Background

Pakistan is facing a rise in the number of medical and dental colleges and increasing pressure from accrediting bodies to improve the quality of medical education. All this coupled with awareness amongst the student community about how a modern college should train its wards has made it all the more necessary for every college to have an active and strong department of medical education led by a qualified professional. Every medical and dental college requires specially qualified professionals who have the vision of taking their institution and country away from the traditional practices which are not aligned with modern learning philosophies (while retaining the cultural flavor). It is now realized that efficient and effective training in health sciences should produce graduates capable of being life-long, self-directed learners, sound decision makers with optimal professional behavior.

Dow University of Health Sciences (DUHS) is one of the oldest and the most prestigious university of Pakistan for training of health professionals. The graduates of DUHS are known for their high quality of professionalism and clinical knowledge. DUHS has always responded to its social responsibility to the country and has been the trend setter for initiating the most needed programs and courses. Under the dynamic leadership of the Vice Chancellor and his dedicated team, DUHS initiated the Masters in Health Professions Education Program in 2009 from the Karachi campus. One batch has graduated and one in the second year of the MHPE program and the third batch will be inducted this year in the DUHS Karachi program.

The students from the first batch made significant improvements in their institutions and became an asset for the country. This created high demand for the program and the number of applications for the program increased tremendously. It was also felt that the DUHS program is not appropriately catering to the applicants in the North of Pakistan. With this in mind this year for the first time DUHS which is one of the oldest health sciences
institution in Pakistan should offer a parallel program in Islamabad with international and local faculty. The MHPE Islamabad program at DUHS is designed to produce health sciences educational experts which are the need of our country and the region

**Aims of the program**

By the end of the program, graduates should be able to:

- Conduct themselves professionally with a team approach and capable of supporting the institution for improving the curricula and the educational environment
- Apply modern theories of adult learning to develop curricula/courses
- Apply principles of optimal curricular management to course development
- Use principles of sound assessment in developing an assessment system which is fair, transparent, feasible, valid and reliable
- Initiate, manage and monitor academic innovations
- Work as academic team leaders
- Conduct scholarly activities for self and institutional development
- Design and conduct original research studies using strong theoretical background

**Target Audience:**

This program is meant for all those medical and dental professionals who:

- Want to make a full time career in medical education
- Are deans, heads of departments/wards and interested in improving the quality of education in their spheres of influence
- Are mid career professionals interested in improving the existing academic environment and functioning
- Are interested in knowing about the field and science of health professions education

**Competencies required of entrants:**

This program depends heavily on participants’ ability to efficiently use computers, especially MS word and PowerPoint. Participants will be required to search for literature and hence, must know the use of internet well. They will also be frequently asked to read extensively, analyze evidence and write reports. **The ability to clearly and correctly express in English is of paramount importance.**
Eligibility criteria:

- MBBS with one year house job.
- BDS with one year house job.
- IELTS (6.5)/ TOEFL (600 minimum on PBT, 100 minimum on IBT)

The IELTS/ TOEFL may have been taken any time in the past two years.

Applicants who have not taken the test or haven’t received their results yet should attach the registration slip photocopy along with their application forms. They must provide evidence of clearing the test by 31st July 2013 or their application will not be processed further. Applicants who are unable to provide evidence of clearing the TOEFL / IELTS before the aforementioned date will not be considered for admission to the program.

Program structure

The program is designed to be beneficial for clinicians and non-clinicians alike. It requires the participants to study for about 2 hours a day. The bulk of learning will be through distance education, where learning material will be sent by email. There will be two contact periods per year, each of which will be of maximum two weeks. All contact periods will be held in Islamabad.

Instructional strategies

During the contact periods, there will be different types of sessions; some lectures, group discussions, self-study periods and projects. Time will also be spent on formative and summative assessments.

Progress during the course:

In each module, the participants will get assignments which have to be completed, preferably, within the time frame allotted. Learners will be informed of the minimum pass grade for each module with the study guide which they will receive before the start of that module. The contact periods will also be graded. Marks obtained during contact periods and from assignments will be combined to form the final result of every module. Candidates must obtain 63% minimum in every module to be declared as pass.
Fee Structure:

For Pakistani nationals

- Application fee (non-refundable): Pakistani nationals must send a pay order of PKR 5,000/- in favor of Dow University of Health Sciences along with the completed application form
- Admission Fee: PKR 25,000/- (non-refundable)
- Fees Per semester: PKR 80,000/-
- Examination fee: PKR 4,000/semester
- Dissertation processing fees: 50,000/- (payable immediately after submission of the final proposal)

For foreign nationals

- Application fee (non-refundable): Foreign nationals must send a pay order of 100 USD along with the completed application form
- Admission fee: USD 1250/- (non-refundable)
- Fees per semester: USD 4,000/-
- Dissertation processing fees: 650/- USD (payable immediately after submission of the final proposal)

Repeaters of a course will have to pay the full fees of that course.

Criteria for short listing candidates:

- Score of TOEFL/ IELTS
- Written test results. Written test will be online.
- Interview results; Applicants may sit in Islamabad
- Out-of-Pakistan, and out-of-Islamabad applicants (Pakistani nationals or foreigners) may take the written test on-line and the interview via Skype. The exact date and time may be decided based on mutual convenience.

Course content:

Core Modules:
1. Basic course in Education Research
2. Advanced course in Education Research
3. Adult Learning
4. Teaching and Learning
5. Assessment: Current principles and practices
6. Curriculum Design and Management
7. Program Evaluation
8. Educational Leadership
9. Electives
10. Research work (Master’s thesis/ article)
Electives:

Every participant will have to take two elective courses of at least a month duration each. DCPS-HPE graduates will be exempted from these electives if they so desire. These graduates will, however, have to take all the core modules. The topics of the electives may be decided in collaboration with the participants’ interest and feasibility.

Books and reading material:

A list of books will be issued to the successful candidates.

Accommodation:

Candidates will have to make arrangements for their stay and travel during the contact period.

All inquiries should be directed to:
muhammad.irfan@duhs.edu.pk

Complete applications along with the documents should be sent by courier to the following address:

Dr Syed Muhammad Idrees  
Director, Admissions  
Dow University of Health Sciences  
Baba-e-Urdu Road, Karachi  
Pakistan

Note: Applications submitted directly will NOT be considered

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Prof. Lubna Baig  
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