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## UMT Awards 2,311 Degrees at 21st Convocation



he University of Management and Technology (UMT) held its 21st Convocation 2022 on February 18 and 19, 2022, awarding degrees to 2,311 graduates in various disciplines and cadres.

A total of 1,458 Bachelor's, 202 Master's, 634 MS/MPhil, and 17 PhD degrees were conferred on successful students and scholars. Punjab Governor Chaudhry Mohammad Sarwar was the chief guest at the ceremony, which was attended by President ILM/ UMT Ibrahim Hasan Murad, Vice-Chairman UMT/ILM Trust Farooq Salman Murad, UMT Rector Dr Asif Raza, UMT DG Abid Khan Sherwani, UMT Registrar Saleem

Atta, Head of Examinations Yousaf Jameel and other senior staff and faculty members. The ceremony saw the award of 30 Patron's Gold Medals, 32 Rector's Silver Medals, 14 Rector's Academic Excellence Award Gold Medals, 13 Certificates of Excellence, 10 Research Publication Awards for MS/MPhil students, two Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Medal Awards (Gold) for PhD graduates along with a cash prize of rupees 100,000 each, two Khurram Murad Medal Awards (Gold) along with cash prize of rupees 50,000 each for MBA graduates and two Mubarak un Nisa Medal Awards along with cash prize of rupees 50,000 each

for BBA graduates. Moreover two Dr Muhammad Ahmed Medal Awards along with cash prize of rupees 25,000 each to the graduates of Social Sciences, one Fast Excellence Award along with cash prize of rupees 100,000 to a BSEE graduate, two Certificates of Appreciation, 19 Rector's Awards for Entrepreneurship and Innovation, six Extra-curricular Gold Medals, 11 Extra-curricular Certificates, and two Alumni Awards were also handed out at the convocation. The convocation was divided into two phases, with the day one seeing honors being conferred upon participants of Dr Hasan Murad School of Management (HSM), Institute of Aviation Sciences (IAS), School of Commerce and Accountancy (SCA), School of Professional Advancement (SPA), School of Science (SSC), and School of Systems and Technology (SST). The remaining schools and institution were awarded degrees on the second day of the two-day convocation.

In his address, UMT Rector Dr Asif Raza welcomed the Punjab governor, saying Sarwar was an inspiration for the graduating students, their parents, and the entire UMT family. Raza was all praise for the graduates and congratulated them on completing their degrees. Dr Raza said UMT had accomplished various milestones through the passion and commitment of the faculty and staff who had helped UMT maintain its stature as a prominent premier general research university of Pakistan. He urged the graduating participants to strive for higher goals in life and advised them to transform into superb professionals through hard work and poise. UMT Vice-Chairman Faroog Salman Murad congratulated the graduates and urged them to become responsible citizens of the society and leave a mark on human history with ambition and vision.

In his speech, Governor Sarwar

congratulated the graduates for achieving a great milestone and making their parents and teachers proud. He praised Ibrahim Hasan Murad for his tremendous efforts, hard work and dedication in making UMT attain success and said that he was proud that UMT was functioning per the vision of Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad (Shaheed). Praising parents, he said mothers and fathers played a significant role in the grooming and success of children and children needed to respect them to be fruitful in this life and the hereafter.

Sarwar added that it was vital to recognize that there would be failures and difficulties in every journey, but "we must always learn something from our mistakes". He also highlighted the importance



## Orientation Welcomes Spring 2022 Admissions' Participants



The Orientation Program for new entrants of the Spring 2022 Admissions campaign was arranged on March 03, 2022 to familiarize incoming students with the policies, procedures and life at UMT and provide them a head start for their days at the university. The orientation is instrumental in helping participants build trust and enable a successful transition to the university environment.

During the orientation sessions, the new participants were introduced to university services, campus environment, and facilities. They were also advised about initial academic procedures, course selection and the registration process, besides providing them a brief about the various co-curricular activities made available through the varsity's clubs and societies.

