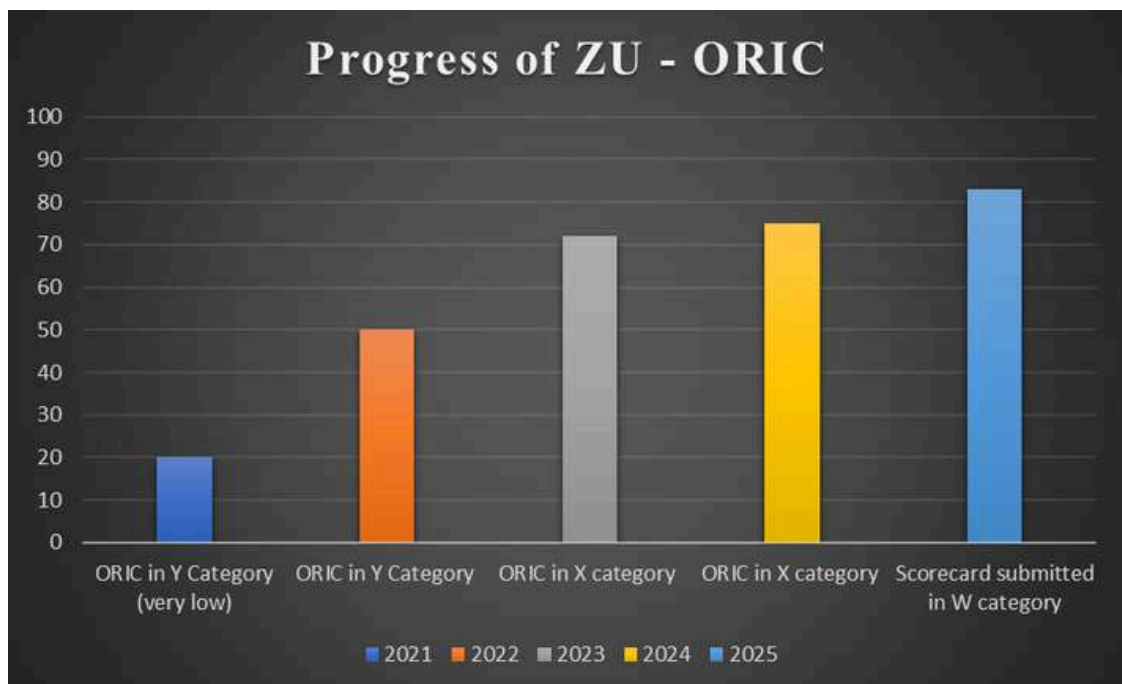


Ziauddin University ranked 7th in Pakistan and 1st among medical and private universities in Sindh in the HEC ORIC Rankings 2024.

In 2025, ZU ORIC submitted its scorecard in W category

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION			
Research for Innovation Wing			
Performance Matrices for ORICs			
Institute Details			
Name of University / HEI:	Ziauddin University, Karachi		
Category of University / HEI:			
Date of ORIC Notification:			
Assessment Period:	2024-2025		
Self Evaluation Scores			
Sr#.	Key Performance Indicator	Score Assigned	Score Obtained
1	Human Resource And Operations	10	10.00
2	Reserach Excellence	45	38.00
3	Innovation And Commercialization	30	20.50
4	Sustainability And Capacity Building	15	15.00
Total		100	83.50

Five Year Ranking Progress



A photograph of a person's hands typing on a laptop keyboard, overlaid with a semi-transparent green filter. The text "Research Excellence" is centered in white serif font.

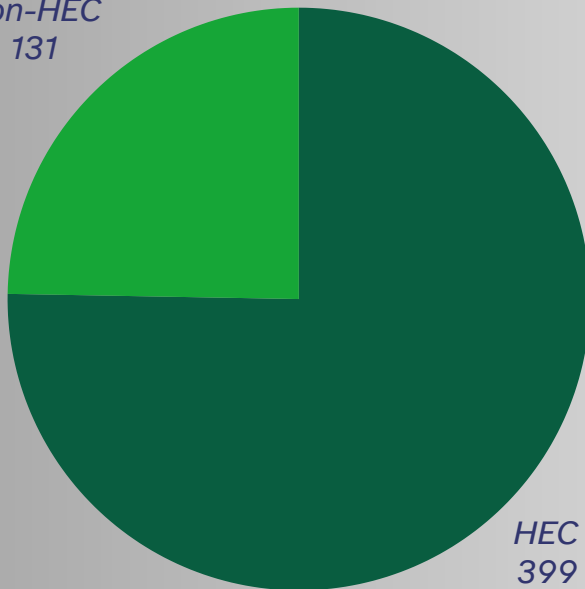
Research Excellence

Our Research Journey

The Research Department at ORIC, Ziauddin University, drives research excellence and innovation by supporting faculty and students through technical guidance, grant facilitation, and capacity building. It fosters interdisciplinary research and global collaborations, ensuring impactful contributions to knowledge creation and societal advancement.

Number of Proposal Submission

Non-HEC
131



HEC
399

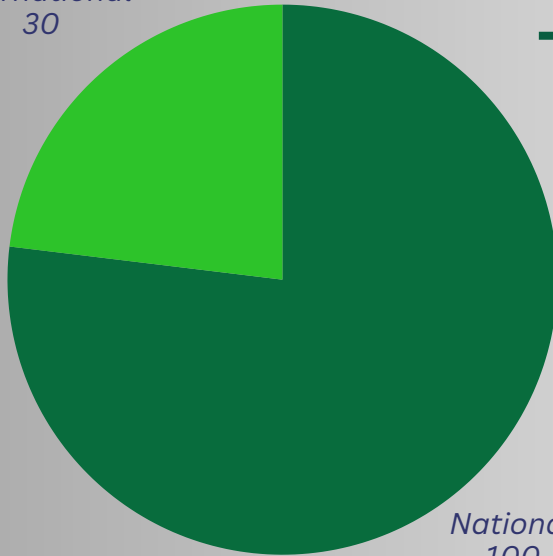
Most Applied Funding Bodies

- NIH-Islamabad
- SRSP
- RAASTA
- Wellcome
- NRPU
- British Council
- Commonwealth
- ACU
- SVRI
- DAP-Australia

Research Priority Areas

- 1 Health Sciences
- 2 Education
- 3 Liberal Arts and Human Sciences
- 4 Climate, Environment, and Sustainability
- 5 Gender Inclusiveness
- 6 Engineering and Technology
- 7 Veterinary Sciences
- 8 Pharmacology
- 9 Midwifery Nursing
- 10 Law, Politics & Governance
- 11 Public Health
- 12 Innovation & Entrepreneurship

International
30



National
100

Some previously conducted Workshops

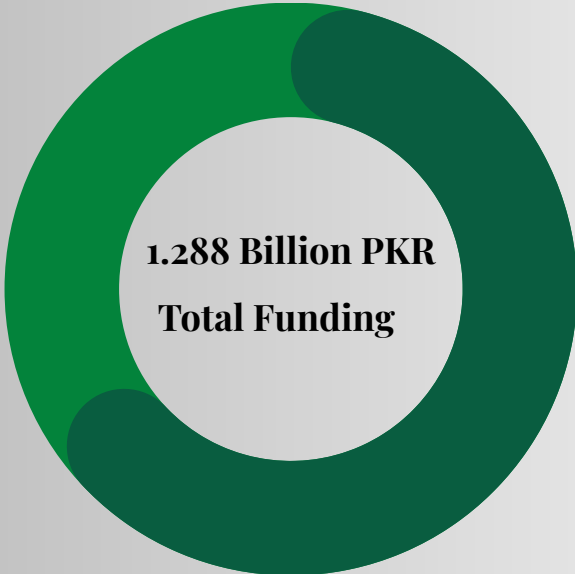
- Grant Writing
- Innovation and Entrepreneurship
- Research and Innovation
- Building A Safer Campus
- Understanding & Addressing Sexual Harassment
- Kangaroo Care Seminar in Collaboration with PILLS
- ORIC UTS Science
- Transforming Maternal and Neonatal Health



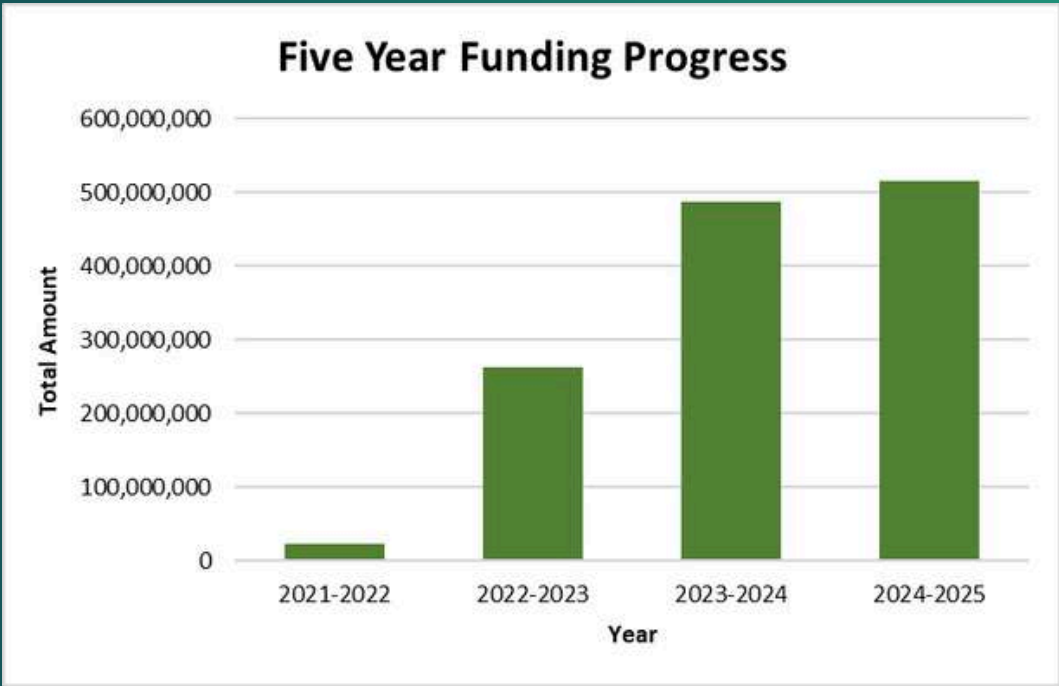
Funding Secured

Over the past five years, ORIC has successfully mobilized substantial funding by securing prestigious national and international grants, as well as through the initiation of clinical trials, significantly strengthening the university's research capacity and impact.

