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Convocation
2018

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From the Editorial Desk

There is much debate going on around the world about the skills that are essential for 21st century learning. It is an emerging paradigm that involves an understanding of how to learn, enabling learners to take intellectual risks, and preparing them to be lifelong learners.

This is important because the nature of work in the future will, in all likelihood, require them to shift careers and adapt to changing socio-economic scenarios. Herein lies the challenge for higher education. If universities are to justify the considerable learning investment that students are required to make in order to earn degrees, then they need to think, plan and deliver educational content that matches the skills and critical thinking required to stay relevant in the workplace of the future.

At UMT, all out efforts are made to prepare the students to embrace the future. A degree does not mean the culmination of learning; it is actually the beginning of embarking on a lifelong quest for learning. While education gives you a certain competitive edge, it is by no means the only thing that garners respect. This was a point well made by Dr Ansar Pervez in his address to the graduating students of the 15th UMT Convocation. Hard work, honesty and dedication go a long way towards achieving lasting success and respect.

This issue of UMT Moments and Momentum presents an overview of the diverse range of conferences organized or hosted by UMT in order to provide a platform where new ideas and technologies converge. In addition to this, the editorial team interviewed Sheikh Muhammad Ibrahim, CEO and Founder of Cannon Foam, whose success story is a lesson in the power of fair play and hard work.

A full-page background image of a rugged mountain range. The peaks are sharp and jagged, covered in patches of snow and ice. The sky is a warm, hazy yellow-orange, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. Numerous small, glowing particles, like snow or dust, are scattered throughout the air, adding a magical or ethereal quality to the scene. The overall tone is inspirational and serene.

**IF YOU ARE WORKING ON SOMETHING
THAT YOU REALLY CARE ABOUT,
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PUSHED.
THE VISION PULLS YOU!**

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Chairs 5th Deans and Directors Conference 2018



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad addresses the session of the 5th Deans and Directors Conference

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman NBEAC and ILM Trust, chaired the '5th Deans and Directors Annual Conference,' organized by the National Business Education Accreditation Council (NBEAC) of Higher Education Commission (HEC), on February 5-6, 2018. **Dr Naveda Kitchlew**, Associate Dean, Academics and Internationalization, SBE, and faculty members of SBE also attended the conference. Designed to increase the effectiveness of business education in Pakistan, the conference brought together more than 100 deans and directors of national and international business schools to engage in strategic level discussions.

In his opening address, Dr Hasan welcomed the deans and directors of business schools and highlighted the agenda of the conference, which focused on 'Creating Impact with CPEC.' Dr Hasan commented that we need to maintain a balance between global paradigms and our need to customize business education in Pakistan according to the local needs. He also highlighted the strategic and geopolitical importance of CPEC.

Muhammad Zubair, Governor Sindh, was the chief guest on the

occasion. He talked about the significance of CPEC in terms of globalization, which is generating a debate as a result of changing economy. He discussed how our business education can become

The conference brought together more than 100 deans and directors of national and international business schools

aligned with CPEC to gain long term advantages. The keynote speaker **Dr Mukhtar Ahmed**, Chairman HEC, stated that academic leadership has to be taken in confidence to make

functional policies for socio-economic development.

Notable speakers included **Dr Farrukh Iqbal**, Dean and Director of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Karachi, and **Dr Ishrat Husain**, Professor Emeritus, Chairman CEIF and Former Dean of IBA, Karachi. Other prominent speakers were **Dr Jawad Syed**, Dean, Suleman Dawood School of Business (SDSB), Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), **Dr Syed Kumail Abbas Rizvi**, Associate Professor, Lahore School of Economics (LSE), and **Dr Zaki Rashidi**, Associate Dean, Management Sciences, IQRA University, Karachi.

The conference included four panel discussions, plenary sessions, training sessions, workshops and seminars led by national and international trainers and speakers.

The conference aimed at actualizing its anticipated outcomes that include developing policy and process recommendations for aligning business education with local and global needs; identifying actions to meet the emerging challenges in business education to make it more relevant for Pakistan; and recommending policy framework and actions for quality improvements in different areas of business education.



Deans, Directors and renowned educationists get together for a photograph at the conclusion of the conference

Dr Ansar Pervaiz Awards Degrees and Medals to 591 Graduates at the 15th UMT Convocation 2018

Dr Ansar Pervaiz, former Chairperson of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission (PAEC) and recipient of the *Hilal-i-Imtiaz*, was the guest of honor at the 15th UMT Convocation held on March 22, 2018 at the University Campus. The impressive ceremony was attended by deans, directors, faculty members, graduating students and parents.

A total of 591 graduates were awarded degrees. These included recipients of 4 Patron's Medals, 2 Rector's Medals, 10 Rector's Academic Excellence Awards, 3 Certificates of Excellence, and 3 Rector's Research Recognition Awards. **Aneesah Rahat**, Registrar, and **Saleem Atta**, Controller of Examinations, were also present on this auspicious occasion.

UMT is raising the bar of quality by providing international exposure to its students and faculty

In his welcome note, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, congratulated the graduates and their parents. Elaborating the progress made by the University over the past year, Dr Aslam said that UMT is a general university with a great diversity of programs.

UMT gives special importance to research by its faculty members and students. UMT is raising the bar of quality by providing international exposure to its students and faculty. UMT collaborated with George Mason University (GMU), USA, and up till now more than 60 faculty members have received professional



development training at GMU.

The Rector informed the audience that UMT has organized several international conferences in 2017 with participation from the USA, UK, EU, Niger, Australia, Cambodia and Niger, to name a few.

Dr Aslam added that UMT has a highly qualified faculty delivering quality education which is strengthened by accreditations from PEC, NBEAC, NCEAC, PCATP, and SAQS. He said that in 2017, a total of 2000 students graduated and more than 6000 got admission in various programs offered by the university.

UMT is also working hard in grooming and building character of the students to stand out from the crowd by nurturing their talents through various clubs and societies.

Dr Aslam concluded his speech by advising the graduates to seek respect not on the basis of the strength of their degrees but on account of their hard work, dedication, excellent professional performance, tolerance, sincerity, compassion and love towards their parents, and fellow workers. He

also prayed for the graduates to have successful professional and personal lives in the future.

Addressing the large gathering, **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, expressed his gratitude towards Dr Ansar Pervaiz for sparing time from his busy schedule to visit UMT and award degrees to the graduating students. He also thanked the Turkish delegates for their presence and added that Pakistan and Turkey share a common destiny.

He said that when we see a graduate walking towards the stage to receive the degree, we realize that this is another gift to the nation, another

The world of work is increasingly becoming the world of ideas

Dr Hasan said that the real world is waiting for people who dream high. The world of work is increasingly becoming the world of ideas. If you cultivate innovation, critical thinking, if you are bold enough to share ideas and supplement them with hard work, then the world is yours to take.

Dr Hasan advised the graduates to have belief in the SELF. He said that once you conquer yourself and the spirit, success will follow. He also advised the graduates to take Dr Ansar's advice to continue learning. In learning incessantly, you also learn creatively. Graduation day is not the end of learning – it is the beginning of learning. It is the beginning of your sacrifices and your imprints of life.

Dr Hasan concluded his address by highlighting the role and achievements of the UMT faculty whose commitment towards excellence in teaching is indeed enviable.

Giving the keynote address, Dr Ansar Pervaiz said that UMT is an incredible institute for higher education. The graduates assembled today should consider themselves privileged as they have studied in the second largest city and cultural

hub of Pakistan, Lahore. They belong to a class of people who are able to get higher education and have studied in one of the best universities of Pakistan.

This is important because only 1 in 400 people in Pakistan has a graduate degree. Education is the fundamental right of all citizens but unfortunately not everyone gets to avail the opportunity of seeking higher education.

**Graduation day is
not the end of
learning – it is the
beginning of learning**

He also advised the students to show passion towards their work and if they are going for further studies,

they should be enthusiastic about it. Dr Ansar also said that they should be thankful towards God Almighty and also to their parents, who have brought them up and bestowed on them all the love and care in the world. He said that it is time to pay back to the society by being kind and loving towards their parents, showing respect to the elders and showing kindness towards their neighbors.

Stressing upon the importance of strong work ethics, Dr Ansar added that all the graduates assembled here today should commit themselves to show dedication towards their work in their professional lives.

Concluding his speech, Dr Ansar Pervaiz stated that the graduates assembled here today should dream big, perform their work to their full potential, and show commitment towards their goals. He said that staying focused on goals and having faith in Allah is the surest way to achieve success. He reminded them that the youth are the future of Pakistan and the progress of the nation is linked up with their success.

The 15th UMT Convocation culminated after the award of degrees, presentation of medals and group photograph sessions. The students interacted with the faculty members and many expressed gratitude towards them for helping them succeed in their academic endeavors.



Pictorial Highlights





Speakers at the 3rd Global Forum on Islamic Economics Urge Promotion of Ribah Free Banking



Speakers of the 3rd Global Forum (from L to R): Dr Talat Hussain, Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Dr Aishath Muneeza, Dr S M Ghazanfar, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr M Nizamuddin, Dr Muhammad Aslam, Justice (R) Khalil ur Rehman Khan, Dr Ahamed Kameel Mydin Meera and Abid H K Shirwani

Speakers, researchers, religious scholars and experts from around the world came out with the latest research and fresh ideas on Islamic Economics in the '3rd Global Forum on Islamic Economics, Banking and Finance' organized by the Institute of Islamic Banking at UMT on February 20-21, 2018.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, said that curiosity in taking up Islam's interest-free banking system is on the rise as many institutions and universities in the western world, especially in Europe and America, are conducting research on the Islamic economic system. There is an increasing interest in studying Islamic economic system whilst the contemporary interest based system found in conventional banking is calling for reforms due to its failure in providing relief to the consumers.

Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, also spoke on the occasion. He said that UMT is offering quality degree programs in Islamic Banking and Finance. The University is focusing on quality education in all areas including Islamic Banking in order to produce graduates who will shape the future of Islamic

Economics at a global level.

Prof **Dr Nizam ud Din**, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, appreciated UMT management for organizing such a wonderful moot. He said that much research needs to be carried out to determine how the Islamic economic system could be beneficial for the world.

The speakers who addressed the moot included **Dr Rukhsana Kaleem**, Dean, IIB, **Aishath Muneeza**, Deputy Minister Religious Affairs, Maldives, Prof **Dr S M Ghazanfar** from Moscow, **Mufti Imran Ashraf Usmani**, Prof **Dr Shinsuke Nagaoka** from Japan, Prof **Dr Ahamed Kameel Mydin Meera** from Malaysia, **Mufti Aziz ur Rehman** from UAE, **Mufti Muhammad Muaz Ashraf**, **Mufti Uzair Usmani**,

Mufti Hassan Ashraf Usmani, **Mufti Hassan Ali** and many others.

The speakers of the Global Forum urged that ribah free banking should be promoted as it could provide maximum solutions for financial problems and increase trade and social activity in the Muslim World. They said that fair and honest endeavors should be taken up by the academia, bankers, policy makers, Sharia scholars and the government to work out a strategy for the implementation of Islamic economics and banking.

