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Exclusive
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From the Editorial Desk

One of the greatest challenges of university education is the balancing act that it has to perform between core human values such as intelligence, critical thinking, integrity, compassion, etc., and the economic advantages normally associated with a university degree. The question that many educators are asking now is whether the increasing competitiveness in the job market and the corporatization of academia, in terms of academia industry linkages is jeopardizing academic freedom to teach and publish.

The truth lies somewhere in between. In so far as the corporate sector driving the university agenda is concerned, there are equally strong arguments for and against the idea. However, what is undeniable is the fact that there is no reversing the trend of the interlinking of university agendas with corporate priorities. So it is wise to be prepared for it. UMT itself has been at the forefront of commercialization and practical application of knowledge. A manifestation of this is the 2nd International Business Conference and Exhibition (IBCE) 2017 which is a great initiative taken up by UMT to use its academic strengths to spur economic growth.

Among other important events and developments, this issue of the newsletter also brings highlights of the 14th UMT Convocation as another group of graduates is now ready to go forward into society as the torchbearers of UMT's academic and moral ethos. This time the editorial team has interviewed Wasim Khokhar, entrepreneur, business icon, and Founder of Bridging Trade International. He has done commendable work in expanding and facilitating Pakistani exports in the EU, Central Asia and China. The readers will gain much from his insight and perspective on the future of Pakistani trade and industry.



**THERE IS ONLY ONE CORNER OF THE UNIVERSE
YOU CAN BE CERTAIN OF IMPROVING, AND
THAT'S YOUR OWN SELF**

ICIE 2017 Attracts Eminent Scholars, Researchers and Academicians



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad addresses the opening session of ICIE 2017

The Department of Special Needs Education (UMT) in collaboration with Department of Education at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSS&H) held the 2nd International Conference on Inclusive Education (ICIE 2017) at the UMT Campus on October 24-25, 2017.

The theme of the conference was 'Accommodating Diversity: Creating Enabling Educational Environment.'

It was sponsored by Higher Education Commission of Pakistan (HEC), Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), Sightsavers International, Punjab Welfare Trust for the Disabled, Comparative Education Society of Pakistan and 3P's Learning Pakistan. More than 400 attendees and presenters from over 7 countries attended the ICIE 2017 and explored the dynamics of inclusive education to improve the quality of education.

Addressing the inaugural session, **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, emphasized the need to create an overall enabling environments for persons with disabilities across settings instead of retrofitting the existing structures. **Dr Abdul Hameed**, Dean SSS&H and Chair of ICIE 2017, further

emphasized on the inclusive education as the only way forward to bringing all children to school.

More than 400 attendees and presenters from over 7 countries attended the ICIE 2017

Prof **Dr Rebecca K Fox** from George Mason University, USA, talked on reforming school education for the inclusion of all children. Prof **Dr David Rodriguez** from University of

Lisbon, Portugal, delivered a speech on 'Inclusion: Educate all, with all.' **Chaudhry Muhammad Shafique**, Provincial Minister of Special Education chaired the 1st plenary session in which **Dr Anna S Evmenova** from George Mason University, USA, emphasized on the creation of various ways to include students with diverse needs in various educational environments.

Dr Amjad Saqib, Chairman, Akhuwat, **Arshad Saeed Khan**, Senior Consultant UNESCO, **Munazza Gillani**, Country Director, Sightsavers, also delivered speeches on several topics. The ICIE 2017 offered presentation of 83 research papers and 7 symposia.

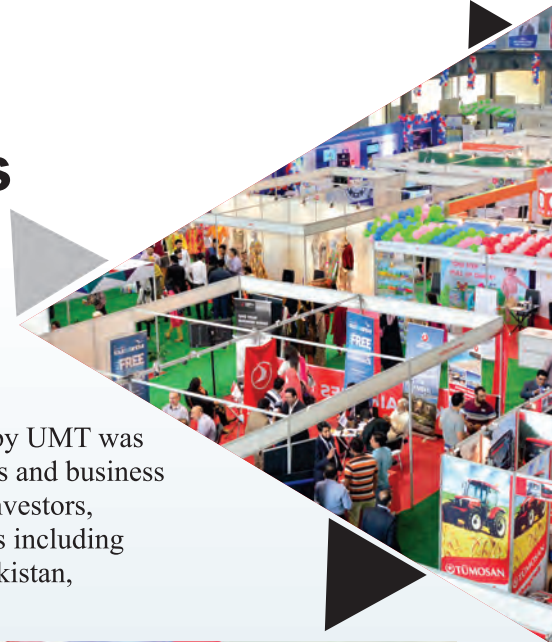
The Conference concluded with Lahore Declaration on Inclusive Education 2017 which was presented by Dr Abdul Hameed and unanimously approved. Prof **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, chaired the concluding session. Prof **Dr Shahid Soraya**, Director General PHEC, also graced the session with his presence. **Sajid Masood**, Secretary ICIE 2017, concluded the event and thanked everyone for their contributions.



A view of the faculty members and guests attending the ICIE proceedings



International Business Conference and Exhibition 2017



The 2nd International Business Conference and Exhibition (IBCE 2017) organized by UMT was held at the Lahore Expo Center with delegates, government representatives, scholars and business leaders around the globe. IBCE 2017 attracted businesses, multinationals, foreign investors, exhibitors, manufacturers, entrepreneurs, CEOs and academicians from 15 countries including Turkey, China, USA, UK, Denmark, UAE, Russia, Nigeria, Germany, Malaysia, Pakistan, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Japan and Niger to boost economic development.



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, said that development takes place through coordinated efforts of all the leading sectors of the economy. Events like the IBCE provide a forum where students interact with the corporate sector to explore the dynamics of the business world, while allowing businesses to see what is going on in the classrooms. This multi-sectoral, multi-dimensional and multi-perspective approach to development is only possible through a convergence of academia, business and government.



Addressing the opening session, **Abid H K Shirwani**, Chief Organizer IBCE and Director General UMT, stated that the IBCE 2017 is aiming to create synergy in order to promote the development agenda forward and add value to local products. He quoted that about 45 national and international speakers are participating in the conference sessions, which focus on academia and industry linkages, business transformation, emerging technologies, CPEC gateway to economic prosperity, Pakistan's industries, and role of young entrepreneurs. He added that the IBCE 2017 will bring new partnership between our foreign participants like Turkey, China, Sri Lanka, UK and other countries as well.



Prof Ahsan Iqbal Chaudhary, Federal Interior Minister, said that IBCE has become a major event to bring academia, business and international partnerships closer. He reminded everyone present that we have entered an unprecedented period of history as no other generation has encountered such rapid change. Our generation has seen a transformation from blackboard to 4G. Organizations, people, businesses and academia – all are devising strategies to cope with the change in technology and human life. It is time to work harder, smarter and better to reap full benefits of this opportunity.



Ihsan Sener, Chief Advisor to the President of Turkey, said that he was pleased to see the business environment in Pakistan. He said that Pakistan and Turkey share very special bond of brotherhood. He emphasized on the importance of economic stability and prosperity of the nation. He said that it is a great success of UMT to bring teachers, students, businesses and investors together under one roof.



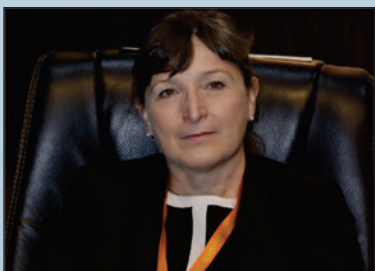
Tang Nguon Song, Advisor to the Royal Government of Cambodia, said that such conferences will create positive linkages between the people of Cambodia and Pakistan. He emphasized that we must exchange knowledge for gaining better global experience. It is important to promote knowledge, vision, expertise and technology for making the world a better place.



