Dear Friends;

I am thankful to all the membership of APPNA to serve as President Elect of APPNA, 2018. The win I had was collective not individual, and all the things we will do will be with consensus among subject matter experts. As the end of the year is approaching it is exciting that APPNA will come together and speak in a united fashion.

Next year, one of the primary focuses will be implementing a merit-based committee, especially where talent is needed. My election motto was to have an even playing field for all members, work together to strive for transparency and that everyone will have a voice.

As a team, our main goal is to build institutions; we will be launching a project to build an APPNA Institute of Innovation and Research (AIIR). With this initiative, AIIR, will provide more philanthropy activities and promote knowledge to benefit humanity. Innovation and research are central pillars of our religion. We feel the root cause of Pakistan is lack of advanced education, research and a long-term solution with critical thinking.

We want APPNA to take a leadership role in establishing the APPNA institute of Innovation and Research, where we plan to raise a structure that is transparent and will cultivate donors inside and outside of APPNA. Our aim is to support innovation and research in Pakistani society in the fields of life sciences, mathematics and liberal arts. Our team is already aggressively targeting contributors and institutions to raise the funds to have a sustainable institution. To accomplish this goal, we must focus and we will need help from the Executive Committee, Executive Council, Board of Trustees, and above all the General Membership.

Additionally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the 2018 EC, President Dr. Z. I Hamid and Immediate past president, Dr. Sajid Chaudhary for his three years in Executive Committee.

I look forward to working with the membership and seeing you at the Fall APPNA 2018 meeting in Virginia.

Sincerely,

Naseem Shekhani. President-Elect APPNA 2018.