Panjab University, Chandigarh

Its Heritage, National and International Rankings

A. K. Grover, VC, P.U.
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Panjab University

Our Past in Our Present
Established in 1882 at Lahore (now in Pakistan) as the Fourth teaching and affiliating University in South Asia under the British Raj after the Universities at Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

Withstood the trauma of partition
Commenced shifting to its present campus at Chandigarh in 1956

An Inter-state Body-Corporate:
Genesis of Idea

• British Educational Policy in India reflected by the famous Dispatch of 1854 of Sir Charles Wood.
• Led to establishment of three affiliating Universities in Presidency Towns of Calcutta, Bombay and Madras (1857)
• However, it was strongly felt that the education system of that time lacked in the ingredients necessary for an Indian system of education.
• Need Felt for promotion and dissemination of oriental learning.
• For this noble purpose some Indian and European minds joined together and formed literary society in 1865 named ‘Anjuman-i-Panjab’, under the stewardship of the first Principal Mr G W Leitner of Govt. College, Lahore, which had started functioning in January, 1864.
Main Objectives of Anjuman-i-Panjab

• The revival of ancient oriental learning
• The advancement of proper knowledge through the vernacular
• The promotion of Industry and Commerce
• The discussion of social, literary, scientific and political questions of interest
• The association of the learned and influential classes of the province with the officers of the Government.
First Steps

• The first sign of the genesis of Punjab University is found in a letter of Sir Donald McLeod dated 10th June, 1865 in the capacity of Lt. Governor.

• He invited suggestions for improvement of oriental learning and the development of vernacular literature.

• Accordingly Anjuman-i-Punjab prepared a detailed blueprint for the establishment of Oriental University. This blueprint envisaged the revival of oriental learning and encouragement of the vernacular literature along with provision of education on the Western Pattern.
University College was thus established in Lahore in 1870 with the following three special objects:

- Promotion of Western sciences through the media of the vernacular language of the Punjab.
- Encouragement of the advanced study of eastern classical languages and literature.
- Association of the learned and influential non-officials with the officials, for promoting and supervising popular education.
Metamorphosis of University College to The University of Punjab, Lahore

On 27th January, 1877, Mr. A. Howell, officiating Secretary to the Government of India, Home Department addressed to the Secretary to the Government of India, Legislative Department, a request that act be drafted to raise Panjab University College to the status of a University.
On 1st September, 1881, the Government of India informed the Government of Panjab that the Secretary of State for India had, by a telegram, dated 23rd August, sanctioned the proposed legislation for raising the Panjab University College to the status of a University and giving it power to confer degrees. The telegram of the Secretary of State was followed by a letter to the Governor-General, dated 25th August, 1881.
Act Passed to Establish PU on Oct. 5, 1882

On October 5, 1882 Sir Ilbert Courtney, the Law member of the Government of India, introduced a Bill in the Legislative Council to create the Panjab University.

While introducing the bill he emphasized that in the first place the Panjab University was to be a teaching as well as an examining body.

He said, “In this respect, as well as in the circumstances of its origin, it differed from other Indian Universities, but agreed with Oxford and Cambridge.”
The first meeting of Senate of Punjab University was held at Barnes Court, Shimla, on 14th October, 1882. The Chancellor, Sir Charles Aitchison conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Oriental Learning to Principal W.G. Leitner (born October 14, 1940).

Citation: “Without the help, advocacy and originating power of Dr. Leitner the Punjab, in all probability, would have had no University of its own for many years to come.”

Punjab University Lahore held its inaugural Convocation on 18th November, 1882.
First Convocation (November, 1882)

- The inaugural convocation of the University was held on November 18, 1882, at Lahore.
- In his inaugural address Lord Ripon praised the liberality of the leading citizens and nobles of the Punjab and approved the establishment of a University on a basis different from that of other existing Universities in India.
Developmental Phase: 1882-1946

- Punjab University was initially mooted as Oriental University. However, due to intervention of Sardar Dyal Singh Majithia, it eventually evolved as a real symbiosis of a Western and an Oriental University.