Abdou Maman, Minister for Industries, Niger, thanked UMT for its warm hospitality and stated that there is a longstanding relationship between Pakistan and Niger. He said that his country is in a dire need to take research and learning forward through events such as the IBCE. He also commented that both countries can reduce poverty through collaboration and research.



Dr A M Jameel, Chairman, Sri Lanka State Trading Corporation, said that it is indeed a great privilege to be here at IBCE 2017 and get an opportunity to meet leading scholars and business icons from many countries of the world. He added that there is a tremendous potential for improvement in trade, entrepreneurship and academic linkages. He said that the IBCE will go a long way towards promoting such opportunities between Pakistan and Sri Lanka.



Dr Emanuela Todeva Bell, Professor of International Business Strategy and Innovation, St Mary's University, UK, stated that IBCE has become truly an international conference. As a member of the Executive Committee and Chair of the Scientific Committee of the Triple Helix Association, she stressed upon the implementation of Smart Specialization Strategies and global value chains. She also shared that all businesses around the world are facing the pressurization of globalization and there are very few who are able to face these challenges.



Yasar Dogon, Chairman, TUMSIAD Turkey, said that the relations between Pakistan and Turkey are being strengthened through increasing trade and investment ties. He added that we see IBCE as an important link between the two countries as well as an attempt to explore and access the new markets.



Dr Hasan Ali Celik, Deputy Minister IT, Turkey, in his inaugural speech, conveyed a message of peace, prosperity and warm wishes from the Government of Turkey. He highlighted the importance of science and technology in changing times of today. He said that both the countries are ready to explore and exchange technological transformation to expand research based knowledge. He further stated that we need to protect technology, and encourage new researches leading to innovative mindset among our students.



Malik Tahir Javaid, President LCCI, commented that the presence of political leadership shows the importance attached to IBCE 2017. He also appreciated the participation of all business sectors, and choice of appropriate subjects for discussion in conference topics. The President LCCI ensured UMT of full support on all fronts and emphasized upon all stakeholders to work together in giving respect to the traders, industry and overseas Pakistanis.



Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, gave the concluding remarks of the inaugural session. He said that the primary goal of such conferences is to share latest business trends, theory and practice. IBCE will create awareness about best quality services and products.

He stated that this is an era of technology transformation and we need to work together to share latest trends and practices. The Rector stated that IBCE is continuing its trend to promote professionalism, business, industry and academic linkages. He appreciated the efforts of Abid H K Shirwani and his team for organizing such a mega event. He also thanked the media for an extensive coverage.

Closing Ceremony

The closing ceremony of the conference which was part of the 2nd IBCE 2017 was attended by leading scholars, academicians, government representatives, corporate leaders, researchers, teachers, students and enlightened members of the general public. The speakers were of the view that the 2nd IBCE has given a significant boost towards future collaboration between academia and the market forces. Those who graced the occasion with their presence included Dr Hasan Soahb Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, Abid H K Shirwani, DG UMT and Chief Organizer IBCE, and Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT. Dr Hasan Ali Celik, Deputy Minister IT, Turkey, and Dr Nizamuddin, Chairperson, Punjab Higher Education Commission, also attended the ceremony along with other dignitaries.

Support from

LCCI, PCJCCI, PAAPAM, WCCI, PIM, BOI, Sundar Industrial Estate, IBL Mordaba, PBIT, PSEB, Abdul Qadeer Khan Foundation, WCLA, AOTS, Quaid-e-Azam Industrial Estate

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2nd IBCE Highlights ◀



14th Convocation 2017

1400+ Graduates Awarded Degrees in Impressive Ceremony



Ibrahim Hasan Murad, Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Muhammad Aslam, Arslan Khan Khakwani and Abid H K Shirwani rise for the national anthem

As many as 1471 graduates were given degrees in the 14th UMT Convocation held on November 14, 2017. **Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau**, US Consul General in Lahore was the guest of honor on the occasion. **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust and Board of Governors (BoG), **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, **Abid H K Shirwani**, Director General, UMT, **Arslan Khan Khakwani**, Member BoT and **Ibrahim Hasan Murad**, Director, Academic Quality and Assessment, graced the occasion as the guests of honor.

A total of 14 Patron's Medals, 9 Rector's Medals, 9 Rector's Academic Excellence Awards, 8 Certificates of Excellence and 16 Rector's Awards for Entrepreneurship and Innovation were awarded to UMT students. Also, 1 Award for Applied Research and 2 Best Research Publications Awards (Highest Impact Factor Publications in 2016) for having three publications

in 2016 were also given. A total of 9 gold medals were awarded to students for their active participation in extracurricular activities.

**You are leaving
as an
ambassador of
UMT and a
leader of society**

Addressing the 14th UMT Convocation, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, said that this is a special day for the graduates and their parents. He wished a successful professional life and bright future to the students who are graduating today. Dr Aslam added that UMT has a highly qualified faculty. The quality of education is further strengthened

by accreditations from PEC, NBEAC, NCEAC, PCATP, NACTE and SAQS.

Elaborating the progress made by the University over the past year, Dr Aslam said that UMT places special importance to research by its faculty members and students. UMT is bringing out 12 journals. In 2016, 283 research papers authored by UMT faculty and students were published in national and international journals or conference proceedings. This year, this number is expected to cross 400. The Rector informed the audience that in 2017, UMT has so far organized 10 international conferences with participation from the USA, UK, EU, Niger, Australia, Cambodia, etc.

Elizabeth Kennedy Trudeau, US Consul General, in her address said that it is indeed a pleasure and an honor to be here. Today we are thinking of the future and Pakistan is critical to the future in terms of innovation, stability and peace.

She added that many faculty members are alumni of the Fulbright Program. UMT is truly a global institution. Over 40 UMT faculty members have benefited from research and academic collaboration with GMU, USA. US Pakistan Alumni Network is the largest in the world. She concluded her address by congratulating the graduates on behalf of the people and government of the USA. She said that the graduates assembled here today present the best and the brightest of Pakistan.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad also addressed the distinguished guests, graduates and their parents. He said that graduation marks a joyous celebration by faculty and students. It is not just about an accumulation of CGPA and exam scores. It is about carving out a new identity that is formed through interaction with the academia and your fellow students. This Convocation is the bridge between your life as a student and the

practical world. Soon you will receive your degree. You came to UMT as a guest and a participant; you are leaving as an ambassador of UMT and a leader of society.

**Graduates today
had come to
receive their
degrees but are
now leaving with a
DIAMOND**

Dr Hasan said that he had concluded that the best gift to those graduating today would be a DIAMOND. Symbolically, a diamond represents the multifaceted human personality. It indicates power and prestige. It is uncontaminated and takes about 1 to 1.3 billion years to form in the earth's mantle. The seven-letter word sums

up a lot for the graduates: **D** stands for discovery, determination and decisions that you will make in life. **I** stands for intelligence, ideas, information and the interaction with the world. **A** means absolute character, advantages by virtues of your skills and assertiveness. **M** symbolizes meaningfulness of your life, making a difference, merit, modesty and meditation in life. **O** stands for optimism, outstanding career, open heartedness and being open minded. **N** symbolizes nobility, and your connectivity with nature. **D** stands for devotion and dignity.

Dr Hasan concluded his address by saying that the graduates today had come to receive their degrees but are now leaving with a DIAMOND as well. His address was met with loud applause and enthusiasm by the graduates. In the end, medals, awards and certificates were presented to graduates followed by group photograph sessions.



