



Office of Research  
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## Futuristic Outlook

Future

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## **Message from Co-Founder, Chief Advisor on Innovation, and Director ORIC/TISC – UMT**



We live in the Modern age, where we do all over work with the help of technology. We know technology by the name “technological know-how”. Discover the latest science and technology news and videos on breakthroughs shaping tomorrow's world with Futurism. The innovation of science has a long history producing many important figures and many developments in the field. Moreover, it made communication easier for us. Humans have cleaned up and created some fantastic and sometimes orthodox inventions.

So, every researcher and faculty member should be up-to-date about innovation in their respective field; that’s why ORIC-UMT introduce the Futuristic Outlook for the UMT family to commensalism with the Innovative world.

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# **A - School of Engineering & School of System and Technology**

## **1: Gold Nuggets Can Be Formed with Electricity, Scientists Claim**

As detailed in a new study published in the journal *Nature Geoscience*, the theory could explain why large chunks of gold — sometimes weighing more than a hundred pounds — appear in quartz veins when there's seemingly little traces of the metal in the surrounding earth.

"The standard explanation is that gold precipitates from hot, water-rich fluids as they flow through cracks in the earth's crust. As these fluids cool or undergo chemical changes, gold separates out and becomes trapped in quartz veins," study lead author Chris Voisey, a geologist at Monash University in Australia, told *Forbes*. "While this theory is widely accepted, it doesn't fully explain the formation of large gold nuggets, especially considering that the concentration of gold in these fluids is extremely low.

## **2. Scientists Build Computer from DNA That Can Solve Chess Problems**

It's no secret that computers can smoke humans at chess. And now, as if to further mock our mere organic forms, scientists say they've created a computer made out of DNA that can play the board game — along with sudoku puzzles, for good measure.

The device can only solve chess and sudoku problems at a basic level, but these capabilities, detailed in a study published in the journal *Nature Nanotechnology*, mark a substantial leap toward powerful — and practical — DNA computing systems.

Part of the secret, the researchers say, was using a synthetic cellulose material to boost the amount of stored DNA strands, which also makes the files they encode more stable. And these strands can store *a lot*: about 1,000 terabytes per cubic centimeter, according to *New Scientist*.

"We found that this marriage of DNA with a synthetic material gives you a whole host of new practical capabilities that weren't possible before," study co-author Albert Keung, an associate professor of chemical and biomolecular engineering at North Carolina State University, told the magazine.

### **3. OpenAI's New "Strawberry" AI Is Still Making Idiotic Mistakes**

The Sam Altman-led company made some big promises in its announcement, claiming that its "o1-preview" AI model "performs similarly to PhD students on challenging benchmark tasks in physics, chemistry, and biology."

With its new "human-like" ability to "reason," the AI model can tackle even more "complex tasks" and "harder problems," according to the company.

But as early testers have already discovered firsthand, it's still miles away from replacing a human scientist or coder.

In fact, if recent posts making their rounds on social media are anything to go by, the o1-preview is still often struggling with the absolute basics.

For instance, INSA Rennes researcher Mathieu Acher found, it's still repeatedly suggesting illegal chess moves in response to certain puzzles.

### **4. The Curiosity Mars Rover's Wheel Looks Absolutely Wrecked**

NASA's Curiosity rover has spent over 4,400 Earth days exploring the desolate surface of Mars — enough time, by Sam Altman's reckoning, for the emergence of super intelligent AI.

It set its six wheels down on the planet's Gale Crater, the suspected dried-out remains of an ancient lake, back in 2012, and it's covered over 20 miles since then.

Through it all, the harsh terrain has done an absolute number on the rover's wheels. As seen in a recently shared image taken by Curiosity's Mars Hand Lens Imager (MAHLI), giant gashes can be seen in the rover's middle right wheel.

The poor wheel is "still holding up well despite taking some of the worst abuse from Mars," according to a NASA update by Jet Propulsion Laboratory missions operations engineer Ashley Stroupe — a testament to the careful engineering that went into the rover's construction.

In its first year on Mars, holes and tears in its wheels grew considerably as the rover crossed a terrain dotted with sharp rocks.

Since then, NASA has issued several software updates to the rover to adjust the speed of each of its wheels to minimize damage. When a single wheel covers uneven terrain, its other wheels can start slipping, causing an unusual load on them.

Chevron-shaped "grousers" lining the rover's wheels are designed to give Curiosity more grip on loose terrain, and NASA has also been using the perforations to measure the wear on the wheels.

The wheel wear has been causing for concern, and although we estimate they have years of life still in them, we do want to reduce that wear whenever possible to extend the life of the wheels," JPL roboticist Art Rankin said in a 2017 update.

Fortunately, Rankin's prediction appears to have been accurate. Despite major tears and holes in its wheels, Curiosity is still trekking along over twelve Earth years after it touched down on the Red Planet's surface.

## **5. This Fully AI-Generated Political Ad Is Both Hilarious and Terrifying**

Using AI-generated visuals and IRL quotes, a parody political action committee (PAC) is taking on North Carolina's embattled lieutenant governor and GOP candidate Mark Robinson — and AI itself. Released by a group calling itself Americans for Prosperody, the fake ad has all the hallmarks of AI uncanniness: weird hands and fingers, jerky serpentine motions, and a voice that sounds like Robinson's but somehow inhuman.

On the fake "Mark Rottensen" campaign website created by the PAC, which was founded by Raleigh investor and Democratic donor Todd Stiefel, Americans for Prosperody notes that everything the fake version of the gubernatorial candidate says in the phony attack ad are real quotes from the pol himself.

When I speak to school shooting survivors," the fake Robinson intones, "I say 'Shut Up You Spoiled Little Bastards!'"

That quote, as the "Rottensen" website notes, comes directly from a 2018 Facebook post the Republican made in the aftermath of the Parkland, Florida school massacre.



## 6. Cybertruck Gets FSD, Tries to Drive Onto Median in the Middle of Sunset Boulevard

A small number of testers have now received an over-the-air software update enabling a "Supervised" version of the driver assistance package. By enabling it, the system allows their 6,600-pound pickup trucks to take care of most of the driving, including city streets and complex intersections.