There is an increasing interest in studying Islamic economic system



Organizers and attendees of the 3rd Global Forum snapped with Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Muhammad Aslam and Abid H K Shirwani

More than 500 Indigenous Technologies Presented at Invention to Innovation Summit 2018

The '7th Invention to Innovation Summit,' held on March 7-8, 2018, was a collaborative venture of University of Karachi (UoK), Jinnah University for Women (JUW), Iqra University, Hamdard University, University of Management and Technology (UMT), Pakistan Science Foundation (PSF), and Institute of Research Promotion (IRP).

More than 100 institutions from all over Pakistan presented their ideas in the event. Around 500 indigenous technologies were presented including 200+ startup projects. More than 15 technical sessions were attended by representatives of various universities and organizations. These were chaired by renowned guests from industry, academia and government sector.

Prof **Dr Faraha Rauf Shookori**, Director ORIC, University of the Punjab, welcomed the guests and participants during the inaugural session. She thanked **Dr Zakria Zakir**, Vice Chancellor, Punjab University, for providing support to organize this event. The chief guest **Dr Talat Naseer**, Vice Chancellor, UVAS, Lahore, highlighted that these kind of events help to establish a strong relationship between



Abid H K Shirwani, DG UMT, shares his insight on industry academia collaboration with the attendees of the Summit

academia, industry and government. Prof **Dr Muhammad Ali**, Vice Chancellor, GCU, Faisalabad, said that the Summit is the largest R&D platform for networking and technology exchange.

Abid H K Shirwani, CEO, Institute of Research Promotion and DG, UMT, congratulated the organizing team for such a successful event. He added that this is mega platform where students and researchers are showcasing their technologies. He explained the importance of Triple Helix Model for innovation where three actors - academia, industry, public and corporate sector work

together and develop innovation culture in the country. He requested the chamber to own the startups presented by students so that these small technologies can lead towards an innovative Pakistan. He suggested that public sector should increase budget for R&D.

More than 100 institutions from all over Pakistan presented their ideas in the event



Visitors browse through the architectural models on display

An informative session was also organized by Multiply Ed which discussed the challenges and problems faced by educational sector and provided ways through which technology can help to overcome challenges.

Furthermore, presenters emphasized on the pertinence of digital technology and the means through which it has revolutionized our ways of communication, work and study. At the end of the session, certificates and awards were presented to participants and guests.

700 Educators and Experts Participate in ICARMP 2018



Dr Rauf i Azam, Dr Naveed Yazdani, Dr Ijaz Qureshi, Dr Rebecca Fox, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Muhammad Aslam and Dr Farhat Munir rise for the national anthem at the ICARMP 2018

The School of Professional Advancement (SPA) at UMT organized 'International Conference on Action Research in Multidisciplinary Perspectives of IT, Social and Business Sciences (ICARMP 2018),' on March 19-20, 2018 in collaboration with the Lahore School of Professional Studies at University of Lahore, Faculty of Education at University of Education, and Aga Khan's Institute of Educational Development, Karachi. The ICARMP 2018 was sponsored by Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC) and Higher Education Commission (HEC).

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT,

Dr Rauf i Azam, VC, University of Education, **Dr Rebecca Fox**, Associate Prof of Education, GMU, and **Dr Naveed Yazdani**, Director SPA, graced the occasion with their presence. **Dr Farhat Munir**, Assistant Prof, SPA, played a key role in organizing the event.

Foreign delegates from South Korea, Turkey, Australia, Malaysia and USA delivered keynote speeches. The ICARMP received more than 170 submissions. All abstracts were processed through a rigorous double-blind review and this resulted in the selection of 90 papers for oral presentations. Almost 700 participants of diverse professional background participated in the conference which demonstrated not

only the success of the forum but also validated the motivation of the professionals in acquiring new knowledge and skills to transform their professional practices.

Foreign delegates from South Korea, Turkey, Australia, Malaysia and USA delivered keynote speeches

Key speakers included **Dr Audrey D' Souza** from Australia, **Dr Zulkornain Yusop**, Dean, Putra Business School, Malaysia, **Tayyaba Rohi**, Presenter, **Dr Bushra Hamid** from Peshawar, and **Dr Maliah B T Sulaiman** from Malaysia.

The ICARMP 2018 provided a platform to scholars, researchers and practitioners, to seek new perspectives, ideas and knowledge from every nook and corner of the world to meet the crucial need of generating knowledge. The papers presented at ICARMP catered to all interests in the expanding domain of Action Research in Multidisciplinary Perspectives and helped to rethink these perspectives in Pakistan.



A view of the distinguished guests during the conference proceedings

International Conference on Innovative Computing (IC)² Draws 500+ Participants



Dr Sumer Sahin, Dr Muhammad Aslam, Dr Rauf i Azam, Dr Tariq Solija and Dr Rebecca Fox attend the inaugural session

The School of Systems and Technology (SST) hosted the '2nd International Conference on Innovative Computing (IC)²' on March 14-16, 2018. Over 200 articles were received from all corners of Pakistan. The reviewing committee, after rigorous evaluations, selected 90+ articles, which were presented in the academic sessions. Addressing the inaugural ceremony, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, said that he was very hopeful that the conference will broaden the research horizons of UMT students, as well as the 500+ participants who had come from different cities of Pakistan. He also emphasized the importance of innovative computing in the world of today and the future that looks down upon us all.

The chief guest **Dr Rauf i Azam**, Vice Chancellor, University of Education, Lahore, and guest of honor **Dr Tariq Solija**, Director General (Technical), Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission, commended UMT for taking such a strong initiative to promote research in the field of computing.

Dr Shaukat Iqbal, Dean SST and the conference focal person, welcomed the honorable guests and participants to the event. He accentuated the need of research based activities in the current scenario of higher studies and explained how this need became the reason to plan such an event.

At the closing ceremony, **Dr Rabbeca Fox** thanked the organizing committee for making her stay in Lahore such a memorable one. She was highly impressed by the ideas shared with her by participants and students in her areas of interest. **Dr Shahid Soroya**, Director General, Higher Education Commission,

Punjab, said that he was highly impressed by the work done by SST for putting together such an event and for bringing so many scholars to a single platform.

Dr Yaser Daanial, conference secretary, congratulated the team of 40+ students and all faculty members and administrative staff of the department for working so hard. He thanked all the invited speakers for taking out the time to share their research work and ideas with the students and participants of the event.

Workshops

In addition to the conference, four workshops were held for the interested students and participants. The 1st workshop on 'Data Science' provided an exposure to Data Science where students learnt the art of solving industrial problems. The 2nd workshop on 'Optimizing Micro Windows (I/O Operations)' gave the basic knowledge of latest build of Windows 10 a.k.a Redstone 3 and how they can improve its performance.

The 3rd workshop on 'Advance Web Technologies' gave the basic ideas to familiarize students with novel technologies being used in industry for web application development. The 4th workshop on Cloud Computing' gave participants basic concepts of the field.



Senior faculty members and guests attend the conference proceedings

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Welcomes Researchers and Mathematicians to the 4th UICPAM 2018

The 4th UMT International Conference on Pure and Applied Mathematics (UICPAM) 2018 was organized by the Centre for Mathematics and its Applications (CMAP) at UMT from March 31-April 2, 2018 in collaboration with Texas Tech University, USA, Sharjah University, UAE, University of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Bulgaria, and Punjab University, Lahore.

The UICPAM was organized to provide a communication platform for scholars, professionals, academics and graduate students not only to present their recent and latest researches, but also share their thoughts and discuss future developments in the field of applied mathematics.

Prof **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, and **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, were the conference patrons. **Dr Mohammad Showkat Rahim Chowdhury**, Director CMAP, played a pivotal role in organizing the conference.

Around 45 national and international speakers addressed the conference. Invited international keynote

4th UMT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON PURE AND APPLIED MATHEMATICS

(4th UICPAM-2018)

In Collaboration with: Texas Tech University, USA, Sharjah University, UAE, University of Architecture and Civil Engineering, Bulgaria, and Punjab University, Lahore

March 31 - April 2, 2018, Faletti's Hotel



Dr Showkat Rahim Chowdhury, Dr Azhar Iqbal, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Aziz ur Rehman and Dr Michel Jambu at the inaugural session

speakers included Prof **Dr Michel Jambu**, Department of Mathematics, University of Nice Sophia Antipolis, France, Prof **Dr Mahdi Sanati**, Department of Physics and Astronomy, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas, USA, Prof **Dr Ali Zakaria Idris**, University of South Africa, Pretoria, South Africa, **Dr Muhammad Imran**, United Arab Emirates University, **Dr Zahid Raza**, Department of Mathematics, University of Sharjah, UAE. Invited international plenary speakers included **Dr Shahid S Siddiqi**, Faculty of Information Technology,

UCP Lahore, **Dr Muhammad Sharif**, Chairman, Department of Mathematics, University of the Punjab, Lahore, **Dr Syed Muhammad Husnine**, Department of Mathematics, FAST, Lahore, **Dr Mujahid Abbas**, Department of Mathematics, GCU, Lahore, **Dr Faqir Muhammad Bhatti**, Director, Department of Mathematics, Riphah International University, Lahore Campus, **Dr Ghulam Mustafa**, Head of Mathematics Department, Islamia University of Bahawalpur, **Dr M Riaz**, Department of Mathematics, Punjab University, Lahore, **Dr Muhammad Sadiq Hashmi**, Department of Mathematics, Government Sadiq College Women University, Bahawalpur, **Dr Abdur Rauf Nizami**, University of Central Punjab, Lahore, **Dr Farhad Ali**, Department of Mathematics, City University, Peshawar, and **Dr Nauman Raza**, University of Punjab, Lahore.

It is worth mentioning that the conference proceedings are planned to be published in a special issue of an X category journal.



Distinguished guests, educators and researchers attend the conference proceedings

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Addresses CPEC Think and Grow Summit



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, was guest of honor in the 'International Summit on CPEC: Think and Grow' which was organized in partnership with UMT on March 31, 2018. The Summit was organized in collaboration with the Center of Excellence CPEC, Government of Punjab, and Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI). This is the largest forum which works to elaborate the benefits for Pakistan through CPEC in lieu of modernization and breaking critical bottlenecks in infrastructure which constrain long-term growth and development.

Addressing on the occasion, Dr Hasan said that CPEC is all about

positive change in the economy, offering tremendous opportunities to avail them, and prosper likewise. CPEC is a beacon of hope for the university graduates. It is estimated that 500,000 to 800,000 new jobs are likely to be created because of it. He said that the current business models needed to be replaced with new and innovative ones in order to simplify the business culture and attract more locals to take risk of investing in every sector and laying the foundation of a robust economy.