Convocation Highlights





UMT Hosts International Conference on Pure and Applied Sciences (UICPAS) 2017



Dr Muhammad Aslam presents souvenir to Syed Raza Ali; also seen in the picture (L to R) Dr Muhammad Arfin Khan Lodhi, Abid H K Shirwani and Dr Muhammad Azhar Iqbal

Syed Raza Ali Gillani, Punjab Minister for Higher Education, was the chief guest at the 2nd International Conference on Pure and Applied Sciences (UICPAS), held at the UMT Campus from October 5-7, 2017. While addressing the inaugural session, he appreciated UMT Management, especially **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, for promoting the culture of valuable conferences in Pakistan and regarded him as the 'torch bearer of knowledge.'

Welcoming the conference participants and foreign guests, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, said that UMT, through collaborative research with its international counterparts, would benefit from it and the current initiative was a giant step in that direction. He said that the secret of Pakistan's development lies in scientific research. **Abid H K Shirwani**, Director General, UMT, also said that UMT is rapidly developing the culture of scientific research, as a good number of the faculty members have received grants to carry out scientific experiments.

Dr Mohammad Arfin Khan Lodhi, Department of Physics, Texas Tech University, USA, highlighted the conference theme, 'Science Merging into the Unity of Sciences' whereas the poster session and keynote speech were chaired by **Dr Muhammad Azhar Iqbal**.

Among the international speakers who presented their research in the

conference were **Prof Dr Luis** from Texas Tech University, USA, **Prof Dr Ellene Tratras Contis** from Eastern Michigan University, USA, **Prof Zhi Gaang Xiao**, Shenyang, Liaoning University, China, **Dr Mahdi Sanati**, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, USA, **Toru Nakahara**, Saga University, Japan, **Dr John Mark Webb**, Swinburne University of Technology, Melbourne, Australia, and **Sadia Anjum**, University of Hail, Saudi Arabia.

Special emphasis was laid on promoting interaction between the theoretical, experimental, and applied communities, so that a high level exchange in new and emerging areas within Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, Bio Sciences and Environmental Sciences can be achieved. The conference brought together 25 national and international speakers from all over the world and more than 200 students from Pakistani and 6 other countries' universities. The UICPAS 2017 concluded with a promise to host more conferences in future.



Distinguished guests, scientists and researchers attend the conference proceedings

SLP and CIICA Organize International Conference to Highlight Dispute Resolution in OBOR and CPEC

UMT School of Law and Policy (SLP) and the Center for International Investment and Commercial Arbitration (CIICA) jointly held an international conference titled 'OBOR and CPEC: The Resolution of Commercial and Investment Disputes,' on the implications of China's One Belt One Road (OBOR) initiative and China Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) project for the resolution of commercial and investment disputes at the UMT Campus on October 21, 2017. The conference discussed whether or not there are any efficient and effective alternative methods for resolution of such disputes in Pakistan.

The conference brought together lawyers from Pakistan, UK, and Singapore; representatives of Pakistani and Chinese business communities; engineers, economists, policy makers and government officials. In their opening remarks, **Syed Imad ud din Asad**, Director SLP, and **Rana Sajjad**, Founder and President, CIICA, highlighted the significance of the conference in raising awareness of critical issues involving dispute resolutions under the CPEC framework.



Conference organizers and speakers with Ali Zafar, President, Supreme Court Bar Association

The conference speakers included **Francis Xavier SC**, Regional Head, Disputes Practices at Rajah & Tann, Singapore, Vice President of the Inter Pacific Bar Association and Former Chairman (Singapore Branch) of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, **Saadia Bhatti**, Counsel at Gide Loyrette Nouel, UK, **Arshad Ghaffar**, Barrister and Arbitrator XXIV Old Buildings, London, Barrister **Ali Zafar**, Former President, Supreme Court Bar Association of Pakistan, **Zulfiqar Ali**, Director, Board of Investment, Government of Pakistan, and **S M**

Naveed, President, Pak China Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Speakers discussed current global alternate dispute resolution regimes

The conference speakers discussed current global alternate dispute resolution regimes, with a focus on advantages and disadvantages of each regime and the mechanism that would be most suitable from the standpoint of the needs and preferences of Pakistani companies.

In addition, panelists pointed out the potential risks in failing to clearly stipulate effective mechanisms for dispute resolution in the contract.

Conference attendees stressed the need for updating and developing Pakistan's laws on domestic and international arbitration. Young lawyers and students including SLP law students found the conference very helpful in understanding the law of arbitration.



A group of panelists during a question and answer session

UMT and MUST Co-Organize International Conference on Dynamic Innovation (ICDI 2017), Malaysia

UMT in collaboration with the Malaysia University of Science and Technology (MUST) co-organized a research conference titled 'International Conference on Disruptive Innovation (ICDI 2017)' in Malaysia from November 9-10, 2017. This is the 2nd international conference of UMT organized outside Pakistan.

Dr Premkumar Rajagopal, President of MUST, and **Prof Emeritus Dr Sureshwaren** (inventor of IP 6) were amongst the keynote speakers of the conference. **Dr Atif Hassan**, Chairperson, Department of Management at SBE, UMT, was the Chairperson for the conference session. He was also member of the organizing committee.

UMT faculty members and students showed active participation through quality research paper presentations in the conference. The unique feature of the conference was that it covered dynamic innovations with diversified ideas from a variety of disciplines including Information Technology and Telecommunication, Library Sciences, Bio Technology, Engineering, Supply Chain



Dr Atif Hassan receives a token of appreciation from Dr Premkumar Rajagopal, President of MUST for co-organizing ICDI 2017

Management, Business and Management, Earth and Environment and Social Sciences. The interactive question and answer sessions during the conference made the research idea presentations and discussion more purposeful.

UMT faculty members and students showed active participation through quality research paper presentations

The Journal of Management and Research (JMR) partnered this conference. JMR is HEC recognized journal managed by Department of Management, SBE. Selected papers from this conference will be published in the upcoming issue of the JMR.

Dr Premkumar Rajagopal concluded the conference with special thanks to UMT for their support from conception to implementation of the conference. He regarded this conference as a learning step between the collaboration of the two institutions and as suggested by Dr Atif Hassan, he announced that the third international conference will be held next year in Lahore with collaboration of UMT and MUST.

UMT provided fully funded travel grants to the faculty members and MS Management students to participate in the conference.

The travel grant included all necessary expenses like visa processing, air ticket, conference fee, accommodation, meals, etc. Students were very excited to visit Malaysia for presenting their research work at ICDI 2017. This experience has not only given them an exposure to present their research but also provided them with enriched multinational cultural experience.



Attendees of ICDI 2017 snapped at the conclusion of the conference

SLP Co-Organizes International Conference on Islamic Finance in Belgium



Syed Imad ud Din Asad with international speakers and SLP delegates at the end of Belgium conference session

UMT School of Law and Policy (SLP) co-organized an international conference titled 'Islamic Finance: Between Religious Norms and Legal Practice,' at Katholieke Universiteit Leuven (KU Leuven), Belgium, on December 7, 2017. SLP was represented by a five-member delegation led by **Syed Imad ud Din Asad**, Director and Associate Professor, SLP. He was also one of the speakers and the title of his presentation was 'Islamic Finance: Concepts, Transactions, Developments and Critique.'

Rodney Wilson, Durham Center for Islamic Economics and Finance (UK), **Mathias Rohe**, Erlangen

Center for Islam and Law in Europe, Germany, **Hans Vesser**, Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, Netherlands, **Reza Zain Jaufeerally**, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium, **Martin Bunning** Ashurst, Germany, **Mohamed Boulif**, Islamic Finance Advisory and Assurance Services (Morocco), **Amel Makhoulouf**, Affaki Avocats, France, and **Mahmoud Al-Gamal**, Rice University, USA, were the other speakers.