But as the Tesla fan behind the X-formerly-Twitter account Whole Mars Catalog found out first-hand, the software — which is still in an unfinished "Early Access" state but can still be experimented with on public streets — is far from perfect.

A video shared by the account on YouTube today shows the truck turning left onto Sunset Boulevard in Los Angeles. But the driver is quickly forced to intervene to stop the Cybertruck from rolling right into the median strip.

"Not so beautiful after all," the driver said, shortly after swerving into the correct lane, correcting himself seconds after praising the experience. "So it was gonna drive onto the median."

The close call highlights the sheer dangers of testing out the flawed software in public. We've already seen our fair share of run-ins involving FSD — and the Cybertruck won't be any different, even if it is heavier and with strikingly sharp edges.

Meanwhile, Tesla CEO Elon Musk has essentially bet the entire fate of the EV maker on the software and the development of a so-called "robotaxi" — so the company's unconvincing efforts to realize a fully self-driving car could be a worrying sign of even more trouble in the future

## 7. The Most Sophisticated AIs Are Most Likely to Lie, Worrying Research Finds

It seems that this logic also applies to large language models, which are becoming more powerful with each iteration. New research suggests that this smarter crop of AI chatbots are actually becoming *less* trustworthy, because they're more likely to make up facts rather than avoiding or turning down questions they can't answer.

The study, published in the journal *Nature*, examined some of the leading commercial LLMs in the industry: OpenAI's GPT, and Meta's LLaMA, along with an open-source model called BLOOM created by the research group BigScience.

While it found that their responses are in many cases becoming more accurate, they were across the board less reliable, giving a higher proportion of wrong answers than older models did.

"They are answering almost everything these days. And that means more correct, but also more incorrect [answers]," study coauthor José Hernández-Orallo, a researcher at the Valencian Research Institute for Artificial Intelligence in Spain, told *Nature*.

Mike Hicks, a philosopher of science and technology at the University of Glasgow, had a harsher assessment.

"That looks to me like what we would call bullshitting," Hicks, who was not involved in the study, told *Nature*. "It's getting better at pretending to be knowledgeable.

## **8. Open AI Pivoting From "Benefiting Humanity" to "Making Lots of Money"**

Open AI announced that it would be ripping control away from its nonprofit arm, finally putting to bed any appearance that the company is truly committed to developing an artificial general intelligence that would "benefit all of humanity."

While we don't know exactly what the ChatGPT maker's new structure will look like quite yet, it feels assured that CEO Sam Altman will end up with vastly more control over the company's operations.

Altman could also realize new equity worth billions of dollars as the company sidelines its nonprofit board.

In short, the company's namesake nonprofit roots are in the rearview mirror as it doubles down on making money. The company has turned into a cash magnet in a matter of just two years, going from a \$14 billion valuation in 2021 to potentially \$150 billion this year, according to its latest round of fundraising.

"We can say goodbye to the original version of OpenAI that wanted to be unconstrained by financial obligations," OpenAI safety researcher Jeffrey Wu told *Vox*.

"Restructuring around a core for-profit entity formalizes what outsiders have known for some time: that OpenAI is seeking to profit in an industry that has received an enormous influx of investment in the last few years," added Cornell Tech Policy Institute director Sarah Kreps in the same piece.

On Wednesday, *Reuters* reported that OpenAI was looking to restructure its core business into a "for-profit benefit corporation," putting it on a similar footing to its rivals like AI company Anthropic, itself started by former OpenAI staff

## **9. Facebook Is Being Flooded with Gross AI-Generated Images of Hurricane Helene Devastation**

A Facebook account called "Coastal Views" usually shares calmer AI imagery of nature-filled beachside scenes. The account's banner image showcases a signpost reading "OBX Live," OBX being shorthand for North Carolina's Outer Banks islands. But starting this weekend, the account shifted its approach dramatically, as first flagged by a social media user on X.

Instead of posting "photos" of leaping dolphins and sandy beaches, the account suddenly started publishing images of flooded mountain neighborhoods, submerged houses, and dogs sitting on top of roofs.

But instead of spreading vital information to those affected by the natural disaster, or at the very least sharing real photos of the destruction, the account is seemingly trying to use AI to cash in on all the attention the hurricane has been getting.

The account links to an *Etsy* page for a business called "OuterBanks2023," where somebody who goes by "Alexandr" sells AI-generated prints of horses touching

snouts with sea turtles, Santa running down the shoreline with a reindeer, and sunsets over ocean waves.

## 10. Researcher Who Just Won the Nobel Prize Quit Google to Warn About Evil AI Coming for Us All

As *Reuters* reports, American physicist John Hopfield and AI expert Geoffrey Hinton were awarded the coveted prize this week. Considered the "godfather of AI," Hinton's research in 2012 laid the groundwork for today's neural networks — but in 2023, he quit his job at Google to join a chorus of critics sounding alarm bells about the technology.

In an interview with the *New York Times* last year about leaving his job as a vice president and engineering fellow at the tech giant, Hinton said he'd previously thought of Google as a "proper steward" of the powerful technology. That's until Microsoft partnered with OpenAI to unleash the latter's GPT-4 large language model (LLM), which powers ChatGPT, onto the masses.

Though he didn't believe that AI was anywhere near its zenith at the time, the 76-year-old computer scientist suggested he saw the writing on the wall with the Microsoft-OpenAI deal.

"Most people thought it was way off. And I thought it was way off," Hinton told the newspaper at the time. "I thought it was 30 to 50 years or even longer away."

Prior to leaving Google and joining the likes of Elon Musk and other luminaries in signing an open letter calling for a pause on AI development, Hinton took to *CBS News* to warn that the world had reached a "pivotal moment" in terms of the technology.

"I think it's very reasonable for people to be worrying about these issues now," he told CBS at the time, "even though it's not going to happen in the next year or two."

