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Inaugurating the seminar, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, welcomed the delegates from the corporate world. He appreciated the initiative of cooperation and partnership between industry and academia for improved input, operations and output, collectively termed as supply chain which is an important area that has so far been neglected by industry, academia and the government. He added that supply chain was a dynamic field, posing a great challenge to all those who were engaged in it. He said that due to its significance and emerging need, UMT was seriously considering offering advanced studies, programs and courses in the field of supply chain in its MS degree package to train professionals and working people in industry as a gesture of its commitment to the business world, and improvement in the quality of education and research.

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Pro-Rector Hoists National Flag as UMT Celebrates Independence Day

The 62nd Independence Day of Pakistan was celebrated with patriotic fervor at the campus of the University of Management and Technology, Lahore on Friday the 14th of August, 2009. On the occasion, the national flag was hoisted at the campus by the Pro-Rector UMT, Dr A R Kausar who was accompanied by Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs; Rana Ifthikhar Ahmed, GM Participants Affairs; and Col. Zafar Ali, Head, Office of Facilities Management at UMT. A large number of students, faculty and staff members gathered to commemorate the nation’s Independence Day.

"Creating something new was a cause of pride", says CEO of UTrade.org

UMT invites CEOs from the corporate sector for direct interaction with participants, faculty and staff members. Shaista Asif, CEO of UTrade.org, was invited to UMT in this context. She is the youngest Director of Mobilink and is currently working as the CEO of UAE based UTrade.org. Speaking on the occasion, she introduced the web portal (utrade.org) designed and developed solely to facilitate the trade management system. She explained that this portal would cater for the needs of companies across the world and will also serve the general public. The portal will have all the information required for smooth flow of trade within and between countries. It will have information regarding custom duties, customs operations, shipping lines, tax calculations and SROs, etc.

Explaining the functioning of the portal, she said that every item is given a universal HS code that follows the UN/World Bank guidelines. You can get the tariff description of a particular item across the globe and access the global market accordingly. This is essentially a trade networking site where traders communicate globally. The site will provide updated statistics on different items such as top ten imports and exports of the country. Duty Calculator available on the site will enable the traders to calculate all the taxes or duties to be paid in lieu of any trade transaction to be made. She also informed that initially registration is free for all the business community. Speaking to the business graduates, she said that Pakistan had great opportunities as compared to any of the third world countries and creating something new was a cause of pride and everlasting joy. She advised them that an early start was the key to success and leadership required one to ignore security concerns and take a leap forward. She added that technology essentially fueled ideas and creativity. One must have courage, faith and determination to face the challenges of practical life.

At the end, Dr Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, presented a souvenir to Shaista Asif and thanked her for taking the time to visit UMT.

Continued on Page 2

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Mr Amin receiving a souvenir from Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT

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UMT Consultants join hands with Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA)

UMT Consultants has joined hands with Pakistan Hosiery Manufacturers Association (PHMA) to work in a project to dig out problems and issues facing the hosiery industry in Pakistan. In this regard, a focus group was conducted on August 11 at the Lahore regional office of PHMA to assess the situation. From the Textile Department, and Director UMT Consultants, were the mediators for this study. A total of four sessions of this type have been planned as part of the project. This was the first session in the series while others will be held in Karachi, Sialkot, and Faisalabad.

Continued from Page 1

Anil, Regional Head, Agility Logistics, gave a presentation on the activities and objectives of SCAP. Prof Dr Shaukat Ali Brah, Dean, Suleman Dawood School of Business, LUMS, while emphasizing on the SC model, said that the time had come when both industry and academia had to give more attention to supply chain. He stated that if you fail to plan then you plan to fail. Globally the competition was getting tough with every passing day and this changing scenario required a response from our side.

Qasim Qayoum from TCS also presented his views on supply chain. Afzal Ali, Head of SC, Metro, explained the importance of supply chain in the context of the organization as Metro had branches all over the world and operated slaughter houses, warehouse centers, fish handling centers, etc. Irfan Farooqi, Supply Chain Manager Century Paper Mills, gave a presentation and said that the maximum strength of supply chain was equal to the strength of the weakest link. Naveed Sarwar, Supply Chain Manager Becton Dickinson, shared his experiences and the significance of supply chain in today’s world of business.

