

ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇਂਦਰੀ ਯੂਨੀਵਰਸਿਟੀ
ਪੰਜਾਬ ਕੇਂਦਰੀ ਵਿਸ਼ਵਵਿਦਿਆਲਯ

Central University of Punjab



CUPB Newsletter

Vol.1 (No.3) August-October, 2013

Vice Chancellor's Message



Central University of Punjab has been dedicated to its mission to cultivate scholars who will contribute to society by developing newer forms of knowledge and disseminate it across the globe. The university is a research-led university, known for excellence in teaching and research and for its service to community. MoUs have been signed with acclaimed institutions such as Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot and National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi for collaboration in high end research, academic programmes and exchange of faculty and students.

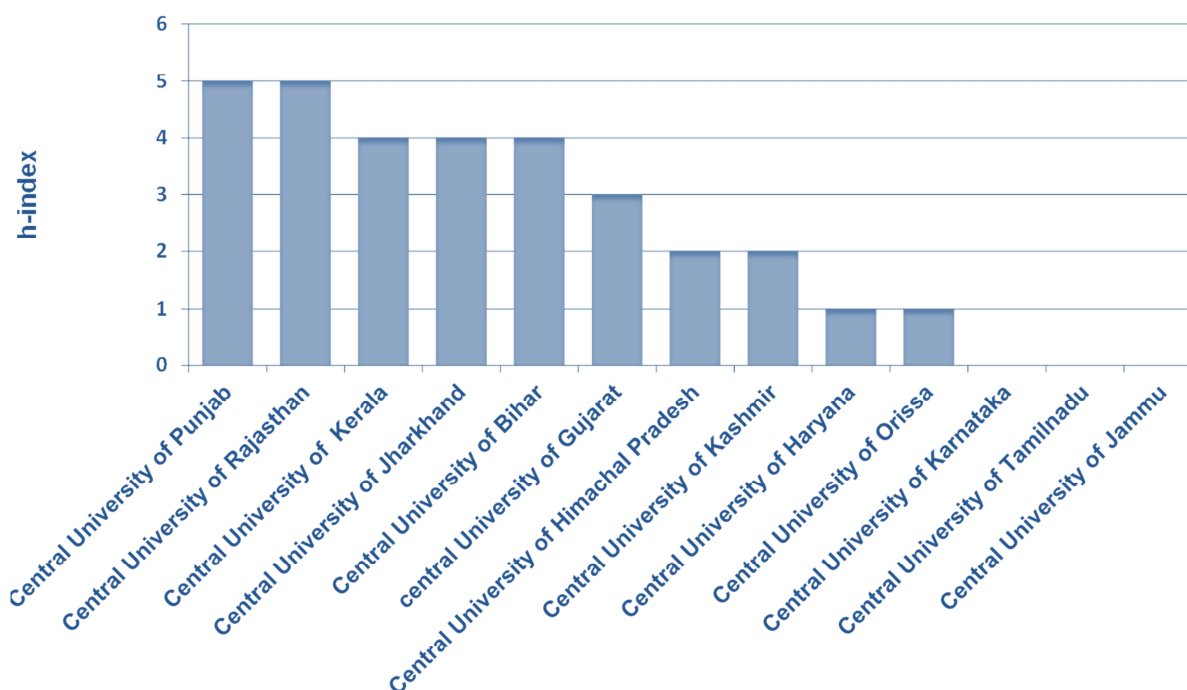
The university has attained the highest rank in terms of h-index and citation index among the newly established central universities. The faculty of the university published 169 research papers since its establishment in 2009 with an average citation index of 7.35 and a cumulative impact factor of 159.27. The university students coming from sixteen states of India with different backgrounds provide a unique opportunity to witness an excellent melting pot of diverse cultures and ethnicities. In addition to pursuing the studies the students actively participate in sports and other co-curricular programmes. During the past three months, several eminent scholars from diverse fields were invited to deliver lectures and interact with the faculty and students. On different occasions, competitions like elocution, debate and creative writing were organised. Work is in progress at the main campus of 500 acres situated at village Ghudda on Bathinda-Badal road. Through tough competition and following stringent norms, M/S Pardeep Sachdeva Design Associates, New Delhi have been given the assignment to complete the master planning of the main campus by November 14, 2013 and subsequently submit the detailed architectural design of the new campus too. Engineers India Limited, New Delhi, a Government of India Enterprise, has been appointed as Project Management Consultant to undertake the construction of main campus and also to oversee the work of architect consultant.