Now a professor emeritus at the University of Toronto, Hinton has made it abundantly clear in the roughly 18 months since his Google departure that he thinks that AI may escape human control at any time — and once it does, all hell may break loose. Here we're dealing with something where we have much less idea of what's going to happen and what to do about it," the computer scientist said during a conversation with the Nobel committee. "I wish I had a sort of simple recipe that if you do this, everything's going to be okay. But I don't." Considered the leading AI "doomer" for his grim outlook on the technology he helped birth, Hinton said when speaking to the Nobel committee that he was very surprised to learn he'd won the award and had been unaware that he'd even been nominated. Hopefully it'll make me more credible," he said of winning the Nobel, "when I say these things really do understand what they're saying.

## **11. Robot Plays Cello with Live Orchestra:**

As Reuters reports, a pair of industrial robotic arms programmed by researcher and composer Fredrik Gran played a piece by Swedish composer Jacob Muhlrud alongside the Malmo Symphony Orchestra earlier this month.

Footage of the unusual event shows the arms smoothly gliding a bow across the instrument's four strings, somewhat like a human musician, while a 3D-printed appendage allows it to manipulate the fretboard, resulting in an eerie, albeit crude and expressionless performance.

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## **B – School of Sciences**

### **1. Scientists Suggest Tiny Black Holes Are Regularly Cruising Through Our Star System**

Researchers at MIT suggest that the microscopic "primordial black holes" could be blasting through our solar system — at a rate of at least once every decade.

These tiny black holes could be extremely dense, they suggest, packing the mass of a sizable asteroid into the space of a single atom, and date back to the very earliest days of the universe, mere moments following the Big Bang.

As detailed in a new paper published in the journal *Physical Review D*, these alleged visitors could shed new light on the nature of dark matter, which is the hypothetical stuff that scientists believe doesn't interact with light or radiation, but is believed to make up 85 percent of the universe.

The scientists suggest these primordial black holes could account for some if not all of the dark matter. To support their theory, the team proposed looking for tiny wobbles in Mars' orbit, which may be caused by repeated flybys of these tiny primordial black holes.

Given decades of precision telemetry, scientists know the distance between Earth and Mars to an accuracy of about ten centimeters," said author and MIT physics professor David Kaiser in a statement.

We're taking advantage of this highly instrumented region of space to try and look for a small effect," he added. "If we see it, that would count as a real reason to keep pursuing this delightful idea that all of dark matter consists of black holes that were spawned in less than a second after the Big Bang and have been streaming around the universe for 14 billion years.

## 2. Weird New Quantum Experiment Sounds Suspiciously Like Time Travel

Quantum mechanics: it's the realm of science where nothing is normal, and everything seems to undermine the fundamentals of our common understanding of reality. But quantum physicists, who pride themselves on staring into the abyss and gleaning its spooky secrets, have just discovered another baffling phenomenon to make your mind melt: "negative time."

As detailed in a yet-to-be-peer-reviewed study covered by *Scientific American*, a team of researchers say they've observed photons exhibiting this bizarre temporal behavior as the result of what's known as atomic excitation.

What essentially happened, as *SciAm* explains, is that when the photons were beamed into a cloud of atoms, they appeared to exit the medium *before* entering it. Trust us: we're just as confused as you are.

"A negative time delay may seem paradoxical, but what it means is that if you built a 'quantum' clock to measure how much time atoms are spending in the excited state, the clock hand would, under certain circumstances, move backward rather than forward," Josiah Sinclair from the University of Toronto, whose early experiments formed the foundation of the study, but wasn't directly involved, told the magazine.

Photons — massless particles that form what we know as visible light — can get absorbed by the atoms they travel through. When this happens, the energy they carry causes the atoms' electrons to jump to a higher energy state. This is the atomic excitation we alluded to earlier.

But the atoms can also de-excite, returning to a ground state. One of the ways this happens is that the energy gets re-emitted as photons. To an observer, this looks like the light that traveled through the medium was delayed.

According to the researchers, they were stunned that there was no "expert consensus" on what actually happened to an individual photon during this delay.

"At the time, we weren't sure what the answer was, and we felt like such a basic question about something so fundamental should be easy to answer.

So, like any good scientists, they conducted a series of experiments.

In them, photon pulses were shot through a cloud of atoms at near absolute zero temperatures. And here is where the weird stuff happened: in instances when the photons passed through without being absorbed, they found that the ultracold atoms were still excited for the exact amount of time as if they actually had absorbed them.

Conversely, in cases when the photons were absorbed, they would be re-emitted *without delay*, or before the ultracold atoms could de-excite.

No laws of physics are being broken here. What's really happening is that the photons are somehow traveling through the atom cloud faster when they excite the atoms — or when they should be absorbed by them, in other words — than when the atoms remain unaffected. Since the photons don't carry information, causality remains intact.

But the inherent uncertainties involved at the quantum level have the effect of mystifying the whole process. Namely, the phenomenon of *superposition*, wherein quantum particles like photons can be in two different states at the same time. To a detector measuring when they enter and exit a medium, this means that the photons can produce a positive value as well as a negative one. And thus, negative time.

### **3. Russian Scientists Used a Quantum Computer to Turn Back Time**

Russian scientists have apparently reversed the flow of time in an experiment they conducted on a quantum computer.

The finding is unlikely to lead to a time machine that would work on people. But the team of physicists managed to restore IBM's public quantum computer to the state it had been in just a moment earlier, according to research published Wednesday in the journal *Nature Scientific Reports* — a nuanced result, but one



that could have striking implications for the future of computing, quantum physics, and our understanding of time itself.

"We have artificially created a state that evolves in a direction opposite to that of the thermodynamic arrow of time," Gordey Lesovik, a quantum physicist from the Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology who led the research project, said in a university-published press release.

#### **4. Startup Unveils Luxurious Final Design for Its Planned Commercial Space Station**

The structure dubbed Haven-1 is a sleek, cylindrical outpost designed to house "state-of-the-art facilities for scientific research" while "prioritizing the well-being and experience of its astronauts and its vision for making space accessible to all," according to a press release.