At the end, Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, thanked the participants, delegates and sponsors for coming together and showing commitment to this significant area of business.

Continued from Page 1

Addressing on the occasion, the Chief Guest, Dr A R Kausar said that he had traveled all over the world and lived in the USA for ten years. Yet he chose to return to the homeland because Pakistan was a better place to live in and had an identity of its own. He said that Pakistan was blessed with a temperate climate as opposed to extreme climates of places like Michigan where he had braved the weather at -60 degrees Fahrenheit or places in the Middle East where temperatures soared to 50 to 60 degrees Fahrenheit.

He said that we must be proud of our country because it was a member of the seven nation nuclear club. He reminded everyone that Pakistan was the only safe haven for its citizens and one only had to look at the plight of Muslims in Kashmir, Palestine, Bosnia and even India to realize how important it was to have a country of one’s own.

He said that this was a day of being thankful to all those who made it possible for us to have a country of our own and the name of Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the man who led us to freedom, was on every Pakistani’s mind today. In the final analysis, he said, today was a day of being grateful for our independence and of taking stock of our standing in the comity of nations. He said that we must be united in our commitment to work for a better future for our country.

Later, Dr A R Kausar distributed gift hampers to special children who had been invited to the campus for the occasion. Independence Day Celebrations concluded with lively entertainment provided by students of the university. National songs, historical documentaries and comedy items were presented for the benefit of all those present.
Emerging Trends in the Digital World

Dr. Amjad Saqib, Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Budar Khusnood, Abid H.K Shirwani, and Adnan Ali address the seminar.

A seminar on “Emerging trends in the digital world: Prospects and opportunities” was jointly organized by the Institute of Research Promotion (IRP) and UMT Library at the university campus on July 19, 2009. Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs and Executive Director, IRP, spoke about the role of IRP to promote research culture in Pakistan. He stressed the need for advancement in technology and web-based processes.

Prof. Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Director, Centre of Literary Services, IRP and Professor of Information Sciences, Punjab University, gave a briefing about IRP research support products and services. He highlighted the role of IRP in developing a number of databases in Pakistan which provide access to knowledge produced in the country. He informed the participants that IRP had earned respect for Pakistan in the world of digital knowledge. He described IRP services such as data digitization, research editing, research portals and databases to promote authorship culture for Pakistani intellectuals.

Participants listen to the proceedings of the seminar.

Technology Awareness Seminar

REBOOT organized a Technology Awareness Seminar for the benefit of staff and faculty members, and participants at UMT on July 03, 2009. Representatives of Intel® Corporation gave a presentation regarding the latest processor technologies. A lucky draw was also held and participants got a chance to win exciting prizes. Later, some PCs with different processor technologies were installed at the North Block Lobby of the UMT Business School. Participants were invited to use them and feel the difference in the working of computers that used Intel processor technology and those that used other processors. It was a rich learning experience for the participants.

Participants photographed together at the end of the training.

Academic Writing Skills

Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector, University of Management and Technology delivered keynote speech in a workshop on “Academic writing skills” held from July 10-11, 2009. While sharing his thoughts on “Best practices in thesis writing”, Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad urged the participants to improve their writing skills by extensive reading with an open mindset and cultivate critical thinking. He discussed a number of best practices in thesis writing such as collaborative authorship, extensive reading, maintaining reference log books, attending research conferences, peer-reviewing and techniques for editing one’s own writings. Dr. Hasan appreciated IRP for providing the forum for such valuable intellectual discussions. The workshop was jointly organized by the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) and Institute of Research Promotion (IRP) on July 10-11, 2009 at IBA, Punjab University.

Earlier, Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs, UMT delivered the introductory speech. The workshop was conducted by Shazia Afzal from LUMS as the lead trainer while Dr. Amjad Saqib, Dr. Khalid Mehmood, Budar Khusnood, Abid H K Shirwani, and Adnan Ali addressed the seminar.

Participants photographed with Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Dr. Ehsan Malik, Director IBA, PU and Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs.

