Honest, self-reliant leadership essential for progress
Ahsan Iqbal shares his views on challenges and opportunities for Pakistan

The Center for the Globally Responsible Leaders (CGRL) organized a seminar on challenges and opportunities for Pakistan on January 16, 2010. Ahsan Iqbal, Secretary Information PML(N), Shamshad Ahmad Khan, former Foreign Secretary, and Dr Ijaz Shafi Gillani, Chairman, Gallup Pakistan, were invited as guest speakers.

The seminar was attended by a large number of students, faculty and staff members. Addressing the occasion, Ahsan Iqbal said that in spite of the problems being faced by Pakistan, the future still belonged to the Pakistani people and we should be fully prepared to meet the challenges of the times. “We all”, he said “are equally responsible for the ongoing crises but we should not lose hope as our past is full of achievements and failures, hopes and despair, and we have survived bigger crises than what we see today”. He pointed out that progress is only possible if we have honest, committed and self reliant leadership.

UMT and NPO ink MoU for a strategic alliance

The University of Management and Technology (UMT) and National Productivity Organization (NPO), Ministry of Industries, Investment and Special Initiatives, Pakistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on November 14, 2009. The occasion was graced by the presence of Ejaz Rasool Chaudhry, General Manager, NPO, Pakistan and Chief Asian Productivity Organization (APO), Pakistan, Muhammad Kashif Afzal, Manager NPO Lahore Region, Prof Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector, UMT, Dr Nabeel Amin, Chairman, Department of Textiles, UMT, senior faculty members, guests from the industry and students. The MoU was signed by Dr A R Kausar and Ejaz Rasool Chaudhry who represented their respective institutions.

The ceremony started with the recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran. A G Ghaffari, Head OCM and Director EFP, gave the welcome note and highlighted the importance of the strategic alliance between NPO and UMT while emphasizing the importance of academia-industry linkages for the enhancement of quality and productivity of the industrial sector in the country.

Wake up to the demands of the twenty-first century,
UMT will help you rise to the challenge: Pro-Rector welcomes new comers at UMT

Orientation Fall 2009 from L to R: Salman Saeed Qureshi (Registrar UMT), Tahir Mohyiuddin (Director IAA), Dr Sarwar M Azhar (Dean SBE), Dr A R Kausar (Pro-Rector UMT), Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti (Dean SST), Dr Zafar Iqbal (Dean SSH) and Dr Kamran Siddiqui (Director SPA)
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Honest, self-reliant leadership essential for progress

“If we fail to have a collective vision, selfless leadership with high values and principles, rule of law and justice, culture of transparency and accountability”, he cautioned, “we might see an irreversible damage”.

Sharing his views with the audience, Shamshad Ahmad Khan said that terrorism had become the sole identity of Pakistan and the country was being seen both as a problem and a key to its solution. He said that Pakistan suffered serious image problems and was being viewed in the comity of nations as a breeding ground for extremism and militancy. On a pragmatic note he added that we should not always blame external forces for all our problems and should accept responsibility for our own failures.

Dr Ijaz Shafi Gillani, Chairman Gallup Pakistan, told the audience that despite the current crises and the war on terror, current surveys showed that Pakistanis as a nation had a strong belief that the country would come out of the present crisis. He enumerated five factors which proved this factual optimism; restoration of the Chief Justice, revoking of the NRO, opposition to the Kerry Lugar bill, uprisings by the people of Swat against terrorism, and failure of separatist movements in Baluchistan. He was of the view that all this reflected the triumph of the collective will of the majority of the people of Pakistan.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, thanked the distinguished guests for taking the time to share their views with all those present. He also extended his gratitude to the speakers for their devotion and commitment to the cause of Pakistan. He informed everyone that UMT would publish an encyclopedia on Pakistan in the near future.

Earlier, Muhammad Nazim, Director General CGRL, welcomed the guests and acknowledged that the problems being faced by Pakistan are immense, irrefutable and global in nature. He said that the corporate sector held the key to ensure progress and bring about a change for the better. Elaborating the role of CGRL in preparing future leaders, Prof Nazim said that the Center would work along with other stakeholders at all organizational levels to prepare leaders capable of operating on a global scale.

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UMT and NPO ink MoU for a strategic alliance

Muhammad Kashif Afzal gave a comprehensive presentation highlighting the roles and responsibilities of NPO and APO. He gave special emphasis on the role of NPO in the development of public and private sectors of the country and activities targeting the youth. He said that NPO operated in a wide domain covering productivity, benchmarking, energy efficiency, knowledge management, quality, six sigma, training and development, research, etc. He also elaborated the benefits accruing from the MOU signed between NPO and UMT.

Addressing the occasion, Ejaz Rasool Chaudhry offered his cooperation to UMT and hoped that both the stakeholders will go a long way in the productive journey that had begun with the signing of the MOU. He appreciated the efforts of Dr Nabeel Amin towards the practical realization of the MOU and expressed his willingness to involve students and faculty of UMT in projects in research and development, energy efficiency, productivity, etc.

Delivering the vote of thanks, Dr A R Kausar congratulated NPO on its progress and emphasized the need to start activities in the field of Knowledge Management in Pakistan. He acknowledged the efforts of Dr Nabeel Amin, and said that the Department of Textiles would go a long way under his leadership. At the end, souvenirs were distributed to the distinguished guests. Dr A R Kausar presented UMT souvenirs to Ejaz Rasool Chaudhry, GM NPO, and Muhammad Kashif Afzal, Manager NPO Lahore Region. The GM NPO reciprocated this good will gesture by presenting the NPO souvenir and flag to Dr A R Kausar.

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Wake up to the demands of the twenty-first century, UMT will help you rise to the challenge: Pro-Rector welcomes new comers at UMT

The University of Management and Technology (UMT) organized an orientation seminar for new students on Monday, September 28, 2009 at its campus in Johar Town, Lahore. Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, welcomed the new students and introduced the academic team. On a special note, he took a few moments to welcome the new students and their parents. He apprised everyone present that the academic team at UMT led by Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, widely known academician, leader and entrepreneur in the South Asian world comprised of distinguished educators who had rich experience of working in various schools across the globe. UMT was also proud to have on board Dr Abdul Rouf, SI, Distinguished National Professor of HEC and author of numerous books and research papers. Elaborating the academic culture of UMT, Dr Kausar said that the students were called participants here because after twenty years of learning, it was felt that they had something to share as well. “You learn from us and we learn from you”, he said, adding that both inside and outside the classroom, the University would help them achieve their true potential. Sharing the vision of the University with those present, Dr Kausar said that UMT believed in promoting learning and as such aspired to become an institution that bred leaders. He advised the youngsters present that they should not be taken aback at the use of the word ‘leader’ – they would be encouraged to lead their classes and later become leaders of society at different levels. Dr Kausar said that the young generation was the switch of success for Pakistan and asked them to be the best through making use of the knowledge, wisdom and learning imparted at UMT. On an important note, he said that life in the twenty-first century was very demanding and they must never let their learning become outdated. They should focus on the future. After learning, they must unlearn whatever had become obsolete and then relearn according to the technology, tools and knowledge required for the future.

Later, Engineer Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT, introduced the academic policies of UMT and reminded the students that they had chosen a university that had been granted a charter by the Punjab Government and awarded Category C by the HEC. He also explained the core functions of the Office of the Registrar. He advised them to adhere to the rules and regulations of the University, pay their dues on time and take the time to go through the Participants Handbook.

The Registrar’s address was followed by a special presentation describing ‘Life at UMT’. Prepared by the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA), the presentation depicted various facets of extra-curricular and sports activities organized at UMT for the benefit of the students.

In the end, Dr A R Kausar took the stage again to guide the students of the School of Business and Economics (SBE), the School of Science and Technology (SST), School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) and the Institute of Audit and Accountancy (IAA) about their registration processes. The proceedings were anchored by Attiya Rehman, Assistant Registrar Academics, and began with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Hafiz Bilal Farooq. Those who were present on the occasion included A G Ghaffari, Director Events, Forums and Publishing, Rana Ifikhar Ahmad, Director Participant Services, Akbar Ali Chaudhry, Director Finance, Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer, Col Zafar Ali (Retd), Head, Office of Facilities Management (OFM), Muhammad Taufeeq, Head, Office of Admissions, Asif Saeed Haider, Controller of Examinations, Ahmad Abdullah, Head Human Resources, Nauman Nadeem, Head, Office of Information Technology (OIT), and Firdous Ahmad, Head, Information Processing Center (IPC).

More than one thousand new students and their parents/guardians attended the Fall 2009 orientation. They were provided with copies of the Participants Handbook, Academic Calendar, UMT News, Learnings and other university publications. Later, the new entrants visited different laboratories, departments and library at UMT where they were briefed about the membership, services and facilitation processes.
The inauguration ceremony of the Late Muhammad Siddique Magoon Memorial Information Processing Center was held at the UMT campus on November 05, 2009. The guests of honor included Tanveer Ahmed Magoon, Muhammad Naeem Ahmed Magoon and Muhammad Musaddiq Magoon, Directors of Siddique Leather Works (Pvt) Ltd. Relations between the Magoon Family and the ILM community span nearly two decades. The Late Muhammad Siddique Magoon was a huge benefactor of ILM and the Information Processing Center of the University has been named after him in recognition of this generous patronage. Part of the Shafi Group, Siddique Leather Works is one of the leading manufacturers of leather products and winners of the export trophy in Pakistan.

The ceremony was attended by Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti, Dean SST, Dr Abdul Hameed, Associate Dean SSSH, Salman Saeed, Registrar UMT, Prof Muhammad Aslam, CEO The Knowledge School, Zahid Waraich, Director ILM College and a large number of UMT faculty and staff members. A G Ghaflari, Director Events, Forums and Publishing (EFP) and Head, Office of Communications and Media (OCM) anchored the proceedings.

Addressing on the occasion, Dr Hasan Sobrai Murad acknowledged the contributions of the Magoon family towards building the UMT campus. Recalling the days when construction of the UMT campus was delayed due to scarcity of funds, Dr Hasan said that the ILM team was pushed into construction by the generous contribution of the Magoon family. He said that it was fortunate that members of the Magoon family were enlightened enough to patronize educational institutions. He added that dominance of Western civilization was largely due to patronage of universities by the well-to-do.

Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs UMT, threw light on the long association of the Magoon family with ILM and said that Tanveer Magoon had met the MBA class of ILM back in 1993 and urged them to work with their own hands. He said that the ILM team was indebted to the Magoon Family for providing the seed money amounting to Rs 2 crore for construction of the campus. He said that the Magoon family was instrumental in organizing the Pakistan Business Conference in 1995 that was attended by 400 traders and businessmen from 23 Islamic countries and led to the setting up of the International Business Forum (IBF).

Representing the family, Tanveer Magoon expressed his wishes for the progress of UMT. He said that the real resources in the world were human resources and appreciated the efforts of the faculty members for imparting education to the next generation of leaders and decision makers. Naeem Ahmed Magoon spoke briefly about the family tradition of donating to educational institutions. Muhammad Musaddiq Magoon informed everyone that the Sales Division of Siddique Leather Works employed UMT graduates who had joined the group over ten years ago and were still working with them. The inauguration ceremony concluded by a collective prayer, led by Tanveer Magoon.

The School of Professional Advancement (SPA), University of Management and Technology (UMT) and Hunerkada signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Dec 09, 2009 at the UMT campus. Dr A Rashid Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT and Jamal Shah, a renowned TV artist, film director, painter, writer and academician represented UMT and Hunerkada respectively to ink the agreement. Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director, School of Professional Advancement (SPA), welcomed Jamal Shah at the campus and briefed the visiting delegation about future prospects of arts, textile design and fashion programs offered under the auspices of SPA. Speaking on the occasion, Jamal Shah praised the pace of development made towards realization of UMT and future aspirations of its leadership to promote the knowledge of science and arts. He explained the progress made towards preservation and promotion of Pakistani art and culture through the platform of Hunerkada and said that the partnership with UMT would reinforce efforts in this direction. He said that Islam was not against art; rather it advocated that human spirit and passion should be used for the betterment of societies and art could meet this challenge without compromising on the universal principles of decency and morality. Expressing his optimism regarding the future of the ties between UMT and Hunerkada, Dr A R Kausar said that this relationship would strengthen with the passage of time. The talent and skills of our youth could now be channelized for projection of our national image and this strategic partnership would open new chapters of learning and developments for the youth of our country, particularly those seeking opportunities to have access to short courses in the fine arts, textile design, fashion and interior decoration.