Ahsan Iqbal, Interior Minister, was the chief guest during the inaugural session. He said that Gwadar Port has become an important business

center and Pakistan is destined to become the center of Asian trade and business activities due to CPEC. Engr. **Sarfraz Ahmed**, Director General, Pakistan Industrial Technical Assistance Centre, Lahore, gave the welcome note. Other guests included **Abid H K Shirwani**, DG UMT, **Dr Shahid Rashid**, Executive Director, Centre of Excellence-China Pakistan Economic Corridor, Islamabad, and **Dr Cui Yong**, Vice Dean, Jiangsu University, China.

It is worth mentioning that UMT is taking a keen interest in developing partnership with Chinese educational institutions and businesses.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Inaugurates BIC-JUW, Karachi

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad was invited to inaugurate the Business and Incubation Center, Jinnah University for Women (BIC-JUW), Karachi. The invitation was extended by the Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), JUW. The ceremony was attended by prominent figures from the world of academia and social sector.

In his keynote lecture on 'Building Universities Responsive to Society and Industry,' Dr Hasan highlighted the importance of building linkages between academia and industry for the commercialization of research, and mentoring of students in their startups. He also emphasized that universities must work on producing socially relevant research in order to add value to the quality of human life.



ICPY Organizes National Conference on Promoting Mental Health in Schools

The Institute of Clinical Psychology (ICPY) organized a National Conference on School Psychology on March 16-17, 2018 with the theme 'Promoting Mental Health in Schools: A Way Forward.' The inauguration ceremony was attended by more than 400 participants from all walks of life especially Education, Mental Health and Clinical Psychology, and several government and non-government agencies. **Dr Zahid Mahmood**, Director ICPY, gave a brief exposition of School Psychology as a combination of Educational and Child Clinical Psychology to help emotional, behavioural and academic problems experienced by school children.

More than 125 empirical papers and posters were presented at the conference

The gathering was addressed by a number of other dignitaries including **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT. **Dr Rebecca Fox**, School of Education, George Mason University, USA, delivered the keynote address on 'Supporting Student Learning through Cross-Disciplinary and Educators Engagement.' She acknowledged that school conflict is a growing issue around the world which needs attention. Dr Fox talked about the importance of complex learning, where an educator is engaged in students' learning which ensures their success.

Abid H K Shirwani also addressed the audience and shared his views. **Dr Fatima Naeem**, Conference Secretary, delivered vote of thanks. All together more than 125 empirical



Panel of speakers at the inaugural session of the National Conference on School Psychology

papers and posters were presented at the conference.

The conference started with a talk on anthropological perspective, delivered by Prof **Dr Julie Flowerday**, renowned anthropologist from US. She briefly traced the history of our knowledge of mankind when initially all disciplines were interlinked. She said that Darwinism led to many discoveries and new concepts.

The talk was followed by another presentation by **Dr Uzma Rashid**, Chairperson, Department of Sociology, UMT-SSS&H, on sociological perspective on mental health. It was stressed that we need joint studies and researches combining the Anthropological, Sociological and Clinical

Psychological perspectives in order to understand the complexities of our society. The session was followed by a symposium on 'The Trauma of Childhood: Past, Present and Future.'

The symposium was attended by representatives of five NGOs working with children namely, the Plan International, Ahkuwat College, the Salvation Army, the Child Advocacy Network, and the Child Rights Movement. These NGOs highlighted their experiences of working with affected children at the grassroot level. They described the prevalence of the facets of neglect, abuse and maltreatment of children in our society.

The conference was preceded by pre-conference workshops led by highly qualified experts.



Distinguished guests attend the conference proceedings

SBE Awarded Highest Re-accreditation by NBEAC



The School of Business and Economics (SBE) has been awarded re-accreditation (2018-2023) by the National Business Education Accreditation Council (NBEAC).

SBE has received the highest possible accreditation level, making it among the top 5 business schools

in Pakistan with category W. The re-accreditation is the result of the guidance and support of **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector, UMT, and **Abid H K Shirwani**, DG, UMT.

The efforts of **Bob Wheeler**, Dean

SBE, towards making SBE one of the best schools in the country went a long way in securing this distinction.

Dr Naveda Kitchlew, who was the focal person of this endeavor, deserves our commendation for her efforts in securing this distinction.

Delegation from Salam University, Afghanistan, Visits UMT for Collaboration

A delegation from Salam University, Afghanistan, headed by **Dr Misbahullah**, Chancellor, Salam University, visited UMT to discuss joint collaboration, student and faculty exchange program and coordination in research. **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, welcomed the delegation and said that UMT has excellent linkages with international universities and that it would be a good gesture to start collaboration with Salam University.

He said that UMT will coordinate with Salam University in improving its faculty by offering training programs and sharing essential information regarding curriculum and infrastructure development. The Rector further said that coordination in research in a number of areas could be initiated between the two



institutions. Dr Misbahullah gave an introduction of Salam University, which was established in 2009 with campuses in Kabul and Kunduz. There are five faculties at the university; Faculty of Shariah and Law (FSL), Faculty of Engineering (FE), Faculty of Economics (FECO), Faculty of Law and Political Science

(FLP) and Faculty of Computer Science (FCS). The delegation showed keen interest in collaboration with UMT at MS and PhD level, especially in Education discipline. The event concluded with a note of thanks from Dr Misbahullah, followed by souvenir presentation and a group photo session.

OIN Facilitates UMT Students in Student Exchange Program in China and USA

The Office of Internationalization (OIN) at UMT has facilitated 26 students from SST and SBE for student exchange program for Spring 2018 Semester, at UMT partner universities. Students of SBE and SST who were enrolled in BBA, MBA (P), BS (SE) and BS (CS)

programs were assisted for the student exchange program at UMT partner universities that include Tianjin Polytechnic University (TJPU), China, Wuhan University of Technology (WUT), China and Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU), Chicago.



UMT School of Law and Policy Inks MoU CIICA

UMT School of Law and Policy (SLP) signed an MoU with the Centre for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration (CIICA) on March 2, 2018. The scope of collaboration between SLP and CIICA will include, among other things: jointly organizing conferences, seminars, panel discussions, and lectures; jointly organizing courses and trainings; and research collaboration. SLP was represented by **Syed Imad ud Din Asad**, Director and Associate Professor, SLP, while CIICA was represented by **Rana Sajjad Ahmad**, Advocate, High Court; Founder and President. Imad



ud Din Asad and Sajjad Ahmad also called upon **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, **Faiqa Ibrahim**, Assistant Professor, and **Nadia Ahmad**, Assistant Professor, SLP, were also present during the meeting.

Dr Aslam appreciated CIICA's accomplishments, due to the efforts of Rana Sajjad Ahmad. He assured Imad ud Din that UMT would fully support all the joint activities by SLP and CIICA.

UMT-SSS&H Inks MoU with Florida International University, Miami, USA



The Department of Political Science at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSS&H), UMT, inked an MoU with Steven J Green School of International and Public Affairs, Florida International University (FIU), Miami, USA, on February 27, 2018. On behalf of UMT, **Dr Abdul Hameed**, Dean SSS&H, and **Dr Muhammad Shoaib Pervez**,

Chairperson, Department of Political Science, signed the MoU with representing team of FIU, **Dr Elizebeth M Bejar**, Vice President for Academic Affairs, **Dr John F Stack**, Dean, Steven J Green School of International and Public Affairs and **Isis Garcia**, Senior University Counsel. FIU and UMT agreed to establish close communication

channels for exploring the current and emerging educational needs of their students, in the field of International Relations and Political Science. They also agreed to explore the possibilities of offering graduate and/or post doctorate instruction in research methods, grantsmanship, and international collaboration to qualified UMT students.

BS Accounting and Finance Program Accredited by CIMA

The BS Accounting and Finance program offered by SBE at UMT has got accreditation with the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants (CIMA), where participants of the program will get up to 7 exemptions in ACMA. The conferral ceremony was graced by the presence of **Aneeb Farrukh**, Senior Manager-Pakistan, **Bob Wheeler**, Dean SBE, and **Adeel S Shaikh**, Director, BS A&F program. These exemptions will help the



students of BS Accounting and Finance in their professional

qualification to be future market leaders.

UMT and YES Network Pakistan Ink MoU to Engage Youth

Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Director, External Relations, and **Ali Raza Khan**, CEO, YES Network, signed the MoU on behalf of UMT and YES network on January 3, 2018.

In keeping with the terms of the MoU, the University will undergo the change making campus scan, which is an inventory tool designed as a structured process to assess the change making ecosystem at the institution.

This will bring the University closer to joining the leading institutions in social innovation education. YES Network Pakistan will provide technical assistance to the University in embedding the concept of change making (social innovation and social



entrepreneurship) in the curricula and culture of the institution. Other initiatives include change making competition and development of a sound performance measurement system to help the University to compare and contrast the

performance of students and alumni in field of entrepreneurship. YES Network Pakistan will help UMT to achieve the status of a 'Change Maker Campus' in order to recognize its efforts in the field of social innovation locally and globally.

UMT-GMU Alumni Opportunities for Grants and Funding

The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) organized a presentation on US-Alumni Small Grants Program on February 13, 2018. **Jamal ud Din Ghazanfar**, Assistant Director Information, Communication & Research at US Consulate General Lahore, was the presenter. UMT faculty fellows who went to George Mason University (GMU) for the faculty exchange program attended this session.

Introducing the Pak US Alumni Network (PUAN), Jamal said that the US Embassy Islamabad launched PUAN to make meaningful contributions to Pakistan through community service, conferences, mentoring future generations, and reaching out to inspire and recruit new exchange participants. Over 25,000 Pakistanis have participated in the US Government (USG)



sponsored cultural, professional and educational exchange programs and intensive domestic educational programs to enhance people-to-people ties between Pakistan and the US. The Department of State, the US Embassy in Islamabad, and the US Consulates in Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar are supporting alumni initiatives in Pakistan after the students return from their exchange programs.

Discussing the Alumni Small Grants program, the speaker said that this program is jointly administered by the US Embassy and PUAN. The program supports innovative and small-scale projects developed and implemented by Pakistani citizens who are alumni of a US government-funded exchange program or an in-country intensive educational program. The maximum funding available is US\$10,000.

Dr Muhammad Aslam Appreciates SLP for Co-Organizing Successful International Conference in Belgium

Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, hosted coffee on January 8, 2018 for SLP fulltime faculty and some outstanding students, in order to appreciate the successful co-organization of an international conference, titled 'Islamic Finance: Between Religious Norms and Legal Practice,' by SLP at KU Leuven, Belgium, on December 7, 2017. No other Pakistani law school holds the distinction of co-organizing an international conference in Europe.

Dr Aslam shared his experiences of Germany while he was a student and narrated instances related to his academic and cultural experiences in Europe. He stressed that Pakistani



academics should strive to provide such valuable opportunities to their students. He acknowledged and praised Imad ud Din Asad's relentless efforts that have culminated into

strong and mutually beneficial relations with some of the top law faculties in Europe and have established SLP as the most prestigious international law school in Pakistan.

Focus Group Discussion Session of Ilmians Executive Body

UMT OER-Alumni Office engaged UMT Alumni for a brainstorming session regarding Alumni Executive Body formation on March 7, 2018 at UMT Campus.