Despite being an exciting glimpse of future space travel, Vast's flashy images are just mockups. The company is hoping to launch its station via SpaceX Falcon 9 "no earlier than August 2025."

Considering the sheer level of complexity involved and the many startups before it that have had similar aims but never had anything to show, we should expect that date to change.

On the other hand, there's already a reliable way to get there and back in the form of SpaceX's tried-and-true Crew Dragon spacecraft

#### **5. Jeff Bezos Reportedly Has Secretive "Personal Reasons" for Wanting to Escape to Mars**

Following WaPo's surprise decision not to endorse either candidate for president — reportedly because its billionaire owner vetoed staff's decision to name Kamala Harris as its pick — New Yorker journalist Sarah Larson recounted her own Bezos lore.

Once again I'm reflecting on the time I interviewed a powerful guy who knows Jeff Bezos," she wrote on X, "and who offhandedly told me, 'Jeff has personal reasons for wanting to get to Mars... I'm not comfortable sharing what they are.'"

## **6. Scientist Says NASA Lander May Have Accidentally Killed Life on Mars**

Astrobiologist Dirk Schulze-Makuch, from the Technische Universität Berlin in Germany, believes that humans may have unintentionally killed life on Mars in the 1970s. NASA's Viking 1 mission in 1976 saw two spacecraft land on the Red Planet's surface and conduct an experiment involving mixing water and nutrients with collected soil samples. The assumption at the time was that life on Mars would behave the same way as it does on Earth, relying on liquid water to survive.

As Space.com reports, early results gave researchers a tantalizing hint at the possibility of life on the Red Planet — but despite decades of debate, they've since largely concluded that their readings were a false positive.

Schulze-Makuch, however, takes this thorny debate one step further, suggesting that the Viking landers may have indeed found life on Mars — but accidentally killed it with its water-based life-hunting experiments.

That's because he argues life on Mars may be relying on salt deposits, much like the organisms that live in the driest places on Earth, such as the microbes inhabiting the Atacama Desert in Chile.

In hyperarid environments, life can obtain water through salts that draw moisture from the atmosphere," Schulze-Makuch wrote in a commentary for the journal Nature. "These salts, then, should be a focus of searches for life on Mars."

The experiments performed by NASA's Viking landers may have accidentally killed Martian life by applying too much water," he added.

## **7. As if they need any more problems, the astronauts on board the International Space Station were besieged by a noxious odor situation over the weekend.**

In a statement posted on X-formerly-Twitter, NASA's ISS account noted that when the Russians' Progress cargo ship docked with the rest of the space station, cosmonauts "noticed an unexpected odor and observed small droplets.

According to the statement, the cosmonauts shut off Russia's Poisk module from the rest of their segment of the space station so that its air scrubbers and contamination sensors could do their thing. As Ars Technica points out, however, NASA may have been downplaying the situation.

Per reporting from journalist Anatoly Zak of the independent space-watching site Russian Space Web, the hatch connecting Poisk to the Progress cargo spacecraft had to be "closed immediately due to a toxic smell and possible contamination hazard in the form of droplets. American astronaut Don Pettit apparently reported a "spray paint-like" smell on the American side of the ISS around that time, though it's unclear whether it was related to the Poisk odor.

## **8 Scientists Issue Warning About Perfumes**

As the Washington Post notes in its medical column, that's because many perfumes on the market are infused with a potentially harmful chemical known as phthalates, which help their scents last longer.

The risks phthalates pose to children are already well documented enough that certain forms of the chemical are banned in children's toys in the US. But there are no such restrictions against them being used in perfumes and other self-care products, like shampoos and soaps. It's on the consumer, then, to forego them whenever possible.

## **C- Institute of Aviation Studies**

### **1: A Skydiving Center's Clients Kept Mysteriously Dying. Now, One of Its Instructors Is Going to Jail.**

A skydiving center in San Joaquin County, California, has seen a shocking 28 deaths since opening its doors in 1985. And now, as *SFGate* reports, an instructor at the school, who has been accused of fraudulently training new instructors, has been sentenced to two years in prison.

In May, instructor Robert Pooley was found guilty of running unauthorized tandem skydiving courses at the Lodi Parachute Center, training more than 100 instructors by falsifying a digital signature of a different instructor.

According to an official statement by the US Attorney's Office of the Eastern District of California, Pooley "falsely told students that he was a tandem examiner."

According to a 2008 report by the National Transportation Safety Board, the Federal Aviation Administration "does not have data on the number of parachute jump operators or the number and type of aircraft used in parachute jump operations in the US."

"The absence of these data precludes any calculations of safety statistics for parachute jump operations, including accident rates," the report reads.

As the *SFGate* points out, there are no particular licenses required for skydiving pilots, and there are only a handful of training requirements. A private lobbying group called the US Parachute Association takes care of certification on behalf of the FAA.

In short, it's unclear just how bad the situation got at the Lodi Parachute Center — but Pooley's recent sentencing will likely be a black mark in the history of the sport.

"They were not properly trained," Turner's mother told *Inside Edition* in May. "Skipping the training part is what took my son's life, and they're responsible for that."

## **2. The FAA Grounds SpaceX's Rockets for a Third Time After Mysterious Anomaly**

An upper stage encountered a mysterious problem after dropping off two astronauts at the International Space Station over the weekend as part of its Crew-9 mission.

According to a statement posted by SpaceX, the rocket "experienced an off-nominal deorbit burn," causing it to splash down in the Pacific Ocean just east of New Zealand, which was "outside of the targeted area" approved by the FAA.

Even before the FAA announced that it had launched its own investigation, SpaceX had already made the decision to halt all future launches.

"We will resume launching after we better understand root cause," the Elon Musk-led company wrote in its statement.

## **3. This Close-Up Video of SpaceX's Starship Booster Being Caught by a Tower Will Melt Your Puny Earthling Brains**

The fifth orbital flight test of SpaceX's Starship was a resounding, astonishing success.

Now, courtesy of new footage released by the aerospace company, we get to witness the launch of the world's most powerful rocket up close, where its sheer

size and thunderous power are enough to overwhelm you even through a computer screen.