In his interaction with new students, UMT Rector Dr Asif Raza welcomed the newest members of the UMT family and congratulated them for selecting one of the best universities of Pakistan for the next phase of their journey of learning. The organizing committee ensured that the participants were provided all the information about the role of academic advisers, faculty, research culture, career perspectives, teaching methodologies and class decorum.

Participants were provided the Orientation Participant Guide that encapsulates the academic calendar, important dates, registration procedure, add/drop week, academic jargons, commonly used abbreviations, IT resources, Participant Portal usage, Moodle/ERP, general policies, participant ID card policy, contact details of administrative/academic staff, credit hours, semester, short attendance and SGPA/CGPA details.

Information helpdesks were placed across the campus to facilitate participants' queries regarding academic and non-academic activities, while tour of respective Schools/Institutes, faculty offices, Information Processing Center (IPC), Learning Resource Center (LRC), Participant Relation Section (PRS), Mosque, gym, medical unit, surveillance room and cafeteria were also offered.



#### UMT School of Pharmacy (SPH) inaugurated

UMT formally launched its School of Pharmacy with a grand inauguration ceremony taking place on the February 10, 2022. SPH becomes the newest addition to an enviable list of top quality schools and institutes set up by UMT to offer exceptional educational facilities to the youth of Pakistan. SPH will operate out of UMT's Raiwind Campus.

Participants at the opening ceremony included senior faculty, staff and management members as well as experts and leading figures from various pharmaceutical industries, healthcare institutions, regulatory bodies, retail pharmacy chains and the academia.

Master of ceremony Sarah Rehman highlighted salient features of UMT and the School of Pharmacy (SPH). Later in his address, SPH Dean Dr Ejazullah took participants through the journey of setting up the school. He also acknowledged the efforts and commitment of the founding members of SPH, in particular Dr Ayaz Ali Khan as well as all the support offices of UMT. UMT Rector Dr Asif Raza emphasized the importance of establishing industry-academia linkages and their impact on students' learning and education. The ceremony was concluded with cake cutting ceremony led by the rector.



#### SPH Conducts White Coat Ceremony



A White Coat Ceremony for participants of the UMT School of Pharmacy was organized at the university on March 3, 2022. The ceremony was part of efforts to welcome new students and administer an oath to them. It was a memorable event attended by the dean, faculty members and students of SPH along with their parents.

The ceremony was conducted to symbolize the commitment of students to serve humanity and to maintain the highest principles of professional ethics and behavior. It was aimed at making students realize that studying for a career in healthcare was not just about wearing a white coat, rather it marked induction into the lifesaving profession of pharmacy. The SPH dean administered an oath to students whereby they pledged to uphold the ethical values and actions that reflect the code of conduct in accordance with the pharmacy profession.

#### **UMT School** Of **Science Faculty Wins Grants Worth** Over **Rs 19 Million**

Faculty members of UMT's School of Science cumulatively won research grants worth over Rs 19 million from various public and private entities.



The most prominent of these grants was worth Rs 9.2 million received by Dr Muhammad Sohail Afzal, associate professor, for his research project titled "Identification of Risk Factors Leading to Early Onset of Diabetes Mellitus and Genetic Characterization of Monogenic Diabetes in Pakistan".

Moreover, Dr Naveen Kosar, SSC assistant professor, won the NRPU project worth Rs 3.2 million being funded by HEC. The title of the project is "Structural Functionalization of Fullerenes for Energy Storage". A computational chemistry lab will be set up at UMT's main campus for this research work. The project also awards a scholarship to one MS and one PhD student for two years.





Assistant Professor Dr Rubab Manzoor won a grant worth over Rs 2 million for her project "Extended Theory of Gravity and Stellar Evolution"

Dr Yasir Rehman, SSC associate professor, also won a year-long grant worth Rs 1.6 million for his project "SARS-CoV-2 RNA extraction using silica-coated iron oxide nanoparticles for rapid and cost-effective COVID-19 testing". The research is being funded by NIH, Islamabad.