165,067,672 PKR
National
Funding



1,123,865,090 PKR
International
Funding



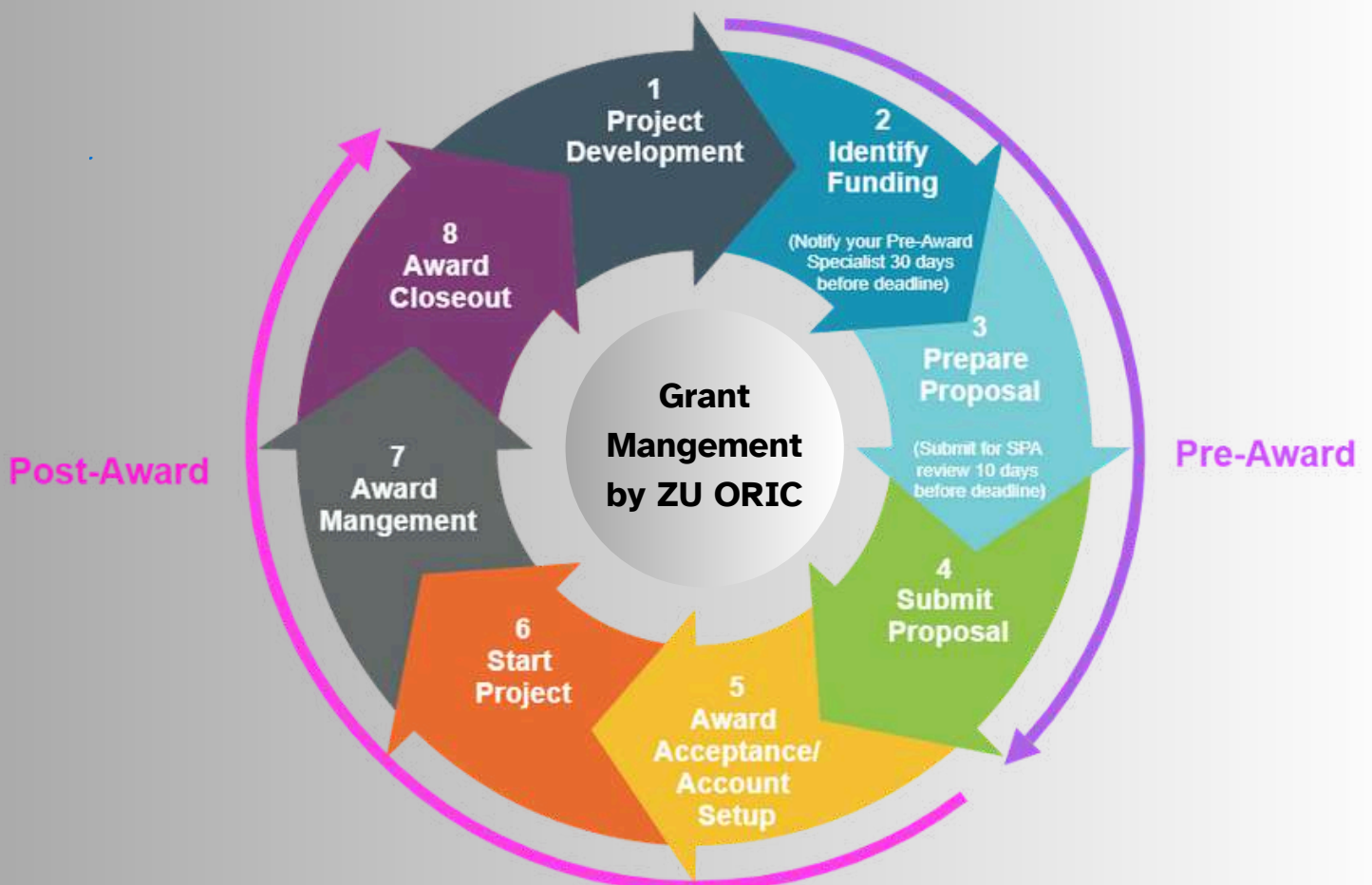
This achievement reflects the department's strong commitment to advancing impactful research. The sustained funding has enabled faculty to pursue innovative projects with national and international relevance.

Post Award Cycle Management

Under its Post Award functions, the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) has maintained strong financial governance, efficient project management, and impactful research outcomes. Over the past five years, ORIC has strengthened institutional systems to ensure transparency, accountability, and long-term research sustainability.

- Managed a Research Portfolio worth **PKR 1.288 Billion**.
- Successfully **managed 52 International and National Research Projects**, ensuring timely execution, compliance, and reporting.
- Established a **Single Window Solution** for Principal Investigators, streamlining administrative, financial, and compliance processes to enhance research delivery and investigator support.
- Generated **institutional overheads through ZURIF Funds and Pro-Chancellor (PC) Funds**, contributing directly to the university's research sustainability and growth.
- **Facilitated employment of over 150 project-based staff** across various disciplines through externally funded research initiatives, strengthening human resource capacity within the university.
- **Procured and delivered equipment worth PKR 10 million to Ziauddin University** through externally funded projects, bolstering the institution's research infrastructure and technical capabilities.

This robust post-award management framework has positioned ORIC as a key enabler of research excellence, ensuring compliance, transparency, and value creation across all externally funded projects.



Institutional Overhead Funds

30 M

ZURIF Fund

1+ M

PC Fund

Research Group Funds

2 M

CCRG Fund

10 M

AFWCC Fund

HEC Approved Journals of Ziauddin University

1 Pakistan Journal of Rehabilitation

2 Pakistan Journal of Medicine and Dentistry

1400+

Publications

In 5 years

Our Previous Awardees

The grantees of Ziauddin University are at the forefront of advancing knowledge and generating research that addresses pressing societal challenges. Through innovative projects funded by national and international grants, they are contributing to evidence-based solutions in areas such as healthcare, gender equity, antimicrobial resistance, climate resilience, and emerging technologies. Their work not only enhances academic excellence but also creates real-world impact, shaping policies, improving community health outcomes, and fostering innovation that benefits both Pakistan and the global community.



Prof. Dr. Nida Hussain
Pro-Chancellor
Ziauddin University



Prof. Madiha Hashmi
Chair Department
Critical Care Medicine



Engr. Prof. Dr. Fahad Azim
Dean
ZUFESTM



Prof. Dr. Zaigham Abbas
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Mr. Muaz Shah
Director Faculty of Law, Politics, and
Governance



Dr. Adnan Abdul Jabbar
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Ma'am Rana Hussain
Professor
College of Education



Dr. Shumaila Usman
Associate Professor
College of Molecular Medicine



Engr. Dr. Samia Tariq
Associate Professor
ZUFESTM



Prof. Dr. Fouzia Shaikh
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Saecda Baig
Associate Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Ambrina Khatoun
Associate Professor
College of Molecular Medicine



Dr. Shehzad Bashir
Associate Professor
ZUFONAM



Dr. Shehla Shaheen
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Amina Siddiqui
Associate Professor
College of Speech, Language and
Hearing



Ms. Laraib Khan
Manager Research and
Innovation
ORIC



Ms. Rahima Tahir
Manager Linkages and Outreach
ORIC



Dr. Amna Aamir Khan
Professor
College of Physical Therapy



Prof. Dr. Rubina Hussain
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Shamim Mushtaq
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Prof. Dr. Asma A. Salam
Assistant Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Zulfiqar Ali Umrani
Director
ORIC

And the list goes on...

Projects Won

National Projects

S. No	PI Names, Designation, Department	Funding Body
1	Dr. Shumaila Usman, Associate Professor, College of Molecular Medicine	Sindh Research Support Programme -HEC
2	Dr. Imtiaz Ali Brohi, Assistant Professor, IT& Computer Science	AI-Driven Drone System for Pest Control, Sindh Research Support Programme -HEC
3	Dr. Fahad Azim, Dean, ZUFESTM	Skills for All, Prime Minister (Kamayab Nujawan) NAVTCC
4	Dr. Shamim Mushtaq, Professor, ZMC	Pakistan Science Foundation Grant - PSF
5	Dr. Shamim Mushtaq, Associate Professor, ZMC	Targeted-Therapy Biomarkers in Metastatic Triple-Negative Breast Cancer, NRPU (HEC)
6	Dr. Fouzia Shamim, Professor, ZMC	NRPU (HEC)
7	Dr. Saeeda Baig, Professor, ZMC	Telomere Length Markers of Immune Aging in Newborns and Parents, NRPU (HEC)
8	Dr. Syed Faraz Jawed, Associate Professor, Department of Biomedical Engineering	Microfluidic Paper-Based Device for Infectious Disease Testing, NRPU (HEC)
9	Dr. Shumaila Usman, Associate Professor, College of Molecular Medicine	Cell-based & Cell-free therapeutic potential of human amniotic epithelial cells for the treatment of chronic liver disease, NRPU (HEC)
10	Dr. Ambrina Khatoon, Assistant Professor, College of Molecular Medicine	Genomic Variants and Viral Load in COVID-19, NRPU (HEC)

11	Dr. Fouzia Shaikh, Professor, ZMC	Validation of high-risk human papilloma virus with molecular profile of cervical cytopathology, NRPU (HEC)
12	Dr. Samia Tariq, Associate Professor, College of Civil Engineering.	Construction and Demolition Wastes by Production of Sustainable Concrete with the Use of Alternative Aggregates, NRPU (HEC)
13	Dr. Shehla Shaheen, Professor, ZMC	Oral Antihyperglycemics and Gene-Specific DNA Methylation in Type 2 Diabetes, NIH, Islamabad
14	Dr. Amina Asif Siddiqui, Principal, College of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences	Phonological Skills in Bilingual Urdu-English Speaking Children with Cochlear Implants, NIH, Islamabad
15	Dr. Ambrina Khatoon, Assistant Professor, College of Molecular Medicine	Genome-wide subtractive approach to prioritize a hypothetical protein of XDR Salmonella typhi as a potential drug target.” NIH, Islamabad
16	Dr. Shumaila Usman, Associate Professor, College of Molecular Medicine	“Salivary miRNA 18a-S5p: A Potential Diagnostic Marker of Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma”, NIH, Islamabad
17	Dr. Amna Aamir Khan, Professor, FAHS	Empowering Children with CP: A Goal-Oriented GMFM Program, NIH, Islamabad
18	Dr Shahzad Bashir, Assistant Professor, ZUFONAM	Mobile Health Intervention Impact on Self-Care Ability and Quality of Life among Heart Failure Patients, NIH, Islamabad
19	Ma'am Rana Hussain, Principal, College of Education	Enhancing Teacher Education through Action Research, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
20	Dr. Neelum Zehra, Principal, College of Occupational Therapy	Handicap International, Pakistan
21	Mr. Mairaj-ud-din, Assistant Professor, Faculty of La	Fleet Operations
22	Dr. Neelum Zehra, Professor, College of Occupational Therapy	Contract research Agreement, Dewa Pakistan, Islamabad, Pakistan
24	Ma'am Rana Hussain, Principal, College of Education	Pilot Implementation of Teacher Capacity Building Initiative through Action Research and Community Engagement, DARE RC
25	Mr. Muaz Shah, Director Center for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, Politics and Governance	ADAL, Global Neighborhood for Media Innovation, Karachi, Pakistan
26	30+ Projects	Ignite, Pakistan

International Projects

S. No	Names, designation, Department	Grant Title, Funding Body
1	Dr Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	REMAP-CAP, Monash University & Minderoo Foundation
2	Dr. Amina Siddiqui, Principal, College of Speech, Language and Hearing Sciences	Working with children with Neurodevelopmental Disabilities, MAITS Organization
3	Ms Rahima, Manager Linkages and Outreach, ORIC Department	Financial Literacy, Association of Commonwealth Universities
4	Prof. Dr. Fahad Azim, Dean, ZUFESTM	Capacity Building in Biomedical Engineering Education for Digital Transformation and Industry 4.5/5.0 Technologies, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA)
5	Ms. Laraib Khan, Manager ORIC (Link Road)	Implementing EMR to Strengthen Healthcare in Shireen Jinnah Colony, Association of Commonwealth Universities
7	Prof Dr Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Medical Masks versus N95 respirators to prevent 2019 Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) in Healthcare Workers: A Randomized Trial", McMaster University
9	Prof Dr Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Establishment of a Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement Group in a Clinical Trials Unit in Pakistan, Mahidol Oxford Tropical Medicine Research Unit-MORU
10	Prof Dr Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Randomised Evaluation of COVID-19 Therapy, Clinical-Recovery
11	Mr. Muaz Shah, Director Center for Human Rights, Faculty of Law, Politics and Governance	ADAL, Global Neighbourhood for Media Innovation [GNMI],
12	Dr Ashok Kumar, Professor, ZMC	Clinical-O2CoV2
13	Dr. Ghulam Rasheed, Head of MICU/CCU at Dr. Ziauddin Hospital	Clinical-MegaRox, Medical Research Institute Of New Zealand (Mrinz)
14	Dr. Mohammad Osama Rehman Khalid, Assistant Professor, ZMC	ACRON HAI, National University of Singapore
15	Dr. Rubina Hussain, Professor, ZMC	Evaluating the use of an FDA-cleared, novel vaginal speculum for gynecologic procedures, Cure Cervical Cancer, Inc
21	Dr. Asma Abdus Salam, Assistant Professor	IASP

