

AIPS Final Report Template – Pakistan to U.S. Exchange

In order to better report and highlight AIPS-sponsored programs with our funding agencies and AIPS members, please fill in the information below to the best of your ability, writing in the third person.

Information provided in this report may be posted on the AIPS website and/or submitted to our granting agency. Please send all required materials via email to aips@pakistanstudies-aips.org. If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact us!

Grantee Information

Name: Rabbia Murtaza

U.S. Institution: Indiana University-Purdue University, Indianapolis

Home Institution in Pakistan: COMSATS University Islamabad

Research Field: Air Pollution (Environmental Sciences)

Scholar Bios

The scholar has completed post-graduation studies in Environmental Sciences from National University of Science and Technology. Currently she is working as Research Associate in Centre for Climate Research and Development (CCRD) at COMSATS University Islamabad

What resources did you use and/or in which activities did you partake at the institution where you stayed? (Please select all the apply.)

- Visited an on-campus library (Yes)
- Utilized scholarly collections that were previously unavailable (Yes)
- Attended a lecture (outside of the classroom) (Yes)
- Attended an in-class lecture (Yes)
- Gave a lecture (outside of the classroom) (No)
- Gave an in-class lecture (No)
- Collaborated with other junior scholars (Yes)
- Collaborated with other senior scholars (Yes)
- Exchanged contact information with other scholars (if yes, approximately how many?) (Yes, approx.10)
- Attended a local/cultural event (No)
- Began a new research project (In pipeline)
- Continued working on a research project started before this program (Yes)
- Became more familiar with the U.S. culture and lifestyle (Yes)
- Other (please explain below)

Program Description

Please provide a summary of your program and its components, elaborating on the section above. Please be sure to mention the overarching topic(s) and goal(s) of the program.

The program focused on the capacity building of junior researchers from Pakistan. It included attending different lectures on environmental issues, visiting environmental research laboratories, and multiple discussion sessions on initiating research opportunities together. The program was designed for six weeks starting from August 18 to September 29, 2019. Some very interesting research opportunities together were discussed with Dr Gabriel Filipelli. The US visit involved different discussion sessions on environmental problems with other faculty members and experts. A possible collaboration with Department of Earth Sciences, IUPUI has been discussed with Dr. Gabriel in terms of research project on lead, and other pollutants like NO₂, PM 2.5 and their health effects. The scholar also attended the lectures on environmental issues in Monmouth college, Illinois and Indiana university, Bloomington campus. The exchange of contacts was also made with junior and senior scholars. The scholar has also visited the library in IUPUI which was very well developed and organized. Museum in Wisconsin, Kenosha was also visited to see the historic culture of local region. After six weeks program, I became very much familiar with the local culture of US which is very unique and diverse. The people in US are also very welcoming and awesome.

Deliverables and Outcomes

What do you anticipate the short and long-term results of this exchange will be? Please provide specific examples (i.e. chapters written, lectures given, collaborations leading to new projects, shared information to advance research, etc.)

As air quality is one of the major concerns around the globe. Long-term exposure to polluted air can have permanent health effects such as: Accelerated aging of the lungs. Loss of lung capacity and decreased lung function. Development of diseases such as asthma, bronchitis, emphysema, and possibly cancer. It is need of the hour start some study on monitoring of air pollutants and its health effects on people. So, possible collaboration on air quality related study or project shall be started.

Some pictures from the visit are attached below:



