

DEAKIN UNIVERSITY EXPERTS VISIT PAU; VC OUTLINES VISION FOR INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION ON 25-10-2024

In a key step toward international academic collaboration, Dr. Satbir Singh Gosal, Vice-Chancellor of Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), hosted scientists from Deakin University, Melbourne. Wildlife and conservation biology experts Dr. Raylene Cooke, Dr. John White, and Dr. Mike Weston expressed interest in formalizing a partnership through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).

During the strategic discussion, Dr. Satbir Singh Gosal highlighted Punjab Agricultural University's (PAU) groundbreaking achievements in agricultural research, particularly its pioneering work in rodent pest control. Emphasizing the vital link between agricultural innovation and public health, he articulated a vision for international collaboration, stating, "Our rodent management research has broad implications. Through global partnerships, we can enhance our capacity to develop sustainable solutions for agriculture and public health."

The Vice-Chancellor's initiative to strengthen international academic ties gained momentum as Deakin University scientists expressed interest in formal collaboration through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Dr. Kiran Bains, Dean of Community Science, outlined potential joint research areas, particularly in human nutrition, to advance global partnerships.

The visit, coordinated by Dr. Neena Singla, Principal Zoologist (Rodents), marked a crucial step in strengthening global research partnerships. The Deakin University scientists toured the Museum of Rural History of Punjab, the National Museum of Insects, and the Soil and Water Museum of Northern India, commending PAU's heritage preservation. They also engaged with students and faculty from the Zoology department, fostering academic exchange.

A guest lecture titled "Unlocking Potential: Research and Teaching Opportunities at Deakin University" was organized by the PAU Science Club, attracting students and faculty. The visiting scientists discussed the alarming decline of vulture populations in India, the impact of rodenticides on biodiversity, and higher education opportunities at Deakin University.

In her concluding remarks, Dr. Kiran Bains emphasized the importance of protecting the environment and human health through the careful use of pesticides. She encouraged students to explore global education opportunities. Dr. K.S. Sangha, Secretary of the PAU Science Club, proposed a vote of thanks. This visit marks a milestone in PAU's international outreach, potentially opening new avenues for research collaboration.