- **Examination Reforms**: The complaint of Government asserted that “the Punjab University had fixed a higher percentage of pass marks in each subject than any other Indian University, the difference in the case of the higher examinations being “enormous”, the Government therefore recommended a lowering of standards to make them compatible with other universities.

- **INDIAN EDUCATION COMMISSION (1904)**: New system of affiliation of colleges permitted

- 1933: **Golden JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS** foundation-stone of a University Union Society’s home was laid. The building was completed in 1936 and was named as ‘Woolner Hall’
First Whole-Time Vice Chancellor (1938)

- Right from 1882 till 1938, the office of the Vice-Chancellor was held by some prominent official of the Punjab Government. He performed his duties only in the honorary capacity.
- In October, 1938 for the first time Khan Bahadur Mian Mohammad Afzal Hussain, an eminent Agricultural Scientist, was appointed first whole-time Vice Chancellor of the University of Punjab at Lahore. He served up to 1944.
Impact of Partition

• Sensing the division of the country, the Syndicate of the Panjab University set up a Partition Committee on June 30, 1947, to prepare the lists of assets of the university and their evaluation; to submit proposals for the division of assets between the two zones in the ratio of 60 to 40 between the West Punjab (Pakistan) and the East Punjab (India) respectively on the basis of division, the committee had taken into consideration the population figures for the West and East zones of the Punjab.

• The Partition Committee appointed by the Viceroy on August 12, 1947 refused its implementation.

• The University of the Punjab at Lahore was expected to function jointly for the whole of the Punjab, till June 1948.
Reincarnation as East Punjab University

The Indian part of the Punjab (now called East Punjab) was without a university and had many colleges and schools in its territory.

Prof. G C Chatterjee, Education Secretary, East Punjab Government, was deputed to set up an advisory Committee to make provisional arrangements for the establishment of the new University.

Finally, an ordinance was promulgated by the East Punjab Government on September 27, 1947 for setting up the East Punjab University from October 1, 1947. It was subsequently replaced by the East Punjab University Act of 1947.
Infant institution burdened with a host of problems:

• It had to find a home to start functioning.
• It had to take care of thousands of students who were supposed to appear for various examinations supposed to be conducted by the University at Lahore.
• The University bodies had to be constituted to frame rules & regulations for appointment of staff and affiliation of schools and colleges to the university.
• All schools and colleges were closed and their buildings were used for housing refugees.
Camp Office at Solan

Cantonment area at Solan vacated by the armed forces used for temporarily housing of the university offices. M.E.S. barracks, covering an area of about 8 sq. kms scattered over the hills was Indian abode.

Secrecy and Conduct Branches at Solan
Prof. G C Chatterji, I.E.S. (Retd.) took over as Vice-Chancellor of the university on April 1, 1949. During his short tenure, he focused his attention on the re-establishment of teaching departments.
Renaming of the University

On the first republic day, i.e., January 26, 1950, the State of East Punjab was renamed only as Punjab. The University also rechristened itself to Panjab University with effect from that day.

Registrar’s Office at Solan
Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel with Justice Teja Singh
Vice Chancellor at First Convocation (March 1949)
Down the Memory Lane at Solan

Examination Branch  Staff Residences
President of India Visits University

Rashtrapati Dr. Radhakrishnan with Late Dr. B. N. Prasad, President Indian Science Congress, S. Ujjal Singh former Chancellor of the University and Shri Suraj Bhan, Vice-Chancellor, on the dais of 53rd Session of the Indian Science Congress.
Dewan Anand Kumar (the Ex-Dean of University Instruction, DUI, at Lahore) was appointed Vice Chancellor of the East Punjab University on September 1, 1949. He had a long innings as the Vice Chancellor of the University from September 1949 to June 1957.
Visit of PM of India
Towards a New Destination

In 1953, there was suggestion from Punjab Government to locate the University at Chandigarh for its permanent home. The Syndicate accepted the suggestion and in 1954, the university took possession of 306 acres of land, comprising Sector 14 against payment of Rs. 3,06,000. The construction work was started in 1955 and about 300 residential quarters for administrative staff were completed before the shifting of the offices from Solan in 1956.

