
EDITORIAL

Good research needs funding, facilities, quest and passion to do research. Appropriate environment is mandatory to pursue such a dream. These facts are true for any institution, however we face a different scenario in Pakistan. Our teachers and clinicians are overburdened with clinical work. Their research quest is part time and most of time without proper funding and appreciation. Their involvement in research in majority of cases is to fulfill the requirement for the higher degrees (FCPS, MS, M.Phil, Ph.D) or promotion. Few of them have true love for research and medical writing.

The problem of funding is serious one. Someone higher up may offer a grant in a spontaneous reaction to correct the dismal state of affairs in our institutions. Now we have a grant of Rs. 10 millions from Government of Punjab. How to fund and give grants to promote research at Punjab Medical College is a million dollar question to answer. Money is not the only factor, other variables also need to be fixed.

In the last six months as a member of research grant committee, we have received around twenty proposals. These proposals have been scrutinized, improved in the presence of highly qualified staff of Punjab Medical College. In the process we became aware that there is lack of proper animal house/lab/equipment to do experimentation. An institution like Punjab Medical College with excellent staff in basic and clinical sciences can not ignore facilities to carry out research without proper animal house and lab. Thus we have floated the idea of spending around Rs. 06 millions grants to improve these facilities. Young researchers should not have the excuse of lack of such facilities at least at Punjab Medical College, Faisalabad.

I hope that a day will come when these dreams will come true. We who are only part time researchers, trying hard to promote new thinking to compete in a highly competitive world are not at all worried. The big reason for this is the quality and eagerness shown by the new young generation to carry the flag high at least in the recent discussion with them.

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