

Dear Fellow,

I am sure you must be feeling fresh after having enjoyed a period away from your work during the vacations with your families even in the prevailing turbulent law and order situation of the Country.

I, in 2007 and also in 2008, developed an annual consultative letter by reporting on the salient features of the progress made by your Council. This was appreciated by many of our colleagues and fellows; as it give them the futuristic direction of the College, set by your elected Council. This also provided me the opportunity to report on the attainments of the goals set for the year under review.

Meetings with the fellows, supervisors and examiners provided me an insight to their mindset which desired a change in the overall direction and policies; in view of the changed world perspective, especially in the medical sciences.

Medical Sciences are the fastest evolving and thus perpetually changing the medical educational perspective. To me, the basic feature of the new perspective is that no single man and no single country, on its own, is making advancements; it is a collective, world wide approach and thus we need to transform in keeping with the world.

The change has to be subtle, gradual, sustainable, meaningful and above all acceptable for the stakeholders. One cannot go for an abrupt change radically divorced from our environment and infrastructure. We have to keep our traditions and customs in view. The change should not derail the exiting structure; it should add and supplement the existing.

It is therefore that the CHANGE brought in by this Council is not so visible, although it has and is restructuring and remodeling the entire postgraduate medical educational pattern, encompassing all the aspects. Let me mention some of the changes already attained and the futuristic plans.

Changes in Academics:

1. The College Council revisited and redesigned the Curricula of all the ELEVEN (11) disciplines of FCPS-I, and added Behavioural Sciences and Medical Ethics and Research and Biostatistics (basic concepts) as the required domains in prospectus of FCPS-I.
2. The College has systematically introduced RESIDENCY PROGRAMS for all the disciplines with appropriate tables of specifications.
3. The College has made the Intermediate Module as mandatory for

FCPS training. The change has not only been accepted but welcomed by the supervisors and trainees throughout the Country and abroad.

The College has developed and designed the Structured Curricula Visual Display Charts for all the IMM disciplines, which are already on display at over 1,200 accredited departments.

The number of accredited institutions within the country has crossed 130 along with over 70 institutions abroad. The number of accredited departments is well over 1,200 with over 2,400 supervisors to train over 12,000 trainees, throughout the Country.

Three new specialties of Endocrinology, Rheumatology and Infectious diseases added during 2009.

ATLS and ACLS further strengthened and extended to the up-country.

Changes in Regional Head Quarters with devolution:

FIVE Regional Head quarters at Hyderabad, Lahore, Islamabad, Peshawar and Quetta were upgraded.

Regional Head quarters of Hyderabad and Quetta constructed, furnished and made functional.

Islamabad, Lahore and Peshawar Regional Head Quarters linked through video conferencing while Hyderabad, Multan and Faisalabad would be linked within this month, Quetta will be linked in 2010.

Epidemiologists and Biostatisticians appointed at Regional Head quarters.

Synopsis evaluation and corrections handled at the Regional Head Quarters.

Learning Resources being developed at Regional Head Quarters.

All Regional Head Quarters are linked with HEC Library (Ebrary).

Changes in Examinations:

Examinations for FCPS-II are now conducted only twice a year.

Qualifying IMM examinations made mandatory before taking FCPS-II examinations in all disciplines.

Examinations of IMM in Surgery, Medicine and Obstetrics & Gynecology to be based on MCQ's and TOACS.

FCPS-I examination continues to be held thrice a year.

Strengthening of MCQ Bank made obligatory for the examiners and supervisors.

Changes in Capacity Building Workshops/short courses:

Option to take exemption test for Computer and & IT Workshop.

MCPS trainees exempted from workshop of RMB&DW.

Revised manual for Surgical Skills published while manuals on Research Methodology, Biostatistics and dissertation writing, Computer & IT and Communication Skills are being re-written and revised.

Changes by harnessing the IT Technology:

Updated the bandwidth capacity from PERN I to PERN II, i.e. from 2 MB to 8 MB bandwidth.

College linked to HEC Library (Ebrary), providing access to huge resources of learning and research materials.

Video link established and Karachi, Lahore, Peshawar and Islamabad are now inter-connected through videoconferencing.

College is now utilizing the video link to conduct simultaneous and standardized uniform dissemination of knowledge through video conferencing, for trainees at Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar, in workshops and seminars.

All supervisors and Residency Program trainees allocated e-mail accounts on CPSP web mail.

E-logbook developed and all the supervisors and Residency trainees allocated their ID's.

Provision of laptops at concessional rates from quality and branded manufacturers and suppliers is now operational .

Negotiated and arranged special concessional rates of wireless internet (Wifi) connections for CPSP supervisors, trainees and functionaries.

Changes in Infrastructure:

Hyderabad and Quetta Regional Centres are made functional.

Extention of Lahore Regional Centre in final stages.

Ground breaking for Abbottabad Regional Centre building performed and construction work is in hand.

Old CDL building at Karachi, with over 20,000 sq. feet covered area, with Three multi-purpose halls, Workshop halls and Office areas are under completion as a new Academic Block at CPSP Headquarters.

Changes in Coordination & cooperation with sister institutions:

MoU signed with King Fahad Medical City, Riyadh, with induction of CPSP trainees at KFMC, Riyadh. Already 23 CPSP trainees performing excellently there.

Revised MoU signed with Saudi Commission for Health Specialties whereby CPSP fellows to be taken as Senior Registrar, if he/she has two year post fellowship clinical experience.

Revised MoU with Royal College of Physicians, London, submitted for finalization.

MoU proposed to the Royal College of Psychiatry, UK, awaiting formal approval and signatures.

MoU proposed to the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, Canada.

MoU with Malaysia in offing whereby 100 Specialists in 18 different disciplines are to be sent in accredited teaching hospitals.

MoU with UAE already proposed.

Increased demand of CPSP Fellows and trainees abroad:

KFMC has asked for 50 trainees doctors in 2010, having qualified FCPS-I and duly selected by CPSP.

Malaysia wants over 100 IMM qualified doctors with CPSP certification in 2010.

United Kingdom require CPSP Fellows for post fellowship Advance training.

a.	Anesthesia	5 (already selected and ready to leave)
b.	Orthopedic Surgery	5 (already selected and ready to leave)
c.	Endocrinology	5 (in Process)
d.	Infectious diseases	5 (Interviews already held)
e.	Pulmonology	5 (in Process)
f.	General Medicine	5 (in Process)
g.	Pediatrics	5 (In different sub-specialties)
h.	Anesthesia	5 (including ICU)

Please note that doctors to be selected for UK will be exempted from PLAB and would be paid as local doctors.

The increased demand of our trainees and doctors on the recommendations of the College is due to recognition by the World Centres of Excellence in Medical Sciences, who, in the changed scenario of medical education regard CPSP as one of the most credible postgraduate medical degrees.

The College has acquired this important perception only due to consistent efforts of the executive team as well as due to the guidance and assistance provided by its fellows who as faculty members, supervisors and examiners have come up with their bright ideas,

suggestions and cooperation in implementing the change.

I am confident that this cooperation with suggestions and even critical review from our fellows would continue, so as to empower us for a better and lasting change.

Looking forward to your comments and wishing you a Happy Eid-ul Azha.

Yours sincerely,

(Zafar Ullah Chaudhry)