The launch took place Sunday morning at SpaceX's Starbase facility in Boca Chica, Texas.

As seen in a video taken from the launch tower, the rocket's lower stage, the Super Heavy Booster, fires all 33 of its Raptor engines, generating an eye-watering 16.7 million pounds of thrust that kicks up a raging inferno below. Then, slowly, the entire rocket — all 398 feet of it — begins to heave into the air.

Towering as Starship is, from the camera's perspective it almost looks like we're falling past a skyscraper as it takes to the sky, half wrapped in a fluffy shell of water vapor. The last thing we see is the Sun-like image of the Raptor engines, blasting flames onto the lens.

#### **4. Electrification takes flight**

The aviation industry is accelerating its transition toward electric propulsion systems. Electric aircraft, ranging from smaller urban air taxis to regional planes, are gaining traction. Manufacturers are investing in research and development to create more sustainable and energy-efficient air travel solutions. This trend not only aims to reduce carbon emissions but also addresses concerns about the environmental impact of traditional aviation fuels.

Hydrogen is emerging as a promising alternative to conventional aviation fuels. Major aerospace companies are investing heavily in hydrogen fuel cell technology for aircraft. These hydrogen-powered planes have the potential to significantly decrease carbon emissions and contribute to a more sustainable future for air travel.

## **D - School of Governance and Society**

### **1: Justice Department launches first federal review of 1921 Tulsa race massacre**

WASHINGTON, Oct 1 (Reuters) - The U.S. Department of Justice has launched a review and evaluation of the 1921 race massacre in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Assistant Attorney General Kristen Clarke said.

The massacre started on May 31, 1921, when white attackers killed as many as 300 people, most of them Black, in Tulsa's prosperous Greenwood neighborhood, which had gained the nickname "Black Wall Street."

"When we have finished our federal review, we will issue a report analyzing the massacre in light of both modern and then-existing civil rights law," said Clarke, who oversees the Justice Department's civil rights enforcement efforts.

The review will be conducted under the Emmett Till Unsolved Civil Rights Crime Act, which allows the Department of Justice to investigate death-resulting civil rights crimes that occurred on or before Dec. 31, 1979.

"We have no expectation that there are living perpetrators who could be criminally prosecuted by us or by the state," Clarke said. "Although a commission, historians, lawyers and others have conducted prior examinations of the Tulsa Massacre, we, the Justice Department, never have."

Clarke said the department is examining available documents, witness accounts, scholarly and historical research and other information related to the massacre

### **2. Twitter Suspends Journalist for Publishing Trump's Hacked Dossier About JD Vance's Weaknesses**

" In the wake of Iran's alleged hack of Donald Trump's campaign servers, many media outlets vowed not to publish any of the information in the interest of combatting foreign electoral interference.

Independent journalist Ken Klippenstein, however, has broken with the pack and chosen to publish in full the 271-page opposition research document on Trump's now-running mate JD Vance because, as he makes the case, it's in the public interest.

"As far as I can tell, it hasn't been altered, but even if it was, its contents are publicly verifiable," Klippenstein wrote on his Substack, which features highlights from the lengthy dossier and the whole document as a download. "I'll let it speak for itself."

Though the reporter's Substack post still stands, Klippenstein has been suspended from X-formerly-Twitter after posting a link to the dossier. We've reached out to Klippenstein for comment, but as others on the site note, it appears that X is claiming the document violates its rules against "sharing private information."

Despite the hubbub surrounding it, the file itself is pretty lackluster.

It doesn't contain, notably, the sort of salacious golden shower "fanfiction" of the infamous and discredited 2016 Steele Dossier about Trump. It also likely won't have an impact anywhere near as outsize as the files Russia hacked from Hillary Clinton that year either, nor the nude images and drug content published after being found on Hunter Biden's laptop.

The saga of Biden's laptop is particularly interesting in light of the hacked Vance dossier.

### **3. Project 2025's AI Policies Are a Baffling Stew of Grievance and Contradictions:**

There's nothing on training, there's nothing on privacy, there's nothing on security and equity, none of that. In October of last year, President Joe Biden issued an executive order on AI that made a bunch of lofty but vague commitments, like



establishing guidelines for watermarking AI-generated content and protecting people against AI-enabled fraud and discrimination.

Presidential contender Donald Trump barely knows how to use a computer, so it's unlikely he has any deep thoughts about AI. But the people around him have revealed a chaotic plan for the tech: tear down Biden's mild protections and replace them with a buffoonish grabbag of idiosyncratic and sometimes contradictory schemes, motivated by a mixture of obscure grievances and the economic interests of Trump's wealthy donors.

Take the Republican Party's official policy platform, which is written with Trump's signature mix of bluster and capitalizing words for emphasis.

"We will repeal Joe Biden's dangerous Executive Order that hinders AI Innovation, and imposes Radical Leftwing ideas on the development of this technology," it bellows. "In its place, Republicans support AI Development rooted in Free Speech and Human Flourishing."

How would that happen? There would be no way to tell from the campaign's official policy document, which makes no further mention of the tech after those wild promises.

More clues can be found in The Heritage Foundation's Project 2025, a doorstopper of a document drafted by political operatives close to Trump that calls for sweeping conservative changes to the government if he wins the election. But rather than offering a coherent viewpoint on AI, Project 2025 instead paints a picture that's familiar to anyone who watched Trump's first term: an incoherent broth of bluster, cruelty, and xenophobia.

The document miscellaneously calls for more AI in the government, less AI in the government, using AI to spy on Medicare recipients, using AI to supercharge spy agencies, and various broadsides against China. The closer you look, the less any of it seems to have any real depth or connection to Trump's actual beliefs — not to mention any semblance of comprehensive or even reasonably actionable policies.

#### **4. World Bank Group Institutions IBRD and IFC join Government of Türkiye's Groundbreaking Industrial Decarbonization Investment Platform in Partnership with EBRD**

The Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Türkiye (MoIT), in collaboration with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), and the International Finance Corporation (IFC), have signed today in Ankara, a joint declaration on the establishment of the Türkiye Industrial Decarbonization Investment Platform (TIDIP). This ambitious initiative will facilitate Türkiye's low-carbon transition in the industrial sector, in line with the country's climate and development goals as outlined in the National Green Deal Action Plan, the National Development Plan, the updated Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) and 2053 Net-Zero target.

Through the Platform, the Partners commit to advancing the transformation of Türkiye's industrial sector from fossil fuel dependency to renewable energy sources and low-carbon production processes. By driving energy efficiency and fostering innovation, the Platform aims to secure the country's economic competitiveness while enhancing energy security and promoting sustainable economic development.

- **Focused Industrial Sectors and Low Carbon Pathways**

The TIDIP will consider energy-intensive industries such as iron and steel, primary and secondary aluminum production, clinker and cement, and fertilizers—which collectively hold the potential for significant decarbonization—as well as other strategic sectors. The efforts will be guided by four Low Carbon Pathways, developed under the auspices of the MoIT and with EBRD's support, which were completed in March 2024.

## **5. There Are No Legitimate Arguments Against Human-Caused Climate Change**

Climate change denial has made numerous headlines in recent weeks. David Rose stated in The Daily Mail that there has been a global warming hiatus covered up by dubious science, Bret Stephens criticized the certitude of evidence in The New York Times, and Trump is rapidly making decisions based on his belief that humans have not impacted climate change.

This claim is debunked in two ways. Firstly, this manipulation is reasonable due to the history of the methods used to measure sea temperatures. Up until fairly recently, ships have been used to measure water temperatures, but their results are skewed by the engine room warming the water. The reason for the adjustment was so that the new and superior data taken from buoys and floats could be compared to the figures gathered from these ships.

Donald Trump has insisted throughout his campaign that climate change is not caused by humans, and more specifically that CO<sub>2</sub> does not cause global warming, a claim which has been bolstered by Scott Pruitt, Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, since he arrived in the White House.

This has also been disproved by numerous studies and a deluge of research, as is shown by the composite of figures on [skepticalscience.com](http://skepticalscience.com) (a website that is highly worth looking through on other climate change related topics)

The importance of the Paris Agreement, which aims to implement a "global action plan to put the world on track to avoid dangerous climate change," has been verbally reasserted by China. The BBC reports that President of China Xi Jinping told the newly-elected President of France Emmanuel Macron that China and France "should protect the achievements of global governance, including the Paris agreement.

In addition to this, a London School of Economics (LSE) study has found that 1200 laws designed to decrease the pace of climate change have been adopted in

164 countries — these include 47 implemented by the Paris Agreement. Patricia Espinosa optimistically stated at an international meeting on climate change in Bonn, Germany that now “most countries have a legal basis on which future action can be built.”

## **E – Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC)**

### **1: Events Organized and Facilitated by ORIC**

#### **1.1 Inauguration of Happiness center at Sundar Industrial Estate:**

The Office of Research, Innovation, and Commercialization and the School of Professional Psychology (University of Management and Technology) with the collaboration of Sundar Industrial Estate established a Happiness Center, which was inaugurated in a ceremony held on Thursday, September 19, 2024, at Sundar Industrial Estate. Indeed, it's a great step and facility, which will be beneficial for all the people who are working in that vicinity. A happiness center is typically designed to enhance the well-being, mental health, and overall happiness of individuals. Services will be given to the workers, like counseling, workshops on mindfulness and stress management, fitness programs, and other activities that contribute to physical and emotional well-being.





## **1.2 MoU Ceremony with ORIC UMT and Citi Pharma Limited:**

The signing MoU Ceremony between Citi Pharma Limited and ORIC UMT on Thursday 26 September, 2024 to strengthen Industry-Academia collaboration. During the meeting, Malik Khalid Pervaz, CEO of Citi Pharma, discussed the challenges in R&D and the need for stronger ties between industry and academia. Mr. Abid H.K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation, assured support to address these challenges. The signing was attended by Dr. Ejaz, Dean of the School of Pharmacy, Dr. Waqar, Associate Professor at the School of Pharmacy, DG UMT Ahmad Abdullah, and the ORIC UMT team.







### **1.3 Use of Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Cyber-Secure Digital Pakistan Vision 2030**

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), University of Management and Technology (UMT), Lahore, organizing a session on **“Use of Emerging Technologies for Sustainable Cyber-Secure Digital Pakistan Vision 2030”** by **Mr. Ammar Jafri** (Former Director FIA and Founder of Digital Pakistan) on Thursday **Oct 3, 2024** at Room No: CB1-104





## 1.4 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on Web 3.0 and Metaverse

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized a "Free Workshop for UMT students on Full Stack Web Development for students on Thursday, September 15, 2024 from 05:00 PM to 06:30 PM in Hall 1C-15, Main Building, UMT