Original Architectural Layout prepared by Pierre Jeanerette
NEW PHASE:

Imbibing the spirit of Missionary zeal at Chandigarh
THE VISION

To retain and further strengthen its coveted position as a premier educational institution engaged in quality teaching, research, outreach activities and developing intellectual capital for societal needs and global orientation.
Campus: An Architectural Marvel

- “University Beautiful” in “City Beautiful”
- Complex designed by Pierre Jeanerette under the guidance of the legendary, Le Corbusier
- Buildings designed to reflect the soul of the architectural aesthetics of the pioneer designers and visionaries.
- Spacious, serene and tranquil to infuse one in mood of contemplation.
- Four museums and the department of Indian theatre with its own theatre lab are unique in the country.
- A Botanical Garden, A Herbal Garden, A Rose Garden & Garden of Medicinal Plants on the campus vouch its “green pastures”
- Sprawling Campus spread in two sectors with land over 550 acres
Unique Character

• University of National character and stature, having drawn faculty and students from all over the country.
• International Students and MoU’s with foreign universities
• Governing council (Senate) consists of Members from all walks of Public Life: Academicians, Captains of Industry, Services, Politics…
• Creation of knowledge transfer networks via feeder institutions, Extension centres, Regional campuses
Panjab University Campus at Chandigarh
A Synoptic View

- Faculty Strength: Over 1000
- Teaching Departments & Chairs: ~ 85

- Affiliated Colleges: > 190
- Regional Centres: 4
- Library resources: Around 8 Lakh Books
- Students (entire PU): Over 2,45,000
- Faculties: 11
- Postgraduate Courses: 194
- Undergraduate Courses: 75
- Students Enrolled in Campus: @ 23,500
Competencies of P.U.

• Unique Nature of Body Incorporate with elected representation in the Governing Council

• Strong Alumni Base

• Strong Brand Equity through Presence and Focus on Inter-Disciplinary Areas of Research and Teaching

• Faculty Drawn from and Trained in India and Abroad. Similarly, Cosmopolitan Student Base

• Bestowed with the highest Five Star Status by UGC-NAAC. Similar Higher Ratings for its Many Courses
Competencies of P.U. contd...

- Unique Mix of Residential as well as 192 Affiliated Colleges offering Graduate and Post graduate teaching and Research
- 85 Departments, Centres and Chairs of higher learning: many of them bestowed with FIST, CAS, DRS and SAP projects.
- Increasing popularity of its professional courses like UIET, UBS, UIAMS, Chemical Engg. and Pharmaceutical Sciences
Competencies of P.U. contd...

- Change from academic to managerial structures
- Academic model that is employer-driven and employer valued: Offering programs with industry recognized credentials and international orientation
- Close Coordination and Collaboration with Institutes of National Importance like PGI, PEC, IMTECH, NIPER, CSIO, IISER, TBRL, BPU, IIT Ropar, etc. Nucleated “CRIKC”
Academic Highlights of P.U.

- Bestowed the status of Centre for Potential for Excellence in Biomedical Sciences
- DST PURSE Award
- DST Science Policy Research Centre
- TEQIP to UIET and UICET
- CPEPA in Nanotechnology
- Centres of Advanced Studies (FIVE)
- Special Assistance Programmes (TWELVE)
- DSA (THREE)
- COSIST (SIX)
- FIST (ELEVEN)
- ASIHSS (THREE)
- Assistance Under Emerging Areas (TWO)
- Promotion of Gandhian Studies (ONE)
- Centre for Excellence in Corporate Governance (ONE)
- The university library recognised as National Centre for data-information-distribution in the UGC’s INFLIBNET programme
Noteworthy Accomplishments

- Ranked 1st Among All Institutions of Higher Learning in India
- Ranked 13\textsuperscript{th} in BRICS and 12 other Emerging Economies
- In the Top 226-250 Bracket in the World
- Initiated and Fructified the Concept of CRIKC
- Significant role in CERN Experimentation
- The ICSSR has set-up its North-Western Regional Centre on the P.U. campus
- Centre for super-computing facilities to serve the entire North-Western India in Technology Information Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC), DST
Recognition of Scientific Temper