19	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Clinical Research During Outbreaks (CREDO), University of Oxford
20	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	ISARIC Project Management, University of Oxford
21	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Maturity Metrics, University of Oxford
22	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	WHO Maturity Framework APW for Clinical Trials Units, University of Oxford
23	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	WHO APW 2, University of Oxford
24	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	Support to the International Severe Acute Respiratory and Emerging infection Consortium (Gates – Acute Respiratory), awarded by University of Oxford, funded by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)
26	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	ISARIC PPIE FCDO and Wellcome, ISARIC 3.0: Strengthening the global clinical research ecosystem for epidemic and pandemic prevention and preparedness, Oxford University
27	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	ISARIC IPOP, Improving Patient Outcome Plan (IPOP) development phase, Oxford University
28	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	ISARIC GFPG, Good Financial Grant Practice (GFPG), Oxford University
29	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	ISARIC Clinical Characterisation Partnership (CCP), Oxford University
30	Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Professor, ZMC	REMAP-CAP Acquired Pneumonia, Monash University
35	Dr. Osama Rehman Khalid	ACORN-HAI Variation Project Funded by National University of Singapore
36	Dr. Madiha Hashmi	GenOMICC and GENOMICC Extension, University of Edinburgh

Registries Developed

- 1 Pre-Eclampsia
- 2 Gestational diabetes (GDM)
- 3 BURNS
- 4 Budd Chiary Syndrome

Platforms Joined

SDG Academy Community of Practice

Ziauddin University has become a Member of the SDG Academy Community of Practice. The SDG Academy, the flagship education initiative of the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), is a diverse network of educators dedicated to advancing education for sustainable development through peer learning and the sharing of best practices, customized resource development, and opportunities for research and thought leadership. ZU has established the Sustainability Office to advance progress on the SDGs.



United Nations' Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME)

Ziauddin University joins over 800 leading Institutes from around the world who are committed to building a more sustainable future by implementing the Six Principles and striving to achieve the SDGs. PRME deepens collaboration in and across institutions on specific issues relevant to corporate sustainability and responsibility and related to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.



Association of Commonwealth University (ACU)

Dr Zulfiqar Ali Umrani has been assigned the role of Association of Commonwealth Universities - UK Ambassador from Ziauddin University. The ACU has established this role to improve communication with our members and to strengthen coordination with the UK and member institutions. ZU has established the International Office to support this initiative.



Talloires Network

Ziauddin University has proudly become a member of the Talloires Network of Engaged Universities, a distinguished global coalition dedicated to advancing civic engagement, social responsibility, and community-centered education. This membership reflects the University's long-standing commitment to creating meaningful impact through teaching, research, and community partnerships. By joining the Talloires Network, Ziauddin University strengthens its role in promoting inclusive development, empowering communities, and preparing students to become responsible global citizens who contribute to positive social change.



International Association of Universities

Ziauddin University has recently become a member of the International Association of Universities (IAU), a prestigious global network dedicated to advancing higher education worldwide. This membership reflects the University's commitment to internationalization, academic excellence, and global collaboration. Through the IAU, Ziauddin University gains access to worldwide knowledge-sharing platforms, global partnerships, and opportunities to contribute to international dialogue on higher education, further strengthening its vision of becoming a globally connected and socially responsible institution.



United Nations Academic Impact

Ziauddin University has become a member of the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI), an initiative that aligns institutions of higher education with the United Nations in supporting and advancing global priorities. This membership highlights the University's dedication to promoting sustainability, human rights, gender equality, and social development through education, research, and community engagement. By joining UNAI, Ziauddin University reinforces its commitment to contributing to global progress and preparing students to become leaders who drive positive change in line with the UN's principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).



Asia Pacific Quality Network

Ziauddin University has become a member of the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN), a prominent regional body dedicated to strengthening quality assurance in higher education. This membership reflects the University's commitment to maintaining international standards and enhancing academic excellence through global collaboration and best practices.



Ground Breaking Research

First human sample-derived Oral Submucous Fibrosis (OSMF) cell line in Pakistan.

**Dr. Shumaila Usman, Associate Professor
College of Molecular Medicine**

The first human sample-derived Oral Submucous Fibrosis (OSMF) cell line in Pakistan has been successfully developed by Dr. Shumaila Usman from the College of Molecular Medicine, Ziauddin University. This groundbreaking achievement marks a major milestone in oral cancer and precancer research within the country. The establishment of this OSMF cell line provides a valuable indigenous model for studying the molecular mechanisms underlying disease progression, malignant transformation, and therapeutic response. It enables researchers to explore novel diagnostic and treatment strategies tailored to the genetic and environmental factors prevalent in the Pakistani population. Dr. Usman's pioneering work not only strengthens Pakistan's capacity for translational cancer research but also opens new avenues for international collaboration in understanding and combating oral submucous fibrosis.

Pakistan's first OSMF cell line at Ziauddin University

Press Release • 03:01 PM, 30 Mar, 2023

National, Research



Global Critical Care Leadership and Policy

**Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Chairperson
Critical Care Research Group**

She has served on the WHO Global Development Committee for COVID-19 clinical management and therapeutic guidelines (2020-2021) and the WHO Living Guideline on drugs to prevent COVID-19 (2021). Internationally, she is an Honorary Physician at the Mahidol Oxford Research Unit (MORU), Bangkok. Nationally, Dr. Madiha serves as Secretary, Faculty of Critical Care Medicine (CPSP), CEO of SEARCH, Founding President of Sepsis Alliance Pakistan (SoAP), and former President of the Pakistan Society of Critical Care Medicine (2015-2019). She is currently leading the establishment of Pakistan's first National Burn Register under the NIHR-RIGHT4 program, reinforcing her commitment to advancing evidence-based policy and critical care capacity in Pakistan and beyond.



Establishment of National Center in Big Data & Cloud Computing (NCBC)

Dr. Munaf Rashid, Professor
College of Computing and Software Engineering

The National Center in Big Data and Cloud Computing (NCBC) at Ziauddin University was established in alignment with the Government of Pakistan's Vision 2025, which emphasizes technological innovation and data-driven development for national progress. The center focuses on research and development (R&D) and human resource capacity building in the rapidly evolving fields of Big Data and Cloud Computing. Through this initiative, Ziauddin University aims to promote advanced learning, innovation, and knowledge transfer to strengthen the local economy. NCBC serves as a national hub for data analytics, cloud infrastructure, and data science training, enabling solutions that address real-world challenges in healthcare, business, governance, and other sectors. This strategic initiative reinforces Ziauddin University's commitment to fostering digital transformation, research excellence, and sustainable economic growth in Pakistan.

Initiation of Good Financial Practices (GFGP)

Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Chairperson,
Critical Care Research Group

Ziauddin University has achieved a significant milestone by becoming the first institution in Pakistan to implement the Good Financial Grant Practice (GFGP), a globally recognized standard developed to ensure transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the management of research grants and funding. The adoption of GFGP marks a major step forward in strengthening Ziauddin University's research governance framework, aligning it with international best practices. This certification enhances the university's credibility and readiness to collaborate with international funding agencies, ensuring that all financial and operational procedures meet rigorous global compliance standards. By pioneering GFGP in Pakistan, Ziauddin University reinforces its commitment to excellence, integrity, and leadership in research management and institutional governance.

Daily National Courier

Thursday, January 30, 2025 | Rajab 29, 1446 A.H. ABC CERTIFIED <https://dailynationalcourier.com> | Regd. No. 3436 | Vol. XV - No. 179 | Pages: 8 | Price: Rs 10

WORLD'S FIRST INT'L STANDARD FOR FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE. GRANT MANAGEMENT

Ziauddin University successfully conducts Pakistan's first-ever workshop on GFGP

By Staff Reporter

KARACHI: Ziauddin University successfully conducted Pakistan's first-ever workshop on the Good Financial Grant Practice (GFGP), the world's first international standard for financial governance and grant management. This pioneering event demonstrated the university's unwavering commitment to advancing global financial governance practices and empowering grant professionals with tools for transparency and efficiency.

The two-day international workshop brought together experts, Principal Investigators (PIs), and grant management



professionals from various global significance. The workshop was facilitated by renowned experts Sarah Moore from Oxford University, and Ms. Genny Kiff, the former Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

of the Wellcome Sanger Institute, the event provided participants with invaluable insights and strategies to enhance financial transparency and governance excellence in grant-related endeavors. Earlier in their welcome notes, Pro-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Nida Hussain and Acting Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. Abbas Zafar of Ziauddin University highlighted the critical importance of transparent and efficient grant management practices. They emphasized that adopting international standards like GFGP reflects Ziauddin University's dedication to fostering innovation and accountability in academia and

beyond. The event's concluding remarks reinforced the significance of collaboration, capacity building, and adherence to global standards for financial governance. Participants left the workshop inspired to implement these practices within their organizations to drive meaningful change. The event was organized under the leadership of Dr. Zulfikar Ali Umrani, Director ORIC, and Dr. Madiha Hashmi, Chairperson Critical Care Medicine, the workshop served as a transformative initiative aimed at equipping participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to maximize the impact of grant-funded projects.

Policy Development

Our research team has developed and finalised nine institutional research policies strengthening governance, compliance, and standardization across all faculties

- 1 Financial Support for Publication
- 2 Travel Grants
- 3 Faculty Research Cells
- 4 Research Groups Policy
- 5 Postgraduate Topic Selection
- 6 Consultancy Policy
- 7 Startups Policy
- 8 ZU Research Policy
- 9 Safeguard Policy
- 10 Intellectual Property Rights
- 11 Authorship
- 12 Research Ethics
- 13 Advisory Research Council
- 14 Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion
- 15 Gender, Equity, and Inclusion Policy
- 16 Grievance Redressal Policy
- 17 Whistle Blower Policy
- 18 Conflict of Interest
- 19 Executive Training Centre
- 20 Strategic Collaboration Policy
- 21 Promotion Recommendation for
- 22 Faculty Job Application
Recommendation
- 23 Faculty Performance Dashboard
- 24 Performance Appraisal and
Increments
- 25 Dedicated Research Time Policy
for Faculty and Clinicians Having
Academic Title
- 26 Capacity Building Certifications
Recommendation

Research Groups

We have successfully established dedicated research groups to foster collaborative and high-impact research. These research groups include:

Critical Care Research Group (CCRG)

The CCRG team at Ziauddin University, led by Prof. Madiha Hashmi, represents a hub of excellence in critical care research. The multidisciplinary team includes clinicians, biological scientists, data scientists, and data collectors, dedicated to improving outcomes for patients in intensive care through innovative, evidence-based research. From clinical trials to translational research, we are committed to advancing the understanding and treatment of critically ill patients. The team leverages strong collaborations with leading research institutions and experts, both nationally and internationally.



Dr. Aijaz Fatima Women & Children Research Centre (AFWCC)

Dr. Aijaz Fatima Women & Children Centre focuses on advancing research-driven, quality healthcare for women and children. It identifies key health priorities and leverages Ziauddin University's research strengths to develop effective solutions. The Centre promotes innovation in obstetrics, pediatrics, nursing, public health, and family medicine to improve clinical practices. It is committed to providing affordable care, including telemedicine services for underserved communities. Through electronic data capture and disease registries, the Centre generates meaningful evidence to guide better health outcomes and policy decisions.



Public and Patient Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Group

Patient & Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) ensures that patients, families, and communities play an active role in shaping health research. It helps identify meaningful priorities, improve study methods, and guide how research outcomes should be applied for real-world benefit. The PPIE Group at Ziauddin University is pioneering this approach in Pakistan, particularly within clinical trials, to make research more relevant and patient-centered. Our work follows internationally recognized best practices, adapted from the UK Standards for Public Involvement, and we aim to strengthen trust, transparency, and the overall quality of clinical research in Pakistan.



Consultancies, Civic Engagement & Policy Advocacies



100 + 400 + 250+

- Clinical Consultancy
- Research Consultancy
- Technical Consultancy

Consultancies through ORIC

- Free Health Camps
- Blood Drive
- Fund-Raising Drives
- Awareness Sessions

Civic Engagements

- Directorate of Animal Breeding Sindh Hyderabad
- Sindh Poultry Vaccine Centre Govt. of Sindh
- Dep . of Livestock and Fishery, Govt. of Sindh
- the Sindh Environmental Protection Authority

Policy Advocacies Presented to Government Departments



Science/Art Exhibitions



100+



Research Awards

30+

Meet The Fellows

MARTHA FARRELL MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP '22



Dr. Nida Hussain
Pro-Chancellor Ziauddin University, Pakistan



The Association of Commonwealth Universities



HEALTHCARE EXCELLENCE Awards 2024

PAMI extends profound appreciation for your journey of excellence and wishes you continued success in further elevating the healthcare sector of Pakistan.

Prof. Dr. Abbas Zafar
Dean
Ziauddin University, Karachi



Celebrating Success at ICETBB-2023!

Our Guiding Star
MS. QAMAR UN NISA NAZ
Assistant Dean, International Studies
Faculty of Education

1st Position

At the 5th International Conference on Emerging Trends in Bioinformatics and Biosciences (ICETBB-2023)

HAZARA UNIVERSITY, HAZARA

SEPTEMBER 1st TO 14th, 2023



ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

BRONZE FOR PAKISTAN PRIDE FOR ZIAUDDINI

Congratulations!

Dr. Abeer Lakhani
MS PD at Dr. Ziauddin Memorial Hospital

For standing tall against 14 Global Teams & bagging the Bronze Medal at the Global Encounters Festival 2023 held in Dubai, UAE!

What a Win!

BUSINESS

DR. ZIAUDDIN GROUP'S SHAHID SHERA HONORED WITH VISIONARY LEADERSHIP AWARD FOR TECH INNOVATION

CONNECTED PAKISTAN

The students, faculty and staff of Ziauddin College of Media Sciences heartily **Congratulate** **Mr. Imran Ali Khan** Awarded **Most Famous Tech Star** held at **Connected Pakistan** will event held in Lahore.

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Great Minds Earn Great Honours!

HEARTIEST Congratulations

PROF. DR. ABID MEHDI KAZMI
Professor/Clinical Group Head, PhD Physical Therapy, MPT, DPT [D], BSPT

For Receiving **TAMGHA-E-IMTIAZ** by the **PRESIDENT OF PAKISTAN** on March 23, 2025

You have made Ziauddin University proud!

Anaid
(Fluoride) 100mg

DentalInnovate 2.0
LIAQUAT COLLEGE OF MEDICINE & DENTISTRY

2nd WINNER
Second Prize

HELD ON 12th - 24th July 2025



Speech & Hearing Association of Pakistan

is proud to present

Ms. Amina Asif Siddiqui
Lifetime Achievement Award
Award 2024-2025



Services Offered by ZU Research Community

Training and Workshops

- Research Ethics Course Work
- SPSS & Endnote application and organizing research work
- Manuscript writing skills
- Plagiarism software hands-on workshop
- Workshops on Clinical Trial
- Protein, RNA, DNA isolation purification, and quantitation from tissue
- Guidelines for preparing effective Oral/ Poster Presentations
- Developing Research Question and Hypothesis Testing
- Hands-on workshops for Instrumentation & Biomedical Techniques

Collaboration and Funding for Research Projects

- Facilitate international and local collaborations
- Facilitate and Explore Clinical Trials and Patient data research
- Provide information to faculty about various available research grants.
- Facilitate faculty to write grants and plan proper budgets
- Assist with negotiating problematic sponsored research agreements.
- Management of grants

Research Support

- Seminars and Workshops
- Journal Club for sharing of Research among faculty
- Online videos for Research
- Statistical support for research Data Analysis
- Publication Support
- Conference and Symposiums
- Research Collaborations

Industrial Partnerships

- Link faculty and students with relevant industry
- Training for Corporate audience
- Professional Certificate Programs
- The interface between faculty and the commercial sector
- External Services for Industry and NGOs
- Promoting collaborative commercial ventures

Entrepreneur Support

- Evaluate markets for the commercialization of inventions
- Help students and faculty create start-ups
- Help faculty start companies
- Identify potential licensees
- Negotiate terms of licenses

Legal Support and Training

- Company Registration and Incorporation Services
- Work with patent counsel to assess licensing
- Legal Consulting on Copyrights and Patents

A group of approximately ten people are gathered in a meeting room. Two men are seated at a long table in the foreground, looking at documents. One man is wearing a dark suit and tie, while the other is in a light-colored polo shirt. Behind them, several other individuals, including men and women in business attire, are standing. The room features air conditioning units on the wall and framed portraits of men. The text 'LINKAGES & OUTREACH' is overlaid in a large, bold, black serif font across the center of the image.

**LINKAGES
&
OUTREACH**

Ziauddin University's Linkages and Outreach are driven through its International and Sustainability Office, which serves as a bridge between the university and global partners. The office actively fosters collaborations, research partnerships, and cross-cultural learning opportunities, while also aligning the university's initiatives with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

International Office

The University is committed to building strong partnerships with leading universities, organizations, and corporations worldwide, including the University of Oxford, NHS London, Monash University, Edinburgh University, and McMaster University. These collaborations enhance the university's global reach, enabling joint research, knowledge exchange, access to cutting-edge technologies, and opportunities for student internships and careers. Alongside international engagement, the university also partners locally and actively contributes to community service, ensuring a positive impact on both students and society at large.

50+

International Collaborations





Research Links Established

150+

National Collaborations



Sustainability Office

The Sustainability Office at Ziauddin University plays a central role in advancing the institution's commitment to environmental responsibility, social equity, and economic resilience. Guided by the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the office integrates sustainability principles into academics, research, campus operations, and community outreach. It leads initiatives such as green campus practices, awareness campaigns, and partnerships that promote innovation for a more sustainable future.

Community Health Camps

Over the past five years, the Ziauddin University has organized multiple community health camps through students across underserved areas of Karachi and surrounding regions, directly aligning with SDGs 3 (Good Health and Well-being), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), and 10 (Reduced Inequalities). These camps provided free medical screenings, vaccinations, nutritional counseling, and hygiene education to more than 18,500 beneficiaries, including women, children, and low-income families.

Key highlights include:

- **2021-2022:** Launched mobile dental and eye-care units in collaboration with Ziauddin Hospital, serving 4,200 patients in flood-affected areas of Sindh.
- **2023:** Integrated climate-health awareness modules, educating 3,100 participants on heatwave preparedness and vector-borne diseases.
- **2024-2025:** Partnered with local NGOs to distribute 12,000 sanitary kits and install 15 community water filtration units, reducing waterborne illnesses by an estimated 28% in target localities (based on post-camp surveys).



Climate Resilience

In the past 5 years, Ziauddin University has become a regional leader in climate resilience, proactively addressing the escalating threats of urban flooding, heatwaves, and resource scarcity in Karachi. Aligned with SDGs 13 (Climate Action), 11 (Sustainable Cities and Communities), and 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), its flagship programs over the past five years have reduced campus emissions, enhanced adaptive capacity, and fostered evidence-based dialogue on climate solutions.

Key highlights include:

- **2021:** Launched the Go Green Campus Initiative; FLPG joined the International Association of Law Schools (IALS), the first in Sindh, to advance global legal frameworks for sustainability and climate justice.
- **2022:** Expanded solar capacity to 300 kW across Clifton and initiated the ZU Dialogues on Climate Change; FLPG partnered with RSIL to promote community awareness on environmental laws and obligations.
- **2023:** FLPG signed an MoU with Homo Digitalis (Greece-based NGO) for the Centre for Law & Technology, focusing on research and advocacy for digital rights in climate monitoring and environmental protection.
- **2024:** ZU Dialogues “Health in a Warming World” produced a white paper adopted by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority
- **2025:** Launched the Emergency Medical Response (EMR) Project in January at the ZU Community Center in Shireen Jinnah Colony, serving over 500,000 residents in one of Karachi’s most climate-vulnerable urban slums; hosted consultative meeting on Climate Change and Women’s Well-being, visit to Sindh Environmental Protection Tribunal for hands-on environmental case studies, ongoing Bar Vocational Courses integrated climate-related legal training with Sindh Judicial Academy and Sindh Bar Council.



Gender Equity

Over the past five years, Ziauddin University (ZU) has advanced gender equity through inclusive education, anti-harassment measures, and SDG-aligned research, earning recognition as one of Sindh's top three universities for SDG 5 (Gender Equality) in the Times Higher Education Impact Rankings 2024. These efforts promote women's leadership, address violence, and foster equitable access to education, aligning with SDGs 5 (Gender Equality), 4 (Quality Education), and 10 (Reduced Inequalities). Earlier recognition includes second place in the 2016 MacJannet Prize for the Ziauddin Sikanderabad Community Partnership, a women-focused primary healthcare initiative run by female students and community members.

Key Highlights Include:

2020: Signed MoU with Oxfam Pakistan on Gender Edutainment to combat gender-based violence via awareness campaigns, training, and establishment of a Harassment Complaint Cell (HCC) compliant with HEC's anti-harassment policy; strengthened the university's Anti-Harassment Committee.

2021: Integrated gender-inclusive pedagogies into College of Education curricula; hosted ZU Dialogues on women's health, including breast cancer awareness, to empower female students and staff.

2022-2023: Established Sustainability Office under ORIC to track SDG 5 progress, including research on gender disparities; Faculty of Law, Politics & Governance (FLPG) incorporated gender-sensitive jurisprudence into programs

2024: Initiated the SAFE project to ensure safe campuses across Karachi in collaboration with Martha Farrelle Fellowship, ACU, UNDP and Sindh HEC.

2025: Initiated the Financial Literacy Program to educate and train 50 women in Shireen Jinnah colony on financial literacy.





INNOVATION & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In the past five years, Ziauddin University has emerged as a hub for innovation and entrepreneurship, nurturing a new generation of changemakers equipped with creative thinking, leadership, and startup development skills. Through its Pre-Incubation Certificate Program and mentorship initiatives, the university has built a vibrant ecosystem fostering youth-led enterprise and technological innovation.