At the end, the Pro-Rector presented a souvenir to the guest. Prior to his departure from the campus, Jamal Shah visited the textile laboratory and also gave autographs to the students of fashion and designing.
PBEAC meets AMDIP to review SOPs

An exclusive meeting of the Pakistan Business Education Accreditation Council (PBEAC), Higher Education Commission (HEC) of Pakistan with Association of Management Development Institutions in Pakistan (AMDIP) was held in the UMT Boardroom on September 08, 2009 to review the Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) of PBEAC. The AMDIP was represented by Dr Zahoor Hasan and Dr Shaukat Ali Brah from LUMS while Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Dr Rashid Kausar, Dr Sarwar M Azhar, Dr Tashfeen Azhar, Dr Rauf Butt, A G Ghaffari and Ijaz Yusuf, represented UMT during the meeting. Dr Ehsan Malik, Director IBA Punjab University could not attend the meeting due to his official engagements. Ahtesham Ali Raja, Program Manager PBEAC arrived from Islamabad to attend the meeting while Dr Mukhtar Ahmed and Sania Tufail joined the group in Lahore from Islamabad via video-conferencing. Ahtesham Raja shared a presentation detailing the mission and objectives of setting up PBEAC. Many important issues were raised in the ensuing discussion as the experts gathered around the table came up with various suggestions regarding improvements in the scope and functioning of PBEAC. The meeting concluded with the consensus view that a 10-12 member working group of senior professors and academicians from top business schools across Pakistan should be mandated to review the PBEAC SOPs. The importance of the involvement of major accrediting bodies such as EQUIS and SAQS was also stressed as this would give credibility to the accreditation provided by PBEAC. Moreover, the participants of the meeting agreed that the consultative process would be improved to bring about the structural changes required to make PBEAC a strong, viable and independent accreditation body.

The Knowledge School (TKS) Network Conferences 2009

Principals’ Conference

The TKS Principals’ Conference was held on December 19, 2009 in the UMT Campus. Curriculum booklist for the future was at the top of the agenda. Others items included the upcoming admissions campaign, TKS News, teacher development and promotion of English speaking culture at the school. All issues were discussed in detail and recommendation were formulated accordingly. Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman of The Knowledge School (TKS) Network, sent a message from abroad for the TKS principals. The message was very well received and applauded.

Network Associates Conference

The Knowledge School Network (TKS) Network Associates Conference was held on October 15, 2009 in the UMT board room. The agenda items included corporate overview, curriculum, teacher development, school evaluation, school management and information system, marketing and brand promotion, quality of service from vendors, and mutual obligations. Two network associates of Omer Campus, Chishtian and Johar Campus, Lahore were awarded Certificate of Distinction for being exemplary associates.

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Chairman TKS, sent his message from abroad. The Chairman urged the associates to remain focused on high ideals guided by our religious dictates, moral values and social norms. He also called upon all the stakeholders of the TKS network to extend whole hearted support to each other and thus become each other’s strength.

SMEDA representatives visit CENTIN

Representatives of the Small and Medium Enterprises Development Authority (SMEDA) visited UMT on January 19, 2010. The group comprised of Sultan Tiwana, General Manager, B&SDS, SMEDA, Raja Hassanien Javed, Manager Financial Services, and Mir Anwer, Assistant Manager Industrial Information Network, SMEDA. They held a meeting with Khalil Muhammad, Director, Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CENTIN). Important issues regarding future collaboration between SMEDA and CENTIN were discussed during the meeting. Later, Khalil Muhammad accompanied the guests for a tour of the campus. The visitors appreciated the state-of-the-art services at the Information Processing Center (IPC) and the wide range of books available at the UMT Library.

The Knowledge School (TKS) Network Associates Conference in progress presided by Prof Muhammad Aslam, CEO-TKS
Center for Law and Policy welcomes top legal minds of the country

Lahore High Court Bar Association visits Center for Law and Policy

A delegation of Lahore High Court Bar Association (LHCBA), led by the President, Justice (r) Nasira Iqbal, paid a visit to the Center for Law and Policy (CLP), on January 01, 2010, to explore possibilities of collaboration between LHCBA and CLP in various areas of mutual interest.

After a brief meeting with Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, the honorable members of the LHCBA were given a detailed presentation on the Center’s activities by Syed Imad-ud-Din Asad, Director CLP. This was followed by an in-depth discussion on various ways of cooperation between the two entities. It was agreed that LHCBA and CLP would assist each other in organizing seminars, lectures, and panel discussions on various legal matters of national and international concern, and would jointly undertake research on different local and foreign legal issues.

Justice (r) Aamer Raza A Khan visits CLP

Aamer Raza A Khan, Former Judge, Lahore High Court; Senior Advocate, Supreme Court of Pakistan, paid a visit to Center for Law and Policy (CLP) on January 06, 2010. He had a detailed discussion with Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Patron CLP, and Syed Imad-ud-Din Asad, Director, CLP, regarding various ways in which the Center can play a meaningful role in the reform of the Pakistani legal academia. Appreciating the Center’s efforts, Justice (r) Khan assured CLP of his full support and cooperation.

From the EDITORIAL Desk

Distinguished Reader,

At the outset of 2010, the UMT News, with a new outlook, small in size, more in substance, has tried to flash the ‘moments and momentum’ that distinguished the last quarter of 2009, yet another eventful year at the University of Management and Technology (UMT). These include but are not limited to seminars, workshops, MoU signing ceremonies, interviews, visits, declamation contests, sports and extracurricular activities. Moments that come once to our life, come once, pass quickly, and once gone, never return. However, if we aptly seize and capture the call and essence of these moments, we can recall, recollect, and reflect these moments to add unremitting vigor, incessant freshness, and gleaming hope to the moments we are in and also to the moments that underline our future.

Let us all make our moments eventful, lives meaningful, and add to the momentum around. Let us match our talent and potential with one of the many avenues provided by UMT, offering moments of learning and momentum leading to leadership.

If you have an item to contribute for the next issue, feel free to drop a line at umtnews@umt.edu.pk.

Enjoy reading, brighten up your ‘moments’, and add to your ‘momentum’.

– A G Ghaffari

Orientation session for MS Management scholars

The orientation session for the students admitted into the MS Management Program for the Fall Semester 2009 was held in the UMT boardroom on September 29, 2009. The session began with recitation from a few verses of the Holy Quran. Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, delivered the welcome address. He also explained the requirements for completing the program. His address was followed by a formal introduction of all the faculty members of the MS Management Program. Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Associate Dean (GR), made a detailed presentation regarding the salient features and main rules covering the program.

The orientation involved considerable interaction between the students and faculty members. In the end, the newly inducted students were also registered. The session concluded with a round of the campus by the students under the supervision of Iseem Mumtaz, Office Coordinator and MS/PhD Research Associate.
OPA organizes achievement ceremony with Pro-Rector

A prize distribution ceremony for winners of the sports events organized by the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) was held in the UMT Boardroom on January 21, 2010. The prizes were awarded by Dr A Rashid Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, and Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Director Participants Services. Members of the Sports Club and OPA Team were also present on the occasion.

Zohaib Liaquat (BBA-H) received a prize for winning the singles of the 8th UMT Badminton Championship while Moeen Ur Rehman (BS-TEL) was awarded the runner-up prize. Moeen ur Rehman (BS-TEL) and Syed Aamir Hassan Shah (BBA-H) were presented prizes for winning the doubles while Zohaib Liaquat (BBA-H) and Mian Muffaz (MBA) received the runners-up prizes.

Anum Yaseen (BBA-H) received a prize for winning the singles of the 5th UMT Girls Badminton Championship while Hannah Butt (BBA-H) and Fatima Abdul Sattar (BBA-H) got prizes for securing the second and the third positions respectively. The winner of the doubles matches included Anum Yaseen (BBA-H) and Sidra Rasheed (BS-SS) while the runners up team award went to Aqsa Qasim (MBA) and Fatima Abdul Sattar (BBA-H).

Wajahat Ali Khan (BBA-H) received the prize for winning the singles of the 8th UMT Table Tennis Championship. Salman Ali (MBA) and Syed Abdullah Abbas (BS-TEL) received prizes for the second and third positions respectively. The winning team of the doubles matches included Wajahat Ali Khan (BBA-H) and Salman Ali (MBA) while the runners up team comprised of Syed Abdullah Abbas (BS-TEL) and Syed Ayyaz Azeem (BS TEL).

Rector inaugurates Wi-Fi service at campus

The Office of Information Technology (OIT) has successfully implemented the WiFi network at the UMT campus. Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, inaugurated the implementation of WiFi services on October 20, 2009 by browsing the Internet. The inauguration ceremony was attended by Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti, Dean SST, Dr Zafar Iqbal, Dean SSH, A G Ghaffari, Director EFP/ Head OCM, Col (R) Zafar Ali, Head OFM, Gulraiz Akbar Dar, Manager Accounts and various other dignitaries.

Addressing the inauguration ceremony of the campus wide network, Dr Hasan told the audience that by implementation of 'UMT-Wireless', teaching could be further strengthened as the latest online information regarding the topic under discussion in the class could be assessed immediately. He asked Head OIT to further strengthen IT facilities by implementing state of the art LMS. He also emphasized the need for standardizing software at departmental level in order to maintain quality and uniformity. At the end, Nauman Nadeem, Head OIT, thanked the audience and assured them that excellent IT services would be provided to the UMT community. The WiFi network uses CISCO 1100 series wireless access points. Wireless LAN switch that can integrate Wi-Fi, mesh wireless, RFID and other emerging RF technologies, in combination with mesh-enabled 802.11a/b/g for indoor coverage ensures that the network delivers exceptional value and optimum performance.

School of Professional Advancement (SPA)

Policy Manual Committee constituted

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector-UMT, has constituted the SPA Policy Manual Committee under the chairmanship of Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT. Committee members include Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director SPA, Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT, Asif Saeed Haider, Controller of Examination, Ahmad Abdullah, Head HR, Ali Akbar, Director Finance, and Khurram Khan, Program Advisor, SPA.

A meeting was held on December 16, 2009 under the chairmanship of the Pro-Rector to discuss various issues regarding the SPA policy manual. Major recommendations were prepared for the top management regarding SPA affairs.

SPA Academic Committee meeting held

As per the recommendations of the SPA Policy Manual Committee and directives of the Rector, the first SPA Academic Committee Meeting was held on January 05, 2010. The scope and objectives of the committee were discussed and major recommendations were prepared for the top management concerning various SPA issues.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director SPA. It was attended by other members including Ahmed Siddiqui, Director UMTC, Saleem Ata, Assistant Professor SST, Tayyab Farooq Bhatti, Assistant Professor SSH, Asim Iftikhar, Lecturer IAA, Shaukat Pervaiz, Deputy Registrar, and Qadeer Ahmed Butt, Deputy Controller. Khurram Khan, SPA, attended as secretary.
The Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CENTIN), University of Management and Technology (UMT) organized a seminar on November 18, 2009 to celebrate Global Entrepreneurship week that was being celebrated worldwide from November 16 to Nov 22, 2009.

The seminar aimed to persuade Pakistani youth to choose entrepreneurship as a viable career option. Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and Managing Directors (MDs) were invited as speakers for the event. They highlighted their personal experiences, aspirations, success stories and achievements while promoting their brands and products as entrepreneurs during their careers. They were of the view that entrepreneurship is a better option for business graduates in the time of recession as job opportunities are scarce. They added further that innovation, passion, commitment, persistence and networking were the keys to the success of being an entrepreneur.