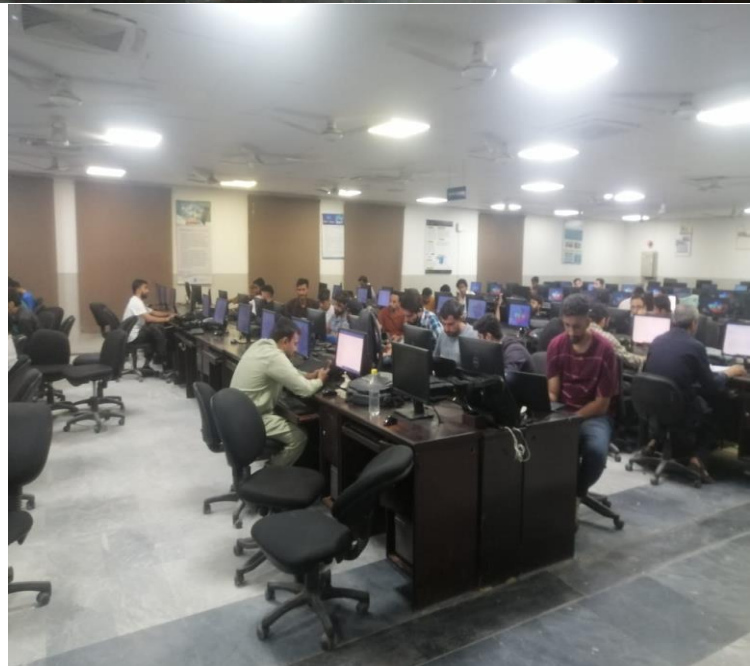
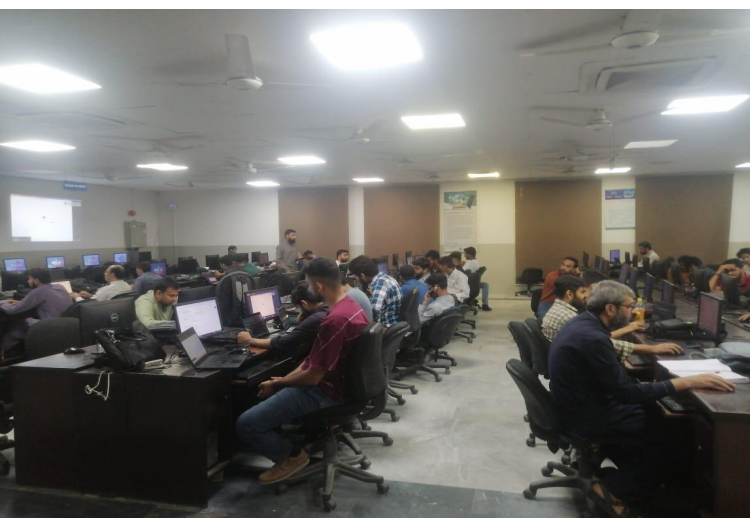
## 1.5 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on Web 3.0 and Metaverse

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized a "Free Workshop for UMT students on Full Stack Web Development for students on Thursday, September 29, 2024 from 05:00 PM to 06:30 PM in Hall 1C-15, Main Building, UMT.



## **1.6 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on Web 3.0 and Metaverse**

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized a "Free Workshop for UMT students on Full Stack Web Development for students on Sunday, October 20, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in IPC, Main Building, UMT.



## **1.7 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on Web 3.0 and Metaverse**

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized a "Free Workshop for UMT students on Full Stack Web Development for students on Sunday, October 27, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in IPC, Main Building, UMT



## 1.8 Research Excellence Award Ceremony

The event recognized the outstanding contributions of our faculty and researchers.

Prof. Abid H. K. Shirwani, Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director of ORIC, along with Rector Dr. Asif Raza, appreciate and award researchers for their excellence. Honoring their achievements fostered a culture of academic excellence and inspired others to strive for groundbreaking research that elevates our institution's national and international standing on Tuesday, October 29, 2024 at Seminar Hall UMT.







## **1.9 19<sup>th</sup> Research Ethics Support Committee (RESC) Meeting for Evaluation of Projects for Rector's Award for Entrepreneurship and Innovation:**

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) at the University of Management and Technology (UMT) organized the 19th Research Ethics and Support Committee (RESC) meeting to evaluate student projects.

Mr. Syed Maaz Mahmood, Co-opted Advisor to the Board of Management of Sundar Industrial Estate (BOM-SIE) and Director of the Board of Directors at Faisalabad Industrial Estate Development and Management Company (FIEDMC), served as the external evaluator. The meeting was held on Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 10:00 AM in the DG Board Room, 5th Floor, Admin Building, UMT.

After the presentations by students, the committee finalized the following three 04 projects for the Rector's Award for Entrepreneurship and Innovation.





## **1.10 MoU Ceremony with ORIC UMT and TEVTA in the Presence of Chaudhry Shafay Hussain – Minister: Industries, Commerce & Investment Govt. of the Punjab**

The signing MoU Ceremony between TEVTA (Technical Education & Vocational Training Authority) and ORIC UMT on Friday 08 November, 2024 to strengthen Industry-Academia collaboration. This partnership aims to foster collaboration through workshops, training sessions, research publication exchanges, and joint R&D projects, bridging industry and academia to drive innovation in Pakistan's industrial sector.

President ILM Trust Mr. Ibrahim Hasan Murad and Chief Advisor on Innovation Mr. Abid H.K. Shirwani, assured support to address Industrial challenges and importance of technical education.

The signing was attended by Dr. Asif Raza Rector UMT, Mr. Ahmad Abdullah Director General (DG) UMT, Dr. Muhammad Farhat Kaleem Dean, School of Engineering (SEN) UMT, Dr. Atif Alvi Dean, School of Systems and Technology (SST) UMT, Raja Muhammad Nasir Khan Registrar UMT, Mr. Asif Saeed Haider Director - Accreditations and Academic Quality Improvement Cell, UMT.

We were honored to have key leaders and dignitaries present, including:

1. Chaudhry Shafay Hussain – Minister of Industries, Commerce & Investment (GoP)
2. Ehsan Bhutta – Secretary, Industries, Commerce & Investment
3. Brig. Muhammad Sajid Khokhar – Chairperson, TEVTA
4. Akhtar Abbas Bharwana – Senior DG, TEVTA
5. Amir Aziz – DG (Ops II), TEVTA
6. Sheraz Khan Lodhi – DG HR, TEVTA
7. Hafiz Shabbir – PSO to Minister of Industries, Commerce & Investment



## **1.11 To Attend the 7th International Conference: Cultivating Mental Health by School of Professional Psychology, University of Management & Technology (UMT) Lahore**

The School of Professional Psychology, in collaboration with the Rekhi Centre of Excellence for the Science of Happiness, organized the 7th International Conference on Cultivating Mental Health, Well-being, and Happiness: A Way Forward. This prestigious event was held from November 18–19, 2024, at the University of Management and Technology.