Pre-Incubation Program

- John Michaelis - Angel Investor, AI Expert, UK
- Peter Harrington - SimVentures, UK
- Alison Gee - Business Model Canvas Demo
- Iffat Zafar - Sehat Kahani
- Shahzaib Iqbal Bhatti - iOS and Android Expert, NextGenI
- SMEDA, TiE, PEP

Meet our Pre- incubation Facilitators/ Mentors



Under the guidance of these mentors, the following sessions and activities were conducted:

- **Orientation & Launch Session:** Introduction to the Pre-Incubation Certificate Program and fundamentals of entrepreneurship and startup development.
- **Guest Talk by Dr. Iffat Zafar Aga:** Insights on building a successful social enterprise in the healthcare technology sector.
- **Workshop by Shahzaib Iqbal Bhatti:** Hands-on training on iOS App Development and tech-driven entrepreneurship.
- **Keynote Session by John Michaelis:** Discussion on Entrepreneurial Finance and the role of Artificial Intelligence in Startups.
- **Training Session by Peter Harrington:** Interactive session on Marketing for Successful Startups and strategies for business growth.
- **Mentorship & Ideation Support:** Continued guidance for student-led startup ideas and development.
- **Innovation-Driven Learning:** Integration of entrepreneurship modules across academic disciplines to nurture creativity and enterprise.

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Pre-incubation Guest Speaker Training Session
Marketing for Successful Startups

Friday, 21st January 2022 | 3pm - 4pm
Pakistan Standard Time on Google Meet

Guest Speaker
Peter Harrington
CEO StartFuture, UK

Seed entrepreneur, Peter Harrington has been creating and growing startups since graduation in York (UK) in 1989. Over 3 decades he has employed 1,000+ people and created and built businesses in the fields of research, marketing, design, print, consultancy, music production and electronic technology. In 2005 Peter founded 'Venture Simulators Ltd' (VSL) with his partner 'Paul' VSL develops and supplies award-winning SimVentures business simulation learning solutions to education and workplace clients in 40+ countries. When not traveling and working as a Director, Peter supports students as an Entrepreneur in Residence at London South Bank University. He has also worked extensively at the London School of Economics. To further develop global entrepreneurial thinking and entrepreneurship education Peter publishes the 'Startup Survival Toolkit' and the Blog, 'The Millibar', 'Guide to Entrepreneurship'.

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Pre-incubation Certificate Program

Shehat Kahani – Journey: Challenges to Success

Speaker
Iffat Zafar

Iffat Zafar Aga is the Co-founder of Shehat Kahani and also an alumni of Ziauddin University. She will be sharing her entrepreneurial journey.

Date:
Monday, 10th Jan 2022

Timings:
3 pm - 4 pm

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Pre-incubation Guest Speaker Training Session
Financing your startup

Monday, 31st January 2022 | 03:30pm - 04:30pm
Pakistan Standard Time on Google Meet

Guest Speaker
John Michaelis
Angel Investor and AI expert based in UK

John is an active angel investor and board advisor for early stage technology companies. He actively supports his portfolio of AI companies and is advised by Confidence Ventures, as a commercial and AI expert, as well as a member of their investment committee. In 2020 John published his first book, 'How to, an easy to read introduction to AI for entrepreneurs and career professionals. Previously he was the founding shareholder of Aurora, which became the market leader in AI solutions for the air sector, before a successful exit. His business career includes two decades leading WIT Consultancy, which was a respected boutique, that had the privilege to lead some of the most complex and challenging global commercial programs in the Telecoms, Technology and Banking sectors.

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Pre-incubation Certificate Program

Welcome On-board
Shahzaib Iqbal Bhatti

- Keynote Speaker at Pre-incubation
- iOS Application Lead at NextGenL
- App Development

ZIAUDDIN UNIVERSITY

Pre-incubation Certificate Program

Welcome On-board
John Michaelis

- Keynote Speaker at Pre-incubation
- Angel Investor
- AI Expert
- Entrepreneurial Finance Expert

Following the mentorship phase, a series of entrepreneurial sessions and pitching activities were organized at Ziauddin University.

- Sessions were conducted under the mentorship of national and international experts.
- Students presented their startup project pitches at Ziauddin University and in other partner organizations.



**Katalyst
Labs**

20
student-led startups
were selected in the 1st
cohort at NIC and
Katalyst Lab.



Prime Minister's Youth Program



Achieved a major milestone
by winning PKR 5 million

ElectroCon is a Faculty of
Engineering, science,
Technology, and Management
student-led startup that
offers smart integrated
solutions for businesses.

Innovation Ecosystem

Building on the foundation of the Pre-Incubation Program, Ziauddin University has expanded its innovation landscape through product design, technology development, and student-led exhibitions. Today, the university proudly showcases a diverse range of student-created prototypes, startups, and design solutions across the domains of health, technology, and sustainability. Through product design courses, innovation expos, and interdisciplinary collaborations, students are encouraged to transform ideas into tangible outcomes that address real-world challenges. These initiatives enhanced creativity and applied learning, leading to a hub for innovation, entrepreneurship, and product development in the region.



Patents Filed

S.No	Patent Title	Inventor(s)	Research Focus	Type of Patent	Year
1	Sensors Packed Street Light	Dr. Asif	Smart street lighting system using sensors	Provisional	2021
2	Smart Sensor Packed Real Time Environmental Monitor	Dr. Asif	Real-time environmental monitoring using smart sensors	Provisional	2021
3	Smart Walker for Lower Limb Disabilities	Dr. Saad Jawaid Khan	Assistive device for people with lower limb disabilities	Provisional	2023
4	A Topical Antifungal Herbal Formulation	Dr. Anwar Ejaz Baig, Dr. Nudrat Fatima, Dr. Tasawer Baig	Herbal formulation for antifungal treatment	Complete Specification	2023
5	Topical Antifungal Cream	Dr. Tasawer Baig, Dr. Anwar Ejaz Baig, Dr. Nudrat Fatima	Herbal antifungal formulation	Filed	2024
6	Developing a Deep Learning Segmentation Model to Identify Polyp in Upper Gastrointestinal Endoscopic Images	Dr. Munaf	AI-based model for identifying gastrointestinal polyps	Complete Specification	2024
7	Enhanced Durability and Waterproofing Method for Bricks Using Bitumen Coating	Engr. Rizwan Ahmad	Waterproofing and durability enhancement for bricks	Provisional	2024
8	Thermal Insulation Bricks with Superior Thermal Performance Made Through the Combination of EPS Foam and Pozzolanic Waste Materials	Engr. Ravi Shetiya	Thermal insulation bricks made from EPS foam and waste materials	Provisional	2024
9	Development of Human Sample Derived Oral Submucous Fibrosis Cell Line	Dr. Shumaila Usman	Novel cell line for human oral submucous fibrosis research	Provisional	2025
10	Development of Dietary Capsule	Dr. Natasha Butt	Quince extract-based supplement for diabetes & heart patients	Complete Specification	2025
11	Functionalized Cotton Fabric	Dr. Bushra Zafar	Textile coating for dye degradation & antimicrobial properties	Complete Specification	2025
12	Mobile Health Application	Shahzad Bashir, Yasmin Amarsi, Saad Jawaid Khan, Danyal Talpur	Heart failure management app	Complete Specification	2025
13	Glipad	Dr. Ather Hashmi	Physiotherapy tool for acromioclavicular joint mobilization	Complete Specification	2025

IP Disclosure and Licensing

Year	IP Disclosures	Licensing Negotiations
2020-2021	6	2
2021-2022	45	2
2022-2023	50	4
2023-2024	50	4
2024-2025	51	4

Trademarks Registered

S. No	Name	Trademark Name
1	Amina Siddiqui	Edulearn

Patent Granted

S. No	Name	Patent Name	Patent Number
1	Zehra Ashraf, Anwar Ejaz Baig, Mirza Tasawer Baig and Nudrat Fatima	A Topical Anti-fungal Gel	13/2023

Startups by ZU



ELECTRON

Electrocon is an engineering startup that achieved the runner-up position and won a prize in a competition



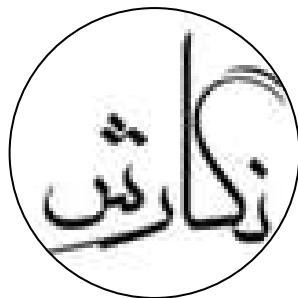
THE CULTURAL FEAST

A women-initiated food home delivery service. The Cultural Feast offers all the authentic dishes from all parts of Pakistan.



MADAD AMBULANCE

Pharmacy student-led startup which offers ambulance services especially for pregnant women in rural districts of Sindh.



NIGARISH

A handcrafted customizable notebook brand where craftsmanship meets every day notetaking.



BIOMIC

Offers ortho and prosthetic services in Karachi.



IO SOLUTIONS

It is a technology spin-off that provides IO-based solutions to agriculture, health, and road sensing.

A photograph of a clinical trial unit in a hospital ward. The room features several hospital beds with white linens and blue accents, arranged in a row. Grey curtains are used to separate the beds. In the foreground, there is a wooden chair with a dark blue seat. To the left, a medical cart holds various pieces of equipment, including a red bag and a white device. The ceiling is a grid of white tiles with recessed circular lights. The floor is made of light-colored, polished tiles. The overall atmosphere is clean and professional.

CLINICAL TRIAL UNIT

Executive Summary

Established to bridge the gap between academic research and evidence-based clinical practice, the Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) at Ziauddin University has emerged as a center of excellence in Pakistan's clinical research ecosystem.

The Ziauddin University Clinical Trials Unit (ZU-CTU) established and DRAP-approved in 2022. Since its inception, the CTU has grown into a fully functional, GCP-compliant research facility, capable of conducting multi-phase clinical trials across a wide range of therapeutic areas.

11 clinical trials

phases II-IV, across oncology, infectious diseases, Gynecology, and hepatology

Research Funding of PKR 106 M

ensuring ethical oversight, regulatory compliance, and participant safety.

Progress of 2022-2025

International Collaborations

CROs such as IQVIA, Minerva Research Solutions, DRK Pharma Solutions and OrciTrials Pvt Ltd.

Increased clinical research capacity

SOPs, compliance systems, and training programs

Today Ziauddin CTU stands as a sustainable, trusted research site, contributing to global drug development, improving patient outcomes in Pakistan, and aligning with international standards of Good Clinical Practice (GCP).

Clinical Trial Unit



Infrastructure and Facilities

Clinical Facilities

- Equipped examination and consultation rooms
- Separate consent and participant assessment rooms
- Infusion and cardiac monitoring setup
- Dedicated phlebotomy and sample collection areas with specimen collection restrooms
- Protocol-based specimen processing and handling areas
- Nutrition support area for fasting or long-stay study subjects
- Reception, check-in, and waiting area for participants
- Dedicated workspace for investigators during research clinics
- Safe and compliant biomedical waste disposal system

Pharmacy and Biosafety

- Purpose-built, access-controlled pharmacy
- 24/7 Wi-Fi-enabled temperature monitoring system
- Dedicated refrigerators for investigational product storage
- Biosafety cabinet for safe investigational product preparation
- Management of experimental products linked to trial protocols
- Sample and Laboratory Management
- Ultra-low temperature freezers (-20°C and -80°C) for sample preservation
- Advanced centrifuges for sample processing
- IATA-certified staff for compliant international shipment of biological samples
- State-of-the-art phlebotomy and sample management system ensuring integrity from collection to storage

Emergency and Participant Care

- Six-bed assessment and care ward for emergency management
- 24/7 coverage by doctors and nurses trained in BLS and ACLS
- Fully stocked crash cart, ECG machines, and defibrillators
- Advanced vital sign monitors and emergency medical equipment
- Audio and visual call system for rapid response

Equipment and IT Infrastructure

- Bed units with oxygen, vacuum, infusion pumps, and vital monitors
- On-site ECG tracing and cardiac monitoring capability
- Wireless Internet connectivity in all clinical and consulting rooms
- Secure computers and IT systems for data management
- Audio-conference facilities for remote collaborations

Administrative and Data Management Facilities

- Workspaces for study coordinators and research teams
- Secure document and data storage rooms
- Dedicated data entry and management services
- Support services including printing, copying, and administrative logistics
- Procedure room with four beds, emergency trolley, and IV infusion supplies
- Monitoring and Safety Systems
- Specialized monitoring area for ongoing clinical oversight
- Hazard monitoring command centre
- Comprehensive fire emergency system (fire alarms, extinguishers, and fireproof cabinets)



Financial Performance & Growth Analytics of clinical trial unit Ziauddin University

ZU-CTU has demonstrated remarkable financial growth over the past two and a half years, with cumulative revenue rising from near zero in early **2023 to over USD 600,000 by mid-2025**. The growth trajectory, marked by consistent upward momentum and several sharp revenue jumps, reflects strong market demand and the successful execution of strategic initiatives. This sustained performance, closely aligned with and at times exceeding the projected linear trend, highlights ZU-CTU's ability to generate significant and accelerating value, underscoring its position as a high-impact, high-growth organization.