Wim De Cock, Professor Faculty of Law, KU Leuven, paid a generous tribute to Imad ud Din Asad. Wim De Cock mentioned that Islamic Finance was introduced at KU Leuven due to the academic collaboration between

KU Leuven's Faculty of Law and SLP, which Imad ud Din Asad negotiated in 2014. **Bernard Tilleman**, Dean, Faculty of Law, KU Leuven, warmly reiterated the same at the conference dinner. He also added that the course on Islamic Finance taught by Imad ud Din Asad at KU Leuven, is one of the most popular courses.

Imad ud Din Asad thanked Bernard Tilleman for patronizing such activities. He also thanked Wim De Cock for making all the arrangements for the conference. No other Pakistani law school holds the distinction of co-organizing an international conference in Europe.

UMT-CPEC BRC Signs MoU with RDI, Chinese Government Think Tank

UMT-CPEC Business and Research Center (BRC) signed an MoU for cooperation with Research and Development International (RDI), a think tank established by the Chinese government under Chinese Academy of Social Sciences (CASS) on November 21, 2017. This process started when **Dr Haroon Rasheed**, Director, CPEC BRC, visited the CASS headquarter in July 2017 and initiated talks for cooperation as directed by **Dr Hasan Sohaib**

Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust. In August 2017, a high level delegation from CASS headed by its president **Dr Wang Weiguang**, Member of National People's Congress and **Dr Zhao Baige** visited UMT.

As a result of these exchanged visits and continuous follow up by both sides, an MoU was signed by **Dr Xiojun Zhu**, Executive Director for International Cooperation, RDI, and Dr Haroon Rasheed, for sharing of research, capacity building, joint

events, joint research projects, advocacy efforts, sharing of experiences and development of policy for governments of both countries.

This cooperation is first of its kind between any Pakistani university and a Chinese government think tank for Belt and Road and CPEC initiatives. It will provide access for scholars, researchers, faculty and students to various projects of Chinese government on BRI and CPEC.

565 Students Win Merit Awards for Outstanding Academic Performance



The Office of Controller of Examination (OCE) at UMT organized the Rector's and Dean's Merit Award Ceremony for Fall 2016 and Spring 2017 sessions to acknowledge the hard work and academic performance of top students from the schools and institutes of UMT on October 27, 2017.

Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT congratulated the students for maintaining high CGPAs. He said that young people are the key to a prosperous Pakistan and judging by the caliber of the students assembled

here today, the future of the country is indeed bright. He advised the students to maintain their CGPAs and strive for greater academic excellence. A total of 565 students were applauded for their academic excellence.

The highest number of merit awards (111) were won by the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSS&H), led by Prof **Dr Abdul Hameed**. This was followed by SBE that succeeded in claiming 101 titles in Fall 2016 and Spring 2017. Students from SHS (81), SSC (75), SST and SEN (73 each), SPA (48), STD (41), SCA (37), IAS (35), SAP (30), SLP

(27), ICCS (24), SGS (6), and IIB (3) qualified for the Rector's and Deans' merit awards respectively. A total of 169 students qualified for Rector's Merit Awards and got tuition fee discount of 6 credit hours. A total of 396 students were selected for Dean's Merit Award and received tuition fee discount of 3 credit hours.

The ceremony concluded on the distribution of awards and certificates. The Chairpersons of the departments, faculty and staff members congratulated the awardees and appreciated the arrangements made by the OCE.



Proud awardees snapped with Rector UMT and faculty members

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad Meets Top Ranking Turkish Officials

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, visited Turkey and met top ranking officials and government representatives to discuss issues of mutual cooperation. The visit was aimed at exploring opportunities for collaboration in diverse areas, and also strengthening bilateral ties between the two countries.

Dr Hasan met **Ihsan Sener**, Chief Advisor to the President of Turkey, and discussed issues of mutual interest. Dr Hasan also called on Prof



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad meets the Turkish Leadership for mutual collaboration

Dr Numan Kurtulmus, Minister of Culture and Tourism, at his office in Ankara. **Atif Ozbey**, Director, UMT

Bureau, Turkey, and **Hasan Yasar**, Advisor to Chairman, ILM Trust, were also present at the occasion.

Abid H K Shirwani Visits Turkey to Discuss Cooperation for IBCE 2018

Abid H K Shirwani, DG UMT, visited Turkey to seek opportunities for cooperation in the upcoming IBCE 2018. He held a productive meeting with **Ibrahim Caglar**, President, Istanbul Chamber of Commerce (ICOC). Executive Members **Servet Samsama** and **Muhamet Usman**, TUMSIAD General Secretary, were also present during the meeting.

The outcomes of participating in IBCE 2017 and benefits accruing to both countries were discussed during the meeting. It is worth mentioning that the ICOC traces its roots to the



Abid H K Shirwani, DG UMT, snapped with Ibrahim Caglar, President ICOC, and executive members Servet Samsama and Muhamet Usman

late 1800s and is one of the most influential trade bodies of the country. It plays an important role in

organizing the commercial, trade and related activities between Turkey and the international community.

Journal of Islamic Thought and Civilization Recognized by HEC



The Journal of Islamic Thought and Civilization has been recognized by the HEC in 'Z Category.' The JITC is among the pioneering journals of the University and is being published biannually since 2011. The inception of the JITC is attributable to the visionary leadership and guidance of **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, who took a special interest in its initial foundation and establishing of the advisory board. JITC has achieved this remarkable status because of continuous support of **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, and **Dr Abdul Hameed**, Dean SSS&H. The Journal started under the guidance of **Dr Muhammad Amin**, IIB, the founding editor of the JITC and later it was led by **Dr Humaira Ahmad**, Editor JITC, up till now. **Muhammad Rafique Awan**, Director, Knowledge and Research Support Services, contributed greatly in improving the quality of the journal to meet the HEC criteria.

PCATP Grants Accreditation to Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) Program

The UMT School of Architecture and Planning (SAP) is honored to share grant of the best accreditation by the Pakistan Council of Architects and Town Planners (PCATP) for Bachelor of Architecture (B. Arch) program for all five batches inducted during 2012, 2013 and 2014. It is the maximum accreditation granted to any such program by the PCATP in the country. The B. Arch program was launched in 2012 and NOC was granted in the shortest time. Interim visit was timely conducted and finally the accreditation visit was



Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, and Faculty of SAP snapped with PCATP team

conducted on November 23, 2017. The final report was received from the Registrar PCATP on January 2,

2018. This accreditation testifies to the quality and high standards of academic excellence at UMT.

IIB Signs MoU with Mahad Al Tirmizi for Academic Collaboration

Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Dean, Institute of Islamic Banking (IIB), and **Mufti Abdul Azeem**, President, Mahad al Tirmizi, signed the MoU at the UMT Campus on November 9, 2017. **Mufti Muhammad Usman**, Deputy Head, Mahad Al Tirmizi, and Members of Advisory Council **Mufti Hassan Ashraf Usmani**, **Dr Khaleel Ahmad**, and **Maulana Abdul Waheed**, were also present. Both organizations have shown a keen interest to boost bilateral relations through building mutual cooperation in academic research and training.



Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Dean IIB, and Mufti Abdul Azeem, President, Mahad al Tirmizi, sign the MoU

The main feature of this MoU was to exchange teaching and learning resources. Under the terms of the

agreement, IIB and Mahad al Tirmizi will also offer courses to each other's students, subject to mutual consent.