I am confident that in coming years the Central University of Punjab will continue to progress by leaps and bounds and soon become a model for quality education and a much sought after destination for the youthful mind where young researchers and senior academicians would freely interact to achieve excellence in academics and spread of knowledge.

Prof. Dr. Jai Rup Singh
Vice Chancellor

CUPB Leads New Central Universities in h-index and Citation Index

Among the newly established Central Universities, CUPB achieved the highest rank in terms of h-index (comparative graph below) and citation index. The faculty of the university published 169 research papers since its establishment in 2009. Of these, 67 publications from the science faculty have 493 citations achieving an average citation index of 7.35 and a cumulative impact factor of 159.27 with an average of 2.37 (Source: <http://scholar.google.co.in/>). Congratulations to the faculty!



h-index of New Central Universities; source: <http://www.scopus.com/>

Newly Appointed Teaching Faculty

S. No	Name	Designation	Date of Joining
1	Dr. Kulwinder Singh	Assistant Professor Centre for Economic Studies	07.8.2013
2	Er. Sukhreet Singh	Assistant Professor Centre for Computer Science & Technology	08.8.2013
3	Er. Neha Sood	Assistant Professor Centre for Computer Science & Technology	16.8.2013
4	Dr. Amarpreet Kaur	Assistant Professor Centre for Physical & Mathematical Sciences	09.9.2013
5	Dr. Sandeep Kaur Bhatia	Assistant Professor Centre for Economic Studies	10.9.2013
6	Dr. Naresh Kumar Singla	Assistant Professor Centre for Economic Studies	10.9.2013
7	Dr. Yadwinder Singh	Assistant Professor Centre for Punjabi Language, Literature & Culture	17.9.2013
8	Dr. Ramanpreet Kaur	Assistant Professor Centre for Punjabi Language, Literature & Culture	20.9.2013
9	Dr. G. K. Kochar	Professor School of Basic & Applied Sciences	01.10.2013

CUPB Makes New Infrastructural Strides

The university has been consistently making important additions to its infrastructure. Recently new classrooms, storerooms, faculty cabins, Plant Tissue Culture Laboratory, Bioinformatics Laboratory and Physics Laboratories have been added to the existing infrastructure. Work is also in headway at the main campus and MoU has been signed with M/s Pardeep Sachdeva Design Associates, New Delhi for master planning and architectural design of the new campus. Engineers India Limited, a Government of India Enterprise, has been appointed as Project Management Consultant for the construction of this campus. The university library has also been extended to form new stack area and display wing for new arrivals. Seating capacity for readers has been increased to 100 by adding new reading desks and furniture. Around 3000 new titles on different subjects have also been added to the library.

Computer Centre Establishes Separate Macintosh Section

A new section of Apple computers with 15 i Macs and other 100 computers have been added to the Computer Centre.



Extension of the Library



i Mac Section in the Computer Centre

A new air-conditioned reading room has been provided to students for use of their personal books and accessing internet on their laptops through Wi-Fi.



Reading Room



New Classroom

Among other equipment, electrophoresis units, deep freezers, Synergy H1 Monochromator based Microplate Reader, Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometer (GCMS), Incubator Shaker, Multiporators, Electronic Circuit Laboratory equipment and Arc GIS software has been installed in different laboratories.



Multiporator



Digital Incubator Shaker



Synergy H 1 Microplate Reader



GCMS

In order to provide continuous updates, high density LED screens have been installed at several places including the museum and waiting areas. Pedestals and display platforms have been added in the museum. Along with this a large sized spinning wheel of dimensions 17x11x7 feet has been displayed at the University Museum. It is probably the largest functioning spinning wheel in the country.