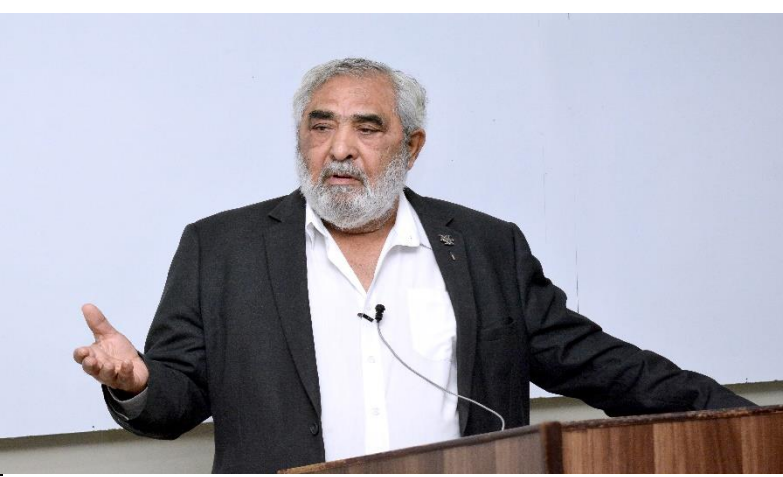
The Prof Abid H K Shirwani Chief Advisor on Innovation and Director ORIC attend this conference and appreciated to Organizer and Conference Secretary Dr. Haziq Mahmood Acting Dean, School of Professional Psychology and Dr. Ayesha Jabeen Acting Chairperson, Department of Clinical Psychology (Conference Secretary)





## 1.12 Free Workshop on the Scope of Cyber security

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC) organized a workshop on the scope of cybersecurity in collaboration with the Center for Enterprise Technology Advancement (CETA), UMT. The workshop was held on Thursday, November 28, 2024, from 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM in Room 1C14, Main Building, UMT.



### **1.13 Idara-i-Nazaria-i-Pakistan's Student Delegation Visits UMT:**

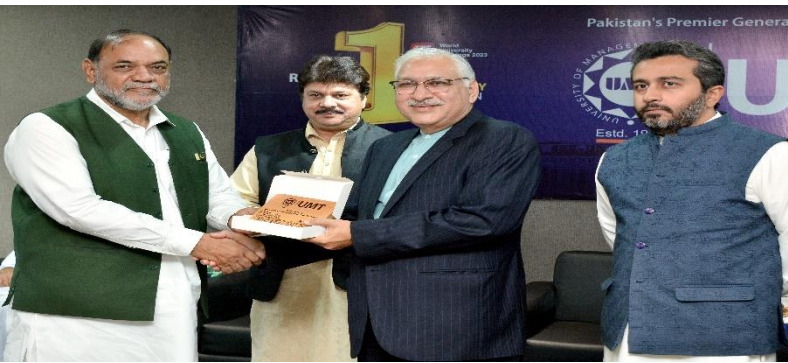
Idara-i-Nazaria-i-Pakistan regularly arranged programs and events to spread awareness regarding Pakistan's ideology and to inculcate patriotic values among the youth of the country. As part of this initiative, Idara-i-Nazaria-i-Pakistan organized a program where students from various regions of Pakistan, including Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, Balochistan, Azad Kashmir, and Gilgit-Baltistan, visited the University of Management and Technology (UMT) on Thursday, November 28, 2024, at 10:00 AM.

Approximately 50 students participated in this program. The purpose of their visit was to learn about UMT's role in academic and professional development, explore its facilities, and understand how institutions like UMT contribute to national progress.

The program schedule also included a visit to the Dr. Hasan Sohaib Murad Memorial, Khurram Murad Learning Resources and Information Processing Center (IPC) and an interactive session to foster better understanding and engagement.







## 1.14 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on Web 3.0 and Metaverse

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized a "Free Workshop for UMT students on Full Stack Web Development for students on Sunday, December 01, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in IPC, Main Building, UMT



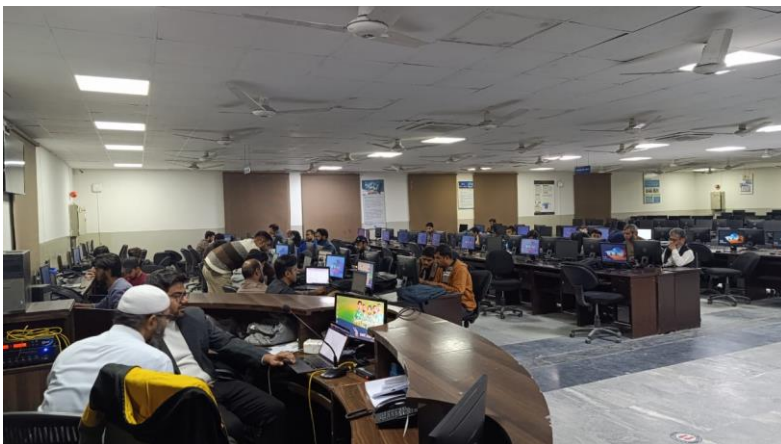
## **1.15 Awareness session on Asian Productivity Organization (APO) Vision 2025 outreach program on inclusive, innovation-led Productivity growth**

The Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), University of Management and Technology (UMT), organized an "Awareness Session on Asian Productivity Organization (APO) Vision 2025 Outreach Program on Inclusive, Innovation-Led Productivity Growth" on Friday, December 6, 2024, at 10:00 AM in Room 1C-14, Main Building, UMT. The faculty members of UMT Schools joined the session and discussed important issues related to the academic and industry gap with the presenter, Eng. Sajjad Aslam, from the Asian Productivity Organization.



## **1.16 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on PIAIC Certified Agentic and Robotic AI Engineer training course**

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized Training Program on PIAIC Certified Agentic and Robotic AI Engineer training course for students on Sunday, December 08, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Hakim Saeed Seminar Hall, Main Building, UMT



## **1.17 Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) Training Program on PIAIC Certified Agentic and Robotic AI Engineer training course**

Office of Research Innovation and Commercialization (ORIC), in collaboration with the Presidential Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Computing (PIAIC) and National Initiative for Artificial Intelligence & Security (NIAIS), organized Training Program on PIAIC Certified Agentic and Robotic AI Engineer training course for students on Sunday, December 22, 2024 from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in Hakim Saeed Seminar Hall, Main Building, UMT

