



Pakistan Branch

4th September-2025

WPSA Student Symposium UPR Report

The World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) – Pakistan Branch, in collaboration with the University of Poonch Rawalakot (UPR), organized a **WPSA Student Symposium on Technical and Career Counseling** at the University's main campus on **4th September 2025**. The symposium brought together students, faculty members, researchers, and poultry industry professionals to discuss global opportunities, technical advancements, and career development pathways in the poultry and animal sciences sector.

The Guest of Honor, Dr. Farhan Farooq (General Secretary, WPSA Pakistan), along with the distinguished speakers — Dr. Asif Javid (EW Nutrition), Dr. Nasir Mukhtar (PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi), and Dr. Junaid Haider (Hivet Animal Health Business) — were warmly received at the campus by Prof. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Dean Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (FV&AS), faculty members, and enthusiastic students of UPR. The reception reflected the university's hospitality and the active role of students in hosting the event.







Opening Session

The program began with the recitation of the Holy Quran, followed by a **welcome address from Prof. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmed**, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, UPR. He emphasized the importance of aligning academic education with market-driven needs and fostering stronger linkages between academia and industry.







Pakistan Branch

The Chief Guest of the event, Prof. Dr. Abdul Rauf Khan, Registrar UPR, highlighted the university's vision of equipping students with modern skills and strengthening partnerships with professional associations.



Special recorded messages were also shared from the leadership of WPSA.

- Dr. Farhan Farooq, Secretary General WPSA Pakistan and Guest of Honor of the symposium, delivered the message of the President WPSA Pakistan.
- **Dr. Nasir Mukhtar**, Associate Professor at PMAS Arid Agriculture University Rawalpindi, conveyed the message of the President WPSA North Zone.

Both leaders emphasized WPSA's vision of empowering students, promoting innovation, and strengthening Pakistan's poultry sector through global collaboration.

Technical and Career-Oriented Sessions

The symposium featured a rich lineup of technical and professional sessions by distinguished experts:

Dr. Farhan Farooq (General Secretary, WPSA Pakistan) – *Mission and Activities of WPSA; Managing Broiler and Parent Stock for Peak Productivity.*



Dr. Asif Javid (Commercial Director Pakistan & Regional Development Manager TMEA, EW Nutrition) – *Mastering International Job Interviews and Cultural Adaptability*.







Pakistan Branch

Dr. Nasir Mukhtar (Associate Professor, PMAS-AAUR) – Unlocking Global Opportunities: A Roadmap to Scholarships.



Dr. Junaid Haider (Hivet Animal Health Business) – Dynamics of Vaccines in Pakistan.

These sessions provided both technical insights and career counseling, equipping students with knowledge to excel in the global poultry and animal sciences domain.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Signing

The MOU signing ceremony between the University of Poonch Rawalakot (UPR) and the World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) Pakistan Branch was held in the presence of distinguished dignitaries, faculty members, students, and industry representatives. The agreement was formally signed by **Prof. Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Dean, Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, UPR; Dr.**



Farhan Farooq, Secretary General, WPSA Pakistan Branch; Dr. Nasir Mukhtar, Director R&D, WPSA Pakistan; Prof. Dr. Abdul Rauf Khan, Registrar UPR; and Director ORIC, UPR. The MOU establishes a collaborative framework to promote research partnerships in poultry and animal sciences, organize joint training programs, workshops, and seminars, create opportunities for student exchange and global exposure, and strengthen industry—academia linkages to better align education with practical challenges. This landmark agreement is expected to foster long-term collaboration in Azad Jammu & Kashmir, contributing to student capacity building, innovation, and career development while supporting the sustainable growth of Pakistan's poultry and livestock sectors.









Pakistan Branch

Key Highlights

- 1. **Scholarship Initiative** A new **WPSA Scholarship Program** was announced by Dr. Farhan Farooq, aimed at supporting outstanding students in poultry and animal sciences. The initiative was widely appreciated for its potential to enhance student learning and research capacity.
- 2. MOU Signing A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was signed between the University of Poonch Rawalakot and WPSA Pakistan Branch, establishing a framework for collaboration in research, training, student exchange, and joint initiatives. This partnership is expected to bring long-term benefits to both academia and industry.