Large Sized Spinning Wheel



LED Screens Installed in the Museum

CUPB Organises Orientation Programme

An orientation programme for students admitted to academic session 2013-14 marked the inauguration of the new session in the university on September 8, 2013. The faculty members were introduced to the new entrants by the respective Centre Coordinators. Toppers of the academic session 2012-13, who had excelled in their respective courses and office bearers of the student council, also introduced themselves.



Faculty members introducing themselves during the Orientation

Independence Day Celebrated

Independence Day was celebrated by the university on August 15, 2013. The Vice Chancellor hoisted the national flag. In his message Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jai Rup Singh spoke about the issues concerning democracy in India. Prof. P. Ramarao, Dean Academic Affairs and Col. Jagdev Kartar Singh, Registrar also addressed the students and the faculty. Patriotic songs were sung by the students of the university on this occasion.



The Vice Chancellor unfurling the national flag

First Issue of Newsletter Released

The inaugural issue of the newsletter was released by the first lady of the university, Prof. Pushpinder Jai Rup who greatly appreciated the efforts put in by the Newsletter Committee. The printed copies of the newsletter were distributed among the Newsletter committee, faculty, officials and staff of the university.



Prof. Pushpinder Jai Rup releasing the Newsletter

Chancellor Releases a New Book on Insects

Prof. S. S. Johl, Chancellor of Central University of Punjab in a function organised at the university on September 10, 2013 released the book written by renowned zoologist Prof. Pushpinder Jai Rup, former Professor, Department of Zoology and former Dean, Faculty of Sciences, Guru Nanak Dev University. The book titled *Baatan Keet Sansar Dian (Stories from the Insect World)* dwells on the various insects which are unique and explains their scientific aspects in a simple storytelling format for the children. Prof. H. S. Bhatia from Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and Prof. P. S. Ramana from Punjabi University Regional Centre, Bathinda spoke on the occasion detailing the book and its contents.



Chancellor releases the book on insects

Chancellor Hands over Certificates to Senior Citizens

The university had initiated complimentary computer literacy classes for the Senior Citizens of Bathinda city with an aim of teaching them the basics of computers to enable them to do simple tasks on computers and get connected to their kith and kin through cyber space. Forty nine citizens were benefitted by the programme. These senior citizens were given certificates during a special ceremony organised on September 10, 2013 in the University Auditorium.



Senior citizens receiving the certificates from the Chancellor

On this occasion, a brochure prepared by the university detailing the establishment, objective, purpose and the complete information about the University Museum was also launched by the Chancellor Prof. S. S. Johl in the presence of the Vice Chancellor Prof. Jai Rup Singh and other officials of the university.



The Chancellor releasing the museum brochure

Mrs. Savita Goyal from Barnala who contributed immensely in the establishment of the CUPB museum, was also felicitated by the Chancellor Prof. S. S. Johl in the presence of Vice Chancellor Prof. Jai Rup Singh on the above occasion.



Mrs. Savita Goyal and her daughter with the Chancellor

CUPB Celebrates Hindi Pakhwara

The university celebrated Hindi Divas on September 16, 2013 and observed Hindi Pakhwara from September 16-30, 2013 that was inaugurated by Prof. P. T. Chande, Former Chairman, Association of Indian Universities and Former Vice Chancellor, Kavikulaguru Kalidas Sanskrit University, Nagpur. Prof. Pandey Sashibhushan Sheetanshu, Former Professor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar was the keynote speaker on this occasion.



Panellists on the Dais



Prof. P. T. Chande being felicitated

In the closing ceremony of Hindi Pakhwara held on September 30, 2013, Padma Bhushan Sardar Anjum, eminent poet, philosopher, author of several books and former Head of Urdu Department, Panjab University was the chief guest. Prof. M. N. Rai, Dean Faculty of Arts,

Banaras Hindu University, Benares spoke on the importance of simplification of languages. Various competitions in Hindi such as story writing, essay writing, poetry writing, poetical recitation, elocution, declamation and translation were held. Eminent ghazal singers Dr. Tejinder Gulati from Department of Music, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar and Sh. Pradhyuman Narang from Hansraj Mahila Vidyalaya, Jalandhar regaled the audience with their soulful renderings of beautiful ghazals.