Earlier, Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean, School of Business and Economics (SBE) welcomed the distinguished guests at the UMT campus. Speaking on the occasion, he shared the broader range of activities and assignments taken by the University to promote and inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship among the business students. Muhammad Khalil, Director CENTIN, gave an introduction of the Center's strategies and opportunities of interaction with industry and market. The seminar concluded on a note of thanks by Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT.

HR Forum inaugural ceremony held

The inaugural ceremony of the UMT Human Resource Forum was held at the UMT campus on November 21, 2009. Professional practitioners from the industry including Sohail Rizvi, Assistant General Manager, HR and Quality Assurance, Bank Alfalah Ltd; Toima Raza, Team Lead, HR Operations, Wi-tribe Pakistan; Rabia Jamil, Head Strategy and Implementation, Haier Pakistan; Qurat Ul Aain, Manager HR, AE Design Pakistan; and Nuaman Shaikh, CEO, 360 degree addressed the event. Affan Farooqi, a participant of MHRM program, shared the mission and vision of UMT HR Forum with the audience. Later, a question and answer session was held with the panelists. Students came up with a wide range of questions regarding chances of their growth in the industry as HR professionals, the importance of networking for HR professionals and the difference created by HR in the industrial and corporate sector. Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director, School of Professional Advancement (SPA), gave the vote of thanks to all the guests and presented bouquets to them as a good will gesture. The event ended with dinner for all the guests and the participants.

Business graduates urged to become entrepreneurs

CEOs and MDs address Global Entrepreneurship Week celebrations at UMT

Malik Farooq CEO Interwood, Dr Amjad Saqib CEO Akhuwat Foundation, Khawar Rafiq CEO Royal Fans, Mobsin Syed CEO Hybrid Technologies, well-known designer Ms Bege, Saadat Ejaz, Roshan Enterprises, Sheikh Nadeem Afzal Siala and Marketing Director of Al-Khair Group of Companies, M I Khurram, Comfort Knitwear, Zahid Hussain of BORJAN, and Mazhar-ud-Din Ansari, CEO Elitmed Engineering participated in the seminar.

CGRL launches Global Youth Leadership Club

Students are indispensable for the growth and development of every nation. Their aspirations, responsibilities and activities lead to a future that contributes to the creation of economic and societal progress in a globally responsible and sustainable manner. Realizing this imperative, UMT has created the Global Youth Leadership Club (GYLC) which will serve as a platform for the students to instill, nurture and develop global responsibility. The Club was formally launched by Prof Muhammad Nazim, Director Center for Globally Responsible Leadership (CGRL) on November 17, 2009 at the UMT campus. The CGRL focuses on disseminating information, promoting dialogues between various stakeholders, facilitating research, and organizing seminars and conferences.

The GYLC is actively engaged in involving the youth and preparing them to take a leading role in embracing the spirit of the UN Global Compact in their studies, appreciating the necessity of corporate social responsibility in business transactions, and establishing linkages with partners in global security and sustainability. The Club plans to extend its forum to all students through various CGRL activities to involve them for a discussion on how best to create and nurture leaders of the future who will integrate a global perspective with true understanding of what it means to act and think responsibly.
Seminar: Energy conservation measures in textile sector

The Textile Department, School of Science and Technology hosted a seminar in collaboration with Small and Medium Enterprise Development Authority (SMEDA) on “Energy Conservation Measures in Textile Sector” on December 31, 2009 at the UMT campus. Shahid Mehmood, Consultant SMEDA, was the keynote speaker on this occasion.

Dr Naheel Ameen, Chairman, Textile Department SST, welcomed the guest speaker. In his opening remarks, Dr Naheel hoped that the event would foster liaison between academia, industry and consultants in addition to educating and enhancing awareness of UMT students about the importance of issues related to research and development in different engineering fields, particularly energy conservation in the textile sector. Addressing the seminar, Shahid Mehmood explained different aspects of energy and its importance (particularly with reference to the present energy crisis), greenhouse effect and global warming problems, reduction in energy cost, application of electronic appliances in daily life and adoption of alternate resources. He focused on issues of energy consumption in the textile sector as well. Rana Muhammad Wajid, Assistant Manager Industry Support Cell, SMEDA, gave a briefing about energy cost of the spinning sector in Pakistan and added that such statistics were essential for comparison and rectification of energy cost in the textile sector of Pakistan. He encouraged UMT students to take part in auditing of energy in the textile sector of Pakistan. The seminar was chaired by Dr Naheel Amin. It was attended by a large number of students and senior faculty members including Dr Muhammad Sarwar Rana, Assistant Professor, Department of Textile and Hammad Mohsin, Assistant Professor, Department of Textile. A brief question and answer session was also held during which many pertinent issues were raised by the participants regarding energy conservation in the textile sector. In the end, Dr Muhammad Sarwar Rana thanked the guest speakers for their time and presented them UMT mementos as a gesture of goodwill.

Seminar: Stock Exchange – An overview

The Institute of Audit and Accountancy (IAA) invited Arshad Mirza, Chief Financial Officer, Lahore Stock Exchange (LSE), to be the guest speaker for a seminar on “Stock Exchange - An overview”. The seminar was held on January 19, 2010 in the UMT campus. The purpose of arranging the seminar was to enlighten the students of commerce and business about the multiple functions and activities of the LSE. The seminar began with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Hafiz M Abu Saffyan. The welcome note was delivered by Tahir Mohyuddin, Director IAA, who also thanked the guest speaker for taking the time to visit UMT. Addressing on the occasion, Arshad Mirza gave a comprehensive brief about the working of financial markets, role of the stock exchange in the financial setup, current problems faced by the fiscal structure and possible solutions. He also discussed the capital market infrastructure, the listing process, trade execution process, index, and future challenges and opportunities for the development of the financial market of the country.

At the end, a question and answer session was held during which the students and faculty members displayed a keen interest in the modus operandi of the stock exchange market. Finally a shield was presented to the guest speaker as a goodwill gesture.

Seminar: Harmony among civilizations and role of media

A seminar on “Harmony among civilizations and role of media” was organized by the Department of Media and Mass Communication at the University of Management and Technology on December 14, 2009. Professor Stephen D McDowell, John H Phipps Professor and Director of the School of Communication, Florida State University, USA, was the guest speaker. Mujahid Ali Mansoori, Professor, Department of Media and Communication, received the guests at the purpose-built UMT campus. In his welcome note, Dr A Rashid Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, observed that all of us have experienced how demanding it is to live in harmony with siblings at home. Striving for reconciliation and peace among the nations of the world apparently seems a far cry from reality but is at least possible. He said that the media bears a lot of responsibility to bridge the gap between civilizations and strive for preservation of harmony and trust between peoples of the world.

Professor Stephen D McDowell, in his keynote speech, explained the composition of the media, role of stakeholders, governments and international politics in shaping and manipulating the process of media coverage and the finished product that reaches the masses. He told the audience that the media has diversified and consumers now choose how they want to be informed. He said that the media is a tool influencing every area of life. It is instrumental in shaping cultures and communities, irrespective of geographical divisions and identities.

While answering questions posed by the audience, Professor McDowell was of the view that the US government should not rely upon news provided by traditional media channels but should consider others sources of information to verify the news stories before making vital decisions that could influence the lives of millions of people. He emphasized that absence of exact information, unnecessary twists, subjective coverage and distortion of facts leads to misconceptions and conflicts. To avoid catastrophes and disasters, we need to be proactive and vigilant to reinforce the actual role of media and contribute to global peace and harmony.

In his concluding remarks, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, said that the “US and the Western media should stand up to realize the high values and philosophies of its founders and forefathers”. He advised the media to play its role to promote the cause of peace and harmony instead of adding fuel to the fire to generate more controversy and attract viewers or increase readership. He said that if the media representatives abided by the principles of objectivity, honesty and humanity, the lives of millions of people including women and children in this part of the globe, particularly Afghanistan and Pakistan, could be saved. Distorting facts, lying and serving the propaganda machines of the powers that be might help the vested interests of some warmongers but creates havoc and destruction. This is something that no sane person would ever want.

At the end, Dr Hasan presented UMT memento to the visiting US academician. This was followed by a brief meeting to explore mechanisms of collaboration and interaction between UMT and Florida State University. A large number of students, faculty and staff members attended the event. The seminar was well covered by the local media as well.
Lecture: Iqbal’s contribution to Islamic thought

The Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization at the University of Management and Technology organized a lecture on ‘Iqbal’s contribution to Islamic thought’ on December 17, 2009 at the campus. Dr Suheyl Umar, Director Iqbal Academy Lahore, was the guest speaker at this occasion. The event was attended by a large number of students and faculty members.

Dr Muhammad Amin, Chairman, Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization (DITC), welcomed the guest in his opening remarks and shed some light on the poetry of Iqbal and the message it contains for today’s youth. He praised the contributions made by Iqbal Academy and its director to promote the message of Iqbal inside Pakistan and across the globe.

The guest speaker shared his views on Iqbal’s thoughts and philosophy, and its contribution to the Islamic civilization and reconstruction of Muslim thought. While addressing the audience, Dr Suheyl Umar highlighted three different dimensions of Iqbal’s personality: a poet, a politician and a philosopher. Being a poet he played a vital role to visualize the uniqueness and compatibility of Islamic faith and its significance for the Ummah as a tool of unity and discipline. As a politician he figured the high destination of freedom and sovereignty for Muslims of the subcontinent, realized in the form of an independent state, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan. As a thinker and philosopher, he attempted to reconstruct Muslim religious philosophy with due regard to the philosophical traditions of Islam and ongoing developments in various domains of human knowledge, and emphasized upon the need for ijtihad, the institution that needs to be reorganized in the wake of misconceptions surrounding Muslim thought and practice and the clash of ideas.

Dr A Rashid Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, in his concluding remarks, shed light on Iqbal’s thought while mentioning his poetic verses. He urged the students to get themselves connected to the roots of Islamic thought, of which Iqbal was a proponent, and feel proud of the glorious past we had. High aim, hard work, self-reliance and confidence are the tools if utilized, can help us regain our past glory. He extended his gratitude to the visiting guests and presented him a souvenir to mark the event.

Seminar: Technology and entrepreneurship in emerging economies

The Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CENTIN) arranged a seminar on “Technology and entrepreneurship in emerging economies” for students of the School of Business and Economics (SBE) on January 14, 2010. The purpose of this seminar was to create an interactive session for students with Naeem Zafar, a seasoned entrepreneur and Lecturer at Haas School of Business, University of California, Berkeley, USA. Linda Blount, Assistant Public Affairs Officer US Consulate was also present on this occasion. The distinguished guests were taken on a round of the campus.

Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT. Speaking on the occasion, Naeem Zafar shared his corporate background with the participants. He has been mentoring entrepreneurs and professionals across the globe since 1995 and is a veteran of six startup companies in Silicon Valley. He was of the view that the World Wide Web had made the world ‘flat’. He enumerated ten ways that may help new business starters to become operational with almost zero cost while staying at home. He gave numerous examples of entrepreneurs in Pakistan who were conducting successful business with US clients through the Internet. Naeem shared a list of common sites and blogs for data search before launching a new business. His emphasis was on knowing the customer’s need before launching a product. He also shared his own experience of the six companies that he had started as an entrepreneur. At the end, a brief question and answer session was held. Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, gave souvenirs to the distinguished guests and delivered the concluding remarks.

Seminar: Psychology of language

One of the highlights of the psycholinguistics course taught by Muhammad Shaban Rafi in the Department of English, SSH was the seminar by Ambreen Gul. A psycholinguist by profession, Ms Gul came along to talk to the students about psychology from a linguistic perspective. She talked about behavior, the kingpin of psychology, and stressed its importance in learning the first language by quoting examples of how the behavior of parents affected the development of children’s language. She said that children’s language development suffered if parents did not talk to them. She also pointed out the connection between language and thought, and the way thoughts affect personality. She interacted with the audience throughout the seminar and ensured the participation of the audience.

