Dr Muhammad Ajmal Khan appointed University of Karachi’s 17th vice-chancellor

By Our Correspondent
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KARACHI: Prof Dr Muhammad Ajmal Khan was appointed the 17th vice-chancellor (VC) of the University of Karachi (KU) for four years on Monday through a notification issued by Governor House. Dr Khan is the founding director of the Institute of Sustainable Halophyte Utilisation (ISHU).

Dr Khan

The newly appointed VC has spent 40 years in teaching and research. He completed his BSc (Hons) in botany from KU in 1973 and MSc in 1974. He was awarded a PhD in botany and ecology in 1985 by Ohio University in the United States and DSc in botany in 2010 by KU.

He is serving as a visiting professor at several US and European universities and has also been awarded the Pride of Performance award on August 14, 2001 and Sitara-e-Imtiaz in 2007 in recognition of his scientific contribution.

Pakistan Academy of Sciences elected Dr Khan as its fellow in 2001, while The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) elected him as a fellow in 2004. Dr Khan was elected as a fellow of the Islamic Academy of Sciences (IAS) and the Higher Education Commission (HEC) conferred upon him the title of Distinguished National Professor in 2005.

The Pakistan Academy of Sciences also presented its highest award of Distinguished Professor of the Year in 2008 to the newly appointed VC.

Dr Khan has also served KU from 1975 till his retirement in 2012 as a tenured track meritorious professor, after which he joined Qatar University as Qatar Shell Professorial Chair in Sustainable Development and coordinator of food security programme at the Centre for Sustainable Development.

ISHU was funded by the HEC and KU with Dr Khan as the founder and director. It provides state-of-the-art facilities for research on developing non-conventional crops for saline areas.
Dr Ajmal Khan to become new Vice Chancellor of KU

KARACHI: A Karachi University (KU) official confirmed on Monday that Prof Dr Muhammad Ajmal Khan had been appointed as its new Vice-Chancellor.

He said that the Sindh Governor, who also has the position of Chancellor at KU, appointed Prof Khan as the Vice Chancellor for a four year period.

The incumbent Vice Chancellor, Prof Dr Qaiser, congratulated the newly appointed Vice Chancellor and gave him his best wishes.

Prof Ajmal Khan, who also serves as the Qatar Shell Chair in Sustainable Development and Coordinator of the Food Security Program, Centre for Sustainable Development at Qatar University, has spent 40 years in teaching and research.

He was awarded a PhD in 1985 by the Ohio University, USA and DSc in 2011 by KU.

He had also been a visiting professor in several US and European universities.

Dr Khan had also been awarded with the ‘Pride of Performance’ on August 14, 2001 and the Sitara-i-Imtiaz in 2007 in recognition of his scientific contributions.

He served at KU as a tenured track meritorious professor from Prof Khan has completed 40 research projects on various aspects of salt tolerance in plants. The authenticity and uniqueness of his research has received wide acclaim from his peers and fellow researchers and his publications are repeatedly cited in papers from various corners of the world.

In addition he has published more than 400 research papers and edited 14 books.
KU gets new vice chancellor

By Our Staff Reporter

KARACHI: The long wait and speculations over the appointment of Karachi University’s vice chancellor ended on Monday when the acting governor of Sindh, using his powers as the chancellor of public sector universities, appointed Prof Mohammad Ajmal Khan as the 19th vice chancellor of the institution for four years.

Having research and teaching experience spread over four decades, Prof Khan is a recipient of numerous awards that include the Sitara-i-Imtiaz, the Pride of Performance and the Distinguished Professor of the Year 2008 by the Pakistan Academy of Sciences on account of his scientific contributions.

He received a PhD in botany from Ohio University in the US, and a DSc (doctorate in science) from Karachi University, where he had served from 1975 till his retirement in 2012.

During his tenure at KU, he acted as the founding director of the Institute of Sustainable Halophyte Utilisation, a research centre for developing non-conventional crops for saline areas.