Padma Bhushan Sardar Anjum



Dr. Tejinder Gulati in the Ghazal Programme

CUPB Pays a Tribute to Playwright Gursharan Singh

The Centre for Comparative Literature organised a programme on September 27, 2013 in commemoration of the legendary Punjabi playwright Gursharan Singh on his death anniversary. Dr. Swarajbir, eminent Punjabi playwright, currently holding the position of Inspector-General (CISF), delivered a lecture on the life and contribution of Gursharan Singh on this occasion. Dr. Navsharan Kaur, daughter of Sh. Gursharan Singh and a key activist in promoting women's causes through Punjabi drama spoke about the mission of the playwright.



CUPB Remembers Prof. Pritam Singh

A programme in remembrance of the legendary Punjabi writer and thinker Prof. Pritam Singh was organised on October 25, 2013. Chancellor Prof. S. S. Johl presided over the function. Padma Bhushan Sh. Gurdial Singh was also present in the function as a special guest. Sh. N. S. Ratan, Prof. Sukhdev Singh Sirsa, Prof. Harbhajan Singh Bhatia and Dr.

Harshinder Kaur were the speakers on the occasion. A documentary film on the life and works of Prof. Pritam Singh was also shown.



Glimpses of the Programme

Fifth Book Exhibition Organised

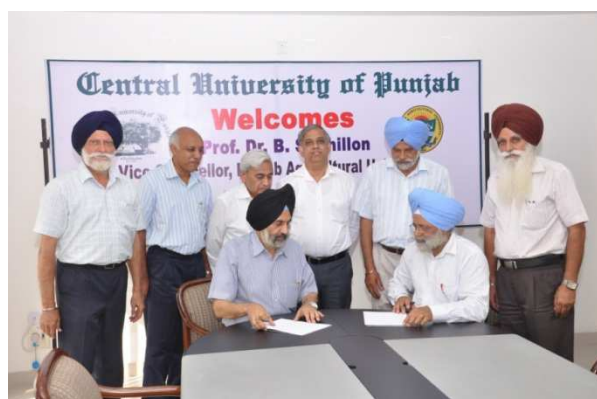
A two-day book exhibition was organised at the university on October 17-18, 2013. The event was inaugurated by Prof. S. S. Gill, Vice Chancellor, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot. Forty four book vendors and eleven leading publishers such as Springer, Oxford University Press, Cambridge University Press, Sage and VIVA books displayed their latest publications in several disciplines. More than fifty thousand books were on display during the book exhibition. Several visitors from the city and neighbouring areas, including senior faculty of local colleges also participated in the book exhibition.



Chief Guest, Prof. S. S. Gill inaugurating the book exhibition

Central University of Punjab Signs MoUs with BFUHS, PAU and NAMS

CUPB signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot to foster mutual cooperation for promoting high end research in Biomedical Sciences and education on October 17, 2013. A Memorandum of Understanding was also signed with Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana and National Academy of Medical Sciences, New Delhi for promoting and facilitating research between the two institutions.



MoU being signed with PAU



Signing of MoU with BFUHS

New Grants for CUPB Faculty Received

1. Six faculty members of the university received UGC Start-up grant for newly recruited faculty for their projects. The grant amounts to Rs. 6,00,000/- and can be availed for a period of two years:

S. No.	Name of the Faculty	Project Title
1	Dr. Achhe Lal Sharma	Development of Nanostructured Plastic Separator as Rechargeable Battery Component
2	Dr. Anil K. Mantha	Apurinic/Apyrimidinic Endonuclease (APE1) as an Anti-cancer Therapeutic Agent for Glioblastoma Therapy
3	Dr. Jai Prakash	Dielectric and electro-optical studies of metal oxide nanoparticles doped ferroelectric liquid crystal and their applications
4	Dr. Kamlesh Yadav	Synthesis and study of structural, magnetic, dielectric and transport properties of doped nanodimensional BiMnO ₃ perovskite manganites
5	Dr. Kousik Giri	Arsenate and Arsenite Reaction Kinetics with Ferric Hydroxides Using Quantum Chemical Calculations
6	Dr. Puneeta Pandey	Assessment of Organochlorine Pesticide Residues in Groundwater and Soil of Bathinda district, Punjab

2. Kiran K. Singh received Indian Council of Social Science Research grant for the project titled "Assessment of Urban Environment Quality of Bathinda: a Socio-Geographical Perspective" amounting to Rs. 4,00,000/- for a duration of two years.

Papers Presented by the Faculty

- 1) Dr. Anil K. Mantha presented his paper on “Oxidative Stress Induced Modulation of SOD and APE1: Key towards Survival of Glioblastoma Cells” at XXXI Annual Meeting of Indian Academy of Neurosciences on *Emerging Trends and Challenges in Neuroscience* at Allahabad, October 25-27, 2013.
- 2) Dr. V. J. Varghese presented a paper “Adjusting Infrastructures: State, Private Brokerage and Controlled Informality in Emigrations from India” in a workshop on *Migration Infrastructure in Asia and the Middle East* organised by Asia Research Institute (ARI), National University of Singapore (NUS), at NUS Singapore, August 22-23, 2013.
- 3) Dr. V. J. Varghese spoke on “Ru-urban Reciprocity and the Region: Diaspora Investments for Home and Home Investments for Diaspora in Punjab” in an International Conference on *Regional Towns and Migration: Interrogating Transnationalism and Development in South Asia* organised by the Amsterdam Institute of Social Science Research (AISSR) and National Institute for Advanced Studies (NIAS) at University of Amsterdam, October 10-11, 2013.

Publications of the Faculty

- 1) **Arora, H. R.** and Dhamir, A. (2012- 13) Shamlaat/Bachat Land: Use and Occupation. *Punjabi University Law Journal* **6**: 190- 97.
- 2) Chandran A., **Prakash J.**, Ganguly P., and Biradar A. M. (2013). Zirconia Nanoparticles/ferroelectric Liquid Crystal Composites for Ionic Impurities Free Memory Applications. *RSC Advances* **3**: 17166-17173.
- 3) **Dhiman M.**, Wan X., Popov V. L., Vargas G., Garg N. J. (2013) MnSODtg Mice Control Myocardial Inflammatory and Oxidative Stress and Remodeling Responses Elicited in Chronic Chagas Disease. *Journal of American Heart Association* **2 (5)**: e000302.
- 4) **Dhiman M.**, Coronado Y. A., Vallejo CK, Petersen J. R., Ejilemele A., Nuñez S., Zago M. P., Spratt H, Garg N. J. (2013) Innate Immune Responses and Antioxidant/oxidant Imbalance are Major Determinants of Human Chagas Disease. *PLoS Neglected Tropical Diseases* **7(8)**: e2364.
- 5) Eaves-Pyles T., Patel J., Arigi E., Cong Y., Cao A., Garg N., **Dhiman M.**, Pyles R. B., Arulanandam B., Miller A. L., Popov V. L., Soong L., Carlson E., Coletta C., Szabo C., Almeida I. (2013) Immunomodulatory and Anti-bacterial Effects of Cystatin-9 against *F. tularensis*. *Molecular Medicine* **19**: 263-275.
- 6) **Kumar R.** (2013). Janvimarshi (Diaspora) Lekhan Aur Paraya Desh Aur Badi Chhoti Kahaniya. *Shabad Sarokar* **40(11)**: 22-24.
- 7) **Kumar R.** (2013). Bhaktikaleen Bhakton mein Bhagat Sain. *Mookawaz* **1(3)**: 177-180.
- 8) Mehta D. S., Inam M., **Prakash J.**, and Biradar A. M. (2013). Liquid-crystal Phase-shifting Lateral Shearing Interferometer with Improved Fringe Contrast for 3D Surface Profilometry. *Applied Optics* **52**: 6119-6125.
- 9) **Saini, A.** (2013). Is this the End for Ghazal? *Alchemist* **1(3)**: 82-83.
- 10) **Saini, A.** (2013). Translated Poems of Harbhajan Hundal. *Indian Literature* **57(3)**: 56-61.
- 11) Tripathi S., **Prakash J.**, Joshi T., Kumar A., Dhar A., Haase W., and Biradar A. M. (2013). Enhanced Dielectric and Electro-optical Properties of a Newly Synthesized Ferroelectric Liquid Crystal Material by Doping Gold Nanoparticles Decorated Multiwalled Carbon Nanotubes. *Liquid Crystals* **40**: 1255-1262.