- The University runs College Science Improvement Programme (COSIP) and college Humanities and Social Science Improvement Programme (COHSSIP) in Mathematics, Physics and Political Science.
- COSIST in Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics and Geology.
- In the area of Social Sciences and Humanities, the University leads in the fields of Geography, Fine Arts and Theatre.
- Because of its location and its proven eminence, several centres have been established on the University Campus including the RSIC/CIL/UCIM, all with support from outside agencies.
EXISTING STUDENT / FACULTY EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES

• The University has an International Exchange Programme with Sweden under the auspices of European Law Students’ Association (ELSA)
• Exchange Programme with the British Council in the field of Public Administration.
• The University also has International Exchange Programme with the universities of Manitoba and Kyrgyzstan as well as Simon Fraser University, Canada.
• The university has the office of the Dean of Foreign Students which looks after the academic affairs of overseas students from over 15 countries.
• The Dean’s office is in constant touch with educational organization around the world to identify suitable students for various courses taught at the University.
• Working directly with the Regional Director of ICCR, the Dean helps to facilitate the admission of foreign students.
• Cross-cultural experience provides opportunities to lay the ground work for regional cooperation.
• The University participated in the project, International Collaboration for Research for elementary particles and the large Hodron Collider (LHC) CERN, Geneva CMS Experiment with a Government of India grant of Rs. 2.49 Crores.
MOU’s with International Institutions

• FACULTY OF ARTS
• Department of Public Administration
• The Canadian Studies Centre was set up on 1st June, 2005 in pursuance of the implementation of an MoU signed between PU and University College of Fraser Valley (now University of the Fraser Valley), Abbotsford, British Columbia.

FACULTY OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AND COMMERCE
• University Business School
• UBS has exchange programme with Manitoba University, Winnipeg.
• UBS has finalized faculty and students exchange programme with Dauphine University, Paris.
• Collaborating with Simon Fraser University, Canada.

• FACULTY OF EDUCATION
• Department of Education
• Exchange program with Simon Fraser Univ, Canada, since 2005
MOU’s with International Institutions

• FACULTY OF LAW
• Department of Laws
• ALSA – Students Exchange Programme.

Besides above, the University has signed MoUs with several Universities abroad. These include:
• 1. University of Jean Monnet (UJM), St. Etienne France
2. Centre for Geoinformaticas, Salzburg University, Austria
3. University of Western Australia.
• 4. Pokhara University, Nepal
• Introducing the practice of dual degrees
• Encouraging the patenting of research
• Encouraging students for internship with MNCs and top ranking research institutes/Laboratories
• Increasing the problem solving inputs in the courses as per international standards
Value Systems at PU

• Like all great universities, PU remains a work in progress and the recent years have demonstrated the self-reliance and competence to move ahead while holding on to the best of what we already have.

• The University’s growth in its capacity of promoting research and teaching with complete relevance to the society at large depends upon the everlasting interests in the future of our alma-mater.
Value Systems at PU

• PU has a long tradition of pursuing excellence in teaching and research in science and technology, humanities, social sciences, performing arts and sports.

• It supports excellence and innovation in academic programmes, in research, and teaching and is committed to attracting and supporting the best students and recruiting faculty who excel at teaching and research.
Distinguished Alumni

• Dr Manmohan Singh, PM of India
• Sh Krishan Kant, ex-Vice President of India
• Dr I.K. Gujral ex-P.M. of India.
• Prof S S Bhatnagar
• Dr. Har Gobind Khorana, Dr. Abdus Salam, Nobel Laureates
• Kalpana Chawla, NASA Astronaut.
• Prof. S. Chowla, eminent Mathematician, teacher of R P Bambah, Abdus Salam, F C Kohli
• Profs. Brahm Prakash, Satish Dhawan, Yesh Pal
• Chief Justices of Supreme Court, Chiefs of Staff (Air Marshall Arjun Singh, Gen J.J. Singh)
• Men of letters (Mulk Raj Anand, Balwant Gargi)
• Governors, Cabinet Ministers, MPs
• Presidents of Science Academies
Panjab University

Expanding Horizons
Thank You