Seminar: Use of library resources for research

A seminar was arranged for MS Management students and faculty members of the School of Business and Economics (SBE) on January 05, 2010 by the Center for Graduate Research of the School of Business and Economics (SBE). The introductory remarks were given by Rashid Minhas, Batch 08 scholar of the MS Management Program, who also introduced the speaker. Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer UMT, gave a detailed presentation on various aspects of utilization of library resources such as the use of E-Resources for research, the drill of formatting thesis, issues regarding proper citation and exploration of research topics. A question and answer session was held after the presentation. The proceedings concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr Rukhsana Kalim, Associate Dean (CGR).
Leaders Forum celebrates Quran Week

Towards the end of the Quran week celebrated by the Leaders Forum, a student body at UMT, a seminar on “Quran aur Hum” was arranged on December 23, 2009 and the Islamic scholar Dr Israr Ahmad was invited as the guest speaker to address the students, staff, and faculty members, who converged in large numbers in the boys’ common room and the girls’ common room, to listen to the acclaimed scholar.

Addressing on the occasion, Dr Israr Ahmad highlighted the importance of Quran for human lives and suggested the ways and means that can help to understand the meaning and message of the Holy revelation. He said that Pakistan needs to take on the road to progress in the light of the Quran, which requires a lot of sacrifices and struggle in order to meet the national objectives. He advised everyone to live according to the teachings of Islam. The learned scholar said that guiding principles of the Holy Quran were panacea to every problem and Quran shows us the road to salvation. Citing historical references and presenting examples of previous nations, he explained their relationship with the Holy Quran as well. At the end of this seminar, Dr Israr Ahmad prayed for all the participants of the seminar. He prayed to Allah swt, “O Allah! Show us the right path and grant us the ability to understand and follow the teachings of Quran”. While addressing on the occasion, Attique-ur-Rehman advised the participants to get maximum knowledge of the Quran. He reminded them that it was their responsibility to spread the message of the Quran. He also highlighted the vision of the Quran regarding the role of Muslim youth in the modern world. Towards the end of the seminar, Pro-Rector UMT, Dr Rashid Kausar presented the UMT souvenir to the guest speaker, Dr Israr Ahmad. Earlier, the seminar started with recitation of the holy verses by Hafiz Ghulam Ahmad, while Muhammad Danish presented naat. Those who were present on the occasion included Pro-Rector UMT, Dr A R Kausar, and Attique-ur-Rehman, Leaders Forum. Safi Ullah Tarar, President Leaders Forum, served as the stage secretary. The services of Leaders Forum members including Ehtisham Ismail, Hafiz Ghulam Ahmad, Dilawar Khan, Aman Ullah, and Yasir Mushtaq, to ensure the success of the entire campaign were acknowledged by all.

During the Quran Week, the Leaders Forum in order to spread the awareness, importance and knowledge about the teachings of the Holy Quran, distributed the booklet “Quran ka Paigham” by the great Islamic scholar Khurram Murad. The author is of the view that our success in this life and the hereafter, both collectively and as individuals, is only possible if we follow the precepts of the Quran. Flex signs were also displayed to highlight the verses of the Quran, poetry and quotations. Short class lectures regarding Quranic teachings were also arranged.

Weekly counseling on Islamic perspectives

The Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization (DITC) has planned weekly Islamic counseling sessions on Fridays. A faculty member is available in the office of the Chairman DITC in 3S/38 Room # 4 for one hour after every Juma prayer to answer queries about Islam. Females may contact Ms Humaira Ahmad in 3S/38 Room # 8 for answers to their queries. All UMT faculty members, staff and students are welcome to avail this opportunity.

Consulting guru Dr Naveed Yazdani delivers workshop at SPA

The School of Professional Advancement (SPA) arranged a workshop in collaboration with UMT Consultants (UMTC) on November 14 and 21, 2009. Renowned consulting guru Dr Naveed Yazdani conducted the workshop that proved to be a stepping stone towards establishing a leading consulting house at UMT. About twenty-five participants registered for the workshop. Major areas covered in this workshop included introduction, background and scope of consulting, comparative approach between consultants and the management, 7 Cs of consulting, development of proposal and launching of products. The participants benefited tremendously from Dr Yazdani’s effective style of training that made use of maximum participants’ involvement. The workshop concluded on a vote of thanks by Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director SPA. On this occasion Ahmed F Siddiqui, Director UMTC thanked Dr Yazdani for his untiring efforts to bring junior staff members at par. The overall feedback from all participants was very positive and they requested further training session on this skill set.

Career management workshop by Telenor Pakistan

The Office of Participant Affairs (OPA) and Telenor Pakistan conducted the 1st career management workshop on November 11, 2009 at the UMT campus. The master trainer for the workshop was Khubaib Ahmed, Manager Recruitment Telenor, accompanied by Fatima Farid and Ata Ul Nazir, Recruitment Officers. Faisal Sarfraz, Manager Career Development and Placement OPA, represented UMT in the workshop.

Khubaib described the recruitment policy of Telenor. He explained why applicants fail to secure an interview call from Telenor, and how they could participate in the upcoming internship program. In the second phase, students were exposed to the interview process and 4A’s to ace, i.e. audible, authority, appeal and aware. He asked the students to show integrity and not fake anything during the interview. In the post interview phase, Khubaib guided the participants about the best way to end an interview. At the end of the workshop, an iPod was given to a participant on the basis of survey forms distributed amongst them.

Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT, presented souvenirs to the Telenor team as a gesture of good will. Later, Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE and other faculty members of SBE joined the OPA and Telenor teams for lunch and shared future proposals for academia-industry linkages.
3rd interviewing workshop
Successful organizations make use of careful screening processes while hiring potential employees to ensure that they get the best people. There is a strong need for preparing our graduates for the often grueling recruitment processes of the corporate and industrial sector. The Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) organized the 3rd workshop of this semester titled “3rd Winning Interviewing Workshop” on October 29, 2009. Fourteen students representing different disciplines participated in the workshop. Faisal Sarfraz, Manager Career Development and Placement, was the master trainer. He covered a wide range of topics including tips for writing a good resume, setting goals, dressing for success, do's and don'ts of interview, answering 20 commonly anticipated questions, reasons of failure in interview, etc. The workshop went a long way in boosting the confidence of the participants regarding the interview process.

OPA organizes 4th mock interview session
The Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) organized the 4th mock interview session on October 22, 2009. Habib Khan, HRD Manager, Makro Pakistan, Ahmad Bilal, Chief Manager HR, Highnoon Laboratories, and Muneeb Anjum, Head HR/Admin, were invited from the corporate sector to analyze and review the abilities of UMT graduates for future job interviews through a mock session. Rana Iftikhar Ahmed, Director Participant Services, and Ch Faisal Sarfraz, Manager Career and Placement at UMT, were also part of the panel that conducted the interviews. Eight UMT graduates faced the expert panel. The individual interviews lasted around 20 to 25 minutes. Each interviewer prepared a review sheet for the individual candidates. All the candidates were given a briefing by members of the interview panel about their performance. Their weak areas were pointed out and suggestions for improvement were also given. All candidates were provided videos of their interview sessions and were asked to fill review sheets as neutral observers. Individual review sheets prepared by the panel were also given to the candidates.

At the end, Dr A Rashid Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT and Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, joined the session. They appreciated the efforts of the OPA Team for organizing such career development activities that lead to professional grooming of UMT graduates. Dr Rashid Kausar presented souvenirs to the guest members of the expert panel. He also asked Head OPA to engage more corporate personnel in such activities.

CLO, Muhammad Anwar, educates viewers on reading habits and role of libraries
Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer UMT, participated, as one of the three panelists, in PTV Lahore Center's talk show Social Point, a program that deals with social issues by educating viewers in relation to the values that are truly important in building a united, disciplined and integrated society. The topic under discussion was “Reading habits and role of libraries”. The talk show also featured two other experts on the subject Prof Dr Mumtaz Ali Anwar, HEC Foreign Professor, University of the Punjab and Salma Awan, author and educationist. The program was hosted by Saeed Wasiq.

‘Sketching and Design Course' certificate distribution ceremony
The certificate distribution ceremony of ‘Sketching and design course' offered by the School of Professional Advancement (SPA) was held on October 20, 2009 in the UMT boardroom. The participants of the course were welcomed by Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director SPA. Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean School of Business and Economics (SBE), was the chief guest for the ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized the need for appreciating art in our society. Dr Sarwar and Dr Kamran also recognized the efforts made by the course teacher Ms Alvina Fatima for bringing out the best in her students. Later, certificates were awarded to the participants of the course.

At the end of the ceremony, a colorful bouquet was presented to Dr Sarwar on behalf of SPA.

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Meet the Executives - A get together organized by the Executive Forum

The School of Business and Economics (SBE) hosted “Meet the Executives” on December 23, 2009 in collaboration with the newly formed Executive Forum (EF) that has been set up on the initiative of Dr M Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE. The event was organized by the Event and Media section of the Office of Communications and Media (OCM). The idea was to provide a platform to the business executives studying at SBE to be reunited with their friends and colleagues who had already graduated from UMT and were now working in different fields in the corporate sector. Sixty graduates were invited to the event while a large number were placed on the waiting list in anticipation for the next event.

All the executives who had been invited were welcomed at the campus by a committee of working executives comprising of Inam-ullah Khan, Syed Yaseen Hasan, Nadeem Farooq, Asher Anis and Uzma Mansoor. The event started with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran. Dawood Ilyas Butt, Associate Professor SBE, introduced the “Executive Forum” (EF). He elaborated its future prospects and the rationale for its establishment. Nadeem Farooq, member Executive Forum, briefed the audience about the role of the Forum to link academia with the market, get feedback from working executives and make recommendations for incorporating the latest trends in the curriculum.

Addressing on the occasion, Dr Muhammad Sarwar Azhar, Dean SBE, introduced the new website of SBE. He told the executives that their feedback and connectivity was of immense value to UMT and the SBE website would help to share their views, suggestions and reflections about SBE and its contribution to the society and industry. He appreciated the spirit of UMT executives and announced that in the light of this experience, a mega event titled ‘Meet the 1000 MBAs of UMT’ would be held in March 2010. The event would bring together all business graduates of UMT under a single roof and would lead to better interaction and cooperation to strengthen UMT at national and international levels. The Dean’s speech was followed by an interactive session after which dinner was served.

CEO of Hush Puppies addresses Meet the CEO program

The Department of Marketing and Supply Chain, School of Business and Economics (SBE) organized an event titled “Meet the CEO” on December 22, 2009. Farukh Saleem, CEO of Firhaj Footwear (Hush Puppies) was the guest of honor. The main purpose of the event was to share the success story of Farukh Saleem with business students in general and marketing students in particular. The seminar was attended by large number of students. The CEO was received at the campus by Waqar Ahmed, Director, Center for Management Development (CMD). Speaking on the occasion, Farukh Saleem said that attitude has the power to change the world, and to be successful, therefore, one needed to change the way one looked at various situations. He said that only those who believed in themselves had the potential to change the world. Narrating the story of his success, he said that the venture was initially a total failure with meager financial resources and a long list of liabilities. The blessing of Allah Almighty and his own personal commitment helped him to turn the tumbling product into a hot selling brand. Today, “Hush Puppies” has become a leading brand in Pakistan and is exported to Europe as well.

At the end, the participants asked a number of questions from the guest speaker regarding the way he had turned a struggling enterprise into a successful venture. Towards the end, Dr Sarwar Azhar, Dean, School of Business and Economics (SBE), thanked the guest of honor and presented a memento to the guest speaker.

Meet the Entrepreneurs

Badar Khushnood (Google) and Rizwan Wali (Subway)

The Centre for Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CENTIN) arranged a seminar for SBE students on January 11, 2010. The event was titled “Meet the Entrepreneur”. Leading entrepreneurs Badar Khushnood, Google Country Consultant, and Rizwan Wali, CEO, Subway Franchise Pakistan, were invited for an interactive session with the students.