Hands-on Training Workshop on Introduction to CISCO Network Devices

A four days hands-on training workshop on ‘Introduction to CISCO Network Devices’ was organized by the Office of Information Technology (OIT), UMT on July 24, 25, 31 and August 01, 2009. The workshop was conducted for IT professionals, network officials and personnel with special interest in CISCO / network devices. Nauman Nadeem, Head OIT, introduced the various services offered by the Department. He also explained the need for conducting the workshop. Dr. A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, graced the event and urged the participants to utilize the acquired knowledge, and recommended learning of soft networking skills along with hard networking skills. The Pro-Rector awarded certificates to the participants of the workshop and also appreciated the OIT efforts for organizing such an excellent workshop. Earlier, Rashid Malik, In-charge Networking and Technical Support, UMT, conducted the workshop as the Workshop Trainer. He almost covered the coursework of CCNA including topics like building a simple network, Ether & Wireless LAN, Functions of Routing, network environment management, small network implementation, medium-sized switched / routed network construction, single area OSPF implementation, access control lists, address space management, and LAN extension into a WAN. The workshop was completely hands-on, and participants experienced by themselves what they were being instructed.

Participants photographed together at the end of the training.

Workshop participants photographed with Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Dr. Ehsan Malik, Director IBA, PU and Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs.

Workshop participants photographed with Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT, Dr. Ehsan Malik, Director IBA, PU and Abid H K Shirwani, Director External Affairs.
Welcome to the new issue of the UMT News.

While it was going to the press, I was reminded of my responsibility to write the editorial note. Finding no escape, I am writing these lines. As you will see from this issue, it has concentrated on the news of recent events and activities. I trust you will find a number of items that will prove of interest to you in this new format. The UMT News is seeking to reflect the greater dynamism for which UMT is known. It is an emblem of your progress and activity and we try to cover whatever happens at UMT; immediate, current, and of significance. As a consequence, the issues of UMT News will appear more frequently with more small news items and updates from whatever quarter they are tendered. If you have an idea to share, or an item to contribute for the next issue, however small or large, do not hesitate to contact the editor at agghaffari@umt.edu.pk.

By writing these lines, I have discharged my responsibility. You need to realize yours!

A G Ghaffari

Workshop Winning Interviewing Skills

The Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) organized the 4th workshop on July 24, 2009, under its Career Building Program. Faisal Sarfraz, Manager Career and Placement, was the master trainer, while Yousaf Jamshed, the youngest Country HR Manager of ABB Pakistan was the guest speaker.

The workshop was scheduled at a time when final semester graduates are seeking employment and appear for interviews. It helped them to learn skills that create good impression of the candidate on the mind of the interviewer. Faisal Sarfraz was trainer of the first session of the workshop, while Yousaf Jamshed led the second session. The training workshop focused on various aspects such as candidates’ clarity about future vision and career goals, how to search for jobs, types of interviews, things to do before, during and after interview, how to present oneself, and appear for interviews. It helped them to learn skills that create good impression of the candidate on the mind of the interviewer. Faisal Sarfraz was trainer of the first session of the workshop, while Yousaf Jamshed led the second session. The training workshop focused on various aspects such as candidates’ clarity about future vision and career goals, how to search for jobs, types of interviews, things to do before, during and after interview, how to create a good first impression, how to dress for success, best body language techniques for interviews, and common questions asked by interviewers. Practical demonstrations and exercises by the participants were an important feature of the workshop.

While thanking the participants who converged for the workshop, in his inaugural speech, Dr Muhammad Amin, Head DITC, highlighted the objectives of the workshop. He said that teaching Islamic Studies was an important phenomenon in higher education and every university in the private sector had specified a different approach towards it. He observed that it was interesting to get to know what other universities were doing regarding this subject. Thus, the main objective of the workshop was to share experiences and suggestions to improve teaching of Islamic Studies in our institutions.

Reza, Manager HR, Shapes Pakistan and Abdullah Tariq, Lecturer SSH. There were two panels: the creative and the critical. Arfa and Fahad represented the creative while Ilyas Ansari and Amber represented the critics. Dr Hassan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT and Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, attended the debate as well.

