

**PhD student returning from a research stay at Kent State University, Ohio, USA,  
report**

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Mentor

**PROFESSOR ROBERT D. HISRICH**

College of Business Administration, Kent State University, Kent Ohio, USA



**Muhammad Nawaz Tunio**

PhD Student

Doctoral track Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Economic Development

Department of Sociology, Alpen Adria University, Klagenfurt

November 18, 2019

Dear Sir/Madam,

I hereby wish to inform you that I have completed my research visit as a visiting scholar through the Young Scientist Mentoring Program at Kent State University, Ohio, the USA from 16.10.2019 to 15.11. 2019.

It was a very extensive and amazing journey from Klagenfurt, Austria to Kent, the USA as it was from Karachi, Pakistan to Klagenfurt, Austria for the Ph.D. Study. My flight route was from Vienna to Akron airport via Chicago and Akron Airport to Vienna via New York. I had arrived there in the evening time and reach the apartment through an Uber taxi from the airport.

I was warmly welcomed by Professor Robert D. Hisrich at the Department of Business Administration on the second day of arrival as well as the Office of global education, Kent State University, Ohio, USA. University had issued me a faculty flashcard to access the library and internet at the campus.

In the first meeting, Professor Robert D. Hisrich discussed my current status of study, progress and the plan. He then inquired about my plans during the stay at Kent State University and expectations. He asked me to send the monograph draft and fixed the next meeting. He reviewed my thesis and then discussed the dissertation. He gave his insights and suggestions on the draft whole chapter by chapter. Regarding the introduction and literature part, he said these parts are fine and these parts are used to be like this. His major focus was on the research methodology chapter.

He remarked that research methodology chapter written earlier is revised and improved again after data collection and writing the result and discussion chapter. Therefore, research methodology chapter will be polished again once completed the complete version of the monograph. While regarding the data collection, he helped to prepare questionnaire and suggested to adopt mix methodology (Qualitative as well as quantitative). He suggested including a sheet of a questionnaire about the demographics of the entrepreneurs and their business and then conduct a quantitative analysis. He said that a quantitative part will make more interesting to the monograph for the readers.



The important and productive outcome of the research visit was publications. I had written an article under his mentorship and I had submitted few months before going to the USA,

I had written with Professor Robert D. Hisrich and still work is going on the article to improve its quality and context. We are planning to submit this article to a good journal of entrepreneurship. Besides, the mentor recommended meeting and greeting with his research students and share ideas and experiences. One of them was a Garima Jha, she was from India and she had written a book on academic entrepreneurship with Professor Robert D. Hisrich, the book was in a press and will be published by the end of the year. And other students were Jannifer Wiggins-Lyndall, Christopher Groening, and Robert Jewell. I also shared with them about my discussion paper, book chapter, contents of the monograph, papers submitted, papers in pipeline and courses studied. I have diverse experience in the education system in the USA. Mentor also recommended attending research meetings that take place once every week and suggested to meet an Assistant Professor who was an expert in qualitative research methods.

Professor Robert D. Hisrich recommended to attend meetings of the research forum, there was a lecture of a guest speaker **Dr. Douglas Miller**, Assistant Professor of Management and Entrepreneurship, Virginia Commonwealth University, on the topic “MANAGING THE MESSAGE: SUPPORT ME - I’M PASSIONATE, PROVEN, AND WILL BE MAKE YOU INCREDIBLY RICH”.

It was also recommended to attend a mentorship project of Xiaowei Guo, a PhD student in the Department of Marketing and Entrepreneurship's Research Forum, at Kent State University.

My countable outcomes during the research visit were as follows:

1. Worked on paper with Professor Robert D. Hisrich which was submitted to him a few months before and we have the plan to submit it to a journal in the near future. Professor Robert D. Hisrich will be a co-author in the article.
2. A spared time in the library to write a small review paper. In the article, it is a try to answer the question 'Is entrepreneurship the answer to unemployment?' After discussions with Professor Robert D. Hisrich and Professor Dieter Boegenhold, I plan to submit this article to a relevant journal soon.
3. Discussions about the dissertation and major transformations in the research methodology chapter and data analysis.
4. Interaction with research students and academic exposure.

I was living in a shared apartment on a short distance from the university. The apartment was shared with the PhD Students of Kent State University so my living place was also a kind of academic exposure to talk and discuss the experiences with apartment-mates every day. The weather was fine early days but it was getting colder day by day and even it was going negative in the last week of my stay. As it was the second week of November and temperature was fluctuating between -7 to -9 but it was manageable to living and carry on with the routine.

During the research stay at Kent State University, I was in continuous communication with my research supervisor Professor Dieter Boegenhold and I used to keep him updated about the events attended, activities performed and performance made week by week.

One day before the departure, Noelle Brooker, International Student & Scholar Advisor invited me to visit the Office of Global Education, Kent State University where a certificate of completion of the Visiting Scholar Program was awarded by Sarah Malcolm, Executive Director of the Office of Global Education at Kent State University. A scanned copy of the certificate can be found on the last page of the report.





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I am very humbled to my supervisor Dieter Boegenhold for his kind mentorship, recommendation and continuous support to achieve this milestone.

I am thankful to Verein zur Förderung der Wirtschaftswissenschaften an der AAU for the grant and encouragement. Due to this support, research stay at Kent State University became possible and successful; this research visit has a significant contribution to the progress of my research work.

# Certificate of Completion of Visiting Scholar Program

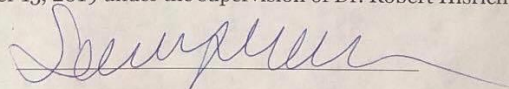
This certificate is awarded to

**Muhammad Nawaz Tunio**

In recognition of their completion of the exchange visitor program at



The scholar completed their research in the College of Business Administration from October 16, 2019  
to November 15, 2019 under the supervision of Dr. Robert Hisrich.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Sarah Malcolm", written over a horizontal line.

Sarah Malcolm

Executive Director of the Office of  
Global Education at Kent State