Series of Faculty Seminars Continues at CUPB

Multidisciplinary and interactive faculty seminars are organised in the university every Friday during which one of the faculty members gives a presentation which is later put forward for discussion. The objective of these seminars is to enhance communication and interaction among different streams and centres from Humanities and Sciences.

CUPB Wall Magazine Inaugurated

The first issue of fortnightly Wall Magazine was inaugurated on August 2, 2013. The Vice Chancellor, Prof. Jai Rup Singh visited the display and commented that the wall magazine would provide an opportunity to all the faculty and students to showcase their talent in the form of short stories, photographs, poetic compositions and some interesting news/facts in various fields.



Wall Magazine on Display

CUPB Ladies Club Celebrates Teej

The CUPB Ladies Club is a vibrant association where all the female staff members and faculty/staff wives gather and observe informal social events. Prof. Pushpinder Jai Rup is the President of the club. On August 11, 2013, a meeting of the club was organised with the theme "Sawan" to celebrate the festival of Teej. Various activities like one minute games, singing and applying henna were organised.



Ladies Club Meeting in Progress

Important Visitors to the University

1. Dr. K. B. Powar, Former Vice Chancellor, Shivaji University, Kolhapur and Dr. Abdul Wahid, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Jammu visited the university on October 21, 2013.
2. Dr. S. S. Gill, Vice Chancellor, Baba Farid University of Health Sciences, Faridkot visited the university on October 17, 2013.
3. Dr. B. S. Dhillon, Vice Chancellor, PAU, Ludhiana visited the university on September 20, 2013.
4. Prof. Sunil Pandey, Director, Sant Longowal Institute of Engineering and Technology, Longowal visited the university on September 11, 2013.
5. Prof. Sunaina Singh, Vice Chancellor, The English and Foreign Languages University, Secunderabad visited the university on August 29, 2013.
6. Prof. Furqan Qamar, Vice Chancellor, Central University of Himachal Pradesh, Dharamshala and Prof. R. C. Sobti, Vice Chancellor, Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University, Lucknow visited the university on August 23, 2013.
7. Dr. H. S. Soch, Former Vice Chancellor, Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar, Dr. M. L. Ranga, Vice Chancellor, Guru Jambheshwar University of Science and Technology, Hisar and Dr. Radheshyam Sharma, Vice Chancellor, Chaudhary Devi Lal University, Sirsa visited the university on August 6, 2013.
8. Prof. K. R. Dhiman, Former Vice Chancellor, Dr. Y. S. Parmar University of Horticulture and Forestry, Solan visited the university on August 5, 2013.



Dr. Abdul Wahid and Dr. K. B. Powar during their visit to the university



Prof. Furqan Qamar and Prof. R. C. Sobti in the University Museum

CUPB Documents Plant Biodiversity

All the plants at the city campus of the university and the main campus at Ghudda have been identified and their scientific and common names have been put right next to them. This effort is a step towards creating awareness about plant diversity so that the endangered species of plants may be preserved.



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[Suggestions are welcome. Please send them to: newsletter@cup.ac.in](mailto:newsletter@cup.ac.in)

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