The session started with an introduction of the event by Faizan Raja, who was the moderator as well as a SAF representative. Fahad Zia and Ilyas Ansari indulged in cross arguments regarding the ethical aspects of contemporary advertisements. Arfa shared her vast experience of the advertisement industry with the audience and kept the students informed regarding the creative constraints in the profession. While discussing different brands and their advertisements, Fahad and Arfa encouraged students to come up with new ideas to challenge the existing advertising norms. However, they did emphasize the importance of coming up with ethical and culture friendly messages.

Ilyas Ansari presented a critical examination of the whole issue that challenged the creative output of present day advertisers and forced the participants to think over the issues associated with advertising.

Ambreen highlighted the psychological impacts of these advertisements upon the target audience. She summarized the discussion by highlighting the main issues of raised during the debate. She also encouraged the participants to believe in themselves for a better future. Later, an open question and answer session was also held. At the end, winners of “SAF logo competition” “Quiz competition” and “slogan competition” were presented shields.

Workshop Teaching Islamic Studies at University Level

The Department of Islamic Thought and Civilization (DITC) held a workshop on “Teaching Islamic Studies at University Level” on July 07, 2009 in the UMT boardroom. Heads/representatives of the Departments of Islamic Studies at universities and degree awarding institutions of Lahore were invited to the workshop. Scholars from Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), Punjab University, FC College University, Kinnaird College, COMSATS Institute, Superior University, University of Central Punjab (UCP), and University of Engineering and Technology (UET) attended the workshop.

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Open Panel Debate Advertisement creates awareness or desire

Student Academic Forum (SAF) Marketing Club arranged an Open Panel Debate on “Adverti- sement creates awareness or desire” on August 13, 2009. The panel comprised of Arfa Mirza, Creative Director, Evernew Concepts, Fahad Zia, Manager Marketing, The Knowledge School, Ilyas Ansari, Assistant Professor SSH and Ambreen Iqbal, Lecturer SSH. There were two panels: the creative and the critical. Arfa and Fahad represented the creative while Ilyas Ansari and Amber represented the critics. Dr Hassan Sohaib Murad, Rector UMT and Dr A R Kausar, Pro-Rector UMT, attended the debate as well.

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Presentation Human Resource Information System (HRIS)

On invitation of Hammad Mushitaq, visiting faculty member of the School of Business and Economics (SBE), Nazim Mehmood, Manager HR, Shapes Pakistan and Abdullah Tariq, HR Executive, Shapes Pakistan visited UMT campus on July 31, 2009. They gave presenta- tions on Human Resource Information Systems (HRIS) to the MHRM Batch 3 students. Live demo of Shapes HRIS System (online) was also presented followed by an interactive question and answer session.
Intervarsity Summer Volleyball Championship 2009

UMT Sports Club and the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA) organized the Intervarsity Summer Volleyball Championship 2009 at the university campus from July 20-28, 2009. Teams from top universities of Lahore including Lahore University of Management Sciences (LUMS), University of Management and Technology (UMT), University of Central Punjab (UCP), University of South Asia (USA), University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences (UVAS), University of Lahore, SKANS School of Accountancy and the Center of Financial Excellence (CFE) participated in the event.

The championship was inaugurated by Salman Saeed Qureshi, Registrar UMT, Muhammad Iqbal Gondal, former coach of the Pakistan Railway Volleyball team, helped the UMT team prepare for the competition and reach the finals. In a grueling competition, four teams made it to the semi-finals. CFE beat LUMS in the 1st semi-final while UMT played extraordinarily well in the 2nd semi-final against UVAS and qualified for the final. Refereed by Muhammad Altaf, National Volleyball Referee, the final was played between CFE and UMT. The CFE team won the championship while the UMT team was declared the runner-up. The third position went to the UVAS team.

Muhammad Fayab Ramzan, student of Media and Communication Department at UMT was declared best player of the tournament. Rana Iftikhar Ahmed, GM Participants Affairs, gave away the certificates of participation and prizes in the prize distribution ceremony.

Art Exhibition

An art exhibition was organized by the students of Sketching and Design course under the supervision of Alvina Fatima at the University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore on August 13, 2009. Dr. Usman Khalil, student of Media and Communication Department at UMT and Dr. Abdul Hameed Farooq Murad, Chair-man Muslim Aid International, UK, was the Guest of Honor. He remarked that such events provided good evidence for self expression and channelized the talent in youth. Dr Abdul Hameed appreciated the efforts made by Alvina for taking the initiative to organize the exhibition and bring out the best in her students. Dr Usman Khalil also encouraged the organizers. The exhibition was attended by a large number of participants, faculty and staff members. At the end, there was a resounding applause from all the participants who not only appreciated the works of students but also acknowledged the efforts of the organizers.