The evening was graced by Senior Alumni Executives from SBE, SEN, STD, SPA & SSS&H. **Rana Iftikhar Ahmed**, Director External Relations, chaired this session. Senior Manager Alumni Affairs presented the working of Alumni Office and the initiatives taken in recent years. Later on, an open house brainstorming session started with a circulated agenda.

The participants showed their keen interest to serve their alma mater. They proposed ideas for better connectivity through regular alumni engagements, and to determine a focused group of alumni who have a keen sense of responsibility in offering their services and time on



voluntary basis. Suggestion was offered for initiating different refresher courses/one-day workshops for alumni to upgrade themselves, inviting alumni as guest speakers to share their corporate experience, creation of Data Research Center and UMT Alumni Club. Everyone in the

meeting acknowledged the efforts of UMT Alumni Office in connecting and engaging alumni on regular basis. The session ended with a word of thanks by Rana Iftikhar Ahmad with the consensus of another more focused and purposeful meeting.

UMT Press Holds Book Launching Ceremony



Looking Back: How Pakistan Became an Asian Tiger by 2050, a futuristic book written by Dr Nadeem ul Haque, Former Chairman, Planning Commission of Pakistan, was launched by UMT Press on February 23, 2018.

The ceremony was attended by students, faculty members, media

persons and renowned literary figures. The event was chaired by **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust. **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, and **Abid H K Shirwani**, DG UMT, welcomed all the guests.

The launched book is an innovative future history and has a fictional

style. The book paints an exciting picture that provokes discussion and debate regarding the marvelous framework required for an erudite critique of the current failed aid-based development policies for Pakistan, and for the promotion of an alternative; acknowledging that complex self organizing networks are the building block of genuine development.

The book presents an economist's perspective on what Pakistan's future could be if a revolution began now. the writer argues for reforming the system first, to make the ground conducive to sustainable development. Written as semi-fiction, the book imagines Pakistan as a developed country by the year 2050. The UN, which sets up a commission in 2051 to understand Pakistan's development model, narrates the story.

OER Team Steers Corporate Interview of Dr Shaukat Mehmood

The Office of External Relations (OER) team steered a corporate interview of **Dr Shaukat Mehmood**, HEC Professor and Coordinator PhD Program, Research Center, University College of Art and Design, University of the Punjab, on February 22, 2018 at University of the Punjab. The interview will be published in the Ilmians Magazine 2018. During the interview, **Rana Iftikhar Ahmad**, Director, External Relations, UMT, and Dr Shaukat Mehmood discussed the current role of society in preservation of arts and culture of Pakistan. Dr Shaukat shared his visionary approach for students pursuing their career in arts. He also presented his recent books to the OER team. It is worth noting that Dr Shaukat Mahmood was awarded the



President's Medal for Pride of Performance in 2001 and Sitara-e-Imtiaz in 2010 by the Government of Pakistan. Those who are familiar with

his works know him as Maxim, renowned cartoonist whose satirical cartoons touched almost every aspect of social and political life.



Abid H K Shirwani Conducts Entrepreneurial Workshop on Embracing Change

Abid H K Shirwani, DG, UMT, was the speaker at the workshop titled 'Think Change' which was held at the UMT Campus on February 2, 2018 under the auspices of the Triple Helix South Asia Chapter. The workshop was attended by **Rahat ul Ain, Ahmed Qureshi, Maqsood Ahmed Farooqi**, representatives of academia

and industry, and participants from various segments of society. Abid Shirwani highlighted the multifaceted aspects related to the implications of embracing change in life and in organizational culture. He said that in order to be successful, one must move forward with positive thinking. Each individual is unique; it is only

when we make the best use of our potential that we make our mark in life. The key to success for entrepreneurs is to utilize their capabilities and involve people in working towards achieving their objectives. He concluded by stating that UMT is producing leaders and entrepreneurs rather than job seekers.

IIB Team Meets Shariah Advisors from Banking Sector



Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Dean IIB, invited Shariah Advisors and the top management of different banks and companies to share with them the details of the Global Forum 2018 and the Spring 2018 admissions at UMT on January 10, 2018. **Dr Talat Hussain**, Assistant Prof IIB, gave the welcome note.

Dr Rukhsana Kalim shared the progress made by IIB in promoting the Islamic economic system and the prospects for the future. She emphasized upon the collaboration of different organizations with IIB in

terms of admission, seminars, trainings, etc. **Dr Mohammad Ayaz** gave a detailed presentation and motivated the respected guests to encourage their employees to take admission in the programs offered by IIB. Later on, **Dr Hassan Shakeel Shah** briefly gave the introduction of Global Forum 2018 and asked the respected guests for participation and sponsorship.

Mufti Mehmood Ahmed, Jamia Ashrafia/ MCB Islamic Ltd, **Mufti Iftikhar Baig**, Allied Bank Islamic Ltd, **Mufti Sabir Hussain**, MCB

Islamic Ltd., **Mufti Rafey Ashraf Usmani**, Al Baraka Bank Ltd, **Adeel Kamran**, Bank Islami Ltd., **Mufti Abdul Azeem**, Mahad Tirmizi, **Mufti Muaz Ashraf Usmani**, Meezan Bank Ltd., **Asad Ilyas**, Allied Bank Islamic Ltd., **Tariq Saeed**, Pak Qatar Takaful, **Imran ul Aziz** Alfalah Bank Islamic Ltd., **Mufti Hassan Ashraf Usmani**, Mahad Tirmizi, IIB faculty and staff members were present on this occasion. Discussions related to different aspects were initiated and suggestions regarding Global forum 2018 and admissions 2018 were given by respected guests.

Yasmeen Hameed Delivers Talk on Women Writing Culture

Yasmeen Hameed, renowned poet, writer and Founder Director of the Gurmani Centre for South Asian Languages and Literature in the Social Sciences Department at LUMS, was invited to talk to MPhil Gender Studies students, studying a course titled 'Pakistani Arts and Literature: Women's contribution and portrayal' taught by **Dr Ambreen Salahuddin**, Assistant Professor DGS. She talked on 'Women Writing Culture: Exploring tradition of poetry in Indian sub-continent'.

She shared how anthologies of poetry by eminent names ignored women writers of earlier times. She discussed works of women poets from pre-partition times sharing powerful



excerpts. In the end, she recited her poetry which was very well-received. **Dr Abdul Hameed**, Dean SSS&H, gave the concluding remarks. The talk was well-attended by students

including BS Gender Studies participants, and faculty including **Iram Rasheed**, lecturer DGS. The program was well-organized by **Rozeen Shaukat**, RA DGS.

Department of Gender Studies Organizes Book Discussion on the Rights of Women

The Department of Gender Studies organized a book discussion event on the 18th century famous author Mary Wollstonecraft's book, 'A vindication of the Rights of Women.' This was held in connection with an initiative started by **Dr Ambreen Salahuddin**, Assistant Professor, Department of Gender Studies, titled as 'Relocating feminism through feminist writings,' which is a continuing activity of discussing seminal works related to Feminism.

Dr Ambreen Salahuddin, **Iram Rasheed**, Lecturer, DGS, and **Rozeen Shaukat**, Research Associate, DGS, participants of MPhil 1, MPhil 2 and BS 1 took part in discussion which took place in two sessions. The first session addressed: Age old views of western scholars and men-in-general regarding female agency; the expectations and socially constructed duties that were assigned



to women; Female objectification; Preconceived notions of female incapacities; and lack of reasoning and irrationality.

The second session addressed the final chapters of the book and drew relation with the prevailing notion on women worldwide and of Pakistani

society in particular. The highlights of the discussion were: Modesty is not a quality but a virtue - a man should also possess; An equal scale should be defined to gauge morality of both man and woman. The discussion was made successful by an active dialogue of participants.

The Meaning Lab - Project Exhibition



The students of MPhil Applied Linguistics studying 'Semantics and Pragmatics' at the Department of English Language and Literature, showcased different textual/discourse projects on January 12, 2018. Their exhibits aimed to explore and investigate the origins, nature and

process of meaning making and trigger questions such as from where do meanings come? Who authors them? How does place and space affect them? Such is the multivalent, multi-perspectival, contextual, and shifting nature of meanings that the moment we grasp them, they begin to

fluidify and diffuse to create new associations. Working on these projects helped the students reveal multidimensional aspects of meaning inspired by various contemporary socio-cultural and linguistic realities and understand the intricacies of meaning-making process, along with the freedom to visualize their creative and intellectual skills in different forms and mediums.

The project proved to be an intellectual treat for the viewers of the exhibit. The Dean Social Sciences and Humanities, Department Chairman, faculty members and students from different departments attended the event and showed great appreciation for the wonderfully conceived endeavors of the researchers.

Live from the Ancient World

Students of MPhil English Literature along with their resource person, **Dr Nadia Anwar** at the Department of English Language and Literature (DELL) brought ancient performance traditions to life through enactments of selective parts from Greek, Indian, Roman, and Japanese theatre. The event was held on January 11, 2018 to revamp the teaching methodologies used in the study of different literary genres. Its organization synchronizes with the motto of the Department which strongly believes in 'Learning by Doing'.

The activity allowed the students to explore the nature, functions, and themes of ancient/classical theatre and understand its historical, religious, and socio-cultural contexts. The enactment of these performative skits by student-actors on an academic performative space, before a keen audience, unravelled the



nuances of socio-cultural art forms which is found virtually in all societies. It also helped them to use the historical past to understand their current realities.

The audiences / participants including the Chairperson of the Department, PhD Scholars, and students both from UMT and other universities termed the event an interactive and stimulating experience. They highly

appreciated the way the students managed to organize their performances within a classroom context and grip the audiences with their absorbing enactments.

The event proved that even with minimal setting, scanty resources, and meager facilities, students with the help of their teachers can revolutionize the teaching and learning process.

Tour to Walled City of Lahore



The Department of Gender Studies at School of Social Sciences and Humanities organized a field trip to the Walled City of Lahore on February 26, 2018 for students of MPhil GS batch 1, M Phil GS batch 2, and BS GS batch 1. The students were accompanied by **Dr Ambreen**

Salahuddin, Assistant Professor, **Iram Rasheed**, Lecturer, and **Rozeen Shaukat**, Research Associate. The purpose of this field trip was to witness the glory of our heritage; the grandeur of the Mughal empire and Muslim architecture. The whole trip was guided by tourist guides of

Walled City Authority. The visited locations were Delhi Gate, Shahi Hamam, Haveli Dina Nath, Wazir Khan Mosque, Dina Nath Well, Sunehri Masjid, Lahore Fort and baazars. The tour ended with sumptuous traditional lunch at Food Street.

Renowned Scholar Suheyl Umar Delivers Talk on Iqbalian Reconstruction

The Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization invited **Muhammad Suheyl Umar**, a renowned and prolific international scholar on Allama Muhammad Iqbal as the guest speaker in a seminar on the topic of 'The Iqbalian Project as Seen through the Reconstruction' on March 7, 2018. For him, the prominence and importance of Iqbal's thought is unparalleled in the modern Muslim world. His three dimensional engagement towards Modernity has been considered the best articulated Muslim response. The three dimensions include; his prose in the form of The Reconstruction of Religious Thought in Islam, his poetry in Urdu and Persian, and his political and social engagements.