Prof. Dr. Osama Rehman
Khalid
Assistant Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Prof. Dr. Zaigham Abbas
Professor
Ziauddin Medical College



Dr. Adnan Abdul Jabbar
Professor
Ziauddin Medical
College



Prof. Dr. Nida Hussain
Pro-Chancellor
Ziauddin University

Thanks to the exceptional dedication and expertise of our Principal Investigators at Ziauddin, we have secured significant research funding and led impactful projects that reinforce our growth and excellence. Their leadership, combined with the efficient support of our unit, fosters a thriving research environment. Together, we continue to elevate Ziauddin's reputation as a centre for high-quality clinical research.

List of Clinical Trials

INTERNATIONALLY SPONSORED TRIALS

S/N	Project Name	Protocol No.	Sponsor	Status
1	An Open-Label Clinical Study of the Efficacy and Safety of BCD-248 in Subjects with Relapsed/Refractory Multiple Myeloma	BCD-248-2/FLAMMINGO	JSC BIOCAD	Active
2	Randomized, Multicenter, Multinational, Double-Blind Study to Compare the Pharmacokinetics, Efficacy, Safety and Immunogenicity of MB12 (Proposed Pembrolizumab Biosimilar) versus Keytruda® in Combination with Chemotherapy for Advanced Stage IV Non-Squamous NSCLC (BENITO Study)	MB12-C-02-24	MabXcience	Active
3	A Phase 3 Randomized, Open-Label Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Tobeivart + Elebsiran Combination Therapy in Participants with Chronic HDV Infection (ECLIPSE 1)	VIR-CHDV-203	VIR Biotechnology	Active
4	A Phase 2b Randomized, Open-Label Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Tobeivart + Elebsiran Combination Therapy versus Bulevirtide in Participants with Chronic HDV Infection (ECLIPSE 3)	VIR-CHDV-206	VIR Biotechnology	Active
5	An Evaluation of Bemnifosbuvir-Ruzasvir (BEM/RZR) Versus Sofosbuvir-Velpatasvir (SOF/VEL) for the Treatment of Chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection – Phase 3	AT-01B-008	Atea Pharmaceuticals	Active
6	A Double-Blind, Randomized Clinical Study of the Efficacy and Safety of BCD-178 and Perjeta® as Neoadjuvant Therapy of HER2-Positive Breast Cancer	BCD-178-2/PREFER	JSC BIOCAD	Active
7	A Phase III Randomised, Comparator-Controlled, Double-Blind, Multicentre Study to Evaluate the Immunogenicity, Safety and Lot-to-Lot Consistency of PIKA Rabies Vaccine (Vero Cell)	YS-002	Yisheng Biopharma	Completed
8	A Multicenter, Randomized, Controlled, Open-Label, Phase IIb Study to Assess Efficacy and Safety of HH-003 Injection in Subjects with Chronic HDV Infection	HH003-204	Huahui Health	Completed
9	A Phase 2, Open-Label Study to Assess the Safety and Efficacy of Bemnifosbuvir (BEM) and Ruzasvir (RZR) in Subjects with Chronic Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) Infection	AT-01B-004	Atea Pharmaceuticals	Completed
10	A Phase 3 Randomized, Double-Blind, Placebo-Controlled Study to Evaluate the Efficacy and Safety of Bemnifosbuvir in High-Risk Outpatients with COVID-19	AT-03A-017	Atea Pharmaceuticals	Completed

LOCAL/ PAKISTANI PHARMA SPONSORED TRIALS

1	Evaluating the Efficacy of Low-Dose Tirzepatide in Reducing Liver Fibrosis in Patients with Metabolic Dysfunction Associated Steatotic Liver Disease (MASLD): An Open-Label, Single-Arm, Investigator-Initiated Study.		Ferozsons Laboratories Limited	Active
2	Evaluating the waist circumference of MASLD patients taking anti- fibrosis Medications		Ferozsons Laboratories Limited	Active
3	Assesing the Efficacy, safety and Immunogenicity of Erythropoetin in CIT patients		AJM Pharmaceuticals	Active

Collaborations & Partnerships

Ziauddin University's Clinical Trials Unit (CTU) has developed strong national and international linkages to advance high-quality clinical research. Through formal Non-Disclosure Agreements (NDAs) and Confidential Disclosure Agreements (CDAs), the CTU ensures confidentiality, compliance, and readiness for global collaborations.

Key Highlights:

- Established NDAs and CDAs with research and clinical partners
- Strengthened capacity for multi-country and multi-phase clinical trials
- Enhanced research integrity, data protection, and regulatory compliance
- Expanded opportunities for collaboration across diverse therapeutic areas



106 M+

EVENETS HIGHLIGHTS



FUTURE PLANS

- Expand patient and public involvement to guide research priorities and clinical trial design.
- Strengthen partnerships with patients and families to ensure research is relevant and acceptable.
- Integrate PPIE practices into all stages of clinical trials for improved quality and impact.
- Align future involvement standards with globally recognized frameworks such as NIHR.
- Develop structured processes for patient feedback to refine research methods.
- Enhance public engagement to raise awareness about clinical research in Pakistan.
- Build capacity through training programs focused on meaningful patient involvement.
- Establish PPIE as a national model to influence policies and promote patient-centred research.
- Ensuring financial sustainability with a PKR 500M+ revenue target.

Patient & Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE)

The Patient & Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) Group is an integral part of the Ziauddin University Clinical Trials Unit's (ZU CTU) commitment to conducting inclusive, ethical, and community-driven research. As the first formally structured PPIE group in Pakistan, it represents a groundbreaking step in embedding patient and public voices into the clinical research lifecycle, ranging from study design and consent development to participant communications and feedback mechanisms.

This pioneering initiative has made significant contributions to improving research transparency, enhancing participant trust, and aligning studies more closely with real-world needs. Its collaboration with ZU CTU has set a national precedent, demonstrating how involving patients and communities can raise the quality, relevance, and impact of clinical trials.

Looking ahead, ZU CTU is proud to lead efforts to scale this model across other Clinical Trials Units nationally, with the intention of building a unified culture of patient involvement in Pakistan's research infrastructure. The ongoing synergy between CTU and the PPIE group reflects our shared vision—to make clinical research not just scientifically sound, but also socially responsive and community-led



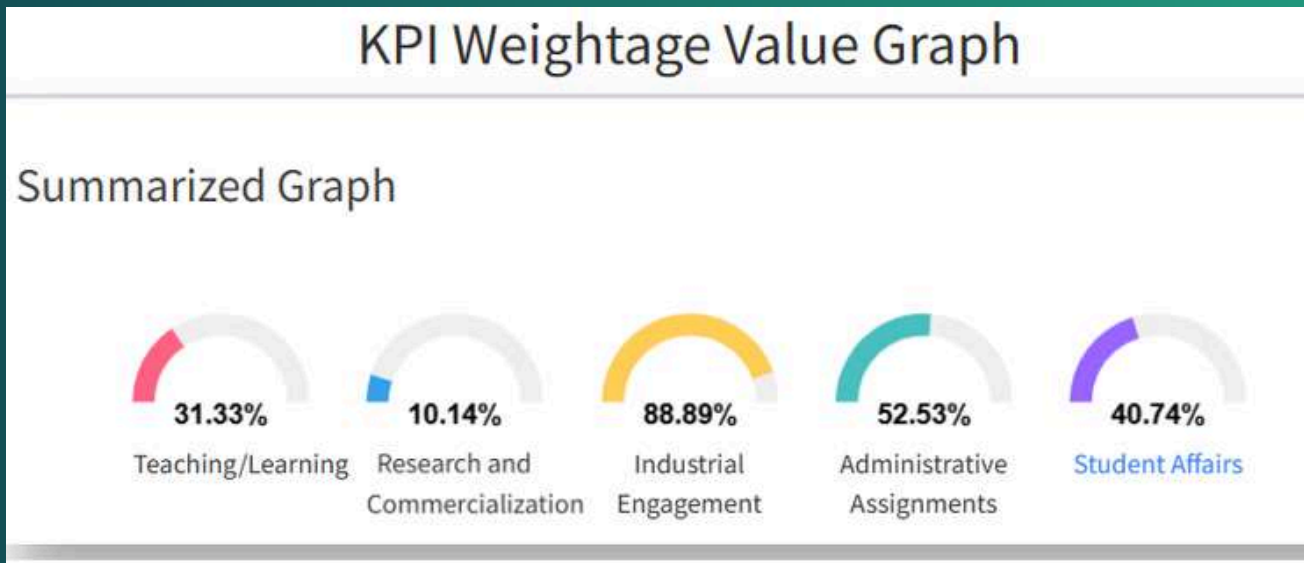
The background features a large white triangle pointing downwards, centered on the page. This white triangle is surrounded by several overlapping triangles in shades of green and grey, creating a dynamic, geometric pattern. The green triangles are located in the top-left and bottom-left corners, while the grey triangles are in the top-right and bottom-right corners.

UPCOMING INITIATIVES

KPI PORTAL

Key Performance Indicators

The ORIC has established a KPI Portal to facilitate faculty performance evaluation through a centralized and data-driven system. This portal enables efficient tracking of research output, publications, and academic achievements, ensuring transparency and alignment with institutional objectives.