Assistant Professor Dr Imran Tipu also remained successful in winning a grant worth Rs 3.2 million for his project "Effects of lifestyle intervention manual on metabolic, cardiovascular, respiratory, and physical parameters in prehypertensive sedentary population".

#### OCLP Career Month Remains A Thumping Success

The Office of Corporate Linkages and Placements at UMT arranged a month-long activity titled OCLP **Career Month: Gearing up for COVID ZERO** Workscape during the month of March 2022. The career month began in the first week of March and concluded on the March 31. The event was a mix of various activities aimed at familiarizing UMT students with the emerging trends and practices in the business and industrial world. A total of 61 diverse session were conducted during the course of the month in which representatives of more than 55 companies took part. Besides, 81 quest speakers were invited to these sessions to speak about the changing needs of the global business world and how academia and industry could bridge existing gaps to make students ready for the upcoming challenges.

The career month also included three key CEO Talk session and two podcasts. OCLP also made impressive arrangements for eight CV writing workshops, two career development workshops, two Overseas Education Expos, four mock ILETS tests, two CSS seminars and 11 recruitment drives. This unique initiative certainly proved a key learning opportunity for the participants and the UMT staff and organizers alike. The key insights provided by leading industry and business experts proved invaluable for students, helping them immensely in understanding how a post-COVID world was approaching work and how a changing nature of jobs was shaping existing practices.



### Until We Meet Again: UMT Alumni Dinner Rekindles Old Memories



The Office of Corporate Linkages and Placements at UMT arranged a grand "Annual Alumni Dinner 2022" on March 26 for its beloved former students.

This year, OCLP made special arrangements not only for the entertainment of alumni, but also for their families. A dedicated play area for kids was set up at the event to keep the youngsters engaged and make the event a truly UMT family affair.

A record number of UMT alumni, their families, faculty members and staff attended the event. The proceedings began with the recitation of the Holy Quran followed by the National Anthem. OCLP Director Khalid Naqi welcomed the alumni and shared his thoughts on the COVID Zero Workscape and

emerging trends of the business world.

He urged the alumni to become a strong part of UMT and strengthen their bond with the varsity. UMT DG Abid HK Shirwani congratulated alumni for their remarkable achievements, while Rector Dr Asif Raza acknowledged the global influence of the UMT alumni network and invited the former students to become more connected with UMT as a member of the alumni association. Ijlal Jafri and Tasneem Alam, former presidents of the UMT Alumni Association, shared their vision and the purpose of being part of the alumni association. The evening was made further delightful by some memorable performances by the alumni. Following the lavish dinner, a wonderful Qawali performance by renowned artists Wagar Ali Khan and Nabeel Ali Khan served as a befitting end to a thoroughly memorable evening.





#### OCLP Hosts Business Leaders with Future Leaders

The Office of Corporate Linkages and Placements (OCLP) invited Interloop Limited and Interloop Holdings Chairman Musadaq Zulqarnain to the University of Management and Technology (UMT) Lahore for an insightful session under the banner of Business Leaders with Future Leaders (BLFL). BLFL is a series of intellectualization sessions whereby battle-tested business leaders are invited to bring change in the outlook of the future leaders in terms of upskilling and reskilling of their capability bank. Zulqarnain enlightened the audience with his remarkable speech consisting of his value-driven winning recipe and struggle story, tremendous efforts, vision and initiatives that led Interloop to global glory. The session oriented the students about the emerging trends and challenges and helped them carve their career paths without fear of failure in the new normal.



A meeting of Musadaq Zulqarnain with Rector Dr Asif Raza also took place in which the two discussed thoughts and ideas to cultivate seamless industry-academia linkages.

## NA Speaker Asad Qaiser Visits UMT

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Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, **Asad Qaiser**, visited UMT on February 11, 2022 to meet the university leadership and interact with staff, faculty members and students.

He met UMT President Ibrahim Hasan Murad and Rector Dr Asif Raza to discuss higher education reforms in Pakistan and exchanged ideas for joint collaboration in the future.