In his extensive lecture, Suheyl Umar discussed the important themes of Iqbalian Project of Reconstruction at



length. The Religious Reconstruction of Islamic Thought is based on the lectures of Allama Iqbal, delivered in Madras, Hyderabad and Aligarh. In these lectures, he highlighted the importance of knowledge gained from revelation and religion. Allama Iqbal in these lectures had derived his arguments from modern Western theories of Philosophy, Physics, Biology and Psychology. The seminar was a beginning of PhD

scholars' presentations on the addresses of The Religious Reconstruction of Islamic Thought in Dr Humaira Ahmad's PhD course "Islamic Civilization and Cultures" taught during the Spring Semester. Muhammad Suheyl Umar has been the Director of Iqbal Academy for the last thirty years. He has also worked as International Scholar to International Institute of Islamic Thought and Civilization, Kuala Lumpur.



Alumni Success Story

Khalid Mahmood

Inspector, Pakistan Rangers (Punjab)

MPhil Applied Linguistics

Student ID: 15018084019, Session 2015-2017

Introduction

I am the first ever person in the history of Pakistan to join the armed forces with disability. My life is a story from hopelessness to hope, and from nothing to everything. At the age of 4, my lower limbs were paralyzed and I became bed-ridden. Allah Almighty bestowed me with undaunted will power and courage to face all the hardships with a smile. My parents, wife, siblings, children, teachers and friends helped me to touch the horizons of success.

Academic Background

I completed MPhil (Applied Linguistics) from DELL, UMT, during 2015-17 with flying colors securing 3.84 CGPA. I have also done four Master degrees from different universities of Pakistan. Currently, I am also teaching MA TEFL (Teaching of English as Foreign Language) program as visiting faculty at Allama Iqbal Open University, Regional Campus, Lahore.

Me and Pakistan Rangers

I am heading communication section of my department. I have a vast command, control and managerial experience in Pakistan Rangers (Punjab) which taught me to lead the team from the front. I won 'Best Achiever Award' twice in my professional career. Military profession coupled with higher education groomed me to face difficulties and pains with bravery and magnanimity.

Me and UMT

My tenure at UMT was exuberant, challenging, task-oriented and goal achieving. DELL under vibrant leadership of Dr Muhammad Shaban Rafi having a blend of experienced and enthusiastic faculty inculcated a deep sense of research. In addition to maintaining highest level of CGPA, I also represented UMT at national and international forums. I represented UMT at 2nd International Conference of the Linguistic Association of Pakistan from October 18-20, 2016 at University of the Punjab. As a Project Leader, my research based poster presentation 'Honorifics: A dying tradition of Urdu language' was declared the best in the presence of eminent local and foreign scholars.

At UMT, I was a source of inspiration both for my fellows due to outstanding academic performance with energetic and motivated personality moving on electric wheelchair. I am member of The Linguistic Association of Pakistan. Currently, I am part of Ilmians Executive Body and trying my level best to contribute to the uplift of the standard of the varsity.

I have found UMT the best learning place in the country. It has disability friendly building infrastructure, wheelchair ramps and elevators. UMT is the only university in town which provides the best facilities for students with special needs. I have the privilege to be the first student of UMT for whom powered wheelchair was arranged in August 2016. And now by the grace of Allah Almighty and efforts of Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman ILM Trust, UMT has a fleet of six electric wheelchairs available at all entry points.

The Success Mantra

I would like to advise all students with special needs that they should not feel themselves deprived. They should not keep an eye on others for mercy rather they should step forward at their own to compete in the world. Students with disabilities must groom to be strong, attractive and motivating personalities to become future leaders. My message for all students, professionals is to be good time managers, motivated, diligent and focused.

My philosophy of life is: **“Don't surrender to any worldly power or hardship except Allah Almighty”.**

OHR Celebrates Memorable Experience of New Hires

The Office of Human Resources (OHR) has taken another impactful step towards employee engagement. Employees Meet-Up session is a quarterly program hosted and facilitated by OHR.

To make employees' experience count at UMT, OHR arranged a lively and inspiring Meet-up Session for new joiners on January 30, 2018. The idea behind this initiative is to meet outside office cabins, in an informal setting and have interesting conversations with new employees about their experiences at UMT so far. There is no other convenient way to get employees open up, share their stories and simply be themselves for a while than getting them all together under one roof in a casual environment for a meaningful exposure with people of similar experiences. It is beautifully put that timely feedback is more likely to be helpful and feel constructive, while



delayed feedback seems more like evaluation and destructive criticism. Therefore, by holding such meet-ups, OHR gives employees the confidence to speak up, a platform to share feedback and an environment to network with others. The OHR considers employees' personal and professional growth a surefire ticket to organizational development and

focuses on boosting their confidence by holding such meet-ups.

This initiative was highly acclaimed and employees were vibrant and appreciative at the end of the session. OHR intends to sow more seeds of such engaging initiatives in the future so that the tree of employee engagement keeps growing in UMT.

OCS Conducts Recruitment Drives

Nielsen

Nielsen (formerly known as AC Nielsen) conducted an induction session along with a written test for the position of Client Services Executive. They targeted fresh and experienced graduates from Marketing/Economics and Statistics domain. The induction session included all aspects of how Nielsen can be a better employer and also how can a graduate opt for such a smooth and short career path. During the 90 minutes of the assessment, representatives from Nielsen announced two more positions related to Data Scientist and Software Engineering. The test was based on numerical case study.



Lahore Rung

Lahore Rang (a project by Neo TV) conducted a recruitment test and auditions for multiple positions on February 8, 2017. They targeted current students and fresh graduates from Media Department for the

internship leading to job positions. The test was based on IQ where job applicants were tested by MCQs for 20 minutes. They were then auditioned by senior anchors and producers along with their HR team. Forty-six (46) candidates appeared for this activity.

Office of Internationalization

The Office of Internationalization (OIN) undertakes the tasks of collaborations with international universities/institutions for faculty and students exchange programs. OIN endeavors to connect UMT through knowledge collaborations and partnerships with leading universities and organizations globally.

A partnership with international universities is one of the pertinent components of OIN which includes joint degree programs, student and faculty exchange, scholarships, research collaborations, designing curriculum, joint community/social work, and study/cultural tours.

Partnership with international agencies and companies is another

vital component of OIN. It has been in continuous collaborations with international development agencies such as JICA, USAID for different projects. Another vibrant constituent of the office is accreditations and memberships. One of the component of internationalization strategy is national and international accreditations of SBE.

Recently, highly dedicated accreditation team of OIN headed by Dr Naveda Kitchlew achieved the highest reaccreditation by NBEAC, making SBE among top 5 business schools in Pakistan with category W. The team is now working on South Asian Quality Assurance System (SAQS) reaccreditation.

One of the roles of OIN is stocktaking

of initiatives that fall under the umbrella of internationalization at university level. OIN under its Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI) aims at fostering a generation of ethical and responsible youth, ensuring meaningful and consistent involvement of students and faculty in community services.

The Office made efforts towards adding mandatory credit hours for community services work for BBA students. The efforts of SDI under OIN led UMT in gaining the award of being the 1st Pakistani university in South Asia to be declared as Drug free campus in 2017.

OIN has been facilitating students and faculty under exchange programs since 2015.



Training and Development at UMT

UMT believes that trainings of its employees allow the organization to reap manifold benefits.

UMT Training and Development Department (OPD) organizes training programs for its employees on regular basis. These trainings

entail professional and technical skills catering for the on-job needs of staff at all levels.

The aim of such training programs is to align the goals of the organization to the employees through their personal grooming and development.

This improves their job satisfaction while increasing their efficiency and effectiveness at work.

All staff members are required to undergo a minimum of 5 days (i.e. 40 hours/employee) of training per year.



Sadia Asif conducts training on effective communication skills



Sohail Ijaz explains the concepts of 5S (sort, straighten, shine, standardize and sustain)



Mehr Shuja conducts training on effective self-management



Participants attending training workshop on Negotiation Skills



Participants undergo training of reducing waste in organizations



Sharif Hussain explains the concepts of customer service to security staff



Prediction of N-linked Glycosylation Sites using Position Relative Features and Statistical Moments

Muhammad Aizaz Akmal, Nouman Rasool, Yaser Daanial Khan

Abstract

Glycosylation is one of the most complex post translation modification in eukaryotic cells. Almost 50% of the human proteome is glycosylated as glycosylation plays a vital role in various biological functions such as antigen's recognition, cell-cell communication, expression of genes and protein folding. It is a significant challenge to identify glycosylation sites in protein sequences as experimental methods are time taking and expensive.

A reliable computational method is desirable for the identification of glycosylation sites. In this study, a comprehensive technique for the identification of N-linked glycosylation sites has been proposed using machine learning. The proposed predictor was trained using an up-to-date dataset through back propagation algorithm for multilayer neural network. The results of ten-fold cross-validation and other performance measures such as accuracy, sensitivity, specificity and Mathew's correlation coefficient inferred that the accuracy of proposed tool is far better than the existing systems such as Glyomine, GlycoEP, Ensemble SVM and GPP.

Introduction

Nascent protein after synthesis may undergo a variety of changes known as the post translation modification. Most of the proteins are unable to perform their normal physiological functions without undergoing such modifications. Each cell has a very accurate, sophisticated and flawless machinery incorporating specific enzymes responsible for modification of newly synthesized proteins. Glycosylation mainly manifests itself in the endoplasmic reticulum in eukaryotes, when protein after synthesis from ribosomes enters into the lumen of this organelle as shown in Fig 1.

Almost 200 different kinds of post-translation modifications have been identified in various cells. Among these modifications, glycosylation holds an important position in which a carbohydrate moiety gets attached to a protein molecule. The addition of sugars to a specific amino acid of a protein results in the heterogeneity of protein, which helps it in performing a variety of cellular functions. Glycosylation plays a crucial role in a multitude of cell functions such as recognition of antigens, establishment of histocompatibility complex, protein turnover expression of genes, controlling metabolism, protein folding, safeguarding against proteolysis and cell-cell adhesion and communication. Various monosaccharides, oligosaccharides and their derivative form bonds with different amino acid residues within a protein as result of glycosylation. There are five classes of glyco-sylation: N-linked, O-linked, C-linked, Phospho glycosylation and glypiation.

Note: This article was published in PLOS One and is available online at <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article/related?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0181966>

Six Key Innovations Changing the World's Future

By: Kevin Faber
In: Strategies



Innovation has taken the world today by storm, leading to the development of new solutions to problems that humans have inherently faced. Since virtually every sector of life on Earth meets with some form of challenge, these innovations have touched on every aspect, including medicine, science, engineering and social life. Here is an outline of six inventions that are likely to define the world's future.