Closing Session

In his concluding remarks, **Dr. Imran Ahmed** (Lecturer at UPR and Focal Person of the symposium) expressed gratitude to the Chief Guest, Guest of Honor, speakers, participants, and sponsors. Shields were distributed to distinguished guests in recognition of their contributions.

The event's success was attributed to the dedicated organizing team:

- Mr. Muhammad Zee Waqar (WPSA Office Coordinator)
- **Dr. Imran Ahmad** (Lecturer, UPR)
- Dr. Zulfigar Abbasi (Faculty Member, UPR)
- Uqba Shaukat (Event Moderator)
- Nazra Naeem (Program Coordinator)
- Muhammad Hamdoon Nasir (Student Lead)
- Muhammad Ahmad (CR, DVM 8th Semester UPR)
- Enthusiastic students of UPR

Their teamwork and commitment ensured smooth execution of the symposium.







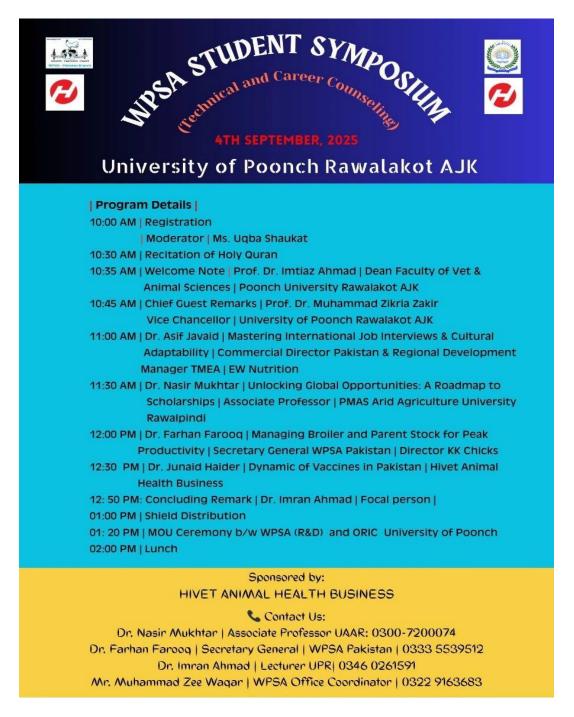




Pakistan Branch

Sponsorship

The symposium was generously sponsored by **Hivet Animal Health Business**, reflecting the crucial role of the poultry industry in supporting education, innovation, and student development.







Pakistan Branch



The World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) Pakistan Branch (North Zone) is proud to organize the WPSA Student Symposium (Technical and Career Counseling)—an initiative dedicated to enhancing the academic and professional development of students in the fields of poultry and animal sciences. Organized in collaboration with leading universities and industry partners, this symposium provides a valuable platform for students to engage directly with academic experts, industry leaders, and career counselors. Through technical lectures, interactive sessions, and personalized career guidance, the event aims to bridge the gap between classroom knowledge and practical application—fostering innovation, research thinking, and professional orientation among the next generation of poultry scientists.

Aim & Objectives:

- To foster knowledge exchange, professional development, and networking opportunities among students, young researchers, and professionals in the field of poultry science.
- To promote academic interaction between students and leading experts from academia and industry.
- To increase awareness about current trends, challenges, and future directions in the poultry industry.