Both the guests shared their educational and corporate experience with the participants. Speaking on the occasion, Badar said that conventional media was gradually being taken over by the Internet. He added that existing businesses could be expanded or a new business could be started without bearing any cost by developing websites and web blogs.

He gave numerous examples of students, housewives and other professionals in Pakistan who were earning thousands of US dollars on monthly basis just by using the Internet as a marketing tool for their creative ideas.
Textile Innovation Exhibition

The Department of Textile, University of Management and Technology, organized a “Textile Innovation” exhibition on January 20, 2010. This was a unique event of its kind in the history of textile education in Pakistan as students presented their high tech course projects with minimum resources.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr Abdul Raouf, SI, Distinguished National Professor and Advisor UMT. The chief guests on the occasion included Hasan Talat, Director Melanix, and Anjum, Director of a leading textile group. Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, graced the event with his presence at the closing ceremony. Hammad Mohsin, Assistant Professor at the Department of Textiles, organized the exhibition and his efforts to bring innovative concepts into teaching and learning were appreciated.

One of the highlights of the exhibition was the selection of four projects by government service and textile industry representatives for commercial purposes. Mohammad Aqeel Akbar, a student of the Textile Department, received full scholarship in a leading Chinese University. Another success of this event was the launching of ‘UMT Innovation’ to act as a technological incubator for future developments.

The exhibition displayed 32 projects based on ‘Intelligent Fiber Development’ and ‘New Developments in Textiles’. Students covered different themes like electronic textiles, nanotechnology, recycling of materials into value added textile products, manufacturing plant design of synthetic fibers, mechanisms of the textile processes and innovative designs.

More than 30 highly respected and top ranking textile industry professionals attended the event. Punjab Emergency Services (1122) officials also attended the exhibition. Faculty members from the Pakistan School of Fashion Design, COMSATS and Hajvery University were also present and appreciated the exhibits showcased by the students. The exhibition was also well attended by the general public, UMT students, staff and faculty members.

Art Exhibition 2010

Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, inaugurated an art exhibition organized by participants of Batch 01, Bachelor of Textile Fashion and Design (BTFD), Department of Textiles, on January 21, 2010. Dr Abdul Raouf, SI, Distinguished National Professor and Advisor UMT, graced the event with his presence. Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, was the Guest of Honor. He was accompanied by special guests including Quib-e-Bashir Khawar Butt, Associate Professor SSH, Dr Mujahid Mansoori, Chairman, Department of Media and Communication, Abdul Ghaffar Ghaffari, Head OCM, Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti, Dean SST, Dr Nabeel Amin, Chairman, Department of Textiles, and other UMT officials.

More than 500 highly respected and top ranking professionals from different institutions attended the event. Faculty members and students from Hunerkada, PIFD, LUMS and NCA attended the exhibition and appreciated the artwork. The exhibition was also well attended by UMT students, staff and faculty members, and the general public. The visitors to the exhibition were impressed by the talent and creative abilities of the young artists.

Giving his remarks in the comment book, Dr Hasan wrote that he was impressed by the creative work of the participants and considered it a very good effort. He added that UMT was committed to provide all opportunities for the development of artistic potential of the participants by providing them qualified faculty and studios where they could give the best output. He congratulated Alvina Fatima, course instructor, and all the organizers of the exhibition.

Dr A R Kausar also appreciated the course instructor for organizing the exhibition and her efforts to bring out the best in her students. Dr Nabeel Amin congratulated the whole team for making the event successful. S Mahfouz Qutab, renowned artist and teacher, congratulated the textile department for showing remarkable work. He was also presented a souvenir by Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT. At the end of the two-day exhibition, the participants were given prizes and certificates of appreciation by Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti, Dean SST, and Abdul Ghaffar Ghaffari, Head OCM. The exhibition displayed 50 paintings covering a wide range of subjects through use of different mediums such as charcoal sketches, dry and oil pastels, poster paints, mirror and water painting. The artwork was the final culmination of concept development and its realization with the implementation of the required skill.

The paintings reflected that the artists were inspired by nature or the pattern that exists in volumetric forms in nature and had treated the concept according to a natural realistic touch while some paintings reflected the stylized forms of treatment in an abstract manner in landscapes. The purpose of the exhibition was to highlight the work of the modern artists and emphasize the relevance of art in our daily lives.
All green UMT plantation day

The Social Welfare Society organized All Green UMT plantation campaign with the support of a local NGO named Sunrise Green Pakistan that aims to make Pakistan clean and green. The purpose of this campaign was to make UMT green by planting trees in the campus premises. The Guests of Honor included Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Ch Zahir-ud-din Khan, Opposition leader Punjab Assembly, Mian Zahid, Chairman Urban Development, and Fakhar Imam, Senior TV Actor and Producer who planted a tree of their name.

Sunrise Green Pakistan provided about 100 trees and around 300 vegetables for the nursery. Students and teachers appreciated this effort a lot. Kamran Rashid, Assistant Professor / Head, Department of Marketing & Supply Chain, SBE, Mushtaq Mangat, Assistant Professor SST, and Ilyas Ansari, Assistant Professor SSH, planted a tree of their name. About 125 students got themselves registered.

Welcome party for MCom students of Batch 05

A welcome party for MCom students of Batch 05 was hosted by the senior batch on October 08, 2009. Amir Shahzad and Anam Imran organized the party which was attended by a large number of students and faculty members of the Institute of Audit and Accountancy (IAA). The event began with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Hafiz Abu Sufyan and naat by M Ahsan, students of Batch 04. Senior Batch presented skits and jokes to entertain the audience. Tahir Mahmood, Director IAA, also spoke on the occasion. He welcomed the new students and assured them that they would get complete and full support of the faculty members in all academic matters. Those who attended the welcome party included Amer Hussain, Muhammad Gulzar, Jawad Qureshi, Asim Iftikhar, Miss Wajiha and Miss Sadaf. The party turned out to be a memorable and enjoyable experience for all participants and ended with a well organized lunch.

UMT Debating Club organizes “Debates 2009”

Khateeb, the UMT Debating Club organized “Debates 2009” on November 13, 2009 to bring out the best oratorical skills of UMT participants and to groom them for participation at other national or international debating events. Participants spoke on the Urdu serious topic “Teray Darya Me Toofan Q Nahi” while the comic topic was “Mujhe Chand Mil Gaya”. The English serious topic was “Drunk in complacency, we want a messiah” while participants spoke on “Love at first sight and then I looked at second” for the humorous topic.

Participants had rehearsed hard for the debates and made good use of rhetorical argumentation and facial expressions to convey their points. The Urdu debates were won by Syeda Bareeha Fatimah who secured first position while the second position went to Ahsan Mumtaz Gondal and Hafiz Dawood Khalid. The third position was secured by Faisal Ahmed. Khawaja Raheem secured first position in the English debates while Salman Munawar was declared second and Abdur Rehman secured the third position. The winners were given prizes by Khalid H Qamar, Professor SST, Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Director Participants Services, and Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer.

UMT participates in 29th Annual Bilingual Declamation Contest 2009 at the GCU

The University of Management and Technology (UMT) participated in the 29th Annual Bilingual Declamation Contest 2009 held at the Government College University (GCU) on November 16-17, 2009. As many as 36 institutions from all over the country participated in the contest. Syed Bilal Farhat, BBA, School of Business and Economics (SBE), and Syeda Bareaeha Fatima, ACCA student at the Institute of Audit and Accountancy (IAA), represented UMT and spoke on English humorous topic “It was love at first sight then I gave a second look” and Urdu serious topic “Teray darya main toofan kion neii haii?” respectively.

Declamation contests foster critical thinking abilities and constructive argumentation among students, thus leading to better understanding of each others' views. They also help students to master the language. As such, it is very important to encourage them to participate in such events and OPA deserves credit for involving students in these activities.

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Declamation contests foster critical thinking abilities and constructive argumentation among students, thus leading to better understanding of each others' views. They also help students to master the language. As such, it is very important to encourage them to participate in such events and OPA deserves credit for involving students in these activities.

All green UMT plantation day

The Social Welfare Society organized All Green UMT plantation campaign with the support of a local NGO named Sunrise Green Pakistan that aims to make Pakistan clean and green. The purpose of this campaign was to make UMT green by planting trees in the campus premises. The Guests of Honor included Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Ch Zahir-ud-din Khan, Opposition leader Punjab Assembly, Mian Zahid, Chairman Urban Development, and Fakhar Imam, Senior TV Actor and Producer who planted a tree of their name.

Sunrise Green Pakistan provided about 100 trees and around 300 vegetables for the nursery. Students and teachers appreciated this effort a lot. Kamran Rashid, Assistant Professor / Head, Department of Marketing & Supply Chain, SBE, Mushtaq Mangat, Assistant Professor SST, and Ilyas Ansari, Assistant Professor SSH, planted a tree of their name. About 125 students got themselves registered.

Welcome party for MCom students of Batch 05

A welcome party for MCom students of Batch 05 was hosted by the senior batch on October 08, 2009. Amir Shahzad and Anam Imran organized the party which was attended by a large number of students and faculty members of the Institute of Audit and Accountancy (IAA). The event began with recitation of a few verses from the Holy Quran by Hafiz Abu Sufyan and naat by M Ahsan, students of Batch 04. Senior Batch presented skits and jokes to entertain the audience. Tahir Mahmood, Director IAA, also spoke on the occasion. He welcomed the new students and assured them that they would get complete and full support of the faculty members in all academic matters. Those who attended the welcome party included Amer Hussain, Muhammad Gulzar, Jawad Qureshi, Asim Iftikhar, Miss Wajiha and Miss Sadaf. The party turned out to be a memorable and enjoyable experience for all participants and ended with a well organized lunch.
Department of Social Sciences welcomes BS Social Sciences Batch III

The Department of Social Sciences Batch I organized a welcome party for the new students of BS Social Sciences Batch III on November 10, 2009. Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, was the chief guest on the occasion. Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, and Dr Zafar Iqbal, Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH), were the guests of honor. Dr Abdul Hameed, Chairman, Department of Social Sciences and Associate Dean SSH, presided over the occasion. Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, welcomed the new students and appreciated the efforts of Batch I in organizing the party for the new entrants. He said that being part of the Social Sciences Department was an exceptional privilege. He also encouraged the international students to socialize and develop an insight for conducting social sciences research and cited the example of the Social Sciences Academies in China. Dr Hasan offered facilitation to visit these academies in China. Addressing on the occasion, Dr A R Kausar, emphasized the need for conducting research. He said that the social science disciplines enjoyed a vast canvas and participants were exposed to a wide variety and diversity of the courses.

The event was anchored by Mahrurk Ahmed. Ahmad Shaheen recited a few verses from the Holy Qur’an. Bushra Saadat presented the kalam-e-Iqbal, Alisher, a Tajik student of Batch I, sang a welcome song in Persian which received a huge applause. The students of Batch II and III were presented with nicely wrapped gifts by their seniors while bouquets and handmade cards were presented to the guests and the faculty members.

Fatima Zahid represented Batch III and thanked the senior batches for the well organized welcome party. In his presidential address, Dr Abdul Hameed elaborated the efforts of the Department of Social Sciences in establishing and developing the BS-SS program. He also threw light on the increasing number of students in the department and the diversity of the student body due to the inclusion of students from Tajikistan and Turkey. Dr Zafar Iqbal, Dean SSH, gave the concluding remarks. He thanked the organizers and all those who graced the occasion with their presence. Later, the faculty and the students enjoyed lunch together.

Ist UMT All Pakistan MA Jinnah Bilingual Declamation Contest

Khateeb, the UMT Debating Club, organized the 1st UMT all Pakistan Muhammad Ali Jinnah bilingual declamation contest 2010 at the University campus on January 12-13, 2010. More than 40 teams from reputed universities of Pakistan participated in the contest. The University of Management and Technology facilitated all outstation participants by providing boarding and lodging to them.