■ Gene Therapy

The discovery of the genetic makeup of a human being has led to a new understanding of the basis of human life. The confluence between this knowledge and the therapeutic profile of an individual has led to the discovery of new ways of treating medical conditions through gene therapy. The specific targeting of a given gene purported to be responsible for a certain disease can allow scientists to create a cure with ease, especially genetic hereditary diseases. The stem cell technology also has revolutionized the way in which tissue-related diseases are cured.

■ Autonomous Cars

In the age of digitalization through the use of computers, there has been an awakening on research into how computers can make human life easier. The extent to which this technology has advanced has been stretched further with the development of cars that can autonomously drive through the use of computers.

■ Improved Biometrics and Integration

With the digital age, personal identification has been taken to a new level. The use of computers to define an individual using their biological qualities such as DNA profiles, fingerprints, iris profiles, and facial profiles has led to the discovery of new methods of authorization of transactions in financial organizations.

■ Reinforcement Machine-based Learning

For decades, scientists have focused on the concept of being able to teach machines how to think and learn over time. Breakthroughs have been made leading to artificial intelligence where computers are trainable by following a recognizable pattern. This technology is poised to make computers think proactively and undertake sensitive activities such as surgery and driving.

■ Human Body Cells Atlas

After the success of the gene sequencing project, scientists have undertaken a new project of sequencing the human body cells in terms of their location, role and development of a molecular profile. This process could take a while given the 37.2 trillion cells to work on. Once complete, the outcome could help people understand human diseases and how to cure them from a molecular point of view.

■ Hot Solar Cells

The energy sector has also been researched, leading to the development of a special new generation of solar cells that can transduce solar energy from light to heat then back to light or any other form of desired energy. This technology is projected to revolutionize the efficiency of solar energy harvesting, leading to storage of solar power for future use. The solar cells would also help reduce the carbon footprint of the energy sector that has caused much outcry.

In conclusion, technology is making life easier by the day. New inventions have taken the stage as they work towards making human life easier, efficient and integrated in nature.

Adopted from: <http://www.innovationmanagement.se/2018/04/03/six-key-innovations-changing-the-worlds-future/>

Life@UMT



Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, and management officials at the 21st Hajj Draw



Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, visits the STD students' thesis display



Justice Nasira Javed Iqbal visits UMT Quaid-i-Azam Campus on Pakistan Day



Abid H K Shirwani and Dr Cui Yong from Jiangsu University exchange copies after signing an MoU



UMT Student Subhan Zahid won Bronze Medal in 21st HEC Universities Boxing Championship at Fast University, Islamabad



UMT Team ranked 5th from all over Pakistan in HEC Inter-varsity Badminton (Female) Championship 2018



Participants of the talk on 'Eat smart, be smart' with Nestle



Hamid Ismail, Canada Chapter Admin, organized alumni meet up in Toronto on January 27, 2018



Dr Mohamed Eskandar Shah, Dean, School of Graduate Studies, INCEIF Malaysia, after delivering lecture on research work



Dr Arshad Ali Khan presents souvenir to Neelam Ahmad Bashir in a seminar organized by ICCS and UMT Press



Dr Shagufta Feroz, renowned health and nutrition expert, receives souvenir from Rahat ul Ain, Director SGS



Participants of the talk on 'The Role of Adults in Child Protection' organized by UMT Day Care in collaboration with ICYP



Winners of the badminton championship held at Quaid-i-Azam Campus snapped with Muhammad Azeem Naz



Students of Department of English Language and Literature attend Spring 2018 Orientation

UMT-SBE Students Visit Multimedia University, Malaysia

MBA Students at SBE, UMT, visited Faculty of Business, Multimedia University (MMU), Malaysia, under the umbrella of student exchange program between UMT and MMU. The students were accompanied by **Dr Yasir Rasheed**, Assistant Professor, SBE. This collaboration created an opportunity for students to explore international horizons and enrich their experience through networking with MMU. It is a concrete step in nurturing the far reaching collaboration between the two schools and provides the framework for delivery of future key areas to build capacity and cope with emerging challenges.

The office of MBA Morning at SBE organized this educational and cultural trip from January 1-8, 2018 to KL, Malaysia. The students were accompanied by Dr Yasir Rashid, Director, MBA and **Ather Amin**, Program Associate, MBA. The objective of this educational and

cultural trip is to give our students an exposure to global businesses, markets and cultures.

MBA Morning students visited Multimedia University, Malacca and Cyberjaya Campus, Malaysia with Dr Yasir Rashid and were received warmly by the faculty and staff. **Dr Goh Guan Gan**, Dean / Associate Professor Faculty of Business, gave a welcome speech, in which he shared the history of MMU. He also shared the details of postgraduate business programs offered by MMU.

Dr Mohd Nazri Bin Mohd Noor, Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Business, gave a detailed lecture on green marketing in which he shared his own real time experiments and viewpoint of how the world is moving towards green products.

Students enjoyed tea and lunch, meeting with faculty, campus tour, sessions and gift from the university

administration. At the end of first day, souvenirs were also exchanged. After spending the day at MMU Malacca Campus, a city tour was arranged for the delegates in which they were shown historical places of Malacca city.

MMU administration arranged a visit to The Bank Negara Malaysia, KM Centre. There was a demo stock exchange and students performed an activity of selling and buying of shares and foreign currency.

They showed a tunnel of Malaysian currency notes in which they framed one billion ringgit. Students also visited The Bank Negara Museum, Art Gallery and Futurise Centre at Cyberjaya and were given a short lecture on technological innovation in Malaysia.

Malaysia is known as one of the world's most eclectic food paradises and hence students also enjoyed Malaysian cuisine thoroughly.



FESTUMT 18 Attracts over 2000 Participants

FESTUMT 18, a multi-category mega event organized by the Office of Participant Affairs at UMT on March 8-11, 2018, was an amalgamation of sports and co-curricular activities. It attracted more than 2000 participants from all over Pakistan. The event was inaugurated by **Jhangir Khanzada**, Minister for Sports and Youth Affairs, Punjab.

FESTUMT provided an opportunity for student interaction across institutions, student collaborations along with promoting student culture. The event included 30 thrilling co-curricular and sports activities. Besides these exciting competitions, various social events were held including a fair featuring food stalls and cultural performance by UMT students of Pakistan Forum, Qawali Night presented by PhD students, stand-up comedy and mime performance of Tale of Mohenjo-Daro by the students of Mime Club and Comedy Club.

Teams from over 30 renowned educational institutions took part in this event. These included LUMS, Lahore College for Women, Kinnaird College for Women, University of Lahore, University of Central Punjab, Beaconhouse School System, Frobelles, LACAS, Divisional Public School, Forman Christian College, Lahore School of Economics, National University-FAST, NUML, University of Veterinary Science, University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore Leads University, Allama Iqbal Medical College, and Punjab University.

Among the 30 competitions, University of Central Punjab clinched the overall championship of FESTUMT 18 with successes in One Act Play, Shutter-up, Still Life, Laugh Off and Nail Art. Punjab University was the overall runner-up in all categories. University of the Punjab prevailed in Chess and Volleyball. Delegation of Forman Christian College won the Table Tennis competition for boys and girls respectively. UMT took the award in poetry and essay writing competition. Team trophy of bilingual declamation was won by University of the Punjab.



UMT Hosts 7th HEC All Pakistan Inter-varsity Wushu Competition 2017-18

The 7th HEC All Pakistan Inter-varsity Wushu Competition 2017-18 was hosted by UMT Office of Participant Affairs on February 20-21, 2018 for the first time in the university campus. **Ibrahim Hasan Murad**, Director UMT, inaugurated the event amidst much fanfare and excitement on the part of UMT students and mixed martial arts enthusiasts. The competition was judged by technical officers of the Pakistan Wushu Federation. **Muhammad Abu Bakar**, President, Amir Khan Foundation, also joined the event.

It is worth noting that players from 16 universities all over Pakistan participated in the event. **Atif Khan**, student of UMT School of Engineering and recipient of UMT sports scholarship, won gold medal at the Championship. There were 17 weight categories and the competition among the players was fierce and intense. The closing ceremony was attended by **Saleem Ata**, Controller of Examinations, and **Farhan Khawaja**, Head OHR. Souvenirs were presented to the sports managers of the participating universities. The winners were presented with cash prizes and medals.



Artistic Innovation Club

Imagine Innovate Inspire

UMT Artistic Innovation Club was established by OPA in 2012 to provide a platform for young artists to showcase their artistic talent in Pakistan. The main focus of this club is to promote the art of human creativity in conceptual form by painting and designing at UMT. The Artistic Innovation Club is associated with young potential artists, a team of professionals who train UMT participants in the fundamental art forms like graffiti, tapestry, realistic and virtual painting skills to edify young artists and nurture them to become future artists of Pakistan.

Artistic Innovation Club has played a pivotal role in developing innovative skills in students, promoting their art in galleries and organizing special sessions to help emerging artists in bringing out new art categories. This Club also provides opportunities to the talented candidates to represent UMT in national and international art competitions, and won distinction in various art competitions.



Inter-University Culinary Competition held at UMT



The Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) organized UMT Chef's Table - first inter-university culinary competition on February 22, 2018. The College of Tourism and Hotel Management was the co-host.

The event started with the recitation of some verses from the Holy Quran followed by the national anthem. There were numerous fun activities that led to maximum participation

from the audience. Gifts were distributed among the students on behalf of COTHM, a pioneer in hotel education. Both females and males showed keen interest in the event.

Different institutes, universities and colleges from all over Lahore took part in this competition: University of Central Punjab, University of Lahore, Pakistan Institute of Fashion Design, Government College University and

Punjab University. Pakistan Institute of Fashion Design took the lead amongst all the participating teams.

The event was graced by **Professor Abeer Naqvi**, HoD, Technical Department in PU, **Saima Gulzar**, Chairperson, Department of Architecture, SAP, and **Saleem Ata**, Controller Examination, who appreciated the students for their creativity.

OPA Happiness Club Launches Christmas Celebration

UMT Office of Participant Affairs (OPA) launched a new Happiness Club for students on December 20, 2017. The aim of the Club is to promote an environment of joy and positivity among UMT community through special programs. The first program of Happiness Club was a Christmas celebration which was thoroughly enjoyed by all.

The guests on the occasion were **Father Clarence Hayat**, **Bob Wheeler**, Dean, SBE, **Dr Yusuf Awan**, Dean, SAP, Maj (Retd.) **Ibrar Hussain**, Head, Office of Facilities Management (OFM) and **Asif Saeed Haider**, Principal Secretary, ORC. **Shaheen Firdous**, Happiness Coach and Club



Dr Yusuf Awan, Shaheen Firdous, Fr Clarence Hayat, Bob Wheeler, Asif Saeed Haider and Maj (Rtd) Ibrar Hussain participate in Christmas cake cutting ceremony

Organizer, hosted the ceremony. Students performed in musical activities, followed by special cake cutting ceremony.

National anthem and songs were also played, followed by a group photograph and souvenir distribution ceremony.