MoU Signed between UMT and District Government, Kasur

Dr Naveda Kitchlew, Associate Dean, SBE and Internationalization, and **Rana Sikandar Hayat Khan**, Chairman, District Council, Kasur, signed an MoU facilitated by the Sustainable Development Initiative (SDI) under the Office of Internationalization (OIN), on October 11, 2017. Under the agreement, SBE students will be engaged with Kasur District Government for community services, internships and volunteer work. Furthermore, SBE faculty will be engaged with Kasur Education Department for teacher's training.



Prof Mesut Ozcan Visits UMT to Mark 70 Years of Pak-Turk Friendship



Lt. Gen (Retd) Javed Hassan, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri, Prof Mesut Ozcan, Dr Muhammad Aslam and Ufuk Ulutas, snapped at the 70th Pak-Turk celebrations

Prof Mesut Ozcan, Chairman, Center of Strategic Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Turkey, visited the Pak-Turk Studies Center at UMT to speak in a seminar to celebrate 70 years of Turkey-Pakistan diplomatic relations on November 28, 2017.

Prof Ozcan said that the role of modern universities in imparting quality education for development is crucial and an economy without education can not get a boost. He appreciated **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, for taking the lead in setting up Pakistan's

first Pak-Turk Studies Center at UMT which would act as a platform to conduct public policy research. Through this Center, scholarships to Pakistani students would be given to

pursue further studies in Turkey. **Khurshid Mahmood Kasuri**, former Foreign Minister of Pakistan, who presided over the event, said that Turkey had supported Pakistan in trying times and it was continuously contributing to the development of the country and its prosperity.

Other attendees included Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, **Lt-Gen (R) Humayun Khan Bangash**, **Lt-Gen Waheed Arshad**, **Maj-Gen Tariq Masood**, **Shamshad Ahmad Khan**, **Dr Salman Shah**, **I A Rehman**, **Shafqat Mehmood**, **Rubina Tayab**, and **Muhammad Haroon Shaukat**.



Attendees snapped at the conclusion of 70th Pak-Turk celebrations

Turkish Ambassador to Pakistan Sadik Babur Girgin Visits UMT

His Excellency **Sadik Babur Girgin**, Turkish Ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and **Serdar Deniz**, Turkish Consul General of Lahore, were warmly received at the UMT Campus by **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, **Ibrahim Hasan Murad**, Director, Academic Quality and Assessment, senior UMT faculty and staff members on November 11, 2017.

The visit marked another milestone in the history of Pakistan and Turkey relations. The Pak-Turkiye Miras Club was launched during this special visit. H.E Sadik Babur Girgin shared



His Excellency Sadik Babur Girgin snapped with Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Muhammad Aslam and UMT Officials

his views on Pak-Turk relations with the large gathering. His speech was followed by a question and answer session during which the audience

asked many questions regarding avenues for future collaboration. The event concluded on vote of thanks by Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad.



Pak-Turkey Studies Center Inaugurated at UMT

UMT established the Pak-Turkey Studies Center (PTSC) October 28, 2017 to act as an island of excellence to produce purpose oriented, strategic and academically focused public policy research, indigenously as well as in collaboration with Turkey. **Lt General (R) Javed Hassan** has been appointed as Director PTSC. The

Center will provide a forum for strategic discourse, dialogue and exchange of ideas. Addressing the inaugural session, **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, said that President **Recep Tayyip Erdoğan** has given us confidence in Pakistan to rise economically at par with Turkey. He

was responding to a question put forth by a student. The inaugural session was graced by the presence of **H Eihsan Sener**, Chief Advisor to President, **Dr Hasan Ali Celik**, Deputy Minister of Science, Industry and Technology, and **Can Yoldas**, Deputy Head, Embassy of Republic of Turkey.

High Level Turkish Delegation Discusses Academic Opportunities with UMT

Mehmet KOSE, President, Presidency for Turks Abroad and Related Communities (YTB), a government authority for educational scholarships in the Office of Prime Minister of Turkey, along with **Serdar Deniz**, Consul General in Lahore, Education Attache, Embassy of Turkey in Islamabad, and Director Maarif Foundation, visited UMT on November 12, 2017. The delegation met **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, **Ibrahim Hasan Murad**, Director, Academic Quality



and Assessment, and **Lt. General (R) Javed Hassan**, Director, Pak-Turkey Studies Center, to discuss academic opportunities for UMT students in Turkey. Members of the Executive

Committee of Pak-Türkiye Miraskulübü were also present. The President YTB is sponsoring 164 students out of 1600 Pakistani scholarship holders in Turkey.

Peer Review Team Visits UMT for NBEAC Re-Accreditation

The National Business Education Accreditation Council's (NBEAC) Peer Review Team (PRT) visited UMT School of Business and Economics from November 22-24, 2017 for re-accreditation. The team met high ranking officials and senior faculty members.

Dr Naveda Kitchlew, Associate Dean Academics and Internationalization (SBE), was the



key person whereas the faculty and staff members represented the

University in their respective capacities.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad and Dr Muhammad Aslam Inaugurate O Fest 2017

The Office of Participant Affairs (OPA) arranged a grand Freshman Orientation for the new entrants of Fall 2017 at UMT Campus on October 18, 2017. **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, and **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, inaugurated the event. Welcoming the new students, Dr Hasan said that the future promises a rigorous academic routine marked by ample opportunities for personal development. He advised them to work towards securing good grades and take their studies seriously. Sharing his perspective with the students, Dr Aslam said that the new students would require some time to adjust to the fast pace of the semester system which sometimes appears like a rollercoaster ride. However, hard work, commitment and respect for their faculty members ensure a successful academic journey.

The inauguration was followed by the national anthem and *sufi kalam* recited by UMT student **Maham Jamil**. UMT student members from all the clubs and societies participated in the orientation with enthusiasm. Various activities were conducted to boost the event. These included *Mime-Dosti*, Attan Dance, Comedy Time by comedians **Asif Iqbal** and **Zafri Khan**, *Sufi Kalam* by **Maryam Ashiq** and performances by the Dramatics Club and Pakistan Forum members. The wide range of food stalls attracted the new comers and old students alike. The O Fest 2017 reflected hospitality and welcome spirit of the UMT community. The warm welcome meted out to the new students motivated them to give their best across all academic and extracurricular activities.



UMT Career Fair 2017 Attracts Hundreds of Job Seekers

UMT Career Fair was organized by the Office of Career Services (OCS) at UMT Greens on November 30, 2017, under the theme, 'Backpack to Briefcase.' The event was inaugurated by Prof **Dr Mohammad Nizamuddin**, Chairman, Punjab Higher Education Commission (PHEC), **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, **Chaudhry Muhammad Siddique**, Minister of Special Education, Punjab, **Manzoor ul Haq Malik**, Vice President and Regional Chairman, FPCCI and **Sarmad Hussain**, Regional Head (Lahore), Pakistan Stock Exchange Limited.

In his welcome note, Dr Muhammad Aslam appreciated the efforts of OCS team and UMT Community for organizing such a mega event and encouraged participants to make full use of the opportunities presented by the Career Fair.

This mega annual Career Fair brought 100+ organizations comprising of renowned consultancies, local and foreign institutes, MNCs, and SMEs including Nestlé, VIVO Smartphones, Careerz360.pk, TCL Electronics Pakistan, Gooline Pvt. Ltd., Packages, Pepsi Cola, Riaz Bottlers Pvt. Ltd., Cotton Web Ltd., Crescent Bahuman Ltd., Stoneage, Descon Oxychemicals Ltd., Haier Pakistan, Jotun Paints, Wilshire Labs, The Urban Unit, SMEDA, Hyperstar, Joyland Ltd., Bayt.com, HBL, Stylo Group, Hardee's, Starlet, DWP Group, Bank Alfalah Limited, and many more under one roof. Their recruitment stalls were thronged by a large number of fresh graduates and students across Lahore. More than 50 food and entrepreneurial stalls were also set up where visitors enjoyed traditional and fast food.