According to the results, the Best Team award was given to the Pakistan Air Force Academy, Risalpur. The Best Urdu Debater was Aviation Cadet Waleed Ahmed, Pakistan Air Force Academy, Risalpur. The second prize in the Urdu debates went to Hamza Tarrar, Forman Christian College University, Lahore and the third position was secured by Haider Miraj, FAST, Islamabad. Fahad Ali Kazmi from Punjab University was declared the Best English Debater. The second position was secured by Aviation Cadet Ahmed Haroon, Pakistan Air Force Academy, Risalpur, while the third prize went to Usman Leghari, Lahore School of Economics. The Chief guest for the contest was the renowned intellectual and educationist Abdul Rauf who is also working as Senior Anchorperson, GEO Television. The guests of honor included Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Prof Muhammad Aslam, CEO, The Knowledge School, Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT, A G Ghaffari, Head, Office of Communications and Media, and Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Director, Participants Services. The contest was attended by a large number of students, faculty and staff members.

Overseas participants visit Wahgah Border

The Overseas Participants Club (OPC) arranged a trip to the Wahgah Border. The group of nearly fifty participants was accompanied by Hafiz Umair Iqbal from the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA). The trip afforded a good opportunity to the overseas participants to witness the flag lowering ceremony at the border. Later, they enjoyed dinner at Food Street (Gawalmandi). The brief but enjoyable excursion afforded a good opportunity to the students with one of the most famous border ceremonies and also gave them a chance to try traditional Pakistani cuisine.

UMT student in TV talk show

The University of Management and Technology always encourages its students to take part in a wide range of diverse activities essential for personal and professional grooming. Asad Hayat, President of UMT Dramatic Club, participated as one of the guests in the popular talk show “Sunday Brunch with Usman and Samina Peerzada” from PTV Lahore Center. The topic under discussion was the role of youth in current situation. The show featured students from six universities of Lahore and was aired live on December 13, 2009.

Leaders Forum organizes welcome party at UMT Lodges

Leaders Forum is an organization that represents the interests of students of UMT and works for their welfare. The Forum organized a welcome party on December 17, 2009 for new students of Fall Semester 2009 who would be living in the UMT Lodges. The famous national poet Saad-Ullah-Shah was especially invited to attend the event as the chief guest. Those who were present on the occasion included Saleem Atta, Assistant Professor SST, and Khalid Mehmood, Hostel Deputy Warden. Saad-Ullah-Shah entertained the students with some of his poems. Safi Ullah Tarar, President Leaders Forum, and Yasir Mushtaq, Co-coordinator Leaders Forum Hostel, addressed the students and wished the best for their future.

They also explained the aims, objectives and scope of activities of Leaders Forum at UMT. Saleem Atta and Khalid Mehmood shared their best wishes for the students and hoped that their stay at UMT would enrich their personal and professional lives. At the end, refreshments were arranged for participants of the party.
Peace walk against terrorism

Leaders Forum, a representative body of the students of the University of Management and Technology (UMT), organized a peace walk on October 29, 2009 against terrorism in educational institutes. A large number of students, faculty members and university employees attended the walk. Speaking on the occasion, Hafiz Ghulam Ahmad, President Leaders Forum UMT, said that the attack on the International Islamic University Islamabad (IIUI) was very dangerous for the country’s integrity and was carried out by anti-Islamic and anti-Pakistan forces as Islamic teachings did not permit taking lives of innocent people. The participants offered prayers for martyrs of IIUI attacks and other innocent people of Pakistan who had become victims of other terrorist attacks. At the end, the efforts of Dilawar Khan and Amanullah Bhatti, Coordinators for Leaders Forum, in organizing the walk were appreciated by all those present on the occasion.

UMT participates in EMS management training at LUMS

The Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS) conducted two-day management training of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) on November 14-15, 2009. Students from UMT were invited to attend the training in order to facilitate the setting up of a similar system in UMT in alliance with LUMS EMS which is a student run organization set up in collaboration with Rescue 1122. It is the first university-based EMS system in the country. Other universities and colleges that participated in the training included Kinnaird College for Women, Forman Christian University, Home Economics College, Punjab University, University College of Lahore and University of South Asia. A group of ten students from UMT Rovers Crew and Social Welfare, headed by Hafiz Umar Iqbal from OPA attended the training that comprised of lectures given by Babar Asad Khan, HoD SWR-LUMS, EMS, and practical demonstrations by students of LUMS on life-saving techniques. The EMS Management training enabled students to establish a system for emergency preparedness, response and prevention, and develop a safer community through a proactive approach towards emergency management, community awareness and training.

The purpose of the EMS Forum is to share the knowledge, practice, exchange of solutions and risk management strategies between different universities. The forum aims to collaborate with international EMS Forums, provide universities trying to build a local EMS System with guidance and assistance, unite students on the EMS platform for the safety of Pakistan, foster discussion on the spectrum of EMS challenges and achievements, and maintain a quality standard for all volunteers all over the universities of Pakistan.

UMT Dramatic Club goes places

Participation in FAST Drama Festival

The UMT Dramatic club performed a play titled ‘khamosh ujala’ in the annual FAST Drama 2009. The play was about a man who migrated from India to Pakistan during partition and sacrificed his whole family for the country. He even took his son’s life because he was involved in the illegal drugs business. The play revolved around nine characters. The UMT Dramatic Club performed two versions of the same play; one was the serious version while the other was a comic adaptation. The comedy play was titled “silent bulb”. It was the first time that members of the UMT Dramatic Club participated in such an event.

Participation in Youth Festival at Rafi Peer Workshop

UMT Dramatic Club participated in Youth Festival 09 held at the Rafi Peer Workshop on December 3-7, 2009. They performed a play titled “My name is Nolan” featuring Asim Shahzad, Abdul Mohsin, Muhammad Ahmad and Asad Hayat. The play was about a robotic engine John who made a robot named Nolan and kept it with him for a week on trial basis. The robot developed human emotions and killed John’s brother Sam and cousin Ben on account of jealousy. Finally, Nolan also killed his master John. The theme of the play, though reminiscent of the famous Frankenstein story, held the interest of the audience. The performance of the UMT students was also appreciated.

Manager Today holds forum discussion at UMT

“Manager Today”, a specialist management magazine catering for the corporate clientele held a special forum with UMT students on December 24, 2009. The discussion revolved around the various factors that deter-mine the career paths of the young generation. Some participants were critical of the role of teachers who demotivated students on account of bad grades. Others pointed out that parents sometimes stressed engineering and science career paths for their children without taking into consideration their aptitude or grades. A number of students who were present said that they were self motivated in choosing their careers.
UMT Rovers Club participates in 17th National Hike for Rover Scouts

The Pakistan Boy Scouts Association organized the 17th National Hike for Rover Scouts. Furqan ul Haq, Vice President UMT Rovers Crew, represented UMT in the hike that began from the National Headquarter Scouts Islamabad. The route included Balakot, Kaghan, Lake Saif-ul-Malook, Baisal Camp, Mullah Ki Basti, Doodhi Patsar Lake, Basal Camp, Lulu Sir Lake, Shogran, Mansehra, and back to the National Headquarter Scouts. The Regional Boy Scouts Association had asked the various educational institutions to recommend one member for the hike. Furqan was chosen on account of his physical fitness and knack of adapting to the requirements of the team. He took the University flag along with him on the trip. At the end of the hike, all hikers were presented souvenirs in a special ceremony.

Nature free style art contest

The Fine Arts Club organized a free style art contest in collaboration with Minute Maid (Pulpy Orange). A total of eight teams displayed their artwork on huge canvases in the UMT North Lawn. City 42, popular local TV channel covered this colorful and entertaining event. The team of Minute Maid visited UMT campus and appreciated the artistic talent of UMT students. They also chose the best graffiti artwork. Free sampling of pulpy orange was available as well.

Gal Zone celebrates New Year’s Eve

Gal Zone (GZ) welcomed the New Year by organizing a welcome party for female participants on December 31, 2009. The rationale of organizing a New Year party was to provide an orientation of GZ and arrange the much awaited annual get-together of female participants of UMT.

Gal Zone is basically a female community that gives them an opportunity to arrange, organize and enjoy a variety of events such as lectures, seminars, dinners, parties, trips, etc. Moreover, OPA encourages female participants to take part in all extra-curricular activities and also provides numerous other opportunities for professional guidance. The event afforded an ideal opportunity to female participants to gain awareness of the benefits associated with being a member of GZ.

Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, addressed the participants and also cut the New Year cake on this occasion. The event was hosted by Zainab Mushtaq, Vice President Gal’s Zone who introduced the Club in her opening remarks and delivered the welcome note as well. Faculty members Ghazala Yasmin and Sadaf Roohi Taouqeer also spoke on the occasion. The acclaimed animated movie “UP” was screened for the enjoyment of the audience and hot soup was served during the movie. Dinner was also served in the middle of the movie and the remaining movie was screened after dinner. The participants were entertained with green tea and black forest cake. A bonfire was also arranged on the occasion. At the end, every participant was presented a rose bud, tied in a ribbon with a greeting card. The all female event was attended by over 150 participants of UMT.
Summer cocktail

Reboot organized ‘Summer cocktail’, a fun filled event comprising of a wide mix of activities ranging from a funny quiz competition (staff vs. students) and fancy dressing to a scream contest, video and board games, food party and much more.

The quiz competition was quite entertaining and students took the lead at the end. The quiz was attended by Rana Itikhar Ahmad, Director Participants Services, Saleem Ata, Assistant Professor SST, Faisal Sarfraz, Manager Career Development and Placement, Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer and Saleem Akhtar, Assistant Manager Sports.

The fancy dress contest was enjoyed by everybody. The scream contest was one of the most hilarious activities of the event. The food party was held at the end. A number of participants brought homemade food and shared it with everybody. Reboot also made food arrangements for all participants.

Vertical challenge - A test of physical endurance

The UMT Hiking Club organized rock climbing activity aptly named “Vertical Challenge” in collaboration with SPRITE 3G in the UMT campus on October 01, 2009. All staff, participants and faculty members were invited to take part in the thrilling sport.

The team of Sprite 3G offered free sampling of the drink in the campus. A large number of participants tried their luck at scaling the artificial rock façade that was erected in the UMT Cricket Ground for the purpose.

Second UMT Employees Tape Ball Cricket Tournament 2009

The Second UMT Employees Tape Ball Cricket Tournament 2009 was organized by the Office of Human Resources (OHR) in collaboration with the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) on December 03-05, 2009. A total of 15 teams participated in the tournament. These included Fighters, Dr Tashfeen XI, Dr Sarwar XI, ILM XI, Lahore Lions, Xeon, SST XI, Registrar XI, Silver Hawks, ASU Tigers, IPC Shaheens, Falcons, Lahore Badshah, Shining Stars and Social Tigers.

The first semi-final was played between Silver Hawks and Social Tigers while the second semi-final was played between Registrar XI and Lahore Lions. In the final match, Lahore Lions and Silver Hawks faced each other. Lahore Lions were declared the winners. It is worth mentioning that this is the second time that the team has won the tournament. They were the winners of the last tournament as well. A beautiful crystal trophy and cash prize of Rs 11000/- was awarded to the winning team and Rs 5500/- and trophy was also awarded to Silver Hawks, the runners-up.

Muhammad Saeed Ashraf of Lahore Lions was declared Man of the Match of the final match. Kashif Raza of ASU Tigers was declared Man of the Series and Best Bowler of the Tournament after scoring 65 runs and taking five wickets. Muhammad Usman of Registrar XI was declared the Best Batsman of the Tournament. He scored 70 runs.

Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Director Participant Services, was the Chief Guest for the prize distribution ceremony. Speaking on the occasion, he appreciated the efforts of the organizers towards promoting a spirit of sportsmanship among the employees and commended the organizing committee for managing the event so well.