UMT Celebrates Spring through Wings and Wheels Festival

UMT Students took to the varsity ground and celebrated 'Wings and Wheels Festival' to welcome the spring season, spend time with seasonal birds, enjoy local food and raise awareness among the youth regarding the IT culture, latest automobiles and so on. The show was inaugurated by **Ibrahim Hasan Murad**, Director UMT, along with **Khalid Naqi**, Head OPA. A good number of faculty members and university officials turned up to catch a glimpse of the high-powered bikes, beautiful birds and enjoy delicious traditional food stalls.

Renowned actor, rapper, and rock music keyboard player **Ahmad Ali Butt** also showed up at the event to encourage the young talent.

Speaking on the occasion, Ibrahim Hasan Murad said that UMT has always promoted healthy and vibrant activities at its campus that shows the varsity's commitment to deliver quality education side by side with recreational activities. He said that learning without sports and healthy stuff isn't resilient and long-lasting. He urged the students to take interest in sports and make the best use of their leisure time activities in order to keep themselves fit and healthy.

Ahmad Ali Butt said that it was a matter of privilege for him to visit UMT and meet the emerging talent. He exchanged his views with the people present there and allowed them to take group photos as well as

selfies. The actor appreciated the talent of the students who rode the heavy bikes and cars.

Some of the students said that since the government had imposed complete ban on Basant, they had come to enjoy the event, which they said was a great and resourceful activity. They said that they enjoyed the show a lot as it was full of entertainment, yummy food and hustle bustle. Talking to the media, a female student said that her whole class had come to see the birds that were so lovely and enchanting. Those who knew how to ride bikes were given the opportunity to ride the heavy bikes while their teachers and classmates cheered them.





UMT TV

Deliver Matter with a Purpose



Talk with Mohammad Wasim Khokhar, President, Pak Ukraine Trade Centre, Islamabad



Talk with Amjad Islam Amjad, Renowned Writer and Columnist



Talk with Sohail Warraich, Media Personality



Talk With Tahir Malik, Renowned Media Personality



Talk with Jibran bin Salman, Social Activist



Talk with Saeed Aasi, Senior Journalist



Talk With Ahmad Waleed, Controller News Samaa TV



Talk With Jawad Shamsi, Senior Journalist



Talk With Lord Shaukat Ali Khan, Renowned Diplomat from UK



Talk With Waseem Anwar Baig, Senior Political Analyst



Talk With Ajmal Deewan, Actor and Model



Talk With Akmal Soomro, Renowned Reporter



Talk With Brig Yousaf, Defense Analyst



Talk with Saud Usmani, Poet and Writer



Talk With Abid Farooq, Researcher and Educationist



Talk with Rehan Allahwala, Renowned Motivational Speaker and Entrepreneur

CENTIN Incubates Present BOLT Solution at National Police Summit and Innovation Expo



CENTIN Incubates **Muhammad Hurr** and his team presented their startup 'BOLT Solution' in National Police Summit and Innovation Expo held on March 14, 2018 at Convention Center Islamabad in

collaboration with ORIC-UMT. Based on their presentation in the exhibition, National Highway Security, PAK Army, KPK Bomb Disposal and Model Town Company (DDS) showed interest in the idea

and asked to further collaborate with them to enhance their security systems.

The Islamabad Capital Territory (ICT) Police has taken new initiatives to introduce technology based policing and for this purpose intends to involve students of Higher Education Institutes so that students can come up with innovative ideas that can be useful for policing. In this regard, the ICT police has organized technology innovation competition / exhibition to provide a platform for students of Information Technology and other disciplines to showcase their skills/talent in contributing to the technology based policing.

Team Khwandona Wins Sprite Spice Wars Competition 2018

Team Khwandona from UMT has won the Sprite - Spice Wars Competition 2018. Team Khwandona consisted of 3 UMT students: **Haseeb Khan, Sidra Fayaz** and **Saman Irfan**. The opportunity to participate in the competition was provided by the Office of External Relations (OER) who arranged the Sprite promotional activity – Spice Wars on December 18, 2017 where several groups of students submitted their business proposals in 3 days of round activity at UMT Greens.

The concept was launched by Sprite by the name of TV show: Spice Wars Season 2018 with an aim to provide a platform to develop, promote, support and enable young entrepreneurs to fulfill their dreams of opening a restaurant.

Overall, 12 teams featured from across Pakistan, competing to win the grand prize of PKR 5 million to fulfill their dream of starting their



own food business by pitching their unique ideas and blend of tasty dishes to impress the expert team of judges. There were 4 rounds and team Khwandona made us proud by winning it through all the rounds. Khwandona is the name of a restaurant suggested by the group of

students of UMT led by Haseeb Khan. They represented the culture and ambiance of Baluchistan with a unique taste of traditional dishes. The idea and taste in the cooking competition was highly appraised by all mentors in Sprite-Spice Wars 2018.

Appreciation Tour for UMT Office Boys



Shaheen Firdous, UMT Counselor and Happiness Coach, arranged a recreational trip on January 28, 2018 for all junior and senior office boys in

order to give them an exposure of the world outside corporate offices so that they can value time and enjoy life. For this purpose, different places

of Bahria Town Lahore were selected for the trip.

The journey from UMT Campus started with the recitation of some verses from the Holy Quran. Later on, different activities were carried out like visiting Alexandria, Trafalgar Square, Safari Park, the Zoo, Country Club and amazing Eiffel Tower. All the people were very excited and happy. They were served with refreshments, delicious lunch, greeting cards and gifts. They also visited Bahria Town's grand mosque and offered the Zuhar prayer. All the participants enjoyed and thanked UMT management, especially **Abid H K Shirwani**, DG, UMT, and Shaheen Firdous for arranging the trip.

UMT-SBE Students Win 1st Position in UCP-Takraa 2018

UMT-SBE students (members of Marketing Club and UMT Brand Lab) secured 1st position, among all the competing universities at UCP-Taakra, 2018. This event was held on February 21-25, 2018 at University of Central Punjab (UCP). Winning team consisted of BBA batch-50 participants: **Osama Niaz** (President, Marketing Club), **Sana Rana** (Vice-President, Marketing Club), **Shahzaib Ahmed**, and **M Muneeb Akram**.

The title of this category was 'CreADive' - a creative advertising competition, where participants created a product (on theme of 'food fusion') and its business plan, along with five advertisements from 1970 to 2010. Participants did a marvelous job and developed a product 'mixture of Ice-Cream and Gulab Jamun' called 'Barfani Tashtari' (frozen



spaceship) and an extended product line, titled 'Toofani Kuppi' (storming cone). Advertisement used humor by

showing an alien leaving the product on Earth. The product name, taste and advertisement were loved by judges.



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INSPIRE TO RISE



TKS Organizes Teachers' Training Workshop

TKS Head Office successfully conducted teachers training on 'Teaching Methodologies and their Practical Application in K12 Teaching' on January 20, 2018 at UMT, Lahore. The workshop was conducted by **Sajid Masood**, Assistant Professor at UMT, and **Abid Nathaniel**, Director Academics at TKS. The purpose was to encourage the teachers to engage in participative teaching so that a confident child is nurtured. The topics which were focused during the training workshop included effective classroom management, effective lesson delivery, co-operative learning structure: pair – share, and impacting displays. More than 80 teachers attended the workshop and benefited from the knowledge and experience of



the trainers. The teachers provided a very positive feedback after the training and seemed determined to apply the information learnt during the workshop. TKS Head Office is committed to provide quality teachers' training to ensure that standardized

education and 21st Century teaching skills are acquired by the our teachers to impact on TKS Students. Earlier, Director TKS **Mariam Murad** delivered the keynote speech. Certificates were also distributed among the participants.

Network Associates Orientation Day

The Head Office of The Knowledge School Network organized an Orientation Day Program for the Network Associates and Principals of new campuses. About 35 campuses attended this auspicious program on February 17, 2018. The highlights of the program included a presentation by the CEO TKS **Zahid Warriach** who appreciated the trust shown by the NWAs and assured them of his unflinching support at all times. Presentations were made by different departments of TKS Head Office. The newly developed School Management System was launched



for the use of campuses by March 2018. The NWAs were provided with a token of appreciation in the form of giveaway at the end of the program. All the NWAs/ Principals

commended the efforts made by TKS Head Office and showed their satisfaction toward the professional and timely support extended by each member of the Head Office.

TKS Matholetics and Arts and Science Competition

Matholetics and Arts and Science Competition (MASC) is an initiative taken by the TKS Head Office which aims to provide a platform for TKS Schools and Head Office to meet and work together to foster the evolution of local talent in the fields of Science, Math and Arts.

This year's exhibition, held for the first time ever, was one of a kind with an endeavor to promote scientific, artistic and mathematical attitudes among budding young students. The competition was held on February 3, 2018 at UMT among students of grades 1-7. Around 40 branches of TKS across the country took part in the competition.

Participants put up 40 exhibits comprising of innovative working models and static models of science and wonderful art projects with

topics My Country- as I see it (Art Work for Grades 1, 2 and 3); All About My Favorite Fruit (Science Static Projects for Grade 4) and Conservation of Electricity (Science Working Models for Grade 6). Students of Grades 5 and 7 took part in live oral math and written math quizzes.

Students expressed their views, stating that this competition has proved to be a learning experience for them and has helped develop their research and investigation skills through the execution of these projects. Teachers of the participating schools, in their interviews to news channels, mentioned that preparations of this competition spanned over several weeks and the end result was worth all the effort and time invested.

Mariam Murad, Director, TKS Network, was the chief guest at the

exhibition. **Dr Abdul Hameed**, Vice Chairman TKS, was guest of honor at the occasion. He applauded the students for their novel ideas which would help Pakistan progress and create a better world to live in.

The eminent judging panel comprising of **Ayesha Khan**, Asst. Professor Art and Design Department UMT, **Dr Sohail Nadeem**, Associate Professor, Chemistry Department ,UMT, and **Dr Sammia Shahid**, Associate Professor, Chemistry Department, UMT, gave their judgment after inspecting each project on merit.

Judges appreciated the effort put in by the students and were extremely impressed by the presentations. They congratulated the participants for bringing forth such innovative ideas.



UMT Sialkot Campus



UMT Sialkot Campus Holds Literary Festival Spring 2018



UMT Institute of Communication and Cultural Studies (ICCS) organized Literary Festival Spring 2018 at the

Iqbal Campus. The festival consisted of 5 different literary competitions including storytelling, essay writing,

speech, 100 words story writing, poetry recitation and a seminar on self-exploration, titled, 'Bhullia ki jana mein kon' in the festival.

Syed Muhammad Belal, Director Campus, **Dr Muhammad Zafarullah Khan**, Director Academics, faculty and staff attended the event. Renowned scholar **Dr Suleman Khadimi** highlighted the message of self-exploration leading to the communion with God in Punjabi poetry of Bulley Shah.