Jamil A Naz, Life Member FPCCI, Chairman WTO and Liaison Officer for Koelnmesse GmbH and MesseDuesseldorf FPCCI and **Ahsen ud Din**, Director Technology, Fatima Group, were the chief guests at the closing ceremony. Addressing on the occasion, **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, said that UMT is creating employment opportunities for students and gives them an exposure to deal with the organizations directly.

OCS also launched its Employer Portal for recruiters and a cake cutting ceremony was held in this regard. Talented students from the Disability Resource Center (DRC) gave special performance on the national anthem. The job seekers and guests acknowledged the role of UMT in promoting entrepreneurial culture.



UMT Organizes Get Together with Overseas Students

Overseas students were invited to a special get together on November 19, 2017 to provide them an opportunity to connect beyond the campus and to better assimilate into the Pakistani community. The get together, which was organized at the Avari Hotel, started with recitation of some verses from the Holy Quran followed by the national anthem.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman, ILM Trust, and **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, delivered the welcome note to the overseas students and shared their valuable insight with them.

UMT participants gave mime and drama performances to entertain the audience. They also shared their stories and experiences related to adjusting to life at UMT and in



Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad and Dr Muhammad Aslam snapped with overseas students and OPA team

Pakistan. **Hassan Nagra**, former President of the Overseas Participants Club, and recipient of a gold medal for strong performance in extra-curricular activities, acknowledged that UMT had polished his skills in many ways. He encouraged students

to participate in clubs and societies. The get together was graced by the presence of **Dr Rukhsana Kalim**, Dean IIB, **Rahat ul Ain**, Director SGS, **Asif Saeed Haider**, Principal Secretary, and **Muhammad Faiz Chishti**, Head OTS.

Dr Muhammad Aslam Inaugurates Information Processing Center (IPC)-II

Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, inaugurated the newly established Information Processing Center (IPC)-II in the southwest building, near the campus mosque on November 21, 2017. Designed with state-of-the-art infrastructure and modern technology, the IPC-II has a capacity of 160 latest core i-7 computer systems which will cater to the needs of the students of School of Systems and Technology (SST), and School of Textile and Design (STD).

The computer lab is fully equipped with networking, email, internet and specific software and printing facility, and would also work with wireless and high speed Wifi network. Dr Muhammad Aslam highly appreciated the relevant departments for the timely completion of the project. He said that the new IPC-II would reduce traffic and provide



Dr Muhammad Aslam, Rector UMT, snapped with UMT Officials at the launch of IPC-II

conducive environment for the students to complete their academic work. He also commented that further developments regarding IT and

infrastructure are underway. Later on, the Rector took a visit of the classrooms, labs and faculty offices of the new academic block.

UNHCR Representatives Visit CHRJ to Discuss Opportunities for Collaboration

Representatives from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (#UNHCR) visited the Center for Human Rights and Justice (#CHRJ) on October 5, 2017. **Dinesh Shrestha**, Head, UNHCR Sub-Office, Quetta, and **Waseem ur Rahman**, Legal Associate, UNHCR, met with the CHRJ Team to discuss how academia can work as a catalyst for social change. **Amna Rashid**, Director CHRJ, **Umar Rashid**, Faculty Advisor, CHRJ, chaired the meeting. **Daniyal Mughal**, student volunteer, was also present. Finally, **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, shared his precious words with the guests and presented souvenirs to them.

This meeting opened up unique research opportunities for CHRJ, UMT students and faculty. With a healthy collaboration between UNHCR and CHRJ, UMT will be at the forefront of academic collaboration, research, workshops,



Amna Rashid, Waseem ur Rehman, Dinesh Shrestha, Dr Muhammad Aslam and Umar Rashid

seminars and conferences in Pakistan on issues pertaining to human rights. CHRJ is hopeful that this will create more opportunities for UMT in the future to build bridges between academia and international relief agencies. At present, with a refugee population nearing 1.5 million Pakistan is host to the world's second largest refugee

population. UNHCR is the UN program mandated to protect and support refugees at the request of a government or the UN itself and it assists in their voluntary repatriation and local integration. Pakistan was the world's largest refugee hosting country for more than three decades and UNHCR has a continued presence in Pakistan.



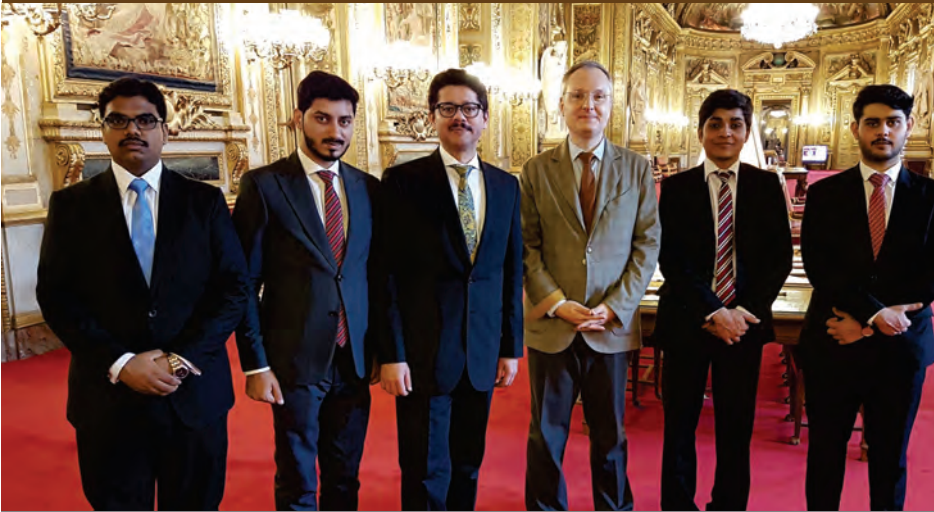
Sadia Asif Meets Mark R Ginsberg at GMU, USA, for Faculty Collaboration

Sadia Asif, Director CTL, met with **Mark R Ginsberg**, Dean, College of Education and Human Development, at George Mason University (GMU), USA, and discussed the positive outcome of UMT - GMU collaboration. The goal of the Collaboration for Faculty Excellence in Teaching and Research (CFETR) is to foster collaboration and strengthen person-to-person ties between the US and Pakistan through faculty

exchanges, joint research and academic contributions to further the collective understanding of effective pedagogical practices and expand research competencies. Through this initiative, Faculty Fellows from UMT participated in academic seminars developed at GMU and engaged in research initiatives with Mason faculty in their fields. These activities were designed to expand academic capacity and infuse cross-cultural

knowledge and international mindset into educational practice. Two groups of 20 UMT Faculty Fellows each (total of 40) visited the Mason Campus; the first visit was in Spring 2016 and the second took place in Fall 2016, for seminars, cultural exchanges and research. It is worth noting that the CFETR funding has been extended by the US State Department for another six months for the UMT Fellows.

SLP Hosted at the French Senate



SLP delegation led by Syed Imad ud Din Asad snapped with Frederic Bourdais, Legal Counsel, French Senate

UMT School of Law and Policy's (SLP) delegation, led by **Syed Imad ud Din Asad**, Founding Director and Associate Professor, SLP, was

cordially hosted at the French Senate by **Frederic Bourdais**, Legal Counsel, French Senate, on December 4, 2017. Upon arrival at

the Senate, the delegation was treated to a full-course lunch at the Senators' restaurant in order to give the delegation a taste of the French cuisine. Afterwards, the delegation was given a thorough tour of the Senate.