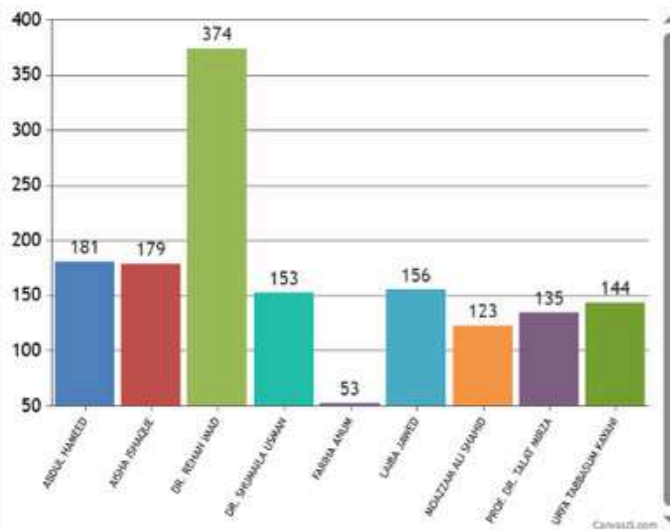


The KPI Portal measures all these performance indicators through graphical representations, which can be accessed by Principals, Deans, and Heads of Departments for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

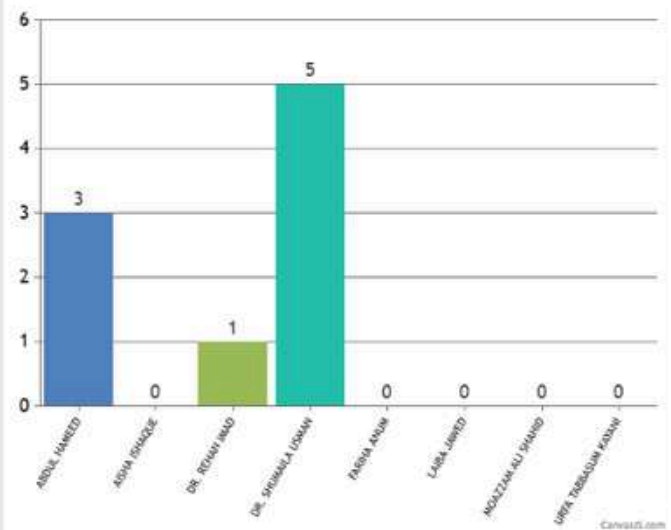


Teaching/Learning

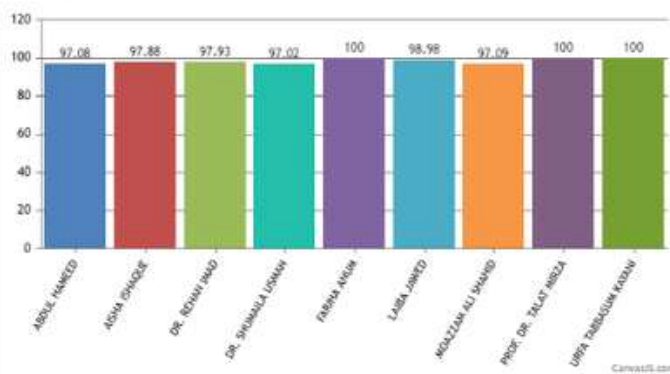
Teaching Load



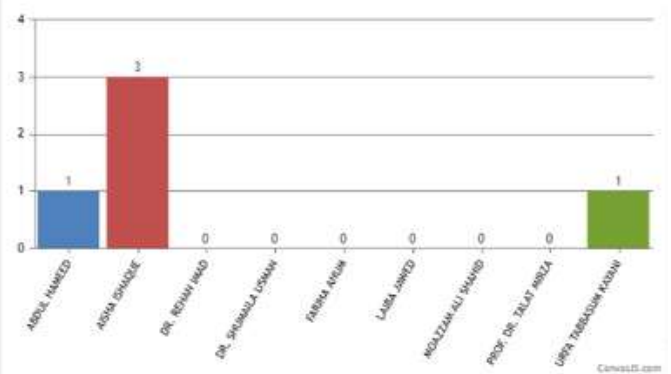
Thesis Supervised



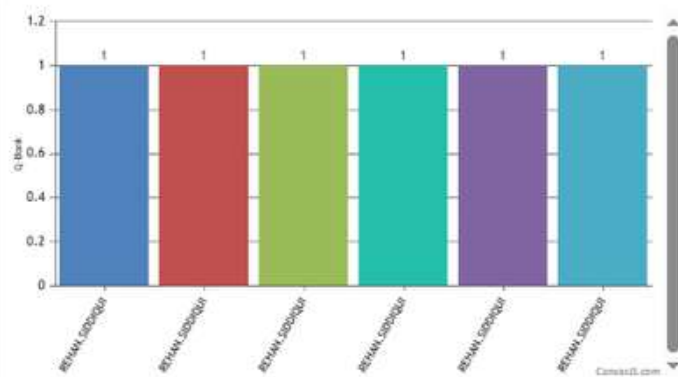
Pass/Fail Student Percentage



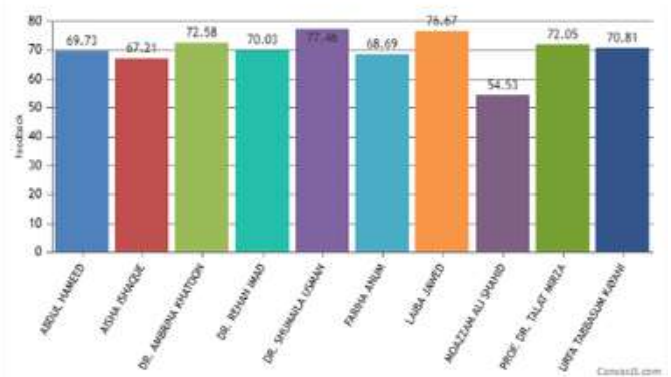
Faculty Development Certification



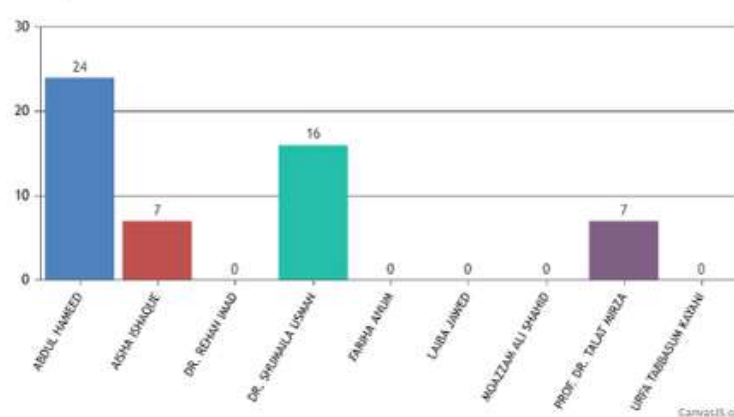
Question Bank



Student Feedback



FYP Supervised



Research and Commercialization

- Faculty Publication
- Research Proposal Submit
- Amount of Research Project Funding
- Number of Research Proposals Approved
- Yearly Revenue
- Number of Policy Advocacy or Case Studies
- Contract Research Agreement Submit
- Number of Startups Launched
- Number of Contract Research Agreement Approved
- Ip Disclosures
- Amount of Contract Research Agreement Funding
- Number of Patent / Trademarks / Design Patent / Copyrights, etc. Filed
- Number of Patent / Trademarks / Design Patent / Copyrights, etc. Granted

Industrial Engagement

- Events/Seminars/Conferences Attend
- Events/Seminars/Conferences Organized
- Professional Memberships

Administrative Assignments

- Coordinator or Focal Person
- HOD/Principal/Dean

Student Affairs

- Student Societies/ Research/Innovation Activities
- Student Placements Arranged
- Number of Student Startups Mentored
- Organizing Student-level Seminar/event.sessions etc.



Business Incubation Centre

The Business Incubation Centre will be a centre of entrepreneurial growth at Ziauddin. The BIC ZU will promote the induction of innovative ideas and nurture them to execution. Distant from classrooms yet close to academia and research, the Business Incubation Centre ZU will also act as a hub for great ideas and collaborations. The highly academic, comprehensive infrastructure and the location of Ziauddin University Clifton will provide great traction.

We have also outlined a comprehensive and strategic roadmap for the establishment and expansion of its Business Incubation Centre (BIC), beginning with the Pre-Incubation Program led through the ZU Entrepreneurial Society. This program serves as the foundation of the university's innovation pipeline, where students, faculty, and young innovators are introduced to structured ideation, business model development, prototyping, and competitive pitching. Over the course of a semester, potential startup ideas are nurtured through mentorship, workshops, FYP integration, and entrepreneurial competitions that allow the most promising teams to be shortlisted for full incubation. Building on this pipeline, the BIC at ZU has been designed with a clear structure, dedicated physical space at the Clifton Campus, performance metrics, shared professional services, and an advisory board composed of academic and industry experts. The BIC provides a 6–12 month incubation cycle, offering access to mentors, legal and financial advisors, ZU researchers and labs, and investor networks, ensuring that startups transition from concept to commercially viable enterprises.

With these core processes and infrastructure firmly in place, Ziauddin University is now advancing toward inter-university collaboration to strengthen national innovation capacity. As part of this strategic expansion, ZU has submitted a joint application with Islamia University Bahawalpur (IUB) to establish a collaborative Business Incubation initiative. This partnership aims to combine ZU's strengths in MedTech, clinical innovation, and interdisciplinary entrepreneurship with IUB's expertise in AgriTech, biotechnology, and regional enterprise development. The joint application represents a significant milestone in ZU's BIC roadmap, positioning both universities to share resources, co-develop incubation programs, exchange mentors and startups, and create a broader, more impactful ecosystem that supports innovation, commercialization, and economic development across Pakistan.