Dr Kamran Siddiqui, Director SPA, Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar, Muhammad Anwar, Chief Library Officer, Ahmad Abdullah, Head, Office of Human Resources, Lt Col (R) Zafar Ali, Head, Office of Facilities Management (OFM), Nauman Nadeem, Head, Office of Information Technology (OIT) and Gulraiz Akbar Dar, Manager Finance, also graced the occasion with their presence. On the whole, the Second UMT Employees Tape Ball Cricket Tournament 2009 gave an opportunity to the employees to break out of their tough work schedules and interact with each other in a friendly and competitive environment.
6th UMT Snooker Championship 2009

Snooker is a popular cue sport that has caught the fancy of the youth. UMT Sports club organized the 6th UMT Snooker Championship 2009 at the Cue Tech Snooker Club on October 10, 2009. A total of 28 players participated in the championship. The defending champion Asad Ashfaq could not defend his title and lost the quarter final.

The final match was played between Ghulam Dastagir (BBA-H) and Farhan Rasheed (MSBF). The championship was won by Ghulam Dastagir while Farhan was declared the runner-up. The event generated a lot of interest among snooker enthusiasts.

8th UMT Badminton Championship 2009

The UMT Sports Club organized the 8th UMT Badminton Championship on December 16-18, 2009. The championship received a very positive response and a large number of participants registered for the event. Defending champion Zohaib Liaquat, student of BBA-H, successfully defended his title and became the champion for 2009-2010 while Mobeen-ur-Rehman, Vice-President of the Sports Club was declared the runner-up. The OPA team, Sports Club office bearers, faculty and staff members, and a large number of participants gathered to watch the final match.

Fut Thrill '09: 2nd UMT Intra-University football Tournament

The UMT Sports Club organized the 2nd UMT Intra-University Football Tournament 2009. Better known as Fut Thrill '09 amongst the student body, the tournament was inaugurated by Rana Ifikhar Ahmad, Director Participants Services. The participating teams included High Octane, Black Tigers, YFC Batch # 35, MCom Rockers, Shaka FC, Back Benchers, Side Kickers, Innocents, Brother People, Strangers, LYCANS, Hybrids, Roma Barcelona, In-Faders, Spade and Shabbah. Matches for the final and third positions were held on November 16, 2009 and the prize distribution ceremony was held on the same day.

The High Octane Team captained by Muhammad Umar Maqsood was the winner of the tournament. The captain was also declared the best player of the tournament. The second position was secured by Black Tigers captained by Bilal Shaheen while YFC Batch # 35 captained by Muhammad Azam got the third position.

Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT and Rana Ifikhar Ahmad, Director Participants Services, presented trophies and medals to all position holders. The ceremony ended with a note of thanks by Rana Ifikhar Ahmad who renewed his commitment and support for the next tournament to be held in 2010. He also appreciated the efforts of UMT Sports Club for involving participants in this popular sports and for organizing the tournament.
The 5th UMT Girls Badminton Championship 2009 was organized by the Girls Sports Wing (GSW) on December 19, 2009 at the UMT Badminton North Court. Quite a few female participants took part in the event as badminton is a sport that is popular among females as well. **Anum Yaseen** (073605-132 BBA-H) was the winner of the championship while **Hamnah Butt** (073605-117 BBA-H) was the runner-up.

The Girls Sports Wing (GSW) has been set up exclusively to encourage female participation in sports activities organized by OPA. The rationale for setting up GSW is to have a student body that would represent the interests of female participants who want to take part in sports events on a regular basis or those who require guidance in such matters.

The championship was won by **Wajaht Ali Khan** (BBA-H) while **Salman Ali** (MBA-P) was the runner up. The third position went to **Syed Abdullah Abbas** (BS TEL). **Rana Iftikhar Ahmad**, Director Participants Services, Sports Club members, students and other staff members were present during the final matches.

Table tennis is a popular indoor game that demands quick reactions and agility from the players. The UMT Sports Club organized the 8th UMT Boys Table Tennis Championship 2010. The event, popularly referred to as 'Racket Champ', was held from January 5-7, 2010 in the boys’ common room. A large number of participants took part in the event.

The championship was won by **Wajaht Ali Khan** (BBA-H) while **Salman Ali** (MBA-P) was the runner up. The third position went to **Syed Abdullah Abbas** (BS TEL). **Rana Iftikhar Ahmad**, Director Participants Services, Sports Club members, students and other staff members were present during the final matches.

Football practice is the best way to learn the fundamentals and techniques of the game. Structured practice, including practice matches, allows the players to test their fitness levels and skills. The UMT football team played a practice football match against the Minhaj University team on January 01, 2010 at the UMT Football ground.

The match was supervised by **Muhammad Saleem Akhtar**, Assistant Manager Sports, and Member of the Punjab Football Referees Association. The home team won the match by 4-0. Two goals were scored by **Muhammad Umar Maqsood**, captain of the UMT football team.

The match was supervised by **Muhammad Saleem Akhtar**, Assistant Manager Sports, and Member of the Punjab Football Referees Association. The home team won the match by 4-0. Two goals were scored by **Muhammad Umar Maqsood**, captain of the UMT football team.
IJ KBO appoints Dr A R Kausar as member of the International Editorial Review Board

An official publication of the Information Resources Management Association recently appointed Dr A R Kausar as member of the International Editorial Review Board. The International Journal of Knowledge-Based Organizations (IJKBO) examines current, state-of-the-art research in the areas of decision sciences and business intelligence, and the interactions, linkages, and applications of knowledge-based business with information systems. It provides an international forum for practitioners, educators, and researchers to advance the knowledge and practice of all facets of KBO, emphasizing emerging theories, principles, models, processes, and applications to inspire and circulate cutting-edge findings into research, business, and communities.

Research and Publications

Research is an integral part of academic and professional life at UMT. Faculty members actively participate in research endeavors and encourage their students to do the same.

- Research papers titled ‘Determinants of Foreign Direct Investment - A Comparative Study and Corporate Governance: A case of India and Pakistan’ have been accepted for presentation at the 2010 Oxford Business and Economics Conference (OBEC) to be held in St. Hugh’s College, Oxford University, Oxford, England, on June 28-30, 2010. These research papers are authored by M Mahmood Shah Khan, Lecturer SBE, Adee Muhammad, Coordinator CIFE, and Masoora Gul Khan, student of MBF program respectively.

- A paper, titled “Management Education and Corporate Governance: A case of India and Pakistan” has been accepted for publication in Research Journal of International Studies (RJIS). The RJIS is included in the Euro Journals List. The paper has been written by M Mahmood Shah Khan, Lecturer, Department of Finance and Economics, SBE.

- A collaborative research work has been published in an international book titled “Ageing in Asia” edited by Dr Jason L. Powell and Dr Ian G Cook (ISBN No 978-1-60741-649-4). The research contribution is a result of collaborative intellectual efforts of Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Ahmad Raza and Dr A K Kayani. The research paper is titled “Ageing, Life Expectancy and Changes in Lifestyles: Situational Analysis of Pakistan”. The book has been published by Nova Science Publishers, USA, which can be accessed/purchased online as well. The primary focus of the book is on investigating and analyzing the impact of the ageing population on the emerging problems of management, economy and socio-cultural systems of the Asian societies and implications in the 21st century. The book has been published as a part of a series of books titled “Ageing Issues, Health and Financial Alternatives”

- Dr Naveed Yazdani’s paper titled “Mintzberg’s Strategy Continuum: Philosophical and Theoretical Underpinnings” has been accepted for presentation at the Oxford Business and Economics Conference (OBEC) to be held at Oxford University, UK, in June 2010.

Appointments

- Waqar Ahmed, Assistant Professor SBE, has been appointed Director CMD by Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT and Chairman CMD. This appointment is subject to the approval from the BOG.

- Dr Sajjad H Shami has joined the School of Science and Technology (SST) as Professor with effect from October 19, 2009.

- Dr Mujahid Ali Mansoori joined the School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) as Professor with effect from November 02, 2009.

- Syed Imad-ud-Din Asad has joined as Assistant Professor and Director Center for Law and Policy with effect from September 24, 2009.

Quality in Higher Education: Challenges and Practices

The phenomenal growth of higher education and its subsequent internationalization in the last two decades calls for a mechanism to ensure quality across frontiers. This is only possible if practitioners and researchers proactively share experiences and methodologies followed in their respective institutions and countries. Quality Assurance in Higher Education: Challenges and Practices is a serious attempt to fill the void created by lack of scientific rigor in research on Total Quality Management (TQM).

The book is a compilation of the best research output in the conference on ‘Quality in Higher Education’ jointly organized by the Higher Education Commission, Government of Pakistan, University of Management and Technology, Lahore, and Institute of Quality and Technology Management, University of the Punjab, in December 2008. Researchers and practitioners from both the developed and developing countries presented their research output in the conference. The work of thirteen contributors from the United States, United Kingdom, New Zealand, Australia, India and Pakistan has been made part of this worth reading volume.

The four part book has thirteen chapters. Part one has four chapters and is titled “Global Issues. It deals with critical issues for institutional accreditation, dimensions of quality and performance indicators in higher education, worldwide educational reforms, paradigms and theories for assuring quality in higher education, and implications for Pakistani universities in terms of current practices for assuring the quality of teaching in Australia and New Zealand.

The second part of the book is about “Quality Improvement Techniques”. Dr Abdul Raouf’s contribution in this part is titled “Continuous improvement of higher education quality”. The chapter is based on self-assessment of programs and methodology of implementing continuous improvement. It is worth mentioning that he is the only co-editor who has contributed to the book.

Other papers deal with the importance of strengthening local institutions to meet the professional needs of the country, the role of PhD students as future leaders of the research and academic traditions of their respective countries, and the debate surrounding university rankings.

Part three focuses on quality parameters such as creativity in higher education and presents a case study of a management institute in India, analysis and comparison of the BEd program at Bangla Desh Open University (BOU) and AIOU, Pakistan, and outcomes of higher education in the form of physical and social capital.

Finally, part four of the book deals with higher education related issues. It is a source of great pride for UMT that Dr Abdul Raouf, Distinguished National Professor and one of the co-editors of this volume, is associated with UMT as University Professor and Advisor.

Other editors, Prof Dr Niaz Ahmad, Rector National Textile University, Faisalabad, and Prof Dr Riaz Hussain Qureshi, Advisor Quality Assurance and Learning Innovation, Higher Education Commission, Islamabad, are distinguished educationists and practitioners in the field of Quality Management.

Publisher: Punjab University Press
1st International Conference on Business Management

January 05-06, 2011

School of Business and Economics
University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan
Submission Deadline: June 15, 2010

Competitive papers are invited in all areas of business management including (but not limited to) general management, leadership, organizational behavior, entrepreneurship, human resource management, supply chain, information system, marketing, economics and finance.

All submitted papers will go through the process of double blind peer review by experts. Accepted papers will be published in the conference proceedings. Two research papers will be considered for the Best Paper Award. Electronic submissions should be sent in MS Word format and APA style to ICoBM@umt.edu.pk.

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CALL FOR PAPERS

International Conference on Islamic Civilization Potentials and Challenges

The Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization at the University of Management and Technology, Lahore, Pakistan announces a call for papers for an International Conference on “Islamic Civilization - Potentials and Challenges”, to be held at Lahore, Pakistan on November 10-11, 2010, InshaAllah.

The main objective of this conference is to explore theoretical and methodological framework for studying the Islamic civilization. The conference seeks to reframe some of the debates about Islamic civilization, its potentials and contemporary challenges.

This significant event will bring together prominent scholars and intellectuals to share their expertise. We are particularly interested in papers that fall within the following themes:

1. Origin, development and dynamics of Islamic civilization
2. Distinguishing features of Islamic civilization and its impact on other major civilizations of the world
3. Unity and diversity of Islamic civilization
4. The intellectual contribution of Islamic civilization in the fields of religious thought, social and natural sciences, international relations, art, culture, architecture, law and jurisprudence
5. Future of Islamic civilization: emerging issues and new horizons (globalization, technology, post-modernity, Islamic movements, etc.)
6. Interaction, clash and dialogue with contemporary civilizations

The languages of the conference will be English and Arabic. Those willing to present papers at the conference should submit a 150-300 word abstract along with a brief CV by April 10, 2010 at civconference@umt.edu.pk. Please include title of paper, full name(s), affiliation, current position and email address.