The delegation was also given the opportunity to attend the proceedings of the on-going plenary session of the French Senate. Throughout the tour, the host explained various details regarding the French system of government, working of the French Senate, history of the French Senate, and the palace in which the French Senate is located. This was the first time that a Pakistani law school was hosted at the French Senate.

Second Summer Program in Belgium for SLP Students

As part of the ongoing collaboration between University of Antwerp (UA) and UMT School of Law and Policy (SLP), UA offered another summer program for SLP students from August 20 to September 2, 2017. The program was titled 'Companies Crossing Borders.' UA invited 9 SLP students and their academic supervisor to participate in the program. SLP students were registered as UA students and received library access and all other facilities offered to regular UA students.

UA offered the program free-of-cost to SLP students, i.e., SLP students did not pay any fee to UA; European and North American students also participated in the program and paid the fee to UA. Certificates were awarded to SLP students by UA. On behalf of UA, **Professor Dr Robby Houben** organizes and conducts the program each year. UA offered the



SLP faculty and students snapped with UA faculty as part of the summer program

first summer program to SLP students in 2016. The arrangement regarding the summer program was first finalized by **Syed Imad ud Din Asad**, Founding Director, SLP and **Prof Dr Dirk Vanheule**, Dean,

Faculty of Law, UA in 2015. SLP is the only law school in Pakistan which has been able to arrange such opportunities for its students. SLP is not only maintaining its lead, but also improving it.

OCS Launches Innovation Champions Boot Camp and Club (ICBCC)



The Office of Career Services (OCS) at UMT launched Innovation Champions Boot Camp and Club (ICBCC) under the umbrella of Human Capital Development Forum (HCDF) -A Think Tank, at UMT Greens on October 17, 2017.

The purpose of this event was to orient the participants about the importance of innovation in their

careers and to create enabling environment for them to realize the importance of thinking through the platform of ICBCC.

A plaque signing ceremony was conducted where **Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad**, Chairman, ILM Trust, and **Dr Muhammad Aslam**, Rector UMT, endorsed ICBCC. Dr Aslam appreciated the efforts of OCS to

raise the importance of innovation in UMT's learning culture.

The event was also attended by **Aamir Niazi**, CEO, Descon Oxychem, **Nauman Majeed**, CEO, Style Textile, **Samita Khawar**, Director, Pakistan Frost and Sullivan, and **Chaudary Ejaz Ahmed**, MD, Haroon and Hussain Marketing Associates. A thought provoking skit on the theme of 'Flintstone to Jetsons/Innovation is everyone's responsibility' in collaboration with the UMT students from Dramatics Club was delivered.

The ceremony closed with the vote of thanks by **Khalid Naqi**, Chief Project Lead and Advisor, Human Capital Development Forum (HCDF)-A Think Tank, and Director OCS. He briefed the stakeholders about the rationale behind ICBCC and made the participants aware about the importance of innovation in their careers.

SLP Screens Luther Movie During the Course in Islamic Jurisprudence

Syed Imad ud Din Asad, Associate Professor and Founding Director SLP, screened Luther in his course on Islamic jurisprudence, which is offered to 2nd year LL.B. candidates on October 25, 2017. The screening was followed by a discussion led by Imad ud Din Asad on the 16th century Catholic Church and the present-day Islam. Luther's approach towards religion, and the similarities between Luther's approach towards religion and those of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan,

Sir Muhammad Iqbal, Muhammad Ali Jinnah, and Muhammad Asad were discussed in detail.

The movie is about the 16th century German monk, Martin Luther, who rejected the materialism prevalent in the Catholic Church; translated the scriptures in the language of the people in order for them to understand the message of God; and, ultimately, brought about the Protestant Reformation.



Maulana Tariq Jameel Holds Spiritual Talks at UMT



Maulana Tariq Jameel, renowned Islamic scholar, delivered a spiritually invigorating talk at the UMT Campus on November 15, 2017. Stressing upon the need of synchronizing one's life and deeds with the instructions given by the Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (PBUH) and the injunctions of the Holy Quran, Maulana Tariq Jameel urged all those present to mold their lives accordingly. He narrated many

instances from his life when he had sought guidance from Allah which was always provided to him. He added that it is important for the youth to understand the essence of the teachings of Islam so that they may lead the way as ambassadors of the religion. Maulana Tariq stated examples from *Surah Maryam* and mentioned various miracles of life, which depict the oneness and glory of Allah. He advised the youth to refrain

from deceit, remain content with Allah's blessings and stay obedient to their parents in all matters of life. He said that Islam provides guidance in all matters; it is just a question of having faith in Allah. The session was widely attended by senior UMT officials, faculty, students and members of the general public from all walks of life who converged at the UMT Campus to listen to the spiritual talk.

Course on Law and Economics

Dr Klaus Ulrich Schmolke, Chair of Private Law, Company Law, and Business Law at FAU, taught a four-day course, titled "Introduction to Law and Economics," at SLP, from November 20-23, 2017. The course was taught as part of the ongoing collaboration between UMT School of Law and Policy (SLP) and Friedrich-Alexander-Universität (FAU), Germany.

At the end of the course, Prof Schmolke awarded FAU certificates to the participants, which included LL.B. and LL.M. in Commercial Law candidates. This was Prof. Schmolke's second visit to SLP and this was the third course taught by FAU professor at SLP.



SLP is the only law school in Pakistan where professors from prestigious European universities regularly teach courses and award their certificates to the participants.

SLP students do not pay any fee for these courses and certificates. The collaboration with FAU was negotiated and finalized by **Syed Imad ud Din Asad** in 2015.

OIA and OER Representatives Visit Aitchison College to Pitch Admissions Campaign for Spring 2018

The team of Office of Information and Admissions (OIA) and Office of External Relations (OER) at UMT visited Aitchison College, Lahore, on December 7, 2017 to pitch the Spring Admissions Campaign. The UMT team met **Dr Naila Burney Chughtai**, Head of Admissions, Guidance and Counseling, and Head of A' Levels at Aitchison College, Lahore.

Syed Moazzam Ali and **Muhammad Saleem**, OIA team members, gave brief presentation on various degree programs. They also shared the



Syed Moazzam Ali presents souvenir to Dr Naila Burney Chughtai as a goodwill gesture

diversified approach to strong networking relations in future. **Abdul Moeed Malik** from OER, shared the departmental publication. He

discussed various aspects of the progress made by UMT and its contribution towards the promotion of higher education in Pakistan.

UMT-OIN Arranges Interviews for Student Exchange Program

The Office of Internationalization (OIN) arranged interviews of SBE and SST students for Student Exchange Program at Northeastern Illinois University (NEIU), Chicago, for Spring 2018 session on October 13, 2017. UMT and NEIU have been actively engaged in student exchange and study/cultural tours. The interviews were conducted by **Sami ullah Bajwa**, Director, Internationalization.



Sami ullah Bajwa interviews prospective candidates for Student Exchange Program

Rebecca Garcia Conducts Workshop on Entrepreneurial Technologies

UMT Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CENTIN) at UMT in collaboration with the Office of Chairman, invited renowned international speaker **Rebecca Garcia** to conduct a workshop with members of US Consulate General, Lahore, on November 15, 2017. Talking about entrepreneurial technology skills, she stated that people are becoming more adaptive towards smart devices. Technological trends can groom entrepreneurs to



Rebecca Garcia snapped with the participants of the workshop

launch their brands. It is worth noting that Rebecca co-founded CoderDojo NYC, a non-profit teaching youth to

code as part of the free global movement. CoderDojo has over 1000 chapters in 70 countries.