Goal 1: Provide Program Structure

Incubation programs catering everyone

Themes

Advisory board/
Steering
Committee

Performance
Metrics

Branding

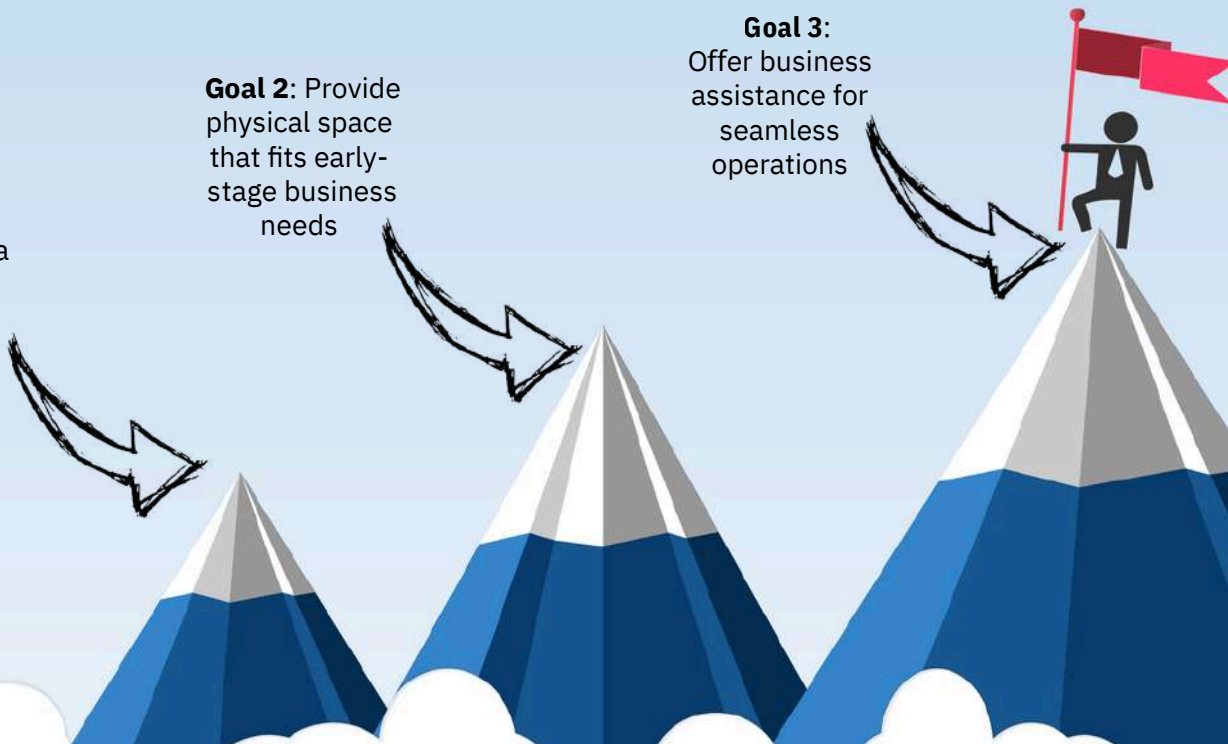
Lean Staffing
Requirements

Execution of ZU Business Incubation Centre

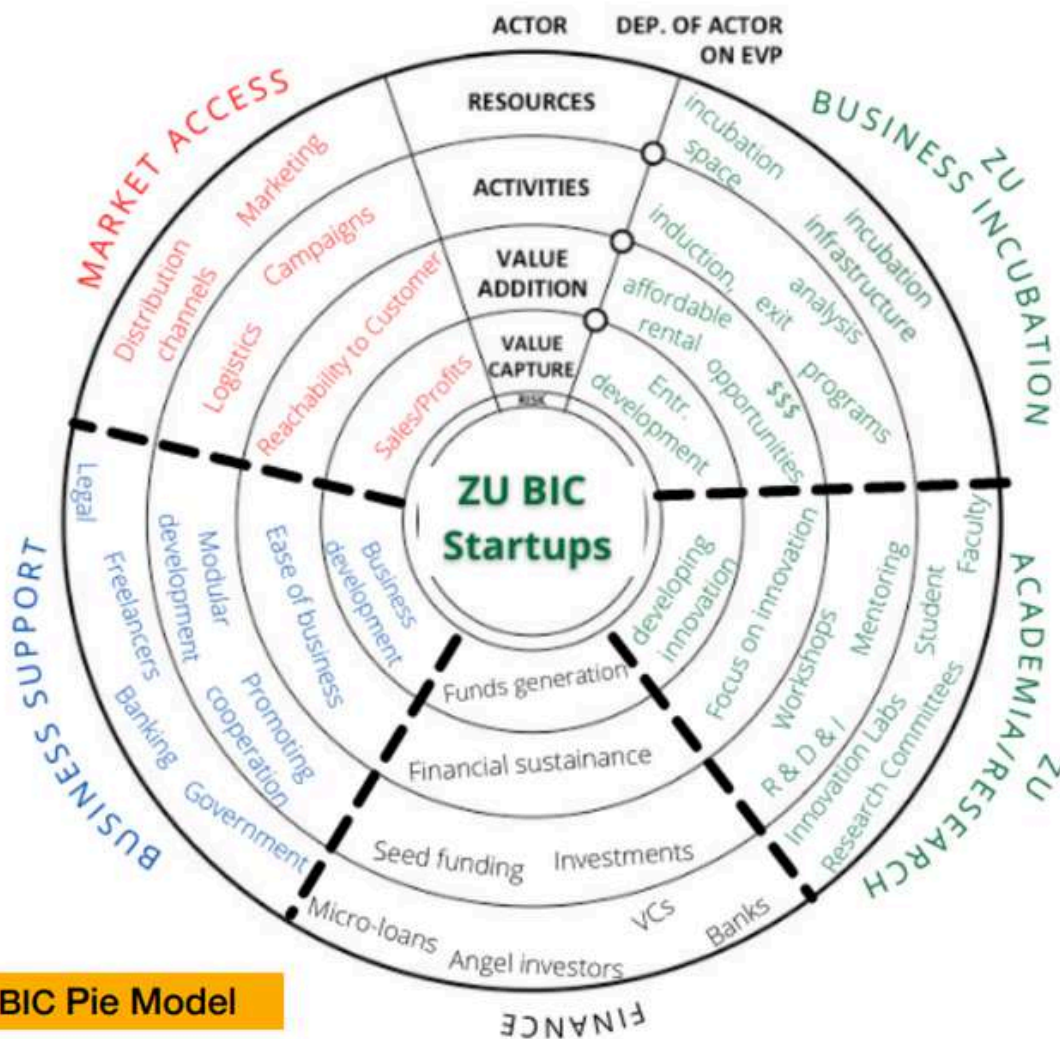
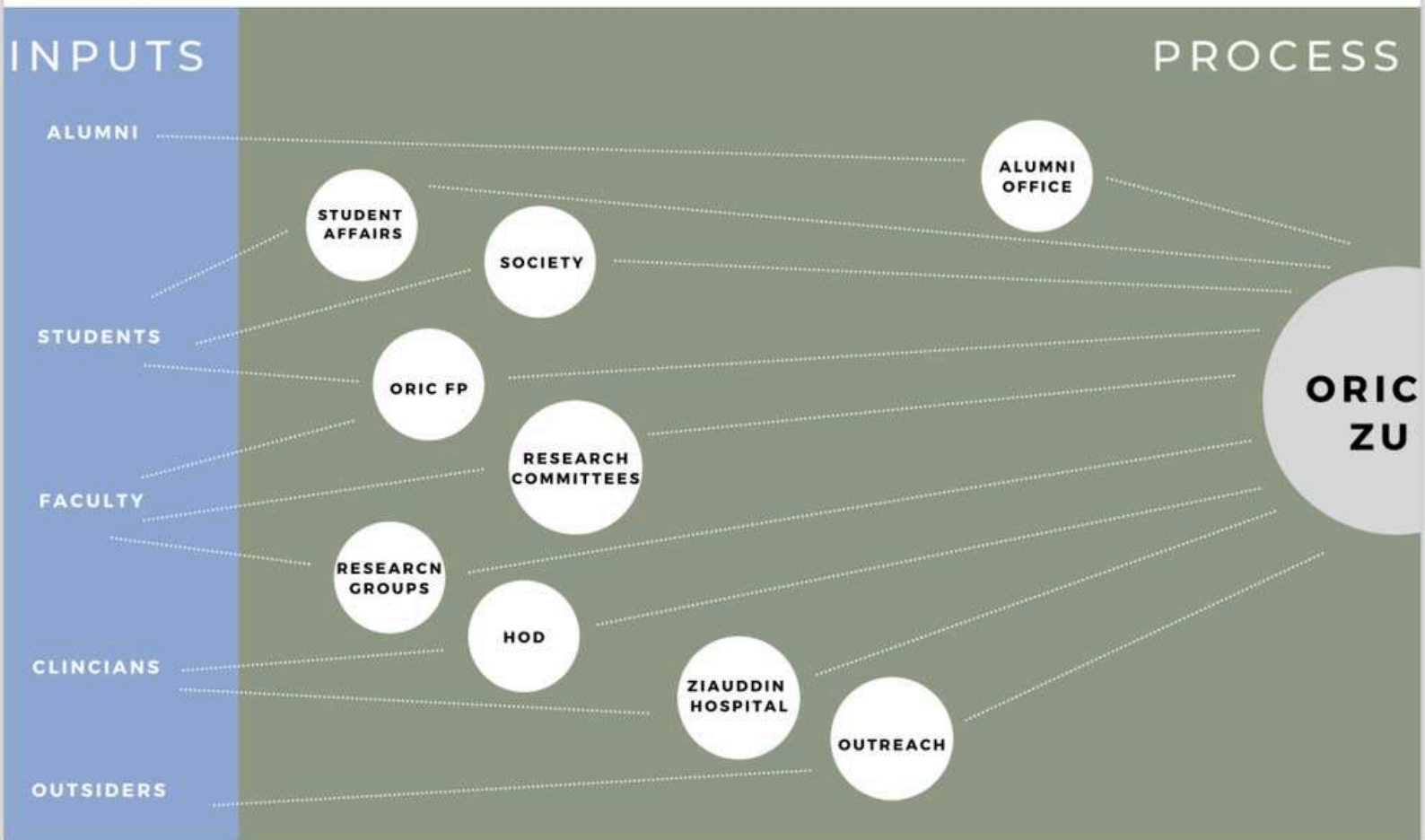
Goal 1:
Develop a
program
structure

Goal 2: Provide
physical space
that fits early-
stage business
needs

Goal 3:
Offer business
assistance for
seamless
operations



BIC Stakeholders' Map



Actors

- ZU Business Incubation
- ZU Academia/ Research
- Finance
- Business Support
- Market Access

ZU BIC Pie Model

Research Journals on Approval

- 1 Journal of Liberal Arts & Human Sciences (JLAHS)
- 2 Journal of Law, Politics and Governance (JLPG)
- 3 Ziauddin Journal of Pharmaceutical Research (ZJPR)

Research Groups

Ziauddin University is undertaking a paradigm shift in its research trajectory, moving from isolated, individual-led studies to the establishment of high-impact Research Groups. This strategic consolidation is designed to foster a robust, national research ecosystem that functions on a "Triple Helix" model of academia, healthcare delivery, and policy influence.

Why Research Groups?

Multidisciplinary Synergy: By organizing experts from basic sciences, clinical medicine, public health, and data science into unified groups, we dissolve departmental silos. This allows for holistic problem-solving—for example, tackling sepsis from the genetic level in the lab to the treatment protocol in the ICU. Sustainable "Living" Evidence: Unlike static academic papers, these groups aim to create dynamic feedback loops. Data generated at the bedside is continuously analyzed to develop "living guidelines" that evolve clinical practice in real time, improving patient outcomes with each cycle of learning.

Global & National Scalability: Large-scale research groups are strategically positioned to attract significant international grant funding (e.g., Wellcome Trust, NIH) and global collaborations. They act as national reference hubs, generating high-quality, local evidence required for drafting Pakistan's healthcare policies.

Capacity Building & Legacy: These groups serve as structured training ecosystems, institutionalizing knowledge transfer. They ensure that emerging clinicians and scientists are equipped with global-standard research skills, including biostatistics, bioethics, clinical trials, and data management—particularly in low-resource settings.

Data Protection & Ethical Governance: As part of this transformation, ORIC aims to develop a comprehensive institutional policy to safeguard all research, clinical, and administrative data generated across the university and hospitals. This policy will ensure secure data storage, ethical data sharing, compliance with global data protection standards, and preservation of institutional intellectual property, strengthening trust, transparency, and long-term sustainability of the research ecosystem.

Stakeholder Engagement Sessions

The initiation of Stakeholder Engagement Sessions is a new initiative led by ORIC to promote collaborative dialogue and inclusive decision-making across the university and its partners. Through these sessions, ORIC aims to bring together key representatives from academia, government, industry, and the community to exchange insights, identify needs, and align priorities. This platform will strengthen partnerships, enhance transparency, and ensure that upcoming initiatives are informed by diverse perspectives and grounded in collective understanding.

MoU Tracker Sheet

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Research innovation Society

The initiation of the Research Innovation Society by ORIC represents a major step toward cultivating a vibrant research culture and encouraging innovation across Ziauddin University. This society will serve as a dynamic platform for students and faculty to collaborate, exchange ideas, and develop interdisciplinary research initiatives. By organizing workshops, competitions, networking forums, and mentorship opportunities, the Research Innovation Society aims to inspire creativity, strengthen research skills, and empower emerging researchers to contribute meaningful solutions to real-world challenges.

Grant Management ERP

ORIC is introducing a comprehensive Grant Management ERP system to streamline and modernize the entire research grant lifecycle at Ziauddin University. This digital platform will centralize all grant-related processes—from proposal development, budgeting, and approvals to project tracking, financial reporting, and compliance management. The ERP will enhance transparency, reduce administrative delays, and ensure that researchers receive real-time updates on their project status. By adopting this system, ORIC aims to create an efficient, accountable, and data-driven grants ecosystem that supports faculty, strengthens institutional capacity, and accelerates high-quality research outcomes.



CONTACT US:

(92-21) 35862939

4/B Shakra-e-Ghalib, Block 6, Clifton, Karachi

**Ziauddin University
oric@zdu.com.pk**



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