Important Dates
Deadline for abstract submission: April 10, 2010
Announcement of acceptance of abstracts: May 10, 2010
Deadline for full paper submission: August 05, 2010
Announcement of acceptance of papers: August 25, 2010
Conference: November 10-11, 2010

Contact
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Syed Imad ud Din Asad discusses his strategy for strengthening legal education in Pakistan

A graduate of Harvard Law School, Syed Imad-ud-Din Asad joined UMT in September 2009. In a short span of time, he became the founding director of CLP. And it is all set to publish the first issue of Law and Policy Review (LPR) in June 2010. He has already brought on board distinguished practitioners, lawyers and academicians from North America, Europe, and Asia as advisers and visiting fellows. In an exclusive interview with UMT News, Professor Asad highlights the achievements made so far and dishes out his plans for the future.

UMT News: What were the objectives underlying and the motivation behind the establishment of CLP?

When I was a law student, my professors never told me about legal research, citation styles, law review articles, etc. Fortunately, being a curious student striving to acquire as many legal skills as possible, I discovered things on my own. Finally, when I went to Harvard and worked with professors like Duncan Kennedy, Mark Tushnet, and Hal S Scott, I realized that outside Pakistan, people are working on a totally different intellectual plane. In fact, it filled me with a strong desire to promote and create similar attitudes and avenues in my country. Now, when I am back in Lahore, I strongly believe that we need to introduce certain trends in our society in general, and our legal education, in particular. We need to train our students in research and independent thinking; we need people who are not only able to analyze local issues and come up with realistic and implementable suggestions, but who are also able to play a meaningful role globally; we need to strengthen our system of legal education in order to produce competent lawyers, judges, and policy makers. Of course, CLP isn’t enough to achieve all this, but it is the first step.

UMT News: What are the possible avenues for cooperation between Pakistani and foreign practitioners and how you will make both converge on the CLP platform?

Local and foreign experts can work together in a number of ways and in a variety of fields. From international trade to human rights, there are so many possibilities. CLP is facilitating this collaboration by bringing Pakistani and foreign lawyers together in a variety of activities. We invite foreign lawyers to the Center where they offer specialized courses for Pakistani practitioners, in-house lawyers, and academics. Where people are unable to come over due to time constraints, we organize video-conference based lectures and talks. Law and Policy Review is another medium for the two to engage in meaningful debates. For instance, at this very moment, we are in the process of editing articles by American, Dutch, French, Greek, and Pakistani contributors. Our editors are based in Amsterdam, Berlin, Boston, Islamabad, Lahore, New Delhi, New York, Paris, Prague, and Singapore.

UMT News: The Center for Law and Policy is currently offering two courses on International Commercial Arbitration and International Sales Law. Do you intend to expand the range of courses in the near future? If yes, what courses are being planned?

The two courses were just the beginning. We don’t intend to restrict ourselves to a particular field of law. At the same time, we are not involving ourselves in too many activities as we don’t have a large enough team right now. Our future activities range from competition laws to gender issues in South Asia.

UMT News: How did you manage to get on board people from world class institutions such as Harvard, Yale, Oxford, and Cambridge for the Center?

Networking! America runs on it…. You move in the right circles and you make lasting friendships with the right people. Even now I am doing it. The results are before you: the best Pakistani legal minds--- judges of the superior courts, senior advocates, etc. are visiting CLP and are eager to work with us. The Center is getting prominent every day.

Pakistanis, unfortunately, are not at good at this kind of socializing….. How can I say this?….. Well, we have so

many foreign qualified individuals, how many do you see bringing over academics from the Ivy League? To me, coming back alone doesn’t count a lot. What really matters is how many you bring along with you.

UMT News: What about networking in the local legal profession? Recently, Justice (r) Nasira Iqbal, President, LHCBA, visited CLP, followed by Justice (r) Aamer Raza A Khan, Senior Advocate, Supreme Court. Has a strategy been devised for collaboration between UMT and the LHCBA?

One of the Deans, not long ago, said to me, “You are a lawyer and you must have chalked out a strategy.” Of course, there is always a strategy!

In fact, LHCBA and CLP are already collaborating. On 15 January 2010, CLP was invited by the Bar to participate in a high-level discussion on the proposed accountability law. The speakers included Justice (r) Nasira Iqbal, Barrister Chaudhry Aitzaz Ahsan, Abid Hasan Minto, Justice (r) Malak Saeed Hasan, and Shahid Hamid. Afterwards, the Bar requested CLP to formally assist them in reviewing the Bill. We are working on it right now…. This is just the first of the many projects that we have planned together.

UMT News: Pakistan needs a new breed of policy makers and legal practitioners. Do you see any gap between the demand and supply of legal professionals in the country? If yes, what role can CLP play in bridging this gap?

Yes, there is a huge gap. Most of our law graduates are, for a number of reasons, simply pathetic. And this is where we get our lawyers, judges, and parliamentarians from.

Briefly speaking, CLP can play a worthwhile role by introducing and implementing western academic standards in whatever we do. Hopefully, others in Pakistan will follow this example.

UMT News: What kind of team are you building for CLP?

We are trying to bring some fresh law graduates on board. Once they become a part of our full-time team, we will further train them according to our requirements. In order for us to be interested, one must be good at legal research, have writing and editing skills, be a quick learner, and, above all, dependable in every sense of the word.

UMT News: On a personal note, what made you return to your country after graduating from Harvard? With a law degree from Harvard, you could have made a fortune anywhere in the world?

Yes, with a Harvard degree one has endless possibilities. However, being the idealist I am, I decided to give my country the first preference. Of course, the current situation in Pakistan is anything but conducive. Who doesn’t know about the ongoing “brain-drain”? People are eager to move to Canada or anywhere outside the country for a reason. My point is that if all “the good people” just leave the country, “the nation” will never improve. What’s the point in being an intellectual if you don’t have the courage to face and overcome the heat?…. I am here to stay! Fortunately, I met Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad during one of my visits to UMT. We had a detailed discussion and I noticed that we shared the same vision and approach. He made me an offer and I decided to give it a try. You see, people like me can’t work with just anybody. So far, I am glad that it has gone extremely well. Dr Murad is a person whose dynamism and demeanor are simply marvellous. Had I not met him, I wouldn’t have been at UMT.

UMT News: Given the tumultuous history of Pakistan and the governance related issues, what prospects do you see for the rule of law in the country?

It’s like my answer to the question regarding legal education in Pakistan. Nothing is certain yet. Well, too many things need to be done and nobody is doing anything. I would refrain from going into the details as my politically charged comments are more suitable for an op-ed rather than a university newsletter.
Director, Center for Management Development
Waqar Ahmed shares the recipe of success of CMD, plans operations at international level

One of the founding members of CMD, Waqar Ahmed earned his BS and MBA degrees from the United States. He worked with the leading US companies in the areas of sales, marketing, and management. As a senior trainer, Waqar has been giving trainings within and outside Pakistan on various management and marketing topics. His areas of interest include personal selling, team building, customer service, and leadership skills. He has conducted trainings for almost all the leading national and multinational companies in Pakistan. He has recently taken over as Director CMD. UMT News spoke to him regarding his contribution to CMD over the years and his plans for further development.

UMT News: The Center for Management Development, CMD, as it is generally known, is one of the most well known ventures of UMT and has imparted trainings to clients all over the country. Tell us about your association with CMD and how it evolved over the years as one of the best management training centers in the country.

I am one of the founding members of CMD. From day one I was very passionately involved in all its affairs. I still remember the long working hours where I was deeply involved not only in developing new workshop material but also in establishing CMD’s brand name in the corporate sector. We started very humbly with no clients but soon developed a network with leading trainers and companies. As our training methodology was different from other training organizations, we rapidly gained market acceptance. Each passing day increased my involvement in CMD affairs and training became my passion.

UMT News: The Outbound Action Learning trainings are one of the most sought after and rigorous exercises, and to some extent, they are also an extreme form of training. How did the idea evolve?

First of all, outbound is not an extreme form of training. It is an extension of our existing training methodology that is experiential learning. The concept evolved as we observed that when a person comes close to nature his/her real identity is revealed. Moreover, natural places like mountains and jungles provide us an environment that is similar to the high pressure environment in the corporate world.

Add high level of participant’s involvement and 100% recall rate and you have one of the best training experiences. So the idea was very simple, nature is the best teacher, hence use it to your advantage.

UMT News: While CMD has greatly benefited the corporate clientele, the resource persons and trainers are faculty members of UMT. To what extent, if any, do you or your colleagues bring this expertise to the classrooms?

An excellent question indeed. I would like to highlight here the raison d’etre of CMD. CMD was founded by Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, to act as a bridge between academia and business. When we interact with clients, first of all we try to understand their business environment and the related issues. When we go to a class we share our learning with the students in multiple forms. We use these companies as examples of management practices; we give them assignments and projects on these companies and arrange visits/guest speakers for our students. These linkages also help us in creating job opportunities for our graduating students.

UMT News: Can you explain how training imparted by CMD leads to transformation of the company for the better?

CMD is in the business of bringing change and improvement in the client’s organization. This is also our mission statement. Whenever we interact with an organization we ensure that some changes take place in the organization. Some companies have shown more than 100% increases in their sales while others have shown drastic improvement in their productivity and employees’ motivation level.

UMT News: You have given trainings both within and outside Pakistan. Are there any differences in the training requirements of local companies as compared to those of foreign ones?

I have worked with different organizations and business groups within and outside Pakistan. The training issues are more or less the same as the basic objective is to either improve the technical skills or the soft skills of the human capital. MNCs require discussing multi-cultural aspects with emphasis on global competencies whereas local companies are more focused on regional/local dynamics.

UMT News: How do you identify employee training needs in an organization?

At CMD we have a five step process of conducting a TNA for customized workshops. This includes an exploratory meeting with the concerned Head of the Department, followed by analysis of the various factors that influence the environment that the workforce operates in, and the gaps in their required workforce operates in, and the gaps in their required level of competencies. This exercise is followed by identification and specification of training needs, development of program content, training methodology and schedule, and delivery of the customized training program to the participants. Finally, a follow-up session to assess training impact is organized with the participants, though this last step in optional and is taken only if required.

UMT News: What are the key criteria for effective training?

There are various criteria that can be used to measure the effectiveness of a training program. However, I believe that a training workshop is successful if it meets the objectives agreed upon with the clients’ HR Department, engages the participants, and helps them to change their attitude and behavior by 5 – 10 percent.

UMT News: What are your plans for further development of CMD – both in terms of the type of trainings offered, human resources and infrastructure required to meet the demands of the corporate sector?

CMD is different in many ways from any other training organization that is operating in Pakistan. First, it is based in an academic environment and offers customized training at the clients’ place. Secondly, our programs are theoretically grounded and practically executed. In short, we are knowledge-based and performance-oriented. Third, we have the largest resource pool of trainers, covering a wide variety of program offerings. All of our trainers have rich corporate and training experience which gives CMD the edge of catering for multiple customers’ needs under one roof. Fourth, being in academia, our strength lies in measuring performance and related improvement. We offer impact assessment to our client that no other organization is offering. Fifth, and the most important, we are flexible, innovative and not-for-profit oriented company. All the income generated by CMD goes towards the development of the university. In fact, our training partners and participants are collaborating in the noble cause of spreading knowledge.

Using UMT’s strength I am planning to take CMD to the international level and develop international linkages with leading training institutions of the world. Soon, we are starting our operations in the Middle East and SAARC countries as well.

UMT News: What in your view are the key training areas that companies should focus to effectively thrive in turbulent times?

I believe that current times call for a focus on training in areas like leadership, technology, entrepreneurship, social media, financial engineering and management, strategy and branding, team building, performance enhancement and personal effectiveness along with the latest technical areas like business forecasting, supply chain, key account management, ERP, etc. The key success factor will lie in the ability of the company to align these trainings with the corporate goals.