Dr Rizwan Naseer Throws Light on Rescue 1122 Challenges and Efforts

The School of Governance and Society (SGS) invited **Dr Rizwan Naseer**, CEO (DG), Rescue 1122, to speak on 'Challenges of Rescue Services in Urban Areas' at the UMT Campus on November 7, 2017. He stated that Rescue 1122 was created under The Punjab Emergency Service Act promulgated in 2006, which provided legal cover to the Emergency Services Reforms initiated in 2004 from Lahore. As a result of the performance of Rescue 1122 during emergencies and disasters in recent years, it has also been notified as the Disaster Response Force by the Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA) and Government of the Punjab.

Dr Naseer also commented that the Punjab Emergency Service (Rescue



Dr Rizwan Naseer addresses the session in the presence of Rahat ul Ain and Dr Muhammad Yusuf Awan

1122) is a leading emergency humanitarian service of Pakistan, with infrastructure in all 36 districts of Punjab. It is providing technical assistance to other provinces. Rescue 1122 has rescued millions of victims of emergencies through its Emergency Ambulance, Rescue and

Fire Services and Community Emergency Response Teams while maintaining its average response time of less than 7 minutes. The session was attended by **Dr Muhammad Yusuf Awan**, Dean SAP, **Rahat ul Ain**, Director SGS, faculty of SGS, and MS and MPA students.

SAP Invites Shakeel Anjum Minhas to Deliver Lecture on Working of Development Authorities

The School of Architecture and Planning (SAP) invited **Shakeel Anjum Minhas**, Director, Metropolitan Planning, Lahore Development Authority, to deliver a lecture on the 'Roles and Responsibilities of Development Authority' at the UMT Campus on October 5, 2017. The topic covered the role of urban planners in the utilization of land regulating development plans, land use and building control, allocation of land uses, zoning, violation control during and after construction, field inquiry, notice issuance to violators, follow up and show cause notices.

Shakeel Anjum Minhas initiated the lecture on the basis of ground realities by giving an example of globe as a land parcel that we, as urban planners, have to utilize natural



Dr Fariha Tariq from SAP presents souvenir to Shakeel Anjum Minhas along with Romana Khan Shirwani and M Umair

resources in a sustainable manner. He highlighted the role of urban planners in placement and utilization of land as regulators of development authorities. He explained the

procedures adopted by LDA in controlling such violations. He also talked about hurdles during demolition process through court stay orders or political influences.

UMT-ORIC Workshop Places Emphasis on the Art of Winning NRP-HEC Projects



Abid H K Shirwani presents shield and certificate to Dr Sajid Hamid Akash

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) organized a workshop on 'The Art of Winning NRP-HEC Projects' at the UMT Campus on October 4, 2017.

A large number of faculty members and guest speakers from different departments and schools participated in this workshop. **Abid H K Shirwani**, DG UMT and Director ORIC, welcomed the faculty members and guests. **Naveed ul Haq**,

Research Associate, gave an overview of the workshop and also discussed the role of HEC in improving research culture in Pakistan.

The workshop invited five trainers for training the faculty members to write for NRP-HEC projects. **Dr Zaffar Mehmood**, Associate Professor, FCU, started his session by discussing step-by-step procedures to write a research proposal for funding agencies. He discussed the review process of

NRP-HEC proposals and criteria for writing these projects. He also presented some case studies for group activities on NRP-HEC project rejections.

Naveed ul Haq presented his session on the financial aspects of the NRP-HEC proposals and budgeting methods. He discussed the evaluation process of the NRP-HEC submitted proposals and also discussed reasons for their rejection. **Dr Sajid Hamid Akash**, Assistant Professor, Manager ORIC, GCUF, and **Dr Mudassar Abbas**, Associate Professor, UMT, shared their personal experiences and success stories for winning NRP-HEC projects.

Rahmat Ullah, Manager ORIC, UMT, Chief Coordinator, Institute of Research Promotion (IRP) and Secretary General, South Asia Triple Helix Association, discussed the management of research proposals and incentives for writing commercial projects with industry liaison.

UMT-IIB Organizes Workshop on International Trade and Finance

The Institute of Islamic Banking (IIB) at UMT in collaboration with BankIslami held a training workshop from October 21-22, 2017 at UMT Campus. **Adeel Kamran**, Unit Head-Central, Trade Finance Department, BankIslami Pakistan Limited, delivered an effective lecture based on real-life case studies.

He discussed the problem faced by customers and banks regarding international payments and necessary documentation required in international trade and finance. The session was attended by IIB



Participants snapped at the conclusion of the workshop

students who acknowledged the relevance and depth of the

information imparted during the training.

DELL Organizes Seminar on Writing PhD Thesis for Scholars



Dr Muhammad Shaban with Dr Maria Isabel Maldonado presents souvenir to Dr Anna Evmenova

Dr Rebecca Fox, Professor of Education, and **Dr Anna Evmenova**, Associate Professor, George Mason University, USA, were invited by the Department of English Language and Literature (DELL) to speak in a seminar on 'Writing PhD Thesis' to cater for the academic writing needs of PhD Linguistics/English Literature

scholars on October 27, 2017. The speakers suggested appropriate solutions to problems faced by our scholars in writing PhD dissertation. They said that the scholars must retain their originality, seek their own inspiration to select a topic of their own choosing, and develop an appropriate methodology. They also

discussed some general problems faced by research scholars in academic writing and encouraged them to inculcate diagrams, charts and graphs in their dissertation in order to bring clarity in the description and presentation of data, and to make the dissertation reader-friendly.

They also admitted language related issues in the discussion regarding the use of English as a second language for the researcher, who may never be able to develop a native like competence in it. Besides, they said that there are expressions in every language which are untranslatable. So, the researcher should not be discouraged due to relatively limited proficiency in English.

Dr Muhammad Shaban, Acting Chairperson, DELL, thanked the guests for sharing their valuable insight and presented souvenirs.

SCA Session Highlights the Value of Pakistan Stock Exchange

Ali Nadeem, Head of Sales, First National Equities Ltd (FNEL), was invited by the School of Commerce and Accountancy (SCA), Quaid-e-Azam Campus, to speak on Pakistan Stock Exchange (PSX) on October 17, 2017. He enlightened the students regarding working and trends at Pakistan Stock Exchange. He commented that PSX provides a reliable, orderly, liquid and efficient digitized market place, where investors can buy and sell listed companies' common stocks and other securities.

As a result of demutualization, the Exchange stood corporatized and demutualized as a public company limited by shares under the name of 'Karachi Stock Exchange Limited', with effect from August 27, 2012.



SCA Attendees listening to Ali Nadeem's views on Pakistan Stock Exchange

Subsequently, the three stock exchanges namely Karachi Stock Exchange, Lahore Stock Exchange and Islamabad Stock Exchange were integrated into PSX in 2016.

Muhammad Azeem Naz, Director, Quaid-e-Azam Campus, also presented souvenir to the speaker. The event was organized by **Farah Yaseer**, Assistant Professor, SCA.

Office of Research, Innovation and Commercialization

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) has been set up at UMT under the guidelines of the Higher Education Commission (HEC) to facilitate high-quality research process in the University and its commercialization. It is responsible for the research training of students and faculty, planning, execution, support, IPRs, and technology transfer to develop industry-academia linkages in order to provide an appropriate mechanism for the process of commercialization. ORIC offers various services which include identification of need based research for UMT faculty and students, identification of stakeholders as research partners for UMT faculty and students, exploring financial opportunities and support possibilities for UMT research and facilitating in development and transfer of research output to the end user.

UMT Business Incubation Center, as part of ORIC, serves graduates to build ventures on innovative ideas. ORIC has international quality expertise and local networking to mentor graduates for startups. It has successfully developed the IRP Network, South Asian Triple Helix Association (SATHA), Innovation Summit and WebHike Solutions.