In his address to students and staff, the NA speaker said it was an honor for him to talk to the leaders of the society and a pleasure to visit an educational institute like UMT. Addressing the faculty, he said you they were the people who enlightened the people through knowledge, adding that all his successes were made possible by the support and dedication of his teachers.

Qaiser praised the role of Khurram Murad in turning UMT into a prestigious institution, saying he himself

formed an educational institution after finding inspiration in UMT. He appreciated the varsity administration for working professionally, adding that it was only because of teachers' hard work, persistence, commitment, and passion for education that transformed future generation into leaders of the nation.

"Teachers are the pillars of our society, a treasure of our nation, and can give to the society what no politician can," he added.

In his concluding remarks, he said it was only through commitment, dedication, and devotion that an institution could turn itself into a bastion of education.

At the end of the ceremony, UMT President Ibrahim Hasan Murad presented souvenirs to Asad Qaiser and other parliamentary members.

## **SMCS** Celebrates **Women's Week** in **Style**

#### The UMT School of Media and Communication

arranged a fabulous series of events on March 8, 2022 to celebrate the International Women's Day. To mark the day, a special seminar was conducted titled "Women Entrepreneurship towards Leadership", where wife of Punjab Governor, Ch Muhammad Sarwar, MPA Musarat Jamshed Cheema and Women Chamber of Commerce and Industry President Sam Ali Dada were amongst the prominent quests. The speakers shed light on the subject and discussed opportunities for women in various walks of life by sharing their experiences. SMCS students also participated in a walk to mark the International Women's Day under the theme "Break the Bias", where faculty members also participated with zeal. SMCS Lecturer Sarosh Bajwa moderated all three events that also included a book review and a film screening. SMCS Lecturer Noorul Ain Nasir presented the book "Kite Runner" at this event. UMT Library chief Zaheer Ahmed also graced the event and laid great emphasis on promoting the culture of book reading.





## SEN Students Win **8 AWARDS** at UOL Innovation Olympiad 2.0



## An **Evening** of **Recitals** with **DELS**



"An Evening of Recitals with DELS" was an opportunity offered to students of the Department of English and Literary Studies at UMT to recite and relish literary pieces. The event was held on March 22, 2022 and organized by Amina Qadeer, Lecturer DELS, along with the other faculty members.

The recitals were adjudicated by Sameer Asim, an educator and a teacher trainer who holds a remarkable experience in preparing students for stage performances (drama, debates and poetry recitation), and Rauf Tahir Haidri, assistant professor in English at Government Islamia College, Railway Road, Lahore.

ILA Acting Dean graced the occasion and appreciated the students for their commendable efforts and passion for literature. Dr Ambreen Salahuddin and Sajjad Baloch, renowned Pakistani poets also recited their poetry and gave a few thoughtful suggestions to future poets. The event was an attempt to instill the art of recitation among students who chose creative and literary pieces of both prose and poetry by celebrated literary figures. It was an engaging endeavor on the part of students to read and relive the experience etched in time through words and emotions. Towards the end of the event, the worthy guests recited their favorite pieces followed by distribution of souvenirs and certificates of appreciation among the participants.

# UMT EMPLOYEES SPORTS FESTIVAL



**UMT** Staff Sports Committee organized the UMT Employee Sports Festival (UESF) 2022 from March 3-5, 2022. UESF featured exciting games for both male and female employees. There were 5 male and female games; badminton, table tennis, cricket, football, chess, tug of war along with other fun games. Great interest was shown and a large number of employees came to participate and enjoy the sports festival. The closing ceremony of UESF 2022 was held on April 8, 2022, at the Hakim Saeed Hall and Rector UMT Dr Asif Raza was the honorable chief guest of the event. He encouraged employees to take part in sports and inspired participants from all departments and all cadres with his short speech. The winners were awarded medals, trophies, and cash prizes by the chief guest.



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## SPA HOLDS BONFIRE EVENT



## UMT CHEF'S TABLE SETS TASTE BUDS ON FIRE



## SPA SPRING FESTIVAL A HIT WITH STUDENTS