Organizers:

- Prof. Dr Imtiaz Ahmad | Dean | UPR-AJK
- Dr. Zulifgar Ahmed | Deputy Director ORIC
- Dr. Imran Ahmad | Focal Person | UPR-AJK

Organized by

- World's Poultry Science Association | Pakistan (North)
- Faculty of Veterinary & Animal Sciences University of Poonch Rawalakot AJK

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Pakistan Branch

WPSA STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

(Technical and Career Counseling) 04 September, 2025 | Rawalakot | AJK

Keynote Speakers



Mian Sohaib Javaid

Mian Sohaib Javid is a distinguished graduate in Poultry Science and holds a prestigious master's degree from Australia. He currently serves as the President of WPSA Pakistan and the Chief Executive Officer of the renowned Jadeed Group of Companies. A highly dynamic and influential personality, he actively presents his insightful views at both national and international platforms, contributing significantly to the advancement of the poultry industry



Mastering International Job Interviews & Cultural Adaptability

Dr Asif Javaid

Commercial Director – Pakistan & Regional Development Manager – TMEA EW Nutrition | Expert in Poultry Health & Business Strategy. Dr. Asif Javaid is a seasoned leader in the poultry industry, currently serving as Commercial Director for Pakistan and Regional Development Manager for the TMEA region (Middle East & Africa) at EW Nutrition, a global animal health solutions provider. Holding both a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and a Master's in Business Administration (MBA), Dr. Javaid combines deep technical knowledge with strategic insight. With over 20 years of experience, his expertise spans: Gut health & antibiotic-free production, Mycotoxin control, Advanced feed technologies (enzymes, phytogenics, organic acids), Industry leadership across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East. He actively participates in global poultry exhibitions and technical trainings, making him a valuable mentor for aspiring professionals



Unlocking Global Opportunities: A Roadmap to Scholarships

Dr Nasir Mukhtar

Dr. Nasir Mukhtar is an Associate Professor with over 24 years of experience in poultry science, nutrition, extension, and microbiome research. He holds a Ph.D. in Animal Nutrition from the University of Agriculture, Faisalabad, and completed postdoctoral research at the Roslin Institute, University of Edinburgh. He served as Head of the Department of Poultry Science for 13 years and led the Poultry Science Academy.

Dr. Mukhtar has authored numerous research articles and books and completed five collaborative research projects with the poultry industry and international partners. He is a life member of WPSA, BSAS, PVMC, and several other global scientific organizations. He currently serves as General Secretary of WPSA-UAE, Vice President of the Asian Pacific Federation of WPSA, and Global Chair of the WPSA Small-Scale Family Poultry Farming Group. Dr. Mukhtar has organized 15 conferences, conducted multiple workshops, and contributes to global knowledge as an editorial board member and guest editor for major poultry science journals.



Bridging Academia and Industry: Students as Catalysts for Poultry Progress

Prof. Dr Imtiaz Ahmad

Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Professor/Dean at the University of Poonch Rawalakot, AJK, is a distinguished veterinarian with over 30 years of extensive experience in veterinary practice, teaching, and rural development. He began his career in December 1992 with the Department of Animal Husbandry, AJK, and has contributed to several major development projects funded by international organizations such as IFAD, FAO, the EU, and WFP. His roles have included work on the Northern Resource Management Project (NRMP), FAO's transboundary disease control initiatives, avian influenza surveillance, and post-earthquake livelihood restoration funded by SIDA. Dr. Ahmad has held multiple leadership roles, including Chairman, Director of Student Affairs, Director of Financial Assistance & Advancement, Project Coordinator, and Controller of Examinations. His areas of expertise include zoonotic disease control, community-based development, academic leadership, and quality assurance. In addition to his academic and field accomplishments, Dr. Ahmad is proficient in Microsoft Office, internet tools, email communication, and database applications.





Pakistan Branch

WPSA STUDENT SYMPOSIUM

(Technical and Career Counseling) 04 September, 2025 | Rawalakot | AJK



Keynote Speakers

Managing Broiler and Parent Stock for Peak Productivity

Dr Farhan Faroog

Dr. Farhan Farooq currently serves as the General Secretary of the World's Poultry Science Association (WPSA) Pakistan Branch and Managing Director of KK Chicks and KK Feeds. Dr. Farhan holds a Doctorate (PhD) in Poultry Science, an MBA from the UAAR, and a DVM from the UAF. His diverse academic background blends scientific expertise with business acumen, enabling him to lead innovations and advancements within the poultry industry.

