

Unleashing Potential: Fatima Jinnah Medical University's Global Acclaim and Inspiring Academic Journey

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Fatima Jinnah Medical University (FJMU), formerly known as Fatima Jinnah Medical College (FJMC), embarked on a transformative journey on July 1st, 2015 when it was awarded the esteemed status of a Medical University by the Government of Punjab from its status as a College for almost 7 decades. This transition from a medical college to a medical university marked a significant milestone in the institute's history. As FJMU continues to build upon its rich legacy, the transition to a medical university empowers the institution to expand its horizons and delve deeper into the realms of medical knowledge and practice. It provides a fertile ground for fostering innovation, nurturing talent, and producing well-rounded healthcare professionals.

Fatima Jinnah Medical University (FJMU) has, this year, achieved an extraordinary milestone, cementing its position among the top 800 to 1000 universities globally in the esteemed Times Higher Education Impact Ranking. Times Higher Education (THE) is a renowned global university-ranking organization.¹ While they do not specifically rank individual words, THE incorporates the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their ranking methodology. Their evaluations consider universities' contributions towards the SDGs, encouraging institutions to align their research, teaching, and societal impact with these global sustainability targets. This remarkable recognition not only places FJMU among the world's leading academic institutions but also establishes it as amongst the topmost medical university in Punjab, and the third-ranked medical university in Pakistan.²

This recent accolade adds to FJMU's growing list of honours, as it was previously ranked among the top 200 to 300 most innovative universities by the esteemed World University with Real Impact (WURI) Ranking.³ The WURI ranking is an innovative global university ranking system. It focuses on universities' real-world contributions to society across four key areas: industrial applications, social responsibility, student mobility, and interdisciplinary research. It is indeed a matter of

immense pride that FJMU stands as one of only ten Pakistani universities to have secured a position in the prestigious WURI ranking. These accolades stand as a testament to FJMU's pioneering spirit, as it continues to push boundaries and set new benchmarks in innovation and excellence.

Furthermore, FJMU has obtained membership in two prestigious organizations, namely the United Nations Academic Impact (UNAI) and the Asia Pacific Quality Network (APQN), in the year 2023. The aim of UNAI is to align institutions of higher education with the United Nations to further the realization of the purposes and mandate of UNO through activities and research in a shared culture of intellectual social responsibility.⁴ APQN is a network of quality assurance agencies in higher education in the Asia-Pacific region, with the aim of promoting and enhancing quality assurance in higher education through capacity building, networking, and sharing of good practices.⁵ The network has contributed significantly to the development and improvement of quality assurance practices and policies in the region. These affiliations not only validate FJMU's commitment to global academic collaborations but also highlight its dedication to fostering sustainable development and ensuring educational quality benchmarks. By joining hands with UNAI and APQN, FJMU reinforces its commitment to making a positive impact on society and contributing to the advancement of healthcare education and research.

By the Grace of Him Almighty, and under the able guidance and leadership of Prof. Dr. Khalid Masud Gondal, Vice Chancellor of FJMU, these recent achievements of the University highlight its unwavering dedication to academic excellence, innovation, and global collaboration. FJMU's ascent among the world's top universities is a testament to the relentless efforts of its faculty, the visionary leadership of its Vice Chancellor, and the commitment of its Quality Enhancement Cell. As FJMU shines as the region's only female medical university and an epitome of academic excellence, it serves as a model for other institutions not only in Pakistan but around the world to strive for

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excellence and contribute to the advancement of knowledge, research, and societal well-being.

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