The exhibition reflected the passion of UMT participants through their work and artifacts. It promoted a healthy self expression that can eventually enable them to realize the world of their dreams.

OPA member clubs visit Kattas and Kallar Kahar

The Fine Arts Club at UMT organized a trip to Kattas Temple and Kallar Kahar Lake on July 19, 2009 for the office bearers of all clubs and societies working under the patronage of the Office of Participants Affairs (OPA). A group of twenty-five students went on the trip. They were accompanied by Faisal Sarfraz, Muhammad Saleem Akhtar and Hafiz Umair Iqbal from OPA.

The group left the UMT campus in the morning and enjoyed the journey as they were well-stocked with snacks and cold drinks. The first stop was Kattas Temple which is an ancient temple that dates back to 3200 BC. Faisal Sarfraz briefed the students about the history of the ancient Hindu civilization that had built the temple. The group stopped for lunch at a local tourist restaurant near Kattas.

Finally, the trip participants came to Lake Kallar-Kahar. The weather was surprisingly pleasant and cloudy in Kallar Kahar and adjacent areas. The students took boat rides and enjoyed hiking. After exploring Kallar-Kahar, the group returned to Lahore with refreshing memories.

Appointments, Promotions and Tenure Renewals

- Dr Sarwar M Azhari joined as Dean, School of Business and Economics (SBE) for term of three years with effect from July 01, 2009.
- Dr Abdul Hameed has been appointed as Associate Dean, School of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSSH) with effect from September 17, 2009.
- Dr Abdul Aziz Bhatti has been appointed as Dean, School of Science and Technology (SST) with effect from September 11, 2009.
- Dr Kamran Siddiqi has been appointed as Director, School of Professional Advance- ment (SPA) with effect from September 17, 2009.
- Mansoor U Awan has been appointed as Director, Department of Law with effect from August 10, 2009.
- Prof Dr Iqbal Hussain joined as Advisor for BS Industrial Engineering Program with effect from September 04, 2009.
- Rana Iftikhar Ahmad, Head of Participants Affairs has been promoted to the position of Director Participant Services, for a period of three years with effect from July 1, 2009.
- The tenure of Asif Saeed Haider, as Controller of Examinations has been renewed for a period of three years with effect from September 15, 2009.
- The tenure of Muhammad Taufeeq, as Director Participant Services, for a period of three years with effect from July 1, 2009.
- The tenure of Muhammad Abdullah, as Head Office of Human Resources has been re-newed for a period of three years with effect from July 1, 2009.
- Ali Akbar Choudhary has been appointed as Director Finance/Treasurer, for a period of three years with effect from September 16, 2009.
- Others who joined during July to September 2009 include Teaching Fellow, Hanna E Qubbi, Lab Engineers cum Lecturers, Hamza Mahmood and Muhammad Saifian Adeeet, Research Assistants, Suhail Maqsood and Muhammad Haneef, and Officer Compensation and Benefits, Imran Elahi.

UMT News wishes all of them the best of luck in their future roles and assignments.
Dr A R Kausar appointed as Editorial Board Member of IJKBD

Pro-Rector UMT and Professor of Knowledge and Engineering, Dr A. R. Kausar recently became member of the Editorial Board of International Journal of Knowledge-Based Development (IJKBD). As the journal moves towards the multi-disciplinary platform and will adopt a systems approach to the theory and practice of knowledge-based development activities, focusing on knowledge cities and societies, knowledge-based urban development, knowledge and innovation clusters, and knowledge-intensive service activities. As a fully-referred, international journal that publishes theoretical, experimental, and experiential papers, practice notes, case studies, and innovative methodologies, IJKBD works towards bringing together academia, science, and industry professionals to integrate diversity and fragments of knowledge-based development.