BBA Students Participate in National Competition on Sustainable Development



UMT Sialkot Students from BBA Batch 9 of Knowledge Unit of Business Economics and Commerce (KUBEAC) participated in a national project competition and represented

UMT Sialkot in an Expo on Sustainable Development and Environmental Conservation, held at Pak-China Friendship Centre in Islamabad. Their concept was to

build a social enterprise named as Reduce Reuse and Regenerate (RRR) to bring a positive change in the wake of sustainable development.

Students **Waleed Butt**, **Ali Ashfaq**, **Shazli Barki**, **Shamyl Barki**, **Sara Naeem** and **Rabia Khalid** received tremendous appreciation from visitors including foreign officials. They were offered financial and technical support by various institutes to practically implement this idea. Faculty member **Mamona Sadaf** supervised the students in the preparation of RRR project. The participants were also awarded certificates of participation at the conclusion of the competition.

Research and Publications

Dr Muhammad Aziz ur Rehman Presented with Best University Teacher Award by HEC

The Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan has conferred Best University Teacher Award 2016 upon **Dr Muhammad Aziz ur Rehman**, Associate Professor, Department of Mathematics, School of Science (SSC), UMT. The award, which

consists of a certificate and cash prize, was presented in a special ceremony in Islamabad. The UMT community congratulates Dr Rehman for achieving this distinction which is a recognition of dedication and commitment towards the teaching profession.



Dr Sammia Shahid Presents Research Papers at International Conference in USA

Dr Sammia Shahid, Associate Professor and Chairperson, Department of Chemistry, School of Science (SSC), was honored to present two research papers in the 6th International Conference on Nano and Materials Science (ICNMS 2018) held on January 15-17, 2018 at Florida Polytechnic University, USA. The conference was sponsored by CFETR, George Mason University collaborative program

with UMT. The titles of the papers were:

- Fabrication and Characterization of Ni Nanorods co-authored by **Maryam Nazir**.
- Synthesis, Spectral Characterization and Photocatalytic Applications of Graphene oxide Nanocomposite with Copper Doped Zinc Oxide, coauthored by **Humaira Khan** and **Dr Mohsin Javed**.



Abdul Rafay Wins Best Case Study Award in AMRC Conference

• **Abdul Rafay**, FCA, Department of Finance, School of Business and Economics, **Muhammad Mubeen Ajmal**, SWUFE, China, and **Muhammad Moeen Ajmal**, Zong Pakistan, got best case study award in LUMS flagship AMRC Conference held on March 23-24, 2018. The title of the case study was 'Managing International Communication: JI

Trading Co.' It was about managing communication with Chinese keeping in view the emerging scenario of Pakistan. The case was presented and assessed during round table discussion format.

- This was a 90 minute session that included a rich discussion to help the case writer strengthen his case.



HEC Selects Dr Nouman Rasool as Member of National Curriculum Revision Committee

• **Dr Nouman Rasool**, Chairperson, Department of Life Sciences, School of Science, has been selected by the Higher Education Commission, Islamabad, as a member of the National Curriculum Revision Committee (NCRC) in the discipline of Biochemistry for Bachelors and Master Degree Programs. The

agenda of the NCRC is to revise the curriculum for BS/MS Biochemistry programs. The revised curriculum would be implemented in all public and private sector universities.

• It is a great honor for UMT that one of its faculty members has been selected for such a distinctive position.



Abdul Rafay Selected as Editor-in-Chief for an International Book

Abdul Rafay, FCA, Department of Finance, School of Business and Economics, has been selected to act as Editor-in-Chief for an international book titled 'FinTech as a Disruptive Technology for Financial Institutions' to be published by IGI Global, Pennsylvania, USA, scheduled for release in 2019. IGI Global is one of the largest North American publishers of Technology and Medical Sciences. Most of its publications are indexed in master list of Web of Science.

In order to strengthen the overall quality of this important publication, Rafay was responsible for organizing an International Editorial Advisory Board (IEAB) for this valuable reference. Based on his own research

credentials and active research culture of UMT, he approached top tier US professors of Financial Technology (Fintech). One of these professors is also venture capitalist that provide resources to FinTech startups in the US.

Prof **Hayden Wimmer**, Georgia Southern University, Georgia, USA, Prof **Wulf A Kaal**, University of St. Thomas, Minnesota, USA, Prof **Mohammad Kabir Hassan**, University of New Orleans, Louisiana, USA, and Prof **Andy Borchers**, Lipscomb University, Tennessee, USA, have given their final consent to act as members of EAB of this book. This is very encouraging for UMT research community in general and



UMT-SBE in particular, as one of its faculty members is acting as an Editor-in-Chief for an international editorial board.

Dr Yasir Rashid Selected as National Consultant/ Subject Matter Expert by Ministry of ICT

Dr Yasir Rashid, Acting Chairperson, Department of Marketing, School of Business and Economics (SBE), has been selected as National Consultant/ Subject Matter Expert on Digital Marketing by Ministry of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Government of Pakistan. It is worth

noting that according to the national IT policy, such specialists are hired to spearhead the efforts of providing market intelligence and developing guidelines regarding target markets. It is a matter of honor for UMT that one of its faculty members has been declared worthy of this distinction.



Exclusive Interview

Sheikh
Muhammad
Ibrahim



Sheikh Muhammad Ibrahim belongs to a respectable business family and launched Cannon Foam Industries PVT Ltd in 1993. With a sales volume of Rs 2000 million, the company employs over 275 workers. He is a member of executive committee of the Lahore Chamber of Commerce, Vice President (Pakistan Chapter) TUMSIAD, District Governor of Lions Club International District 305 N-1 Pakistan 2014-2015, CEO Cannon Foam Industries PVT Ltd and executive member & head of Turkey Region of GREF, (Golden Ring Economic Forum) is a think tank, working for economic security with China, Turkey, Iran, Russia and Pakistan. Sheikh Ibrahim is also the General Secretary of the All Pakistan Foam Association. He belongs to a rare breed of businessmen who not only have a strong work ethic and leadership qualities but are also passionate about giving back to society. He joined the Lions Club in 1990 and has been involved in various initiatives to reduce poverty and improve the quality of life of ordinary people.

In an exclusive interview with editorial team of UMT Moments and Momentum, Sheikh Muhammad Ibrahim spoke about how he built Cannon Foam into a successful business, and his personal philosophy of success.

Q: You have achieved so much in life; can you share your motivations and your success recipe with us?

A: Patience and passion is key to success; always stay true to yourself on what you want to pursue. I believe that one should not be stagnant; neither be so relaxed nor get yourself involved in a race all the time. Enjoy every phase of your life because nothing remains the same all around your life.

Q: Who played the greatest part in your success?

A: I belong to a respectable business family and learnt everything from my father. My father started working very early in age, started business and

eventually turned in to a huge leather business. During Dhaka Fall, we lost everything but never lost hope; my family started again from scratch, and set factories of artificial and imported leathers.

Q: Did you face any great obstacles while setting up your own foam business? How did you overcome them?

A: When I jumped into the market, there were only 6 foam manufacturers working under the monopoly policy. Foam industry was divided into sectors and each manufacturer was dealing with its own sector without any interferences. It was very tough for a new manufacturer to get into the market. I played strategically; I looked for

weakness of existing manufacturers. I penetrated the market with quality products and catered every need of the consumers in which existing manufacturers were lacking. Within three months, they added me in industry association and in less than 5 years, I made my position in the foam industry.

Q: You have been a part of the corporate world for a long time now; what's your take on Pakistan's corporate culture that exists today and if you were given the chance, what would you change about it?

A: Just perform your role fairly and have faith in Allah. Never play a negative role, never cut the throat of your competitors for the sake of

benefit, and always avoid under the table dealing. Do the business for longer term, for generations.

Q: You have traveled extensively in the USA, UK, India, Europe, Egypt, China, etc. How did this international exposure help you to incorporate best practices in your business?

A: When I visit other countries, I get the chance to learn about new technologies and machineries. It helps me to enhance the capacity of

Never play a negative role, never cut the throat of your competitors for the sake of benefit

my business. Secondly, every country has its own policies; you cannot apply those policies and practices to your business entirely. Companies in other countries have future plans and they do not make changes unless government policies change. In Pakistan, there is too much uncertainty which does not help us in our long term plans.

Q: The Pakistani economy has been in a state of recession for some time now. Did it affect your business and how?

A: In the last 5 years, Pakistan's export has decreased from 25 billion to 18 billion. There is a hike in electricity rates, Pakistan is facing serious electricity crisis and due to that, the use of generator and fuel has increased. Production cost is rising every day.

Q: Cannon Foam exports its products to IKEA and UNHCR. How did you manage to penetrate the international market?

A: We export quality goods to the international market. For breaking into the international market, it is important to qualify their standard and laboratory tests. We are not only exporting our goods to IKEA and

UNHCR but also to other famous local and foreign brands. It is easier to sell products in the international market rather than the local market because they do business on written ethics code and their businesses are in black and white. It makes the process simpler for the manufacturers for assuring the quality of products as they give us their requirements and we fulfill them.

Q: You are a member of various trade bodies and have interacted with different government, semi-government and private individuals. Do you think trade bodies play an active role in bringing prosperity or they serve as special interest representatives only?

A: Trade bodies are working like a bridge between government, semi-government and private individuals. They bring out the common beliefs of traders, manufacturers and the government for creating positive environment. Trade bodies only implement those actions which are workable nationally and internationally.

Q: How can the Pakistani foam industry in particular, and the industrial sector in general, explore new markets and thus contribute to the national economy?

A: There is a very small contribution of Pakistani foam industry in the national economy. Azad Kashmir has established free industrial zone in Mirpur and 6 out of 9 foam industries have shifted to Azad Kashmir. I think around 85 percentage of Pakistan's revenue has been shifted there. In the coming years you will witness that all the major Pakistan's industries will be shifted to Mirpur due to difference of 15% in manufacturing cost.

Q: At present, which international markets can be explored by the local foam industry? And how can the government facilitate the local industry in doing so.

A: We cannot explore Europe's local foam industry because they have their own raw materials. So, we should

explore Middle East and Africa because they also import raw materials from international market. In Pakistan, we import 99% of raw material and machines from abroad.

Q: At a personal level, you are motivated by philanthropy and corporate social responsibility; what motivates you to work beyond the realm of profits?

A: It is our social and religious responsibility to give back to our society. I have been working for the social cause when I was a teenager. I spend great time of deal in social activities because serving society makes me the most satisfied human in this world.

Q: The academia-industry collaboration is a fairly recent phenomena in Pakistan. Do you think that the industry has begun to trust the academia as reliable partners in economic prosperity, or vice versa?

It is our social and religious responsibility to give back to our society

A: I would request academicians to help graduates to think beyond the realm. Do not create machines, create learners and explorers who eagerly want to learn new perspectives of the world and explore every level of success.

Q: What would be your advice to UMT graduates – how can they become successful entrepreneurs and business persons?

A: Every individual is different in every aspect. I can only advise them to never lose hope when you are struggling and always keep trying for success. Stay positive and never cut someone's throat for the sake your benefit because someday in your life you have to pay back for your actions.



**YOU ARE NEVER TOO OLD TO SET
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– **EDITORIAL**

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