As a professional veterinarian and a dynamic entrepreneur, Dr. Farhan has earned a respected reputation for his visionary leadership and practical insights. He has been invited to present his views and strategic perspectives at both national and international platforms, where he actively promotes the development of the poultry sector in line with modern practices and global standards. His contributions continue to inspire young professionals, researchers, and entrepreneurs across the poultry value chain.



Eggs and Meat: Pillars of Nutritional and Food Security

Haseeb Akram

Mr. Haseeb Akram is the President of WPSA Pakistan North Zone and serves as the Director of Punjab Chicks, one of the leading poultry enterprises in the country. He holds a degree in Poultry Science from the Scottish Agricultural College in Scotland. With a strong academic background and extensive industry experience, Mr. Akram is recognized as a renowned poultry entrepreneur, actively contributing to both national and international poultry business landscapes. His leadership, vision, and commitment to innovation have positioned him as a key figure in advancing Pakistan's poultry sector. He continues to play a pivotal role in promoting scientific knowledge and fostering international collaborations within the poultry industry.



Pakistan Poultry Industry Updates

Dr Imran Ahmed

Dr. Imran Ahmed is a Lecturer in Poultry Science with a PhD from Sindh Agriculture University (SAU). His academic and research focus revolves around broiler breeder management, hatchery practices, and advanced incubation technologies. He has conducted significant research on mineral profiling in poultry using Inductively Coupled Plasma (ICP) techniques, contributing to a better understanding of trace mineral requirements in modern poultry production. Dr. Imran is committed to bridging the gap between research and practical applications in hatchery performance and breeder flock management. His work supports improved chick quality and overall flock productivity through science-backed nutritional and incubation strategies.



Student Leaderhsip

Muhammad Zee Waqar Qureshi

Mr. M. Zee Waqar Qureshi is currently serving as the Office Coordinator of the WPSA Pakistan Branch. He holds a Bachelor's degree in Poultry Science from the UAAR, and is presently enrolled in the M.Phil. program in Animal Nutrition with a particular focus on poultry nutrition. Mr. Qureshi is known for his outstanding dedication, leadership skills, and active participation in national poultry-related events. He has earned a reputation as one of the most dynamic and popular student poultry leaders across Pakistan, inspiring many young professionals in the field.





Pakistan Branch

Media Coverage of Symposium

The symposium activities were also highlighted and published in the local media and newspapers, which provided wider visibility to the event and helped showcase the contributions of students, faculty, and industry partners to a broader audience









Pakistan Branch

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UPR strengthens industry linkages; WPSA announces scholarship and travel grants for DVM students

Bureau Report

RAWALAKOT: University of Poonch Rawalakot, through its Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the World Poultry Association Science (Pakistan Branch). organized a Students Symposium at the Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences.

The symposium featured eminent experts from the World Poultry Science Association who briefed students on global career opportunities in the poultry sector, research and development, entrepreneurship, rising demand for poultry products worklwide, internship programs, industry partnerships, and emerging trends. On the occasion, a formal cooperation agreement was also signed between the University of Poonch and the Association to promote mutual collaboration.

Highlighting its commitment to student development, the World Poultry Science Association announced a fully-funded scholarship along with two international travel grants for DVM students of the University of Poonch Rawalakot.

In his welcome address, Professor Dr. Imtiaz Ahmad, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, said that such platforms provide students with invaluable exposure to in ternationally acclaimed experts and urged them to make the most of this opportunity.

The event was addressed by Dr. Nasir Mukhtar, Dr. Tahir, Dr. Asif Javed, Dr. Farhan Farooq, Dr. Nasir, and others, who underscored the growing demand for skilled graduates in the global poultry industry. They stressed that Pakistani students are increasingly securing international scholarships and placements and encouraged them to join the World Poultry Science Association to remain updated on worldwide opportunities.



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