Dr Abdul Hameed’s papers accepted for international conferences

UMT faculty members are actively engaged in research work in their respective disciplines. Research papers by faculty members emphasizing critical and thoughtful levels of enquiry into their respective domains are regularly accepted in prestigious national and international journals and conferences. Here is a list of research papers by Dr Abdul Hameed, Director School of Professional Advancement (SPA) that were accepted for publication in the proceedings of the international conferences:

- A paper titled “Implications of UN convention on the rights of persons with disabilities 2007 for education policy in Pakistan” was accepted for publication in the International Conference on Education and New Learning Technologies held in Barcelona, Spain on July 06-08, 2009.
- A paper titled “Access to physical education activities of girls with visual impairment in Pakistan” was accepted for publication in ACHPER International Conference held in Brisbane, Australia on July 08-10, 2009.
- A paper titled “The level of access to quality HPE of children with disabilities in Pakistan” was accepted for publication in ACHPER International Conference held in Brisbane, Australia on July 08-10, 2009.
- A paper titled “Perceptions of perspective special teachers about autism and their implications for the children with autism” was accepted for publication in the Asia Pacific Action Conference held at the Sydney Convention and Exhibition Centre on August 20-22, 2009.
- A paper titled “Attitude of children with hearing impairment towards assistive technology in Pakistan” was accepted for publication in the 10th International Conference of the Association for the Advancement of Assistive Technology in Europe (AAATE) 2009 held in Florence, Italy on August 31-Sep 02, 2009.

Dr Faheem Uddin presents paper at the National Conference

Dr Faheem Uddin, Chairman Department of Textile, School of Science and Technology (SST) presented a paper on “Enhancing GDP through research, innovation and development” in the National Conference on Role of Technology in Economic Self Reliance & Expo of R&D held at the Lahore Chamber of Commerce and Industry (LCCI) on July 23, 2009. The paper presented two approaches for local industry development. Prof Dr Arshad, Session Chair, described it as the ‘most discussed (demanding) presentation’ in the conference.

Participants of the one-day conference were welcomed by Mian Muzaffar Ali, President, LCCI, and Tanveer Ashraf Kaira, Provincial Minister of Finance, Planning and Development. The technical session was chaired by Prof Dr Arshad Hassan, Professor and Director, National University of Computer and Emerging Sciences.

GCU awards PhD to Aziz-ur-Rehman

Dr Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman, Lecturer, SST has successfully completed his PhD degree in Mathematics from Government College University, Lahore. His thesis title was ‘Higher Order Techniques for Heat Equation Subject to Non-Local Boundary Conditions’ by Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman and Dr M S A Taj Assistant Professor COMSATS Lahore, has been accepted in the journal ‘Applied Mathematics’. A research paper titled “Fourth-Order Method for Non-Homogeneous Heat Equation with Non-Local Boundary Conditions” by Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman and Dr M S M Saleem and Assistant Professor COMSATS Lahore, has been accepted in the journal ‘Applied Mathematics’.

A research paper titled “Fifth-order Numerical Method for Heat Equation Subject to a Boundary Integral Specification” by Muhammad Aziz-ur-Rehman and Dr M S A Taj Assistant Professor COMSATS Lahore, and M M Butt, has been accepted in the journal ‘ACTA Mathematica Universitatis’. Research publications by Farah Naz, PhD Scholar

Farah Naz, PhD Scholar at the School of Social Sciences and Humanities has over twenty years of experience in teaching, education administration and quality assurance. Her published and accepted research work is given below.

- Paper on “Defining the Standards in Higher Education” was accepted in the 16th International Conference on Learning, held in the University Of Barcelona, Spain on 1-4 July 2009. The same paper was published in “The Journal of Learning” in August, 2009.
- Paper on “Effect of Caste on Leadership Styles at the School Level in Punjab” has been accepted in the 7th International Conference on The Book, held in The University Of Edinburgh, Scotland on 16-18 October, 2009. Mrs Abida Khalid PhD Scholar of UMT is also an author for this paper. The paper will be presented there and the learned author is proceeding to Scotland on the grant of Higher Education Commission, Pakistan. The same paper will be published in “The Journal of The Book. Dr Kamran Siddiqi is also an author for this paper.
- Paper on “Gender Differences in Leadership Styles at University Level” has been accepted in the 7th International Conference on The Book, being held in The University Of Edinburgh, Scotland on 16-18 October, 2009. Mrs Abida Khalid PhD Scholar of UMT is also an author for this paper. The paper will be presented there and the learned author is proceeding to Scotland on the grant of Higher Education Commission, Pakistan. The same paper will be published in “The Journal of The Book. Dr Kamran Siddiqi is also an author for this paper.
- Paper on “The Current Context Teachers And Teaching In Pakistan” was accepted in “COMSATS International Business Research Conference: A Conference for Business, Economics and Behavioral Sciences” being held at COMSATS Institute of Information Technology Lahore Pakistan, on October 22, 2009. The same paper will be published in the conference proceedings.
- Paper on “Entrepreneurial Skills Enhance the Achievement Level of Leaders at School Level in Lahore” has been accepted for an oral presentation at the “COMSATS Intl. Business Research Conference: A Conference for Business, Economics and Behavioral Sciences” being held at COMSATS Institute of Information Technology Lahore Pakistan, on 22nd October, 2009. Farhat Munir, PhD Scholar of UMT is also an author for this paper. The same paper will be published in the conference proceedings.
- Paper on “The Implementation of Curricula at Secondary Level: The Role of Head Teacher” has been submitted and is on peer review for acceptance and publication in “The Journal of The Book.”
In the short-term, we want to focus on the fundamentals i.e. producing quality law graduates and preparing them to meet the challenges of the legal profession.

In the long-term, we want the law program to not only cater to the needs of the corporate world but also provide assistance to the legislature and such non-profit organizations that are undertaking pro-bono work.

UMT News: Are you going to focus on certain specialties in the Department, and if so, how will this effect the formulation of the faculty team?

Yes, our ultimate goal is to offer specialized law degrees, diplomas and courses on WTO legal regime, Commercial Arbitration, Capital Markets and Finance. Since these are medium to long term goals, we are quite certain that we will be able to develop the right team to offer these courses. At the moment, we have people on-board who have the right exposure to these areas of law. However, such specialized courses will be offered after we have consolidated our base, that is, successful implementation of the Bachelor of Laws degree programs.

UMT News: What initiatives do you plan to undertake to expand the Law Department?

I am very pleased to inform you that the Academic Council has approved the addition of Faculty of Law in the charter of UMT. After the due process, approvals and amendment in the charter, we are expecting that we will be able to launch an autonomous School of Law from next year. In the meantime, we will work towards obtaining necessary approvals from the legal education regulatory bodies.

Our goal is to launch a five-year BA, LLB degree program from next fall. Our in-take for this program would be those students who possess an FA, FSC or GCE A-Level. We intend to develop our own Law School Admission Test (LSAT) and only those who pass this very competitive exam will find a place in our school.

Having said this, however, the reputation of a department or a school depends on how well its students do both on the campus and upon graduation, in the profession. It’s the alumni and the faculty that makes a school or a university great. Our aim is to offer the best possible academic environment to our students where they can hone their scholarly abilities as well as prepare themselves for the legal practice.

UMT News: Tell us something about the LLB (Hons) External Program being offered in the Department.

At the moment, we are offering the LLB (Hons) external program. This program is unique in the sense that the students can obtain a very prestigious foreign degree at one-eighth of the cost. The exams are conducted by the British Council, papers are then sent to London for marking and the degree is awarded by the University of London.

Moreover, the other significant benefit of this degree program is that the successful graduates can go on and do Bar-at-Law from one of the four Inns of England & Wales. In order to qualify as a Barrister, it is mandatory that the law graduate must have a British law degree. Therefore, none of the Pakistan law degrees are recognized for this purpose. Besides, this degree has a much higher international recognition than any other law degree offered in Pakistan.

UMT News: As a teacher, what do you expect from your students during his/her studies?

Dedication, hard-work and sincerity. If the students follow these benchmarks, I can assure them that they would reach the pinnacle of the legal profession.

UMT News: The legal market is already saturated, especially in terms of the economic downturn and it is generally assumed that law is a profession where it is not easy to make money. Firstly, do you agree with this and secondly, what advice would you give to aspiring law graduates?

Law is the easiest profession when it comes down to making money. It is just that you have to wait for it. It does require patience, persistence and perseverance and if an aspiring lawyer has these three pre-requisites and he/she can work hard then money is just a matter of time. And it comes in a big way. Besides, there is no such thing as easy money because even if it comes it doesn’t last too long. Only the hard-earned money stays loyal to the person who has worked very hard to earn it and thus, can actually value it.

I believe the top is always vacant. Besides, there is a dearth of good professionals in all walks of life in Pakistan and most of all, in the legal profession. The good part about this profession is that when the going is good, the lawyers are busy doing transactional work. However, when things are as bad as we are experiencing them these days, still the lawyers are busy. Not in transactional work but in regulatory work and litigation.

Finally, you never retire in this profession and you have the possibility to become your own boss i.e. open up your own firm or chamber with very little initial investment. Not many professional degrees offer such possibilities, so a law degree has its unique and unparalleled advantages. Therefore, I would strongly encourage the student body at UMT and its affiliate colleges to consider law as a vocation and our school as a source to get quality legal education.
Dr Sarwar M Azhar
Dean School of Business and Economics

talks heart to heart with UMT News

**Interview**

**Dean SBE:** Do you think that the MBA curriculum needs any major changes?
**Dr Sarwar M Azhar:** Change is an ongoing process. Like I said earlier, we have to be market-driven. New skills and capabilities are and will be required in the wake of technological changes sweeping the business world. We will endeavor to stay abreast of these changes and benchmark best practices, and incorporate them wherever and whenever needed.

**UMT News:** What are your expansion plans in terms of launching new programs?
**Dean SBE:** Once again the answer to this question lies in being market-driven. We have a business-centred approach and have a rich consultancy, training and research portfolio aimed at fulfilling the business and industry needs besides being a quality education provider. From here, we draw insight as to what would be needed and through our evolving international linkage we aim to launch new programs that meet the needs of the market and are benchmarked against quality programs around the world.

**UMT News:** Business schools often face criticism for churning out graduates devoid of any ethics or social responsibility and who care for little else than profit maximization and boardroom successes. How is this issue being tackled at SBE?
**Dean SBE:** In my opinion, ethics and the issues of developing a sense of social responsibility does not lie entirely at the door step of business schools. Learning ethical and social behavior start from the basic teachings given at home. I believe that by adopting new practices in the field of ethics and social responsibility other than courses in these areas, we should try and practically demonstrate these practices and motivate students to adopt the same for the benefit of the society and the country that has enabled us in many respects and to which we owe so much.

**UMT News:** What is your strategy for promoting faculty development and research at SBE and how will you encourage faculty members to invest more time in such endeavors, such as, for example, writing case studies from the Pakistani perspective?
**Dean SBE:** These two aspects are and should be directly related to, benchmarked good academic practices and to research in issues that confront business and industry. Both of these areas are highly regarded as the focus of our efforts. Performance evaluation, growth and reward system reflect this. We are in pursuit of this regularly and send our faculty members abroad to acquire new technologies which then become part of our development process. Similarly, through research undertaken by faculty, the issues and solutions so researched become part of dispensation in the classrooms to prospective leaders and managers which is how we believe our participants and students should feel.

**UMT News:** How are SBE graduates doing in the recruitment market?
**Dean SBE:** I believe that we have not made tall claims in the area but the ground reality shows that all our graduates are gainfully employed. However, we will be improving the reach and dissemination of this information through various measures. We believe, like I said earlier, that the success of a school is measured by the market response and employability of its graduates. Our placement office is doing an excellent job in this respect and we will further leverage this effort.

**UMT News:** Do you think that the MBA in Marketing and growth of SBE.

**Dean SBE:** Abreast of these changes and benchmark best practices, and incorporate them wherever and whenever needed.

**UMT News:** What advice do you have for prospective students to SBE?
**Dean SBE:** I would just like to tell prospective students that SBE aims to be among the top two business schools in Lahore. You have joined this ambition. We will facilitate and build a conducive environment to ensure that you turn into sought after leaders and managers and we cannot do this without your full cooperation and unstinted support. I ask you to believe in yourselves, believe in your school and learn to live a worthwhile life in the future. Believe me you, the future is yours.